

# The Neighborhood News

## THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS TRIBUNE

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017

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FREE

### Suspect arrested in murder at Garfield Heights barbershop

Garfield Heights Police Chief Robert Byrne said a suspect in the November killing of a man at Skillz Barbershop on Turney Road has been arrested.

"Following a lengthy investigation by the Garfield Heights Detective Bureau, an arrest warrant was obtained for the arrest of Marlon Clemons, a 39-year-old Warrensville Heights resident," Byrne said via email. "Clemons is accused of shooting 21-year-old King Todd on November 22, 2016 at Skillz Barbershop located at 5629 Turney Rd."

Byrne said Clemons was arrested on Monday, Jan. 23, by the Northeast Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force in Cleveland. Clemons is currently being held in the Garfield Heights City Jail.

### Proposed tax increase to go to third reading in Bedford

By Judith Goldsworth

At the regular Bedford Council meeting last week residents spoke out on what they see as a spike in crime in the city, and officials announced a special meeting at City Hall at 7 p.m. this Thursday, Jan. 26, to possibly put a three quarter percent income tax increase on the May 2 ballot. If passed by voters, the additional revenue could be used to increase police presence and improve safety in the city.

Council placed an ordinance and resolution regarding the proposed income tax increase on second reading at last week's meeting. These were the only two items on the agenda. Both pieces of legislation need three readings to pass. The special meeting tomorrow is scheduled to meet the February 1 deadline to file the issue with the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections in time to appear on the ballot.

Additionally, there will be a Town Hall meeting held at City Hall at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 30, to discuss the possible income tax increase, Mayor Stan Koci, City Manager Mike Mallis and other city officials have announced.

One resident spoke on the attempted break-in of her house in broad daylight, between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. recently, stating, "Someone tried to kick my door in... what is the city doing about these thugs who are running the streets of Bedford, and what can I do as a private citizen to protect my property and safety? Give me some ideas here."

Koci replied, There are some individuals that are not desirable here, that we don't need, but it's not rampant that I see. We are a much more safe community than in the general area, but that doesn't mean we can't be vigilant... we need to look

### NN offers first Valentine's Day Love Line free!!

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Ads, including your name, phone number and form of payment, can be sent to The Neighborhood News office, 8613 Garfield Blvd., Garfield Heights, or emailed to nnews1923@aol.com. Ads must be received and paid for by February 1st.

out for our neighbors. If you see something, say something. What the police doesn't know about, they can't do anything about."

Koci suggested calling the police department "to get specific answers on personal care, on personal protection and home protection, on what to do. There are simple things, like lights on timers." He added that programs on personal safety and security for residents were in the works, and notification would be sent out on when those would be held.

Mallis also urged the resident to contact his office at any time, for any safety concerns she might have and to discuss potential solutions.

#### Tax increase discussed

Residents said they were willing to learn more about the need for the possible income tax increase.

A resident said that recent meetings of a focus group attended by citizens presented the idea that if the income tax increase were not passed, certain city services could be cut, including police, fire and service department employees.

Mallis reassured residents and employees not to panic, as nothing had been set in stone and suggested discussing this issue with Finance Director Frank Gambosi before jumping to any conclusions.

"By no means are we hiding what specific items are going to be cut, but at the same time, I would say, we know the deficit we're looking at. We've talked about it for two and a half years. Myself and the six other department heads sat in that room for three hours one day," Mallis said.

(Continued on Page 3)

### Garfield Hts., Newburgh Hts. receive funding for sewer projects

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's Board of Trustees has awarded \$7.2 million to 12 communities as part of the agency's newly-launched Member Community Infrastructure Program (MCIP), among them Garfield Heights and Newburgh Heights.

MCIP assists communities with local infrastructure improvements including new sewer infrastructure, repairs to reduce infiltration and inflow (leaking pipes) and remove failing septic systems from the environment to improve the region's water quality, public health and the environment.

"The projects we are funding through the Member Community Infrastructure Program will address impacts to human health and the environment from aging local sewer infrastructure," said Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, deputy director of Watershed Programs. "We are very pleased to partner with these communities to move these great projects forward."

Grants awarded include \$717,533 to Garfield Heights for Northwest Neighborhood Sanitary/Storm Sewer Reconstruction - Phase 1, and \$400,000 to Newburgh Heights for the East 54th and Brow Avenue Sewer Separation.

Many of the other projects approved for 2017 include the elimination of household sewage treatment systems or septic tanks. These projects, located in Seven Hills, Olmsted Falls, Moreland Hills, Strongsville, Parma and Olmsted Township, will result in approximately 900 new customers for the Sewer District and the elimination of the associated water quality impacts of such systems.

### Local athletes to play at The Q; CCC to take on Garfield Hts.

The Cleveland Central Catholic Ironmen boys basketball team will take on the Garfield Heights High School Bulldogs team at Quicken Loans Arena on Wednesday, Feb. 1, followed by the Cleveland Cavaliers vs. the Timberwolves.

The high school game will start at 3 p.m. and the Cavs vs. Timberwolves game will start at 7 p.m. One ticket for both games, \$30, available at the CCC Athletic Office, 6550 Baxter Ave. in Slavic Village. Tickets for the high school game only are not being sold.

Only cash or checks will be accepted at the athletic office. To purchase tickets with a credit card, contact Eileen, 216-441-4700, ext. 231.

Tickets are paperless; a Flash Seats account is required to purchase tickets as well as a credit card and/or driver's license to set up an account. Limited number available.

All are welcome to join fellow Ironmen at a social between games from 4-6 p.m. at Flannery's Irish Pub, 323 Prospect Avenue East, directly across from The Q!

### Deli in Bedford robbed again

By Judith Goldsworth

John's Deli in Bedford was robbed for the second time in two months last week. Police Chief Kris Nietert stated yesterday that no arrests have been made yet, and a suspect is still being sought.

The Northfield Road store, which was robbed in early December, was robbed again at about 7:50 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 20, by a suspect described as a short black male, in a black shirt and black pants, according to the police report.

It was not stated in the report whether a weapon was used.

The suspect stole money from two registers in the store and left on foot.

Evidence was collected at the scene and video footage gathered from the store's owners was turned over to the detective bureau, police stated.

### Garfield Heights Council okays purchase of surveillance cameras to stem tide of crime

By Ellen Psenicka

Garfield Heights Council met Monday night and passed legislation to enter into an agreement with Security Installations for the purchase, installation and maintenance of a citywide video surveillance network at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.

Under the proposed agreement, Garfield Heights would purchase 50 cameras to be installed at locations targeted by the city in conjunction with the Garfield Heights Police Department.

According to the ordinance, the cameras would provide the city and police with valuable evidence that could be used in the prosecution of criminals caught on tape, as well as serve as a deterrent to future crimes where individuals avoid criminal activity knowing cameras could be present in the area.

"We need to do whatever it takes to make our city safe," Mayor Vic Collova said during the meeting.

The legislation also stated that the cameras would be placed in public locations that would not impede upon the privacy of residents or their homes, and that information recorded by the network would only be viewed where a crime has taken place, and such information could be used in the apprehending or prosecution of a criminal.

Police Chief Robert Byrne noted recent crime trends in the city. He said there has been a rash of daytime burglaries lately with criminals stealing flat screen televisions from homes, and that thefts from autos has become a serious problem. He advised residents to remove valuables from their cars and lock them when not in use. Byrne also warned against leaving unoccupied cars running, an easy target for car thieves.

The chief also praised the good police work done in obtaining an arrest of the suspect wanted in the murder last November at Skillz Barber Shop on Turney Road.

Also passed at Monday's council meeting was an amendment to the collective bargaining agreement between the city and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, giving jailers and record clerks a one percent pay increase.

An emergency resolution was passed ratifying the appointment by the mayor of Bill Johnson to the city's Recreation Board for the term effective January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2022.

A resolution was also passed allowing the city to apply for the 2017 Community Recycling Awareness Grant.

The next regular meeting of council is set for Monday, Feb. 13.

### G.H. LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS NAMED



Winners of the 2016 Garfield Heights Holiday Lighting Contest were announced at Monday night's city council meeting and several of those honored, shown above, were on hand to receive their awards.

Citywide winners were Susan and Tony Kolcinko of Andover Blvd. Winners in each ward were: Ward 1 - Dave and Alexis Hurley of Marguerite Ave.; Ward 2 - The Sanchez-Aponte Family of Reindeer Ave.; Ward 3 - Tom and Lisa Johnson of Donovan Dr.; Ward 4 - Ted Jarosz and Mary Lou Schwertner of Park Heights Ave.; Ward 5 - Tony and Susan Kolcinko of Andover Blvd.; Ward 6 - Willard Avenue; Ward 7 - Jeffrey and Debbie Wilson of Carpenter Rd.

Photo by Michael Psenicka

### GHHS boys junior varsity bowlers win tournament

The Garfield Heights High School junior varsity boys bowling team recently won the "Tame the Panther JV Tournament."

The team defeated 16 bowling teams to win the tournament with a 3600 total pin count.

Members of the team, coached by Mark Sturik, are: Kurt Morilla, Jeremy Krul, Cory Baczkowski, Jared Lundgren, Josh Loeffler and Jeremy Woodford.

On the "All Tournament First Team," Morilla took second place with a 556 series and Baczkowski took fourth place with a 536 series.

The team also took first place in the Brush Arc Tournament.



Members of the Garfield Heights High School junior varsity boys bowling team are shown above with their championship trophy, from left: Jeremy Woodford, Jeremy Krul, Josh Loeffler, Kurt Morilla, Jared Lundgren and Cory Baczkowski.

### Bedford Lions Club celebrating 90 years of service

The Bedford Lions Club will celebrate 90 years of service on Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 8971 Wilcox Drive in Twinsburg, starting with cocktails at 5 p.m.

Guest speaker at the celebration will be Past International Director Steven D. Sherer, Ohio's endorsed candidate for International's third Vice President. The Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Sarah Johncock from Bedford High School, will provide entertainment.

Those interested in attending this gala or to learn more about the Bedford Lions can contact Donna Lorenz, chair, at 216-475-1834 or Lois Lowe at 440-232-3458.

Lions Club International, headquartered in Oak Brook, Illinois, is the largest service club organization in the world and is celebrating 100 years of service this year. The Bedford Lions Club is proud to have been part of this organization for 90 years.

Since 1917, Lions Clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired, championed youth initiatives and strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects.

Fourteen members attended the first meeting on April 27, 1926, and by the time the club received its charter on February 1, 1927, it had 35 members. At one time there were 100 members, with more on a waiting list. Membership has dropped, but the club still strives to follow its motto, "We Serve."



# Letters to the Editor

## Judge Pianka will be missed

We in the Greater Cleveland Polish American community have lost a very dear member, Judge Raymond Pianka. We are very proud of him as a family man and public servant. He was a well respected participant and patron of Polish culture who promoted knowledge of all things Polish. For example, he gave to the children's Polish Schools to foster their knowledge and participation in keeping traditions alive for generations to come.

And we are extremely proud of his accomplishments on the bench that sought to improve this great city of Cleveland.

His traits of honesty, fairness and unselfish devotion to all were a great example. On a personal level, I initially met him in our days at Cleveland State University and was impressed by his sincerity.

We in the Polish American community highly salute this fine human being, Raymond Pianka, and express our sincere condolences to his family. The city of Cleveland has lost a good man. Let us build on his example.

Joseph Feckanin

## District honors GHBOE members

The Garfield Heights City Schools would like to pay respect to the members of the Board of Education as the entire district celebrates Board Recognition Month in the State of Ohio.

Board Recognition Month is held during the month of January each calendar year to set aside time to officially "thank" the service of these individuals in their stewardship of the district.

Our school board members are the formal citizen-based liaison between the educational leadership of the school district and the community. Their main responsibilities include establishing and approving the budget each and every year, setting the district mission, vision and goals and helping to establish board policy.

Board members receive inquiries from the community-at-large and answer questions when they arise. Meeting at least one time publicly each month, so that the public can observe and participate in the gatherings of the Board, each member plays a distinctive role in the management of the district.

Please join the Garfield Heights City Schools in honoring the Board of Education. They are: President Gary Wolske, Vice President Christine A. Kitson, Member Robert A. Dobies, Sr., Member Joseph M. Juby and Member June A. Geraci. The entire district thanks them for their service.

## Proposed tax increase

(Continued from Page 1)

He said that the department heads had exhaustively discussed how the city could make up a \$1 million deficit, "and we could barely come up with \$600,000."

Koci said that any rumors about cutting employees were just that, rumors. "None of that has been settled," he said.

"Communication is always the key, and we are constantly looking at ways to improve that, and we are frustrated, too, in trying to get the messages out... we are not above turning down help. Communication is a problem, and until we do act, decide to vote and put this issue on the ballot, after that's done, that's what these meetings are about, all to get the message out and explain those things," Koci said.

"And if anybody has better ideas to get it out, please, we're open to anything," he continued.

"We will try to give the facts and give every fact we can, so

you have both sides of the story - what will happen if it passes, what will happen if it doesn't, and we will sit down. We will know each individual who might be laid off if this doesn't pass," Koci stated. "That will all come out after we vote whether or not to put this on the ballot."

Councilman Greg Pozar stated, "Ultimately, the voters will decide this. We just decide to put this on the ballot. You need it; our neighborhoods need it. We'll see what you say at the ballot box."

He added that if voters defeated the income tax increase, then decisions would have to be made. "We all have to share a piece of this... We love Bedford and want it to stay the way it was, but this is really troubling. The bottom line is, and I won't parse it or mince words, there is the bill, and how will we share it?"

## Golden Ager's Grapevine

### Liga Morska

Liga Morska Golden Agers will meet Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 11:30 a.m. at Cuyahoga Heights Village Hall on E. 71 St. A short meeting will be followed by a light lunch, raffle and games.

### St. Stanislaus

The St. Stan's Golden Agers will meet Thursday, Feb. 9, at 1:30 p.m. in the Social Center on Baxter Ave. A light lunch, raffle and games will follow a short meeting.

### Bingo

Seniors are invited to play Bingo on Wednesdays from 1-2:30 p.m. at Stella Walsh Recreation Center, 7345 Broadway Ave., Slavic Village. Play for free; winners will receive prizes.

## Area blood donation sites

The American Red Cross has a severe winter blood shortage and has issued an emergency call for blood and platelet donors to make a donation appointment now and help save patient lives. Upcoming blood drives include:

### Bedford:

February 13- Ellenwood Center, 124 Ellenwood Drive, 2 to 6 p.m.

### Garfield Heights:

February 13- Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Road, 2 to 6 p.m.

For a complete list of donation drives visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

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## Crime Stoppers takes anonymous tips

Crime Stoppers encourages members of the community to assist local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime.

## Low cost spay/neuter services

For the last 40 years, Valley Save-A-Pet has provided low cost spay/neuter services to pet owners in the Greater Cleveland area who cannot afford the regular cost of spay/neuter for their pets. Approximately 26 veterinarians have joined in to help with the organization's Have-A-Heart Program.

The veterinarians have discounted the cost of the first rabies and distemper vaccines at the time of spay/neuter. This program runs from February 1 through November: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For this service, call 440-232-9124.

Modest additional charges will be required for all animals not current on shots and for most large dogs whose weight might require special anesthesia.

Valley Save-A-Pet also provides services for feral cats through its "Trap, Neuter, Return" project and works with feral cat caretakers to spay/neuter the colony populations and reduce future births. For more information on the feral spay/neuter program, call 440-232-9124 on Mondays only from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Crime Stoppers provides an anonymous telephone number, Text Tips and Web Tips to encourage citizens to volunteer vital information helpful to law enforcement agencies. By offering anonymity and cash rewards for information leading to indictment or arrests, the program encourages otherwise reluctant callers to provide information.

The 24/7 hotline number, 216-252-7463, allows the caller to remain anonymous. The phone does not have a caller ID function and calls are not recorded.

Those with information can also text TIP657 plus your message to 274637, or can submit information online at [www.25crime.com](http://www.25crime.com).

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## Settlement's Hunger Center offers help

University Settlement's Hunger Center, located at 4800 Broadway Ave. in Cleveland, is open Tuesday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and every Tuesday evening for a free community meal from 6-7 p.m.

The Center provides a 3-5 day supply of groceries each month, a fresh produce distribution on the first Monday of each month, free community cooking demonstrations, referrals to in-house programs and community services, supplemental nutrition and health literacy information and services as an Ohio Benefit Bank site.

For more information on University Settlement services, call 216-641-8948.

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# Collova announces purchase of 50 surveillance cameras for Garfield Heights in Chamber's 'State of City' address

By Ellen Psenicka

Garfield Heights Mayor Vic Collova gave his annual "State of the City" address last Wednesday at the Knights of Columbus Grand Ballroom on Granger Road, sponsored by the Garfield Heights Chamber of Commerce.

A major announcement by the mayor was the city's pending purchase of 50 security cameras to be placed in hot spots throughout the city creating a video surveillance network.



Shown above at last week's "State of the City" address in Garfield Heights are, from left: Pat Salemi, Community/Public Relations/Grant Coordinator for Garfield Heights; Mayor Vic Collova; Garfield Heights Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gabriella Huszarik; and Garfield Heights Economic Development Director Noreen Kuban.

An emergency ordinance authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Security Installations for the purchase, installation and maintenance of the cameras was passed at Monday's meeting of Garfield Heights Council.

With the motto "Open for Business/Closed to Criminals," the Garfield Heights Police Department and Security Installations will determine where the devices will be located, Collova said.

He stated that the positives of the security cameras far outweigh the negatives and said they would benefit the city by helping in

police investigations, creating strong evidence for prosecutors and discouraging criminals from coming into the city.

The mayor also said any businesses which would like to sign up with Security Installations for cameras will be able to get them at the same cost as the city. Contact the mayor's office for details.

Mayor Collova also noted the Turney Road repaving project should start this April when the asphalt plants open; Bridgeview developers are working with the mayor and Economic Development Director Noreen Kuban and hopefully the city will have a major announcement in the spring; resurfacing of the bridge over Valley View is slated to start in October; and Garfield Heights is working to enhance its Meals on Wheels program.

Collova stated the Meals on Wheels program has a waiting list of seniors who would like to participate in the program. Any individual or business that would like to donate to the program can send a check to Finance Director Barb Biro's attention at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., Garfield Hts., OH 44125 and earmark it for the senior center's Meals on Wheels program.

## Death Notices

**ANDREW H. LEWANDOWSKI**, 73, of Cleveland, passed away January 15.

He was the beloved husband of Sandra (nee Barrett); loving father of Linda Samson (Frank) and Lois Coffey (Sean); special grandfather of Ashley, Frankie and Caden; son of the late Eleanor and John Lewandowski; dearest brother of George, Barbara (John), Jon (Bridget) and Joe (Sandi); uncle and great-uncle of many nieces and nephews.

Andy was an active member of American Legion Post 627, Lincoln Post PLAV 13, Richfield AMVETS 176 and Eagles 2217. He served as a sergeant in the United States Marine Corps and was a proud Presidential Honor Guard stationed in Washington, D.C. He was awarded a Good Conduct Medal and National Defense Service Medal.



## S.V. Neighborhood Summit set for March 11th at Bohemian Hall

The 20th annual Slavic Village Neighborhood Summit, "Back to the Future," is set for Saturday, March 11, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave.

All are welcome to fill the Slavic Village time capsule to be sealed in March and unsealed in the future! Arrive at the Summit with mementos of your family church, block club, street, school, business and social circle. Space in the capsule is limited; small items are preferred.

Keynote speaker at the event will be Richey Piiparinen, senior research associate, Center for Population Dynamics, Maxine Goodman, Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University. Lunch and networking immediately afterwards.

Refer any questions to Susan Gordon at Slavic Village Development, 216-429-1182, ext. 132, or via email, susang@slavicvillage.org.

Arrangements and services were handled by Fortuna Funeral Home on Fleet Avenue. Interment will be at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery at a later date.

**ROBERT W. CLEMENT**, 95, of Maple Heights, passed away on January 12.

He was the beloved husband of 71 years to Helen R. (nee Keller); loving father of Glenn (Jeannie) and the late Robert Charles (Marsha); cherished grandfather of Andrea Glanville (Rich), Kristina Bonnett (Josh), Jennifer Taylor, Jill Udell (Marc) and Susan Beinecke (Tim); dear great-grandfather of 10; cherished brother of the late Helen Pivonka, Charles and Ralph.

Arrangements were by Ferfolia Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made in his name to The Humane Society of the United States, www.humanesociety.org.

## Tutors needed at Bowman Center

Tutors are needed for the Adult GED Education Program at the Thea Bowman Center at 11901 Oakfield Ave., Cleveland 44105.

Classes involve language, mathematics, social studies and science and are held Monday to Thursday, 1-3 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Volunteers select the number of days they want to volunteer.

If you are an educator and would like to share your skills and be a volunteer, contact Cheryl Johnson at 216-491-0699 or email at: cheryl.johnson@theabowmancenter.org.



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### 20th Annual Neighborhood Summit

Presents

## "Back to the Future"

### Award Nomination Form



As a resident in the Slavic Village Community, you are encouraged to nominate individuals and businesses who have either 1) been an asset to the community for at least 20+ years or 2) those who are new to community, but are making an impact.

These individuals will be acknowledged at our Summit:

**"Back to the Future"**  
**Saturday March 11 starting at 11am**  
**Bohemian National Hall 4939 Broadway.**

Please complete the nomination form and return it by Friday February 18th to Susan Gordon at:  
Slavic Village Development  
5620 Broadway Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44127  
Fax: 216-429-2632  
E-mail: susang@slavicvillage.org

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominee (including zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Your E-mail Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark which one best describes the person you nominated:


This person / business has been an asset in the community for 20+ years

This person/business is new to the community, but making an impact

Thank you

Individuals will be publicly recognized at the Summit. You may nominate more than one person, but please request an additional form for each nomination.  
**Thank you for your time.**

If you have any questions or would like to respond by phone, Please call Susan at 216-429-1182 ext. 132



5620 Broadway Avenue | Cleveland, OH 44127 | 216.429.1182 | fax 216.429.2632 | www.slavicvillage.org