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100th YEAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

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

FREE

Emerald Credit Union bank robber sought by FBI

The FBI Violent Crime Task Force is asking the public for help in identifying and locating a suspect who robbed the Emerald Credit Union on Granger Rd., in Garfield Heights last week.

Garfield Heights police responded to the Emerald Credit Union, 13201 Granger Rd., at about 1:09 p.m., on Monday, May 8, for a bank robbery that had just occurred. Officers spoke to a customer who said she was driving on Granger Rd., near the credit union, when she saw a black male run out of the bank. She said he fled on foot going south towards E. 134 St. She described him as wearing a black wig with big curls, blue latex gloves, sunglasses and black pants with a white design, and carried a bag as he ran from the credit union.

The customer then pulled into the bank and observed an older model silver SUV traveling at a high rate of speed from E. 134 St., then going west on Granger Rd.

Inside the bank, police interviewed a bank teller who said the suspect had handed her a note that said, "Don't (expletive) play with me give me hundreds." She also said the word "Bomb" was written on the note along with the other writing.

Other employees added to the suspect's description saying he wore a yellow surgical mask, was a dark-skinned male between the ages of 25 and 35, was approximately 6'2" and wore black Nike tennis shoes.

The suspect left the bank with \$4,651 in cash.

The FBI Violent Crime Task Force asks anyone with information about the robbery to contact the FBI tip line at 1-877-FBI-OHIO. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can request anonymity when calling the tip line.

POPPIES SPRING UP AT C.H. COUNCIL MEETING



Prior to the May council meeting for the Village of Cuyahoga Heights, Mayor Jack Bacci introduced the American Legion Post 627 Miss Poppy, Milania Budner. Milania gained her eligibility through her great-grandfather, Bill Myers, a Korean War veteran – United States Marine Corp.

Also introduced from Post 627 was Master Poppy Hayden Bahr. Hayden gained his eligibility through his grandfather, Larry Jones, a Vietnam War veteran – United States Air Force. They are shown above in council chambers with Mayor Bacci.

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Bedford Council introduces legislation to gift land to Metroparks for expansion of Bedford Reservation

By Judith Goldsworth

An ordinance to gift 6.4-acres of land from Bedford's Taylor-Willis neighborhood to the Cleveland Metroparks as part of future expansion of the Bedford Reservation was placed on first reading at the Bedford Council meeting Monday night.

The property described in the legislation, currently owned by the city's Land Bank, consists of a wedge-shaped parcel of land at 75 W. Taylor St., and an adjoining smaller rectangular parcel at 38 W. Taylor St., adjacent to Tinkers Creek and the Viaduct Park area of Bedford Reservation. According to City Manager Mike Mallis, the land was formerly occupied by the Taylor Chair company.

He said that through discussions with the Metroparks, the city agreed to donate the land to the Metroparks. In return, as outlined in the agreement, the Metroparks will construct what is referred to as a "four seasons facility," that can be used all year around and will be a reservable space for the public.

Also as part of the agreement, Mallis stated, the city will have access to that facility for 24 days throughout the year for various events like ward meetings, State of the City address, Senior Club events and expanding programs through the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mallis said the city has requested that the Metroparks build the facility comparable to the one in the Geauga Park District, which is at Holbrook Hollows in Bainbridge.

Photos of the Holbrook Hollows facility, which depict a fully enclosed, spacious, finished meeting and gathering space, may be viewed online at geaugaparkdistrict.org. The facility may also be viewed in person at 7250 Country Ln., off Chagrin Rd., in Bainbridge.

Mallis said if the agreement is approved by council at a future meeting, the Metroparks would be working the first two years to clear the land, removing invasive species, installing new plantings, new trails and other improvements. And then, ultimately, the parks would be working to secure grant funding to build the four seasons facility.

(Continued on Page 7)

Three men dead in North Broadway area slayings; call Cleveland detectives or Crime Stoppers with info

E. 65 St./Bessemer Ave.

On May 11, 2023, at approximately 11:45 a.m., officers responded to E. 65 St. and Bessemer Ave., for a male shot. On arrival, the victim, Dawaun Krake, age 29, was located deceased with multiple gunshot wounds to his head and body inside of a vehicle at the intersection, according to media sources. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Preliminary information from the Homicide Unit indicates that the victim was on E. 65 St., stopped at Bessemer, and a vehicle pulled up next to him and an occupant fired rounds at the victim's vehicle, striking him multiple times. The suspect vehicle then left the scene. It is described as a dark-colored sedan with tinted windows. No arrests have been made. Anyone with information is asked to contact investigators at 216-623-5464.

Hamlet Ave.

On May 13, 2023, at approximately 1:20 p.m., officers responded to the 5800 block of Portage Ave., for a residence entered. On scene officers learned that a woman had called police for a burglary report and then was searching the neighborhood for belongings taken from her home. The woman entered an abandoned house in the 5700 block of Hamlet Ave., and found a deceased male inside, who according to media sources was Gary McConaha, 53, of Garfield Heights. The woman then returned to the Portage Ave. address where she was met by police. Officers responded to Hamlet Ave., and located the male victim, age 53, inside of the house with gunshot wounds to his head and leg. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene. No arrests have been made. Anyone with information is asked to contact investigators at 216-623-5464.

E. 88 St.

On May 13, 2023, at approximately 10:10 p.m., officers responded to E. 88 St., between Bessemer and Marshall Ave., for a male shot and lying in the middle of the street. On arrival the male was found down in the road with gunshot wounds to his head. He was pronounced dead at the scene and then taken to University Hospitals due to the crime scene not being safe.

Preliminary information indicates that the victim, who various media sources identified as Kelvin Clark, age 25, was in attendance at a vigil for another homicide victim and was involved in an argument with other attendees. Further information indicates that a male suspect approached the victim and began shooting him. The suspect then left in a dark-colored SUV and then returned to the scene and shot the victim multiple times again. No arrests have been made. Anyone with information is asked to contact investigators at 216-623-5464.

Those with information on any of these homicides can also contact Crime Stoppers at 216-25-CRIME and report information anonymously. A reward of up to \$5,000 may be available.

Death Notices

FRANK FARAGONE

Frank W. Faragone, 85, retired Cleveland Police Officer and former Marine, passed away April 2, 2023, in Middleburg Heights, Ohio.



Loving son of Irene (Lewandowski) and Joseph J. Faragone (both deceased); dearly beloved husband of Laura (Suzie Allred) Faragone; most loving father of Joseph Faragone (Angela); stepfather of Mary (Allred) Mitchell (Frank), Dustin and Randall Foust; treasured grandfather (Pa) to Allison and Ryan Faragone, Julia, Timothy, Isaiah Hill and Mia Mitchell, Stephanie and Gabriella Foust, and Alicia and Aurora Foust; loving great-grandfather of Jinecis Benton and of Allison's baby girl due in July; brother of Peter (deceased) and Ralph Faragone; most loving uncle of Frank Faragone (Kim) and Marie (Rob) Weaver; cousin of Josie Passafiume and many other family members and friends.

Family and friends are invited and welcome to gather June 10, 2023, from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., at P.L.A.V. Lincoln Post 13, 6009 Fleet Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44105. Interment to be announced at a later date.

Garfield Hts. Community Gardens meeting

Spring has sprung which means it's time to get gardening in Garfield Heights. A 2023 Community Gardens meeting to learn about gardening this year at one of the city gardens will be held on Wednesday, May 24, at 5:30 p.m., at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd. For more information, contact Karyn Anandel, 216-475-3373 or kandel@garfieldhts.org

Final Days for Garfield Heights T-ball & Co-ed Softball Registrations

Registrations will run through May 25th for both of these sports at the Dan Kostel Recreation Center located at 5411 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, during open office hours. Normal open office hours are 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. However, we have added some extra open office hours for everyone's convenience in addition to normal open hours:

Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 24, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 25, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

T-Ball is for boys & girls - ages 5-7 on or before July 1, 2023. Co-Ed Softball is for boys & girls - ages 8-13 on or before August 1, 2023.

Fees: Residents - \$50.00 + current \$15 annual ID card. Non-Residents - \$80.00 + current \$40 annual ID card.

Birth certificates are required at the time of registration if your child did not play last season. Only a parent or legal guardian can register a child, and residents should bring in 2 current utility bills, bank statement or pay stub with name & address. We accept cash, credit, debit or checks. Please bring all proper credentials with you at the time of registration so we can serve you better.

A \$15 late fee will be applied after May 25. Signups must be done in a timely manner for team draft, scheduling purposes, ordering uniforms and allowing practice time before the season can begin.

Summer Pass, ID cards and Swim Lesson Registrations will begin May 30.

www.garfieldhts.org 216-475-7272

Transfiguration Reunion

Transfiguration School All-Year Reunion will be held on Saturday, June 17, beginning at 2 p.m., at 11550 Valley View Rd., Northfield, Ohio 44067-1042. It will be a potluck event with no alcohol allowed as it is on the grounds of a state park.

Spread the word to your fellow classmates, and please bring pictures and stories to tell of the old Transfiguration School days.

SUBMIT YOUR COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ADVERTISING TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS VIA EMAIL: NNEWS1923@AOL.COM



Memorial Day

★ Weekend ★

Celebration

Remember and Honor

Family. Community. Remembrance.


May 27/28 ★ 10am-1pm

Saturday May 27th	Sunday May 28th	Monday May 29th
Touch-A-Truck	Classic Car Show	Memorial Day Parade and Service 10am
The Balloon Vibe's Brad Thompson	Military Vehicles	
	Operation Flags of Freedom Ceremony 12pm	

Garfield Heights Civic Center
5407 Turney Road



<https://www.garfieldhts.org/> 216-475-1100



Village of Newburgh Heights

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is invited to attend a hearing to voice their opinions or to submit written opinions to the address below regarding the proposed Alternative Tax Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2024. A brief overview of the proposed Resolution will be given at the hearing which will be held on June 6, 2023 at 6:00 pm in Village Hall, 3801 Harvard Avenue, Newburgh Heights, OH 44105. A copy of the proposed Resolution will also be available for review at Village Hall during regular village office hours. Please send written comments to Fiscal Officer Cathleen Nagorski at the address listed above. Any persons who wish to attend and require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Village Hall at 216-641-4650 no later than 72 hours prior to the public hearing.

Cathleen Nagorski
Fiscal Officer

Village Hall 5/10/23
Neighborhood News 5/17/23

ODOT traffic update

I-480 Valley View Bridge Deck Replacement - Construct a new bridge between the two existing Valley View bridges and replace the decks of the I-480 east and westbound Valley View bridges in Garfield Heights and Independence. Estimated Completion: June 2024



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- Beef-n-Cheddar - \$10.25 lb.

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Fresh Kielbasa - \$5.09 lb.
Smoked Kielbasa - \$5.39 lb.
Horseradish - White or Beet Red - \$2.79 each
Pierogies - \$7.00/bag
(Sauerkraut, Sweet Cheese, Potato, Potato & Cheese Apple, Apricot and Prune)

NEW IMPACTS

Transportation Blvd. entrance ramp to I-480 west will be closed on Monday, May 22, through Monday, June 5, for pavement replacement. Detour will be I-480 east to Granger Rd. to I-480 west.

G.H. Ward 7 Block Watch

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch, sponsored by Councilman Tom Vaughn, will meet Thursday, May 25, at 7 p.m., at St. Monica Church's pavilion off Rockside Rd. Trial size toiletry items for our troops would be appreciated. All are welcome. For more information contact Gail, 216-662-9213.

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Cleveland City Council approves \$2 million to help eligible CPP, Cleveland Water customers

Cleveland City Council held its regular meeting Monday night and approved providing \$2 million in assistance to eligible Cleveland Public Power (CPP) and Cleveland Water customers to reduce or eliminate outstanding balances.

To qualify, CPP and Cleveland Water customers in the city must have an outstanding balance that dates back to no later than March 2020 and must be signed up on a payment plan with the utilities. The funding will come from the city's American Rescue Plan Act funds. Residents affected will be notified quickly. This program will help about 1,200 CPP households and 1,400 water customer households.

Gordon Park: Council approved going into an additional lease with the Board of Park Commissioners for the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District to add a portion of Gordon Park, on the south side of I-90, to the already established lease.

The Metroparks has committed to providing approximately \$8 million in improvements, which will be determined through community engagement, and has agreed that the park and amenities will remain open to the public free of charge.

Euclid Beach Trail Connector: Council approved spending \$3 million to expand public lakefront access from the Metroparks' Euclid Creek Reservation west along the neighborhoods of Beulah Park, Villa Beach and a small portion of Shore Acres.

The Beulah Park-Euclid Beach Connector will be a bike/pedestrian trail, approximately two-thirds of a mile, along Lake Erie on the water's edge halfway down the bluff, similar in design and scale to the city of Euclid's new lakefront trail and will connect into the Lakefront Bikeway. Two major objectives of this project are erosion control and public access along the waterfront. The total project is expected to cost \$16 million.

West Side Market Improvements: Council approved providing \$10 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding for repairs to the historic market. The \$10 million can be combined with the \$3.3 million council passed last year for a new roof on the market, which hasn't been started. Council also passed \$1.25 million last year for three freight elevator replacements, with this work just starting.

Council members also discussed increasing the parking fees at the West Side Market parking lot after the market is closed, when the lot is used by customers going to bars and restaurants on W. 25 St. The fee is currently \$1 an hour and whatever the increase, it could be a funding stream for market improvements.

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Tuesday, May 23, 2023; 6-8PM

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Legendary Bootsy Collins visits here with 'Funk Not Fight' movement



Bootsy Collins poses with Garfield Heights Music Express students at the Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Maple Heights Mayor Annette Blackwell, Garfield Heights Mayor Matt Burke, County Executive Chris Ronayne and Municipal Judge Sergio DiGeronimo teamed up with noted guitarist and singer-songwriter Bootsy Collins and The Bootsy Collins Foundation to kick off a new initiative last Thursday at the Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame aimed at calming the violence among younger generations.

Bootsy Collins took the stage outside the Rock Hall with his wife, known as

include a Safe Space and Studio at The Village of Performing Arts and Cultural Center in Garfield Heights. The Funk Not Fight network of resources will assist young individuals and families create a strong foundation of support through mentorship, community assistance programs and educational opportunities.

Last Thursday's event featured a Round Table Discussion with leaders in the Cleveland, Garfield Heights and Maple Heights communities as well as performances by the Garfield Heights Music Express and national recording artists.

"I want to thank Bootsy Collins and Patti Collins for choosing Cleveland for such an important movement," said Mayor Blackwell.

Pepperminte Patti, and said, "This is a new phase for all of us and the key for me is that everyone is talking loud but ain't nobody doing nothing. So we're going to start right here today in Cleveland and we're going to start 'to do' cause it's all about doing something... We're going to stick to this plan. Funk not fight!"

The Funk Not Fight Movement will feature songs released in coming months by legendary artists coming together to change the tides in cities across the nation. Locally, the initiative will

Mayor Burke added, "Let's look through the eyes of our young folks. They've seen 9-11, the shootings at Columbine and Uvalde. Every time you turn on the TV, it's like you see a shooting go on and it's no wonder that these youths have a lot of concerns and are afraid. What Patti and Bootsy are doing here, I'm telling you this is not just another program. This is a movement that is starting right here in Cleveland, Ohio."

Other Round Table members included neurologist

Dr. Neil Cherian, Garfield Heights Coach Sonny Johnson, Pastor Kevyn McHenry from The Church of Greater Heights and Frankie Hughes, an area graduate who recently obtained his Master's degree and returned to mentor youth. All Round Table members and speakers were formally designated "Funk Not Fight Ambassadors."

After the event Bootsy and Patti Collins visited areas of Cleveland, Garfield Heights and Maple Heights, and met with children and residents.

Maple Heights Boys League to hold Opening Day event this Saturday

The Maple Heights Boys League, in cooperation with the cities of Maple Heights and Garfield Heights, will hold an Opening Day event to kick off the season on Saturday, May 20, from noon to 3 p.m., at Stafford Park, 5400 Mayville Ave., Maple Heights. Free food and entertainment. There will be no game that day.

Correction

The library programs found on Page 4 of last week's issue that were listed as taking place at the Independence Branch Library are actually taking place at the Bedford Branch Library. Those noted as taking place at the Garfield Branch Library in the same article last week are correct. We regret any inconvenience our error caused.

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Jones Road Family Development Literacy Through The Arts 2023 Summer Academy

FREE SUMMER ACADEMY

Children entering 1st-8th grade
Monday - Friday (8am-12:30pm)
Free Breakfast @8am Free Lunch @12

Location: Cleveland Central Catholic High School (6550 Baxter Ave., Cleveland OH 44105)

To register please come to Jones Road Family Ministry
8000 Jones Road
Cleveland, OH 44105

Sign up Days
(Thursday, May 18th 1:30pm-6:30pm)
(May 21st & May 22nd 1pm-4pm)
(Tuesday, May 23rd 1:30pm-6:30pm)
(June 5th, 6th & 7th 3pm-7pm)

Special Thanks To

COVID-19 Resources Available!

Vaccines are still the primary way to fight COVID.

If you missed the May 11, 2023 deadline to receive no cost COVID test kits and vaccinations, you can visit your local pharmacy or Cleveland Department of Public Health Community Health Clinics to pay out-of-pocket or with insurance for COVID resources.

You still have choices. Minimize your risk of COVID-19 infection by getting vaccinated TODAY.

Cuyahoga County: Call 216-201-2000 for more information or visit <https://ccbh.net/>
Cleveland: Call 216-664-2324 or visit <https://www.clevelandhealth.org/>

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Bedford Council introduces legislation to gift land to Metroparks for expansion of Bedford Reservation

(Continued from Page 1)

Mallis said there is a clause in the agreement that if the facility is not built by the end of 2031, the Metroparks would agree to pay the city the current value of the property, which is \$311,000.

"The other thing that is important, as outlined in that agreement, is that the parks are fully supporting our project of connecting the Downtown District to Bedford Reservation with a pedestrian trail," Mallis said, adding that the proposed trail would go down Willis St., then through Viaduct Park with a bridge that would be constructed in the vicinity of the Tinkers Creek Falls.

Council will discuss the Metroparks agreement legislation before possible passage at a future meeting.

Legislation

Council passed the following legislation on Monday night's agenda:

- Ordinance amending the codified ordinances chapter, "Rules of Council." Mayor Stan Koci said that the most substantial change is that effective at the first council meeting of September 2023, council meetings will be held at 7 p.m. instead of 8 p.m.

- Ordinance for a contract with Valley Truck Centers to purchase a 2024 Ford utility truck for the Water Department through state contract, at a cost of \$113,058.

- Ordinance for a contract with North Coast Two Way Radio for technical improvements, including installing multiple repeater and exterior antennas at the Municipal Complex to avoid disruption of services, at a cost of \$24,687.

- Ordinance for a contract with Pat Flowers for longline striping and pavement marking of city streets, at a cost of \$30,335.84.

- Resolution requesting the Cuyahoga County Auditor to advance taxes from the proceeds of tax levies for the year 2022, collected in 2024. Finance Director Jennifer Howland said that passage of the legislation will result in earlier tax revenue allotments for the city next year.

Announcements

Mallis announced that the city's annual Memorial Day Parade will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m., on Monday, May 29, at City Hall, 165 Center Rd. From there, the parade will proceed to the Bedford Public Square, and then to the city's Cemetery.

Councilman Jeff Asbury said that on May 20, Bedford Boy Scout Troop 399 will be holding a Clothing Collection Drive at the Lutheran Church of the Master, 860 Northfield Rd. (next to Giant Eagle), from 8:30-11:15 a.m. Donations of gently used clothing and small household items will be accepted.

As part of the "Be The Beat" program, the Bedford Fire Department will be offering free hands-on CPR training at Ellenwood Recreation Center on Saturday, June 3, Mallis said. There will be sessions available at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. No registration is required.

Councilman Frank Smith said that a "Juneteenth" celebration in observance of the holiday will be held on Monday, June 19, at Bedford Bearcat Stadium, 481 Northfield Rd. Food, music, events and speakers will be featured.

Mallis noted that June 2023 is Free Permit Month in Bedford, meaning that the city will waive all permit fees for exterior residential building projects for that month. The homes must be owner occupied. Residents still have to get a permit, even though it is free, and the contractors must be registered.

Community police reports

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

Cleveland

Shootings

On May 8, at 6:27 p.m., two people were shot in the E. 76 St.-Union Ave. area: a 21-year-old female with gunshot wounds to the stomach, and a 27-year-old male with gunshot wounds to the hand. Both were driven to MetroHealth Medical Center by the male victim.

Garfield Heights

Recovered Stolen Auto

- On May 6, at 3:45 a.m., police on patrol in the area of Christine Ave. and E. 126 St., attempted to stop a white Kia Forte which came back through LEADS as stolen through the CMHA Police Dept. A black female driver and possibly a black male front seat passenger were in the Kia, which did not stop and led the officer on a high speed chase. The pursuit ended on Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., when the stolen vehicle lost control, rounding a corner and striking two unoccupied and parked cars, which disabled the stolen Kia. The two occupants fled the vehicle in opposite directions. The GHPD officer pursued the suspects on foot but lost sight of them quickly behind houses and large fields with no lighting. With assistance from CPD, a rough perimeter was set up in an attempt to locate the female driver. She and a white female were seen running from CPD and the driver was eventu-

ally captured. It was later determined there had been three occupants of the suspect vehicle, and the white female was later arrested following a CPD foot pursuit. Both female suspects were juveniles, whose guardians were advised of the situation. Report to be followed up by the Garfield Heights Juvenile Detective Bureau.

Criminal Damage-Residence

On May 13, an officer responded to police headquarters for a criminal damage report. The complainant, who lives in the 12600 block of Eastwood Blvd., told police he saw on his surveillance system that three juveniles were hanging around his house at 8:30 p.m., on May 12, and one of them ran up to the residence and kicked in the rear screen door. All three juveniles then fled the area south on Fairlawn. Video and pictures turned over to police.

Newburgh Heights PD plans sobriety checkpoint

The Newburgh Heights Police Department announced Monday that officers will operate an OVI checkpoint to deter and intercept impaired drivers this weekend. The location will be announced the morning of the checkpoint.

If you plan to consume alcohol, NHPD asks that you designate a driver or make other travel arrangements before you drink. Operational support for the sobriety checkpoint will be provided by local, county and state law enforcement agencies.

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The 24/7 hotline number, 216-252-7463, allows the caller to remain anonymous. The phone does not have a caller ID function and calls are not recorded.

Those with information can also text TIP657 plus your message to 274637, or can submit information online at www.25crime.com.

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