

NEWS SUN

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2009

FOR COMMUNITY NEWS ALL DAY, EVERY DAY



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INSIDE YOUR SUN

GO SEEK



Antonio "Ton Gard"

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS IS?

Page A4

BEST OF THE BLOTTER



An Olmsted Falls woman received a few suspicious calls recently asking her if she feels secure. **The calls have made her feel anything but safe.** Find out why the question was asked in **THE BLOTTER, A2.**

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Front Street closing: 10 days later

Commuters adjust but businesses worried

By Jaime Anton
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BEREA — Front Street's closure was expected to cause chaos but things seem to be going smoothly since the road was closed on May 4.

The roadway closed to construct an overpass over the two sets of busy train tracks

that have routinely tied up traffic. City Engineer Tony Armagno said residents and motorists seem to be adjusting.

"I haven't received as many calls as I was expecting," he said. "People seem to have been prepared for this."

The bulk of complaints have come from Front Street

companies weary of the impact on business. At their urging, the city posted signage notifying the public that all businesses are open through the duration of the project. But those north of the tracks can be accessed only from North Rocky River Drive.

See FRONT, A6



Front Street closed May 4 so that crews can construct an overpass over the two sets of busy railroad tracks.

JAIME ANTON/SUN NEWS

Rec levy may be put back on ballot

By Dustin Brady
Correspondent

OLMSTED FALLS — With almost 75 percent of the city's voters deciding against the new parks and recreation levy May 5, City Council is not about to put it back on the November ballot as a new tax. Instead, they plan to put the current parks and recreation

levy on as a renewal. Even though the new levy (Issue 6 on the ballot) would not have cost taxpayers any more money, it was voted down by a resounding 1,107 to 387 vote according to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections.

While City Council President Garry Thompson said

See LEVY, A11

Stimulus funds pegged for Brook Park sewers

By Jaime Anton
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BROOK PARK — It may have been a long shot when several local cities submitted requests for stimulus dollars alongside thousands of others in the nation. But surprisingly Brook Park pulled back a full hand — \$1.4 million worth.

This money will help fund Phase 2 of the Smith and Hummel roads sanitary sewer

that is expected to ease the city's flooding woes and benefit nearly 75 percent of the community.

The \$5.7 million project is slated to begin this summer and take about 15 to 18 months to complete.

Crews will pick up where they left off with Phase 1, just south of Brookpark Road and continue down Smith to Hummel and then east, ending at

See FUNDS, A12



JAIME ANTON/SUN NEWS

Eleven-week-old Brady Adams helped daddy-to-be Andrew Kramer learn the ropes of feeding and holding at last month's Boot Camp for New Dads.

Boot Camp gives new dads some basic training for baby

By Jaime Anton
janton@sunnews.com

It could possibly be one of the most stringent boot camps around.

Sure there's no marching, maybe a little pacing, but don't let that fool you; the drill sergeant can be very intimidating.

What new recruit wouldn't stand down to a screaming newborn demanding a diaper change and a bottle pronto?

Last month, a group of rookies were put through their paces at the Boot Camp for New Dads hosted by Southwest General Health Center.

The hands-on class is designed to help dads-to-be become comfortable with baby basics — holding their newborns, soothing crying, changing a diaper, feeding and burping. They also learn how to support their partners. Also, it's a forum that allows men to discuss sensitive topics and voice their fears and concerns.

Two veteran dads, Brian Olesinski of Seven Hills and Bob Adams of Middleburg Heights, brought in their infant sons Max and Brady. Olmsted Falls Firefighter Randy Kimbro, who's the father of a 16-year-old and an 18-year-old, leads the class in



Veteran dad Bob Adams steps in to assist dad-to-be Tim Schultz, of Middleburg Heights, who is attempting to comfort Adams' fussy son, Brady.

discussion.

"One of the great things about this class is that they can talk about breastfeeding, cracked nipples or if they'll ever have sex again. It's one of the few places they can feel comfortable talking about these things," Kimbro said.

Many of the fathers walk into class afraid of dropping their babies, worried about finances if mom stays at home, and concerned about late night baby cry-a-thons.

Olesinski said he's been there.

"I was afraid about having a kid, but now, Friday nights I'm spending with Max," he

See CAMP, A6



Tim Schultz, of Middleburg Heights, gently cradles Maxwell Olesinski, of Seven Hills, as practice for his own bundle of joy due to arrive soon.



JAIME ANTON/SUN NEWS

Ricky, Dominic, Darian and Tina Stone are heading to North Carolina this weekend to meet the bone marrow donor who saved Dominic's life.

Youngster set to meet 'superhero' who saved his life

By Jaime Anton
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BROOK PARK — Dominic Stone adores his Power Rangers and Spiderman.

But this weekend the 6-year-old gets to meet his real life superhero, the man who saved "Dommy's" life by

donating bone marrow four years ago.

Dommy was upstairs playing with one of his superhero figures while the News Sun interviewed his parents, Ricky and Tina, and older brother Darian, 7.

"He considers (the donor) See HERO, A11

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Boot Camp gives new dads some basic training for baby

Thursday, May 14, 2009

By Jaime Anton janton@sunnews.com %%par%%

The Sun Star

It could be one of the most stringent boot camps around.

Sure, there's no marching -- although maybe a little pacing -- but don't let that fool you. The drill sergeant can be very intimidating.

What new recruit wouldn't stand down to a screaming newborn demanding a diaper change and a bottle -- pronto?

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Two veteran dads, Brian Olesinski of Seven Hills and Bob Adams of Middleburg Heights, brought in their infant sons Max and Brady. Olmsted Falls firefighter Randy Kimbro, who's the father of a 16-year-old and an 18-year-old, leads the class in discussion.

"One of the great things about this class is that they can talk about breastfeeding, cracked nipples or if they'll ever have sex again. It's one of the few places they can feel comfortable talking about these things," Kimbro said.

Many of the fathers walk into class afraid of dropping their babies, worried about finances if mom stays at home, and concerned about late night baby cry-athons.

Olesinski said he's been there.

"I was afraid about having a kid, but now, Friday nights I'm spending with Max," he said.

Most new dads walk away with a sense of confidence.

"My wife signed me up for all these classes," said Tim Schultz of Middleburg Heights. "But this one I connected with most, having two seasoned fathers come in and talk about finding their own way and how they learned with the baby."

He said knowing that there's not one right way to feed or burp a baby was freeing.

"I definitely have more confidence," Schultz said. "It was nice having the babies here. The dads both feed and rock their babies, but they do it differently. I need to find my own way. My daughter will let me know."

For many, like 53-year-old Robert Manning of Strongsville, this was their first time even being around a baby.

"I've managed to go this far without holding a baby or changing a diaper," Manning said. "It was great just knowing I could hold a child and not hurt it. Children have to be treated with care, but they're not china dolls."

Jacob Frankenberger of Berea also has little experience with newborns.

"I've always been good with kids, but I've never been around a baby," he said. "I learned about what some babies go through and what to do to prevent it from happening."

Boot Camp was founded in Irvine, Calif. in 1990 by Greg Bishop after friends kept asking the now 57-year-old father of four and sibling of 12 for child-rearing advice. His nonprofit program has since been named a best practice by the Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Army, which supports classes on its posts.

The program is validated by research and is considered an exceptional means of supporting dads-to-be and fostering behaviors that greatly benefit children and help prevent a wide range of social ills, such as shaken baby syndrome.

There's the class discussion and then the room splits off into groups for one-on-one time with the babies and the vets. Then the groups switch so that rookies can gain insight from all the veteran fathers and handle different babies.

"You are already ahead of a lot of dads who aren't here and are having kids," Adams told his group.

Olesinski agreed. Nowadays fathers are involved with their children throughout the process, attending doctor appointments, coaching through delivery and being a parent right alongside their wives.

"The fact that you are here on a Saturday speaks to your character," he said. "You want to be good dads. I think fathers want to be involved again. This is not like the dads who would come home from the office and expect everything to be done."

But some things just can't be experienced in class.

"It's a good..." Adams stopped himself while describing being a father. "No, it's a great experience."

The next upcoming boot camps are from 9:30 a.m. to noon May 16, June 27 and August 1. For more information, visit birthandfamilyclasses.com or call (440) 816-8036.

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