

2023 WARD 5 STARR NEWSLETTER



Dear Ward 5 Family,

As we move into the fall season, including election season, I wanted to send out a newsletter to provide updates from the office of Ward 5. Residents throughout Ward 5, including Central, Kinsman, Midtown, parts of Downtown, and North Broadway/Slavic Village, are all my first priority. I am proud of the various community and service meetings and events I've held over the past several months. I am committed to continue with ward cleanups, and expungement clinics, safety and utility resource meetings and more.

But I wanted to inform you about an issue that will be on the November ballot. Issue 38, which would give \$14 million a year to 13-year-olds and up and would blow a hole in the city's General Fund. I am voting against Issue 38 and I'm asking my residents to vote against it as well.

A \$14 million hit could:

- **Eliminate the entire Department of Public Health**
- **Eliminate all staff from the Division of Recreation, the entire Department of Aging and half of the EMS staff**
- **Nearly eliminate the entire Division of Waste Collection Staff**

Taking \$14 million from the general fund would do immeasurable damage to the city, which is already strapped for funds. We could use more funding to ensure all empty lots are mowed routinely, blighted structures are demolished, we could use more funding to add staff to recreation centers and to add more activities like muni-football and other after school activities for our kids.

I would be happy to talk to any residents about this issue. And remember to vote Nov. 7th, there's very important issues on the ballot.

Onward,

Richard A. Starr
Ward 5 Councilman – City of Cleveland

Ward 5

HIGHLIGHTS



WARD 5 CLEAN-UPS

This year we hosted 6 community clean-ups throughout the ward. After each event, our partners hosted a pop-up barbecue.



FATHER'S DAY BASKETBALL CLINIC & HEALTH FAIR

During this event we provided free food and screened 36 men.



BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

This year we partnered with The Word Church and The Vernon Family Foundation for Councilman Starr's Back to School Festival, Resource Fair, Parade and Carnival. We distributed school supplies and food.



PUBLIC SAFETY MEETINGS

We held 2 public safety meetings in collaboration with the Cleveland Division of Police 3rd District and Cleveland Public Power.



APPRENTICESHIP BUILT-ENVIRONMENT JOB FAIRS

We partnered with Ohio Means Jobs for In-Demand Jobs week and hosted 2 Apprenticeship Built-Environment Job Fairs.



RECORD SEALING AND EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

We held 2 Record Sealing and Expungement Clinics. These events were cohosted with Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry. We provided 50 people with assistance.

Participatory Budgeting could lead to any of the following:

Less Police Hires



No Waste Collection Staff



Fire and EMS Staff Reduction



Elimination of the Department of Public Health



Reduction in snow removal for winter streets



Elimination of Recreation and Aging Services



FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



@COUNCILMEMBER_RICHARDSTARR



@R1CHARDSTARR

Don't Just Land a Job, Launch a Career!

Career Development and Placement Strategies (CDPS), a workforce development agency serving individuals in Cleveland, Summit and Portage Counties is offering training that can lead to good paying jobs in the Carpentry and Building Trades. The 12-week course meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This course is free to individuals that meet federal income guideline administered by The OhioMeansJobs.



Successful graduates earn a nationally-recognized certification from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). According recent graduate Layplos Flanagan, “The certification is my ticket to a new career in the trades”. After graduation, students are offered continued job search assistance and placement services to secure jobs in apprenticeships or in training releated jobs.

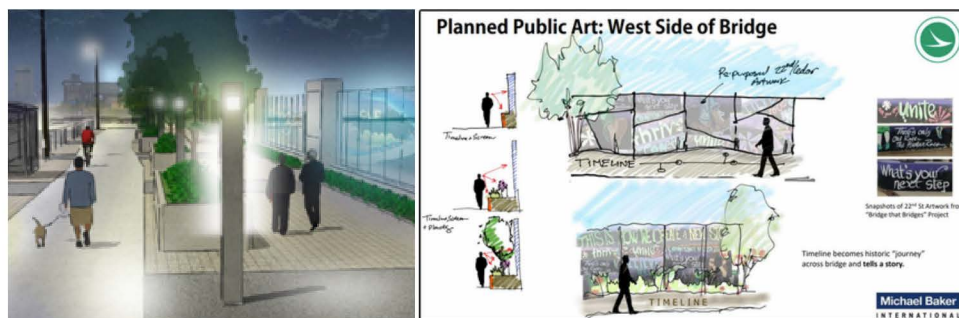
“This is how careers and communities are built” noted Maurice Stevens, CEO of CDPS. A career in the skilled trades will open up some real possibilities for a future in carpentry and building trades with an opportunity to build a career.

Fall classes are now forming. Individuals that are interested in this opportunity for training should contact Paul Magnus at 330-807-6831/ pmagnus@risingabove-oh.org. or contact Maurice Stevens at 330-687-6129/careerconsul@sbcglobal.net.

E. 22nd Bridge Update

ODOT I-90 Central Interchange and Reconnecting Central Bridge

The Ohio Department of Transportation is working with Councilman Starr and the City of Cleveland to improve the I-90 section in the Central Interchange area between E. 9th Street and Carnegie Avenue. The E. 22nd Street and Carnegie Avenue bridges over I-90 will be redesigned and replaced. Designs are currently being finalized and ODOT is working to raise the \$250M needed for the project. The new bridge will create a better walking, biking and driving environment, provide new lighting and trees, and include community-based public art.



STREET RESURFACING UPDATE

Listed below are the streets that the Division of Streets has resurfaced in Ward 5 during the 2022 & 2023 seasons.

2022

- Francis Ave
 - E.59th to E.65th
- Mead Ave
 - Broadway to Track
- Drake Ave
 - E.55th to East End
- Finn Ave
 - Broadway to Sawtell
- McBride Ave
 - Broadway to E.55th
- Glazier Ave
 - Nursery to Track
- Outhwaite Ave
 - E.40th to E.43rd

2022 total cost for street resurfacing \$729,235.00

2023

- Carpenter Ave
 - E.61st to E.64th
- E.64th
 - Francis to Butler
- E.67th
 - Sidaway to Selma
- Waterman Ave
 - E.61st to E.65th
- Philetus Ave
 - E.65th to E.67th
- House Ave
 - Sawtell to West End
- Lester Ave
 - Gallup to South End
- Unwin Rd
 - Quiny to Central

2023 total cost for street resurfacing \$812,260.00

Proposed 2023 ARPA Funded Street Resurfacing

➤ Bundy

- From Woodland to 2515 Bundy
 - Estimated Costs: \$181,851.64

➤ East 36th Street

- From Prospect to Cedar
 - Estimated Costs: \$140,960.00

➤ East 46th Street

- From Prospect Rd to Central Ave
 - Estimated Costs: \$367,326.0

➤ East 51st Street

- From Woodland Ave to Crayton Ave
 - Estimated Costs: \$ 381,579.73

Total Estimated Costs
\$1,071,717.37

2nd Annual Ward 5 Back to School Resource Fair & Parade



August 19th, was an amazing and important day for Ward 5 residents.

Councilman Richard A. Starr hosted his Second Annual Ward 5 Back to School Resource Fair & Parade. With many young people starting or soon beginning the new school year, Councilman Starr hosted the event to help students get ready with book bags, haircuts and more. "The Word" Church with Pastor R.A. Vernon, and Friendly Inn Settlement, Inc. were co-hosts of the event.

Councilman Starr brought back the parade, which kicked off at 3 p.m. in the rear parking lot of Jane Addams High School and ended at the Friendly Inn Settlement, the site of the Resource Fair. The Resource Fair took place from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Resource Fair included book bag distribution, free haircuts and braiding for youth, free food, live entertainment, carnival rides and activities, and a DJ competition. The winner of the DJ competition (see winner information inside the newsletter) won a 1-year contract to be the official DJ for all Ward 5 events hosted by Councilman Starr.

Councilman Starr is a passionate supporter of the community, of education and making sure youth get the resources and help needed to thrive.

"August is when young people get reacquainted with all their friends. It's a time for friendship, education, and growth," said Councilman Starr. "I remember the excitement I had when it was time to go back to East Tech every year, and I wanted to show our youth that the community is excited for their return to learning and is here to support them."

The Resource Fair and parade are sponsored by community partners, including Burten, Bell, Carr, Development Inc., Campus District, Care Alliance Health Center, the Friendly Inn, Midtown Cleveland Inc., Next Generation Construction, Slavic Village Development, the Vernon Family Foundation, and The Word Church to name a few.

Thanks, to all of our Sponsors and Volunteers and everyone, for the continued dedication and support to Ward 5 !!



PUBLIC OFFICIAL UPDATES



**State Representative
Darnell T. Brewer**

State Representative Darnell T. Brewer is a first-term Ohio House Representative, proudly serving House District 18, which includes parts of Cleveland, Garfield Heights, and Maple Heights. With over 15 years of experience as a Social Service Coordinator, Brewer is a dedicated public servant committed to improving the lives of his constituents.

Throughout his career, Brewer has held various roles in Cleveland Public Schools, from truancy officer to parent liaison, and has provided vital case management for formerly incarcerated individuals and single fathers. His educational journey includes a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies, a Minor in Communications, and a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Cleveland State University. He furthered his education with a Master of Legal Studies from Cleveland State University School of Law.

As a tireless advocate, Brewer focuses on critical issues such as health equity, criminal justice reform, voting rights, and economic empowerment. He actively participates in organizations like the NAACP, the National Association of Community Health Workers, and more, contributing to his community's well-being.

Brewer's legislative priorities include addressing Ohio's affordable housing shortage, supporting Community Health Workers (CHWs) to improve individual health outcomes, and fostering the growth of small, minority-owned businesses in District 18. He also aims to combat poverty, enhance public transportation, and champion initiatives to reduce maternal and infant mortality.

State Representative Darnell T. Brewer's passion for equity and community empowerment makes him a dedicated advocate and a driving force for positive change in Ohio.



**Cuyahoga County Council President
Pernel Jones Jr.**

The county approved \$2.1 million for work in the Central neighborhood. The primary goals of this project are the construction of new sidewalks, ADA-compliant curb ramps, storm sewers, water main, sanitary sewers, streetlighting, electric power ducts, and other associated infrastructure to support the adjacent development.

Infrastructure refers to services and facilities that help uplift economic activities and the growth of a country or region by facilitating better productivity. Therefore, physical infrastructure is crucial for the county's economic and social development as it helps improve its people's quality of life.

Local governments are responsible for infrastructure projects that support basic facilities, water supply, sewage systems, mass transit, and other traditional infrastructures like roads and bridges.

In addition to the infrastructure projects, Cuyahoga County has stepped up programming to help at-risk youth do better in school, stay out of trouble, and prepare for careers. Through the Family and Children First Council, the County has increased funding for the Students of Promise (SOP)/Closing the Achievement Gap (CTAG).

"As County Council President, I remain committed to supporting constructive learning opportunities for the youth in our communities which in part will help them avoid destructive activities and ultimately propel them forward to a brighter future."

Closing the Achievement Gap serves youth in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, along with Cleveland Heights/University Heights, Warrensville Heights, Maple Heights, Garfield Heights, Bedford, and East Cleveland School Districts.



**Cuyahoga County Prosecutor
Michael C. O'Malley**

Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley was sworn into office in January 2017. As County Prosecutor, he oversees over 230 prosecuting attorneys and over 170 administrative staff with the primary objective of a safer Cuyahoga County for all residents and visitors.

Prosecutor O'Malley represents the citizens of Cuyahoga County in both Criminal and Civil matters managing over 15 units with over 10,000 criminal cases a year seeking justice on behalf of the victims of violent crime. He believes in reducing recidivism through the funding of drug and substance abuse programs that get people on the road to recovery. For low level and non-violent offenders, he supports Diversion opportunities for all. He led the efforts in creating the Adult Diversion Center and the Juvenile Intervention Center ensuring that individuals with behavioral health concerns receive treatment. However, he has a zero-tolerance policy for violent crime. He believes that gun violence is destroying the quality of life in far too many neighborhoods and people who use weapons in the commission of a violent crime need to be held accountable.

He fought against building a new county jail on a contaminated waste site, preferring instead a renovation of the existing jail or a clean site closer to downtown. He has also taken a firm stance against public corruption, most recently prosecuting 18 current or former East Cleveland Police Officers for corruption and civil rights violations including charges such as Felonious Assault, Interfering with Civil Rights, Tampering with Evidence, and Theft in Office.

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WARD 5

STARR NEWSLETTER



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Carnegie Avenue Rehabilitation Project - Phase 1 (East 55th Street to East 79th Street)

The proposed improvements include:

- Full and partial depth pavement repairs as needed, and complete asphalt resurfacing
- New sidewalk, ADA-compliant curb ramps and drive aprons as necessary
- Replacement of an existing 8" water main with a 12" water main from East 55 Street to East 65' Street.
- Replacement of an existing 8" water main with a new 8" water main from East 65' Street to East 79t Street.
- Narrowing of the roadway and expanding the sidewalk under the Norfolk Southern Bridge with one lane in each direction separated by a two-way left turn lane
- Replacement of existing catch basins as needed
- Adding a high visibility crosswalk and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) north of the Private Drive at 6555 Carnegie Avenue
- Signal upgrades at East 71s Street
- Removal of signal and crossing east of East 77th Street and adding a RRFB west of East77th Street
- Adding medians & RRFBs to improve crossings at 6555 Carnegie and west of East 77th Street
- Removing concrete tree lawns and replacing with grass tree lawn in certain areas and coordinating with Urban Forestry to add trees where feasible

Construction Cost: \$9.6 million

Funding Sources: Ohio Public Works Commission-Issue 1, City Road & Bridge Bonds and Public Utility Funds

Schedule: Bids will be submitted in late October 2023. Construction is expected to start in late March 2024 and be completed in mid-2025.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Harvest Fest

Tuesday, October 31
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Friendly Inn Settlement

Ward Meeting

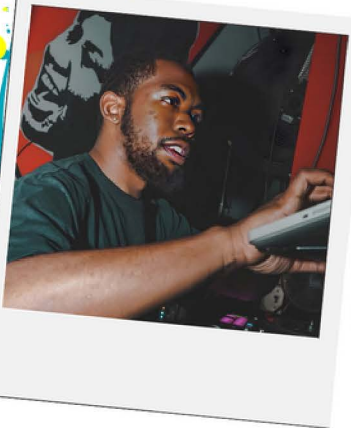
Wednesday, November 8
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Friendly Inn Settlement

Winter Health Expo

Friday, December 15
Vocational Guidance Services

WARD 5 DJ COMPETITION WINNER

RICKY FONTAINE



Ricky "Ricky Fontaine" Davis
✉ rickyfontaine.fleetdjs@gmail.com
📷 @1rickyfontaine



PRETTY RICKY
Ricky Fontaine
WHAT THEY CALL HIM

Get to know DJ Ricky Fontaine

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Cleveland, Ohio up until the 6th grade lived in the Fairfax neighborhood of cedar I went to Bolton elementary school and from 6-8th we moved to E. 131st Benwood where I went Robert H. Jamison I attended both the old and new school and all of my high school years we live in the Kinsman area. I went to Ginn Academy until the 10th grade where I transferred and graduated from a school called New Tech West.

When did you become interested in becoming a DJ?

I became interested in being a DJ in college, back in 2015/2016. I always loved music and wanted a way to express that other than singing or rapping but I never really had the money to actually invest but after a few years went by, I finally put thought and effort into becoming one in 2021 and God definitely blessed me during my short time as a DJ.

How did you select your DJ name?

I came about my DJ name one day when I was watching Martin and it was the episode where he was running for the man of the decade award for his class reunion and his arch rival and competition for the award that he was running against, his name was Ricky Fontaine "Pretty Ricky what they called him" and once I heard I instantly said BAM that's it, that's the one I've been called Pretty Ricky my whole life and the name Fontaine turned out to a perfect match and fit for me and stuck ever since

Your 3 most inspirational DJs/producers?

DJ Meel, DJ Ryan wolf and DJ Steph floss