

The Ward 17 Dispatch

Councilman Charles J. Slife | Summer 2021



Engage with Councilman
CHARLES J. SLIFE

PHONE 216-664-4239

EMAIL cslife@clevelandcitycouncil.org

WEB
www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-17



A Message from Councilman Charles Slife

Happy Summer Ward 17!

There's no better place in the world than Cleveland during the summer time and, like you, I'm excited to see our neighborhood lively again after a tough year.

I'm eager for us to see each other at the many community events throughout our ward. For many months, City Hall wavered on whether to allow summer events to take place in 2021. My advocacy resulted in City Hall reinstating special event permitting, clearing the way for the Independence Day parade, Lawn Chair Cinema, and a special Halfway to the Hooley winter market in December to name a few.

If your street would like to hold a block party this summer, contact my office at 216-664-4239 and I can help with the permitting process.

Thank you to all who provided pothole information to my office through the **2021 Ward 17 Pothole Reporting database**. In 2020 I was frustrated when many streets in Ward 17 had unfilled potholes long after July 4th. But in 2021, crowdsourced data and

"...government works best when citizens speak up for what is right."

mapping of trouble spots got locations to the Division of Streets faster and allowed for repairs to be made sooner.

In 2021, all potholes repairs reported to my office were completed by June 28. But of course, repairing potholes is only a temporary solution.

In March 2021, administration officials presented a list of four streets for resurfacing in Ward 17. By pushing administration officials and identifying additional funding for resurfacing projects, I was able to increase that number to eight.

Yet it goes without saying that there are

Continued on page 3

Closed Bomber Squadron Restaurant Has New Owner; Getting Ready for Take Off

The closure of the Bomber Squadron during the Coronavirus Pandemic was a blow to the community and a loss of a much-loved restaurant and venue.

Yet Ward 17 residents and visitors eager to grab a drink, eat a meal, or host an event can rest easy. The building will soon be reopening as The Aviator Event Center & Pub which will preserve the Bomber Squadron's legacy and position it for new patrons.

The new operator of The Aviator Event Center & Pub is already underway with improvements that will allow for 2021 openings of two concepts.

Upon completion, the large ballroom will be available for rent for weddings, corporate events, banquets, showers, and other uses.



The rooftop bar will open as The Little Bomber, a season gastropub that will pay homage to the Bomber Squadron by retaining World War II memorabilia while adding new aviation displays to round out the aviation theme.

The new operators recruited their executive chef from the Shoreby Club in

Bratenahl, which will be in charge of the kitchens for both the banquet facility and the gastropub.

The tentative opening date for The Little Bomber is next month, with the ballroom opening in the fall. Watch for their openings and stop by to support a new local business.

And to watch planes!

SERVING THE WEST PARK, KAMM'S CORNERS & PURITAS NEIGHBORHOODS

No-Cost Covid-19 Vaccines



Thursdays @ McCafferty Health Center

**4242 Lorain Avenue
1:00 pm - 6:30 pm**



Walk-in or pre-register by calling 216-664-2222

(Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 9 am - 5 pm)

or visit gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov/

AVAILABLE VACCINES:

Single-dose Johnson & Johnson (For ages 18 and older)

1st and 2nd dose Moderna (For ages 18 and older)

1st and 2nd dose Pfizer (For ages 12 and older*)

** Those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian*

COVID-19 Vaccines for Homebound Individuals



The City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County are partnering with local entities to vaccinate homebound individuals. The Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging is screening individuals for eligibility.

Referrals can be made by contacting Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging at 216-621-0303. When making a referral, please be prepared to provide the individual's name, demographic information, DOB, phone number, and address.

Homebound persons include those who need the help of another person or medical equipment such as crutches, a walker, or a wheelchair to leave their home, or their medical provider believes that their health or illness could get worse if they leave their home, therefore they typically do not leave their home.

To check your eligibility or receive more information call or visit us at:

216-621-0303 • www.areaagingsolutions.org

Cleveland Police Offer Residents Free Home Safety Audits

One of the many reasons that Ward 17 continues to attract new residents and businesses is its safety.

Ward 17's low crime rate is comparable to rates in nearby suburbs. But we all know that no community is completely free of crime.

The Division of Police offers home safety audits for Cleveland residents who want to learn how they can better secure their property and thwart criminals.

Some preventative measures are simple – locking cars, lighting dark areas, installing security cameras.

But there are some measures most of us would miss and would require the expertise of a professional crime fighter to point them out.

Police officer Tim Riley (a Ward 17 resident)



has served on CPD for 25 years and can come to your residence, inspect your property, and advise you on ways you can secure your property most effectively.

To take advantage of this valuable service, call Officer Riley at 216-623-3335.

Important Information About Upcoming Municipal Elections

The primary for the new Mayor of Cleveland and all council seats will be Sept. 14th. Absentee voting starts on Aug. 17th. The election is non partisan which means the top two vote getters go on to the general election in November.

If you aren't registered to vote you have until Aug. 16th to register. If you are registered it's always a good idea to double check that it has your accurate address and that the state hasn't purged your registration. Go to: voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/voterlookup.aspx or go to: boe.cuyahogacounty.gov/en-

[US/my-voting-information.aspx](https://boe.cuyahogacounty.gov/en-US/my-voting-information.aspx)

To find out other information, including polling locations or how to vote absentee go to: boe.cuyahogacounty.gov



CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR HOUSING OR AN EVICTION?

Cleveland families who are facing eviction and would like to find out if they qualify for free legal assistance can contact Right to Counsel – Cleveland (RTC-C). RTC-C families also may receive information about resources for rental assistance, case management, access to food, and other important services. **Call 216-861-5835, visit www.FreeEvictionHelp.org, or call 2-1-1 HelpLink, 24/7.** All conversations are free and confidential.

Our First Responders

Rank/Name: Paramedic
JOE SPURLOCK

Year you joined EMS: 1995

Why did you become a paramedic?: *I always knew I wanted to be in public safety, growing up watching the show "Emergency!" I wasn't sure which type of service I wanted to do. I joined the U.S Navy and I became an EMT during that time. I was hired by The City of Cleveland just as I was getting out the Navy. It has been a wonderful career.*

Favorite part of the job:
It's the unknown. You could be going to a call where a child has a cut leg while the next call might be a bad car accident with multiple victims. Being a comfort to the people we serve in their time of need is very humbling.

Favorite places in Ward 17/West Park: *The variety of food choices and all the local parks makes West Park very unique and you see that when you drive around.*

Fun fact about you: *I enjoy bicycling, movies and going to Disney.*



Paramedic Joe Spurlock

Health and safety tip: *When you see Emergency or construction crews operating on a highway or a street, please move over. If you are not able to, slow down to a reasonable speed. Also, remember to wear a helmet when riding a bike. Head injuries are very common during these summer months and they can be prevented by simply wearing a helmet.*



Message Continued

many streets remaining that are in disrepair. In light of this, I'm advocating that **\$2 million be allocated to each ward from federal stimulus dollars to increase the number of streets to be resurfaced.**

An additional thank you to all of the Ward 17 residents who, at my request, called leaders of the Ohio General Assembly and voiced opposition to a very troubling budget provision that had been proposed in Columbus.

An attempt by bad actors to allow non-residents to be refunded income tax dollars from 2020 that they had already paid to the City of Cleveland was taken out of the final State budget. If that provision had passed, the instant loss of hundreds of millions of dollars would have wreaked havoc on Cleveland's general fund budget and would have forced significant cuts in service and layoffs, including to our first responders.

This win demonstrates that government works best when citizens speak up for what is right.

Despite the benefits of public participation in government being obvious, Cleveland City Council has failed residents for too long by offering no opportunities for public comment at its Monday night meetings. **I am a proud supporter of legislation that, when passed, will mandate a public comment period at all meetings of Cleveland City Council.** Once instituted, this will allow residents to maximize their voices and will assure us all that leaders hear us.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and I will see you in the neighborhood!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Slife".

Charles Slife
Councilman - Ward 17

Historical Society Honors Henry Wright Who Escaped Slavery and Settled in West Park

Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates the arrival of federal troops in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, and celebrates the end of slavery in the United States.

The landing of Union soldiers and the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, signed two years earlier, is when the enslaved people learned of their freedom.

This past Juneteenth, the West Park Historical Society held an event to honor a historic Clevelander who had overcome slavery yet had tragically been forgotten.

Henry Wright was born into slavery in 1797 in Louisiana and, as a man, was sold to a slave trader and taken to Virginia.

In 1862, he escaped slavery through the Underground Railroad and traveled to Ohio where he lived in a woods of Rockport Township (modern day Fairview Park, Lakewood, Rocky River, and West Park).

He eventually came to know the West Family, from whom West Park got its name, and was hired by the family as a laborer on their farm, an area that is now West 138th Street.

Mr. Wright died in 1905 at the age of 108 and was believed to be the oldest person in Cleveland. He was buried in section A of Alger Cemetery, located in Kamm's Corners, in an unmarked grave.

To honor Mr. Wright and properly memorialize him as a member of our community, the West Park Historical Society commissioned a new headstone that was dedicated during the Juneteenth ceremony.

Councilman Slife presented the West Park Historical Society with a resolution of recognition from City Council so that visitors to the society's museum can more easily learn about him and his life.

Thank you to the West Park Historical Society and all those who attended the dedication ceremony. Stop by Alger Cemetery to view the new headstone and take a moment to honor Mr. Wright and all those who endured the scourge of slavery.



PRESORT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT NO. 2893

2021



Department of Public Works
Division of Waste Collection



H One day delayed collection

H Holiday with regular pickup



The Ward 17 Dispatch



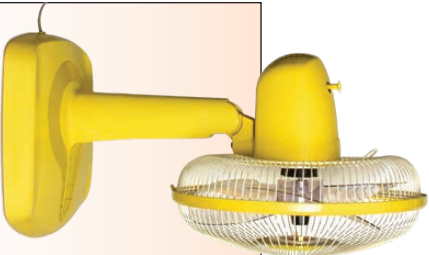
WARD 17 COUNCILMAN
Charles Slife
City Hall Office:
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 220
Cleveland, OH 44114

Visit www.ClevelandCityCouncil.org/ward-17

Executive Assistant: Erin Conroy
Phone: 216-664-4239 Fax: 216-664-3837
Email: cslife@clevelandcitycouncil.org

HEAP Summer Crisis Program

The HEAP Summer Crisis Program assists with electric utility bills, central air conditioning repairs, and purchases of an air conditioning unit and/or fan.



Available until September 30th

For more information, Contact
Ursula Rossman at the Cleveland
Department of Aging: 216-664-2239

City Council Authorizes \$1 million for Healthy Home Initiative

City Council recently authorized up to \$1 million to fund a program aimed at improving the city's housing stock and the overall quality of life for residents. The money will allow the city to enter into contracts with various neighborhood development corporations, which will hire staff for the initiative.

The aim of the Community Engagement Healthy Home Initiative is to restore all of the city's neighborhoods into safe, healthy and vibrant communities in which to live, work and raise families. Much of that initiative has been underway by non-profit neighborhood development corporations, focusing on development, preservation, safety and new capital investments.

Besides hiring staff, the funding will allow purchasing of software, staff training, and the purchasing of materials, equipment, supplies and services.

B = BULK WEEK (3 items only)

City of Cleveland
Department of Public Works
Division of Waste Collection
5600 Carnegie Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
216-664-3711
www.cleveland-oh.gov

OCTOBER												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	H	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sept. 6th - Labor Day
1 day delay all week

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	H	26	27
28	29	30				

Nov. 25th - Thanksgiving Day
Thursday collection on Friday
Friday collection on Saturday

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	H
26	27	28	29	30		

Dec. 25th - Christmas Holiday
No delay in collection

Set Out Guidelines for Waste Collection

RULE OF THREE: Remember that the limit for bulk pick-up is three items. Residents may leave out for collection items such

as appliances, tables, chairs, mattress box springs, couches and furniture.

All mattresses, box springs and cloth furniture must be wrapped in plastic. In addition to the three items, residents may leave out up to four tires. The City does not accept construction material. Boxes and loose bags are not bulk items. Carpet must be cut and rolled into 3-foot long

pieces and must not exceed 40 pounds.

WASTE SET OUT RULES: The Division of Waste also reminds residents of the following waste regulations:

- Only waste in officially issued City carts will be accepted, and loose trash or bags outside City roll carts will not be accepted.
- Construction materials, hazardous waste, bricks, dirt, concrete, cinder blocks, auto parts, loose metal items, medical waste or fluorescent tubes WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED in or outside of roll carts.
- No wet paint should be placed in roll carts. All paint cans should be dry before they are placed in roll carts.
- Do not place hot charcoal ashes in roll carts. For further information regarding waste collection, please call

Division of Waste Collection services for your convenience:



5600 Carnegie or 3727 Ridge Rd, 9 am - 3 pm.
DO NOT leave computers, tires, trees, hazardous waste, or other debris at the drop off boxes. These items must be taken to the service garages on the designated round up dates.



the Division of Waste Collection
at 216-664-3711 or visit
www.clevelandohio.gov