



THE PLAIN DEALER

Community News Briefs

Friday, August 11, 2006

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Hearings on pay raise dispute

Garfield Heights Municipal Judge Deborah Nicastro started hearing testimony Thursday to determine whether Mayor Thomas Longo, Finance Director Richard Obert and City Council should be held in contempt for refusing to issue pay raises to some court employees in June. Witnesses testified to the city's past practices in granting pay increases and to whether the mayor's decision to withhold raises while employees form a union is common. Wednesday, the 8th Ohio District Court of Appeals denied the city's request to defer the hearing on the grounds that issues pertaining to operational costs of the court are not under Nicastro's jurisdiction. Court will reconvene Monday.

CLEVELAND

Case appoints interim dean

Case Western Reserve University has appointed Mohan Reddy, an associate professor of marketing and policy studies, as interim dean at the Weatherhead School of Management. Reddy, a professor at Weatherhead since 1985, replaces Myron Roomkin, who stepped down Aug. 1. Reddy earned both master's and doctoral degrees from Case. His research is in the area of industrial marketing, and technology development and diffusion.

Zoo will resume regular hours

Beginning Sept. 5, the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo will return to its regular daily hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The zoo's seasonal exhibits end Labor Day, including Touch! Amazing Rays & Sharks, Butterfly Magic and Camel rides. After Labor Day, Dr. ZooLittle's Wild Animal Show continues weekend-only performances through September. For information, call 216-661-6500, or go online to www.clemetzoo.com.

Nominees for hero awards

The American Red Cross Greater Cleveland Chapter is seeking nominations for its fourth biennial Hero Awards luncheon, presented by KeyBank on Nov. 3 at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel. The Heroes award recognizes people from all walks of life, in the categories of public safety, fire and rescue, education, military, health care, youth, older adults and others. For details, call 216-431-3256 or 216-431-3284. Nominations can be made online at www.redcross-cleveland.org by Sept. 8.

Free legal advice offered

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland will offer free advice on civil matters such as divorce, custody and bankruptcy during a clinic at the Spanish American Committee, 4407 Lorain Ave., from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday. Volunteer attorneys from McDonald Hopkins will provide the advice, and bilingual assistance will be available. The clinic will not address criminal cases. For information, call 216-687-1900.

BRECKSVILLE

Schools superintendent hired

Thomas Diringer is the new superintendent of the Brecksville-Broadview Heights School District. The board unanimously voted Thursday night to hire Diringer, according to a news release. Diringer is the superintendent of the Firelands schools in Oberlin. He is a graduate of Kent and Bowling Green State universities. He has also worked as a high school principal in Fairport Harbor, Ashtabula and Bedford. Diringer is scheduled to join the Brecksville-Broadview district in September, according to the release. Board President Alan Scheufler said Diringer's yearly salary will be \$128,000 for three years.

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