

West LIFE

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Sewer fee increase proposed

By Kevin Kelley

FAIRVIEW PARK

In an effort to maintain the city's aging sewer infrastructure and pay for growing environmental mandates, the Patton administration is seeking to increase sewer fees by 44 percent over the next three years.

Mayor Eileen Patton made the proposal at a City Council committee meeting Nov. 23. Council must approve any increase in residents' sewer fees.

In making the proposal, Patton noted that residents have not seen an increase in sewer fees since 1994.

Fairview Park residents pay sewer fees through their quarterly water bill. The current fee, based on water usage, is \$27 per Mcf, or thousand cubic feet, which is 7,480 gallons. The city is proposing an increase of \$6 per Mcf in 2010, with a further increase of \$3 in 2011 and another \$3 in 2012.

The mayor said the average home in Fairview now pays about \$80 each quarter in sewer fees.

In the late 1990s, the City Council chamber was often filled to capacity

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Turkey Day football

Bobby Joyce, second from right, looks for the reception during an annual Thanksgiving Day football game played by friends and relatives at the Cahoon Memorial Park soccer fields. (West Life photo by Larry Bennet)

Police arrest second robbery suspect

By Jeff Gallatin

NORTH OLMSTED

Police officials have arrested a second suspect in a series of thefts and criminal damaging cases at the Butternut Ridge Apartments in November.

Officers have arrested a male in connection with the incidents, in which numerous vehicles either had items taken or were damaged when the culprits attempted to get into the vehicles. The arrest came after officers arrested an 18-year-old North Olmsted man in connection with the incidents, which took place overnight between Nov. 18 and 19.

"We developed information on the second suspect after talking to people about the incidents," Detective Ray Barda said.

Officers arrested the first suspect after initially talking to him at the scene, where he claimed to have had a car broken into as well. Later, he came to the police station trying to reclaim a cell phone that he claimed was taken or lost during the incident. Police noticed inconsistencies with his story after questioning him further and arrested him.

Barda said after arresting the duo, they have recovered items taken from vehicles in the incident.

"We've got about 15 different items which were taken from different vehi-

cles," he said. "Not all the vehicles had items taken. Some only had damages from the culprits trying to get into them."

Barda said the investigation to date has not established any links to other break-ins or incidents in which items were taken from unlocked cars but added that it is something officers will look into.

"They may be like other groups which have hit vehicles only in one or a few incidents in the same area, but we will see if there are links to other incidents," he said.

Barda also didn't rule out the possibility of further action by police, saying there could be another arrest in the case.

Planet Fitness to open at Beachcliff

By Danielle Toth

ROCKY RIVER

Beachcliff Market Square will soon have a new anchor tenant as a 16,000-square-foot, \$1.5 million Planet Fitness will open next to RE/MAX Crossroads in mid-January.

Presales will begin today, when Planet Fitness will be selling discount memberships, franchisee Armando Sangermano said. Presale hours will be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through

Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. New members will also receive a free T-shirt.

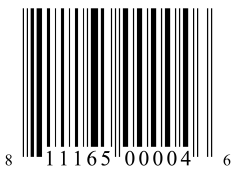
"I like and enjoy fitness," said Sangermano, originally from New Hampshire. "I want to help people of all shapes and sizes. One of the biggest things about Planet Fitness is we don't judge here. This is a non-intimidating, friendly environment geared toward the everyday person."

Each Planet Fitness is a "Judgment Free Zone," meaning anyone is welcome and the environment is casual.

The franchise utilizes more cardio equipment rather than heavy weights, general manager Scott McCabe said. The club also has a "lunk alarm," which flashes and rings if the exerciser excessively grunts, drops weights or judges another exerciser.

There are no group exercise classes, but members receive free fitness training as part of their membership that introduces the equipment and its uses,

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