

friendly city **TRIBUNE**

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Fall 2018

Dr. Margaret McKenzie, Cleveland Clinic South Pointe President Sets New Agenda



Mayor's Message

Greetings Residents!

Seven years ago, I had an idea, then we created a plan and put it in place. It related to restoring our community and revitalizing our residential neighborhoods. I also wanted to strengthen the fiscal backbone of this city through economic development.

I want to let you know that it's working. The evidence is in. We're seeing incredible success.

Our property values are assessed every six years by the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer for the Tax Commissioner for the State of Ohio in what they refer to as a mass appraisal. This is one of those years.

We have been notified that our residential values have increased by 13% and our commercial/industrial properties have increased by 12%. This places us in the top 10% of communities in Cuyahoga County and also quantifies us as the 6th top community out of 59.

Four years before I became mayor, we were coming off our most challenging stretch, following the 2008 recession which decimated our valuations and gutted people's personal wealth. It destroyed any economic viability.

We needed to figure out ways to rewrite the script.

Others communities were recovering, like those in the western and south western suburbs. But the data showed that areas including Garfield Heights, South Euclid, Bedford Heights, Maple Heights, Euclid and Warrensville Heights were slow to come back.

Case in point: A property that could sell for \$150,000 elsewhere was selling for \$40,000 here. That's great if you're an investor but not so much if you're a retiree looking to cash out. We needed neighborhood stabilization. So we charted a course.

My plan: Re-energize neighborhoods by trying to restore values. What we needed were significant transfers to drive valuations back to where they should be. Housing activity is the only way to get there.

It was 2012 and we doubled down on the Emery Woods development. It had already been started but had entered a dormant status, so we made efforts to build more new housing. Same with Cinema Park which had 14 residents. Now it has 97, and all the lots have transferred. What sold for \$50,000 in 2009 is now selling for \$200,000.

We broke the cycle. Our individual comps are up. Plus, we have an overall increased number of solid transfers with elevated valuations.

In addition, the investments we've made in other residential neighborhoods with the exterior maintenance grant program has paid noteworthy dividends. For every dollar we've dedicated to the program, we are seeing \$3 of improvement. That's a 300% return and has been another contributing factor in our elevated values.

An additional part of our agenda relates to the school district. We created a new facility plan to invigorate neighborhoods. It commences



in September with the beginning of our \$100 million project to build a new high school, middle school and elementary school. These buildings will be more efficient and effective. Our students will have the latest and greatest for learning. This is why we need to pass the levy in November.

I've reached my conclusions about how to approach advancement in this city by consulting with some very bright minds. When I attended the U.S. Conference of Mayors in 2013 in Las Vegas, I had dialogues with others who were facing the same scenarios as us back in 2012. We shared ideas and best case practices.

I also consulted Tom Bier, PhD., Senior Fellow, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. He has conducted housing studies for more than 25 years and has investigated the influence of public policies on cities. Jim Rokakis, Vice President, Western Reserve Land Conservancy and Director, Thriving Communities Institute, is another expert with whom I spoke. He has on-the-ground knowledge and knew what was happening around us.

What I understood was that housing had never been a problem before the recession in Warrensville Heights. But in '08, things flipped sideways. It was so bad that we became a cash community – banks wouldn't offer loans on home sales. You needed cash to close.

We know our location is outstanding. On a personal note, my parents bought their home here in 1972 for \$28,000. In the '90s, it sold for \$110,000. Things just went tick, tick, tick...swoosh. The truth now, as it was then, is that you can get your money back in this city, and then some.



But we were getting left behind in the recovery. Not anymore. It's been a slow and bumpy road but we've come back. We have good families and good housing here. The whole narrative is changing. And when our old schools come down, we're going to find out what can fill those spaces. New is nice.

When I grew up here in the '60s and '70s, I saw how great it was. The seniors who have been here as long as me know what I'm referring to. I want to bring all the success from those days into our present lives.

Essentially, the residential stabilization side of the plan is in place. The corporate plan, with Amazon at our doorstep, well, things are going to explode. They have a large footprint and will drive market forces.

I'm excited about where we are now and where we are headed, and I hope you join me in my enthusiasm and spread it among your neighbors.

Sincerely,



Mayor Bradley D. Sellers

Arts & Culture

Artwork Serves Patients, Guests on South Pointe's Newly Renovated 9th Floor

White walls never looked as good as those that have been freshly painted on South Pointe Hospital's 9th floor. They serve as an ultra clean backdrop for a new collection of artwork carefully curated for its calming effect.

The occasion for the art's procurement and placement is the massive renovation on the top floor, converting it from old office space to patient recovery rooms. Under the guidance of Bellamy Printz, a Cleveland Clinic Art Program Curator, 60 framed posters and several works of fine art were chosen to hang in hallways and patient rooms. The poster collection is composed of contemporary work, a portion of which are reproductions of artwork created by artists with local connections. Most of the images have content incorporating elements from nature. Included in the works are several original photographs by Cleveland Heights artist Michael Weil.

As Printz considered artwork for the space, she imagined a visual journey and the impact

it would have on those observing each piece.

"There is research on art's effect on the patient experience, looking at its use in both in-patient and out-patient areas and public spaces," explains Printz. "It can serve as a distraction that diminishes stress and stabilizes moods."

The Clinic takes a very comprehensive approach to adorning walls with art in all of its buildings. To identify appropriate pieces, the art program staff canvases the regional, national and international art scenes. Also, the staff is solicited daily by artists seeking placement for their work in Clinic hospitals. Artists are instructed to submit a letter of inquiry, along with a website and/or images of their work.

Cost is a big consideration when the staff makes its selections.

"People don't realize that art can be expensive. But this isn't a museum, we can't have anything that is invaluable and can't be located in public spaces," Printz notes.

The capturing of nature, a prevalent theme in the work featured on the new 9th floor, offers something for viewers to think about and mentally transport themselves, Printz says. Even if they don't like a particular image, they're still thinking about it, she adds, which offers a reasonable distraction from some other possibly more stressful thoughts.

Overall, the artwork at South Pointe, as well as that found elsewhere at Cleveland Clinic facilities, blends a wide range of styles and ideas meant to appeal to varying tastes. Since the Clinic treats all of its properties as world class facilities, art figures prominently into its planning because the administration "cares about the aesthetic experience," she points out.

Printz adds one caveat: "This is not wallpaper."

For more information about the Cleveland Clinic's art program, visit:

www.clevelandclinic.org/power-of-art



Lake Erie image by Catherine Opie



Canyon by Victoria Sambunaris



**Bellamy Printz, Cleveland Clinic
Art Program Curator**

Library Expands Creative Options with New Machines for Crafts

The Warrensville Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library system is currently the only library in the nation to offer a recurring quilting program that provides sewing machines for patrons' use. In June, the library took delivery of 10 Brother XR3774 machines, acquired through an Innovation Grant from the Cuyahoga County Library System.

This acquisition, in part, recognizes the long history quilting has in the African American community, dating back to Central and West Africa. Quilting today is still a viable method for community and family history recording, while also serving as an artistic outlet and storytelling opportunity. Locally, the Slow Workers Quilters, an auxiliary of the African American Quilt and Doll Guild, meet regularly at the Warrensville library branch.

Quilting actually has become a multigenerational activity, with seniors offering instruction to others every Thursday, 11 am-7 pm, in the community room. These sessions also expand upon the Warrensville branch's Arts4Life program.

They work with African textiles, some provided by the library, and they've been quilting at the branch since 2013 when it opened in Warrensville Heights. Also, the group has held annual shows featuring their quilts at Randallwood School which is due to be demolished (as of publication time).

With a grant from the Friends of the Cuyahoga County Library, the branch also acquired a Cricut Maker machine which cuts a full range of fabrics with speed and precision. It is available for use by the public.

Dr. Margaret McKenzie Treats Position as President with Care

Dr. Margaret McKenzie, the president of Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital since May 2017, is a beguiling mixture of traits that force you to pay attention. It's the charming accent that you'll probably notice first. She'll tell you she's from South America, but she sounds British, which is not a likely combination. A mystique instantly surrounds her.

To pull the curtain back a bit, it helps to know that the gynecologist/obstetrician is a native of coastal Guyana, located east of Venezuela and north of Brazil. She came to the U.S. in 1977 to pursue her undergraduate and graduate educations, ultimately receiving her medical degree from the Washington University in St. Louis.

The origin of her confidence and composure, well, that may be the byproduct of being one of nine children (she's number three, with one sister and seven brothers). She was born to parents who she says cared deeply about their own children as well as others.

"The only thing that concerns us is that the mom and baby are taken care of. Nothing else matters like if you have money or not, if you're cursing or courteous – your baby will still be well cared for."

– Dr. McKenzie

Dr. McKenzie actually can handle all kinds of people and she excels at it mostly because, as she describes herself, she's highly emotionally intelligent. But she also does not suffer fools gladly, and she's fundamentally fearless.

"Most medical issues are small to me," she states. "As long as you're alive, you must find courage, you must meet life where it finds you." In her own life, she says her practice is to stare down any medical problems she might face which allows her to let experts take care of her. Negative approaches are not an option.

In her role as president of Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital, she takes pride in the progress the hospital has made since she arrived after practicing at the Clinic's main campus.

"The place looks brand spanking new, for one thing," she says. Plus, beds operate now at an 85% occupancy rate, exceeding measurements in the past which sat below that mark.

Patient experience scores are excellent, too. As of mid-summer, the hospital had gone 700 days without a serious safety event.

One question she's been hearing with great frequency: "Is this a new hospital?" No, but it's relatively new to the Cleveland Clinic system, having joined its network of campuses throughout the northeastern Ohio suburbs in 2008.

When the call came with the offer to take charge of the 176-bed hospital staffed by almost 1,000 employees, she says she happily accepted. She first sought to understand what

"I was up for the challenge," she states. Recognizing that the hospital already had a great leadership team, one of the first measures she took when she started her tenure as president was to go on a listening tour so that she didn't fall prey to any uninformed opinions or ideas. She says she soon learned that the 25-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) was one of the best in the Clinic system. In addition, "Our emergency department is a real gem."

In July, under her guidance, the hospital opened a newly remodeled patient wing on the 9th floor. This floor contains 31 private state-of-the-art rooms. It's a spectacular redesign of the space featuring enormous windows that offer dramatic cityscape views, all new furnishings and lots of classy art work (see story on page 3).

While all of the Cleveland Clinic hospitals are united, her goal for Cleveland Clinic South Pointe is to excel as a "best practice facility."

"I'd like South Pointe to be a role model for what all other community hospitals in Ohio can be. We are the right size and we can make it happen."

Breaking it down, her idea of best in class in every area means: best place to work, best place to train, and best place for care, a mantra that is embraced by the new CEO of

areas required improvement, which was largely related to increasing patient volume, better aligning private practice physicians with the institutes in the organization and leading the residency programs from osteopathic to allopathic accreditation.



Dr. McKenzie with new friends on a trip to Japan.



Dr. McKenzie on a medical mission in Honduras.

the Cleveland Clinic, Dr. Tomislav Mihaljevic. She executes on this ambitious agenda while still practicing two days each week as an obstetrician and gynecologist. “It’s tough because sometimes I’m in the middle of patient care and I get a call for something administrative or vice versa. You just learn how to prioritize and stay organized. Plus, I have great people supporting me. Without good support, you’ll perish.”

Though much of her time is devoted to “meetings, meetings, meetings,” she still carves out intervals to think creatively and strategically, which is what’s required to be an effective leader, she explains. But putting out fires still is a daily demand.

Outside the office. McKenzie’s foremost hobby is traveling, and “there’s no compromise” in her approach to it. She enjoys seeking out new, less popular places and immersing in their cultures. “I’m not looking for touristy things, I want to see how the people there live and enjoy their customs.”

She has been all over the globe, including small enclaves in Italy like Genoa, La Spezia, Bellagio and Como, and tiny mountain villages for medical mission work in Honduras, along with its renowned capital, San Pedro Sula.

Part of this preference stems from her interest in advocating for underdogs, defined as people

who are underrepresented or are challenged by economic disadvantages, often pertaining to healthcare and educational access, especially among children.

“With children, it’s easy to see the fruits of your labor,” she points out. She also believes it’s important to expose them to the positive side of life which can help shape their world view.

Her own world view involves unity.

“I believe we are all one. I know people pay attention to things like color, race, and ethnicity and whether we speak the same language, but here’s what I’ve always said: If you need a kidney because yours has failed and we are a match, your body will take my kidney and it will work inside of you perfectly. It doesn’t care about the other differences that some think are important. I honestly believe that in my soul. As I move around the world, I think about all of these kinds of issues as background noise.”

McKenzie’s resilience is also a defining part of her character.

“You can make a choice with what you are going to focus on. If I’m mistreated, I don’t take it personally. I have the capacity to think, they’re probably having a tough day, or something rough has happened in their lives that’s making them react like that. So I have an intense capacity to forgive people. Does

that mean I don’t get angry at people? Not at all. But I will forgive because of the human condition.”

As an obstetrician, she points out that she sees people from all walks of life who come into the labor unit. “The only thing that concerns us is that the mom and baby are taken care of. Nothing else matters like if you have money or not, if you’re cursing or courteous – your baby will still be well cared for.”

Some of these inclinations found their genesis in her childhood. With a mom who raised the family and a father who worked as a book-keeper, she says she was surrounded by “family members who cared as much about other people as they did about each other. I grew up seeing my family feed beggars and the homeless in the street. That’s in my blood, that’s who I am.”

She adds the fact that the Clinic operates with the same philosophy, that we are all one. It provides care for anyone who shows up, and the quality of the care will be the same, regardless of whether a patient has money. “The community is what we’re about – without it, we wouldn’t exist,” she states.

What she hears among patients is that they love the care they get, they love the doctors and nurses and they are proud to have it here in their backyard. “It’s not a small, broken down thing as can be the case in small communities.”

McKenzie resides on the east side with her husband who works in healthcare and their two daughters, one of whom is in college while the other attends high school. When it comes to discussing her dog, however, she whips out her cellphone and shows a picture of India, her Shih Tzu who’s “part human.”

Since she also views serving as a role model to others as part of her job, she helps students learn how to navigate life challenges and organizations, and she offers advice to prepare them for leadership roles.

“I want them to learn how to survive, then thrive.”

City Council

Warrensville Heights City Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 7:00 pm. Caucus for Council begins at 6:00 pm. For more information about City Council and its meetings, please contact Deborah Hutton, Clerk of Council, at 216.587.6516.

Andrea Mitchell | Council President, Ward 2

amitchell@cityofwarrensville.com | 216.339.1279

"Your Friend in the Friendly City"

We have had another amazing summer in the Friendly City. Now that school is back in session, please be mindful of a few things:

Be on the lookout for children (sometimes they dart between cars) and be ready to stop quickly. When driving in school zones, be aware of the 20 mph school speed limits and children crossing the streets.



Ward 1

Councilwoman Dorise Hagwood

dhagwood@cityofwarrensville.com
216.244.4664

I am grateful for your encouragement and support. I embrace each new day as an opportunity to be a better leader.

Once again, the Ward 1 & 3 Annual Party in the Park on July 14 was a great success. Thank you to all the residents who volunteered and attended.

Please Mark Your Calendar:

Ward 1 Fall Meeting

Thursday | September 13
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | Civic Center

Annual Veteran's Day Luncheon

Date to be announced



Be aware of curfews. According to Ordinance 537.19:

No minor (see listed ages below) ...shall loiter, stroll, play or be present in or upon the sidewalk, playgrounds, roadway, parks, lots, alleys, other public places, land not being the minor's residence or other unsupervised places in the City of Warrensville Heights... during the following times:

- 12 and younger dusk
- 13-14 10 pm - 6 am
- 15-16 11 pm - 6 am
- 17-18 12 am - 5 am

Also, mark your calendar and plan to attend the next Ward 2 Community Meeting. The meeting will take place in the auditorium at South Pointe Hospital, 20000 Harvard Road on Saturday, September 15th from 11 am-12:30 pm. I hope to see you and your neighbors at the meeting.

As always, I will be driving down each of the 22 streets in Ward 2 every month and want to address your questions and concerns. If I missed you while on your street, please feel free to contact me.

Ward 3

Councilwoman Elona C. White

ewhite@cityofwarrensville.com
216.581.3899 | 216.587.6516

Greetings to the caring and concerned neighbors of Warrensville Heights!

Thanks to all who participated in the Ward 3 community meetings and volunteered throughout the city for different events this year; you are always appreciated.



Need repairs on exterior of your home? Remember to contact the Economic Development Department, **216.587.6500**. Mr. Raymon Turner or Mr. Jerome DuVal can help you with an exterior maintenance grant to help with costs.

We have a number of classes for you to participate in at the Senior and Civic Center – call **216.587.1250** for a list of dates and times.

For more information on the city's ordinances, please go to www.conwaygreene.com or you may pick up a list of common ordinances from the City Council office.

"My life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatsoever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no "brief candle" to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

- From a 1907 speech in Brighton, England

WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS Recycles

Help us name our new Mascot!
Submit your entry here:

or email your entry to
jschart@cityofwarrensville.com

Join Us! • Start Now! • Learn How!

A green cartoon character of a recycling bin with a face, arms, and legs, holding a recycling symbol. It is standing in front of a sign that reads "WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS CITY HALL".

Ward 4

Councilman Walter Stewart

wstewart@cityofwarrensville.com

216.868.5695

The Granada Gardens Tenants Association continues having monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. The purpose and significance of the meetings is to work through and address many of the concerns of our Ward 4 residents who reside in multilevel apartment buildings. The President of the Tenants Association is Mr. Louis Brownlowe and the Vice President is former Councilwoman, the Honorable Ruby Nelson. The meetings also give residents the chance to introduce themselves and voice their complaints, concerns and suggestions to the A1Y Properties Management Team.

Ward 4 is celebrating one year of service and activities by the Ward 4 Youth Committee which was established in August 2017. I want to congratulate **Francesca Demming** who is the Ward 4 Youth Committee Coordinator, **Tammy Lampkin, Kayla Daniels, Toni Harris** and so many others who are volunteering their time, energy and talents in our ongoing effort to inspire, encourage, educate and prepare our children and youth to become positive, proud successful leaders in the community, society, nation and the world. The Ward 4 Youth Committee is also organizing our youth to get involved in a campaign of help called "Get Out The Vote."

Ward 5

Councilman Matthew Howard

mhoward@cityofwarrensville.com

440.561.7990

As we come off a wonderful summer, I wish everyone a great fall, back to school and back to college. Our staff, council and administration did an excellent job as usual with the Summer Festival. Thank you to everyone who attended as we look forward to this event every year.

Be on the lookout for upcoming meetings concerning the much needed new schools and tax levy. I want everyone to be well informed and up to speed with all decisions being made. Also, this is a very important election coming up this fall. Make sure that you are registered to vote and you show up to the polls.

The Ward 5 Clarkwood Christmas party will be Friday, December 7th at 6 pm. RSVP is mandatory. Flyers will be distributed as we get closer to the date.



Ward 6

Councilman Stanley Anderson

sanderson@cityofwarrensville.com

440.719.9444

Since being elected to City Council in November 2011, city residents often ask questions about the state, and conditions, practices and status of our schools. Since I am not an administrator nor am I employed by the system, I can only continue to refer those residents to the system administrators for answers.



I will continue to support the positive changes in the schools and if asked, play a minor role in establishing a first class school system in our city.

As your councilman, my main focus is safe and well maintained streets, aging population, housing issues, economic development and a healthy city treasury.

For questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at any time.

Ward 7

Councilwoman

Kimberly Hodge-Edwards

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216.570.5978



As the end of summer approaches, I hope that you all used this time to enjoy a short break, spend time with family and enjoy the sun! Our nation is in a very critical point in history. To be sure that we are ready, we must ensure that we are registered to vote, as well as our family, friends and neighbors!

Election time is nearly here. Check to be certain that you are registered to vote from your current address by visiting: www.voterlookup.sos.state.oh.us

October 9th is the deadline to register, so if you must, stop by our local library or visit the Board of Elections to register!

This year, Election Day is November 6th. If you are not available to vote on Election Day, complete an absentee ballot application and vote from home. Early voting for the November election begins October 10th.

There are so many reasons why you should vote. Your health, safety and economy, just to name a few, are often determined by the officials that are elected into office to represent your voice and concerns. So take 1, 2 or even 3 people with you to the polls and VOTE like your life depends on it!

"Voting is the most precious right of every citizen, and we have a moral obligation to ensure the integrity of our voting process."

- Hillary Clinton

Faces in the Community



Class of 2018 graduates



Ribbon cutting at the International Society of Explosive Engineers new Warrensville location



Tory Wenson, Class of 2018 valedictorian



Ms. Maggie attending fashion show at Civic & Senior Center



Shred Day in June



Mayor Bradley Sellers receiving the President's Award from the Greater Cleveland YMCA at its Annual Meeting in May for "his integral role and contribution in the development of the Warrensville Family YMCA."



Class of 2018 graduates



Ronzell Clayton and the late Ashley Richardson



Lynn Thompson modeling at Civic & Senior Center fashion show



Characters and residents from Memorial Day Parade

Graduates Push Through Physical Challenges and Prevail with Academics, Athletics

Maesyn Clarno

When Maesyn Clarno's knees slipped out of place in 11th grade, she soon received a diagnosis that explained everything. She was told that her femurs were crooked. Surgery was an option, but not an attractive one. Physical therapy and strengthening muscles was the preferred plan and she made it her business to execute on it.

The WHHS Class of 2018 member had suffered through some immense pain whenever she walked up steps, stood for a long time or lifted heavy objects.

As an active and adventuresome lady, she says this issue proved to be a real setback in her life. The time and energy she would have preferred to devote to running track (4x4 and 400 meters – best time: 1 minute, 5 seconds) and performing with Golden Motion (the high steppers who accompany the marching band) was interrupted for several months.

The band “was like a second family.”

– Maesyn Clarno, WHHS Class of 2018,
freshman at North Carolina A&T

Taking the matter seriously, the resourceful and resilient student was able to strengthen her quads and hamstrings so they could better



support her knee. This enabled her to return to her favorite activities with the issue bothering her far less.

“I worked out all the time,” she says, describing her recovery process.

Now Maesyn's bright future is unfolding with her attendance presently at North Carolina A&T State University where she is majoring in zoology and dance. She intends to try out for the school's dance team, too. One day, she hopes to work in wildlife rehabilitation or dance therapy.

She selected this #1 ranked HBCU (historically black college or university) in part because it was a good fit based on the hard-to-find subjects in which she wants to have degrees.

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Serge Henry

It's good to be the king! Prom king, that is. Serge Henry calls this designation “the cherry on top of his WHHS career,” having graduated with the Class of 2018.

The entire grade votes for their favorite, and Serge believes he achieved the spot by being the guy with the good vibes.

“I'm just the type of person who doesn't have a problem with anybody,” he says. “I'm not in any one clique, I'm cordial with everybody. People enjoy talking to me.”

Serge moved from Haiti to Miami when he was two years old to live with his grandmother. His father later moved to the U.S. and settled in Cleveland, where Serge joined him when he was five years old. His mother remains in Haiti.

“It was the first time I was without football and I became very depressed.”

– Serge Henry, WHHS Class of 2018,
freshman at Kent State University

Having attended Warrensville schools since kindergarten, he feels as though many of his classmates are like brothers and sisters. As such, losing Ashley Richardson in June was a devastating blow, he says.

“You never know what can happen. That incident was traumatizing.”

The 6' football player and high academic achiever - ranked #9 in his class - is attending Kent State University where he plans to major in psychology and ultimately, become a psychiatrist. He is drawn to this profession in part due to the influence of TV shows he watched when he was younger like “Criminal Minds.”

“That world fascinated me,” he explains. As a self-described outgoing, optimistic, persevering and peculiar person, he looks forward to learning more.

His strong work ethic has been honed over the years while dedicating himself to after school or weekend jobs since his sophomore year. Also, being able to shoulder a heavy academic load was demonstrated by his involvement in the Aspiring Doctors program for two years and the ACE Mentoring program for a year.

One profound source of memories Serge has from high school relates to a setback during his senior year on the football team. While



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City Offices

Building Department | Ben Brown, Director

The fall is a great time to start preparing the interior and exterior of your property for the winter months. Listed here are some preparation ideas.

Clean and Repair Gutters

Check your gutters and downspouts to make sure they are properly secured, and clean and clear of any debris. If your gutters and downspouts are not properly secured, when the heavy snow comes, this can cause them to break loose away from the house. If your gutters and downspouts are clogged, this backs up water which can cause damage to your roof and interior walls.

Driveway Repairs

Waterproofing your driveway is very important to prevent future damage and costs. Repair all cracks in your asphalt or concrete driveway. The cracks can fill with rain or melted snow and when it freezes, it will expand and create frost heave which will cause even more damage.

Smoke Detectors/Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Make sure your property has smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms. Smoke detectors must be installed on each level of the house, in hallways outside of sleeping areas and in each bedroom. Battery-operated smoke alarms are permitted in existing dwellings, but must be hardwired in new construction in the same locations. It's strongly recommended to install a carbon monoxide alarm in your dwelling. It should be centrally located outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. Carbon monoxide alarms are mandatory in new construction.

Heating System

It is recommended to change your furnace filter every three months and to have your boiler or furnace professionally serviced annually. If a fireplace is used, chimneys should be inspected for creosote buildup annually as well.

Inspect Roof

Do a complete walk around of your property checking for any missing and damaged shingles that will let moisture in and have them replaced.

Seal Doors and Windows

Be sure to seal any gaps around doors and windows with caulking or weather stripping to reduce energy costs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Building Department at **216-587-1230**.

Police Department | Wesley Haynes, Chief of Police

We are sad to announce that Reserve Officer Willie Williams retired for the third and final time. Willie has been a valuable member of this Police Department and the City of Warrensville Heights for 23 years. He became a Reserve Officer in 1995 and also served as Jailer and Crossing Guard. Willie also volunteered countless hours at the Food Pantry, Memorial Day Parade, City Fireworks and the Summer Festival each year. Willie's official retirement date was Saturday, June 9. We're sure that this will not be the last time we see Reserve Officer Willie Williams.

Service Department | Ted Sims, Director

Rubbish Collection & Recycling

Remember to use the Kimble 95 gallon dark green bins for trash and 64 gallon light green bins for recycle material. All cloth, leather furniture and mattress bags are available at the service garage, **216-587-6570**.

Holiday Trash Pickup

Thanksgiving - Wednesday - normal pickup

Thursday pickup moved to Friday

Green Road Park

Green Road Park will close for the winter on December 1st or the first snowfall.

Leaf Pickup Street Schedule

Leaf pickup begins October 1st and will continue until snowfall. All leaves must be directed to the tree lawn for pickup (see daily schedule below). Leaf piles should not include any tree branches, rocks or grass clippings. Chipper service will be available until September 28th.

Monday / Tuesday:

Amherst Rd. | Balfour Rd. | Halifax Rd. | Gladstone Rd. | Sunset Dr. Shakerwood Rd. | Kings Highway | Lanbury Ave. | Wickfield Ave.

Wednesday

Ascot Ln. | Brookfield Ln. | Butternut Ln. | Cherrywood Ln. Cricket Ln. | Eastwood Ln. | Harvard Rd. | Hathaway Ln. Hickory Ln. | Holiday Ln. | Larkspur Ln. | Longbrook Rd. Mayfair Ln. | Meadowlark Ln. | Ridgewood Ave. | Shadywood Ln.

Thursday

Annette Pl. | Aurora Rd. | Berry Blvd. | Camden Rd. | Dandridge Dr. Felch St. | Glenview Rd. | Green Rd. between Emery Rd. & Miles Rd. Hall Way | Ingleside Rd. | Jennings St. | Lee Hts. Blvd. | Marvin Rd. O'Neal Pointe | Parkton Dr. | Portland Rd. | Preston Rd. | Ridgeton Dr. Ruby Ln. | Sumpter Rd. | Vera St.

Friday

Angela Dr. | Belfiore Rd. | Berrimore Ln. | Brookton Rd. | Du Sable Ct. E. Frontenac Dr. | Emery Rd. | Donover Rd. | Gary Rd. | Glenmere Cir. Green Rd. from Emery Rd. & Shurmer Dr. | Hillcroft Dr. | Joyce Ave. Lawrence Rd. | Longleaf Rd. | Longman Ln. | Lorient Dr. | McCann St. Merrygold Blvd. | Montville Ct. | Richmond Rd. | Rue St. Anne Ct. Rue St. Gabriel Ct. | St. Germain Blvd. | Shurmer Dr. | S. Frontenac Dr. Springfield Rd. | Springvale Dr. | Timberlane Rd. | Wolverton Dr.

Economic & Community Development

Jerome A. DuVal, Director

Raymon Turner, Community Development Manager

We saw three grand openings with Adrenaline Monkey, the International Society of Explosive Engineers and Carvana.

Residents should be aware that structural and exterior reimbursement funds are still available. For further assistance, contact the Building Department, **216.587.1230** or the Economic Development Department, **216.587.1144**.

City Offices

Strategic Initiatives | *Carletta Fellows, Director*

Ohio University's Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Aspiring D.O.ctors program ended its 2017-2018 year with great success. Warrensville Heights High School was one of five schools in which students, grades 10-12, participate in programs and courses with a health and science focus. About 85% of the WHHS students enrolled completed the program and will continue their guided studies in the fall.

For more information about the Aspiring D.O.ctors Program, contact: Samantha Baker, Assistant Director of Admissions & Outreach 216.295.7941 | bakers6@ohio.edu

RESIDENTIAL SHRED DAY

Saturday September 29

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

**Ridgewood Street
Municipal Parking Lot**

Maesyn Clarno *continued from page 9*

Her mom, Tiffani, also urged her to be independent, and attending a school that's relatively far away delivered on that requirement.

"My mom said this would help me grow personally," she adds.

But during a summer interview before she left, she admitted to being scared. "What if me and my roommate don't get along?"

She no stranger, however, to college level classes, having taken them during her junior and senior years at Cuyahoga Community College. She was enrolled in the Warrensville school district beginning in 3rd grade.

When reflecting on her time in high school, Maesyn says that it was the band that helped her learn the most about herself.

"It was like a second family," she explains. "They made me feel comfortable and brightened my day. The travel for competitions was fun, too."

If she were to offer advice to those in high school now, she'd tell students to not put too much stress on themselves. "You'll get through it. Just don't freak out over things that won't matter tomorrow."

While she describes this community as her family and the people she can trust, her actual family includes sisters Dajour, 24, Cianne, 17 and Simone, 14 and dad, David.

Thank You to Our 2018 Summer Interns

High School

Mekhi Cabbell	Service Department
Jaylon Clark	Service Department
Jerome Lee	Service Department
Tifani LeVert	Civic & Senior Center
David Martin	Service Department
Maurelle Prevost	Personnel Department
Morgan Sims	Finance Department
Edmund Rucker	Service Department
Victoria Wright	Civic & Senior Center
Jason Threadgill	Service Department
Cam'Ron Gordon	Service Department

College

Darrius Edwards	Building Department
Imani Edwards	Strategic Initiatives Department
Maurice Jones	Economic Development Department
Robin Lewis	Communications Department
Ja'Mari Patterson	Fire Department
Anthony Scurry	Service Department
Greg Scurry	Service Department
Saidah Tarrence	Police Department
Poonam Tulshi	Police Department

Serge Henry *continued from page 9*

practicing last fall, he broke his distal fibula and underwent surgery when six screws were required to repair his ankle.

"It was the first time I was without football and I became very sad. I thought I'd play in college. I lost myself after the accident."

Depression set in. He says he didn't want to be in class, and he asked himself what he was going to do with his life. "I felt handicapped," he reports.

His dad was there for him, along with friends, but it was a bad quarter. His A.P. Calculus grades were suffering. "It doesn't look too good now," he thought to himself. But others told him that he couldn't do this to himself, he worked too hard for the past three years, he just can't let it go.

As soon as he was able to walk again normally several months later, he says he felt more like himself and pulled through it. But during this time, he could indulge a little more frequently in one of his favorite activities, watching movies, especially those from the '90s and early 2000s. Some of his favorite films are *Belly*, *Booty Call* and *Poetic Justice*.

He hopes to have many favorably memorable experiences at KSU this academic year.

Fancy Crafters Find Friendship Alongside Art

Civic & Senior Center | Jennifer Lastery, Director | Sandra Noble, Program Coordinator

The ladies who participate in the weekly, four-year-old Fancy Crafters program at the Civic & Senior Center are finding plenty of glue in the room, both of a literal and figurative kind. Aside from that which they apply on fabric, it's also the friendship and liveliness that encourages involvement and ensures that they stick together through all of their projects.

The sessions are unstructured, with participants arriving throughout the scheduled time of Mondays, 10 am-1 pm. Projects are self-assigned but this year, there's been a real fever surrounding embellished jean jackets that's swept through their ranks. Everyone has made one, if not three or four.

Under the direction of Pat Heron, program coordinator, the women bring their own fabrics, in addition to tapping into the center's ample supply of materials, such as buttons, glitter and other accessories, all available in Craft Room #2. But they also supplement their projects with prized items discovered at stores such as Hobby Lobby, Michael's, Goodwill, Pat Catan's and JoAnn Fabrics.

One participant reported buying a random dress for 50 cents because she "had a vision for the fabric."

Each year, the group creates Christmas decorations for the center, as well as crafts for sale at their annual bazaar in November which raises money for center programming.

With a facility slogan of "May All Who Enter as Guests Leave as Friends," this program serves as ground zero for that mandate. This truth, among many others, reveals itself each time the women gather for a session. The camaraderie is clear in all the conversational terrain they cover. This ranges from actual instruction on crafts, like using Wonder Under, a fusible interface which gives fabric some body, to current events.

"We don't make mistakes, we make opportunities!" – Pat Heron, Program Coordinator

The tenor of the time in the classroom is always lighthearted. Barbara Thompson, who recently was working with some lovely jade-colored lace fabric to create a Bible bag, explained where such fine material came from. "It's from my mom's dress, the one she wore to my

brother's wedding...but he didn't stay married long enough to justify such pretty fabric!"

Repurposed materials found application elsewhere with the feet on a participant's crafted box created by turning buttons upside down and gluing them to the bottom.

Within the group, the jean jackets seemed to have served as a creative gateway, as Sandy Noble, Program Coordinator, suggests with a devilish grin, "They start with jean jackets, then they get wild in here!"

But one lady notes: "I'm done with working on jean jackets...except I can't stop decorating them!"

Consensus: They are the perfect creative outlet and blank canvas.

The projects created are stunning in their design and originality, so Pat often likes to take pictures of everything with her tablet. What does she do with the images? "I just keep them." Art needs witnesses and she is one primary bearer.

When asked how many projects the women have completed, the answers proved indefinite.

"No way to count, there are too many!" says Pat. "Oh lord, I can't count that!" says another participant.

If there was some guiding wisdom for the class, it is this: "We don't make mistakes, we make opportunities," says Pat.

But health advice can't be escaped either:

Participant: "I need to get a mammogram today...I've got a friend who found a lump..."

Respondent: "That's nothing to play with..."

Participant: "I know..."

And could there be a little divine intervention present at times?

Question: "How did you cut that so straight?"

Answer: "God's will!"

At the end of a reporter's time with the Fancy Crafters, she observed an artist who held up a white jean jacket that she just finished embellishing with black lace. The room's reaction:

"Sookisooki!!" and "Beautimust!" The delight never dims.



Orancy Ball with embellished jean jacket



Chris Haywood with embellished shirt



Barbara Thompson with bible bags

The Center is committed to welcoming citizens of all ages. The 40+ Club met for games in April where there was a hula hoop contest, dancing, board games and ping pong. "Paint and Sip," suggested by the 40+ group, was held August 3rd. Another game night and karaoke is being planned for January 2019.

Fees for 8 sessions of **Fancy Crafters** are \$14 for residents and \$16 for non-residents. For more information, call the **Civic & Senior Center** at **216.587.1250**.

Shout Outs!

Congratulations to:

Teresa Metcalf Beasley for her upcoming induction into Cleveland Marshall Law School's 2018 Hall of Fame honoring graduates' outstanding contributions to the success and prestige of the law school. She also was named one of *Savoy Magazine*'s 2018 Most Influential Black Lawyers, an annual list including those in national law firms and corporate counsel for Fortune 1000 companies. Teresa is the city's law director and a partner at Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP.

Imani Edwards for being accepted into the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's C-Suite Program in Washington, D.C. this fall.

Mayor Bradley Sellers for being reappointed to a two-year term as a board member serving the Cuyahoga Land Bank.

Joselyn Hines for being accepted into Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine-Cleveland Campus. Her career goal is to become a physician and work in an area with underserved populations. She recently graduated from Ohio University with a major in psychology on the pre-medicine track and a minor in biological sciences. She graduated Cum Laude with a 3.73 GPA. Last year, she served as a summer intern in the city's Department of Strategic Initiatives.

Want to include a notable person in the next issue? Send your information to June Scharf, Director of Communications, jscharf@cityofwarrensville.com.



Teresa Metcalf Beasley



Imani Edwards



Mayor Bradley Sellers



Joselyn Hines

For Men Only, Free Event

Saturday, September 29 | 9 am - 3 pm

South Pointe Hospital | Men Only, 18 and over

Men's Health featuring prostate screenings, DRE and PSA and more

Screenings offered: PSAs (prostate exam) and DRE's (digital rectal exams), blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol, BMI, HIV, oral cancer, sleep apnea, kidney function exams, posture and balance, and stroke, colon and diabetes risk. Also featured: "Ask the Doctor" physician panel and health chats with the physicians.

"For Men Only" hosted by Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital, Taussig Cancer Center and Center for Minority Health, in large part to educate and increase awareness of prostate and other cancers that plague the African American community and have a high incidence rate in the South Pointe area.

Because men, especially those in the African American community, often neglect to address health issues in a preventative manner, this particular forum was developed as a way to encourage men from the community to talk to other men (physicians) in an intimate and non-threatening environment about prevention and early detection of diseases that are often curable or have an improved outcome if detected early.



The event is open to men of all nationalities. Our primary focus is to provide the prostate exam (PSA) to qualified men over age 40 who have pre-registered for this test. Every man who attends can take advantage of a variety of other health screenings and assessments including blood pressure, blood glucose and cholesterol and BMI screening; vision and glaucoma; colon risk assessments; oral head and neck screening; HIV screening, kidney function exams and more.

For more information, contact Jerry Sims at 216.218.2357 or JSims@ccf.org.

Stay Tuned for the City's New Podcast

Warrensville Reaching New Heights

Launching October 1

Details will be posted on the city's website:

www.cityofwarrensville.com

YMCA Events September - December

4433 Northfield Road | Contact the YMCA at 216.518.9622 for more information



Active Older Adult

Weekly Social Groups:

- **Domino's Mondays** | 10:30 am
- **Bible Study** | 2nd & 4th Mondays | 12:00 pm
- **Card Group** | Tuesdays & Thursdays | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- **Craft Group** | Wednesdays | 10:30 am

Pick up a schedule for other monthly events such as educational lectures & bingo.

2018 Bus Trips & Outings

- **Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Train Ride and Lunch**
October 18th - \$17 members / \$20 non-members. Lunch buffet \$12. Y-bus to train station. \$35 members / \$45 non-members.
- **Oglebay Festival of Lights November 29th**
\$95 members / \$110 non-members includes buffet dinner, lights tour, mansion tour, transportation and more!

Childcare

• Before & After School Care

John Dewey Elementary School located at 23401 Emery Road
Monday - Friday | 7:00 am - 9:00 am & 3:45 pm - 6:00 pm
Contact 216.263.6830 or visit clevelandymca.org/childcare

Youth Sports

• Jr. Cavaliers Youth Basketball League

Ages 3-14 years old | Registration deadline is September 24th
Games will be held on Saturdays and begin October 22nd

• Adult Flag Football League

6 week league with tournament play. Games on Tuesday & Thursdays 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Begins on Sept 17th.

• Aquatics

Swimming lessons are available for 6 months to adults. We also offer a swim team preparation class for youth to join the YMCA swim team or their local school district.

• Adaptive Dance for Kids & Teens with Special Needs

September 26th through December 12th. This program is expertly designed and instructed by a physical therapist. Each class includes a dynamic warm-up, stretching, fun dance games, adapted dance technique and a simple dance combination.

Health & Wellness

• The Real You Weight Loss Program

Begins in September 17th & 18th. It's the first and only weight loss program that the YMCA has endorsed. Most members lose 10 lbs. in 8 weeks. In small groups of 12, participants will exercise together and learn about nutrition.

• LiveStrong

September 10th. The YMCA partnered with the LiveStrong Foundation to help cancer survivors begin the journey toward recovery with the "LiveStrong at the YMCA" program. The FREE 12 week program meets twice a week for 90 minutes. Participants learn about wellness, stress reduction techniques and how to continue healthful eating habits after the program has ended. Please contact Yvonne Joiner at yjoiner@clevelandymca.org or call 216.518.9622.

Community Events

- **Fall Harvest Festival** | October 27th | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- **Breakfast with Santa** | December 15th | 8:00 am - noon

B Buzz Baseball League Wraps Up Season



(Left photo) Participants and alumni from the B Buzz Baseball League. Second from right, **Tommy Roper**, a former police officer who served on former Cleveland Mayor Mike White's detail. Tommy also was coached during his B Buzz Baseball days by Mayor Bradley Seller's father, Robert Sellers. **Kenny Lofton** is third from right, standing. **Marvin Atkins**, Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy, is wearing the Superman t-shirt, second from left. He funded all of the players' uniforms. (Right photo) Kenny Lofton helps teach some skills. Registration for 2019 is open with fees not due until April 2019. Dates to register are April 6, 13, 20 and 27 for Little League and Tee Ball. Team try-outs are the first week of May.

2018 Summer Festival



Transportation Services For Seniors

The Warrensville Heights Civic & Senior Center provides transportation to the senior residents of Warrensville Heights, ages 60 years or older and unable to drive themselves.

Transportation for medical appointments, dialysis and physical therapy on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am until 1:30 pm. Transports are limited to destinations within the eastern suburbs of Cuyahoga County and the University Circle area.

Wednesday is reserved for grocery shopping from 10:00 am until 1:30 pm to Walmart on Macedonia Commons Boulevard.

Scheduling for transportation is on a first-come basis. Trips must be scheduled by noon two (2) days before a trip. Call the Civic & Senior Center at (216)-587-1250 to schedule and to check on availability. Trips can be scheduled two weeks in advance.



Trunk or Treat is Coming in October!

Check www.cityofwarrensville.com in mid-September for details.



The City of Warrensville Heights
4301 Warrensville Center Road
Warrensville Heights, OH 44128

Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, OH
Permit #1045

Warrensville Connect

*stay connected with us for
news, updates and more!*

City Hall (216) 587-6500

Police Dept (216) 581-1234

Fire Dept (216) 587-6525

www.cityofwarrensville.com

facebook.com/CityofWarrensville

Instagram: @thecityofwarrensville

WHHS Class of 2018 College Destinations

Allen Martez	Hiram College	Breyashia Gillespie	Tri-C	Isaiah Morgan	Tri-C
Marcus Anderson*	University of Akron	Anita Gilson*	Ohio University	Arkenya Myles-Elder	Tri-C
William Bailey	Kent State University	Shayla Goodrum	Tri-C	Donte Norris	Alabama State
Aaron Ball	Wilberforce University	Zyshawn Graham	Navy	Tiona Pate	Tri-C
Janey Banks	Tri-C	Jordan Greene	Tri-C	Jaleel Patterson	Baldwin Wallace University
Prevella Beal	Tri-C	Ethan Gray-Moton	Tri-C	Dion Peck	Tri-C
Dajuan Bell	Hocking College	Darris Harris	University of Toledo	Ti'Naja Peters	Ursuline College
Shanel Benford	Tri-C	Shyann Harris	Paul Mitchell	Gary Pickett	Tri-C
Dominic Blair	UCLA	Serge Henry*	Kent State University	Bobbi Reagins	Ursuline College
Asia Blue*	Ohio University	Maria Hicks	Alabama A&M	Shayla Rencher	University of Toledo
Taylor Booze	Hocking College	Stephon Higgs	Gannon College	Destiny Robinson	University of Akron
Cortez Bradley	E. Cleveland Fire Dept.	Aryionne Highsmith*	Tri-C	Edmund Rucker	Art Institute of Atlanta
Myracle Brooks*	Bowling Green State Univ.	Sylvester Hindesmiller	Cleveland State University	Daesean Rudolph-Blair	Tri-C
Orealle Burpo	Tri-C	Marc Hodge	University of Toledo	Theo Singleton	E. Cleveland Fire Dept.
Marie Carstarphen	Bowling Green State Univ.	Jayla Jackson	Terra State Community College	Tairiq Stewart	ASA College
Maesyn Clarno**	North Carolina A&T	Ashley Johnson*	Bowling Green State Univ.	Dionne Thomas	Tri-C
Leesbeth Claros*	Kenyon College	Breshae Johnson	Thiel College	Rachel Thomas*	Kent State University
Ronzell Clayton	Heidelberg University	Javon Johnson	Lake Erie College	Brishae Turnage	Paul Mitchell
Jarquez Cornell	Kansas City University	Rahmir Johnson	Miles College	Amari Twymon	Paul Mitchell
Devonte Dones	Notre Dame College	Robin Langford	Central State University	Kyesha Tyler	Tri-C
Dajanique Dudley-McCoy	Tri-C	Xavier Long	Hocking College	Twyla Vaughn	Navy
Shawn Dunnings	LaRoche College	DeMarco McDuffie	Policy Academy	Andre Walker	University of Akron
Taivonne Ervin	Hocking College	Lesle McFarland	Tri-C	Ma'Deyona Warner	Tri-C
Deion Farmer**	Baldwin Wallace University	Tyrell McQueen	Hocking College	Tory Wenson*	Kent State University
Walter Filmore	University of Akron	Ronique Miller	Tri-C	Dimesha Williams	Central State University
Walter Freeman	Tri-C	Jasmine Moore	Thiel College	Genesis Williams	Wilberforce University
Dyson Giddens	Hocking College	Shamar Moore	Thiel College	Eric Zeigler-Bell	Tri-C