

January 2020

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library open to kids in University Heights



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a unique early-years book gifting program that mails a free, brand new, age-appropriate, high-quality book to enrolled children every month from birth until five years of age, creating a home library of up to 60 books and instilling a love of books and family reading from an early age.

Forty-one studies have shown that the program has a significant and positive impact on family literacy habits, kindergarten readiness and 3rd grade reading on grade level.

This program is available in University Heights, thanks to the Heights Family Foundation.

"Our family can vouch for the quality books that are sent by Imagination Library," says University Heights resident Shawn Fink. "It's a wonderful program that every parent of a young child should be taking advantage of."

Kristina Cullins agrees with Fink. "The books we have received each month are among my little one's favorites," she said.

According to The Literacy Cooperative, there are about 2,700 children aged 0-5 in University Heights who are eligible for the program. However, the current enrollment in University Heights is only 373 children.

In Greater Cleveland, The Literacy Cooperative is implementing and managing the rollout of DPIL reaching more than 15,000 children. The ultimate goal of this initiative is to improve kindergarten readiness and family literacy habits in select Cleveland-area communities, including University Heights, Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, and East Cleveland.

"We love this program," Meredith Tayek said. Tayek says her family has received a great variety of books over the years, including books she may not have even known about had it not been for the Imagination Library.

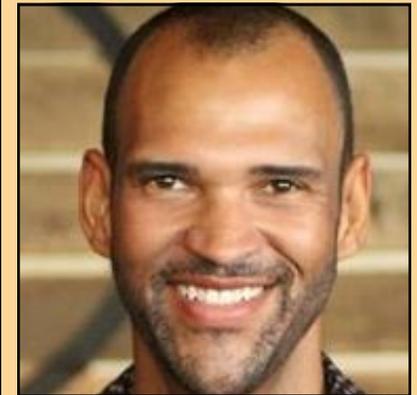
Parents of children age 4 ½ years old and younger can enroll online at www.literacycooperative.org. There is no cost or obligation to the child's family.

"It takes two minutes, if that, to fill out the online form," Cullins said.

University Heights resident Cristy Evangelista recently signed up for the program. "We're anxiously awaiting our first book," she said.



Barbara Blankfeld



Justin Gould

New members Blankfeld, Gould officially sworn-in

At a swearing-in ceremony on January 6th at John Carroll University, Barbara Blankfeld and Justin Gould officially became the newest members of the University Heights City Council.

Also sworn-in to council were re-elected members Michele Weiss and John Rach.

Rounding out the council for 2020-21 are Phillip Ertel, Susan Pardee, and Mark Wiseman.

Weiss was also selected by her council peers to serve as Vice Mayor.

TREE UPDATE

We have begun removing damaged and diseased trees from residential tree lawns. A complete list of affected properties is available at universityheights.com.

Replacement trees will be planted in late 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact the Service Department at (216) 932-7800.



Women-owned businesses shine bright in our city



Lovie Lewis, Love My Hair

Love My Hair

Love My Hair offers you a healthier way to wear extensions. They specialize in servicing people with extreme hair loss issues. Call today for a complimentary consultation.

Love My Hair is located at 2259 Warrensville Center Road. (216) 337-1559.



Dr. Evgenia Tararova, Physio Heights

Physio Heights

Physio Heights is a physical therapy and yoga clinic. Dr. Evgenia Tararova helps men and women overcome pain and injury, and return to a balanced yoga practice for any lifestyle.

Physio Heights is located at 2245 Warrensville Center Road, Suite 209. (440) 941-2027.



Parking ban helps city respond to emergencies

When the snow fall exceeds two inches, the city implements a "Snow Emergency." During this time, a street parking ban will go into effect.

Street parking is banned during snow emergencies, to allow the Service Department to properly plow streets. The ban also helps police and fire vehicles respond quickly to emergencies.

Cars parked on the street during a snow emergency will be towed.

Parking bans will be announced on the city website, social media accounts, and Ready Notify. If you are unsure of the status of a snow emergency, you may call the University Heights Police Department at (2160) 932-1800.

University Heights ordinance 452.16 (Parking during Snow Emergency) states "no person shall park on any street or sidewalk during a snow emergency, until such prohibition is canceled by action of the Mayor & Director of Public Safety, or a designate."

The ordinance states while the city will use reasonable means to notify the public of a parking ban, "no person shall be excused from compliance... on the grounds that he or she was not informed that such prohibition was in effect."

FIRE SAFETY

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Every day at least one child dies in a home fire.

And every day, 293 children are injured by fire and burns.

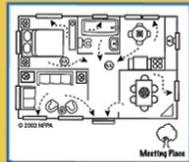


Home fires account for nearly 90 percent of all fire-related fatalities.

Working smoke alarms reduce the chance of dying in a home fire by half.



77% of families have **not** developed and practiced a home fire escape plan, one of the most important components to surviving a home fire.



Fire can spread rapidly through a home, leaving a family as little as two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds.

**HAVE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS.
PRACTICE AN ESCAPE PLAN.**

**SAFE
KIDS
WORLDWIDE**

UHFD to launch safety campaign this Spring

Department offering free safety inspections, installation of smoke detectors for residents

Knock-knock. It's the University Heights Fire Department, and they're out meeting neighbors and saving lives.

The UHFD will launch a community safety campaign this Spring. Firefighters will be going door-to-door to visit residents to help make their homes safe, by offering free home safety inspections and free installation of smoke alarms.

"In 2020, we want our focus to be on education," Fire Chief Robert Perko said.

The door-to-door campaign aims to reach 1,000 households in University Heights this year. Over the next five years, Perko aims to reach every single home in the city. Home inspections will be offered as a service to residents, to help them keep their families and neighbors safe.

If a resident requests a fire risk assessment of their home, the inspection will be conducted by UH fire fighters who are certified by the state of Ohio. "All inspections are free," Perko said. "After the assessment, we will offer recommendations to home owners on how they can reduce their risk."

The UHFD will be utilizing a custom checklist, based on recommendations by the state fire marshal. "If smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are needed, we will make recommendations and offer free installation," Perko said.

The Fire Prevention and Education Bureau has determined that most fires locally, as well as nationally, are cooking related. "Most reported fires did not have working smoke detectors," Perko said.

All residents who request an inspection will receive a swag bag with home fire safety information, magnets and other tools.

To schedule an appointment for your free home safety inspection, please call the Fire Prevention Bureau at (216) 321-1939.



**State of the
City 2020**

2.11.2020 | 7 p.m. | Jardine Room | John Carroll University

Join Mayor Michael Dylan Brennan at his second State of the City address. The event will take place at the Jardine Room on the campus of John Carroll University on Tuesday, February 11th at 7 p.m.

In his speech, Brennan will review our achievements from 2019, and look ahead to what we all can accomplish together in 2020, as the best is yet to come.



UNIVERSITY
HEIGHTS

Mayor Michael Dylan Brennan
University Heights City Hall
2300 Warrensville Center Road

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

with Mr. Walter Stinson

January/February 2020 schedule



All presentations are held at the University Heights Library at 13866 Cedar Road.

- January 16, 2:00 p.m. Ursuline College counseling and art therapy graduate students **Menna Asrat** and **Erin McCall** will share samples of their art and discuss how art breaks through barriers which traditional talk therapy often cannot.
- January 23, 2:00 p.m. The Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District is celebrating 70 years of conservation. Director **Janine Rybka** will discuss current future plans to protect the health of our shared soil and water resources.
- January 30, 2:00 p.m. **Ray Foeller** of the **Ohio Consumers' Counsel** will discuss his work as a residential utility advocate for consumers of Ohio's publicly owned natural gas, electric, telephone, and water companies.
- February 6, 2:00 p.m. **Michael Landsdale**, interpretive ranger, **National Parks of the U.S.**, will share his nature photographs. He will also discuss the popular "A Kid in the Park" program.