THE WARD 16 CONSTITUENT

COUNCILMAN BRIAN KAZY | WINTER 2020-21 | www.clevelandcitycouncil.org :



Ward 16 Councilman

Brian Kazy

An Open Letter from Councilman Kazy

Dear Residents,

These are trying times for all citizens, not only for us here in Ward 16 but for people throughout the world.

Living daily with the threat of a deadly virus is severely stressful, but we will get through this safely as long as we take on the challenge as a community working together.

Please practice good hygiene and avoid gatherings as much as possible. Our goal is to "flatten the curve" on the daily charts that show dangerous spikes in COVID-19 cases.

During the summer we saw a significant flattening of that curve, but by autumn the virus was aggressively pushing the curve upward again to dangerous levels.

We cannot let our guard down in the fight against this virus. We must be hyper vigilant to safeguard ourselves and our loved ones. So, please, avoid crowds, wear a surgical mask in public places, wash your hands frequently and practice safe-distancing from others. These simple practices have major effects.

Finally, on a brighter note, the holiday season is here and I hope everyone is enjoying the warm traditions it brings during these festive months, despite, the pandemic.

I urge everyone to help our hometown economy by shopping locally.

From downtown to our neighborhoods,

"...the holiday season is here and I hope everyone is enjoying the warm traditions it brings during these festive months, despite, the pandemic."

there are plenty of merchants offering gifts, vittles and spirits to keep the season bright and cheerv.

I understand there is a collective stress in our lives due to the pandemic, but the year 2020 will soon be over and we will enter a new year with renewed hope.

Working together is the key to healthy growth, so please, look out for one another and call me with any questions or concerns.

I'm just a phone call away at 216-664-2942. Stay healthy and keep the faith.

Sincerely,

You must register to enter. Visit www.clevelandward16.com and click the "Hot Spot" link to register by

11:59 pm, Sun., December 13, 2020. Judging will begin Mon., December 14 through Fri., December 18.



Neighborhood Group Wins Grant

Neighborhood Connections, with additional funding from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, have awarded a grant to a project in the neighborhood:

BELLAIRE PURITAS

Glengar Community Association received \$761 in funding to host a Power of Pollinators workshop, to educate how important pollinators are for our food supply.

ALL OF CLEVELAND

The Hummingbird Project, which works for social justice through ecological regeneration and community empowerment initiatives, received \$3,500. They will allow access to their Seed Libraries digitally and send seeds via the US mail to anyone who needs high quality seeds to grow healthy food this year. Their goal is to mail 5000 seed packets to 1000 community members to allow them to grow nutritious food and engage in healthy activities during this global pandemic.

Neighborhood Connections has several small grant programs available for residents of Cleveland or groups to apply for to do projects that improve the quality of life in their communities. Grants range from \$500 to \$5,000. Grants are intended to spur small, grassroots community projects. Grants may be used for a wide variety of activities and projects, and groups are encouraged to think in new ways about what will work in their community.

NEW GRANTS AVAILABLE

The **COVID-19 Rapid Response grants** are offered on a rolling deadline to groups of residents in Cleveland and the region to do projects that improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. Groups are encouraged to work with partners and to propose creative solutions to challenges in their community.

This fund is intended for smaller requests of \$500 to \$5,000; organizations seeking larger support should email covid19response@clevefdn.org to receive the intake form for the Greater Cleveland COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund.

They are also now offering small grants of up to \$5,000 each to support action projects in the field of adult literacy. The Literacy Cooperative will co-fund some projects, too.

To find out information on the upcoming grant deadlines and how to apply go to http://neighborupcle.org/grants/ or call 216-361-0042 or email info@neighborhoodgrants.org.



New Medical Clinic Opens in Ward 16



Some staff members at the newly opened medical clinic in Ward 16 gather (wearing masks) for a group photo. The clinic, Dedicated Senior Medical Center at 13719 Lorain Ave., is devoted to caring for seniors who are eligible for Medicare.

Councilman Brian Kazy recently welcomed a new medical clinic in Ward 16, devoted to caring for seniors who are eligible for Medicare.

The clinic, called **Dedicated Senior Medical Center, is located at 13719 Lorain Ave.** It offers patients primary and specialty care as well as free transportation to and from the clinic. It also has an on-site pharmacy and the clinic's doctors and staff are multilingual in Spanish and English.

"I welcome this much needed addition to

our ward," said Councilman Kazy. "We have many seniors in our neighborhoods and it is comforting to know that they now have accessible, quality medical care close to where they live."

The Dedicated Senior Medical Center is part of a national chain that recently opened another clinic in Cleveland's Collinwood neighborhood.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit www.dedicatedcare.net or call 216-307-3005.

You may qualify for COVID-19 utility bill assistance

Money is available to help residents affected by COVID-19 with utility bills like water, sewer, gas and electric.

Relief is only available until December 31, 2020! Funding provided by Cuyahoga County.

If your finances have been affected by COVID-19, you may qualify for relief towards your outstanding balances on utility bills like water and sewer, gas and electric.

 Past due amount must have occurred after March 1

- Income-based eligibility
- Help is only available while funds last

If you are a renter having difficulty making payments due to COVID-19, apply for rent help at neorenthelp.org or call us with questions at 833-377-7368 (RENT).

Apply online while funds last: http://www.chnhousingpartners.org/utilityassistance











Stay Safe and Vigilant During the Coming Cold Weather Months

Medical experts predicted last spring that our nation was likely to get hit with a second wave of the Covid-19 virus and, unfortunately, that prediction has come to pass.

Hospital beds are filling. Cases are piling. And more than a quarter million Americans are dead.

Every city and county in Ohio is experiencing spikes in the spread of the virus as government officials, health experts and responsible citizens work tirelessly to "flatten the curve" of the rising threat. The point to flattening the curve is to keep hospitals from becoming overwhelmed and unable to care for all patients, instead being forced to chose who they think will live to treat.

In Cleveland, Mayor Frank Jackson has declared an emergency, urging people to keep a strong guard against the virus and practice simple hygienic protections:

- Wash hands often.
- Keep social distances from others.
- Wear masks when in public places. (Neck gators have been shown to not be effective.)
- Stay home as much as possible.
- Keep living areas clean and sanitized.

During the recent summer months, we saw the curb flattening as people got out in fresh air and sunshine, slowing the transmission of the virus. But now, during these cold months, people are cooped

up in apartments and houses, eating or shopping indoors, creating a fertile environment for the aggressive bug which can pass from one person to another by a simple cough, projecting a microscopic drop of saliva.

Medical experts who have been tracking the virus' spread have determined that it occurs mostly at private parties, bars and restaurants and gyms.

The national Center of Disease Control is urging people not to travel during the holidays and to limit social gatherings.

And some public officials are considering imposing strict curfew laws, though the idea is not set in stone. If winter months become unbearable with the spread, curfews could become laws, punishable under criminal codes.

Mayor Jackson's emergency order does place some impositions on bars and restaurants. They must set safe social distancing of their patrons and they cannot exceed 50 percent of allowable capacity. Servers and bar tenders must wear masks, as do all people in public places in the city.

The Cleveland Department of Public Health has created a hotline to report violations of the city's emergency order. The number is 216-857-7165.

Meanwhile, we must all understand that we are living in a dangerous time with a deadly virus. And all of us, regardless of race or creed, must rely on each other to stay safe and healthy.



*Invigorate Our Community...*Cozumel Mexican Restaurant **Opens in Ward 16**

A ribbon-cutting was held on November 16, 2020 for Cozumel Mexican Restaurant, 4195 W. 150th St. at I-71. Owner Ramon Aguirre was joined by Councilman Brian Kazy and staff from the Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation for the event. Cozumel is both a take-out and dine-in restaurant. For days and hours call 216-331-4310.

Let's keep supporting businesses and restaurants in Ward 16!

Photos by Jerry Masek



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THE WARD 16 CONSTITUENT





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WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU.

833-377-RENT (7368)
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FUNDED BY:



Please bring your card if you have insurance. If you don't have insurance, no problem!

For more information call 216.664.4621 or visit us on the web at www.clevelandhealth.org

Visit www.clevelandcitycouncil.org