

# Ward 11 News



Engage with  
your Councilman  
**Danny Kelly**



## A MESSAGE FROM **Councilman Danny Kelly**

**Dear Neighbors,**

Summer is here. Seize the day!

It has been my pleasure to be “out and about” in Ward 11, as I like to say. Whether I have knocked on your door, run into you while I was out cleaning up the ward, attended events with you or attended to your needs, **I have enjoyed representing you on Cleveland City Council.** I have connected with old friends I knew from raising our families together and working at Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Laborers’ Local 310. I have also made some new friends along the way. Thank you. I am truly blessed!

Together we have worked hard to improve Ward 11 and we have only just begun! **This newsletter will highlight my progress to date keeping our ward a safe, affordable place to raise your families and age in place.** I have taken steps to tackle blighted houses and illegal dumping, with the help of many. The budget process has also been a huge success and help is on the way. I have voted for programs to help enhance your quality of life; such as being free of medical debt and using \$30 million dollars in

“**Together we have worked hard to improve Ward 11 and we have only just begun!**”

ARPA funds to improve roadways, upgrade parks, calm traffic and much more!

I have fought for Ward 11 to receive targeted funds and donations and I have won! Now, some of the 50 new Habitat for Humanity homes coming soon to Cleveland and one of only two new Mini-Pitch Soccer Fields donated by the U.S. Soccer Foundation will be built right here in Ward 11. I hope you take the time to enjoy all Ward 11 has to offer this summer. Angels Keep!

Yours in Solidarity,  
**Danny Kelly,**  
Councilman - Ward 11

**CITY HALL** 216-664-3708 **EMAIL** [dkelly@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:dkelly@clevelandcitycouncil.org) **WEB** [www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-11](http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-11)

## Medical Debt Relief is here for Qualifying Cleveland Residents

Do you qualify to have your medical debt eliminated? You will find out soon. There is no need to apply. You will find out in the mail if you no longer have to live with this burden. Cleveland City Council took action to make this possible for Ward 11 residents and people throughout Cleveland by passing an ordinance that calls for the use of \$1.9 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to eliminate the medical debt of nearly 50,000 Cleveland residents. City of Cleveland Ordinance 336-2023 is now officially in the books and Cleveland is all the better for it.

Of course, Councilman Danny Kelly voted a resounding yes. “This is a significant vote and one I was proud to make on behalf of Ward 11 residents and all of Cleveland. This program will have a huge impact on the lives of thousands of Clevelanders saddled with crippling medical debt. Finally, they will be able to come up for air and use funds for other needs, like food and housing. What a relief! I am pleased to be a part of such an historic and unanimous vote for Cleveland.” said Councilman Kelly.

Who will have their debt eliminated?



If you qualify, you do not have to apply. Rather, people should start seeing letters in the mail with signatures from the city and from RIP Medical Debt sometime later in the summer or the fall.

Overall, this ordinance will eliminate nearly \$190 million in medical debt for Clevelanders. This will alleviate stress, expand access to healthcare, and improve credit for qualifying Cleveland residents from Ward 11 and beyond. Councilman Kelly said, “It sure will be nice for those who qualify to look forward to good news in the mail and not just bills that put a weight on your shoulders!” Indeed, it will.

## Councilman Kelly Takes Action to Combat Illegal Dumping, Participates in Ward 11 Cleanup Efforts



**Sometimes if you want something to happen, you just have to roll up your sleeves and get to work. That is exactly what Councilman Kelly and others did to combat illegal dumping, a scourge to Ward 11.** Councilman Kelly, his Executive Assistant David Rogers, Westtown Development Corporation staff and volunteers removed 86 tires dumped at James M. Dunphy Park. He did not stop there. He also participated in the Big Creek Chevy Branch cleanup and assisted the Sister’s Haven clean up in April.

Councilman Kelly said, “I want to spruce up Ward 11. Too often, people dump things and just walk away. We as a

*Continued on Page 3*



**RANDY**  
*Randy Cunningham*  
**CUNNINGHAM**  
 2023 Senior of the Year

At this year's Senior Day Event held on May 25th at Cleveland Public Hall, Councilman Danny Kelly recognized Mr. Randy Cunningham as Ward 11's Outstanding Senior of the Year.

Randy serves as a Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Precinct Committee Person and is the author of "Democratizing Cleveland: The Rise and Fall of Community Organizing in Cleveland, Ohio 1975 to 1985."

**Congratulations Randy!**

# Congratulations Randy!

# Blighted Houses Removed



*Councilman Kelly, pictured above, stops by to check on the progress of demolition of blighted houses in Ward 11.*

**COMPLETED DEMOLITIONS**

- ✓ 12412 Guardian Avenue
- ✓ 12617 Grimsby Avenue
- And more to come!

## Renovations at Mercedes Cotner Near Completion



Councilman Kelly has been putting his years of construction site savvy to use by monitoring projects in the ward.

He stopped by to acknowledge his brothers and sisters in the labor movement for the fine job they are doing at Mercedes Cotner (Sunrise) Park as renovations near completion. “As someone who worked for decades on jobsites, I want to thank my hard working brothers and sisters at Laborers’ Local 860 and Operators’ Local 18 for making this park beautiful. The project will be finished soon. We can hardly wait!,” said Councilman Kelly.

Keep your eyes peeled. If the councilman is not at City Hall or knocking on your door, he just may be in the ward working hard for you.

## Renovations at Mercedes Cotner Near Completion



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CLEVELAND  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

A vibrant mural on a red wall featuring the word "Candy" in a stylized green font. The letter "C" is blue with a white outline. To the right of "Candy" is a large, detailed ice cream cone with multiple scoops of different colors (pink, white, brown). Below the ice cream cone is a yellow Pac-Man character. To the right of Pac-Man are two small, pink, ghost-like characters with large eyes. Further right is a blue character with large eyes. The mural also includes a blue and white swirl on the left and a blue and white swirl on the right. The background of the mural is a red wall with vertical wood paneling.



City Slice, Mofongo and the upcoming home-style burger restaurant are bringing great food and culture to Ward 11. "The sense of community and hospitality towards patrons that makes City Slice thrive is palpable. Ward 11 is proud of our family owned businesses and I have really enjoyed working with these energetic entrepreneurs," said Councilman Dany Kelly. "City Slice Ice Cream Shop & Arcade has been a big hit and we will welcome the expansion of City Slice when the time comes in Ward 11."

**info@westowncdc.org**

**HOURS:** 11:00 am - 9:00 pm **ADDRESS:** 12021 Lorain Ave  
**CONTACT:** 216-273-7504 | @citysliceCLE



# Councilman Kelly helps resident bring Ward 11 its very own Little Free Library

When Ward 11 resident, Erin Helloenbank, wanted to start her own Little Free Library in Ward 11, she knew just who to call to bring the project home. Enter Councilman Danny Kelly! True to his roots at the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD), Councilman Danny Kelly has been active in the Little Free Library movement in Cleveland since its inception about a decade ago. His years in the field as a Laborers’ Local 310 member building things meant to last also came in handy. He is not alone, Council President Blaine Griffin’s Executive Assistant, author Laveta Parker, was pleased to donate her book “Lala Goes to Germany” to get the ball rolling at the West Boulevard location. It has really been a community wide effort!

What is a “Little Free Library”? A Little Free Library is a free book exchange, housed in an enclosed small wooden box, usually mounted on a pole. It can be located in parks, community spaces, or even front yards, as Ms. Helloenbank has done.

In this instance, Councilman Kelly helped build and install the Little Free Library. “I truly believe knowledge is power and anything I can do to make sure our ward is informed and our children have access to reading materials is near and dear to my heart. I appreciate Erin’s efforts and I was pleased to lend a helping hand.” said Councilman Kelly.

Sadly, the dearth of reading materials is at an inflection point in Cleveland, where two out of every three low-income families do not own a single children’s book. Nationally, more than 30 million adults cannot read above a third-grade level in the U.S. today. Little Free Libraries



are essential in every community, because studies have repeatedly shown that access to books is one of the strongest predictors of academic success.

The Little Free Library movement in Cleveland, led by local literacy advocates and community leaders, now boasts more than 130 Little Free Libraries at schools, municipal buildings, parks, and etcetera. There are over 100,000 Little Free Libraries nationwide, aimed to put an end to these startling statistics for our children by engaging our communities. It is a start, but we have only just begun.

How can you help? All you need to do is build a Little Free Library, add it to a post and register its location with the Little Free Library website, [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org), as Ms. Helloenbank has done. If you want to start a Little Free Library in Ward 11, sign up on the website or call 715-690-2488 for more information. Councilman Kelly will be more than happy to help you with the installation of your very own Little Free Library.

“I hope this Little Free Library is a reason for neighbors to talk to one another and join forces to help all of our children succeed. Thank you Erin!” said Councilman Kelly.

## Kelly Takes Action Continued

community can band together to fight illegal dumping and to clean up those areas already impacted. We spent the week of Earth Day cleaning up; because the Earth is something we all have in common.”

The City of Cleveland has allocated funds to send crews out for cleanup as well from the Department of Public Works, Vacant Property and Lot Maintenance Service Department. The City is also exploring the use of a solution for illegal dumping that uses artificial intelligence. The result will ideally provide new city-owned technology that Cleveland could use to identify people responsible for dumping. This way, even if a resident does not see the infraction, people are accountable for their nefarious actions.

In the interim, we can all band together and use good old-fashioned grit and determination to keep Ward 11 clean. That is exactly what Councilman Kelly did at James M. Dunphy Park and again at The Big Creek City Branch cleanup. It took a village to clean up Big Creek. “This tributary to the Cuyahoga River is one of our best assets in Ward 11, and must be maintained. Thanks to everyone who showed up and rolled up their sleeves to lend a helping hand.” said Councilman Kelly.

The Sisters Haven Cleanup combined two of Councilman Kelly’s passions, being an advocate for those in need and working hard to make our community a better place to live, work, raise a family and age in place. Sisters Haven is a faith based organization that helps provide safe housing and a loving community to pregnant women and mothers of young children.



Councilman Kelly was grateful to be a part of this effort and stated, “I am always happy to support mothers. Through their unwavering love and support, mothers make up the backbone of our community. Helping to support them makes an immeasurable impact on all our lives. What a pleasure it was to meet the strong women advocating for these mothers in need. I was happy to be a small part of their effort by participating in the house cleanup.”

How can you help? When you see dumping of waste, tires or debris on vacant lots, at abandoned homes, or in the streets, call the hotline at 216-664-dump (3867). Open dumping is a felony crime in Ohio. An offender can face a fine of up to \$25,000 and a jail sentence of two to four years. As such, residents are well within their rights to report this on the hotline. “When you see something, say something!” is not just a catch phrase, it is a path to combatting illegal dumping and helping to clean up the ward.

Build Your Future!

APPLY!

EXPLORE CAREERS IN THE BUILDING TRADES THROUGH HANDS ON WORK EXPERIENCE

- For 11th and 12th Grade City of Cleveland Residents
- Earn \$13.50 per hour
- 30 hours per week for 10 weeks during summer 2023
- Opportunity to earn Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) certification

Call 216-566-5445

Report Illegal Dumping

IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT!

Follow these easy steps if you spot someone illegally dumping debris:

- ✓ *Help us by reporting dumping in your neighborhood!*

✓ *Get a detailed description of the car license plate number, make and color*

✓ *Provide a detailed description of the suspect’s race, height and weight (if possible)*

✓ *Record the date, time and location of the incident*

✓ *Reward available if violator is convicted*

When you see dumping of waste, tires or debris on vacant lots, at abandoned homes, or in the streets, call 664-DUMP (3867).
- # Cleveland Police Department First District Memorial Moves Home
- Sometimes when you want to get the job done, you just have to use a little elbow grease and get to work. That is exactly what Councilman Danny Kelly did. He heard from Officer Kerry Adams and J.R. Bellomy, Lieutenant Kevin Coleman, and Commander Jarod Schlacht that it was long past time to move the memorial commemorative stones for fallen Cleveland First
- 
- District Detective Robert James Clark II (END OF WATCH 7-1-1998) and Officer Jonathan James “AJ” Schroeder (END OF WATCH 8-31-2006) and he immediately sprang to action.
- Councilman Kelly worked work alongside his brothers in Laborers’ Local 860 and Teamsters Local 507, and Officer Bellomy to move the memorials back home at the first district where they belong. Councilman Kelly said, “We all ran the job quickly and made sure to be respectful in the process. I was proud to be a part of this historic move. Never Forget.” The First District will be adding a memorial for Officer David Fahey (END OF WATCH 1-24-2017) in the near future.
- This will honor the memory of the fallen in the heart of the very place they served
- 
- and be the start of a First District Memorial Site. There also is an added bonus to this move. It opens up some much needed space for the Cleveland Municipal School District’s site plan for the construction of a new Marion C. Seltzer School and the City of Cleveland’s outdoor improvements at the adjacent Cudell Recreation Center. We cannot wait to see the improvements in Ward 11 all around!



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# Ward 11 News



WARD 11 COUNCIL MEMBER  
**Danny Kelly**



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## » COUNCILMAN DANNY KELLY

### "OUT & ABOUT" IN THE WARD!



**KNOCKING ON ILA JENKINS'S DOOR**  
Walking door to door to say hello!

#### » HALLORAN PARK

Spring Festival



Councilman Danny Kelly donated a hot dog cart and helped hand out food to many at the Halloran Park Spring Festival. A good time was had by all!

#### » WARD 11 EASTER EGG HUNT

Freedom Church & CPD Event

Councilman Danny Kelly attended the Easter Egg Hunt, made possible by Freedom Church, Cleveland Police Department and many hard working volunteers. What a great way for Ward 11 Residents to Celebrate Easter!



#### » MARY CHURCH TERRELL SCHOOL

Newly Named School in Ward 11



Councilman Danny Kelly stopped by the Mary Church Terrell School to say hello again, as councilman. In his prior post, Councilman Kelly worked closely with the school as a recruiter for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. "It was great to see my kids again!", said the councilman.

## WESTOWN

Community Development Corporation

### Home Repair & Maintenance Information



All programs have their own qualifying and income criteria. To find the program that can best help you and to get an application started **call Westown CDC at 216-941-9262 or email [info@westowncdc.org](mailto:info@westowncdc.org).**

#### STARTING JULY – NEW! WCDC DISCOUNT PAINT COUPON PROGRAM

**Starting July 5, 2023** Westown CDC is partnering with Sherwin Williams to help Ward 11 homeowners save money on their home paint projects.

The DISCOUNT PAINT COUPON is for select Sherwin Williams interior & exterior paint products. The purpose is to give homeowners more choices & flexibility for painting their homes and rooms - and to save money! Not available to landlords. Terms & Conditions will apply.

#### CleveLAWN HOME REPAIR PROGRAM FOR WARD 11

Available to income-qualified homeowners. Provides basic exterior & interior home repairs that do not require pulling a permit. Approved repairs may include drywall & plaster, painting, gutters/downspout, concrete/masonry, porch railings/steps, etc. No electrical or plumbing. Helps address "code-related repairs."

Materials expenses are capped at \$2000 & labor is free. NOTE: Due to the number of applications, this is not an "emergency repair" program.

#### WESTOWN 50/50 REBATE HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Available to income-qualified homeowners. Restricted to EXTERIOR home repairs/maintenance. Eligible homeowners receive a 50% reimbursement for approved repairs. The rebate is capped at \$1,000.

#### WESTOWN HELPS WITH THESE PROGRAMS TOO:

- CHN WEATHERIZATION/ENERGY** – For insulation, new furnace, new hot water tank, and/or electrical upgrades where needed. Income qualifications required.
- CLEVELAND EXTERIOR PAINT PROGRAM** – Qualifying homeowners receive a voucher to purchase paint & supplies for exterior home, porch, and trim painting. Income qualifications required.
- CITY OF CLEVELAND S.H.A.P. & AGE FRIENDLY HOME IMPROVEMENT** – The Senior Homeowner Assistance Program (S.H.A.P.) serves income-qualified seniors & disabled adults age 18-59 with home roof replacement, electrical & plumbing repairs, etc. Income qualifications & assets info required.
- COMMUNITY HOUSING SOLUTIONS** – Income qualifications, must reside in home for at least 1 year, current on property taxes or on a payment plan. Helps with roofs, plumbing, accessibility modifications, electrical hazards, Owner-occupied 2-family okay.

# Big Upgrades COMING TO HALLORAN PARK!

- UPDATED BASKETBALL COURT
- NEW PICKLEBALL COURT
- NEW MINI-PITCH SOCCER FIELD

**COUNCILMAN KELLY VOTED "YES"!**

- ✓ 9.8 MILLION DOLLARS IN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS TO CITY PARKS, INCLUDING HALLORAN
- ✓ U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION DONATION

**This is yet another way for our families to enjoy summer at Halloran Park and I was proud to vote for this ordinance and for the park funding through ARPA. What a wonderful opportunity for Ward 11!**

**Councilman Danny Kelly**