

# Cheektowaga Bee Local News

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Thursday, April 28, 2022

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## Local youth recognized for volunteer service

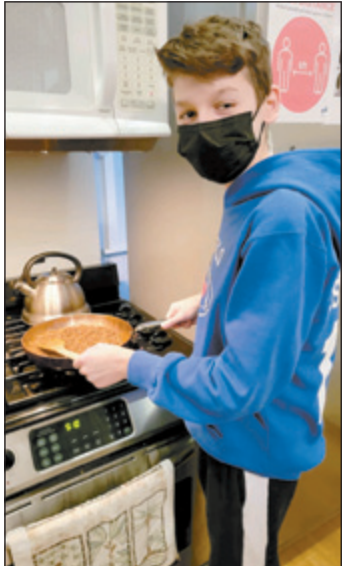
Luke Stachura is fairly new to the Cheektowaga Youth Engaged in Service Program, but that has not stopped him from being an exemplary member.

Stachura, a Sloan resident, joined the Y.E.S. program in October and has recently been named the organization's first Volunteer of the Month recipient since the program's re-launch in the fall.

According to information released by the Town of Cheektowaga, Stachura can regularly be seen helping out at holiday-themed craft nights or at the Lego Club at a local library.

"He's willing to jump right in to lend a hand with any task. He's always respectful and courteous while socializing with the program participants and fellow volunteers," said a release from the town.

While the volunteer is



**Luke Stachura** volunteers cooking, among other activities, with the Cheektowaga Youth Engaged in Service program.

young – a seventh grade student at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in Depew – he has put in 30 hours of community ser-

vice since October.

"Since joining in October, Luke quickly became an asset to the program and a volunteer we can continue to count on," said Alicia Hark, Y.E.S. program coordinator.

In January, the program was short-handed for help for an event set to take place at Grace Guest House and Stachura "stepped out of his comfort zone" to lend a helping hand.

"Even with no experience in the kitchen, he pitched in to help cook dinner for the families staying at the house," said a release from the town. "He had such a great time, he's signed up to help cook at that activity every month."

Outside of volunteering, Stachura spends his time playing sports, particularly participating in his travel basketball league.



**CANINE KINDNESS** – Joann Schaschek, a resident at Glenwell Senior Living Community in Cheektowaga, was one of several individuals there who recently celebrated National Pet Day by baking dog biscuits for Standing Together Animal Rescue Service. The treats are given to dogs as a source of comfort while they are waiting to be placed in their forever homes.

## CleveHill BOE (Continued from page one)

tax impact on the district, according to MacSwan, who said Cleveland Hill will fund the project by using \$2,790,000 from its capital reserve fund and the remaining amount will be paid for through a bond, where the district will receive nearly 90% back on every dollar it spends.

According to district figures, by the time the district finishes paying off the bond in 2040, the project will have paid for itself.

Jerry Young and Mike McCarthy from Young & Wright and Nick Humphrey and Allison Thomson from Campus Construction Management made a final pre-

sentation on the scope and plans for the project, which will feature work on the K-12 building, as well as the Morton Building.

They had also made a presentation to the board at its Jan. 19 meeting.

The work in the K-12 building will include upgrades to some of the kindergarten and first grade classrooms, as well as switching a lot of the old lighting fixtures to LED, HVAC upgrades, replacing windows and masonry repairs.

Exterior work will include parking lot and sidewalk replacements as well as replacing ramps and fencing at the baseball field.

McCarthy said that some of the work at the Morton Building, which houses most of the district's lawn equipment as well as athletic equipment was necessary to help the district protect the equipment.

The project would make that building more usable by adding insulation, heat, water, electric, lighting, as well as a fire alarm system and replacing the door to help prevent rodents from getting in.

"We spend a lot of money on pole vault mats, hurdles and things like that," MacSwan said. "They take a beating in the Morton Building. Everything from

mice getting in there, chewing holes through them to be out in the weather longer than they should be. So, it's really an important part for keeping and maintaining some of the equipment."

Thomson said that if the project receives voter approval, it would still be about a year and a half before any actual construction started. That's because the project would go through a design phase with the architects having multiple meetings with the district staff, principals, and maintenance staff, as well as going through multiple estimates to ensure they're staying within the \$12.57 million

budget.

After the drawings and designs are complete, they will go to the State Education Department for approval, then the project will go out to bid and work can begin.

"So, if we receive a positive vote in May, you won't see a whole lot going on at first," Thomson said. "But there is a lot going on behind the scenes with design meetings and doing the drawings and specs and everything like that."

The next meeting of the Cleveland Hill Board of Education will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 4. The meeting will include a public hearing on the adopted budget.

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