

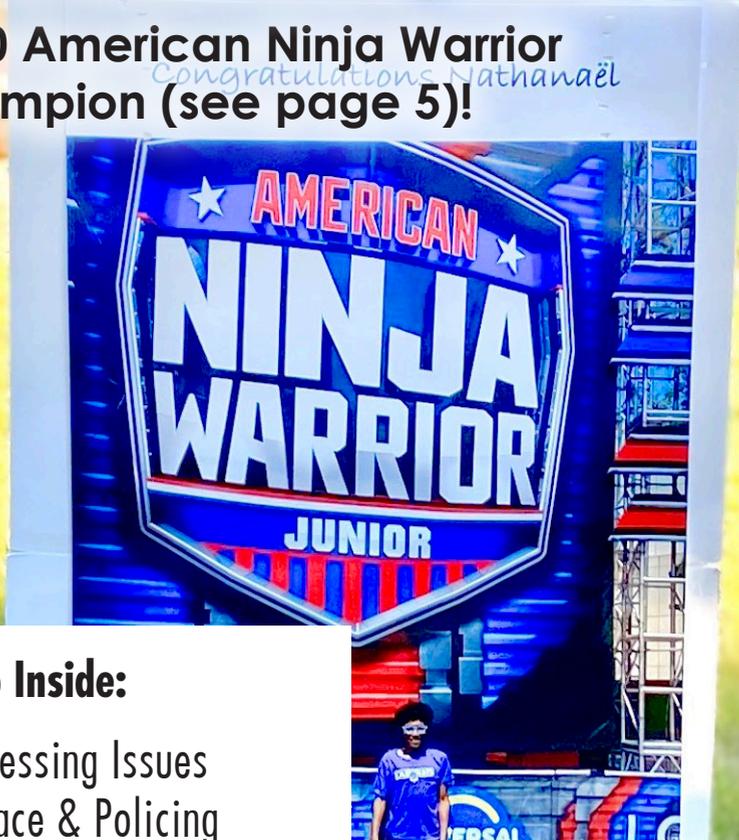
South Euclid Magazine

Summer 2020

Celebrating South Euclid's

NATHANAEL HONVOU

2020 American Ninja Warrior
Champion (see page 5)!



Also Inside:

Addressing Issues of Race & Policing (beginning on Page 4).

COVID-19 Pandemic Resources (beginning on Page 9).

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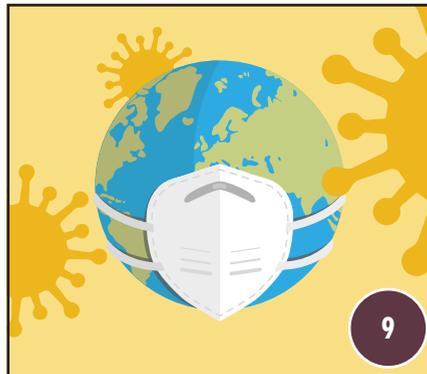
Rev. Courtney Clayton Jenkins
Senior Pastor and Teacher

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Mayor

Georgine Welo

2020 City Council

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Editor

Keith Ari Benjamin
Director of Community Services

South Euclid Magazine is a quarterly publication of the City of South Euclid. We are looking for interesting South Euclid people and places to profile in upcoming issues.

If you have any story ideas, please share them with us by contacting Keith Benjamin at 216.691.4234 or kbenjamin@seuclid.com.

Special thanks to resident Jean Nadeau for her editing and proofreading expertise!

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COME TOGETHER & THRIVE

A LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY FROM MAYOR GEORGINE WELO & POLICE CHIEF KEVIN NIETERT



Mayor Georgine Welo

Dear Residents:

In the spring of 1968, riots erupted in cities across the United States following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The truth is, most of us had not yet been born or were too young to remember that awful period in our nation’s history. Like most, what we know about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. we both learned in school. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a man of peace and never condoned violence.



Police Chief Kevin Nietert

While we have made progress toward racial equality, there is still work to be done before we realize King’s vision to live in a society where all people are treated equally. How wonderful would it be if we could say that we learned a valuable lesson from King’s assassination?

Sadly, the unnecessary death of George Floyd is a reminder of how little has changed. We are both sorrowful

over the death of George Floyd and deeply regret that it came at the hands of a police officer, whom society trusted to uphold the law.

Many of us are struggling to understand why. Why does a police officer force his knee into the neck of another human being for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, ignoring 16 pleas of “I can’t breathe,” while three other police officers stand by and do nothing to help? There is no acceptable answer.

For too long, the majority of Americans, decent and caring individuals, have stood by and allowed hate and those who have little regard for the life of another person to go unchecked. We have rationalized accepting behavior that is unacceptable because we’re too busy or afraid to get involved.

Silence is inexcusable. It’s time for us all to get involved and to have our voices heard. The late Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel once said, “We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the

victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”

As Chief of Police and Mayor of the City of South Euclid, we have accepted the magnitude of both the challenge and the responsibility to effect change, by working tirelessly to make this a reality through our words, choices, and actions each and every day.

It would be easy during the events of the last few days, to suggest that we are dealing with an insurmountable problem, but every journey starts with a single step. We have made progress toward diversity and inclusion efforts in our community and in our Police Department and we have implemented many of the recommendations detailed in President Barack Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

But no matter how much progress we’ve made, we know it’s not enough and we need to continue to work to foster a culture of building trust, operating transparently, and nurturing legitimacy, where all voices are heard.

The day before his assassination, King spoke out against the use of violence and aggression to achieve racial equality. In his “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” speech, he said, what we need is to stand together to make America a better nation. History is once again presenting an opportunity for us to become better and do better. This is the time for us to come together, to truly listen and learn from one another.

As public servants, it is incumbent upon each of us to facilitate change. We hope you will embrace this moment and share your thoughts, ideas, and concerns as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Chief of Police
South Euclid Police Department
kniertert@sepolice.us or 216-691-4252

Mayor & Safety Director
mayor@seuclid.com or 216-381-0400

Building Police/Community Trust & Strengthening Relationships

We recognize that there is uncertainty across the country about police departments and their role in the community, and we want to assure our residents that we will continue to work diligently to keep the trust of all residents of our diverse community.

The South Euclid Police Department is here to protect and serve our diverse community of residents and businesses that call South Euclid home and are committed to serving you with integrity, honor and trust. Some of the ways we work to increase safety and accountability is through education and the use of technology, including the following:

- Every police vehicle is equipped with Dash Cameras and GPS systems.
- Every police officer has been issued a body worn camera, which they are required to turn on for all interactions.
- Police Officers have attended trainings in implicit and unconscious bias, cross-cultural communications, building mutual respect and community trust, de-escalation, dealing with individuals with mental illness, and more.
- We have a police officer assigned to each of our four wards who work with residents to solve problems, attend neighborhood meetings and promote community policing efforts.

In South Euclid we embrace the four core principles for

police officers identified in President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing:

- Treating people with dignity and respect
- Giving individuals “voice” during encounters
- Being neutral and transparent in decision making, and
- Conveying trustworthy motives.

In addition to these efforts, we are working to attract minority candidates to careers in Law Enforcement, by engaging young people through the Youth Police Academy to promote careers in law enforcement. We are also working to foster relationships with adult residents through our Citizens Police Academy.

In South Euclid, we choose to do these things not only because we believe in transparency – but because we want our residents to trust that we are policing using the best practices and operating professionally with dignity, trust and respect. Open communication is important to continue building mutual respect and community trust, so please don’t hesitate to contact me at kniertert@sepolicy.us or 216.691.4252 if you have any questions or would like additional information. ✍



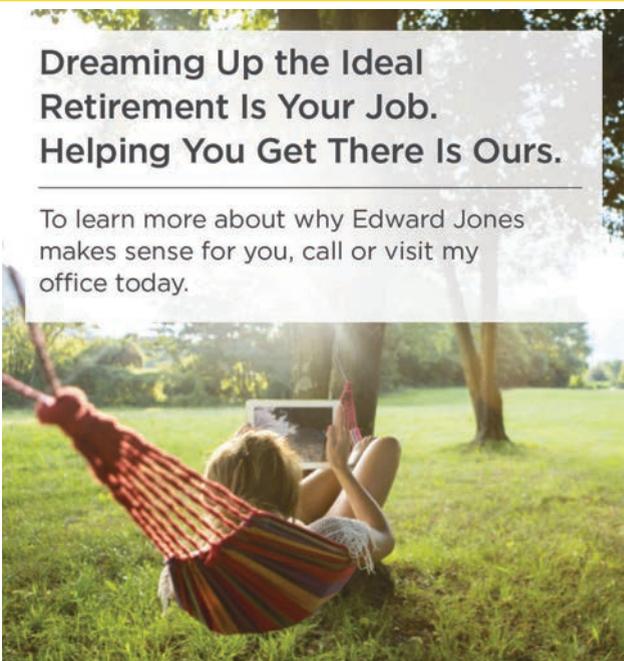
CONGRATULATIONS TO NATHANAEL HONVOU: OUR AMERICAN NINJA WARRIOR CHAMPION!

On June 12th, South Euclid’s own Nathanael Honvou was crowned the Season 2 champion for the 9 & 10-year-old American Ninja Warrior Junior National Competition.

The national obstacle course competition, which aired on the national Universal Kids Network, took place over 20 weeks and included 192 young competitors from across the country who traveled to Los Angeles to compete. In an interview with WKYC 3 Studios, Nathanael dedicated his win to his mom, who “has taken care of me my whole life.”

We are so proud of our new hometown hero and congratulate Nathanael on his incredible accomplishment! We truly live in a community where we can all “Come Together & Thrive”!

Watch Nathanael’s competition at: www.universalkids.com



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Police & Public Safety: Community Policing Programs

The South Euclid Police Department has implemented several community programs to connect residents and youth with the Police and further establish positive community relationships.

Youth Police Academy (Established in 2015)

The goal of the Youth Police Academy is to build positive relationships and improve communication with youth in our community through an interactive educative process. It was designed to foster positive interactions, break down barriers, allowing members of the South Euclid Police Department and youth in the community to have meaningful exchanges of information and interact in an informal, positive, and proactive setting.

Citizens Police Academy (Established in 2008)

The goal of the Citizens Police Academy is to increase police awareness, dispel suspicions and misconceptions, and improve police-community interaction through an educative process. By presenting an interactive program designed to educate the public about the department's regulations, the criminal justice system, and other police related topics. Allowing members of the South Euclid Police Department and members of the community to meet, share ideas, exchange information and interact in an informal, positive, and proactive setting.

School Resource Officer

In June of 2019 Officer DiLillo was appointed as the School Resource Officer for the South Euclid Police Department, a position that has not been filled since 2005. Joe is assigned to both Memorial Junior High School and the Greenvew Upper Elementary School Campus and our goal is to build stronger relationships with youth in the community.

Officer Phil Program

Officer Phil is a national program that partners with local police departments to reach elementary schools across the country. Officer Phil's 30-minute presentations include games, ventriloquism, magic tricks, and other entertainment to engage kids in safety lessons.

National Night Out

National Night Out culminates annually on the first Tuesday in August. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. ✍



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All South Euclid Police Officers Wear Body Worn Cameras

Long before the tragic recent events, the South Euclid Police Department (SEPD) was one of the first Police Departments in Northeast Ohio to mandate that all police officers wear and use Body Worn Cameras (BWCs).

BODY WORN CAMERAS ON ALL PATROL OFFICERS AND DASH CAMERAS IN ALL PATROL CARS

The SEPD has implemented a policy that officers shall activate the BWC to record all contacts with citizens in the performance of official duties. BWCs in conjunction with the in-car video/dash cameras and the content that they record are invaluable tools in investigations. The value of video evidence was emphasized by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Scott v. Harris*, where the court held that video recordings are more reliable than eyewitness testimony.

WHY BWCs?

There is a voluminous body of research that has shown when humans become self-conscious about being watched, they often alter their conduct. Additionally

accumulated evidence suggests that individuals who are aware they are being observed often embrace commonly accepted behavior. This would appear to be a win for everyone involved.

The old adage that “seeing is believing” is truer now than ever before in contemporary American law enforcement, given the ability to record law enforcement encounters. Cameras are everywhere with the proliferation of smart phones; unfortunately many of these encounters recorded by the public only capture the point where force is being used, leading to community concern. However, it is also important to tell the whole story from the officer’s perspective, which is where BWCs come in.

STUDY FINDS EFFECTIVENESS

Body Worn Cameras serve to protect not only the officer,

but all parties involved: they prevent the public from potential police misconduct and Officers are protected from false complaints. The recent findings of a University of Cambridge study of BWCs worn by the Rialto, California, Police over a 12-month period suggest that “more than a 50% reduction in the total number of incidents of use-of-force compared to control-conditions, and nearly ten times more citizens’ complaints in the 12-months prior to the experiment.”

Finally, while BWCs and other technologies



are invaluable tools in investigations, we recognize that they are only one “tool in the toolbox” and should never replace a fair, thorough, and impartial investigation. ✍

Help when you need it. Contact Community Behavioral Health Center.
www.CBHCweb.com 216-831-1494

South Euclid-Lyndhurst

Teachers Association

South Euclid-Lyndhurst Teachers Association Congratulates the Graduating Class of 2020.

Our Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion

We are proud that we are a diverse and progressive community. In South Euclid “Come Together & Thrive” is not just a slogan – it’s a belief system we live by – and it’s woven into the rich tapestry that includes our neighbors, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, and institutions.

Diversity is important because it affects everyone and encompasses the whole range of human experience including race, age, gender, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic class, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical disabilities, national origin, political orientation, physical size and appearance. Our commitment to diversity is evident in:

- The strides we have made to hire new safety officers made up of men and women who reflect the diversity of the community we live in.
- We are one of only 30 cities in the State of Ohio that have passed comprehensive non-discrimination laws protecting our residents and workforce.
- We have one of the most comprehensive fair housing laws in Cuyahoga County.
- We are committed to having critical conversations and in the last year have hosted free diversity workshops and forums, including the following:
- **A Community Screening and Community Conversation**

about the film “*The Hate You Give*” with residents, youth and police officers.

- **Connecting the Generations:** An exploration of social, cultural and economic factors that shape generations present in our world and community today.
- **ALLYSHIP 101:** Explored ways we can be allies and work to be more supportive of members of the LGBTQ+ community.
- **Interrupting Bias:** Outlining and defining the four levels of discrimination and learning the tenets and framework for and tenets of civil courage.
- **Let’s Get Real About Race:** A workshop to help us recognize our own biases, along with the race-based institutional and systemic barriers that still plague us. ✍

Join Our Diversity Book Club!

This summer, we invite you to join us for our new Virtual Book Club. Our first book will be “*White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism.*” The book club will meet online and include moderated discussion with a diversity professional. All residents, including our teens, are invited to join us! Find out more by visiting: www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/diversity.



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SURVIVING THE PANDEMIC



We are living in a time of an unprecedented health crisis, and because there is no simple playbook for managing the current health pandemic and resulting financial crisis, we will need to remain flexible and work together to get us through to the other side – and I am confident that we will.

At publication of this magazine, South Euclid (and many of our neighbors) continues to be a “hotspot” for the COVID-19 virus – which means that we must continue to be vigilant and follow all suggested protocols and do what it takes to keep ourselves and our loved ones healthy.

In South Euclid, as in all communities, there are no walls to protect us from this pandemic – which means we must work to build our own virtual walls - by continuing to follow the orders and guidelines established by the State of Ohio and the Ohio Board of Health: follow social distancing protocols, wear a face mask, wash your hands regularly, don’t touch your face, stay home if you can, implement self-care strategies to protect our

mental and physical health – and as the weather gets better, make sure to get outside and enjoy the fresh air (safely).

South Euclid always has, and will continue to be, a resilient community. Like we did during the recession ten years ago, we will work together to be proactive, transparent, confront any challenges and be creative in how we continue to provide and implement excellent services for our residents and businesses.

Please sign-up for our South Euclid E-Newsletter at www.cityofsoutheuclid.com to stay up-to-date on the latest information about your community, including future protocols and guidelines we may need to implement as a result of the pandemic.

On behalf of City Council and all of our hard-working public employees, we thank you for your input, participation, support and commitment to keeping South Euclid a great place to Come Together & Thrive.

Stay safe and healthy and have a great summer!

Mayor Georgine Welo





CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID

On behalf of all our Firefighter/Paramedics, I would like to thank our residents, businesses and religious institutions for their outpouring of support, through messages and food donations, during the past four months. Your First Responders have had to quickly adapt to an ongoing change in their work environment. These kind gestures and thoughtful words of encouragement are truly appreciated.



Fire Chief
Douglas A. Stefko

Built on Teamwork

The Fire Service is built on teamwork. Everything we do during our 24 hour shift involves interaction with each other. Each

shift begins by having a morning roll call together. We get our gear, check out our riding positions, SCBA's, equipment, medical supplies, PPE, etc., together. We train, eat, learn, relax, sleep, and respond together. The building we reside in promotes this. Apparatus bays, kitchen, dining area, day room, training room, dormitory and a few offices. It's more like a home than a place where someone might go to work. Together, we respond to emergencies, seeing positive outcomes and knowing that our actions had an impact. Sometimes, we are witness to tragic events, we do this together too.

Social Distancing, Together.

Much of this has changed. Next time you drive by, you'll see it looks the same. Inside is another story. To reduce risk, we have taken every precaution we can to ensure our workforce is there to respond to emergencies in our community without interruption. We stay separated when possible, wear masks a

lot, put up barriers, and use individual workstations. We find new ways to train and interact. We still cook lunch and dinner at the station but we eat apart. Changing the way we do things, no different than everyone else.

Creating New Collaborations

On the outside, we have partnered with neighboring Fire Departments to create alternate staffing plans and response models should one of us lose a portion of our personnel to illness. We work closely with the Health Department to ensure our in-house environmental controls and workplace recommendations are up to the most current standards. We are also prepared to activate a Point of Dispensing (POD) should a vaccine become available down the road. We are in constant contact with our Medical Directors to ensure our medical protocols are updated with the latest information and treatments. This allows us to provide the best care possible while protecting our medics from exposures. We apply for grants and partner with other organizations to appropriate PPE and other necessary supplies.

Along with many of our residents who share our responsibilities as health care providers, the nature of our work isn't conducive to working from home. I guess those of us in the Fire Service are somewhat fortunate because we can work from home, our second home.

Slowing the Spread of COVID-19

Please help us reduce the effects of this virus by staying informed. Follow the recommendations and guidelines from the CDC while at work and in your personal lives. Do what you can to protect those most at risk by wearing a mask around others and frequent hand washing. Please take care of yourselves, your families and your neighbors. *✍️*

Thank you again for your support and know that we are there, ready and prepared should you need us.

Summer Fire Prevention Safety Tips

By Scott Sebastian, Fire Inspector

With summer finally upon us and better weather forecasted, it gives us that opportunity to enjoy our new outdoor oasis we have created. We want to make sure your environments are safe. The South Euclid Fire Department has provided for you Four Summer Fire Tips to keep your family safe.

Recreational fires Do's and Definitely Don'ts

Keep campfires small in a stone-protected fire pit no larger than 3 feet high by 3 feet in diameter in a chimenea, free-standing fire pit.

Keep the fire pit 15 feet from any combustible structure or material.

Burn clean, dry, seasoned hardwoods, use crumpled paper and/or kindling to start a fire and never use flammable liquids such as gasoline, lighter fluid, or kerosene to aid starting a campfire.

Once you have started the fire it should be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished by a fire extinguisher, garden hose, dirt, or sand.

Enjoying fireworks

Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are illegal to shoot off in Ohio and are not safe in the hands of consumers.

More than 16,000 reported fires are started by fireworks annually and cause thousands of injuries each year.

Even the simple sparklers account for roughly 25% of emergency room fireworks injuries and can get hot enough to cause third-degree burns.

Firing up the grill

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. A grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. The National Fire Protection Association reported from 2017 to 2019, fire departments went to an average of 8,900 home fires involving grills or barbecues. An average of 19,700 patients per year go to emergency rooms because of injuries involving grills, and July has always been the peak month for fires and injuries.

Good practice is to periodically remove grease build-up in catch trays and grill grades. This will remove grease that can start a fire. A failure to clean the grill was the leading factor contributing to the fire in 22% of all grill structure fires.

It is important if removing hot coals to place them in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.

Never leave a lit grill unattended.

To avoid getting burnt always use long handled grilling utensils and heat resistant oven mitts. Lastly always have a garden hose or fire extinguisher nearby, ready for use in case of a fire.

Cloth dryer fire safety

In the summer months we are using our dryers more, so our region is seeing an increase in dryer fires. Dryer vent fires account for 17,000 home fires and result in 15 deaths, 280 injuries, and \$136 million in property loss. The cause of 60% of these fires is lint build-up in the dryer vents.

Some key signs that you should clean your dryer vents are excessive heat in the laundry room and large amounts of lint build-up in the lint trap during each cycle.

Ways to prevent a dryer fire are to follow manufacturers' instructions and use the correct electrical plug and outlet, cleaning the filter with a nylon brush at least once every two months, and to completely clean lint out of the vent pipe every three months. ✍



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PREPARED TO SERVE:

How the fire department responded to the COVID-19 pandemic

By Lt. Gregory Duy

The South Euclid Fire Department takes pride in being prepared for any emergency that may arise. In early February, we began planning for what we now know as COVID-19. Early preparations included alternate patient transport options and acquiring personal protective equipment for our members. While we were prepared to respond to this new virus, few if any of us were fully aware of the monumental impact it would have on our community and society as a whole.

As the information about COVID-19 poured in, we were continually adapting to meet the new recommended guidelines.

- One of the first major adjustments was how we altered our sleeping arrangements at the station. The sleeping quarters at the fire department consist of a large open dorm with multiple beds. This would not be conducive to the new social distancing guidelines. Offices, training areas, and records rooms were converted into additional living spaces so that each firefighter could maintain social distancing during waking hours and while sleeping. Where more than one firefighter had to sleep in the same area, make-shift tents were made out of plastic canopies to create individual living quarters. These actions were taken to ensure our firefighters remained healthy



and able to respond to the city's needs.

- Surgical masks were and still are worn when away from individual living quarters around the station. In addition to wearing surgical masks, employees' temperatures are checked twice a day at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. These temperature checks allow us to identify any early signs of illness and further decrease any exposure to illness. Each morning also consists of the deep cleaning and disinfection of our rigs and living quarters. One member of our department took it upon himself to utilize an old self-contained breathing apparatus connected to a paint sprayer to efficiently spray disinfectant on all high-touch surfaces. Keeping our firefighters healthy remains



a top priority in maintaining our readiness to serve the community. We also prioritized additional measures to keep the residents safe when away from the station and interacting face-to-face.

- Masks are being worn by every firefighter on every incident including N-95 masks, gloves, and eye protection when warranted. We have also been providing a surgical mask for every medical patient that our

Checking Smoke Alarms and Having a Home Fire Escape Plan Saves Lives

By Scott Sebastian, Fire Inspector

In 2019, 3,655 people lost their lives in residential fires, up 20.5% from 2009. A majority of fatal fires happen when families are asleep, unaware of the fire because of inadequate smoke alarms or dead batteries. It is important now more than ever with more families working from home and kids on summer break to check your smoke alarms, and to prepare and practice a home fire escape plan.

A working smoke alarm is critical for the early detection of a fire in your home and could make the difference between life and death. Fires can occur in a variety of ways and in any room of your home. But no matter where or how, having a smoke alarm is the first key step toward your family’s safety. If you are in need of a smoke alarm, call the SEFD for more information 216.691.4273.

A Fire Escape Plan May Save You and Your Family

As much as it is important to have working smoke alarms, it is important that everyone knows how to escape when the smoke alarm sounds, whether awake or sleeping at the time.

Developing a well-organized plan and making sure everyone knows what to do in case of fire can add precious seconds or even minutes to escape time. In your plan, have two ways out of each room, a pre-arranged meeting place outside and, most importantly, ONCE OUT – STAY OUT!

- Practice escaping from every room in the home.
- The best fire escape plans have two ways to get out of each room, in case your primary way is blocked by fire or smoke.
- Practice the fire escape plan with your family during the day and at night. Children, older adults, and the hearing-impaired may sleep through a fire alarm or may need assistance in escaping.
- Designate a meeting location away from the home, but not necessarily across the street. For example, meet under a specific tree or at the end of the driveway or front sidewalk to make sure everyone has gotten out safely.
- Designate one person to go to a neighbor’s home to phone the fire department.
- Practice the fire escape plan twice a year. ✍️

12 | PREPARE

ambulances come in contact with to protect both the patient and any potential bystanders.

• Lastly, our department was able to purchase a disinfectant device called an AMBUstat Fogger. The fogger uses a chemical named Actril to produce a very fine mist that sterilizes any surface that it comes in contact with. This machine is used on a regular schedule to effectively disinfect our ambulances to further reduce the chances of spreading pathogens. We will

continue to employ new methods and procedures to keep our firefighters and members of the community safe as the current situation evolves.

The members of the South Euclid Fire Department are prepared to respond to your needs through the current crisis and will continue to be prepared for future crises. We thank you, the residents of South Euclid, for your continued support and wish you a happy and safe summer. ✍️



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Community Resources for those impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic

OHIO CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE: Please visit ohio.coronavirus.org or call their hotline at 1.833.427.5634 for the latest information on the COVID-19 pandemic, testing and additional resources for residents in need of assistance.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE: Please call 1.855.771.3035 for information and resources related to COVID-19.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH: Serves South Euclid and nearly all suburbs in Cuyahoga County. Please visit www.ccbh.net for more information.

ONE SOUTH EUCLID COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION provides annual grants to assist residents and meet various community needs. Please visit www.onesoutheuclid.org for more information about programs and events.

Mental & Physical Health Resources

211 FIRST CALL FOR HELP: United Way of Greater Cleveland's program is available 24/7 to help those with questions and to provide access to support services and programs – including

a variety of mental and physical health services. Please do not hesitate to call First Call for Help at 2-1-1 or www.211oh.org.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY 24-HOUR WARMLINE: If you are experiencing stress or anxiety please talk with a peer on the Cuyahoga County 24-Hour Warmline at 440.886.5950

If you are in crisis call the 24-hour Suicide Prevention, Mental Health/Addiction Crisis, Information and Referral Hotline at 216.623.6888 or text "4HOPE" to 741741 for crisis assistance.

PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES: University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic and MetroHealth provide healthcare options for residents in need of health services. The CircleHealth Clinic (formerly Free Clinic) provides free services to those in need. Visit www.thecentersohio.org or call 216.325.WELL for more information.

Services for Seniors

The Community Partnership on Aging and the South Euclid Commission on Aging provide meals and social services for residents 60 and older. Please don't hesitate to reach out to them at www.communitypartnershiponaging.com or 216.291.3902.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Serving South Euclid and Hillcrest communities at: www.hillcrestmow.org.

Food Security

GRAB-AND-GO MEALS FOR YOUTH: The City of South Euclid and the South Euclid Lyndhurst School District have partnered together this summer to provide meals Monday through Friday from 10 am – Noon through August 19 at the Greenview School Campus on South Green Road. On Fridays, two additional meals are distributed to ensure weekend service. Meals are distributed. Visit www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/mycom for more information.

GREATER CLEVELAND FOOD BANK: Works with community partners to distribute and deliver food to residents in need. Access food programs by visiting www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org or call 216.738.2067.

SOUTH EUCLID UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST: SEUCC holds their "BIN Food Pantry" every second Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to distribute food items. Groceries are provided at no cost on a first-come, first-serve basis. Identification and proof of residency is requested. Distribution of food will take place in the Athletic Center of the church, located at 4217 Bluestone Road (at South Belvoir Boulevard). Visit www.southeucliducc.org for more information.

KOSHER FOOD PANTRY: The Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry is located in South Euclid and serves all residents in need of food security, regardless of religion. Please visit www.kosherfb.org or call 216.382.7202 for more information.



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GARFIELD MEMORIAL FOOD PANTRY: If you are in need of assistance, please contact 203-516-7024 or visit: www.garfieldchurch.org/covid19-updates

HEIGHTS EMERGENCY FOOD SHELTER: The Heights Emergency Food Shelter serves qualified low-income South Euclid residents. Please visit www.discipleschristian.org or call 216.381.0707 for more information.

HUNGER NETWORK: View a comprehensive list of Hunger Centers by visiting www.hungernetwork.org.

Alternative Summer Programs for Youth

The City’s MyCom Youth Program has been working with community partners to plan alternative programs this summer, as many park amenities and other programs have been closed or postponed as a result of the pandemic. Please visit www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/mycom for updated information.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY: Visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org and click on “Kids/Teens” for a variety of information about youth and student resources, including free tutoring and other programs.

Unemployment & Food Stamp Resources

CUYAHOGA JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES (CJFS): encourages people to use the following website: www.benefits.ohio.gov to apply for food, medical, cash and child care assistance as well as to make changes or submit documents on existing food, medical and cash assistance cases.

NEW: Emergency Assistance is temporarily available for families affected by COVID-19, through the Cuyahoga County Jobs and Family Services “Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) program” with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding. While limited funding is available, individuals meeting eligibility requirements may receive funds to help meet essential needs in the form of a voucher. Call 216.987.7392 for more information.

SNAP/TANF: Cuyahoga County has suspended work activity requirements for people who receive food stamps and federal cash assistance. All county assessments and on-site visits related to work requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are suspended until further notice. For more information about work requirements, leave a voice mail at 216.987.6820 (SNAP) or 216.987.8656 (TANF).

Unemployment: Ohio has extended unemployment benefits to workers in quarantine and employees of businesses that temporarily shut down due to the coronavirus. Learn more at www.jfs.ohio.gov.

Additional resources (in alphabetical order)...

AT&T: AT&T is offering internet access for qualifying limited-income households at \$10/month and two months of free service through their Access from AT&T program for SNAP participants. Learn more at att.com/access.

Cleveland Clinic: www.clevelandclinic.org or 800.223.2273.

Cuyahoga County Public Library and Cleveland Public Library: Both offer free Wi-Fi in their parking lots and plan to expand audio and video content for streaming, including the South Euclid Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library.

Cleveland Water: Cleveland Water has temporarily stopped disconnection of residential services for non-payment. If you have recently been disconnected for non-payment, call Cleveland Water at 216.664.3130.

Hebrew Free Loan Association (HFLA) of Northeast Ohio: HFLA is offering interest-free emergency loans to people affected by the coronavirus. Loans of up to \$1,500 are available for purposes including, but not limited to, lost wages, child care costs due to school closures, and medical costs. Learn more and apply at www.interestfree.org or call 216.378.9042.

Housing (Help with Mortgage and Rental Assistance). Please see the Housing Resources on page 12.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland: The Legal Aid Society has closed its physical offices during the health crisis, but its online intake for clients is available around the clock, and phone intake is available during select business hours. Contact them at www.lasclev.org or 216.687.1900.

MetroHealth System: www.metrohealth.org or 800.554.5251.

Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless launched an emergency fund to help the homeless and other vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 crisis. Contact them at www.neoch.org or 216.432.0540.

Ohio Department of Health: Visit www.odh.ohio.gov or call the 24/7 hotline at 833-4-ASK-ODH (427-5634).

Ohio PBS Stations: The Ohio At Home Learning initiative airs daily programming for students in pre-K through grade 12 on PBS stations in every community. Learn more by visiting www.ideastream.org.

PCs for People: Individuals and families who meet eligibility requirements can receive a computer, computer repair, internet service and learning resources. Learn more at www.pcsforpeople.org.

Spectrum: Spectrum is offering 60 days of free internet to student households without internet service. Students must reside within the Spectrum service area. Call 844-488-8395 to enroll.

University Hospitals: Call 855-401-3013 or visit uhhospitals.org/services/coronavirus.

U.S. Census Bureau: The Census Bureau is monitoring the coronavirus situation and modifying its operations accordingly. Completing the census form online is highly encouraged. Learn more at www.census.gov.

VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System: Call 888.350.3100 or visit publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus.

Vote: If you need to register or change your residence please go to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us or call 216.443.VOTE. ✍

WE'RE #INTHISTOGETHER: Protecting and Preserving our housing in uncertain times

Some of our residents may be facing uncertainty about whether they can continue to make rent or mortgage payments, pay property taxes, or make critical repairs to their homes. As of press time, more and more resources are being made available to help and these programs are changing almost daily. To help you navigate the resources that are out there to help, the list below is a great place to start. As always, please also know that you can contact our housing department at 216.381.0400, and we will do whatever we can to help and direct you to helpful community resources.

211 First Call for Help: this hotline is a great first step if you are experiencing any crisis situation. 211 operators can direct you to services and agencies that can help with your unique situation.

HUD approved nonprofit counseling agencies can provide assistance with mortgage hardships, rent difficulties, property tax issues and home repair resources. As funds become available to assist those with hardships, many of these agencies are likely to be helping to administer them. They do not charge

for their services. The following is a list of counseling agencies serving our community:

Community Housing Solutions: 216.231.5815

CHN Housing Partners: 216.574.7100

Home Repair Resource Center: 216.381.6100

ESOP: An affiliate of Benjamin Rose, specializing in senior citizen assistance programs: 216.361.0718

Property Tax Payment Plans and Assistance: The deadline for paying the second half of our property taxes has been moved to August 13 this year due to COVID-19. If you are having difficulty in making your property tax payment, you may contact one of the housing counseling agencies listed above or contact the County's Delinquent Tax Outreach Department at 216.443.7698 or for more information, visit their website: <https://treasurer.cuyahogacounty.us/>. Payment plans for delinquent taxes can be set up and automatic monthly payments for current taxes due are available through the County's Easy Pay Program.

Loan Programs for Home Repair: The following are special low interest loan programs available to South Euclid residents to make home repairs and improvements.

Heritage Home Loan: The Heritage Home Loan program, which is offered through the Cleveland Restoration Society, is available in South Euclid once again! This program provides low-interest financing for home repairs and access to free technical assistance from their staff of experts. Specializing in homes over 50 years old, the Heritage Home Program will assist homeowners every step of the way with a project. Even if you don't want or need a loan, free technical assistance is always available to residents. The program is also open to rental property owners.

Currently, the Heritage Home Loan is available through Key Bank and Third Federal Savings and Loan branches. Interest rates are as low as 1.4% with a repayment term of between five and 15 years. Loan amounts can be between \$3,000 to \$150,000. To find out more, contact the Cleveland Restoration Society at 216.426.3116.

HELP Loan: The Cuyahoga County sponsored Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP) offers home repair and remodeling funding for three percentage points below normal bank rates. Key Bank and Huntington Bank participate in the program. For more information, stop into a Key or Huntington Bank branch or contact Cuyahoga County's Department of Development at 216.443.2149.

One South Euclid offers an annual neighborhood grant program for exterior home repairs. Check out www.onesoutheuclid.org for more information. ✍️

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CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID & ONE SOUTH EUCLID HELP Help for Residents & Businesses in Their Time of Need



As the COVID-19 pandemic began, the leadership of the City and One South Euclid worked to quickly develop new programs to respond to the rapidly changing needs of our businesses and residents.

Serving Our Residents

The City, One South Euclid, and South Euclid MyCom Youth Network collaborated to launch the South Euclid “United Together” COVID-19 Food Security Response Fund. This program was developed in response to a survey of residents that helped illustrate their greatest needs. The fund was created to address the financial hardship residents are experiencing due to the COVID-19 crisis. The fund provided assistance in the form of gift cards from participating grocery stores to purchase basic essential goods such as food, toilet paper, baby formula, diapers, over-the-counter medication, etc. Up to 100 residents were able to benefit from this program.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the four food pantries which serve South Euclid residents have seen a significant increase in the number of clients needing assistance. One South Euclid stepped up and provided a donation of \$1,000 to each of the four food banks: the Garfield Memorial Church Food Pantry, the Heights Emergency Food Center, the Kosher Food Pantry, and the South Euclid United Church of Christ Food Bin Program. These donations will allow each food pantry to purchase additional food to serve our residents.

While COVID-19 has forced the cancellation of all our cherished summer events, we still hope for a great summer season. Even though Rock the Block is canceled this year, the planning committee wanted to give back to the community and help those in need. To that end, a food drive was held on Saturday June 13. Rock the Block collected nonperishable food for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and monetary donations for the four South Euclid food pantries. Rock the Block also matched the first \$500 in monetary donations. It was a great day for the community to come together.

Serving Our Businesses

As non-essential businesses closed in order to slow the spread of COVID-19, the City’s Economic Development Department and One South Euclid collaborated to develop a program to help our neighborhood businesses. Under the vision of Mayor Welo, the “COVID-19 Emergency Business Relief Fund” was created. Funded equally by One South Euclid and the City, this fund provided grants to local neighborhood businesses of up to \$2,500. Businesses were able to use the funds for rent, mortgage payments, payroll, utilities, supplies, and more.

south  euclid

COME TOGETHER & THRIVE

In total, 47 South Euclid businesses were awarded funds. For many neighborhood businesses, these funds allowed them to survive the stay-at-home order and begin to reopen. “Many of these businesses have supported our community for years, and in these unprecedented times we must do what we can to help ensure that when the pandemic is over, they are able to once again serve our community,” said Mayor Welo. “I’m grateful to all members of City Council and One South Euclid for their outstanding leadership and support during these challenging times.”

The success of the program spurred our own University Suburban Health Center Foundation to make a donation. This donation allowed the “COVID-19 Emergency Business Relief Fund” to award grants to 11 additional South Euclid businesses, meaning a total of 58 businesses received grant assistance.

Many of our businesses continue to face challenges even as they reopen, such as the purchase of personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies. These products are necessary to meet the “Responsible Restart Ohio Guidelines” but they have dramatically increased in price and are difficult to obtain.

To that end, the Economic Development Department has been sending a weekly newsletter to all businesses updating them on federal, state, and local resources available to help them through this difficult time. The City has worked closely with business owners to guide them through the process of applying for and getting funding from programs such as the Paycheck Protection Program and the Cuyahoga County Grant Program.

With the continued threat of COVID-19, exploring innovative programs and partnerships to help our businesses thrive is a must. One such example is the recently completed “South Euclid Restaurant Raffle.” One South Euclid purchased \$25 gift certificates from all locally owned restaurants in the city. In order to win a gift card, residents entered the raffle by sending in a picture of a receipt proving they purchased something from a South Euclid restaurant. The contest was well received by our local restaurants and residents.

Building Community and Being Good Neighbors

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, One South Euclid has continued to work to expand and grow its signature programs: the Neighborhood Grant Program and the Storefront Renovation Program.

The “Senior Landscape Services” provides grass cutting and snowplowing services to over 65 households in the city. The senior citizen recipients of this program are unable to physically perform the tasks themselves and do not have the financial capacity to hire a landscaper to perform the services for them.

The Exterior Repair Grant Program provides South Euclid homeowners funds to make major exterior repairs to their homes. Thanks to the generous support of Cuyahoga County funds, One South Euclid was able to fund up to 50% of the total project cost this year. A total of 20 large home repair projects were funded this year.

The Storefront Renovation Program, now in its third year, is a collaboration between the City and One South Euclid. Funds are provided to improve the exterior of our commercial storefronts. Property owners can receive up to 50% of the total project costs toward the exterior renovation. The following properties received storefront renovation dollars this year for comprehensive exterior renovations:

Spoto’s Bar & Grill:	4294 Mayfield Road
New Walgreen’s:	4546 Mayfield Road
Green Builder’s Supply:	527 South Green Road
Longo Construction:	4193-4197 Greenvale Drive
DeFiore Building:	4320 Monticello Boulevard

Past successful storefront renovation projects have included; Just Cats, Bella Stone, Black Forest, the 4431 Mayfield Building, and more. The Storefront Renovation Program is a great way to continuously improve the city’s commercial corridors.

Public Art and Community Building

One South Euclid continues to explore ways to beautify our downtown Mayfield/Green district. This has been accomplished through the installation of the Greenfield Community Garden and the amazing “Come Together” mural by artist Lisa Quine on the historic House of Swing building. One South Euclid will work to add additional elements of public art to our downtown district.

Due to the pandemic, One South Euclid and the City were forced to cancel all outdoor community events this summer. However, we are hard at work planning for events in 2021. Our goal continues to be bringing people to the downtown district. Look for announcements on the return of Rock the Block and the INTERSECTION event series in the very near future.

One South Euclid and the City continue working in close collaboration with our businesses, property owners, residents, and other stakeholders to implement a plan for the future of Downtown South Euclid. We will be partnering with Heritage Ohio and the Ohio Main Street Program as the next step in the process of creating a true downtown district at Mayfield and Green.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has altered many of our plans for this year, One South Euclid and City Leaders were proud to be able to unite and directly assist our residents and business owners in need.

Interested in helping? We always welcome the involvement of residents and businesses in the growth of One South Euclid. Please send an email to info@onesoutheuclid.org and we will be in touch.

Visit www.onesoutheuclid.org to find out more about your Community Development Corporation! ✍️

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Composting during COVID-19 is a great summer project for residents!

MEET DANIEL BROWN: SOUTH EUCLID'S RUST BELT RIDER

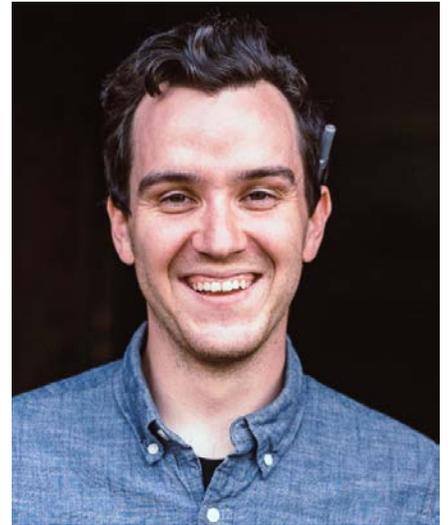
Growing up on Dorsh Road provided an idyllic childhood for Daniel Brown. "We used to play baseball and soccer games in Schaffer Park and basketball in countless driveways. It was a special time and place to grow up," recalled Brown. During his time at St. Ignatius High School, Brown became aware of the issues in Cleveland. He became interested in the way communities evolve and the importance of equitable development. An ethics major at DePaul University, Brown came back to Cleveland after graduation, and held several different positions at nonprofit organizations including St. Martin De Porres High School, LAND Studio, and Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, which solidified his interest and commitment to food access and advancing local food systems as a way of creating equity and sustainability.

While living and working in Detroit Shoreway in 2014, Brown and his friend Michael Robinson, who both picked up extra income by moonlighting at Spice Kitchen & Bar, began using their bicycles to pick up food scraps from businesses, schools, and restaurants in downtown Cleveland and composted the scraps at local urban farms. Through these initially humble efforts, Rust Belt Riders was born.

According to USDA estimates, food scraps represent 30% to 40% of the total food supply. The greenhouse gas emissions associated with food entering landfills would make it the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases globally, only behind the United States and China. Brown, now 31, hopes to divert as much of that food waste as possible and produce high quality soil that takes food from the table back to the farm. In 2015, a \$20,000 investment from the SEA Change social enterprise accelerator provided a much-needed cash infusion to dramatically increase operations from a part-time venture into a full-time enterprise.

Now five years later, Rust Belt Riders has evolved into a business that employs eight people, and includes a small fleet of vehicles used to pick up food waste from clients throughout Northeast Ohio including Phoenix Coffee, University Hospitals, Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse, Zagara's Marketplace, and their original client, Spice Kitchen+Bar. Their 150+ commercial clients pay, on average, \$100-\$200 per month, depending in large part on the volume of material they produce. This fee includes collection, staff training, and comprehensive data tracking that details how their waste is utilized. In addition to larger commercial clients, Rust Belt Riders has two programs for consumers or residents: drop off sites in various neighborhoods where residents who subscribe to the service for \$10 a month receive a code to utilize centrally located receptacles to dispose of their household food waste. Curbside drop off and pick up service is available for as little as \$7.50 a week and includes a lined 5-gallon bin for collecting scraps over the course of a week. All customers receive a 10% discount on Tilth Soil, the product line of premium soils that Rust Belt Riders produces as well as access to informational workshops, on-going training, and other perks throughout the year. Through the efforts of Rust Belt Riders, over 4.2 million pounds of food waste has been diverted from landfills, to be turned into rich, organic compost.

Brown and Robinson are beginning to focus more of their attention on compost production. They have appointed a "Director of Soil" within their operation and their housemade Tilth Soil blends are now available for sale to their customers, who receive a discount, and to other consumers with pick up or delivery options available. Due to size constraints at Rust Belt Riders' current location, a



Daniel Brown

former scrap yard in Cleveland, only a portion of the material collected can be composted inhouse. Excess material is currently being composted by other partner businesses, although they are seeking a larger location to do more processing themselves. Their new facility is now online and operational.

Rust Belt Riders is hoping to expand their services into Daniel Brown's hometown of South Euclid by offering pick up service and a drop off site. If you are interested in utilizing their services, Brown asks that residents take a brief survey so they can determine if there is enough interest in the community to provide an expansion of their services.

"As a green community, we think South Euclid would be a perfect location to host a drop off site and we hope the curbside service will also appeal to residents and local green-minded businesses," said Brown.

For more information on Rust Belt Riders and to take the brief survey to help determine community interest, please visit www.RustBeltRiders.com/survey. 🌱



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Gardening as Self-Care in the time of COVID-19

By Lauren Lanham, Cleveland Foundation Summer Intern

There are over 130 individual plots across the city for gardeners to grow their own food. While some understand the benefits of community gardens, there are substantial challenges for local agriculture and its sustained existence in our society. I look forward to helping develop a strategic plan for these gardens to ensure that residents can continue to enjoy and benefit from them for years to come.

In preparation for this article, I sat down with the city's housing director, Sally Martin, who was instrumental in the creation of community gardens as part of the Green Neighborhoods Initiative (GNI) in 2009. The GNI program received funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and gained attention among city leaders and sustainability advocates. As part of the Green Neighborhoods Initiative, the City also built new homes using green infrastructure, rehabbed foreclosed properties, and started community gardens on the sites of demolished houses. The Green Neighborhoods Initiative also led to the formation of the Little Free Plant Library which is a Facebook page that connects gardeners and nature-enthusiasts throughout the entire city. On this page residents share gardening advice, offer plants and crops to one another, and discuss green city-wide initiatives.

Interest in community gardening has never been higher because of the

pandemic, but you can create your own garden at home! For many people, gardening is a reprieve from work and can provide both mental and physical benefits. Gardening can be therapeutic and provide a way to reduce stress. Spending time outdoors does wonders for your mental health and can help bolster positivity and happiness. Additionally, gardening can benefit you physically through increased physical activity and encouraging healthy eating.

Start Your Garden at Home This Summer!

Here are some simple steps to start a garden at home:

First, decide what type of garden you would like to plant. There are many different types of plants and crops to use in a garden. Plant types include florals, vegetables, herbs, and more!

Next you will need to determine the best area to begin your garden. Make sure you are aware of the amount of sunlight that your plants need and the type of soil recommended for optimal growth. You should then till



Lauren Lanham, Cleveland Foundation Summer Intern

the soil and start planting!

Tend to and enjoy your garden! Some important things to consider when home gardening are to start small and be realistic with what you can maintain.

If you have any questions throughout this process, such as if a mysterious plant is a weed or not, what steps you should take to increase your plant production, or anything else garden-related, the South Euclid Little Free Plant Library has many members who are happy to assist on Facebook. Feel free to also connect with the South Euclid Community Gardens on Instagram, Facebook, or visit www.onesoutheuclid.org/secg. You can find a garden near your home, sign up for a

plot, and start growing your own food! 🌱

Lauren Lanham is working for the City of South Euclid through the Cleveland Foundation's Summer Internship Program. The program provides undergraduate students the opportunity to work with host sites in nonprofit and public sectors. While the program sends interns to specific host sites, the Cleveland Foundation actively connects interns with mentors and hosts weekly civic immersion and professional development sessions. Lauren recently graduated from the University of Dayton with a bachelor's degree in Pre-Medicine and a minor in Sustainability, Energy, and the Environment (SEE). Her work this summer will focus on the South Euclid Community Gardens, a network of nine fully operational community gardens managed by residents and volunteers. Lauren is grateful for the opportunity and eager to make a meaningful difference in the City of South Euclid!

Road Levy Information

The South Euclid Road Levy will once again be up for renewal on November 3, 2020.

The Road Levy has been in existence for over 20 years and provides critical dollars to repair and resurface South Euclid's roadways.

THE RENEWAL LEVY WILL NOT RAISE YOUR TAXES

and your continued support will provide the funding needed to continue the critical repair and replacement of your streets - including some major improvements to our main roadways in the next four years.

1



We have lots of roads in South Euclid...

South Euclid has approximately 150 miles of roadway, 140 miles of sidewalk and 130 miles of sanitary and storm sewers!

2



...but we have made significant progress because of your support of the Road Levy!

We have been able to resurface over 125 streets since 2004, which is a direct result of your support of the road levy. Your approval of the renewal will bring in an estimated \$900,000 a year to be used exclusively for the continued repair and replacement of South Euclid's streets.

3



Your support has generated about \$20 million in road improvements since 2004!

4



We've got lots of major projects in the next four years!

In addition to the continued resurfacing of side streets, major streets including South Green Road, Cedar Road and South Belvoir Blvd., **will all be resurfaced** in the next few years (South Green Road in 2021!).

5

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COME TOGETHER & THRIVE

Find more information...

...about your roads (including current street conditions and ratings) and how your road levy and other tax dollars are spent by visiting www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/roads



South Euclid-Lyndhurst
Schools: 216-691-2000



SOUTH EUCLID LYNDHURST CITY SCHOOL

Student Successes Inside and Outside the Classroom Propel Brush High Students

A 'new normal' abruptly emerged over these last several months due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, and the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools dedicated itself to providing students, and particularly the



Linda N. Reid

Charles F. Brush graduating senior Class of 2020, with as much dignity and honor as possible given the circumstances. A compliant, pre-recorded Virtual Commencement Ceremony took place on Tuesday, May 26th which was live streamed on the District's social media platform for the entire community to watch. The pre-recorded ceremony included class speakers, guest speakers and remarks from dignitaries and other members of the administration. Student names were read during this Virtual Commencement, a time-

honored, symbolic online turning of the tassels and a virtual "toss of the Commencement caps" took place as well. During the following days, May 27th through May 29th, members of the Class of 2020 then participated in a socially-distanced, individual walk across-the-stage at Brush High School's Performing Arts Center (PAC) to receive their diplomas while their respective families watched.

As with each graduating class, members of the Brush High School Class of 2020 greatly excelled in their academic and co-curricular endeavors. As a class, this year's graduating seniors from Brush High School have achieved a great deal. Thirteen students received Honors Diplomas, 8 students earned the Presidential Award for Excellence, 13 students finished their high school careers with 4.0 Grade Point Averages or higher, 47 students earned Honor Roll status with a 3.5 G.P.A. or above, and an additional 38 students earned Merit Roll status with G.P.A.'s of 3.0-3.49. Perhaps most impressively, members of the Class of 2020 have combined for 17,199 hours of community service, an amazing accomplishment!

On an individual level, congratulations are extended to Devin Suttles, Raevin McQueen, Shalea Williams and Nia Terrell, four Brush High School seniors who were honored with the prestigious Morrill Scholarship from The Ohio State University. This elite scholarship is the university's most prestigious diversity merit program, covering full in-state tuition, and is only awarded to approximately 40 students who apply. Senior Nia Terrell also took 2nd place in the highly coveted Stop the Hate! Essay contest, sponsored by the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, and earned a \$15,000 scholarship because of her work. Senior Hali Hocker earned an impressive \$158,000 in scholarships, awards and grants from the University of Dayton, where she will attend next fall. Mandaw Seck was accepted into The Prep School, which is the first step to becoming a member of the United States Air Force. The SEL Schools wishes all of our graduates the best in their future endeavors.

Earlier this year, Charles F. Brush Art students received an impressive 14 awards at the 2020 Annual Scholastics Art & Writing competition! The national awards contest

showcases Cuyahoga County's finest young talent and Brush students competed among over 3,000 pieces of artwork and writing samples based on the criteria of originality, technical skill and emergence of a personal vision or voice, before selecting the finalists. In fact, our students' artwork was on display at The Cleveland Institute of Art's Reinberger Gallery for the final two weeks of January 2020. Sloane Boukobza, who will attend Vassar College with more than \$50,000 in scholarships earned, will continue her study in the creative arts. Sloane received the highest merit of "Gold Key" and had artwork judged at the national competition in New York City, for her painting titled, What Must Behoove You. Other participants who earned high honors included: Dalayah Johnson, Naomi Samarasekera, who will attend John Carroll University next year after earning \$124,000 in scholarships, Victoria Semler, Natallia Smith and Carla Wagner. Brush senior Brian Tuohy will continue his study of Performing Arts at Ithaca College in the fall of 2020. In addition, Amber See has earned a full tuition scholarship to Case Western Reserve University in the fall.

Brush Arcs Basketball Senior John Hugley IV was a top 100 recruit in the nation and accepted an offer to play for the University of Pittsburgh Panthers out of a total of thirty-four NCAA Division I basketball scholarship offers, which included North Carolina State, Kansas State and Nebraska. John helped lead the Arcs to their fourth straight Western Reserve Conference championship! Over the past four years, Brush has compiled an astonishing 52-4 overall conference record! As a result of these efforts, along with the support of Brush administration and staff, the Brush Boys Basketball program is now respected at the local and national level.

The SEL Schools recognizes some of the senior members of our EXCEL TECC program, which offers a wide variety of hands-on industry and career-ready experiences to our juniors and seniors. Brush High School senior McKenna Bishko invested her time training in the Medical Tech program, working to earn valuable interpersonal skills of patient care combined with the technical acumen of laboratory work, to go onto Cleveland State University next year. Mason McCombs has been working with his hands since the age of 14 and found a home in EXCEL TECC's construction trades and welding program. He learned a variety of technical skills from the dedicated teachers in the program, while pursuing a career interest that will lead him to become a pipefitter someday. William Lucas was honored with Excel TECC Departmental Senior Award for Welding Technologies, Hailee Jones was recognized as a Hillcrest Rotary Award winner for Excel TECC programming in Infant & Toddler Education, Health, and Safety Nutrition, Kam'ryn Carswell was recognized as a Hillcrest Award winner for Environmental Education and Jordyn Harris was recognized as and Excel TECC Outstanding Senior in Cosmetology.

The Charles F. Brush High School Class of 2020 has earned a great deal of notoriety on an individual and collective level. Please join everyone in our community in extending a profound congratulations to these senior members of the Brush High School Class of 2020 for persevering, remaining steadfast in their endeavors and for great success. The South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools wishes each senior well in his or her future endeavors. Thank you for your continued support and GO ARCS! 🍀

Dr. Linda N. Reid , Superintendent

Councilwoman-at-Large Susan Hardy

Thank you to everyone who voted in the November election. Wow! That seems like a lifetime ago. I am deeply honored to serve as your newest city councilwoman. I promise to do my best to address the needs of our city and to work to keep South Euclid a great place to live, work, and play. I would also like to take this belated opportunity to thank Dennis Fiorelli for his years of service to our city on the planning commission, city council. Dennis showed me great kindness by speaking with me and encouraging me as I prepared to take on this new responsibility. Dennis, I hope you are enjoying your retirement and spending lots of quality time with your grandson!



Susan Hardy

By now everyone should have received information about taking the United States Census. You may not know why your participation is beneficial to you and your community so I will take a moment to explain. Census data provide information that helps government at all levels plan for the future and helps determine how billions of dollars in federal funds are spent. Census data are also

used to redraw legislative districts and determine the number of seats each state receives in the House of Representatives. There are many misconceptions regarding how census data are used. Please know that your responses to the 2020 Census are safe and protected by federal law. Your answers can not be used against you by any government agency or court. Census responses can be given by phone, mail, or online. To learn more visit the website 2020CENSUS.GOV or by calling 844.330.2020.

Council-At-Large, Susan Hardy: 216-780-0238

Councilman-at-Large Justin Tisdale

I recall a time when my children fussed at each other about a toy one of them took out of the hands of the other. Although playful in nature, the key phrase used was, "but I want it." I can only laugh. I have tried my best to explain, with little success, that it is not right to take things out of each other's hands without asking. To no one's surprise, they continued to fuss at each other, until I finally took the toy and put it on the shelf.



Justin Tisdale

I tell this story because to me, it is a metaphor for what our society has become, especially on social media. Social media have created different platforms for adults to behave in the same manner as my kids. Instead of trying to recognize a different viewpoint, perception, or experience, we angrily type away the validity of something we have not even attempted to understand. We inject falsehoods or stereotypes, and often, we compare experiences to change the narrative in one direction or another to suit our own pursuits. In essence, we take these viewpoints, these "adult toys,"

out of each other's hands because we want to.

As an educator, I have always told my students, "understanding someone is probably one of the hardest things to do, but it is the most important." Just like my kids missed the point, a lot of people have missed the point, especially on social media. Moving forward, let's try to make an earnest effort to truly educate and listen to different viewpoints, perceptions and experiences before we admonish them with our own biases. J.K. Rowling said it best in her book, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, "Understanding is the first step to acceptance, and only with acceptance can there be recovery."

Council-At-Large, Justin Tisdale: 216-965-4242

Councilman-at-Large Marty Gelfand

Sometimes, change happens fast. These last 3 months were a whirlwind.

With regard to the pandemic, it had been more than 100 years since a serious deadly virus caused the magnitude of deaths and required the type of quarantines and closures we have experienced since March. We mourn the loss of those claimed by the pandemic and wish those ill a quick recovery. And I thank our leadership, Mayor Welo, Governor DeWine, and State Health Director Acton, who have given the public the facts, and taken the actions needed to minimize the losses and help keep us safe and healthy.



Marty Gelfand

The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis was horrendous. It was not the first, nor will it be the last time someone will die in police custody. But to witness Derek Chauvin pressing down on Mr. Floyd's neck with his knee, minute after minute, while listening to him plead for his life, stretches the imagination of what it means to lack human compassion. As a lawyer, I would be surprised if a jury could not see Mr. Floyd's murder as

anything but premeditated.

The horror of how George Floyd, an African American man, was treated in police custody, awakened revolt around the world. People are demanding change in how police handle calls, particularly when the target of a call is a person of color. In South Euclid, City Council unanimously passed Resolution 35-20 calling on Congress and the Ohio Legislature to enact social justice policies that ensure the equal protection guaranteed in our Constitution since the 1860s, but only sporadically enforced.

Among those policies is a declaration that racism is a "public health crisis" and a call for expansion of medical and mental health referral. To explain by analogy: when the fire department responds to an emergency, the EMT will stabilize the sick or injured person and then let the health care system take care of any next steps. When the police respond to an emergency, first steps need to include a respect for the humanity of the people involved and second steps, when appropriate, need to include referral to health care or social work rather than jail and prosecution.

On a personal level, the pandemic was an opportunity to spend more time with my family, as we worked and studied mainly at home. It brought us to the realization of how small our house is when our work is spread all over. We made the difficult decision to move to a larger house, a house we already own in Cleveland Heights, which is in the school district where our daughter goes to school. This summer we make that move. Unfortunately it means leaving South Euclid and City Council. Though I won't be far, I will miss being a part of our thriving community. I sincerely thank the people of South Euclid for their support and friendship over my last 9 years on Council and the last 18 years living here.

President Protem, Council-At-Large, Marty Gelfand: 216-932-1216

Municipal Court Judge Gayle Williams-Byers

Update on Court Activities During the COVID-19 Crisis

On March 20th, the South Euclid Municipal Court became one of the first courts in Cuyahoga County to transition nearly all court dockets to a purely virtual platform. This means that the courtroom doors have remained open and available – online since the Governor's Stay-At-Home Order has been in effect. For those with pending criminal and/or traffic cases, hearings are held using a teleconferencing platform made possible through a generous grant from the Ohio Supreme Court. This is the "new normal" that may be the way in which many cases are handled for the foreseeable future. Additionally, the Court is now accepting Eviction Complaint filings, however hearings on pending or new filings are not being set until further order of the Court. This is in conjunction with the Ohio Supreme Court's guidance on handling the economic crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, pursuant to the CARES Act, landlords are prohibited from evicting a tenant from a property subsidized by the Federal government until after July 25, 2020. The CARES Act further requires landlords to serve tenants with a 30-day notice prior to filing for eviction, and then the Landlord must still give the tenant a three-day notice.



Judge Gayle Williams-Byers

The South Euclid Municipal Court is very sensitive to the extremely raw emotions our community and nation are facing and its intersection with the justice and legal community. As such, this Court continues to take seriously its oath and mission to be a responsible and accountable justice system partner committed to working to fulfill the ultimate goal of Democracy – JUSTICE FOR ALL!

In solidarity, please stay health and healthy!

Judge Gayle Williams-Byers: 216-381-2880



Take the COVID-19 Community Impact Survey and help us determine how we can better help our community. Please scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone to take the survey.

Councilwoman Ruth Gray: Ward 1

I have been your Ward One Councilwoman for 15 years and during this time I have learned the importance of our Police Department. I deeply appreciate the leadership of Chief Nietert in implementing the Community Auxiliary Police program, the Citizens Police Academy, and the Youth Police Academy. While diversity continues to be one of our greatest challenges, it has improved over these past 15 years. I believe that our community policing programs must be shared as Best Practices for other police departments to model.



Ruth Gray

My missive for introducing the Civil Rights and Social Justice Resolution which passed unanimously by City Council on June 8th, is that of a black wife, a mother, and a grandmother. After witnessing the murder of George Floyd and speaking with all my children living around the country, I recognized that I was in a state of trauma. I felt intense grief, worry, anger, and despair. Like every black mother I know, the possibility of one of my children, especially my sons and grandsons being killed or brutally beaten by the police is one of my greatest fears and stresses. Like my mother, grandmother and generations before, we have had to carry the burden of preparing our children, our teens and young adults with what to do if stopped by the police, what to say and what not to say. We have instructed them on where their identification should be, where their hands need to be and lastly, but most of all, call your momma as soon as possible. For this reason, I heard George's cry out to his mother. For me, George was my children. He was Shallanna, David, Kenneth, William, my added blessing Shajuan, and my added blessing Lauren. This is a call that no mother should get, yet black mothers have received this call for over 400 years. I say to you today, that I know that most of my years are behind me, however, before I leave this life, I want to know that my granddaughters and grandsons do not have to have the "conversation" and that we are done dying because of racial injustice and police brutality. Therefore, we all must be the change we want to see in the world, and it begins in our community. As a legislator, carry the responsibility of ensuring that there are policies and procedures that protect and serve all people. We all should be immensely proud of today's youth. They are well educated on what social justice and injustice looks like, and they are demanding a change. I believe that they are ready to build systems of accountability to systemic inclusion and diversity. I stand with them and for them. Do you?

Councilwoman Ruth Gray

"I am because we are. Because we, therefore, I am

Ward 1 Council Ruth Gray: 216-926-4960

Councilwoman Sara Continenza: Ward 3

Times have certainly changed since the last time that I wrote an article for our City's magazine. So much has been happening, it's hard to keep track of it all. I just want to express how impressed I am with the responsiveness and resilience of our community. The pandemic has been devastating in many ways ... yet I have seen neighbors helping neighbors and safely supporting one another. Issues around race have been coming to a head, yet our community has embraced our wonderful diversity. I know it hasn't been easy for most, but never have I been more proud to be a South Euclid resident.



Sara Continenza

It has certainly been an interesting year to begin chairing our Recreation Committee. We had so many wonderful events and activities in the pipeline! Never would I have imagined that the events would all be canceled and playgrounds and pools would be shut down. I understand that we need to be careful, and our City's commitment to safety is praiseworthy ... but it doesn't make it any easier. I have been promoting everyone going outside into their front yards from 6:30-7pm every day to get sunshine, breathe fresh air, wave to their neighbors, do some gardening, listen to music, etc. People have gotten creative and have even held front porch concerts that neighbors can experience at a social distance. This is a great opportunity to promote safety, solidarity, security and mental/physical health. I also have been promoting sitting in our front yards whenever possible to enliven our neighborhood and foster a sense of community. I am open to new, safe and fun ideas for recreation while we wait for the pandemic to pass. Please share them with me!

Don't forget to take care of yourself. Make sure to get exercise, eat fresh foods, stay hydrated and get sunshine. Try to keep your mind grounded in the present, and participate in activities which fulfill you. Idea: gardening is a great tool for overall wellness and makes our community more beautiful. And don't forget to shop local and support our businesses which have struggled in the lockdown.

If you would like to be a part of my email list, please email me at FriendsOfSaraC@gmail.com, or call me at 216.816.1577. Also, don't forget that NextDoor.com is a wonderful social network for neighborhoods, and is totally free to join!

Ward 3 Council Sara Continenza: 216-816-1577

Councilman Joe Frank: Ward 2

This is, without a doubt, the most difficult article I have had to write during my time on Council. COVID-19 has caused job loss, challenges in both household and municipal income, being separated from loved ones and uncertainty. Through all this we have had the challenge of keeping the City running.



Joe Frank

The Mayor and her administration meet weekly to make sure our services are able to operate and to prepare for the unknown in revenue in this the most challenging of situations. Council has met virtually, buildings have been closed, we have tried our best to continue to serve the citizens of South Euclid.

However, these last several weeks have been some of the most challenging times that our nation has ever seen. I have found it very difficult to watch the news, view social media or read the paper. I am deeply saddened by these events.

I have had a hard time putting my feelings into words as I have tried to process the horrible events that occurred.

It has been hard for me to grasp. Shock, frustration, anger, disgust cannot describe the sick feeling I've had thinking about the inaction of our society to make changes. I have no tolerance for racism, period.

As a people, we can never stand by passively when there is an opportunity to do what's right. Everywhere, every time. We cannot look the other way and hope that someone else addresses this problem. It is up to us, now and forever.

Empathy, respect and an openness for discussion are what is needed at this time. We need to put ourselves in the other person's position, to listen, to try understanding the other's point of view and be open to hear what is being said and why. This is what will make us better, as a city and as a society.

As a citizen who stands for justice, equality and respect for all, a call to action must be made. To live up to the ideals of justice and equality and respect for all, I'd like to ask each of you to think about actions you can make to help us bring change in our society.

Ward 2 Council Joe Frank: 216-246-5614

Councilwoman Jane Goodman: Ward 4

To all who have taken measures to protect our neighbors, visitors, and families during the COVID-19 pandemic, thank you for staying home, wearing a mask, keeping a distance, and being understanding as so many activities have been canceled. Thank you to the emergency forces, health care workers, store personnel, and everyone providing essential services during this time.



Jane Goodman

All this time, your city workers have been busy. Streets have been repaved, gas lines replaced, water lines repaired, and trash and recycling collected. Through a county grant our contractor has been taking inventory of our street trees. The Tree Commission will use that information to tell us where city trees need to be planted or removed so that we can update our management plan and keep our urban forest healthy. Each tree is an important part of our city's infrastructure, making and cleaning our air, cooling our homes, and filtering our storm water.

You have a role in making our city clean and healthy, too. Here's where I start pleading for your help: Would you pick up litter wherever you see it, and keep grass clippings on your yard or in paper bags for pickup, so that they don't jam up the storm drains or get washed into the creeks? Would you honor our no-idling law and not sit with your motor running, so that those who have asthma and other breathing problems don't suffer? If you just did those simple acts, ones that don't cost a penny but do save money, lives, and the environment, you'd be making a big contribution to keeping South Euclid great. You are the city, and you make me proud to be a South Euclidean. Have a safe and healthy summer.

Ward 4 Council Jane Goodman: 216-291-0442

Summer Programs/Activities For Youth and Families!

There are lots of alternative summer events planned for youth and families this summer, including community "Scavenger Hunts" with prizes! Visit www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/MyCom for all of the information!

THE SOUTH EUCLID LYNDHURST SCHOOLS

Congratulations Nia, Devin, Shalea and Raevin!

Morrill Scholarship Winners from The Ohio State University!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



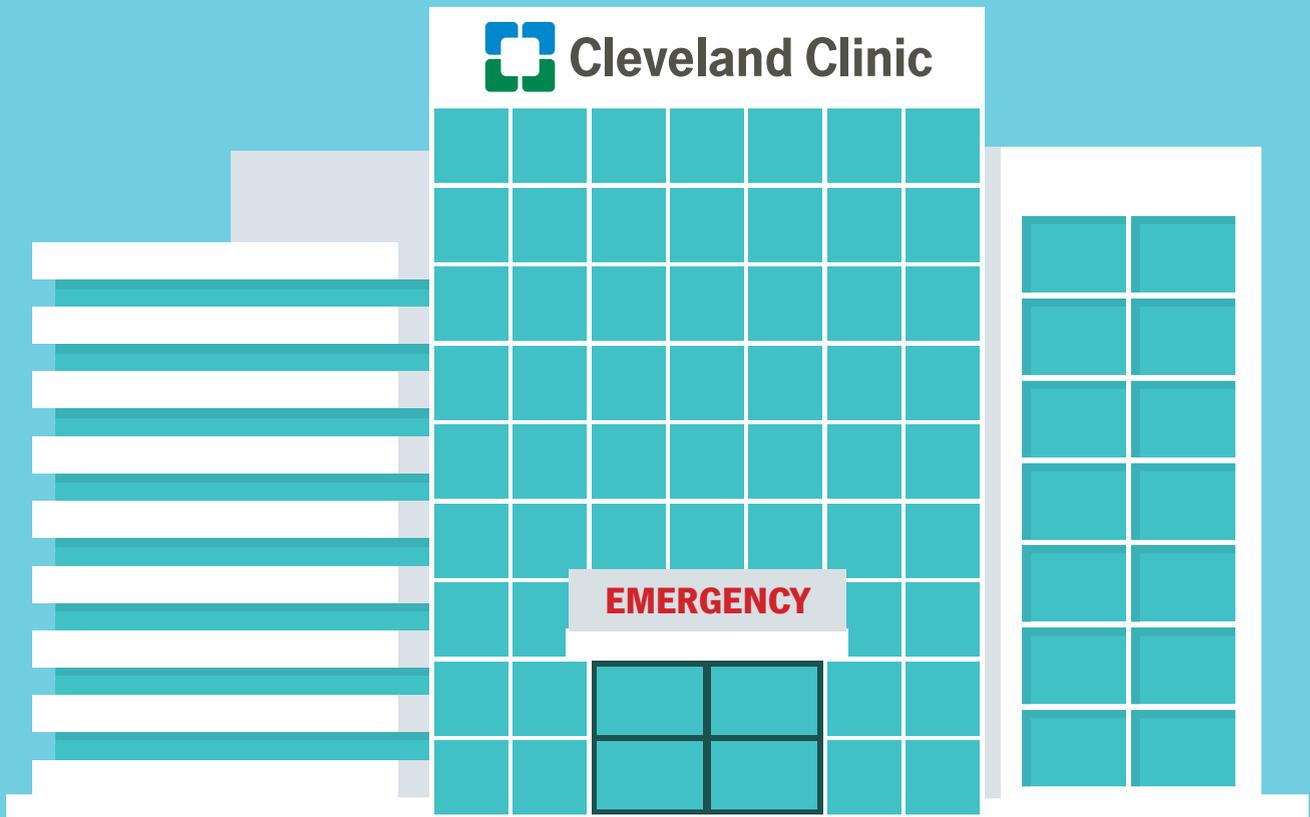
South Euclid
Lyndhurst Schools



The South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools congratulates Nia Terrell, Devin Suttles, Shalea Williams and Raevin McQueen, four Brush High School seniors, who were honored with the prestigious Morrill Scholarship from The Ohio State University. This elite scholarship is the university's most prominent diversity merit program, covering full in-state tuition, and is only awarded to approximately 40 students. It signifies these students' commitment to inclusion, equality and diversity, and is a very impressive accomplishment. Congratulations to Nia, Devin, Shalea and Raevin, for taking advantage of the educational and co-curricular opportunities offered by the District and applying them to reach new heights.

FEEL THE  POWER!

When it can't wait, we're here.



All Emergency Departments are open.

You don't plan for emergencies to happen, but we do. At Cleveland Clinic, your safety is our top priority, which is why our Emergency Department locations are open, sanitized and safe. We're always ready for your most urgent medical needs.

Get the care you need from a team you can trust.

[ClevelandClinic.org/Emergency](https://www.clevelandclinic.org/emergency)

 **Cleveland Clinic**