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100th YEAR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2023

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FREE

Notify police with info on body found on Osborn Rd. Maple Hts. awarded \$2.2 million to improve air quality

By Judith Goldsworth

On Aug. 4, at about 5 a.m., Garfield Heights Police officers responded to the 4700 block of Osborn Rd., for an unresponsive female.

Police and EMS found the 29-year-old woman, identified as Ashley Delgado, laying on the side of the road. She was pronounced deceased, and the Garfield Heights Detective Bureau, along with the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office, began to investigate the incident.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Garfield Heights Detective Bureau at 216-475-5686.

Sewer District assists local communities with \$14.9M to improve sewer systems

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's Board of Trustees last week awarded 17 Member Community Infrastructure Program (MCIP) grants, totaling \$14,900,964.98, which included grants for Garfield Heights, Maple Heights and Newburgh Heights.

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 \$77.4 million towards 107 public sewer infrastructure improvement projects. The Sewer District's grants have leveraged an additional \$97.2 million in member community infrastructure investments, greatly improving water quality in the region.

Local MCIP grants in this funding round include:

Garfield Hts. (\$1,228,425.00): South Parkway Drive Reconstruction

Maple Hts. (\$1,467,000.00): Southwest Sewer District - Sewer Repairs Phase 2

Maple Hts. (\$409,590.60): Southwestern Sanitary Sewer District #2 Improvements (Western)

Newburgh Hts. (\$2,075,287.50): Beta Avenue Reconstruction Project

"Failing septic systems, basement flooding, sanitary sewer overflows and common trench sewers all can 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 and protects and improves the region's water resources."

The city of Maple Heights has been awarded \$2,200,000 in grant funding from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, which will be used for a project to coordinate traffic signals to improve air quality in the city, according to a resolution passed by council at its meeting last week.

Mayor Annette Blackwell was authorized to accept the funding under NOACA's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program. City Engineer Ed Hren was authorized to coordinate with the Ohio Department of Transportation to prepare plans, bid specifications, cost estimates and bid the project for the city.

"The NOACA staff has notified (Blackwell) and (Hren) that they will be recommending additional funding, up to an additional \$1,750,000, for the Citywide Signals and Efficiency Project," the legislation states, adding that NOACA and ODOT require

ODOT traffic updates

The following closures will be in place on Wednesday, Aug. 9, at 9 p.m. through Thursday, Aug. 10, at 5 a.m., for resurfacing of I-77 between Rockside Rd. and E. Schaaf Rd.

• I-480 east to I-77 north. Detour will be I-77 south to Pleasant Valley Rd. to I-77 north.

• Rockside Rd. entrance ramp to I-77 north. Detour will be I-77 south to Pleasant Valley Rd. to I-77 north

The following closures will be in place for I-77 and Rockside Rd. interchange improvements in the city of Independence.

• Rockside Rd. eastbound entrance ramp to I-77 north will be closed nightly between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. through Friday, Aug. 11, for bridge painting. Detour will be SR 21 to Pleasant Valley Rd. to I-77.

The following ramp closures for bridge repairs will begin Wednesday, Aug. 16.

• I-77 north to I-490 west ramps closed through late September. Detour will be SR 14 (Broadway Ave.) to Rockefeller Ave. to I-490.

• I-77 south to I-490 east ramps closed through late September. Detour I-490 west to W. 7th to I-490 east.

that the city "confirms that it intends to complete the project in a timely manner."

In correspondence last month, NOACA Executive Director Grace Gallucci stated that the planning and design/bid specs/estimate/bidding phase of the Citywide Signals and Efficiency Project, planned for 2024, was receiving 100% of NOACA funding in the amount of \$489,000, as part of the larger \$2.2 million award. This was a revision of the original funding approved by NOACA in January 2022, which referenced an 80-20 split for both construction and engineering costs, Hren stated.

"NOACA will provide eligible project costs, up to the maximum amount... On behalf of NOACA, we are excited to be a partner towards the successful planning and implementation of your project," Gallucci said. The next phase of the project, involving construction, is expected to take place in 2026.

Blackwell explained that the project will entail replacing all of the traffic signals within the city to help in providing cleaner air.

"The signals we have now, you can sit there and sit there... (The new signals) will actually be able to detect whether there's a car coming or not, and will continually move so you're not sitting at a traffic light, idling, adding to congestion and pollution."

Road work legislation approved

At last week's meeting council approved three reso-

(Continued on Page 2)

Ronayne to attend G.H. Council meeting Monday night; will also be on hand for public meeting on plans for new jail site

Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronayne is scheduled to attend next Monday's meeting of Garfield Heights Council and will likely seek community support on his plan to build a new county jail in Garfield Heights as part of a Cuyahoga County Central Campus on the site of the old Bridgeview property on Transportation Blvd.

At the Aug. 1st meeting of Cuyahoga County Council a resolution, sponsored by Ronayne and the Department of Public Works to purchase approximately 72.1 acres of property at the old Bridgeview site from Craig Realty Group - Cleveland, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$38,703,000, was rejected by county council.

Various media sources confirm that several council members were against the proposed funding for the new jail and that the resolution to revisit the purchase of the Garfield Heights property could be brought before county council again with modifications.

Ronayne and Garfield Heights Mayor Matt Burke will be on hand for a special Community Engagement meeting from 10 a.m. to noon, on Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., at which residents will be provided information on the jail proposal and be given a chance to state their views.

Maple Hts. awarded \$2.2 million from NOACA to improve air quality in city

(Continued from Page 1)

lutions regarding upcoming needed road work in the city, one for the 2023 Concrete Roadway Repair Program, the second for the 2023 Asphalt Roadway Repair Program, and the third authorizing Hren to begin preparing plans and to go out for bids for the Southgate Boulevard Reconstruction Project.

The concrete work contract is with Set In Stone Contracting, LLC, at a cost not to exceed \$103,575. In March, the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works informed Blackwell that the department will reimburse the city for up to \$92,400 in material costs expended on county routes included in this program.

The asphalt work contract is with Specialized Construction, Inc., at a cost not to exceed \$1,288,895.50. Also in March, the CCDPW informed Blackwell that the department would also reimburse up to \$92,400 in material costs expended on county routes included in this program.

According to the third road work resolution, Hren

and Service Director Tony Ciresi had reported to Blackwell and council that Southgate Park Boulevard between Northfield and Warrensville Center "remained in very poor condition... and was determined to be in greatest need of repair and reconstruction."

Last month the District One Public Works Integrating Committee and the Ohio Public Works Commission notified the city that it had been awarded financial assistance in the amount of \$243,000 in the form of a 0% loan for the Southgate project.

Also approved

• Resolution to overrule the decision by the Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the application of Shaina Horton for approval of a variance to install a 10' x 16' utility shed in the backyard of her property on Stanley Ave. Council's unanimous vote means the Planning and Zoning decision was overruled and Horton can install the shed on her property.

• Resolution authorizing a contract between Blackwell and developer Patricks Enterprises LLC to sell a vacant city-owned lot at 14520 Tokay Ave., at a cost of \$10,000, for the construction of a single-family, owner-occupied home on the property.

• Resolution authorizing Blackwell to enter into an addendum to a May, 2023 purchase agreement between the city and Jan and Shawn Jones, to sell a vacant city-owned lot on Carol Dr. at a cost of \$5,000 for the construction of a single family home on the property. The purchase price was originally \$10,000.

Sypen named new fire chief

Former Maple Heights Fire Captain Daniel Sypen,

now Fire Chief Sypen, was sworn into the department's top post recently and gave his first report at last week's meeting. Sypen replaces former Chief Vito Kavaliunas, who announced his retirement from the department in July after decades of service.

Sypen thanked everybody for their support and cited Kavaliunas for special thanks and also honored him for his years of serving, helping and protecting the Maple Heights community.

Announcements

Human Services Director Linda Vopat said a Community Shred Day will be held at St. Andrew's Eastern Orthodox Church, 16029 Maple Park Blvd., on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m.-noon. She also said the Citywide Garage Sale will be held on Sept. 7, 8, 9 and 10, at numerous houses throughout the city.

Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy announced that Xellia Pharmaceuticals, a Denmark-based pharmaceutical manufacturing company with a plant in Bedford, was a new tenant in the nearby University Hospitals Bedford facility that was closed by UH last year, and was hiring employees for a variety of open positions.

District 7 Councilwoman Edwina Agee stated a District 7 meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m. at the Maple Heights Library, 5225 Library Lane (off Libby Rd.)

District 1 Councilman Stafford Shenett said the annual "Bridge the Gap - Hoop It Up" event will be held on Saturday, Aug. 26, from noon-4 p.m. at Milkovich Middle School, 19800 Stafford Ave., and the next District 1 Block Watch meeting would be held on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours Church, 14600 Turney Rd.

False Narratives & Distractions

Greetings again Maple Heights Residents, I pray this message finds you well and in good spirits.

Once more, I want to assure you all that I will continue to run an informative and gentlemen like campaign. I am fully aware of the false narratives, distractions, and in some instances made-up controversies. These types of adverse messages on certain social media pages and tabloid type news platforms will not deter our work, vision, and message for a better Maple Heights. We will continue to share informative content that will help increase the quality of life for our residents.

I would like to take this moment as well to thank those residents who were able to attend our scheduled mayoral candidate Q&A session that was held Monday, July 31, 2023 at the Maple Heights Library. We had some great questions and very informative conversations. As a three-term councilman, I appreciate the interaction that I have with the Maple Heights residents. Understanding the concerns and needs of the residents will assist us as leaders in providing the resources for a better quality of life and safer community. Together we can make a difference.

Have your S.A.Y. (Safety/Seniors, Accountability, & Youth Engagement)

Respectfully,
Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, Sr.
Candidate for Mayor of Maple Heights, OH

Paid for by Committee for Stafford L. Shenett for Maple Heights, Richelle Shenett, Treasurer



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U.S. Marshals Service announces additional support for Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb's RISE Initiative through targeted investments and enforcement

Yesterday Peter J. Elliott, the U.S. Marshal for the Northern District of Ohio, announced a series of strategies and investments that align with and support Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb's Raising Investment in Safety for Everyone (RISE) Initiative.

"We are so grateful for the partnership we have with U.S. Marshal Pete Elliott and his team," said Mayor Bibb. "We are committed to an all-hands-on-deck collaborative and coordinated approach to cracking down on crime in our city and, as we saw last summer, operations like this really make a difference."

The complimentary initiative, called Operation 216, includes additional resources and manpower from members of the U.S. Marshals Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force across Ohio focusing on targeted hot spots in the city of Cleveland. Additional funding for Cleveland's NICE Unit and Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department warrant unit

will also be made available to assist in combating crime.

"The importance of the teamwork and collaboration we have with the U.S. Marshals cannot be overstated," said Cleveland Chief of Police Wayne Drummond. "The Marshals, Ohio State Highway Patrol and Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department are great partners year-round and we really appreciate the hard work that they do."

While the specific timeline and additional details of Operation 216 are confidential, the bulk of the operation will take place throughout August and September 2023.

In addition to tactical support, Operation 216 also includes an additional cold case investigator assigned to work on unsolved homicide cases ranging from two to three years old.

"Combating violent crime and arresting those responsible for these acts is our top priority," Elliott said. "We are pleased to be able to provide support to the Cleveland Division of Police as we work together to secure our streets and remove violent offenders from our communities."

Come join the **Garfield Heights United** nonprofit organization **this Saturday, August 12th** from 9am-5pm, for our third annual **SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION EVENT**

Everyone who makes a donation will be entered into a raffle for an opportunity to win a \$50 McDonalds gift card (donated by JNHouse enterprise) Only one winner will be selected.



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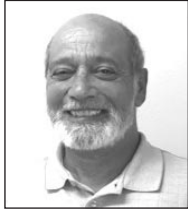
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Community police reports

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

Cleveland

Missing Child

On Aug. 4, at 12:26 a.m., an eight-year-old boy was reported missing from a home in the 3900 block of E. 66 St. Light-skinned, 3'5", 80 lbs., curly Afro. Last seen wearing dark blue shirt, black shorts with blue designs, black/red shoes.

Garfield Heights

Theft

On July 31, at about midnight, an officer was flagged down by a male at the intersection of Granger and Turney rds. He said his electric bike had been stolen outside of CVS Pharmacy while he was inside. He insisted the officer go and look for the suspect immediately because he didn't think the person could have gotten too far away. The officer toured the area of Granger Rd. and all side streets but did not locate the bike.

Drug Activity

On Aug. 2, at 2:24 a.m., police observed a white 2014 Ford Fusion in the area of Turney and McCracken rds. with no license plate secured to the rear of the bumper. After the traffic stop was initiated it was found that a temporary plate was attached to the rear dark tinted window. The 19-year-old male driving the car had a suspended driver's license. Police noted a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the car. During an inventory search of the vehicle police found suspected cocaine, a digital scale covered with white residue and suspected meth. The suspect was charged with possession of drugs and will be issued a traffic citation for display of license plate and driving under suspension.

Disturbance

On Aug. 2, about 7:50 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 10100 block of Russell Ave. for a large group of people fighting in the street. They were met by a female who had a video of an assault between four females. After viewing the video police spoke with the individuals involved. It appears the situation on Russell was a continuation of an earlier assault that happened somewhere else. GHPD officers with mutual aid from Valley View and Cuyahoga Heights police were on scene to help with crowd control. While police gathered information, two of the female suspects began to fist fight in the street in front of police. Both females were striking each other with closed fists and pulling hair. They were placed in handcuffs and escorted to separate police cruisers. One of them was taken to city jail for her pending charges. The other was released to her father who was on scene. Disorderly conduct charges are pending for both suspects.

Obstructing Official Business

On Aug. 3, shortly before 4 a.m., an officer noticed a vehicle going west on Garfield Blvd. at a high rate of speed with no headlights on. A traffic stop was initiated at Garfield Blvd. and E. 85 St. A 19-year-old female, driving with her two younger brothers, was the vehicle's owner and was driving without a license. Police said the woman continuously attempted to get into her car while officers were conducting an inven-

tory and refused to follow their commands. As an officer attempted to place her in handcuffs, she pulled away, refused to show her hands and all the while yelled expletives and insults. She was placed under arrest for obstruction and resisting arrest and cited for no headlights and no driver's license. Her two brothers were released to their mother.

Traffic Offense-Fleeing

On Aug. 4, at 10:15 p.m., police saw a white 2020 Dodge Charger traveling on McCracken Rd. towards Turney Rd., with a rear light violation and dark window tinting. A traffic stop was initiated but the Charger's driver, a 28-year-old male, failed to stop. A pursuit ensued throughout the city and terminated at Broadway just after Cleveland's border at the E. 93 St. split. It was noted that in the area of Turney Rd. and Garfield Pkwy., near the Metroparks, police observed something being thrown out from the car's front passenger side window. It was later recovered and was suspected to be 2.6 grams of cocaine. As the pursuit was terminated, the Charger crashed into another vehicle on E. 93 St. in Cleveland, and ended up on a curb. That's when the car's two occupants took off on foot going south. They were both captured by police and an inventory of the Charger found a total of about 324 grams of suspected marijuana, Glock

gun grip, digital scale and clear baggies containing a blue powdered substance suspected as narcotics, 2-3 Glock magazines, along with a loaded Glock 45 caliber gun found on the ground by the vehicle.

The driver was taken to jail and booked on charges of fleeing and eluding, having weapons under disability, drug trafficking and obstruction of official business. Traffic citations will be issued for reckless operation and window tint. The passenger was cited for tampering with evidence, possession of drugs and obstructing official business.

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 **24th day of August, 2023** for the "STAFFORD PARK PHASE II SHELTER/BANDSTAND INSTALLATION 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.

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

The STAFFORD PARK PHASE II SHELTER/BANDSTAND INSTALLATION PROJECT is partially funded by the Cuyahoga County Department of Development's Block Grant Program. A bidder/contractor will be deemed committed to the Department of Labor's goals and timetables for the Cleveland, Ohio area as specified in the Notice of Requirements for Affirmative Action to ensure Equal Employment Opportunity Order 11246 by submitting a properly signed bid. Each bidder must ensure that all employees and applicants for the employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or veteran status.

A copy of the Bid Specification package for the STAFFORD PARK PHASE II SHELTER/BANDSTAND INSTALLATION PROJECT will be available for review by all potential bidders at the offices of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development located at 2079 East Ninth Street., 7th floor office 7-303, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Small Business Enterprises (SBE's) are encouraged to participate on this project. The goal for SBE participation is 35% of total contract award for this project.

A Pre-bid Conference for the STAFFORD PARK PHASE II SHELTER/BANDSTAND INSTALLATION PROJECT will be held at 10:00 A.M. local time on the 17th day of August, 2023 in the Council Chambers at the Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137 for all interested parties. Information will be disseminated concerning proper completion of bid package documents.

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, "STAFFORD PARK PHASE II SHELTER/BANDSTAND INSTALLATION PROJECT".

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: **The Neighborhood News**
August 9, 2023
August 16, 2023



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Lack of quorum forces special Bedford Council meeting tomorrow

By Judith Goldsworth

Bedford Council will hold a special meeting tomorrow, Thursday, Aug. 10, at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 165 Center Rd., to vote on legislation that could not be passed at the regular meeting earlier this week.

Mayor Stan Koci announced the need for the special session, as there was a lack of quorum to vote on legislation on Monday night. Excused as absent from the meeting were Ward 1 Councilwoman Sandy Spinks and Ward 3 Councilman Vic Fluharty.

"We need six people to suspend the rules to let us pass something and have it in effect immediately," Koci said. "So we're only going to do a first reading on all of these items on the agenda."

He said the special meeting tomorrow would only consider those pieces of legislation that needed to be passed immediately.

Ordinances placed on first reading:

- Declaring property at 34 Nordham Dr. a nuisance due to violations and deteriorating conditions and condemning it. The property taxes are also delinquent.

- Two pieces, one to levy assessments for removal of weeds, tall grass and trees from various lots; the other to levy assessments for delinquent water/sewer bills at various properties. Both ordinances state that unpaid balances for the services will be placed on the respective property owners' real estate taxes.

- Setting water and sewer rates for 2024. Once approved, there will be no increase from the 2023 charges for water or sewer rates. Also placed on first reading was an ordinance to provide a 30% discount in water and sewer rates for disabled persons and senior citizens for 2024. Combined household income for the disabled/senior discount cannot exceed \$36,804 annually.

- Authorizing City Manager Mike Mallis to enter into a Master Service Agreement with Simplex-IT for information technology (IT) services for all municipal departments, except the police department, and a separate Master Service Agreement with Simplex for IT services for the police department.

- Contract with ABC Piping Inc., for the boiler replacement project at the Municipal Complex at a cost of \$165,000.

- Hydraulic pump pounder for the service department, at a cost of \$11,392. The city had received a Bureau of Workers' Compensation grant towards this project, which would reduce the cost to the city to about \$3,000, Mallis stated.

- Three ordinances for the Bedford Commons Improvement Project: Contract with D.E. Williams for electrical upgrades at a cost of \$14,800; contract with Campo Residential & Commercial Exteriors to replace the roof on the Gazebo and the Train Depot at a cost of \$36,500; and contract with Millstone Manage-

ment Group for restroom upgrades at the Commons, at a cost of \$45,220. All of these projects will be paid in from a Cuyahoga County Community Development Block Grant that had been awarded to the city for work on the Commons.

- Placed on second reading was an ordinance enacting a new chapter of the Codified Ordinances, to establish regulations governing short-term rentals, bed and breakfast inns, and Air BnBs within the city.

- Council passed a motion on the agenda to approve the Planning Commission's decision to deny the application of Darmetta Manning, owner of Dream Design with Dee LLC, to open a business to host events located at 22790 Rockside Rd.

Simons honored with CMC designation

Broadview Heights Council Clerk Helen Dunlap, vice-president of the Ohio Municipal Clerks Association, made a presentation at the meeting to Bedford Council Clerk Tracy Simons for achieving her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) certification.

Dunlap said that to earn the CMC designation, municipal clerks must attend extensive education programs and also requires pertinent experience in a municipality and a quality education in partnership with institutions of higher learning.

Koci stated, "Like all of our employees, we encourage them to go out and get the extra certification, to go that extra mile. It only makes the city better, and we appreciate what you've done and what you've accomplished."

Announcements

Mallis announced that the Bedford State of the City address will be held at Ellenwood Recreation Center on Tuesday, Aug. 29. Also, there will be a Community Garage Sale on Saturday, Sept. 16, and a Shred Day will be held at City Hall on Saturday, Sept. 7.

There will be a public meeting on the Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (TLCI) of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency at the Ellenwood Recreation Center at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Mallis commended the fire department for being awarded a \$1 million grant recently, which will be used to replace a ladder truck.

Koci said that the unofficial reopening of the Bedford Municipal Pool House was held recently. According to Mallis, the improvements were paid for through county, state and federal funds totaling "just under \$800,000 of non-taxpayer dollars."

Xellia Pharmaceuticals is expanding its operations and looking for additional employees, Koci announced, adding that interested individuals could go to the Xellia plant at 200 Northfield Rd., or visit the company's website.

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To sign up, visit readynotify.us and select "Register or Login." Once in your managed account, select "Scam Squad Alerts."

Phone sign up is also available by calling the Cuyahoga County Department of Consumer Affairs at 216-443-7035 or the Office of Emergency Management at 216-443-5700.

Scam Squad is a financial fraud task force led by the Cuyahoga County Department of Consumer Affairs. Learn more at cuyahogacounty.us/scamsquad.

ReadyNotify is a mass notification system run by the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management, a Scam Squad partner. Learn more at readynotify.us.

Annual Summer Festival

The Warszawa Triangle Street Club will hold its 3rd annual Summer Festival on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 3 to 7 p.m., on Sebert Ave., between E. 65th and E. 69th sts., in Cleveland's Slavic Village.

There will be a bouncy house, volleyball, finger-painting, water balloons, sidewalk chalk art, bubbles, popcorn and free food/fish fry. A live jazz concert by the Soul Revivers is scheduled from 5-7 p.m.

For more information, call Joy at 216-375-6915.

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Crime Stoppers encourages members of the community to assist local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime.

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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.

Register for 'Mentorship'

Registrations are now being taken for a 12-week course called "Mentorship Program One on One," offered at Messiah International Ministries, 98 Center Rd., Bedford. All women are welcome. Tuition is \$199. Orientation for the course is Aug. 26, from 10 to 11 a.m., and classes start Sept. 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.


For more information or to register, call Gloriesteen Miller at 216-326-5175/440-735-3473 or visit: Messiahim.org

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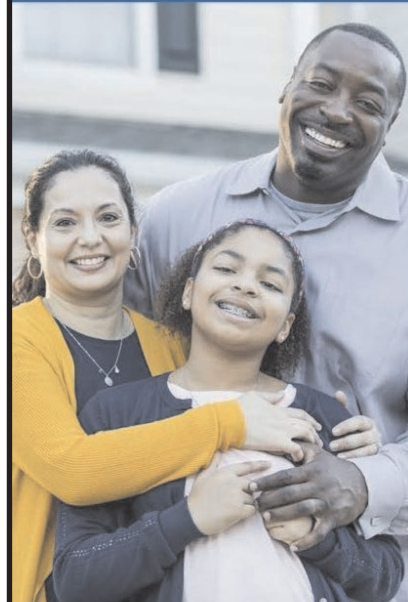
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