

# The Neighborhood News

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99th YEAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022

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FREE

## Area suburbs to receive thousands from state for body camera programs

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine announced Friday that the state will award nearly \$4.9 million to law enforcement agencies across Ohio to help cover costs associated with body camera programs.

A total of 112 law enforcement agencies will receive grant funding as part of the Ohio Body-Worn Camera Grant Program. Of those agencies, 44 will use funding to create new body-worn camera programs and 68 agencies will dedicate funding toward expanding or upgrading existing technology.

In The Neighborhood News readership area, Garfield Heights will receive \$74,357; Independence \$59,107.20; Newburgh Heights \$41,334.85; Valley View \$4,521.

"Body cameras are an essential tool for policing, and the funds we're awarding today will help agencies purchase around 1,660 new body cameras and associated technology," said Gov. DeWine last Friday. "Body cameras are important not only for providing transparency to the public but also for adding an extra layer of protection for our officers."

Friday's grants represent the second round of funding awarded as part of the Ohio Body-Worn Camera Grant Program. The first round of grants, announced in January, provided funding to help 109 local law enforcement agencies purchase around 1,700 body cameras and related equipment.

Ohio's Office of Criminal Justice Services, which is administering the grant program, received \$11.4 million worth of grant requests for this round of funding. All qualifying agencies that applied for grants to establish new body-worn camera programs received funding, and the remaining funds went to existing programs to upgrade aging cameras, add storage capacity or hire record-retention personnel.

**2023 Marks the 100th Anniversary  
of The Neighborhood News**

**Enjoy your  
Free Calendar  
in this week's edition  
and look for more  
surprises throughout  
the coming year!**



## No issue next week; NN closed for holidays

This is the last issue of the year for The Neighborhood News as there will be no December 28th issue. Publication will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 4.

The office will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, through Friday, Dec. 30, and will reopen for business on Monday, Jan. 2. Normal deadlines for the Jan. 4th issue will apply.

The staff and management extend their wishes for a blessed and happy holiday season to all our valued readers and advertisers. We will see you next year when we begin our 100th year of bringing local news to the Slavic Village community of Cleveland and southeastern suburbs.

## Bedford Council authorizes 2023 repair work on Northfield bridge, Broadway

By Judith Goldsworth

With the cooperation of the Ohio Department of Transportation, long-awaited repairs on the Northfield Road bridge and the entire stretch of Broadway Ave. in the city of Bedford will begin next year, after council passed two ordinances authorizing the work at its meeting Monday night.

ODOT will pay 100% of the cost of the work on the Northfield bridge over the Metroparks and Tinkers Creek including repairs of sidewalks, railings, fences,

(Continued on Page 3)

## FILLING THE PANTRY AT OZANAM CENTER



## Joseph Kocab, leader in SE Cleveland's Czech community, passes away



Joseph Kocab, age 90, co-founder of the Czech Voice of Cleveland radio program and manager of the former Karlin Hall, a Czech social club on Fleet Ave. for decades, passed away last Saturday, Dec. 17.

His passing was just five days after the death of his nephew, Joseph C. Kocab, a past police chief in Brooklyn Heights.

John Sabol, the "Voice" now in the Czech Voice of Cleveland, announced Joe's passing to his listeners via email.

"Joe was a friend and mentor to many of us as well as a teacher and administrator in the Cleveland Public School System," Sabol said. "His knowledge of the history and historic personalities of Cleveland's Czech community was beyond encyclopedic, and he shared this knowledge on the radio program he founded with Vaclav Hyvner more than 50 years ago."

Sabol said a tribute radio broadcast honoring Kocab, who hosted the weekly broadcasts for 48 years, is being planned for Jan. 1.

Joe was a graduate of Benedictine High School, where he served as class president, member of the cheerleading squad and school newspaper staff. He received his B.A. degree in Zoology and his master's degree in educational administration from Ohio University.

He was a teacher and department head at John Adams High School in Cleveland from 1955-65, and served there as assistant principal in 1967. He was also assistant principal at Rawlings Junior High and South High schools from 1969-85.

Kocab was a past president of the Czech Catholic Union and continued to serve as a director on its national board until his death.

Funeral services for Mr. Kocab are being arranged by Bican Funeral Home, 5215 Fleet Ave., Cleveland. They will be announced when arrangements are completed.

Msgr. Richard Antall, pastor of Holy Name Church, recently received a large donation of food for the St. John Paul II Ozanam Center from a Christmas Food Drive collected by residents of Cuyahoga Heights, an initiative of Mayor Jack Bacci and Cuyahoga Heights Council.

The Ozanam Center is run by the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Name Parish. Msgr. Antall expressed his appreciation on behalf of all those who will benefit from the generosity of the Cuyahoga Heights residents. He is shown in photo behind Village of Cuyahoga Heights workers Bob Krajewski and Keith Meriwether.

## Little Free Library coming to Stafford Park

The city of Maple Heights has received funding from ServeOhio for the construction of a Little Free Library to be installed in Stafford Park early next year. The Little Free Library installation will honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his activism during the Civil Rights Movement.

Hope  
Love  
Joy  
Peace



Gail, Jack and Tony

May your new year be filled with these. From our family to yours,  
Best wishes of the Season and for a wonderful 2023.

**Tony Brancatelli**

City of Cleveland, Landmarks Commission

[Tonyb@slavicvillage.net](mailto:Tonyb@slavicvillage.net)

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Some books that will be featured in the library include "The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, A Young Civil Rights Activist" by Cynthia Levinson; and "We March" by Shane W. Evans, among others.

This collection of books will provide an opportunity for children to learn more about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through written works, while encouraging literacy development.

Thanks go to Elizabeth Marino, Building and Housing administrative assistant, for securing this grant for the Maple Heights community.

Updates will be provided in this newspaper when the Little Free Library is installed in Stafford Park.

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the Happiest of Holidays  
and a Blessed New Year**

**Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz**

**Finance Director Vern Blaze  
Vice Mayor David Grendel  
Independence City Council**



## Bedford Council authorizes 2023 repair work on Northfield bridge, Broadway Ave.

(Continued from Page 1)

expansion joints, drainage system and other items as stated in the ordinance authorizing that project, City Manager Mike Mallis confirmed. He said the estimated start date on the work is March 30, 2023.

As for the work on Broadway, which was originally scheduled to begin in 2027, ODOT will also begin that project next year. Mallis said the standard local contribution is 20% but the city was able to negotiate that down to 15%. He said Bedford will be responsible for roughly \$1.1 million of the cost of the project.

He stated that the city's portion of the project would be paid for through 2023 Road Program funds, American Rescue Plan Act funds, "and funds that we had available this year that we're carrying over that were earmarked for this project." The possibility exists for the city to also be eligible for a loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission, he added.

Mallis also mentioned that renovation work on the Pool House at the city's municipal pool will start in the coming weeks, and the city had met with the contractor who was awarded the bid for the project. Work is expected to start on Monday, Jan. 9, and will continue throughout the winter months, with a projected completion date by the end of May, in time for the pool season, he said.

Mallis also stated that \$700,000 in grant funding for the Bedford Commons project had come through, to be used for expansion and improvements to the Commons area in the city's Historic Downtown district.

### Legislation

Ordinances and resolutions passed at Monday night's meeting included:

- Ratifying a contract with Powerful Signal for the purchase of a cellphone booster signal for the Bedford Municipal Court, at a cost of \$22,084.

- As mandated by Ohio law, raising the yearly salary of the Bedford Clerk of Courts, who is also the Court Administrator, by 1.75%, from \$124,283.40, to \$126,458.75, beginning Jan. 1, 2023. The city will pay 60% of that amount, with Cuyahoga County paying the remaining 40%, Mallis said.

- A contract with Paladin for a new card reader access system for the Bedford Municipal Complex, at a cost of \$43,788.47.

- Amending previous legislation authorizing a contract with GPD Group for engineering services within the city.

- A contract with National Pump and Process for emergency removal and diagnostics of a sand filter pump at the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant, at a cost of \$12,969.

- Contract with Bain Enterprise to purchase LED stop signs, LED traffic signs and flashing LED pedestrian signs to enhance safety in the city, at a cost of \$20,020.

### Announcements

Mayor Stan Koci presented Dinah Mouat of the South-

*Merry Christmas and happy new year from  
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*What a day to be born...  
Christmas Day*

Come to my birthday. My name is Jesus Christ. My mom is Blessed Mary. My earthly dad is St. Joseph, what a couple they are. Come to my church, they call it Holy Name of Jesus, 8328 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, which was built in 1854.

All come to my Christmas birthday. At my altar will be my Creator, the Holy Spirit, my Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and of course Me and my heavenly friends, who I will meet. Come to my Mass and be refreshed. What a day this will be. Fr. Antall, who is the Pastor, is arranging this party.

*May you all have a  
Merry Christmas and remember  
I was born on Christmas Day!*

east Clergy Meals on Wheels Program with a check from the city's employees for \$1000. The city's Firefighters Local 1683 also presented Mouat with a check for \$500 at the meeting.

Mouat said that the Meals on Wheels program had also received grant funding to help seniors take care of their pets by providing them with dog and cat food and other pet supplies. Also, Meals on Wheels has a partnership with a local veterinary clinic to help defray the cost of pet medical services for the program participants.

Mallis thanked the Bedford Police Department and Detective Bureau, who with the assistance of outside agencies were able to identify the suspect who made online threats to the Bedford City Schools recently.

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*Merry Christmas!!*

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## Bedford Council votes to join Regional Income Tax Agency at special meeting

**By Judith Goldsworth**

In an action that Bedford officials say is intended to save the city money by not replacing two former employees in the city's Tax Department, Bedford Council passed a resolution at a special Dec. 12 meeting to contract with the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) for its municipal income tax services.

The resolution specifically authorizes City Manager Mike Mallis "to execute an agreement with the Regional Income Tax Agency to participate in the Regional Council of Governments, for the purpose of administration and collection of municipal income tax in the city."

The legislation passed by a 4-3 vote with Mayor Stan Koci, Ward 1 Councilwoman Sandy Spinks, Ward 3

Councilman Vic Fluharty and Ward 4 Councilman Frank Smith voting to approve it, and Ward 2 Councilman Walter Genutis, Ward 5 Councilman Jeff Asbury and Ward 6 Councilman Donald Saunders voting against it.

The special meeting was called in order to meet a deadline to enter into the contract with RITA, Koci stated. He reassured residents that city officials had done their due diligence in considering the move to RITA, and clarified that Bedford would continue its longstanding practice of assisting residents with their tax issues, with RITA being able to provide additional assistance.

There was also a provision in the contract that Bedford could choose to end the agreement with six months notice in the event city officials did not think RITA's services were satisfactory, Koci added.

One resident was concerned that the city had not chosen to put the legislation on the ballot for voters to decide on it.

Koci stated, "This is not an item that we would put on the ballot because this is the work of the council to make these decisions, along with the administration, and to pay \$30,000 or more to do an election just to ask this question would not be due diligence for us... It would cost us way too much money."

In response to questions on whether there would be any

additional charges to residents for the city to retain RITA, Koci and Mallis both stated there would be no additional charge to residents, a statement that was confirmed by RITA Government Liaison Matthew Mau, who also attended the meeting as a representative of the agency.

Another citizen asked for an analysis of what the cost benefit would be to the city, and Finance Director Jennifer Howland stated that the projected cost of filling the two Tax Department positions for 2023 would be "about \$439,000... but after going with RITA, our costs will be down to \$226,000."

Addressing concerns about customer service, Mallis said that RITA could provide online services "that we cannot currently do. Individuals can continue to drop their tax documents off here and we will ensure that they're filed."

Law Director John Montello stated that the ultimate control of the municipal income taxes would remain with Bedford. Mau stated that RITA representatives would be in constant contact with Howland and other city officials to maintain the same level of services to residents.

## Neighborhood News online

Neighborhood News readers can now get their favorite newspaper on the web at: [theneighborhoodnews.com](http://theneighborhoodnews.com).

The entire newspaper is available on the N.N. website every Wednesday morning and can be read in Adobe Acrobat. Just click on the front page to download the remaining pages. Archives and other features will be added as the website evolves.

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God's blessings  
during this holy season.*

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*SEASON'S Greetings*

Stay safe and healthy this holiday season.

**MIKE DUDLEY, SR.**

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*Merry Christmas*

from

**Slavic Village Development Board and Staff**

Chris Alvarado	Executive Director
Greg Knapp	Board President
Tim Verba	Vice President
Kate Vincierra	Treasurer
Joy Cummings	Secretary

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**Happy Christmas**



Attorney  
**Robert S. Rybka**  
and Rybka Family

Irene, Edward W., Janine  
and Michelle

**Seasons Greetings**



from the  
City of Maple Heights

Mayor Annette M. Blackwell

**Merry Christmas**

Enjoy your Holidays with family and friends.

**Mayor Matt Burke**  
and family

**City of Garfield Heights**



**Hark!**  
The Herald Angels Sing



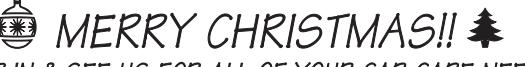
Inspired by the carols of Yuletide, we celebrate His birth with reverence, joy and happiness. Bless everyone and Merry Christmas.

LICENSED STAFF  
Joseph A. Fortuna, John J. Fortuna,  
Joshua D. Leuck and  
Mary Ann Trzaska & James Trzaska (Retired)

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**Our Best Holiday Wishes To You**

Merry Christmas

**Garfield Heights Council President**  
and Ward 7 Councilman

**Tom and Barb Vaughn**

**Merry Christmas**



and Happy New Year  
to all my friends at  
The Neighborhood News  
and in Maple Heights

from **Santa Claus,**  
**BOB HALAN**

**Merry Christmas**



from  
Dorene Kray, Council@large  
Village of Newburgh Heights



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023  
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# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from **The**  
**Perk**  
**Family**



Christmas holds a special meaning to us all. It's a time of hope and peace . . . a time of faith and love . . . as we're reminded anew that all people from all walks of life are brothers in His eyes. At Christmas and throughout the year, let's live by His words as we share His love with those around us . . . and pray for peace and unity throughout the world. May you and your families enjoy a merry and memorable Christmas. We truly appreciate the goodwill and friendship you have shown us.

Shown above is the family of Mayor and Mrs. Ralph J. Perk. Although Mayor Perk and his wife, Lucy, (inset) are now deceased, their children continue in public service. Ralph J. Perk, Jr. is a retired judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court. Judge Perk's wife, Kelli, is the Director of Risk Management for the County's ADAMHS Board. Tom Perk is a retired Cleveland firefighter and retired councilman in Valley View, and Ken Perk is a former member of the Cuyahoga Heights School Board. The Perk family extends to the entire community their best wishes for a happy and holy Christmas holiday and a healthy and prosperous year ahead.



**Community Friends Church, 4509 Warner Rd., Cleveland, 44105**

Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.

**Garfield Heights United Methodist Church, 4977 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, 44125**

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service: Saturday, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m., in the sanctuary. Or you may join us on the Garfield Heights UMC Facebook page. Theme this year is "Angel's Work" as we share the story through the "proclamations" made by the angels. Candles are lit to share the Light of Christ.

**Holy Name Catholic Church, 8328 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, 44105**

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses, Dec. 24: 4 p.m. Children's Service; 9:30 p.m. Christmas Concert; 10 p.m. Candlelight Mass.

Christmas Day Masses, Dec. 25: 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

New Year's Eve Vigil Mass, Dec. 31: 4 p.m. New Year's Day Masses, Jan. 1: 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Jones Road Church, 8000 Jones Rd., Cleveland, 44105**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. Christmas Day Worship Service at 11 a.m. Christmas Day Dinner at 12 noon.

New Year's Day Service at 11 a.m., followed by free breakfast. Everyone welcome.

**Lutheran Church of the Master, 860 Northfield Rd., Bedford, 44146**

Christmas Eve: 5 p.m. Candlelight Service and Holy Communion

Christmas Day and New Year's Day: 11 a.m. service with Holy Communion.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 3395 E. 53 St., Cleveland, 44127**

Christmas Masses: Saturday, Dec. 24, 4 p.m. (English); 7 p.m. (Spanish). Sunday, Dec. 25, 10 a.m. (English).

New Year's Masses: Saturday, Dec. 31, 4 p.m. (English); 7 p.m. (Spanish). Sunday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m. (English).

**Refuge Community Church, 4505 Broadview Rd., near Schaaf Rd., Cleveland, 44109**

Friday service at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. Christmas morning at 11 a.m. 440-281-4290

**St. Casimir Catholic Church, 8223 Sowinski Ave., Cleveland, 44103**

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24: Choir Concert in Polish and English at 9:30 p.m., preceding the 10 p.m. traditional solemn Pasterka, or Shepherd's Mass, featuring the procession of the Holy Family. Christmas Day Mass, Dec. 25: 11:30 a.m.

New Year's Day Mass, Jan. 1: Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Mass at 11:30 a.m.

**St. Monica Catholic Church, 13623 Rockside Rd., Garfield Heights, 44125**

Christmas Eve Masses: 4 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Evensong begins followed by Mass at 10 p.m.

Christmas Day Masses: 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

**St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 3649 E. 65 St., Cleveland, 44105**

Christmas Masses: Saturday, Dec. 24, 5 p.m. Bilingual choral sing-a-long at 11:30 p.m., followed by the traditional Pasterka, or Shepherds' Mass at midnight. Sunday, Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m. (English); 10 a.m. (Polish); 11:30 a.m. (English).

New Year's Masses: Saturday, Dec. 31, 5 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 1, 8:30 a.m. (English); 10 a.m. (Polish); 11:30 a.m. (English).

# Garfield Commons

Rockside Road near Turney Road in Garfield Heights

Happy Holidays!!



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# Death Notices

**RONALD GRAMS**

Ronald Grams, age 84, passed away Dec. 8, 2022. Beloved husband for 57 years of Joanne (nee Skryp); loving father of Nancy, Cathy Ziegler (Joe) and Mike (Chris); proud Dzia of Joey, Katie and Emily Ziegler; Jacob, Hunter and Madi Grams; dear brother of Jack (deceased) (Rita, deceased); and dear uncle.



U.S. Army veteran, member of Union of Poles, retired from Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts Office, lifelong member of St. Stanislaus Church. Services were held on Dec. 13, 2022 at the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery.

## G.H. Ward 7 Block Watch

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch meeting and Christmas Party, sponsored by Councilman Tom Vaughn, will take place Thursday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m., in the St. Augustine Room of St. Benedict School, 13633 Rockside Rd. Attendees are asked to bring a gift-wrapped tree ornament and a side dish or goodies to share. All are welcome. For more information, contact Gail, 216-662-9213.

## Letters to the Editor

### Missed Nativity Scene

Did anyone else miss the Nativity Scene from the Garfield Heights Christmas decorations? Sure left a hollow feeling. Merry Christmas.

Faith Conroy  
Garfield Heights

**SUBMIT YOUR COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ADVERTISING TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS VIA EMAIL:  
NNEWS1923@AOL.COM**

## A BOUNTY OF GOOD WISHES

No matter where you spend your Christmas holiday, we hope it's overflowing with all the blessings this magical season has to offer.

Thanks aplenty for your kind support

The Ferfolia Family and Staff

**Ferfolia Funeral Home**

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Sagamore Hills



## Cleveland City Council passes bill to keep Lake Erie healthy and develop area around E. 55 St. Marina

Cleveland City Council held its final Monday council meeting of the year on Dec. 5, and approved \$150,000 in funding and more in-kind services to join a collaborative group led by the Cleveland Metroparks.

The effort, Cleveland Harbor Eastern Embayment Resilience Study (CHEERS), focuses on the health of Lake Erie and lakefront development in the area surrounding the East 55th Street Marina. The partners and organizations involved in the potential transformation include: Cleveland City Council, the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port Authority, Black Environmental Leaders Association, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Department of Transportation.

The local partners commit to contributing \$985,000 in support and resources to the project in exchange for a \$985,000 match from state partners and a \$1.9 million grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. It enhances local access to the lakefront and prepares Cleveland for the future. Partners suggest work at the East 55th Street marina could begin as soon as 2024.

### Paid Safe Leave Available

Council approved legislation offering non-union city employees (or their children/guardians) experiencing domestic violence, stalking and/or sexual assault 60 hours of paid leave (for full time employees) to receive medical care, take care of legal matters, seek safe shelter and attend to other needs that ensure their physical and mental well-being. The Paid Safe Leave time taken will not be deducted from other forms of leave.

### Composting pilot program

Rust Belt Riders Composting will design and conduct a composting pilot program for wasted food generated by vendors at the West Side Market. The \$60,000 pilot program is being financed by Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, granted from a larger grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

### New housing in Ward 5

Council approved the addition of property located at

## BLESSINGS AT CHRISTMAS

For FOUR GENERATIONS the Golubski Deliberato Family has touched the lives of so many grieving families during the most difficult time. It is our promise to dedicate ourselves to future generations with the same excellent care that was entrusted to us by our ancestors.

May the New Year bring not only promise and hope, but peace and love to all. That is our wish to you.  
God Bless.

*Over 100 Years of Quality Care*



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FUNERAL HOME

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6505 Brecksville Road  
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Fax (216) 341-2229

2024 E. 70 St., to the Northeast Ohio Advanced Energy District. The approval allows a plan from the property owner to move forward with a special energy improvement project that will consist of 64 new market-rate multifamily residential apartments.

### Cleveland Community Police Commission seated

Council passed a resolution to seat the 13-member body.

### Lakefront development, improvement plans

Council authorized the administration to move forward with hiring a consultant(s) to produce a North Coast Lakefront Master Plan and perform community engagement activities. Estimated cost for both is \$900,000.

### Transfers ARPA funding to General Fund

Council approved moving \$215 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding the city received into the General Fund. Based on federal government calculations, the city of Cleveland lost more than \$300 million in revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic. Federal guidelines allow the city to use a portion of the nearly \$512 million for revenue recovery.

The next regular council meeting will be Monday, Jan. 9, 2023.

## The Neighborhood News

Since 1923 - Published every Wednesday

Delivered in Southeast Cleveland, Garfield Heights, Newburgh Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, Valley View, Maple Heights and Bedford

### BLESSINGS OF THE SEASON



When a blanket of snow  
embraces the land,  
The beauty we see  
is the work of God's hand.  
Each snowflake unique  
in its own special way,  
Reminds us that soon  
it will be Christmas day.  
So give thanks to the Lord  
for the birth of the Savior;  
May you always enjoy both  
His love and good favor.

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## Upcoming EVENTS

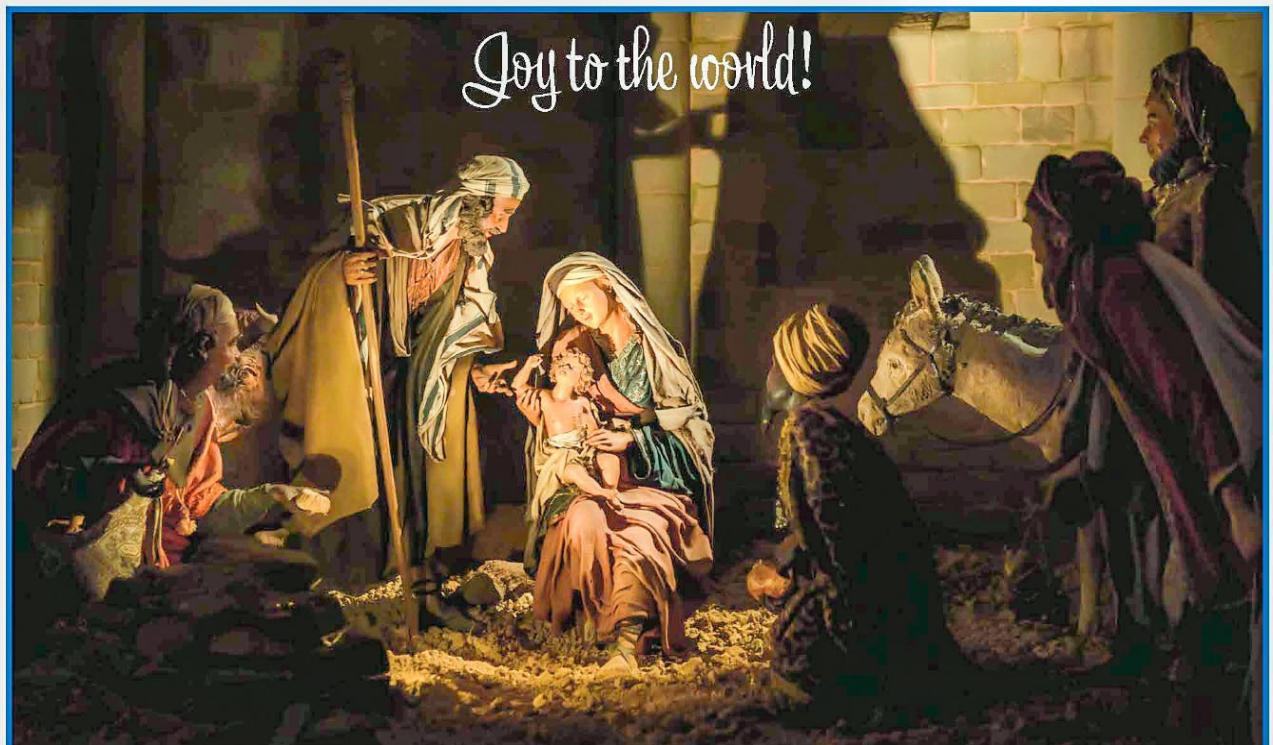
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(Include Contact Name and daytime phone number)

**Advertising Deadline is Every Monday at 5:00 p.m.**



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## Help with winter heating bills available

Step Forward wants to remind Cuyahoga County residents that its Home Energy Assistance Program is available for people who need help paying their utilities this winter.

The agency's Winter Crisis Program is accepting applications through March 31. The program provides eligible Greater Cleveland residents specifically with heating assistance.

Households that have been disconnected, threatened with disconnection, or have less than 25% supply of bulk fuel in their tank to maintain service, are eligible for this one-time benefit to be used in an emergency situation. Residents can receive up to \$175 if they are a client of a regulated utility or \$800 if they are a client of unregulated utilities such as electric cooperatives and municipal utilities. To qualify for assistance, residents must have a gross income at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines. Assistance funds will be applied to an applicant's utility bill or heating system repair costs.

To apply for the Winter Crisis Program, clients must schedule an appointment by calling 216-350-8008 or online at [stepforward.itfrontdesk.com](http://stepforward.itfrontdesk.com). Appointments are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Walk-ins are not accepted.

Step Forward also offers the Winter Non-Emergency Program, which is aimed at helping those who have not been disconnected from their services. The Percentage of Income Payment Plan pays a percentage of the household income each month and works to eliminate outstanding energy bills. A Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program is also available.

Residents are welcome to visit any of Step Forward's four Neighborhood Opportunity Centers, located in downtown Cleveland, Euclid, Middleburgh Heights and Warrensville Heights, to ask questions. Case Managers and Family Development Specialists are available to connect people with the agency's programs and other resources.

"Our message to Cuyahoga County is that we are here to help. And if for some reason we cannot help you, Step Forward has a great referral network where we can connect people with the right resources," Billups said.

Those with scheduled HEAP appointments should submit their documentation at least three days in advance of their appointment to receive assistance at the time of appointment. Documentation can be submitted to the Step Forward drop box at 2203 Superior Ave., through the online scheduler linked above, emailed to [Heapdocuments@stepforwardtoday.org](mailto:Heapdocuments@stepforwardtoday.org), or submitted online at [energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://energyhelp.ohio.gov).

Clients need to bring copies of the following documents to their appointment:

- Copies of most recent energy bills; utility bills (gas and/or electric), regardless of account status
- A list of all household members and proof of income for the last 30 days or 12 months for each member
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members
- Proof of disability (if applicable)
- Birth Dates and Social Security Numbers for all household members

For more information about Step Forward's programs, including the Home Energy Assistance Program, visit: [stepforwardtoday.org](http://stepforwardtoday.org).

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**8:30 AM UNTIL 6:00 PM Sat**  
**9:30 AM UNTIL 5:00 PM Sun**

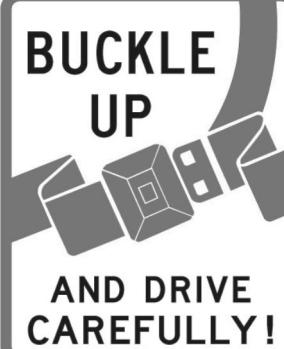
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**BUCKLE UP AND DRIVE CAREFULLY!**



**CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO**

**List of Meetings for January 2023**

Tuesday, January 3, 2023	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 4, 2023	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 11, 2023	Southeast Area Law Enforcement (SEALE) Board of Trustees Meeting (if needed) Work Session - 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting - 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	Council Work Session -TBD Regular Council Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 18, 2023	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 24, 2023	Board of Zoning Appeals (if needed) Work Session - 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

It should also be noted that the Board of Building Standards and Appeals, Civil Service Commission, Bedford Arts and Cultural Board, Bedford Historical Preservation Board, Assessment Equalization Board, Public Hearings, Planning Commission, Animal Appeals Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and Tree Board meet **as needed**. Notification of these meetings will be posted at the five most public places in the City per **Ordinance No. 8461-09**.

All Meetings will be held at Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146. For agendas please go to [www.bedfordoh.gov](http://www.bedfordoh.gov), <https://bedfordoh.primegov.com/public/portal>, or call Tracy M. Simons, Clerk of Council, at 440-735-6510.

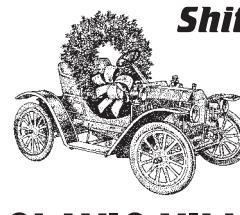
*Tracy M. Simons  
Clerk of Council*

To view meeting agendas or minutes, please visit: <https://bedfordoh.primegov.com/public/portal>  
<https://bedfordoh.gov>

To leave a comment about an agenda item, please visit: <https://bedfordspeaks.org/>

NN: 12-21-22

**Shift Into Holiday Gear!**

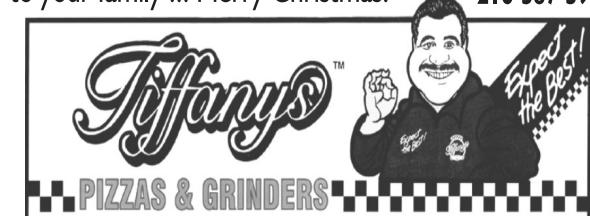


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**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Garfield Heights Board of Education will hold its Organization Meeting on Monday January 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm. In addition, the District will also hold a public hearing on the proposed 2023-24 Tax Budget during this time. Draft copies of the 2022-23 Tax Budget along with the 2022 General Purpose Financial Statements are available upon request, pursuant to the requirements of the law.

Allen D. Sluka, Treasurer/Director of Business Services  
Garfield Heights City Schools

N.N. 12-21-22

**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Corey Lamont Beachum trust has been claimed.  
Notice to the Public  
File # Work #  
1353131000023

The Curtis Shell trust has been claimed.  
Notice to the Public  
File # Work #  
1353154000022

12/02/2022 11:59 P.M. 12/02/2022 11:59 P.M.

Printed in The Neighborhood News: 12-14-22 & 12-21-22

# Community police reports

(All information is preliminary and subject to change pending investigation.)

## CLEVELAND

### Fatal Suspected Overdose

• Dec. 7, at 11:37 p.m., in the 6700 block of Sebert Ave., a 40-year-old male suffered a fatal overdose.

• Dec. 12, at 5:54 a.m., in the 6400 block of Gertrude Ave., a 35-year-old female suffered a fatal overdose.

### Shooting

• Dec. 9, at 5:29 p.m., a 29-year-old male was shot in the shoulder at the E. 93 St./Miles Ave. Sunoco station, and transported to Marymount Hospital by private vehicle.

• Dec. 10, at 11:14 p.m., a 17-year-old male was shot in the abdomen in the 7400 block of Spafford Ave. Taken to MetroHealth Medical Center.

• Dec. 10, at 11:45 p.m., a 33-year-old male was shot in the left arm in the 3500 block of Beyerle Rd., and transported to Metro.

### Stabbing

Dec. 19, at 5:12 p.m., a 34-year-old male was stabbed in the arm in the 3600 block of E. 57 St. Suspect arrested after SWAT response. Victim taken to Metro.

## GARFIELD HEIGHTS

### Theft

• On Nov. 28, between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., persons unknown stole Amazon packages from the porch of a

home in the 12500 block of Maple Leaf Dr. Packages contained a security camera system valued at \$339, Ring door bell camera valued at \$64.99, and a pair of ear buds valued at \$229.99.

• On Dec. 9, a package containing a pair of boots from Saks Fifth Avenue valued at \$592 were taken from a porch in the 8400 block of Band Ave.

### Shots Fired

• On Dec. 5, the owner of a company in the 10700 block of Broadway Ave., told police that someone fired a gun shot through the window of his building within the past three days. Complainant advised to contact his insurance company.

• On Dec. 7, GHPD units responded to the 12100 block of Valley Lane Dr., for a report of multiple shots fired. An officer on scene had two men detained and police later detained a man and a woman. One of the men detained turned out to be the victim. The victim said the two other men police had detained were on the balcony of an apartment in the building when he saw a green laser dot moving on him and around him. The two men on the balcony were observed pointing a rifle at him. The victim began to argue with the two men and they started to shoot at him. Police collected a total of 10 shell casings in the front area of the doorway to the apartment building. A protective sweep of the apartment where the two men were firing from the balcony found a small child in a playpen. The two suspects were taken to Garfield Heights jail and charged with felonious assault, having weapons under disability and child endangering.

• On Dec. 10, shortly before 6 p.m., police were dispatched to the area of E. 90 St. and Birchwood for a report of shots fired. A witness said an occupant of an older model dark-colored Nissan was shooting on E. 90 St. near the stop sign. Police found two 9mm shell casings in the street in front of two homes in the 4700 block of E. 90 St.

### Weapon Offense

On Dec. 7, at 8:36 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Rockside Rd. McDonald's for a report that a 17-year-old

female employee had been shot in the foot. It appears that a male juvenile employee and the victim were on break in the lobby of McDonald's together when the male pulled out a handgun from his pants and started to play with it. He took the magazine out of the gun and pulled the trigger, assuming there was no bullet in the gun. This is when the gun went off and the bullet hit the floor where the victim was sitting and she felt a sharp pain in her right foot. She checked her foot and saw the bullet fragments had just grazed her right foot leaving a small cut. After the male with the gun saw the female employee had not been shot, he left the restaurant before officers arrived. Attempts by police to get a good home address or contact numbers for his parent or guardian were unsuccessful. After checking their database, police found no open cases or warrants on the juvenile. The report will be forwarded to the Juvenile Detective Bureau for follow up and possible criminal charges.

## Call Crime Stoppers with anonymous tips

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

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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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7pm  
Christmas Day worship service 11am  
Christmas Dinner 12 noon

The Lutheran Church  
of the Covenant  
19000 Libby Rd.,  
Maple Heights, Ohio  
(216) 662-0370

St. Monica Church  
13623 Rockside Road  
Garfield Heights 216-662-8685  
Pastor: Rev. Thomas Haren  
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm  
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am and 10:45 am  
All Mass times are Live streamed.

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## REAL ESTATE

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**Tony D'E**



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or Email: nnews1923@aol.com  
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Call The Neighborhood News at (216) 441-2141 to place your ad. Our office is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Ad information can also be E-mailed to: nnews1923@aol.com.

Advertising deadline is 5:00 p.m. Mondays. Advertising Display rate is \$10.00 per column inch (minimum \$40).

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Classified Advertising rate is \$10.00 for 15 words or less and a 10¢ a word over 15 words. Boxed classified rate is \$10.00 per column inch (starting at \$20).

## PUBLISHER'S DISCRETION:

All contents of advertisements are subject to publisher's approval. Publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any advertisement, insertion order, space reservation or position commitment at any time.

Positioning of advertisements is at the discretion of the publisher except where a request for a specific preferred position is acknowledged by the publisher.

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All advertising may be paid by using your VISA, MASTERCARD or DISCOVER credit cards; Cash or Check. Payment in advance is required in certain instances. Please place your ad early to allow payment to reach us before deadline.

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Deadline for cancellations is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Save your cancellation number in case an adjustment on your bill is necessary. Ads placed for only one week cannot be canceled.

## ERRORS/ADJUSTMENTS:

Advertisers should check the first insertion of their ad. The Neighborhood News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Upon noting an error, the advertiser should call the Advertising Department at (216) 441-2141. Adjustments are made to the degree the error reduced the value of the ad. Publisher shall not be liable for any costs or damages if for any reason it fails to publish an advertisement.

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116 Kinsman/Buckeye area. 3 bedroom single. \$800 month plus utilities. Call (216) 217-8009, leave message.

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## Marymount Hospital, Meijer giving 'Helping Hand'

Marymount Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic hospital in Garfield Heights, recently hosted a special holiday drive called "Helping Hands." Employee volunteers from the Helping Hands Committee prepared and distributed 180 holiday meal baskets throughout Garfield Heights and surrounding communities.

Meijer offered a hand up with all of the trimmings. Each holiday meal basket included a 10-pound frozen turkey,



A Helping Hands volunteer unloads vegetables for the 180 holiday meal baskets that were distributed to the needy.

3-pound bag of potatoes, fresh carrots, canned corn and green beans, stuffing mix, gravy and brownies.

"Seeing the happiness and excitement on the recipients' faces as they received their packages was heartwarming," said Renee Wheaton, Quality Management Coordinator at Marymount Hospital, who co-leads the Helping Hands Committee. "It truly takes a village. The Helping Hands committee is grateful to Meijer and every volunteer who helped make our holiday drive happen."

For 40 years, Marymount Hospital has hosted its Helping Hands holiday drive to provide food and other essential items to families in need.

## 'Blue Christmas Service'

Garfield Heights United Methodist Church, 4977 Turney Rd., invites all who are grieving this Christmas to join in a service of remembrance and healing after having lost a loved one in 2022.

Wednesday evening, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m., on Zoom, we are joining with another congregation led by Rev. Harriet Askin-Banman of Centenary UMC. GHUMC Pastor Rev. Daniel Drew and Lay Minister Rose McMichael were a part of planning this service.

All are welcome to join the Zoom link. Email Pastor Drew at [HDDrew@outlook.com](mailto:HDDrew@outlook.com).

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