Services this Friday for Ben S. Stefanski II

Ben S. Stefanski, age 81, died peacefully July 7, 2019, in the caring community of Jennings. Born in Cleveland on Flag Day, June 14, 1938, Ben was a dedicated patriot and community activist and oldest of Ben and Gerome Stefanski’s five children.

Ben attended Gilmour Academy, graduated from Western Reserve University (CWRU) and earned his law degree from the University of Michigan. Over the course of his career, Ben was a banker, entrepreneur and public servant. At Third Federal S&L, he served on the board of directors and worked as a teller, branch manager and vice president. As utilities director for the city of Cleveland, Mayor Carl Stokes’ cabinet, Ben facilitated the creation of the Regional Sewer District and passed a $100M bond issue to clean up the Cuyahoga River and make Edgewater Park safe for swimming. As a result, the Cleveland community is now celebrating clean water: Cuyahoga50.

Ben served in the Life Guard Society for George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate, on the board of the Kosciusko Foundation and was active in countless charitable organizations. Ben could often be found at the Polish Cultural Gardens planting and weeding, or watering flowers or mowing lawns in Slavic Village.

Beloved father of Christina Stefanski and Ben Stefanski III (Heather); loving grandfather of Ben Stefanski IV, Luke Stefanski and Bridget Long; dearest brother of Abigail Stefanski, Marc Stefanski (Vanessa), Hermine Cech (deceased) (Joseph), Floyd Stefanski (deceased) (Kathleen); cherish- ed uncle to many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations in Ben’s honor to the Cleveland Cultural Gardens CCGF, 10823 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland OH, 44106 or https://www.clevelandculturalgardens.org/ friends-of-the-garden/. Funeral Mass will be held this Friday, July 12, at 11 a.m. at the Shrine Church of Saint Stanislaus, 3649 E. 65th St. Cleveland, Ohio 44105. Reception following. Interment private, Calvary Cemetery. Please sign Tribute Wall at: www.schultemahonmurphy.com

Deadline for property taxes extended

The deadline for the Cuyahoga County property tax collection has been extended to Monday, July 15, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Due to Major League Baseball All-Star Game festivities, there will be numerous road closures and traffic pattern changes that will severely impact all access to the County Administration Building leading up to and through the game. These events will also impact mail delivery. All incoming mail postmarked by July 15 will be considered on time for collection purposes.

I-77 and I-490 ramp closures this week

Through Friday, July 12, the following ramps will be closed nightly between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. for bridge deck construction:

- I-77 north to I-490 west. The detour is Broadway Avenue north to I-490 west.
- I-490 east to I-77 north. The detour is Broadway Avenue north to East 30th Street to I-77 north.

By Judith Goldsworth

Maple Heights votes to close city parks at dusk

As part of an ongoing effort to deter crime at parks in the city, Maple Heights Council passed an ordinance amending existing legislation to close city parks in the evenings, at its meeting last week.

Mayor Annette Blackwell and Police Chief Todd Hansen “have recommended that for the safety and security of residents and neighboring property, that all city parks only be open between dawn and dusk,” according to the ordinance.

The ordinance states, “City parks shall only be open between dawn and dusk, except for Cunwillow Park (aka Home Street Park), the D.A.R.E. Park on Friend Avenue, and Southgate U.S.A. Park on Glenwood Avenue, which will close at 8 p.m. or dusk, whichever is earlier.”

Council also approved legislation directing Blackwell to enter into a contract with Monte Construction in the amount of $428,543.20, for the Krems Avenue Water Main Replacement Project at last week’s meeting.

Last year, City Engineer Ed Hren applied to the City of Cleveland Water Department for the water main replacement project, under the Suburban Water Main Renewal Program (SWMR), and subsequently, the water department awarded Maple Heights nearly a half-million dollars for replacement of the water main on Krems, from E. 141 St. to E. 146 streets, according to the resolution.

Council passed a resolution last September, directing Hren to begin preparation of plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the project, and on Thursday, June 27, the bids were opened and Monte Construction turned in the lowest and best bid, the legislation states.
Red Cross blood donation opportunities this month

Following a difficult Fourth of July week for blood and platelet donations and ongoing challenges finding new blood donors, the American Red Cross now faces a blood shortage and has issued an emergency call for eligible individuals of all blood types to give now and prevent delays in medical care.

Businesses and other community groups organized about 450 fewer blood drives last week than during a typical week as people across the country celebrated the holiday with activities and travel, the organization said.

This led to about 17,000 fewer blood donations than needed for patients in a single week, causing the Red Cross to now have less than a three-day supply of most blood types available – and less than a two-day supply of type O blood – for patients. The organization needs at least a five-day supply.

Donors of all blood types, especially type O, are urged to make an appointment to donate using the Blood Donor app, at RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Those interested in hosting a blood drive can learn more and sign up to sponsor a drive this summer by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/HostADrive.

Garfield Heights Council passes 3 pieces of legislation

By Ellen Psenicka

Three pieces of fairly routine legislation were passed by Garfield Heights Council at its regular meeting Monday night.

An emergency ordinance amended a codified ordinance entitled “Use of Public Ways for Small Cell Wireless Facilities and Wireless Support Structures” to correct a typo in the original legislation. Also passed was an emergency ordinance to amend appropriations for current expenditures for the city ending Dec. 31, 2019.

Finance Director Barbara Biro said this was to facilitate an increase in healthcare and "various accounts that had to be realigned."

An emergency resolution adopting the tax budget of the city for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2020, was passed, rounding out the evening’s legislation.

At the meeting four Garfield Heights Auxiliary Police officers were promoted to the following ranks: Auxiliary Captain Jerry Dominato, Auxiliary Lieutenant Robert Kovach, Auxiliary Lieutenant Ken Krawczyk and Auxiliary Sergeant Anthony Kastelic.

In his report to council, Mayor Vic Collova reminded residents that the Senior Summer Concert Series will begin this Sunday, July 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. inside the Civic Center, and that the city’s 100-year Birthday Bash is set for August 11, on the grounds of the Civic Center.

Police Chief Robert Byrne thanked the Marc’s store in Garfield Heights for its donation of $5000 to the GHPD’s K9 program.

Service Director Tim McLaughlin said Kimble Recycling and Disposal was having a problem with contaminated recycling in Garfield Heights. He said he spoke with Kimble representatives who told him that if a resident’s recycling bin is contaminated it will not be picked up and they will not pick it up later.

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GARFIELD HEIGHTS
77N ramps at Harvard to close for 30 days

Beginning Monday, July 15, at 5 a.m., the two northbound I-77 ramps at Harvard Avenue will be closed for a period of 30 days, according to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). This is for the removal and replacement of pavement on Harvard Avenue east of the highway and the upper portion of the ramps. Associated utility, drainage, traffic signal and sidewalk work will also be completed at this time.

Man shot and thrown from car on E. 66 related to Old Brooklyn shooting

A 40-year-old man who was shot and thrown out of a black Ford Focus near East 66th Street and Consul Avenue July 6 was with two other victims who were shot and killed in Old Brooklyn, according to police.

Police arrived at the scene at about 2:45 a.m. and followed medics to MetroHealth Medical Center, where the victim was treated for his injuries.

While in the emergency room, he stated he was in a Dodge Durango with three others: one woman and two men, police said. He said one of the men shot the woman and the other man in the vehicle. He stated he was shot in the neck while trying to run away. He then stated he was forced into the Ford Focus and taken to East 66th Street and Consul Avenue, where he was kicked out of the vehicle.

Police responded to a shots fired call near West 47th Street and Henriette Avenue at about 2:30 a.m., according to Jennifer Ciaccia, public information officer for the Cleveland Division of Police. The victims were found inside a Durango with gunshot wounds, and officers rendered first aid until EMS arrived. Both victims were taken to Metro and later pronounced deceased.

On scene, police learned that neighbors heard what they believed to be fireworks and then discovered the two victims in the Durango. One woman was taken to the homicide unit for interview. There have not yet been any arrests, and the matter remains under investigation.

Ben Stefanski II

Rest in peace.

The Citizens of Slavic Village

Maple Hts.

(Continued from Page 1)

In correspondence to council, Hren stated that the earliest start date for the project was given as 15 days after the company was notified, adding, “The time of completion for the project was indicated to be 60 days. The project includes the use of an above ground water bypass.”

An ordinance adopting the alternative tax budget information for the city for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2020, and to submit it to the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission was also approved.

After the Walgreens drugstore chain, known as Walgreens Boots Alliance Corporation, recently announced a proposal to close its location at 5264 Lee Road in the city, Council President Ron Jackson introduced a resolution at last week’s meeting “strongly encouraging” a meeting between city officials and the company’s Senior Management Team to request that the store be kept open for the benefit of residents.

The legislation was placed on first reading for possible passage at a future meeting.

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Death Notices

James Oryl
James Oryl, age 62. Jimbo put up a good fight but unfortunately lost the battle. Loved husband of Amy (nee Meyers). Loving father of Christopher (Gina), Tracey Caine (Will) and Ryan. Cherished grandpa of Andy, Sylvia, Benjamin and Violet. Dear brother of Larry (Mattia) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased). Loved husband of Amy (nee Meyers). Remembered with love, respect and gratitude by his family and many friends.

Approval of Senior Transportation Connection legislation sparks controversy in Bedford

By Judith Goldsworth

Bedford Council's approval of legislation to enter into a contract with Senior Transportation Connection to provide rides for senior and disabled residents sparked a lengthy discussion about minority hiring and employment practices in the city, between officials and residents at the meeting last week.

Participation in the Cleveland-based transportation service, which serves 20,000 Cuyahoga County residents annually, according to its website, will afford senior and disabled residents in Bedford expanded transportation options, including not only shopping, banking, medical and other trips during regular weekdays, but also trips after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

The fare for trips during regular business hours will remain at $1 each, while fares for evening and weekend trips may be slightly higher, City Manager Mike Mallis stated.

Some residents felt that having the city utilize the services of STC, at a cost not to exceed $40,000, was not fair to the current senior van driver, who is facing the loss of his job; also, that the action could be seen as going against the city’s past hiring practices regarding minority hiring and employment in the city, they stated.

"He is losing his job, and this is a black mark on the city," council member Mary Mardan said. "This is a bad decision. I think this is a decision we will regret.

Mayor Stan Koci vehemently refuted any claims of discrimination against any existing or potential employees of the city, stating, "We have thought long and hard about this. We didn’t just decide one day, ‘Oh, let’s do this.’ Race has no issue in this at all.

Koci said Bedford had a long history of seeking minority applicants for city jobs, including placing advertisements in minority-targeted publications, visiting schools, colleges and hospitals to recruit people for the police and fire departments. However, he said, "They wouldn't even come to take the test.

Bedford will continue to seek minority applicants, Finance Director Frank Gambosi stated.

An American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees representative at the meeting said he strongly urges the city to find a full-time opportunity for the van driver in the city.

Yesterday, Mallis gave an update on the status of the senior van driver’s position during the meeting. "Although there is a potential elimination of the position, this will not include elimination of the service provided to the seniors. It is our intention that the possible subcontracting of this position will improve the services provided to the seniors... this is kind of in the early stages, and we have not notified him [the driver] of the elimination of the position; we have not given a date.

Mallis further stated yesterday that city officials will meet with the union in the coming weeks to discuss the situation further, regarding any possible options, adding, "I will say at this point that there is not an opening in the city.

Attention Maple Heights backyard grillers, home bakers

In conjunction with Maple Heights Summer Fest on Saturday, Aug. 10, at Stafford Park, backyard grillers and home bakers will have a chance to show off their talents in the Rib Burn Off Contest and Baking Contest. Enter one or both; first, second and third place trophies will be awarded and each contestant will receive a goodie bag.

Registration fee for the rib burnoff is $20, and $10 for the baking contest. For more details or to register, call 216-552-3100 or visit: http://www.citymapleheights.com/MapleHeightsResidentsOnly.

Work in city approved

Council passed an ordinance for the city to enter into a contract with Fabrici Trucking and Paving for the Union Street Waterline Replacement, at a cost of $1,256,258.55. This does not include construction inspection and engineering fees, not to exceed $95,000, according to the legislation.

In an effort to address erosion and fallen trees and debris, council approved an ordinance for a contract with Nerone & Sons for emergency repairs to the city’s Waste Water Treatment Plant to begin stabilization of the Wood Creek bank.

The erosion came dangerously close to a 30-inch sewage line, and if that had collapsed due to the loss of support, 4.2 million gallons of wastewater, including sewage, could have ended up in the creek on a daily basis, Mallis said.

As part of the long-term solution for the Wood Creek stabilization, council passed a resolution for Mallis to apply for and enter into a cooperative agreement for emergency repair and construction between the city and the Ohio Water Development Authority to obtain a loan to finance the project.

Gambosi said the amount of the loan would be around $900,000, based on costs and fees, and payable over 20 years. The proposed project is expected to begin in fall.

Announcements

Koci gave a presentation at the meeting recognizing Fire Chief Dave Nagy, Assistant Chief Shawn Solar and the Bedford Fire Department on achieving an Insurance Service Office (ISO) Class 2 rating, attained by only 4.2 percent of about 42,000 fire departments nationwide. A Class 1 rating is the highest any fire department can achieve, officials stated.

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**PERSONALS**

- 1977 South High Classmates 60th Birthday Party. Friday, 5/10. See more info. 77flyers@gmail.com (216) 883-0093.
- Friday night, hire Spirit who works allSMITHLY city, you’re under aagreement, & the in a remains of your life you are with me. I meet in this short paper to thank you for all things as you confirm to forget you won’t be separated from you in time of all manifestations, now, together with you eternal sky. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.
- For the person to say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 5 days no prayer will be granted even if it appears official. This prayer must be spoken immediately after the prayer is granted without mentioning the favor. Only your initials should appear at the bottom.

**YARD SALE**

6116 Archwood Road. Thursday, Friday, Saturday. 10-5. Lots of miscellaneous.

**PERSONALS**

- Lost dog female black Yorkie. Reward. Last seen E. 96/Garfield Blvd. on July 2nd. Senior. Male. Tan/White. Reward. DO NOT CHASE! Please call or whistle CALL 216-316-2302

**GARAGE SALE**

Garage sale - 5245 E. 117 St., Garfield. Thursday, Friday, Saturday. 9-1, Sport Cards, Memorabilia, misc. items.

**PERSONALS**

- 5 yr. old, named “MY GIRL”. has white on chest. Neighborhood lady in grey, can’t pick her up. 3215 E. 57th. call (216) 555-5555. St. Alexis area. at 5:30pm on July 3rd. 4ft. Needs to be hand fed. 440-317-1945

- Lost dog named Charlie. Reward for finding. Call 216-316-2302

**PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Friday night, hire Spirit who works all SMITHLY city, you’re under aagreement, & the in a remains of your life you are with me. I meet in this short paper to thank you for all things as you confirm to forget you won’t be separated from you in time of all manifestations, now, together with you eternal sky. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

- For the person to say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 5 days no prayer will be granted even if it appears official. This prayer must be spoken immediately after the prayer is granted without mentioning the favor. Only your initials should appear at the bottom.

**NOVENA TO SACRED HEART**

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past, I have asked for many favors; this time I ask you for this special one (mention favor). Take a dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your heart where your Father sees it, and in this sacred place it will become your favor, not mine. Amen, Say this prayer, 3 times for 3 days and your favor will be granted. Never known to fail. Must promise publication of prayer.

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Bedford
Disorderly conduct
On June 30 at about 3:45 a.m., officers responded to the area of Northfield and Forbes roads for a report of two women fighting in the middle of the southbound lanes of Northfield just north of Forbes. Both were intoxicated and issued a summons for disorderly conduct. One woman refused to leave the scene and tore up her summons. She was arrested for disorderly conduct, taken to jail and released when sober.

Suspicious activity
On June 30 at about 10:45 p.m., a caller reported a man pulling on car handles in the parking lot of Circle K at 1480 Broadway Ave. The caller said the man entered a woman’s vehicle and took something but gave it back because he got caught. The man then left on foot. Police located the man in the 1300 block of Broadway after he fled through several backyards and took him into custody.

Cleveland
Shooting
On July 3 at about 5 a.m., police responded to the 9700 block of Miles Avenue for a report of a man shot. The victim said he was walking west on Miles from E. 100th St. He turned around and grabbed a man’s hands to stop him. The victim confirmed the suspect in the vehicle theft was the suspect who had stolen her money. She said the business has cameras and footage would be available.

Garfield Heights
Fleeing
On July 6 at about 12:50 a.m., an officer observed four motorcycles traveling west on Park Drive. One motorcycle had no license plate. The officer activated his overhead lights and sirens and pulled up to the motorcycle in question. He made eye contact with the driver, who was not wearing a helmet. The officer ordered the driver to shut off and dismount the motorcycle. However, the driver tried to pull away. The officer again ordered the driver to stop and pulled the cruiser forward to block him from exiting. In an attempt to flee, the driver drove into the side of the cruiser. The suspect stopped, and the officer pulled in front of him and exited the vehicle. The driver then attempted to back up using his feet. The officer pulled the driver off the motorcycle and threw him to the ground. He was arrested for driving under suspension, no license plate, no helmet and fleeing and eluding. The driver complained of injuries to his left shoulder and left hip area. He was taken to Marymount Hospital despite no visible injuries.

OVI
On July 4 at about 3:55 p.m., police responded to East 114th Street near Wallingford Avenue for a report of a motor vehicle accident involving a car that had flipped over. Upon arrival, police saw a large crowd surrounding a Jeep SW that was on its roof in the 5000 block of E. 114th. The driver was still inside the vehicle and unable to move. The fire department arrived and removed the driver from the vehicle. She had red, glassy eyes and an odor of alcohol on her breath. She stated she had two draft beers. The driver was transported to MetroHealth Medical Center for treatment. An officer responded to the hospital and placed the woman under arrest for OVI. She agreed to submit to a urine test. She was also cited for failure to control and seatbelt.

Motor vehicle theft
On July 4 at about 1:50 p.m., officers responded to the 5000 block of East 88th Street for a motor vehicle theft report. The complainant said she had left her apartment complex and her vehicle was parked in the parking lot. When she returned at about 1:45 p.m., the vehicle was missing. The woman was advised to contact her insurance company.

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Valley View to begin Canal Road improvement projects

By Danielle Toth

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One-Stop Sign up for Free Services (based on income) from:

Flood Mitigation Assistance

The Rock Community Church—spiritual care, children’s church, bible studies, food pantry, counseling; Association of Frontotemporal Degeneration (Dementia under 60 yrs)- support, info, life grants; Cub Scout Pack 137—join local cub scout pack; Passages—job training, father/child retreats, transportation, re-entry youth ed, marriage counseling, The Centers for Families & Children—in-home early learning, job training, dental/health/behavioral care, addiction, HIV, medication management, trauma recovery, nutritional education; United Healthcare Medicare Solutions—Medicare benefits, health insurance; The Cleveland Foodbank—SNAP i.e. food stamps; Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center—support groups, parenting & safety classes, emergency shelter, justice system advocacy; Murits Taylor—before/after school-childcare, tutoring, diabetes intervention, home-delivered meals, senior transport, sewing & computer classes, line & tap dancing, psychiatric, residential treatment, crisis intervention, re-entry, foster care support, clothing, rental, utilities, parenting & fatherhood classes; Cuyahoga County Treasury—tax lien, property tax info, payment plans; Garfield Human Development Corporation—food pantry, community night food giveaway (all zip codes), job fairs, summer camp and hot lunch program, resource fair; Neighborhood Housing Services—foreclosure, property tax assistance, financial literacy (credit repair, budgeting/crédit), Homebuyer education (home purchase, repair, hot water heaters, roof, furnaces); Empowering & Strengthening Ohio’s People-Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging—financial wellness (workshops, matched savings, tax help), housing (foreclosure prevention, rental, assistance loans), older adults (benefits, property tax issues, workshops, Medicare part D help); Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging—assisted living, caregiver support, home choice/pasport, home fix, managed care, home-delivered meals, wellness, recovery; City of Garfield Heights—food pantry, produce to the people, senior services, home repair assistance; Legal Aid Society—civil legal problems; family, money, work, health, housing; Cleveland Habitat for Humanity—restoration services & habitat homes; The Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland—movers job training (16-24yrs- $100 participation, $175 value); Simms Mortgage & Computers, family development, flood start, utilities; Human Coalition—pregnancy care, women’s care clinics, maternity housing, financial; Anthem Blue Cross—Medicare benefits, health insurance; Womankind—prenatal care, childbirth classes, natural family planning, assistance with health care options, counseling, WIC, maternity and baby items; Tri C Veterans Education Access Program—Courses, assistance—(college admissions, financial aid, ed testing, GI benefits, social groups, workshops, scholarships); Bright Beginnings—Early intervention services/assessments (autistic development problems), parents as teachers program (at homes or centers); Esther J. Lowe Foundation—free diabetic shoes; T.O.P.S (Take off Pounds sensibly)-low cost weight loss program, support; V.A Northeast Ohio Healthcare-Veterans/behavioral care; Office of Consumer Affairs—info on scams, fraudulent business practices.

FREE COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR
SAT. JULY 27, 12-3pm

Submit Community events to NN via Email: nnews1923@aol.com