

# The Neighborhood News

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101st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

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FREE

## City of Cleveland, CMSD seek to redevelop former Fullerton School site

On Monday the city of Cleveland's Department of Community Development, in partnership with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, invited professional project teams to respond to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to redevelop the recently demolished Fullerton Elementary School site in Slavic Village.

According to AIA Contract Documents, RFQs are commonly used as a tool to invite interested parties to submit a qualification statement that is used by the requester to evaluate and shortlist potential contractors, subcontractors, architects and consultants for a construction project.

The former school site makes available 2.6 acres in Broadway-Slavic Village, one block south of Fleet Ave., Cleveland's only "complete and green street."

"Our hope with this RFQ is to build upon Slavic Village's existing assets to attract development projects that support the enduring neighborhood while expanding opportunities for more individuals to live, work and play in Slavic Village," said Cleveland's Director of Community Development Alyssa Hernandez.

The Department of Community Development collaborated with Slavic Village Development and Ward 12 Councilwoman Rebecca Maurer's office to administer an upfront engagement process to inform this redevelopment opportunity.

"This site is part of our neighborhood's history and will now be part of our future," said Maurer. "We have the chance to start fresh with clean, green land and I am excited to dream big and see what the project teams come up with."

Qualifications will be accepted now through March 25, 2024, with selection of a development team no later than April 26, 2024. The submission process and evaluation criteria can be found on pages 15-17 of the RFQ. Learn more about this and other asset redevelopment projects and access the full RFQ at Asset Redevelopment | City of Cleveland Ohio.

"This opportunity continues to expand the list of public-private partnerships created by the city and CMSD to place former school sites and buildings back into productive use," added Michele Pomerantz, Mayor Justin Bibb's Chief of Education. "These projects benefit the communities in which they are located and deepen the broad investment we are making in education."

**READ THE N.N. ONLINE AT**  
[theneighborhoodnews.com](http://theneighborhoodnews.com)

## Beacon Grove ribboncutting

Jennings and PIRHL will hold a ribboncutting ceremony and tour of the new Beacon Grove Apartments, 5500 Beacon Court, in Maple Heights, on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Beacon Grove Apartments is a new 53-unit apartment building serving adults 62 and older with affordable rents and supportive services.

The event will begin at 11:45 a.m. with networking, followed by speakers at noon and a ceremonial ribboncutting.

Light lunch and tours to follow.

RSVP by Friday, Feb. 16, to Lisa Brazytis: 216-581-2902, ext. 2297.

## Blood drives this month at Independence Civic Center

The American Red Cross is experiencing a blood shortage and donors of all blood types are urgently needed to ensure patients at hospitals continue to receive critical medical care, as noted in the weekly email update of Independence Mayor Greg Kurtz.

Two blood drives will be held this month at the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Dr.: Feb. 12 and Feb. 26, from noon to 6 p.m. each day. To schedule an appointment, call 800-733-2767.

## More bike paths coming to Slavic Village

In the last decade Slavic Village has acquired a reputation as a transportation innovator in Northeast Ohio. Think Morgana Run Trail and the First Complete and Green Street along Fleet Ave.

Slavic Village Development (SVD) is trying to extend this success in 2024 with plans for paved, off-road, all-purpose bike paths on both the north and south ends of the neighborhood. The trail routes will connect existing paths in and beyond the neighborhood and eventually give local cyclists safe, friction-free access to the entire region.

To do this SVD has been collaborating with Cleveland Metroparks, ODOT, the Mayor's Office of Capital Projects, Cleveland City Council and other groups to make the projects happen.

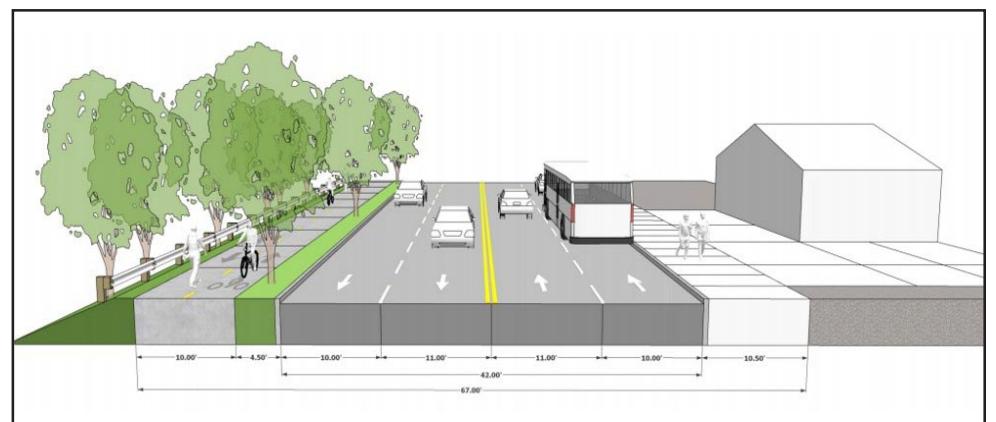
### New trail locations

- The Slavic Village Downtown Connector - North: An all-purpose, off-road trail alongside Broadway Ave., from Dille Ave. to E. 14 St. and Orange Ave.

- Morgana Run/Booth Ave. Extension: An all-purpose, off-road route that will extend the 2008 Morgana Run southward, along and under Booth Ave. to E. 91 St., toward historic Miles Park, ultimately leading to Garfield Park Reservation and Mill Creek Falls.

- Opportunity Corridor Connector: An east-west route that will extend the Opportunity Corridor Trail at E. 55 St., to the Downtown Connector at approximately E. 14 St. and Orange Ave. This trail will pass through industrial land and open up dramatic city vistas to cyclists.

- Slavic Village Downtown Connector - South: A north-south route through the Forest City pocket neighborhood, connecting Washington Park Reservation to the Morgana Run trailhead at E. 49 St. It will begin along the eastern rim of the Industrial Valley before crossing under I-77 to E. 49 St., where the Ohio Department of Transportation will drill a tunnel/underpass. Planning for this separate project is in its very early stages.



An architect's rendering of lower Broadway Ave., showing a new protected, landscaped bike/pedestrian path adjacent to the vehicular right-of-way. Photo courtesy of the Cleveland Metroparks

Routes were chosen based on a number of factors: right-of-way availability, adjacency to neighborhood destinations like shopping and employment, grade, bike-ability and safety.

Plans for additional bike infrastructure, especially through the neighborhood's historic Broadway business district, will emerge along with an upcoming rollout of the Regional Transit Authority's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Study for Broadway Ave., expected later this year.

(Continued on Page 2)

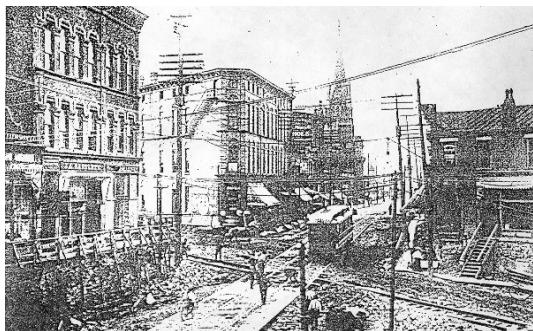
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# THE IRON WARD NEWS

Iron Ward is the nineteenth century nickname for the Broadway Avenue neighborhood around which Cleveland's great iron and steel industry flourished. Originally known as Newburgh Township, it was annexed by Cleveland in 1878. It has used the tagline Slavic Village since 1978.

Vol. 1 Issue: 2 SLAVIC VILLAGE COMMUNITY NEWS February 7, 2024



Broadway and Harvard Avenues looking northwest, 1890s, with Holy Name Church in distance. Credit: Slavic Village Historical Society

## The Many Neighborhoods of Slavic Village

One of Cleveland's largest neighborhoods is actually a place full of little neighborhoods, each with its own unique history, geography, and vibe.

Starting from the north:

**Hyacinth:** East of East 55th St, South of Kingsbury Run. Named after an old Roman Catholic Church, it is currently anchored by Elizabeth Baptist Church and remnants of heavy industry.

**North Broadway:** West of East 55th, north of the business district. Historic anchors include University Settlement, Bohemian National Hall, and many large churches: Cuyahoga Faith, Our Lady of Lourdes, Community of Faith Assembly.

**Broadway-55th Historic District:** once the second biggest shopping strip in the city. It's landmark storefronts remain largely intact.

**Union:** the tight houses around Slovenian National Home recall the district's ethnic roots. Still a place of heavy industry.

**Fleet:** St. John Nepomucene Church anchors its west end. Recently renovated as the first Complete and Green Street in Cleveland, Fleet is Slavic Village's parade street and festival street.

**Forest City:** hard by the Industrial Valley, this district has intimate streets, great downtown views, even its own public golf course. An amusement park operated here a hundred-thirty years ago.

**Warszawa:** the historic Polish neighborhood around East 65th and Fleet is defined by important institutions: the Shrine Church of St Stanislaus, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, the Polish American Cultural Center, and three schools, including Cleveland Central Catholic High School.

**Harvard Grove:** two historic cemeteries make the area around Lansing and Harvard Avenues naturally picturesque.

**East 71st and Harvard:** one of Slavic Village's major retail strips. It had a horse racing park in the late nineteenth century.

**Goosetown and Ducktown:** East 71st St. south of Harvard has an edge-of-town feel. No one alive today can say for sure where the geese ended and the ducks began. Called the Orchard, for its fruitful soil.

**Broadway-Harvard:** once a powerhouse manufacturing and retail district. Even had its own railroad depot. Holy Name and Jones Road Churches are Slavic Village's oldest.

**Warner-Turney:** home of Mill Creek Falls, Cuyahoga County's tallest waterfall. The city's biggest modern housing development was built here in the 1990s.

What did we miss? Contact Iron Ward News 2164694806.

For more information on the past and future, contact the Slavic Village Historical Society 2162187779 and Slavic Village Development 2164291182.

# More bike paths coming to Slavic Village

(Continued from Page 1)

Phil Kidd, Complete & Green Streets manager for the city of Cleveland, said, "Creating complete, greener and better connected streets and trails in Cleveland is a major initiative of the current administration. In fact, a new ordinance was passed in 2022 to help strengthen this work. Projects like the ones in Slavic Village and Union Miles are what it looks like. We're finally starting to catch up to what every other city around us is doing on this front. Perhaps the best part is that it's being done through partnerships at the neighborhood, city and regional level. The outcome is simply a better, safer way for everyone - motorists, cyclists and pedestrians - to get around."

## Funding

Design of the first three projects is being funded largely through a federal Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) transportation grant received by Cleveland Metroparks in partnership with the City of Cleveland.

Construction budgets are currently being developed as part of the design and engineering process, and the project team is looking to apply for construction funding from programs in the massive Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed in 2021 by Congress.

According to Sarah Byrnes Maier, principal planner at Cleveland Metroparks, "We are trying to position the RAISE project to take advantage of the significant money currently available from the federal government to bring these trails to Cleveland."

Krystal Sierra, urban planner and director of neighborhood sustainability at SVD, is local point person for the project. She said, "This is an exciting time for regional connectivity and multi-modal transportation for the neighborhood. We intend to keep pushing for connections within the neighborhood as well as equitable, safe, accessible routes and unique experiences only Slavic Village can offer."

## What's next?

Public meetings to gather community input will continue in coming months. Read The Neighborhood News for updates.

For detailed project information including aerial tours, workshop recordings, site graphics and an interactive map, visit the project online at <http://2023raise.cuyahogagreenways.org/>.

## S.V. Stakeholders meet

The January meeting of the Slavic Village Stakeholders has been moved to Tuesday, Feb. 13, at Seven Roses, 6301 Fleet Ave. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with a 6 p.m. meeting start. Feel free to bring a snack or appetizer to share. Elections will be held at the meeting and anyone who would like to be on the ballot for 2024 is encouraged to reach out.

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## THESE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

<p><b>Garfield Heights United Methodist Church</b> 4977 Turney Road Garfield Heights, Ohio Worship Sundays at 11:30am In Church and on Facebook Live Pastor Andrew Scott</p>	<p><b>Jones Road Church</b> 8000 Jones Rd., Cleveland, 44105 (216) 883-8572 Sunday Service: 11:00 a.m. Community Lunch at 12 Noon</p>	<p><b>St. Monica Church</b> 13623 Rockside Road Garfield Heights 216-662-8685 Pastor: Rev. John J. Mullee Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm Sunday Mass: 9:00 am and 10:45 am All Mass times are Live streamed.</p>	<p><b>Your Church Here</b> Cost is \$10 per week for this size ad To Advertise, Call Mary at 216-441-2141</p>
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# Community Police reports

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

## Vandalism

On Jan. 27, about 4 p.m., police arrived at the El Dorado Motel, 13701 Broadway Ave., to assist the owner with a customer who was damaging one of the rooms. The officers walked in the direction of the suspect's room and heard pounding coming from inside, and the window to the room appeared to be shaking. The man inside refused an officer's command to open the door, which had the security lock engaged, and said he had a gun in his holster. At this point the officers heard scratching noises coming from the adjacent room and determined the suspect may have broken through the wall in his room and was now in the room next door. Police were able to open the unlocked window to the suspect's room and saw him laying on the floor of the room next door scratching and clawing at the base of the wall under the heating/air conditioning unit. According to the report, police thought it was obvious that the suspect was having either some sort of psychiatric episode or was under the influence of a drug. Contact was made with him through the hole in the wall, but he ignored officers, continuing to claw at the base of the wall in the second room. He did, however, ask for tools that could assist him with his demolition. Because of the suspect's bizarre behavior and the possibility he had a gun, an officer climbed through the open window of the suspect's room and unlocked the entry door so officers could speak to the suspect and attempt to reason with him, while he continued to feverishly scratch at the wall while laying on the floor. An officer pulled out two wood studs in the east wall which provided enough clearance for officers to squeeze through the wall and enter the room the suspect was in. He resisted police attempts to handcuff him and was drive stunned and eventually secured in handcuffs and seemed to calm down. He told officers he introduced a drug cocktail of methamphetamine and heroin into his body which caused his odd behavior. He was transported to Marymount Hospital for treatment. Affidavit/Probable Cause for vandalism, resisting arrest completed.

## Assault

On Jan. 29, about 10:08 p.m., officers were called to Bonkers Cafe, 5147 Turney Rd., for a disturbance there involving two men fighting in the parking lot. When they arrived the parking lot was empty. As police left the bar a man came running out bleeding from the face. He said he was hit by another male. Dispatch observed a male running away from Bonkers north on Turney Rd., passed the fire department city surveillance cameras. An officer spotted the male near the fire department and when he saw the officer he turned around and ran south on Turney back toward Bonkers. With lights and sirens activated, the officer drove next to the suspect and ordered him to stop. The command was disregarded and the suspect ran towards the back parking lot of Bonkers. He was apprehended and placed in handcuffs after a struggle. Police noted he smelled of alcohol and had slurred speech. He was taken to city jail and the man he had assaulted said he wished to pursue charges. The victim told police he had never met the suspect before and was punched in the face by the suspect due to an argument while he was inside Bonkers picking up food. The suspect was charged with obstructing official business, failure to disclose personal information, intoxication and assault. It was also discovered he had a Nationwide Parole Violation Felony Warrant pending through the Garfield Heights Municipal Court.

## Robbery

On Jan. 30, about 2:07 p.m., officers responded to Domino's Pizza, 4908 Turney Rd., for a robbery that had just occurred. Dispatch advised that the suspect was a black male wearing a multicolored jacket, sunglasses and had a backpack on him. An officer told GHPD units that based on the suspect's description, he and another officer

had just had an encounter with the suspect and issued him a summons for theft after shoplifting at Dave's Supermarket in Turneytown. A Domino's employee told police the suspect entered the restaurant and told him to turn over his phone, unlock the phone's screen and give him his air pods or he would beat him. The employee complied and the suspect left after grabbing a pizza box behind the counter but came back a minute later and took the money that was in the register and left in an unknown direction. Police were able to ping the employee's phone in the area of Summerdale and E. 106 St. Police found him in front of a home in the 10200 block of Summerdale, with the stolen phone on him. He was placed under arrest and after a brief struggle with officers he was put in the police vehicle and taken to city jail. The Domino's pizza owner turned over video of the theft to police. The suspect was held for investigation of robbery and resisting arrest.

## Theft

On Jan. 30, at 3:30 p.m., police arrived in the area of the 13000 block of Havana Rd., regarding a theft. The victim said he was meeting someone through Marketplace to sell a PS5 who contacted the victim online and set up a meeting for what he said was his home at an address in the 13100 block of Havana Rd. to make the transaction. The victim arrived at the home, knocked on the door and was told by the homeowner that he knew nothing about buying a PS5. The suspect approached the victim from a nearby driveway and both men went to the victim's trunk where he produced the unopened Horizon edition PS5. The victim tried to receive the suspect's Cashapp but the suspect said it didn't work. The suspect picked up the PS5 and tried to open a nearby detached garage and the side door of the house unsuccessfully. He also tried to open the back door of the house then fled from the victim and headed south through backyards towards Littleton Rd. The victim pursued him for a short distance but lost sight of him when he reached Littleton. Officers started a track with K-9 Echo but it was unsuccessful. Report forwarded to the Detective Bureau.

## Recovered Stolen Auto

On Jan. 31, at about 2:20 a.m., a patrolman observed a silver Hyundai Sonata traveling west on Broadway near I-480 and on checking the registration found the car stolen out of Bedford. The officer attempted to position his cruiser behind the Sonata at which point it accelerated and blew the red light at the Broadway and I-480 entrance ramp. It continued west on Broadway at speeds up to 80 mph ignoring all traffic control devices. The vehicle then sped north on Broadway into Cleveland, then west onto Fleet Ave., at speeds up to 100 mph. While going south on E. 49 St., the Sonata attempted to drive through a field and hit a house and a fence in the 3600 block of E. 49 St., Cleveland. The suspect got out and ran northeast through backyards and a search for him was unsuccessful.

## Felonious Assault

On Feb. 2, at 2:39 p.m., dispatch received a report of a man in the 10900 block of Langton Ave., being shot in the stomach with the bullet going through his back. The male was transported to MetroHealth Medical Center. Police will check nearby surveillance video. Officers responded to Taco Bell on Turney Rd., on a report that the suspect shooter was on site. Taco Bell checked negative for the suspect. **(This item was taken from a GHPD Incident Report. The full report was not available as this is an ongoing investigation.)**

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### I-480 closed last Saturday

A section of I-480 west was closed for about an hour Saturday night after Garfield Heights police received a call that family members were following a distressed female armed with a handgun traveling on I-480, according to a GHPD Facebook post.

Officers located the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop, with the suspect car eventually pulling over on I-480 west near Transportation Blvd. GHPD officers began negotiating with the woman from a distance and during this time she fired two rounds at the front windshield of her car, not at officers, police said.

Officers continued negotiations alongside family members and the woman surrendered peacefully, without harming herself or anyone else. She was transported to Marymount Hospital for evaluation.

### CLE City Council OKs stricter rental unit laws

Cleveland City Council held its regular meeting Monday night and approved a package of legislation changes for how the city deals with rental properties under the Department of Building and Housing.

The changes will impact all non-owner-occupied units (rentals). Highlights of the changes include the stipulation that all rentals need to identify a Local Agent in Charge who is legally responsible for the condition of the property, just like the owner.

The legislation also revamps the city's Rental Registry, requiring all non-owner-occupied units to be registered with the city. The registration requires HVAC certification, Lead Safe certification, be up-to-date on property taxes and grants authority to revoke the registration for noncompliance.

The legislation revamps enforcement for owners of nuisance properties, including creating "civil tickets" that allows for the issuance of a \$200 fine per infraction for such things as infestation of pests, graffiti, rubbish and

garbage issues. The legislation also requires a separate registration of vacant buildings and identification of a Local Agent in Charge for those properties. Registration requires an exterior inspection of the property by Building and Housing for code violations and puts other conditions on the owners of vacant properties. Finally, the legislation also adds regular inspection of parking garages in the city.

### Maple Heights residents attend Town Hall meeting

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, a full and engaged audience attended the 2024 Town Hall meeting with Maple Heights Mayor Annette M. Blackwell. Residents and stakeholders received updates from the mayor, several department directors, along with remarks from House Representative Darnell T. Brewer and County Council President Pernel Jones.

New home construction, economic development, increased safety force hiring and planned purchasing of state-of-the-art equipment for both the service department and the city's youth were just some of the key takeaways from the Town Hall presentation.



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Advertise Feb. 14 (Ash Wednesday) thru March 29 (Good Friday) 2024 for only **\$25.00** per week!



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# Register now for season's final Ice-Skating Lessons & In-House Hockey Programs at Garfield Rec

## LEARN TO SKATE

The Season's Final Session 4 will begin the week of Feb. 12. **Learn to Skate Classes** ages 3 to Adult are held on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and also held on Saturday mornings, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Skate rental is included if needed.

## Fees

- ID Card – Residents - \$15 – onetime annual fee
- ID Card – Non-Residents - \$40 – onetime annual fee
- Lessons – Residents - \$50 – per session
- Lessons - Non-Residents - \$75 – per session
- Deadline for Session 4 is on or before Feb. 9, at 3 p.m.

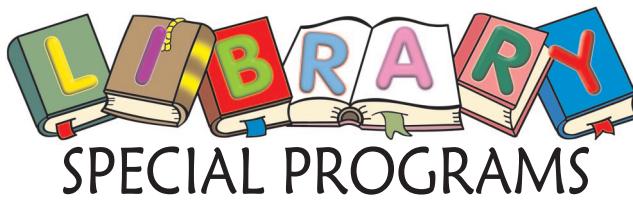
## IN-HOUSE HOCKEY

Beginner & Advanced. All **In-house Hockey Lessons** are for ages 3-14. Held on Saturdays - Advanced 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. – Beginners – 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

## Fees

- ID Card – Residents - \$15 - onetime annual fee
- ID Card – Non-Residents - \$40 – onetime annual fee
- Advanced Residents - \$75 – session fee (2 or more years of experience)
- Advanced Non-Residents - \$150 – session fee (2 or more years of experience)
- Beginner Residents - \$60 – session fee
- Beginner Non-Residents - \$75 – session fee
- Deadline for Session is on or before Monday, Feb. 12, at 3 p.m. All sign-ups after the deadline dates are subject to a \$15 administrative fee.

Check the remainder of Public Sessions posted to the city's web for February & March along with all other details at: [www.garfieldhts.org](http://www.garfieldhts.org). Call if you need further information, 216-475-7272.



## Maple Heights Branch Library

Here are a few of the **FREE** programs being offered in February at the Maple Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 5225 Library Lane, Maple Hts. For more information or to register, please call 216-475-5000.

## ADULTS

**Carl and Louis Stokes: From Projects to Politics, Thursday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.** Join us for a presentation by the Western Reserve Historical Society and learn the story behind these two local historical figures.

**Adult Activities for All Abilities, Monday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m.** Have fun and relax with Diamond, a music therapist with The Groovy Garfoose. We will play instruments, vocalize, sing and socialize through music.

**Plant Based on a Budget, Saturday, Feb. 24, 2 p.m.** Learn how eating plant foods can boost your immune system, reduce inflammation and lower your blood pressure. Vel Scott is a leader in the movement to bring nutrition and healthy living into people's lives.

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**Tots Rock! Saturday, Feb. 24, 10:30 a.m.** Ages 2 – 5 years, with a caregiver.

Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 5409 Turney Rd. Call 216-475-8178 to register or for more information.

## ADULTS

**PowerPoint Basics** Join us for this class, geared toward the beginner, to get an overview of what Microsoft PowerPoint can do. Wednesday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration required.

**PowerPoint Advanced Features** For those already familiar with Microsoft PowerPoint, this class will help you build on your knowledge to take your presentation to the

next level, using features like animations, hyperlinks, videos and sound. Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration required.

**Concertina Bookmaking Workshop** This workshop will guide you through the process of concertina bookmaking, a simple, no-sew way to create your own blank book! Thursday, Feb. 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Registration required.

## TEENS

AV Club Teens can come and use the technology in the branch's Innovation Center to make a craft. Tuesday, Feb. 13, 3:30-5 p.m.

## NN offers 'Freebies'

The Neighborhood News has two tickets to The Sokol Greater Cleveland Gymnastic Exhibition on Saturday, Feb. 17, at Garfield Heights Middle School, 12000 Maple Leaf Dr., Garfield Heights. Just stop in to The Neighborhood News office, 8613 Garfield Blvd., Garfield Heights, during regular business hours and enter to win. Deadline is Monday, Feb. 12, at 5 p.m.

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**PERSONALS**

**PERSONALS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I am publicly publishing my legal name change from (Anthony Kenneth Burgos) to Sultaan-Muhammad Anthony, Burgos Khan of McCracken Rd., Garfield Hts., Ohio 44125. Published in The Neighborhood News, Jan. 17, 24, 31 & Feb. 7, 2024

**LIFE**-Today is Tuesday, the weather is changing for the better. Looking in the backyard, a 6 point buck also white tail deer. How do you explain to your youngsters in school the beauty of **LIFE!** Also an article in the paper about people starting not to believe in religion. How do you ask mom & dad, why do not go to the beautiful church that we have? It is not even full. **LIFE** is just going by us. **LIFE** is short. Look at Msgr. Antall, getting older. He notices every day the changing of people's attitude. The parents and children's ways are taking away from **LIFE**. They watch TV instead of good clean movies or reading or enjoying their parents. The devil is having a good old time destroying our parents and little ones with crime, sex, adultery and now the weed. Parents love God and children. **LIFE** - just looking at the backyard again, the wonderful animals. This was all created for all of you. Take a ride through the metropark, sit outside, enjoy the birds, squirrels, rabbits, here for all of us to enjoy. **LIFE** is what we make it. It comes & it goes. Your friend, Dan Stys

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MAY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever.

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# Bedford Commons project may break ground this year

By Judith Goldsworth

The upcoming Bedford Commons improvement project may break ground as soon as this year, Bedford City Manager Mike Mallis said at the city council meeting Monday night.

Bedford Commons is located in Bedford's Historic Downtown District on Broadway Ave., and officials have said the changes are planned for the benefit of both residents and visitors.

A conceptual plan for the Commons prepared by GPD Group proposes a steel architectural entrance from North Park St., and another similar entrance adjacent to South Park St., as well as a multipurpose path, "splash pad," play areas and rest areas, and a curved trellis structure with glider seating.

"We've got a couple more hurdles to hopefully get over before we're actually formally bidding this, but I'm confident that city council will be putting shovels in the ground later this year, which is very, very exciting," Mallis stated.

Mayor Stan Koci clarified that nothing of the existing Commons will be touched, addressing concerns that some of the monuments there will be torn down as well as trees. "It's all staying," he said.

Mallis added that in addition to grant funding for the project, the Bedford AutoMile Association has given "a substantial donation."

## Legislation

At last week's meeting council passed an ordinance to update the zoning code in the areas of off street parking and vehicles that were not permitted to park in certain residential districts.

Mallis said it specifically prohibits a certain type of parking in municipal lots and on municipal properties. Those prohibitions include large tractor trailers, commercial vehicles, RVs, boats, motor homes; all those would be prohibited from parking in these areas.

Also passed was an ordinance authorizing Mallis to enter into an agreement with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health "for the authority and consent to provide Phase II Stormwater Services in years 2024-25," at a cost of

\$13,876, to be paid over two years, per the agreement. The county will provide technical assistance in implementing soil and water conservation measures as part of the city's compliance with the Stormwater Management program.

Council passed an ordinance authorizing Mallis to purchase a Lucas Chest Compression System from Stryker EMS, at a cost of \$19,939.08, as recommended by Fire Chief Dave Nagy.

Also passed was an ordinance authorizing Bedford to accept a Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2024 Energized Community Grant, as provided for in the NOPEC grant program guidelines.

Mallis said the city had been successful in obtaining the NOPEC grants for almost a decade, receiving between \$30,000 and \$40,000 annually.

"This year we received north of \$30,000," Mallis said, "and that money is being earmarked to help offset the costs of replacing the boiler system last year."

## Announcements

Ward 1 Councilwoman Sandy Spinks said the Bedford

Historical Society and Museum will be selling tickets for an upcoming fundraiser, "You Don't Have to Be Irish to Be Lucky," set for Saturday, March 16, at the Ellenwood Recreation Center. For tickets call 440-232-0796.

# Sokol Winter Gymnastic Exhibition at Middle School

The Sokol Greater Cleveland Winter Exhibition will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Garfield Heights Middle School gymnasium, 12000 Maple Leaf Dr., Garfield Heights, OH 44125.

The Sokol Greater Cleveland Concert Band will begin the festivities at 5:30 p.m., with a pre-program concert. At 6 p.m., the gymnastic exhibition will begin. The fast-paced event will include gymnastic and aerobic demonstrations by over 100 class members ages 3 to 80. The Sokols own Crooked River Circus group will also be performing on silks and other equipment.

Advance sale tickets are \$7 by calling 216-642-1429; \$10 at the door; children under 12 are free.

A social will follow the program at Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, with food and beverages available for all ages.

**DANIEL J. KLONOWSKI**  
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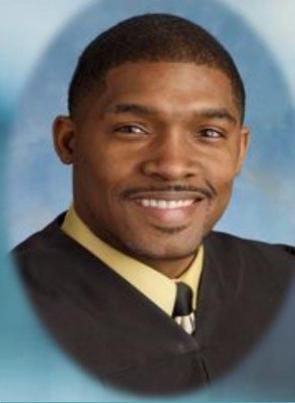


## 2024 Black History Event

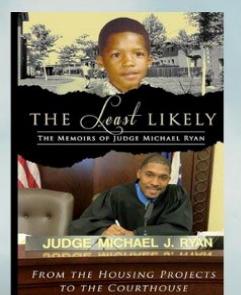
Directed by Janice Tubbs

### February 16th

6:30 p.m.



**Guest Speaker**  
**Michael John Ryan**  
Judge, Ohio 8th District Court of Appeals  
Author, *The Least Likely*




**Presenter: Scientist & Astronomer Destiny Thomas**  
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