

Hydrants flushed in Sharon, Concord

Concord Township residents are asked to tolerate a slight discoloration of their water during the upcoming spring hydrant flushing program.

Hydrants will be flushed from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. beginning Monday for about four weeks, according to a township news release.

Discoloration can be cleared by running cold water for a few minutes before use, the release revealed. Call the township fire department at (440) 354-7508 with questions.

Meanwhile the city of Sharon fire hydrant flushing has been rescheduled for this Monday through Friday.

It is recommended that residents do not wash clothes during that time. It is also recommended that hot water tanks be flushed out after the hydrant flushing has been completed.

Mentor Rec sets Pepsi Pitch and Run

The Mentor Recreation Department will host the annual Pepsi Pitch and Run Competition at 3:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Civic Center Ballfields next to Mentor High School.

The free, national competition is open to boys and girls age 7 through 14 as of July 16. Winners in the local meet advance to sectionals, team and then national finals at the Major League All-Star Game this summer. Participants should bring their own ball glove. No metal spikes will be allowed.

Balls and bats will be provided, though competitors may also use their own bat if they choose. Players compete in three events — batting, pitching and running.

Registration will be at 3:45 p.m. the day of the event. For more information on the events, call the recreation department at (440) 974-5720.

Donated books needed for sale

Bainbridge Library will host a used book sale sponsored by the Bainbridge Women's Club May 15-19.

All proceeds will be returned to the library.

Preview sale for members of the Friends of the Bainbridge Library and the Women's Club will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. May 15. Membership dues can be paid at the door. At 6 p.m., the sale will open to the general public and will continue until 8:45 p.m.

Sale hours for the remainder of the week are 9 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday (bag days).

Gently used book donations will be accepted beginning Friday.

The library is at 17222 Snyder Road.

For more information, call the library at (440) 543-5611.

Agenda

The Agenda lists public meetings and closed executive sessions in the area today, unless otherwise noted. Anyone who wishes to attend a meeting, but who requires special accommodations, should contact the sponsoring agency.

Concord Township trustees: 8:30 a.m. Monday, executive session, town hall.

Cuyahoga County Elections Board: 9 a.m., Monday, board offices, 2925 Euclid Ave., Cleveland.

Corrections

If you see an error in our paper, please let us know by calling (440) 951-0000 or (800) 947-2737, Ext. 541.



Maribeth Joeright/MJoeright@News-Herald.com

Jeanne Bones of Chester Township operates Happy Tails, a cat rescue organization now in its 25th year. In the background is volunteer Jennifer Bressler of Munson Township. Jeanne is holding Emmett, a 9-month-old male cat.

Happy Tails still to the rescue

■ Cat sanctuary marking 25 years with event on May 19 in Chester Twp.

Jennifer McKeivitt

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It's a happy day for Happy Tails Cat Sanctuary.

The shelter kicks off its 25th anniversary year May 19 with a breakfast buffet at Maxx Doogan's restaurant, 8389 Mayfield Road in Chester Township.

Doreen Lazarus, a board member of the sanctuary, looks forward to the event. "We have a lot of exciting prizes and auction items available," Lazarus said. "I think it's going to be fun for everyone who attends."

The festivities will begin at 9 a.m. with silent and Chinese auctions. Also, 50-50 raffle tickets (\$2 each or three for \$5) will be available, as will raffle tickets for a 14-carat gold ladies diamond cocktail ring valued at \$500 (\$5 each or three for \$10), which was donated for the event by Affordable Jewelry, Coins & Loans in Wickliffe.

Tickets for the 50-50 raffle also may be purchased in advance through May 16 from A Dog's Life, Ambrose Leasing, Chesterland Pets, Convenient Food Mart in Chester, Dogs in Suds, Maxx Doogan's in Chester, Kirtland Feed and

The Next Energy Store in Kirtland, and Pat O'Brien Chevrolet in Willoughby Hills.

Some of the items available for auction include a Delta B golf putter, valued at \$179; a handcrafted feline jungle gym, valued at about \$150; and pet boarding at the Liberty Bell Farm in Newbury Township (five days for a dog at A Dog's Hotel and five days for a cat at The Cat's Inn, both within the Liberty Bell facility), along with a dog bed with a radiant warming insert, worth approximately \$150.

"What always kept me interested in supporting the Happy Tails Cat Sanctuary is that it is primarily a cageless sanctuary," Lazarus said. "The cats have so much more freedom than at conventional shelters."

"Also, the dedication of Jeanne Bones, who runs the sanctuary, has always amazed me," Lazarus continued. "She has dedicated her life to this cause, and any way that I and the other volunteers can assist her we want to do. I think of her as the Mother Teresa of cats."

Bones, who founded and directs the shelter, described her current goals for Happy Tails.

"I'd like to get a small addition put up to house the cats who are sick, since upper respiratory ailments travel so fast between animals," Bones said. "I'd also like to get the outdoor playpens realigned

for a cat agility course — it would be great if someone stepped forward to assist with something like that. We are always looking for volunteers."

As always, the shelter is in need of basic cleaning supplies such as cat litter, dry cat food, bleach, paper towels, garbage bags and Tide laundry detergent.

"I do a lot of cat laundry," Bones said. Located in Chester Township, the non-profit Happy Tails Cat Sanctuary serves the Greater Cleveland area and is filled to capacity with cats of varying ages and needs. Since 1982, cats have found refuge there in a mostly cageless environment.

The sanctuary has found adoptive homes for numerous cats, but some will spend the rest of their lives at Happy Tails because they are not traditionally adoptable due to age or infirmity. All receive shots and are spayed or neutered.

For reservations to attend the May 19 benefit, or for more information about the event, contact Doreen Lazarus at (440) 759-0076 or at dlazarus@hlcommunications.com. Officials from other animal rescue organizations that want to display and/or distribute their literature at no cost may also use that contact information.

Reservations must be paid by May 14. Inquiries and donations also can be mailed to Happy Tails Cat Sanctuary, P.O. Box 581, Chesterland, OH 44026.

Police chase starts in Richmond Heights, ends in Wickliffe

Jason Lea

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A Cleveland man led officers on a car chase through Richmond Heights, Euclid and Wickliffe before being taken into custody, Lt. Bob Glaetli, a Richmond Heights officer, said.

Bruce Hackett, 51, of 2121 W. 117th St., was taking three food mixers — valued at \$778 — from a department store on

Richmond Road on Wednesday when he was approached by store security, according to the police report.

When questioned, the suspect dropped the mixers and ran to his white 1990 Lincoln Town Car, Glaetli said.

The suspect exited north onto Richmond Road and almost struck a pedestrian, according to the report.

Hackett drove at "a high rate

of speed," ignored officers' attempts to stop him and went through red lights through Richmond Heights and Euclid, Glaetli said.

Officers thought they saw Hackett throw two objects from his vehicle while he was driving on Richmond Road in the vicinity of the Richmond Heights Post Office, Glaetli said. However, they found nothing when they later

searched the area.

Hackett stopped of his own volition on Lloyd Road in Wickliffe and was taken into custody without further incident.

He was charged with theft, a fifth-degree felony; and fleeing and eluding police, a fourth-degree felony. If convicted on both charges, Hackett could be sentenced to up to 30 months in jail and \$7,500 in fines.

Middle approve contract

■ Village renew with Community Care Ambulance des concerns from

Jennifer Mc

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Middlefield Village William Reed has some

"I missed the meeting. I was out of town. I'm sorry. I'll be there next time." Community Care Ambulance representatives on the back of Thursday night's Village meeting. "But I heard about it and I have a problem with it on mutual aid. I also think it should be held more account ability. That's my opinion."

Reed was referring to a council meeting in March at which Community Care officials gave response times, mutual aid topics.

Reed sought confirmation of observations from Pat Stehlik.

"I can prove that there's more than once a year," Stehlik agreed.

"They did so five times alone," Stehlik said. "I'll patch records."

"And 20 times since then," Stehlik added.

Despite Reed's concerns, the contract with Community Care was approved for renewal by the council.

"They've offered a bid," said Village Administrator William Reed. "With what's happened with gasoline lately, I think it's very fair."

The new contract is for \$44,000 a year starting in 2003. That is up from an initial bid of \$30,000 in 1999.

Community Care is the only bid that no other bids were received. "We don't have any other bids," Weir said. "No one is knocking on our door."

Reed said he has seen Community Care's utility bills. "We're sending an ambulance company the fire department calls."

"I thought that when you're on a roof for a chimney, you supposed to send a person up to the parapet to know that. I don't want to be up there without a person below."

Lee said it's in the contract to do so.

"If they're not sending us a person, let us know, and we'll let them know," he said.

He also offered to provide a copy of the contract.

"We'll get you a copy of the specifics," Lee said. Julie Rose, executive director of Community Care, reached Reed's mutual aid.

"We have greatly improved mutual aid in the Middlefield since we took over the previous contract. We believe our statement of representation regarding ambulance indicator."

Regardless, Community Care's four-year contract will expire in March.

"We feel privileged to be a provider," Rose told Reed.