

Dear Friends,

While 2020 was a difficult year for all of us, I know the coronavirus pandemic has certainly hit community programming and gatherings especially hard. As we have begun to really turn the page on combatting this pandemic, it is important that we remain vigilant in the final push against this deadly disease. I realize now is not the time to let our guard down. So, it is with deep regret that I have made the decision to forgo this year's Glenville Festival.

As cases continue to shrink across the country, we must do all we can to continue to contain the virus. Each year, the Glenville Festival attracts thousands of people across Northeast Ohio. I believe, with that knowledge in mind, a cancellation of the festival this year will ensure that we do not contribute to the spread of cases or worse outcomes.

I can tell you firsthand that the Glenville Festival Committee very much appreciates the residents, past festival-goers, vendors, and sponsors who have reached out this year. Each group plays a central role in the success of the festival each year and I look forward to many successful Glenville Festivals for the years to come.

In the meantime, I continue to ask you to practice social-distancing, wear your masks in public spaces, and follow the guidelines set forth by community health officials. As I have said before, preserving a vibrant and healthy community has always been my number one goal.

Please be on the lookout for alternative programs and events that I believe will allow us to more safely gather this Spring, Summer, and Fall.

**I look forward to seeing you all at next year's festival on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022!**

Sincerely,

Anthony T. Hairston

Councilman, Ward 10