



Public News For Public Works

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County Administrative Headquarters

On July 15th, Geis Companies officially turned over the keys to Cuyahoga County! In a ceremony with Executive FitzGerald, County Council, Geis Companies, and representatives from the business community. The eight-story, 220,000 square-foot building headquarters, is the new home to more than 600 county employees, two dozen

county agencies and departments. Built and owned by Geis Companies, the building will be leased to the county for 26 years with the option to purchase for \$1 at the end of the lease. The Ameritrust com-

plex, known as the "The 9" will be a blending of historic and modern building design. The beautiful rotunda will house a Heinen's grocery store, (coming soon), the 1010 building will include a mixture of apartments, office space, and retail; and the tower will be renovated into a Marriott Autograph Collection Hotel and luxury apartments. First agencies that moved to the new

headquarters was the Public Works Department along with the Inspector General office, the last office will be the new Cuyahoga County Council Chambers, which will open August 12th. The new headquarters has an environmentally friendly Leed Silver Certified design, including an 8,000 square foot "green" roof

where you will find picnic tables to have lunch or relax on one on the benches and enjoy the sunshine. During your break, take a walk and explore our new surroundings inside and out.



INNOVATION PROGRAM ~ NO. 3

The following DPW staff participated in the third Public Works Innovation Program.

Byron Sah, submitted his idea regarding uniformity of notes and reductions in errors by changing from Word document to Auto CAD. Byron's suggestion was reviewed and accepted by the committee. Realizing the efficiency of reducing review time and notes should be on Auto CAD. Changing the format program with assistance of engineers from the Highway-Bridge Design Department will also have to develop, review and be approved.

Tamala DiFilippo, submitted her idea of using Instagram for the Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter. Instagram is a great idea, the animal shelter currently has a Facebook page as well as a Twitter account. In reviewing Tamala's suggestion it was accepted. The only challenge is making sure the shelter's staff has time to consistently upload pictures to the account. Currently the shelter's Facebook is updated with the help of all of the supervisors, both at work and at home as well as two very committed volunteers. The shelter is in the process of creating a position that will likely be able to

help with this suggestion, but it will be several months before it is implemented.

All accepted suggestions were placed in a monthly drawing for a chance to win a \$50 gift card. The winner of the third Innovation Program drawing is **Tamala DiFilippo**, congratulations!!

For those that have taken the time and submitted their suggestions, but were not accepted, please do not let this discourage you from suggesting further innovations to make Public Works a more effective and efficient department. Your dedication to helping improve our process is truly appreciated. Please keep your ideas and suggestions coming.

The new location for the innovation box is in copy station 124 in the new head quarters.

SAFETY:

Floods kill more people every year than lightning, tornados and hurricanes. Most flooding deaths can be avoided if people didn't try

to drive through flooded roads. A lot of times when you approach a water-covered roadway you don't know how fast the water is moving. You don't know how deep it is. You don't know even know if there's a road underneath. It only takes about six inches of moving water to sweep a person off their feet, and as little as two feet of water to sweep an automobile, including SUV's downstream. If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around and go another way. Determine if the roads that you normally travel to reach your home or job will be flooded during a storm. Develop an evacuation plan. Everyone in the family should know where to go if you have to leave quickly, as well as what to do in case family members get separated. Supplies you should keep at home: **WATER**, at least a 3 day supply, one gallon per person per day. **FOOD**, at least a 3 day supply of non perishable, **FLASHLIGHT**, plus extra batteries, **MEDICATIONS** (7-day supply), **PERSONAL HYGIENE** items, **COPIES** of personal documents, **CELL PHONE** with chargers, **BATTERY POWERED RADIO**, (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible).

Preparation and common sense will keep you alive in the event of a flood!



Good News!!

Letter sent to Bryan Hitch, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Administrator from Parma residents Cindy and Ray Rosenberger: They would like to convey their appreciation and compliments for a job well done to the DPW as well as a special "thank you" expressed to **Maintenance Repair Worker, Jordan Charnigo** and **Jet Vacuum Operator, Kevin Fridrich**, for the work they did at their home. Courtesy, informative, respectful and professional are several words that describe the experience they had when their sewer line became plugged. The Rosenbergs called the emergency number fully expecting a recording but instead reached an operator on the second ring and took down the information and assured them that a supervisor would return their call, which **Sewer Maintenance Supervisor, Guy Swindell** did a short time later. Guy listened to their problem and said that he would have a crew dispatched to their home that same day. This was the Rosenberger's first experience with this type of county service and they had visions of backhoes and indifferent workers digging caddy shack holes in their twenty-year landscaping project. They

couldn't have been more wrong. Jordan and Kevin arrived shortly after 7:00 p.m. and continued to convey understanding, knowledge, respect and professionalism in the work they did and their interactions with the couple. They were initially unable to locate the riser and turned to their laptop computer to examine a 1926 permit associated with their home. Jordan and Kevin did a careful measurement and within minutes found the riser. They kept waiting for the dreaded "We'll be back tomorrow" but instead the crew spent the next 1.5 hours, continuing with their professionalism in snaking out the lines, explaining what was happening and cleaning up in a meticulous manner. In closing the Rosenberger's again express thanks to the DPW and everyone mentioned and not mentioned. They know it took a team effort and the DPW organization could not have done a better job and they are truly appreciative of all involved.

The Permits/Inspection Department has relocated out of Stonebridge and have returned to the Valley View location at, 6100 West Canal Road. The staff of **Permit Coordinator, Gina Ware**, **Permit Clerk, Nancy**

Bencivengo, and **Project Inspector, Anthony Melaragno**. Letters were mailed in May to contractors, informing them of the move. As of June 9th the department was relocated and open for business at the their new location. Previously, the department was located at the front entrance of the building, the department will now be accessed from the opposite end of the building. The department handles the logging of plans for new construction, issuing of permits for sanitary and storm sewer connection.



The permits are issued when plans and specifications have been approved by the appropriate authorities. The department also makes sure that contractors have a current and valid licenses. In addition to sanitary permits, the department process permits for use of any county facilities, this includes the, Courthouse on Lakeside Avenue, the Justice Center, the Huntington Park along with other sites. The Courthouse has events scheduled for every Saturday until the end of the year as well as the fall of 2015 and

there are dates already reserved for 2016! Gina would like everyone to know that the move to Stonebridge, gave herself and Nancy an opportunity to make new friends, and put a face to the names that previously were only known by voice.

Join the Animal Shelter staff for numerous events that they will be apart of, such as; Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Canine Fundays, Kids/Dog Show with Dick Goddard, Dog Daze of Summer, Furry Nation Gran Opening, Octoberfest and of course, The Mutt Strut and Mingle hosted at the shelter! For more information on these and other events, go to the shelter's Facebook page "Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter," If your looking to expand your family, visit the shelter, the website or any of the events listed to meet with the dogs. Meet Bridget, a young female Chihuahua mix. Bridget tends to be a little shy, but was a good sport about being dressed up for the photo shoot. She is a loving little girl that needs a special lap to call her own.



She's in kennel #67.



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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

Project Manager, Susan Base, is the newest member of the DPW team. Previously, Susan worked for the Architecture and Design Firm Vocon, Inc., in downtown Cleveland for 1.5 years, prior to that Susan worked at a Housing and Develop-



ment Company in Independence, as a Design Project Manager. Susan manages county facility projects, from concept to completion. Currently she is busy working on the Jane Edna Hunter Building and the emergency men's shelter roof renovations, the ADA improvements at the

courthouse on Lakeside Ave., as well as the Sheriffs Gun Range. Recently, Susan renovated her home in West Park, where she lives with her boyfriend and their dog Rosie. When she wasn't busy renovating her home, Susan stays very active, working out, boating on Lake Erie and spending as much time as she can at her

family's cottage located at Marblehead. In addition, Susan and her boyfriend are "foodies" they enjoy seeking out new food experiences. One of their favorite restaurant's is DANTE, where they enjoy Michelin Starred Chef Dante Boccuzzi's cuisine.

Human Resource Corner:

Human Resource team members Brian, Ellenia, and Tamika, has relocated with Public Works to the 5th floor of the County Administration building located on East 9th and Prospect.

Although our location has changed, our contact information will re-

main the same.

HR Analyst Lynn Ferraro is now located at Sanitary headquarters on West Canal Road in Valley View. Ms. Ferraro's phone and email information will remain the same, however her fax number is (216) 348-3944.

There has been no change to your assigned HR Analyst, so please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

completed. Information will be forth coming.

The time has come for mid year performance evaluations to be



HAPPY BIRTHDAY~ AUGUST!!!

8/1 Stephen Starcovic
8/2 John C. Pinter
8/2 Kariel Johnson
8/4 Gayle Lewin
8/4 Fredrick W. Whatley
8/5 Ben Fair
8/5 Ronald R. Willoughby
8/6 Thaddeus Gates
8/8 Daniel A. Giersz, II
8/8 Charles Williams
8/8 Chaquita Crittenden
8/9 David C. Buckley
8/9 Scott B. Grant
8/10 Quiana Price
8/11 Stephen Mulloy
8/11 Joseph S. Harley
8/11 Shane Petry
8/12 Shilpa Mehta
8/13 Leroy Turner, Jr.
8/13 Catherine Cobb
8/13 Thomas L. Coleman
8/14 Donald Ehlert
8/14 Nicholas Kall
8/14 Bennie Russell
8/16 James Rochford, Jr.
8/17 Joshua Dress
8/17 Julio Swift, Jr.
8/18 Aloysius Hoenigman
8/18 Sean Hanna
8/18 Gregory J. Flowers
8/19 John Parker
8/19 Meighan Hayden
8/19 Maria Rosas
8/20 Ira Johnson
8/21 Alvin Jacobs

8/21 Willa Jordan
8/21 Kenneth Lewis
8/22 Stuart Boyda
8/22 Tony Cousett
8/22 Jamal Husani
8/24 Donald Barcy
8/24 Steven Frimel
8/24 Donald Monachino, Jr.
8/25 Larry Flowers
8/25 Paul Wilson
8/26 Kenneth C. Szekely
8/26 Peter Campbell
8/26 Lori Birschbach-Tober
8/27 Michael W. Chambers
8/27 John Schweda
8/28 Daniel Dempsey
8/28 Julius Hardy
8/28 Steven Pruchnicki
8/28 Hanna Unger
8/30 Greg Wilson
8/30 Thomas C. Kincer
8/31 Donna Albert

