



February 2020 Newsletter

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Primary Election Registration Deadline is Coming Soon

The deadline to register for the March 17th Primary Election is February 18th. The primaries give you a chance to vote for a presidential candidate who may be on the ballot in November's election, as well as vote on the Health and Human Services (HHS) levy. The HHS levy provides funding for critical services like support for families and children, the elderly and the mentally disabled.

Back in September, nearly 29,000 voter registrations in Cuyahoga County were purged as part of a state-led effort to eliminate inactive or unreachable voters from the registration rolls—you can [check](#) to see if you are still on the registered voter list.

Check your registration status, locate your polling place and track your ballot on the [Board of Election's website](#).

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Department of Consumer Affairs

The Department of Consumer Affairs helps consumers get what they pay for. Consumer Affairs enforces the County's Consumer Protection Code, helps consumers resolve complaints against businesses and investigates scams.

Romance scams aren't the most common scams Consumer Affairs deals with, but they are the most financially and emotionally devastating to victims. These online romances feel very real. But they are long-term cons designed to drain victims' money. The median loss for a romance scam victim is \$2,600, but many victims lose \$10,000 or more.

If you are involved in an online romance and a love interest you have never met in person asks you to send money, it's likely that you are involved in a scam. For a complete list of romance scam signs, check

out this [blog post](#).

FROM OUR BLOG AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Medical Examiner's Office Citizens Academy

Do you have an interest in forensic science? Do you enjoy watching popular shows such as “Forensic Files” and “CSI”? If so, you should consider applying for the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s 2020 Citizens Academy. This 10-week program will give you an inside look at what it’s like to work in forensics. Classes will be held on Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. at the Medical Examiner’s Office. The Citizens Academy is FREE, and enrollment is open to all qualified County residents. Applications are due by February 14, 2020 and you can apply online through the [Medical Examiner’s Office website](#).

Census 101

Did you know that Cuyahoga County is expected to have the second worst undercount of children under five for the 2020 Census? This means that less money could go toward programs that many families with children rely on, like SNAP (food stamps), Head Start and the National School Lunch Program. There are multiple populations that are considered “Hard to Count,” (HTC) which means they are less likely to proactively complete the census. Other HTC populations include:

- Those who speak English as a second language
- Frequent movers
- Immigrants
- People of color
- Seniors

If you or someone you know is part of a hard to count population, remind them about the safety and importance of the census. **It takes just 10 minutes to fill out your census and impacts you for the next 10 years of your life.** Find out how the census impacts you on the [2020 Census website](#).

EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

County Council Meeting

February 11 and February 25, 5 p.m., Council Chambers - 2079 East Ninth Street, Cleveland

[Watch the live stream.](#)

Solar United Neighbors Cuyahoga County Solar Co-Op Community Info Session

Learn about how solar works, how you can save money and energy, and how it can be installed in your home.

February 12, 6 p.m., Parma Heights City Hall—6281 Pearl Road

February 13, 6 p.m., Orange Village Hall—4600 Lander Road

Construction and Maintenance Notices

Future Amazon Site Perimeter Roads in the City of Euclid: Paving operations have been completed and signal equipment will be installed.

Cedar Road in the Cities of Beachwood, Lyndhurst, South Euclid and University Heights: Project is substantially complete. Temporary lane closures may be needed to complete punch list items in the Spring.

Warrensville Center Road in the Cities of Bedford and Maple Heights: Project is substantially complete. Temporary lane closures may be needed to complete punch list items in the Spring.

West 130th Street from Bagley Road to Snow Road in the cities of Parma, Parma Heights, Middleburg Heights and Brook Park: All lanes are open to traffic. The contractor will return to the project in the Spring to complete the final section from Huffman to Snow.

Lewis Road Culvert Rehabilitation in Olmsted Township: Lewis is open to traffic. The contractor will return in Spring to finish some weather sensitive items of work.

Sprague Road in the Cities of Middleburg Heights, Strongsville, North Royalton and Parma: Traffic is being maintained in the eastbound direction only and a detour is posted for westbound traffic. Work on the new water line and storm sewers will continue through the Winter.