



Councilman Kevin Conwell | Summer 2023

WARD 9 NEWS

The Drumbeat of the Community

ALL WE DO IS WIN!

Football • Indoor Track

Cheerleading • Outdoor Track

The Mighty Tarblooders continue to demonstrate their commitment to excellence!

With strong performances across the board, they won both the indoor and outdoor Division 2 state championships. Not to be outdone, the Cheerleading team also won a 2023 Medium Division State championship. I'm so proud of our young people for their work ethic, dedication, and for representing Glenville so well.



Construction of New Martin Luther King Jr. Library Underway

The new Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch of Cleveland Public Library is taking shape.



The Cleveland Public Library hired JKURTZ Architects and SO-IL to reimagine a new branch library which will occupy the first two floors of an 11-story apartment building, on Euclid Avenue in University Circle. The branch will include

- A Social Justice Center and a “table of brotherhood” inspired by King’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech
- The Library’s Anisfield-Wolf Book collection which honors writing on race and equality
- An expanded children’s area and dedicated teen space
- 24-hour access to materials with Grab & Go Book Lockers
- More community rooms

The new MLK Branch, in Councilman Kevin Conwell’s Ward 9, is expected to open in Summer 2024. **The cost is estimated at \$18 million.**

The current branch will remain open during construction. For project updates, visit cpl.org or our courbanize.com/collections/cpl.

Erasing Cleveland Residents’ Medical Debt

Nearly \$200 million in old medical debt owed by Clevelanders’ is expected to be eliminated.

Council unanimously approved giving \$1.9 million to RIP Medical Debt to erase medical debt held by local hospitals, doctors groups and clinics. Medical debt creates mental and emotional stress and may be preventing Cleveland residents from seeking further healthcare.



Council’s action is expected to help about 50,000 Clevelanders. RIP Medical Debt is currently negotiating with the local hospitals and clinics to participate in this program.

RIP Medical Debt is known for its work with municipalities nationwide to eliminate medical debt. RIP Medical Debt buys large bundles of past due medical debt at one time for pennies on the dollar directly from providers like hospitals.

Council’s action will result in the cancellation of inactive debt that may be affecting residents’ credit scores, making buying anything from a car, to a house, to a couch more expensive.

Residents qualify if they live in a household income up to 400% of Federal Poverty guidelines or medical debt is at least 5% of annual household income. The 400% of federal poverty guidelines means more than 80% of Cleveland residents are eligible. The level runs from \$54,360 for a one person household, to \$148,760 for a six-person household.

Residents don’t apply. Instead residents will be notified via a branded RIP Medical Debt letter in the mail that their debt is eliminated and is off their credit report.

Making Glenville Lead Safe

Lead poisoning in children can cause lifelong, often irreversible problems that affect education, behavior, and health.

NO amount of lead exposure is safe. Famicos and other organizations are teaming up with Councilman Kevin Conwell and the City of Cleveland to offer a limited number of grants to Glenville homeowners and tenants to help with home repair and lead hazard reduction work.

The City of Cleveland’s Community Development Department received a \$9.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2019.

The grant supports Cleveland’s Lead Hazard Reduction program in its efforts to reduce lead hazards in the home and prevent childhood lead poisoning in the Glenville neighborhood. It also focuses on reducing lead hazards in homes of children under age six in Cleveland through a comprehensive plan that includes lead poisoning prevention, weatherization, energy conservation and rehabilitation in the homes of the City’s most at risk, low-income residents.

The plan will also encompass code enforcement, economic development, job training, lead education and outreach.

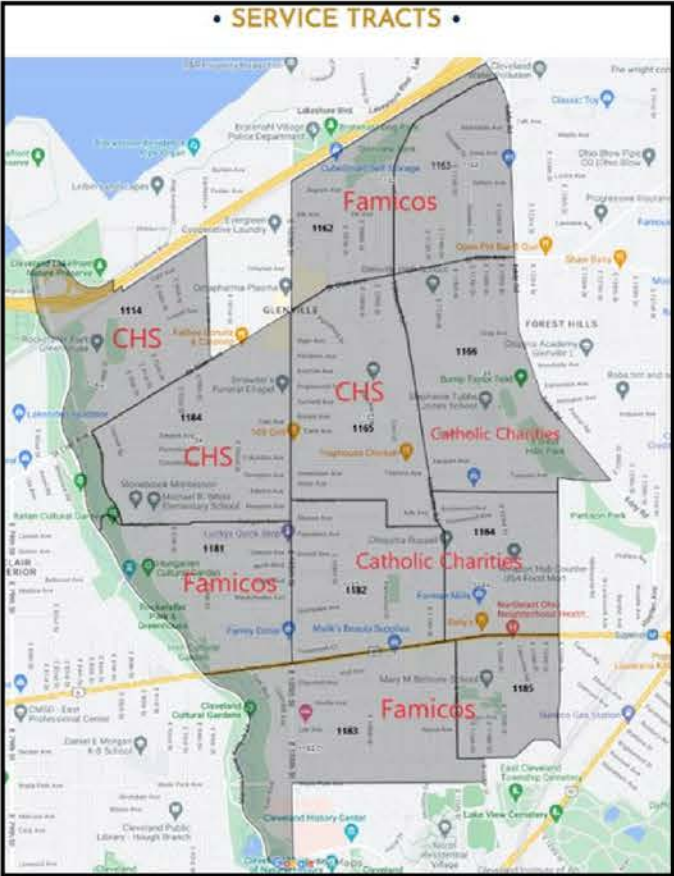
The program focuses on four census tracts within the Glenville community. This area has historical levels of lead poisoning, a high concentration of housing stock built before 1940 and a significant amount of housing built between 1940-1978. The target area consists of 67 percent pre-1940 housing units, 8 percent of children under age 6, and 70 percent low-income families.

“I will be out talking to residents encouraging them to participate in this program,” said Councilman Kevin Conwell who represents the Glenville area. “This infusion of capital should help to protect the most vulnerable among us, and I encourage residents to participate.”

If you and your family live in (own or rent) a home built before 1978 in one of the areas in the map, you may qualify for Lead Safe assistance funding. For details, please visit: www.famicos.org/leadsafeglenville. Or you can call Tellawanda Moore at 216-791-6476 ext. 275 to find out if Famicos or another organization can help you.

One focus is the requirement that landlords ensure all pre-1978 rentals achieve lead safe status. But there are programs for homeowners as well.

If you don't live in these zones: City of Cleveland Lead Hazard Reduction (216) 664-2929 or find other information at One focus is the requirement that landlords ensure all pre-1978 rentals achieve lead safe status. But there are programs for homeowners as well. or call 833-601 5323 (LEAD).



New Voter Identification Laws

On August 8, voters in Cleveland and across Ohio will be asked to vote on Issue 1. This issue will be the only thing on the ballot. The issue will make it harder to amend the state constitution and for citizens to make their voices heard in the state.

Here's what you can do to make your voice heard:

- Register to vote or update your voting address by calling (216) 443-8683, going to the Board of Elections at 2925 Euclid Avenue, or visiting myohiovote.com BEFORE July 10.
- Vote early in person at the Board of Elections (2925 Euclid Avenue) beginning July 11.
- The last day for early in-person voting is Sunday, August 6.
- Request a vote by mail application by calling (216) 443-8683 and pressing the number 1 or online at myohiovote.com.
- If you plan to vote on Election Day (August 8), visit tinyurl.com/CLEvotinglocation to find out your polling location.
- Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. on August 8.

Key Dates For the August 8 Election

- **JULY 10:** VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE
- **JULY 11:** EARLY VOTING BEGINS
- **AUGUST 1:** ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE
- **AUGUST 8:** ELECTION DAY (6:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.)

Hitchcock Center for Women Moves Forward

Groundbreaking for the new Hitchcock Center for Women in Glenville could happen as soon as August.

Councilman Kevin Conwell is happy to announce that the “new” Hitchcock Center for Women, a substance abuse treatment and residential recovery center in Ward 9, has received all the funding needed for completion. The project is expected to cost more than \$24 million.

The Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland City Council, the city of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County have given funding to ensure the new building is completed. Councilman Conwell, whose Ward 9 the treatment center resides in, is thankful all the organizations stepped up to help fund this vital community service, and especially to Cuyahoga County and County Councilwoman Yvonne M. Conwell.

The Hitchcock Center for Women currently occupies the historic St. Mary Seminary building on Ansel Road overlooking Rockefeller Park and while a needed and helpful program, the women who stay there can’t not bring any children they have with them.

The new Hitchcock building calls for an L-shaped, four-story building with 36 rooms for residential treatment, and 53 furnished rooms for longer-term residential recovery. The building will be on Ansel Road, overlooking the west side of Rockefeller Park, close to its current home in the St. Mary Seminary.

The new building would expand Hitchcock’s capacity by 50%, even though it would be 21% smaller than the seminary building. The difference is explained by a more efficient layout designed precisely to fit Hitchcock’s needs in comparison to the existing building.

Once open, children will be able to live with their parent, and can walk to classes nearby at the Cleveland Metropolitan School District’s Willson Elementary School. Experts agree staying at Hitchcock is far better for a child than entering foster care while a parent is in recovery.

The plan is that after construction of the new building, there would be a renovation and adaptive reuse of the former St. Mary Seminary of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. Councilman Conwell is hoping private organizations and foundations help pay for the renovation of the historic building. The building features terra cotta tile roofs, a pair of cloistered courtyards, a stunning chapel filled with sculptures, mosaics, and stained glass, and an octagonal library lighted by 12 clerestory windows surmounted by a soaring dome.



Utility Amnesty Program



Cleveland City Council members want to help struggling Clevelanders with initiatives funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. Council recently passed legislation that will put \$2 million in assistance to eligible Cleveland Public Power (CPP) and Cleveland Water customers to reduce or eliminate outstanding balances.

To qualify, CPP and Cleveland Water customers in the city must have an outstanding balance that date back to no later than March 2020 and must be signed up on a payment plan with the utilities.

Residents don’t need to sign up for the program, but will be notified in the coming weeks of the financial help.

There is no income requirement. The program will end once the funds are exhausted. An estimated 1,400 Cleveland Public Power accounts and 1,200 Cleveland Division of Water accounts will benefit. The money that residents have put into the payment plan will be matched or the outstanding balance will be eliminated.

The funding is coming from the city’s ARPA allocation, which Council has been focused on making sure struggling residents see help from this one-time money passed by the Biden administration.

Ward 9 Road Construction

Councilman Kevin Conwell wants residents to be informed about upcoming street resurfacing.

“I know these projects disrupt residents’ lives, but I’m very excited about the important streets that will be redone in Ward 9 and the Glenville neighborhood,” said Councilman Conwell.

Below is a list of the streets that will soon see **construction totaling more than \$683,000** for resurfacing.

Street	From	To
Bellflower Road	East Boulevard	Ford Avenue
E. 95th Street	St Clair Avenue	Yale Avenue
Fairport Avenue	E. 123rd Street	Parkway Road
Lee Avenue	E. 105th Street	E. 108th Street
Morison Avenue	E. 105th Street	Parkwood Drive

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

www.clevelandcitycouncil.org



WARD 9 NEWS



The Drumbeat of the Community • Serving the Glenville and University Circle Neighborhoods
Councilman Kevin Conwell • Downtown Office: 601 Lakeside Ave., City Hall, Room 220 Cleveland, OH 44114
Phone: 216-664-4252 • Fax: 216-664-3837 • Email: kconwell@clevelandcitycouncil.org

2023 Senior Day

Congratulations to Ward 9 Senior Day Honoree Hattie Holifield!



Pictured right, Kevin Conwell and Footprints performing at 2023 Senior Day.

For more than 45 years, Hattie Holifield operated Ms. Hattie's Daycare where she welcomed many children and treated them as grandchildren.

She moved to Cleveland in the 1970's, and Hattie became a proud mother of four children. She opened a day care to raise her own children, and for neighborhood children. She allowed parents to wait to pay her until they got a paycheck when starting a job. Ms. Holifield purchased homes on her street and can found cleaning up vacant lots.

Get a Free State ID for Voting



Ohioans 17 and older are eligible for a free state ID if they don't have a valid driver's license. Those who are 16 years and younger still have to pay BMW fees.

How do I get one?

Pay a visit to your local BMV. The documents you need depend on whether you want a standard ID or one that's federally compliant, known as a Real ID.

For a standard ID, bring documents that show your:

- Full legal name
- Date of birth
- Legal presence in U.S.
- Social Security number
- Ohio street address
- Proof of name change (if applicable)

2023

CITY OF CLEVELAND
MAYOR JUSTIN M. BIBB
Department of Public Works
Division of Waste Collection



B Bulk Week

H One Day Delayed Collection

H Holiday with Regular Pickup

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30	31				

FEBRUARY						
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APRIL						
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Jan. 2nd - New Year's Day
Jan. 16th - MLK Day
Waste Collection, 1 day delay all week

Feb. 20th - President's Day
No delay in collection

Apr. 7th - Good Friday
No delay in collection

MAY						
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AUGUST						
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27	28	29	30	31		

May 29th - Memorial Day
1 day delay all week

Jun 19th - Juneteenth Nat'l
Independence Day
No delay in collection

July 4th - Independence Day
1 day delay all week

Dec. 25th - Christmas Holiday
(Observed)
1 day delay all week

SEPTEMBER						
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OCTOBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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31						

Sept. 4th - Labor Day
1 day delay all week

Nov. 23rd - Thanksgiving Day
Thursday collection on Friday
Friday collection on Saturday

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.clevelandohio.gov

Division of Waste Collection services for your convenience:



5600 Carnegie (Carr Center) or 3727 Ridge Road, Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
DO NOT leave computers, tires, trees, hazardous waste, or other debris in the drop off boxes.