

# Solon

## T I M E S

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Photo by Michael Steinberg

Solon resident and Solon Center for the Arts instructor Jolee Klugherz teaches a pottery class to both youth and adults, which has grown in popularity. Here, she works on the pottery wheel providing instruction to Grace Lu.

## The spirit of clay

Pride in pottery making drives popular classes

By SUE REID

The possibilities are endless when it comes to pottery, and Solon resident Jolee Klugherz is bringing that reality to life for young and old alike.

As an instructor at the Solon Center for the Arts for the past three years, Ms. Klugherz, who holds a master's degree in art education, is

seeing a rising popularity in pottery for all ages.

"It's an exciting kind of program to develop," said Ms. Klugherz, 48.

She explained that pottery is less intimidating than other art forms, such as drawing, which she first taught when she began teaching at the art center.

"People are more willing to experiment with pottery," she said.

For those who have interest, no matter their skill level, Ms. Klugherz encourages them to take part. In recent months, evening classes have been added as well as a day class for adults, among other workshops.

What appeals to her personally

about pottery, Ms. Klugherz explained, is the ability to work with her hands.

"I like that it is a very different creative process than drawing," she said. "There is something about creating a form from a piece of clay that is so rewarding and gratifying."

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## Plan to connect community moving one step at a time

By SUE REID

The city is approaching the finish line when it comes to the implementation of a connectivity plan, Mayor Edward H. Kraus said last week.

Segments of Solon Connects, a community improvement project that would provide walkability and connectivity, is set to begin this year.

"We are getting close to the finish line," Mayor Kraus said.

City officials recently met with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, which is finalizing focus groups before rolling out the implementation of the connect plan.

Mayor Kraus explained that there will be a whole series of focus groups throughout this month and

early March. Those groups are comprised of community organizations throughout the city, whose input was also tapped last year.

Following that will be a town hall, a date of which has not yet been determined, to roll out the short-term plan for 2021.

"2021 would not be what I would call broad, expansive reconstruction projects" associated with Solon Connects, the mayor said. Instead, they would be smaller projects such as the installation of bike racks in the area of Heritage Coffee on Station Street as well as near the Mitchell's Ice Cream and Panera Bread shops on Kruse Drive.

"We will have a short-term plan

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## District teachers in line for COVID-19 vaccine

By SUE REID

Beginning Friday, the majority of Solon City School District teachers and staff – amounting to more than 600 individuals – will receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

District Communications Director Tamara Strom said those being vaccinated include teachers and staff members throughout the district. The second dose of the coronavirus vaccine will be administered on March 5.

There will be no school for students in Solon on Friday (Feb. 12) and on March 5 to accommodate the staff vaccinations.

Ms. Strom noted that it is not just teachers receiving the vaccine, but all school employees including bus

Contract OK'd: BOE, teachers agree to 1-year extension. **A3**

drivers and those in food service, among others.

"It covers the gamut of our entire school system," she said.

The voluntary vaccinations will take place in Independence and be administered at the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio by Giant Eagle pharmacists, the official partner with the schools in the Cuyahoga County area, Ms. Strom said.

The ESC coordinated the whole process, Ms. Strom continued, including the one-spot location for all

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