



Kenneth L. Johnson, Sr.
Councilman, Ward 4

WINTER 2020-21 | WWW.CLEVELANDCITYCOUNCIL.ORG/WARD-4



4th Annual Black History Celebration

Pastor E.L. Burge III presented "4th Annual Black History Celebration" on Sunday Feb. 9, 2020. The theme for this year's event, at the Covenant Community Church of Cleveland (3342 E. 119th) was, "Don't Ever Forget".

"Every year Covenant Community Church of Cleveland presents a wonderful black history celebration. Thank you, thank you thank you," said Councilman Johnson.

The Order of Service: Prayer Assoc. Pastor Lowell Sawyer, Covenant Community; Scripture Elder Eddie L. Burge, Jr., Covenant Community; Master of Ceremony Elder Tanya Watkins, Covenant Community; "We've

Come this far by Faith" Covenant Seasoned Saints; Welcome Lady Toni-Lynn Sawyer; Solo Lucretia Bolden; Youth Department of Covenant Community Charaya Smith and Minister Angel Griffin; Solo Maria Lynn Daniels, Minister; Poem Gayle Henderson; Special Covenant Presentation Senior Pastor Eddie L. Burge III... Donna Hudson; Honorees... Mother Bonnie Hudson, Deacon Clarence Byrd; Testimony Bridget Jones, Full Gospel Assembly; Presentation of Honorees Councilman Kenneth L.

Johnson, Edwin Parris and other City Officials, and 4th District City Council, Family; Honorees Evangelist Gail Henderson, Assoc. Pastor Cheryl Lewis, Minister Rick Wallace, and Councilman Joseph T. Jones; Solo Tammy Davis, Covenant Community; Inspirational Moment Elder Kathy Watkins; and Final words Elder Eddie L. Burge III, Senior Pastor Covenant Community Church.



Cleveland Lead Safe Housing Initiative to Begin

Beginning March 31, 2021, the City of Cleveland is requiring residential rental units to receive a Lead Safe Certification. The Lead Safe Certification will be rolled out in phases. There is a quarterly schedule for property owners to get their Lead Safe Certification between March 2021 and March 2023. The quarterly schedule is according to the zip code of your rental unit. After all eight groups are certified, the cycle repeats.

Beginning March 2021, rental



Scan the QR code above or visit us at LeadSafeCLE.org/work to sign up now!

units in 44120 and 44135 zip codes must have their certification. Those zip codes are in Ward 4 and Wards 1, 2, 6, 11, 16, and 17.

By June 2021, rental units in 44111 and 44106 zip codes must have their certification. Those zip codes are in Ward 6, 7, 9, 11, 16 and 17.

To find out about the entire zip code roll out and to find out what to do, including landlord resources and workshops, please go to the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition at leadsafecle.org.

FREE Tax Preparation

The Cuyahoga EITC Coalition is now accepting appointments for **FREE tax preparation**. Maximize your tax return and keep every penny of the refunds you've earned. Free tax preparation appointments with the Coalition can save you hundreds of dollars over a paid preparer. Eligible hardworking families can receive up to \$6,600 at tax time with the Earned Income Tax Credit.

All returns are completed by IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers at tax sites located across Cuyahoga County. When you schedule an appointment, you can easily find the tax sites closest to you. New this year, virtual appointments are also available. We've gone to great lengths to make sure you can get your taxes done while also staying safe.

This service is available for those who qualify and make under \$57,000 a year. **To schedule an appointment, visit our website at refundohio.org, or call 2-1-1.**

**Availability of in-person options will vary depending on Cuyahoga County's health and safety guidelines regarding preventing the spread of Covid-19.*



Councilman Kenneth L. Johnson hosted members of the Covenant Community Church of Cleveland including Pastor E.L. Burge III at the Monday, Feb. 24, 2020 Council Meeting in Council Chambers.

Councilman Johnson congratulated Covenant Community Church of Cleveland for a wonderful “4th Annual Black History Celebration”. This annual event was held Sunday, February 9, 2020 at the church, 3342 E. 119th St. Councilman Johnson presented the church 9 “Congratulations Scrolls”. Recipients: Elder Eddie L. Burge III, Senior Pastor, Elder Tanya Watkins, Program Director, Charaya Smith, Youth Department, Minister Angel Griffin, Kaleb Burge, Kassidy Burge, Aniya Griffin, and Josiah Davis.

“We have to keep our children involved in constructive activities while they are very young—as alternative to the vices in the streets,” Councilman Johnson said. He went on to thank all the participants for a job well done.





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Channel 19 interviewed Councilman Kenneth L. Johnson on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 about a shooting that happened on Woodhill Road. During the interview, in front of City Hall, Johnson mentioned, “The people are hurting—with unemployment, homelessness, crime and on top of that a Pandemic.” Councilman Johnson believes a massive Job Program can go a very long way to get our communities back on track.



Ward 4 Councilmen Kenneth L. Johnson and the Southeast Coalition: Councilman Joseph T. Jones, Ward 1, Councilman Kevin L. Bishop, Ward 2, Councilwoman Phyllis E. Cleveland, Ward 5, and Councilman Blaine A. Griffin, Ward 6 held a “Joint Community Meeting” for Cleveland’s Southeast Wards on Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020. This meeting was convened at Zion Hill Missionary

Baptist Church, 11115 Kinsman Rd. Pastor. Rev. Jimmy L. Gates, Sr. Councilman Johnson and colleagues discussed with the audience strategies for the future of our communities. “I believe all of our communities are stronger working together,” proclaimed Councilman Johnson. Dinner was served after the meeting consisting of fried chicken baked salmon macaroni and cheese, green beans, and dinner rolls.



The Garden of Eleven Angels

Groundbreaking Coming Spring 2021

We are pleased to announce that ground-breaking on the Garden of Eleven Angels – in honor of the women murdered by a serial killer - is planned for the Spring of 2021 with the anticipated opening of the memorial in the Fall of 2021.

The monument will be framed by a pathway and seating area, surrounded by a garden full of native plantings and trees intended to bring peace and healing properties of nature. “The completion of this memorial project has been a long time to fruition, but we’re finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel” said Councilman Johnson.

During the past couple of years, project partners have worked hard to fundraise for the Garden of Eleven Angels, and the conceptual design was re-imagined by Councilman Kenneth L. Johnson to include the adjacent vacant lots, creating a larger garden and natural green space to complement the memorial itself. The memorial statue itself will feature the names of each of the eleven women inscribed in



the monument, plus an excerpt from the poem Still I Rise by Maya Angelou.

Family members of the eleven women were presented Granite plaques with the same excerpt from the poem by Maya Angelou.

We were updated on the memorial on Thursday, November 12, 2020. Pastor. Rev. Jimmy L. Gates Sr., Councilman Kenneth L. Johnson, Western Reserve Land Conservancy and project partners met at Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church on Kinsman.

The coordination and cooperation of a lot



of organizations and individuals from the community are greatly appreciated. They include, but not limited to, Mount Pleasant NOW; Mt. Pleasant Ministerial Alliance; Milano Monuments; Cleveland City Council and many others.



Councilman Kenneth L. Johnson and the other members of the Southeast Coalition:

Councilman Joseph T. Jones, Ward 1, Councilman Kevin L. Bishop, Ward 2, Councilwoman Phyllis E. Cleveland, Ward 5, and Councilman Blaine A. Griffin, Ward 6 along with other community partners held a press conference Friday, June 26, 2020 at the intersection of East 93rd and Marah Avenue. The purpose of the press conference was to update the public concerning public art and to thank the public and private Community Partners on completing the, “Black Lives Matter” mural.



DID YOU KNOW...

To become a guardian of a child under 18 years of age you have to go through a lengthy process and the guardianship can only be granted through a Cuyahoga County Probate Court Judge and that is only after several court-ordered home visits and several interviews, including the sworn permission of the child’s mother and father.



After the guardianship is granted Probate Court monitors the home situation and the child throughout the length of the guardianship. The child and the guardian must go through medical physicals to ensure that no child abuse has occurred and one can be a guardian of a minor for a period of one month or up to 18 years. During his years in office Councilman Johnson has had the privilege of serving as a guardian to several youngsters. Even though money was offered to the councilman he never accepted any for his efforts on the children’s behalf.

DID YOU KNOW...
Councilman Johnson's
**SENIOR CITIZEN
SNOW REMOVAL**
CANCELED
program has been
for the 2020
winter season
due to the Pandemic.



**The
Southeast
Press**
Serving the Ward 4 Community



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**Councilman
Kenneth L. Johnson
drives through Ward 4
nearly every day.**

**"I like to see for myself what is going on
all through Ward 4", Johnson said.**

The Councilman believes with this first-hand knowledge of crime hotspots, seniors' issues, fallen trees and other problems including dumping zones and properties that need to be demolished or renovated is needed to fine-tune strategies to alleviate those problems.

