

Mayor Bodnar is easily reelected

Jeff Piorkowski *Special to Sun News*

Mayor Brenda Bodnar was the only Mayfield elected official to face opposition in the Nov. 7 election.

Bodnar outdistanced challenger Denise D. Calabrese by a count of 1,034 votes (75.4 percent) to 337, according to final, unofficial results from the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections.

Incumbent Village Councilwoman-at-Large Jennifer Jurcisek, Ward 1 Councilman Bill Marquardt and Ward 3 Councilman Dennis Murphy Jr. won without opposition.

Looking ahead to her third term, Bodnar said: "The next four years are going to have quite a few challenges for us. I think we'll be working hard on economic development.

"The goal is to create strategic opportunities for economic development. We want to collaborate with our existing businesses to help them grow and bring in new business to try and grow a little bit more

diverse business base and increase jobs.

"We don't want to grow Mayfield Village; we want to do the old 'think big, stay small' thing. It's going to be imperative to budget wisely and spend cautiously."

"We do have promising economic development leads we're working on," she added. "Nothing we can talk about yet, but there are some interesting things out there that would help us grow our income tax base."

Mayfield's biggest taxpayer for many years has been Progressive Insurance. In July, Progressive announced that it would move employees from its Wilson Mills Road campus — Campus 1 at 6300 Wilson Mills Road — to a consolidated office at the company's North Commons Boulevard location.

When COVID-19 struck in 2020, Progressive allowed employees to work from home. While many companies have called employees back to offices, Progressive has had only up to 10 percent of its workforce back in its offices.

SEE MAYFIELD MAYOR, A7



Mayfield Mayor Brenda Bodnar says the village has been planning for a permanently reduced level of income tax revenue from Progressive Insurance as the majority of its employees continue to work from home, rather than at the Mayfield campus.

Jeff Piorkowski, Special to Sun News

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This has caused some uncertainty for Mayfield's finances. Asked about Progressive, Bodnar said: "Our income tax revenues from Progressive have remained steady, at a reduced level. We have planned for a permanent reduction in income tax revenues from Progressive."

"What we are waiting for now is the Ohio Supreme Court decision on whether we must issue income tax refunds for individuals who worked from home in 2020," she added.

"Our current reserves and tight fiscal management, combined with the high interest rate earnings environment we are currently experiencing, will help to sustain us operationally going forward.

"In the meantime, our focus has been on economic development," she said.

"We have limited real estate to work with, and are looking at ways to grow and diversify our business base. This involves working with businesses to bring new uses to vacant properties, locating spaces for growth and providing performance-based incentives to bring new jobs and income taxes to the village."

Student art contest winners made village a spookier place

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Once again, local students did their best to make Mayfield a spookier place during the Halloween season as they participated in the Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation Department's annual Window Painting Contest.

The contest included young artists in grades 6, 7 and 8 in the Mayfield School District. Seventeen local business owners allowed approximately 40 students to paint Halloween-themed scenes on their windows. The creations were then judged by a team of, in the words of the recreation department, "some very thoughtful and creative individuals."

Taking first place was "The Ghost Outside a Window," painted at Dr. Megan Ursick's office by Frida Guzman Olvera, a 7th grader at Mayfield Middle School. The judges stated that Frida showed "great detail, depth, originality and appeal."

Second place went to Oliver Koeberer for his "Spooky Cat" scene painted on a Fish Furniture window. Oliver is a 6th grader representing St. Paschal School.

There was a tie for third place. Congratulations to Emily Morgan, Audrey Wilhelm and Sophia Caunter, all 8th graders at Mayfield Middle School, who painted a "fantastic" Halloween scene at Super Cuts.

These three shared third place with Mayfield Middle School 7th grader Yashas Mishra and 6th grader Samyak Shah, who painted Billy the puppet from the movie "Saw" on the window of Great Clips.

Finishing in fourth place were Lilli and Izzy Salvatore, 6th and 8th graders at St. Francis School. They painted a "Ghost in a Pumpkin" at Advanced Spinal.

And, fifth place honors went to Avery Krebs, Elli Baco and Brooklyn Layne, who are 7th graders at St. Paschal. Their painting of Frankenstein can be seen at Marshall Flooring.

The following students in grades 6-8 from St. Francis, Mayfield Middle School and St. Paschal received honorable mentions: Brooke Lydic, Ella Gaghan, Juliana Fuote, Lucia Staron, Annie Koehler, Annemarie Fuerst, Hannah Muellner, Parker Franks, Abigail Orlando, Sarah Kerns, Kailyn Uzzo, Gabby Haddad, Emily Vaccarino, Maria Hanaan, Giuliana DiGer-



Mayfield Middle School student Frida Guzman Olvera, the first place winner in the Mayfield Village student Halloween window art contest, and her creation, "The Ghost Outside a Window." The painting was done on a window at the office of Dr. Megan Ursick, who is pictured with Frida, at 865 S.O.M. Center Road. Village of Mayfield

onimo, Chloe Haneline, Gia Soriano, Elle Bauman, Gabby Moio, Audrey Schiller, Sophia Koumonduros, Abigail Spencer, Penelope Dixon, Emmy Herberth, Sydney Kraynak and Isabella Washington.

Other participating merchants were Aladdin's, Charley's, ECclipse Hair, Five Below, Gary Ann Hair Studio, Georgio's Pizza, Heinen's, Geraci's Pizza, Pizza Roma, Spirit of Clay, and Yours Truly.

Prizes for the students included trophies, ribbons, passes to Mayfield Village's Parkview Pool, and gift certificates from participating merchants.

MAYFIELD

Suspicious activity *Hickory Hill Drive*
Willoughby police reported Nov. 7 that information was received that a Mayfield resident had made an alarming post on his Facebook page.

Officers learned that the man had said in a post that he would, "make Columbine look like an Easter party."

Although the threat was not specific to any school, Mayfield schools were placed on a soft lockdown for the day.

It was determined the man, 48, no longer resided in the village and appeared to be living out of his car.

With assistance from Mayfield Heights police, who were familiar with the man, he was taken into custody when located in Willoughby.

Although he denied making the Facebook post, he was charged with inducing panic.

SEE POLICE BLOTTER, A4

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POLICE BLOTTER

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Property damage *Wilson Mills Road*

A woman struck a light pole with her vehicle in a business parking lot Nov. 1 causing minor damage.

Responding officers met with her and were able to find a property manager to have the incident reported for insurance purposes.

Fraud *Aintree Park Drive*

A resident said Nov. 2 that after applying online for an advance cash loan online, he was contacted by somebody he believed was presenting himself as a loan officer.

He said he gave that person some of his banking information and then learned that some fraudulent withdrawals were attempted on his bank account.

Suspicious activity *Wilson Mills Road*

A woman said Nov. 2 that after entering Interstate-271 in Beachwood, a man engaged in a road rage situation with her all the way until she exited in Mayfield.

She believed the man felt that she had cut him off and said he followed her even as she got off the freeway but appeared to have finally reentered the freeway.

She only asked that the incident be documented.

Suspicious vehicle *Wilson Mills Road*

Officers checked on a truck and trailer parked in the Yours Truly parking lot around 3 a.m. Nov. 4 and found the driver had been sleeping.

He was told not to sleep in the parking lot and sent on his way.

Police Blotter