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101st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

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FREE



Maple Heights Schools names Olympia A. Della Flora new superintendent



The Maple Heights City School Board has announced the appointment of Olympia A. Della Flora as the district's next superintendent. Della Flora's selection resulted from a comprehensive search that included valuable input from students, teachers, staff, parents and community leaders, according to school officials.

Della Flora brings a wealth of experience to Maple Heights City Schools. For the past year she has served as superintendent of Marion City Schools. Before that she spent four years with Stamford Public Schools in Stamford, CT, as the associate superintendent for School Development.

Additionally she was principal of Ohio Avenue Elementary School in the Columbus City School District and while there spearheaded a remarkable turnaround of a low-performing school. Her initiatives included implementing trauma-informed practices, establishing a school-based health center offering medical and mental health support, and earning recognition as an ASCD Emerging Leader. Della Flora is an Ohio native who graduated from Ohio State University.

The Maple Heights City School Board and District are confident that Della Flora's proven track record of success and commitment to student achievement and community engagement will make her an invaluable asset to the Mustang family.

Graduates Magna Cum Laude at Heidelberg

Natalie Joritz of Garfield Heights, is a member of the graduating Class of 2024 at Heidelberg University, in Tiffin, OH, graduating Magna Cum Laude on May 12, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre.

Garfield Hts. Food Pantry rescheduled

Due to the Juneteenth National Holiday, the Garfield Heights Food Pantry scheduled for Wednesday, June 19, has been rescheduled to 1 to 2 p.m., Thursday, June 20, at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd. There also will be an evening Food Pantry from 5 to 6 p.m., on June 20. The Civic Center will be closed on June 19 in observance of the holiday. For additional information, call 216-475-1100.

Book Sale at Fleet branch library set

The Fleet Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, 7224 Broadway Ave., will hold a Summer Book Sale on Monday and Wednesday, June 24 and 26, from 1 to 5 p.m. On Saturday, June 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., there will be a Bag Sale for just \$10 for all the remaining Book Sale items that will fit into the bag, as long as it doesn't break!

Offered will be gently used books, DVDs, BluRays, Audiobooks and CDs for all ages at prices that will make everyone smile.

Proceeds will benefit The Cleveland Public Library Foundation.

St. Monica's to hold Party at Pavilion

St. Monica Summer Series will present Party at the Pavilion on Thursday, June 13, from 5 to 8 p.m., on the church grounds, 13623 Rockside Rd., Garfield Heights. Free entertainment will be provided by The Sweetarts. Food, drinks, 50/50 raffle and fun for all.

Picnic tables are available in the pavilion or bring your lawn chairs. Event will be held rain or shine.

Garfield Hts. firefighters honored



Shown in photo, from left, are Garfield Heights Fire Chief Ken Strope, firefighters Steve Kordas, David Pohlchuck, Kevin Straka, Colin Wilson, Devin Milam, Joshua Russ, Captain Jim Toth and Mayor Matt Burke following the passage of a resolution by city council Monday night honoring the men for their bravery and lifesaving efforts.

By Ellen Psenicka

At Monday night's meeting of Garfield Heights Council, several firefighters and other safety personnel were honored with a resolution for their actions in response to a house fire on May 31, 2024, on McCracken Rd., where they "bravely helped rescue Garfield Heights residents" from the burning house.

Honored and commended were the following Garfield Heights firefighters: Captain James Toth, David Pohlchuck, Steve Kordas, Lt. Mark Creque, Daniel Hough, Devin Milam, Joshua Russ, Kevin Straka and Colin Wilson and responding police officers and dispatchers who bravely gave selfless response to citizens in need.

The resolution stated in part: "These Garfield Heights firefighters put their own well-being at risk by rescuing others, representing a symbol of strength, compassion and an inspiration to others."

Mayor Matt Burke said a male and female occupant of the house on McCracken were rescued within two minutes of when firefighters arrived, getting them down a ladder in heavy smoke conditions. "We could have been talking fatalities in that fire without our brave firefighting team," Burke said.

The following legislation was among items passed at Monday night's meeting:

- Authorizing renewal of an agreement on behalf of the city with Court Community Service for a period of one year at a cost not to exceed \$79,160.00.
 - Accepting the Violent Crime Reduction Grant from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services totaling \$403,295.00.
 - Accepting the ARPA Community Grant Fund available by Cuyahoga County not to exceed \$284,000.00.
 - Authorizing the presiding judge of Garfield Heights Municipal Court to accept the 2024 Technology Grant available from the Supreme Court of Ohio totaling \$57,370.00.
 - Entering into an agreement with OHM Advisors to provide engineering tasks for the Civic Center Parking Project.
 - Accepting a proposal from Snider Recreation Inc. to perform playground design, remove existing equipment and purchase and install new playground equipment, including basketball systems and surfacing at the Frank J. Debelak Recreation Area as part of the Garfield Heights Park Equipment Upgrade Project at a cost not to exceed \$141,393.00.
 - Accepting the 2024 State Violent Crime Grant of an additional \$60,500.00 for license plate readers from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.
 - Applying for and accepting funding from the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Traffic Safety Office under the Impaired Driver Enforcement Program and Selective Traffic Enforcement Program.
 - Entering into an agreement with Relmac Mechanical, LLC for the purchase and installation of a Carrier Rooftop air-conditioning unit for Fire Station #1 at a cost not to exceed \$82,000.00.
 - Recognizing the month of June as LGBTQIA+ Month in the city.
- The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8, at 7 p.m.

LGBTQ+ Pride Month legislation will go to third reading in Maple Heights

By Judith Goldsworth

During the course of Maple Heights Council's nearly 2-1/2 hour meeting last week, the legislative body again did not cast the five affirmative votes needed on second reading to declare June 2024 as "LGBTQ+ Pride Month" in the city. Council had previously failed to pass the resolution at its Wednesday, May 15 meeting on first reading. The legislation will go to a third and final reading at council's next regular meeting unless a special meeting is called.

Voting to suspend the rules and pass the legislation on emergency at the Wednesday, June 5 meeting were council members Toni Jones of District 2, who also introduced the resolution, and Timothy Tatum of District 3. Voting against suspension and passage on second reading were council members Tanglyn Madden of District 5, Tina Stafford-Marbury of District 6, and Edwina Agee of District 7. District 1 Councilman Stafford Shenett abstained from voting. District 4 Councilwoman Dana Anderson was absent from the meeting.

"The city cherishes the value and dignity of each person and appreciates the importance of equality and freedom," the resolution states. "All persons are welcome in the city to live, work, play, and every family, in any shape, deserves a place to call home where they are safe, happy and supported by friends and neighbors... the city denounces prejudice and unfair discrimination based on age, gender identity, gender

expression, race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation or physical attributes, as an affront to our fundamental principles."

Another resolution that would have authorized the sale of 15 city-owned vacant lots through the Land Reutilization Program to local developer GLH LLC for \$37,501 also failed to pass under suspension of the rules and will go to a second reading. The developer wants to construct and sell a single family owner-occupied home on each property.

Many of the houses that are now vacant lots were torn down in the wake of the foreclosure crisis in 2008, due to their dilapidated condition and owners simply "walking away" from the properties, Jones said. "We just want to fill in the missing teeth so it looks like we have a full neighborhood again," he said.

Madden said she wished to give residents living next to the vacant lots the courtesy of being able to buy the properties as part of the city's Side Yard program before approving the legislation to sell the land. Parcels mentioned in the legislation are on the streets of Kennerdown, Krems, Maplewood, Maple Heights Blvd., Arch, Carol, South Blvd., Cato and Stanley.

Agee stated that she and other council members wanted the legislation to go to three readings to do more research on the project.

Blackwell was concerned that any delays in approving the sale of the lots could result in the city losing a potential \$2.6 million in future revenue if GLH decided to go to another city. She said having three readings with council's summer schedule of only one meeting during each of the summer months would push the agreement into August, which would be too late to start construction for this year.

Council President Ron Jackson said, "I am going to call a special council meeting before this month is over. Two things I know are going to be on the agenda will be the proclamation for LGBTQ month, and for the lots. I would like to see those happening before the end of the month."

Other legislation

Resolutions passed at last week's meeting include:

- Authorizing an agreement with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) for \$59,000 in Community Cost Share Program Funds to purchase leaf collection equipment, and to enter into a purchase agreement with Best Equipment, through Sourcewell's Cooperative Purchasing Program, to buy an X-Treme Vac Trailer

(Continued on Page 8)



JUNE 17 AT NOON

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

20980 Libby Rd **SOUTHGATE PLAZA**

Please join us
for
JUNETEENTH
Celebrating Freedom
Wednesday, June 19, 2024
4:00 P.M.
at Rec Center/ Pool, 5411 Turney Road
ALL DAY REDUCED ADMISSION \$5.00
Kids 5 & under are FREE!

Guest Speakers:
Pernel Jones, Jr.
&
Mark Smith

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Community police reports

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

Garfield Heights

Recovered Stolen Auto

•On June 4, at about 9:14 a.m., a gray Subaru Forester was seen by officers going west on Rockside Rd., and checked as stolen out of Cleveland. The car approached Turney Rd., and continued north on Turney, until it pulled in a driveway in the 5500 block. Police pulled in behind the car and blocked it from fleeing. The driver was taken into custody without incident and charged with receiving stolen property and held on no bond.

•On June 4, at about 5:22 p.m., police were alerted that a white 2000 GMC Sierra was traveling south on Turney Rd., and was entered stolen through the East Cleveland Police Department. The car was located going south on Turney near Grace, and police initiated a traffic stop at Turney near Danbury. Driver secured in handcuffs and booked into city jail and charged with receiving stolen property and held on no bond.

Felonious Assault

On June 4, at about 8:40 p.m., police were dispatched to a home in the 13300 block of Grannis Ave., for a report of shots fired. A male at the home said a tan car pulled up in front of his house and a man he did not know asked if he had some weed he could buy. The victim told him he did not, then the driver told him to get into the car, grabbed him, and they both fell to the ground. The victim then got up and tried to run back to his house when a second male got out of the car and began to shoot at him as he ran away. The victim was able to run into a backyard and hide until police arrived on scene. The victim was not struck by gunfire and said he does not know either suspect. The driver was described as a light-skinned black male with dreads that were blonde at the tips and a full beard. The passenger was described as a dark-skinned black male wearing all black. Officers found six 10mm spent casings in the street on Grannis. A blue Honda

parked on the street had been struck by gunfire. Multiple witnesses said they saw an older model gold Chrysler Sebring with heavy tint leave the area right after the shooting took place. Investigation continues.

Traffic Offense-OVI

On June 4, at 10:04 p.m., officers responded to the area of E. 131 St. and Saybrook Ave., for a report of a black male asleep behind the wheel of a maroon van in the roadway. Unknown parties were attempting to wake him up, and at one point he did wake up, reversed the van into the wrong way of traffic and struck a utility pole at the southwest corner of the street. Police arrived and found the vehicle parked in the lot of Open Pantry, 4539 E. 131 St., with the suspect inside. They approached the vehicle and told the driver to shut off the engine several times, but the driver seemed confused.

Officers patted him down and found a pocket knife and a pill bottle in his pocket containing a clear plastic baggy with a white powdery substance inside, consistent with how narcotics are transported. Officers noted the man smelled of a strong, distinct fruity odor consistent to PCP consumption. He was given a Standard Field Sobriety Test and based on his performance was taken into custody for OVI. An inventory of the van revealed several more prescription pill bottles belonging to the suspect. He told police he had diabetes and the bottles were taken back to the jail. Suspect charged with OVI, hit-skip and possession of drugs (cocaine).

Theft

On June 6, at 8:29 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a home in the 13900 block of Grove Dr. for a theft report, where the female at the home said that at an unknown time, someone had taken an Amazon package from her

porch which contained a roll of purple ribbon and a cookie cutter tray. She said she discovered numerous opened Amazon packages scattered near the side of her residence. She said she believes whoever it was also stole packages from her neighbors and opened them in the field next to her home. Police found the items that had been taken from her in the field as well as other items that were returned to their owners.

Child Endangering

One June 8, at about 11:25 a.m., an officer was sitting in the parking lot of Ss. Peter & Paul Church, 4750 Turney Rd., observing traffic flow when a motorist advised she had found a 3-year-old boy running alone on her street. She had picked him up in front of her home in the 4700 block of Blythin Rd., put him in her car and was driving around asking neighbors if they knew who the toddler belonged to. Officers began canvassing the area but were unable to locate the parents. For the child's welfare, a squad took the youngster to Marymount Hospital for medical evaluation. While an officer continued to search for the boy's parents, the father was located and said his 5-year-old autistic son was missing from the house. He said he was in the backyard working while the boy was upstairs with his 15-year-old who was supposed to be watching him. The mother said she was upstairs sleeping and did not know the boy had run out of the house. Father issued a summons for child endangering. The boy was released from Marymount Hospital to his mother.

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Summer Celebration

TUESDAY, JUNE 18TH

MUSE'S GROOVE

6:30 - 8:30 PM

TUESDAY, JULY 16TH

TOWNSMAN ORCHESTRA

6:30 - 8:30 PM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH

FORECAST

6:30 - 8:30 PM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20TH

ERIN NICOLE NEAL

6:30 - 8:30 PM

STAFFORD PARK

5400 MAYVILLE AVENUE

MAPLE HEIGHTS, OH 44137

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FLEET MUSIC PRESENTS..

5708

BEATS ON FLEET

Summer Solstice Sounds

LIVE MUSIC BY:

The Drop Deacons

The Good Knights

SUNSET: 9:04PM

FULL MOONRISE: 9:24PM

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\$5 ENTRY HELPS CARL JAY'S DOWN PAYMENT FOR HOME

FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST

ENTERTAINMENT VENDORS FOOD&BEV

4PM-MIDNIGHT

FLEET MUSIC KICKS OFF THE POWER OF MUSIC SERIES "BEATS ON FLEET" WITH A SUMMER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL IN SLAVIC VILLAGE! CELEBRATE LOVE, LIGHT, & COMPASSION DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING A BELOVED COMMUNITY MEMBER WITH DOWN SYNDROME WHO IS IN THE PROCESS OF RELOCATION.

DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET YOUR NEW SUMMER HAIR!! AT THE WIGS FOR KIDS HAIR DONATION DRIVE! FREE HAIRCUTS FOR 12 DONATIONS!

JOIN US FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY OF MUSIC FROM LOCAL BANDS, TASTY FOOD, AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES! BE PART OF A CAUSE THAT SHOWCASES THE BEST OF WHAT OUR COMMUNITY STANDS FOR.

YOUR ATTENDANCE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE "CARL JAY ROCKIN" FUNDRAISING EFFORT TO HELP HIM SECURE A NEW HOME IN NEWBURGH HEIGHTS, ENSURING HE REMAINS IN THE COMMUNITY HE LOVES AND HELP FUND NEW EXPERIENCES FOR JAY ON HIS FUTURE TRAVELS.

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Death Notices

Ride in the “Breeze” with Angels

CHARLES N. McNEELY, SR.

Charles N. McNeely, Sr., age 73, of Cleveland, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 8, 2024. Chuck lit up every room with his infectious humor and captivating storytelling. An enthusiast of motorcycles and southern cuisine, he was also a devoted father and grandpa. Chuck's knack for fixing things and his love for the open road, whether on his bike, truck or Caddy, were just some of the many facets of his vibrant personality.



A simple man at heart, he cherished life's simple pleasures and let the “Breeze” refresh him on every ride. Retiring from the railroad, he leaves behind cherished memories. He was preceded in death by his mother, Garnett Irene; son, Charles Jr. ("Chuckie"); father, James ("Norman"); and brother, Danny. He is survived by his daughters, Carrie Bibb (Steven) and Candy Bittinger (John); granddaughters, Jasmyne, Madisyne and Alyssa.

Visitation will be held Thursday, June 13, 2024, from 4 to 8 p.m., at FORTUNAFUNERALHOME, 7076 Brecksville Rd., Independence, OH 44131. Interment private.

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TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS VIA EMAIL:
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Brecksville Rd., Granger Rd. ramp closures Friday

ODOT has announced several ramp closures during the resurfacing of Granger Rd., between Tuxedo Ave. and Transportation Blvd. in Independence, Brooklyn Heights and Valley View.

The following ramps will be closed for a short duration each on Friday, June 14, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. for resurfacing. The following ramps will not be closed at the same time.

SR 21 (Brecksville Rd.) northbound to SR 17 (Granger Rd.) westbound. Detour will be SR 21 north to E. 71st south to Canal Rd. east to Warner Rd. south to SR 17.

SR 21 northbound to SR 17 eastbound. Detour will be SR 21 north to E. 71st south to Canal Rd. east to Warner Rd. south to SR 17.

SR 21 southbound to SR 17 westbound. Detour will be SR 21 south to Old Brecksville Rd. west to Schaaf Ln. west

to E. Schaaf Rd. north to SR 17.
SR 21 southbound to SR 17 eastbound. Detour will be SR 21 south to Old Brecksville Rd. west to Schaaf Ln. west to E. Schaaf Rd. north to SR 17.

SR 17 westbound to SR 21 northbound. Detour will be SR 17 westbound to Warner Rd. north to Canal Rd west to E. 71st north to SR 21.

SR 17 westbound to SR 21 southbound. Detour will be SR 17 west to E. Schaaf Rd. south to Schaaf Ln. east to Old Brecksville Rd. east to SR 21.

SR 17 eastbound to SR 21 southbound. Detour will be SR 17 east to E. Schaaf Rd. south to Schaaf Ln. east to Old Brecksville Rd. east to SR 21.

SR 17 eastbound to SR 21 southbound. Detour will be Warner Rd. north to Canal Rd. west to E. 71st to SR 21.

St. Monica Summer Series Presents:
Party at the Pavilion on Thursday, June 13th
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Free Entertainment provided by: The SweetTarts
Food & Drinks • 50/50 Raffle • Fun for All!

Bring your lawn chairs
and join us for the evening.
(Picnic tables available
at the pavilion)
Rain or Shine! All are invited!
Hope to see you there!

Special thanks
to all our Sponsors!
St. Monica Church, 13623 Rockside Rd., Garfield Heights



SAVE THE DATE! ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH TRASH & TREASURE SALE

WILL BE HELD
AUGUST 8th, 9th and 10th, 2024
AT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL,
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information!**

Where: Neighborhood Pets, 3711 E. 65th St.
Saturday, June 22 2024
10am-1pm

Participating Organizations include:
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Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
Cleveland Animal Care and Control
Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging
Frontline Service
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center
Pregnant with Possibilities
Cleveland Department of Public Health
Homeless Hookup
And many more!

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

By order of the Council of the City of Maple Heights, sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Agent, at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until 12:00 Noon, local time, on the **20th day of June, 2024** for the “**LEE ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT**” in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.

The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

Each bidder is required to furnish with its proposal, a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. Bid security furnished in Bond form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety. Each bid must be made upon the Proposal Form provided in the set of specifications and must be accompanied by a bank check or cashier's check drawn on a solvent bank in Cuyahoga County in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, or a bid bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the amount bid, as a guarantee that if said bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and a Surety Bond satisfactory to said City in an amount equal to 100% of the total bid will be furnished. Checks shall be made payable to the City of Maple Heights, Ohio.

Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Cuyahoga County and the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, as determined by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Wage and Hour Division, (614) 644-2239.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, “**LEE ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT.**”

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: The Neighborhood News
June 5, 2024
June 12, 2024

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St. Monica Church
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A good relationship with your PCP brings positive benefits to your health.



Tomislav Jagatic, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Marymount Hospital and
Marymount Medical Center
in Broadview Heights

The relationships we have in our lives are important for our wellbeing. For that same reason, it's important to build a good relationship with your primary care provider (PCP). "PCPs are your focal point of healthcare and collectors of information. We tailor your care to your needs, make sure you reach appropriate benchmarks, and ensure you practice preventive health methods," explains Tomislav Jagatic, MD, a physician who specializes in internal medicine and geriatrics at Cleveland Clinic Marymount Hospital and Marymount Medical Center in Broadview Heights.

PCPs focus their care on medical needs like:

- Hypertension.
- Screenings.
- High cholesterol.
- Diabetes.
- General health.

Internal medicine providers see patients from the age of 18 and beyond. For younger patients, primary care is provided by family medicine providers (who treat all ages) or pediatricians.

Establishing a good relationship

The best way to establish a relationship with your PCP is by coming to your appointments – whether it's your yearly checkup or when ill.

"In my office there's a no judgment zone," says Dr. Jagatic. "I treat my patients objectively and want them to feel comfortable to openly discuss

their medical needs or anything that they may think is taboo."

A unique aspect of Dr. Jagatic's patient care is when his patient is admitted to Marymount Hospital's Emergency Department, he is notified 24 hours a day, five days a week.

"So, no matter if it's 3 p.m. or 3 a.m., when my patient comes to Marymount's Emergency Department, I'll oversee their care once admitted," says Dr. Jagatic. "Patients have better outcomes with physicians they know. It's a huge benefit."

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Jagatic or another Cleveland Clinic internal medicine physician, call **216.444.2538**.



Don't be embarrassed. When (and why) you should start seeing a urologist.



Juan Antonio Jimenez, MD, PhD
Cleveland Clinic
Marymount Hospital

Staying fit. Eating healthy. Juggling family, friends and job. With so many priorities, seeing a urologist is probably not high on your list. Erectile dysfunction and declining libido affect 1 in 10 men in their late 40s and early 50s. The cause isn't always physical, but a urologist can help if it is. At age 40, it's time to start seeing a urologist regularly.

Juan Antonio Jimenez, MD, PhD, a urologist at Cleveland Clinic Marymount Hospital, shares information about some common conditions that urologists see:

- **Enlarged prostate** (Benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH) – Is it getting harder to pee? Alone, this

can often be treated with medication and diet modifications. Sometimes, surgery is necessary. Occasionally, symptoms indicate something major, like prostate cancer.

- **Prostate cancer** – A prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test can predict your prostate cancer risk and help your provider plan future screenings.
- **Testicular changes** – Testicular pain or lumps or bumps on your genitals should always be checked by a urologist.
- **Erectile dysfunction (ED)** – About 50% of men experience some ED and decreased libido by their late 50s; 10% deal with it long-term. Sometimes, it signals a serious issue like cardiovascular disease.
- **Peyronie's disease** – The penile plaque or scar tissue can interfere with how your penis stores blood during erection. About 13% of

men experience penile curvature that can affect sexual activity.

- **Low testosterone** – Any issue with your testicles, hypothalamus or pituitary gland can cause low testosterone. If you're noticing bothersome signs of low testosterone, see a provider.
- **Vasectomy** – This outpatient procedure is a highly effective form of permanent birth control.

A urologist can help maintain or improve your quality of life. Initially, you may feel embarrassed talking about your urinary and sexual health but, rest assured: Your urologist has seen and heard it all and knows how important these issues are.

For more information or an appointment with a urologist, visit **ClevelandClinic.org/MensHealth** or call **216.444.5600**.

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GHHS Class celebrates 40-year reunion

As part of the Garfield Heights High School Class of 1984's 40-year reunion celebration, classmates gathered on Saturday, June 8, at the Middle School (formerly the high school) for a self-guided tour and reminiscing event.

The class was welcomed by Garfield Heights mayor, and GHHS alum, Matt Burke, who reminded classmates that Garfield Heights will always be their home.

Walking through the halls and visiting iconic locations like the gymnasium, classrooms and former chemistry lab brought back many memories, and even a few tears. The group eventually gathered in the cafeteria for refreshments and to view memorabilia displayed by classmate Dr. David Foley.

The time was made even more special by the four superhero teachers who joined the group: Ms. Hofman (Chemistry), Mrs. Daugherty (Social Studies/History), Ms. San Antonio (Reading and Drama), and Mr. Sledz (Life Science, Physics and AV).

"It was such a privilege to spend time with these four outstanding professionals who provided knowledge and guidance during a pivotal time in our young lives," said Dr. Foley.

The celebration continued later in the afternoon at a nearby restaurant. The GHHS Class of 1984 extends its sincerest thanks to the Garfield Heights Board of Education for their support of this event.



Shown above are members of the GHHS Class of '84 who celebrated their 40-year reunion on Saturday, June 8, with a tour of their former high school and at a nearby restaurant later in the afternoon.

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tenderness and patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
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as we look to you for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender.
Amen.

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Buckeye Quality Meats (9356 OH-14)
Fairfax Market (2190 E. 105 St., Cleveland)
Vermilion Farm Market (2901 Liberty Ave.)

Garfield Heights Community Flea Market scheduled June 22nd at Civic Center

The Garfield Heights Community Flea Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, June 22, in the parking lot of the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd. Registration for vendors is full. Parking for customers will be at the Garfield Heights Library or near the recreation center.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION, (Garfield Hts. Only)

Saturday, June 15,
10am-Noon, Inside



THE ROCK
COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Rock Community Church, (9403 Garfield Blvd.), will have a food pantry distribution for **Garfield Hts. residents only (income limits apply)** on **Saturday, June 15, from 10am-Noon.**

We will be inside the building with an expedited distribution. Numbers and sign-up sheets will be distributed at the parking lot entrance starting at 8:00 am.

Please have photo ID available and a pic of the ID for those you will pick up for.

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Dr. Ringo is a Cleveland native who graduated from Bedford High School and was inducted into the Bedford High School Hall of Fame in 2003.

She is in the Ohio Army National Guard and is the first African American female to reach the rank of Colonel. She celebrates 30 years of service this year.

Contact Exclusively Skin at 216-508-6500 or visit website: www.exclusively-skin.com.

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Spectrum

LGBTQ+ Pride Month legislation in Maple Hts.

(Continued from Page 2)

Mounted Debris Collector in the amount of \$59,000. The Service Department will use the equipment to collect and compost leaves, thus preventing them from ending up in the city's sewers.

- Authorizing an agreement with NEORS for Community Cost Share Program Funds for the Southwest Quadrant Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 1-a Project, at a cost of \$250,000. The project, which has already received over \$1.4 million in NEORS funding, includes repair of storm and sanitary sewers on Dunham, Steinway, Walvern, Rowena, Mendota, Corkhill, Longvale, Woodbrook and Florence, to meet Ohio EPA requirements.

- Authorizing a change order for the Fabrizi Trucking & Paving Co., Inc., to decrease the contract by \$45,176.45 for the Southwest Sewer District Sewer Repairs - Dunham Road Project. The city has been awarded funds from the NEORS for repair of sewers on Dunham, Turney, Carol, Summit, Rochelle, Lisa, Janet, James, Wheeler, E. 146, Mustang, Thunderbird and nearby easement areas, and the cost was not to exceed \$299,525.

City Engineer Ed Hren determined that "quantity adjustments to contract line items for actual work performed will decrease the amount by \$45,176.45," the legislation states.

- Authorizing acceptance of a May 6, 2024 Repair Work Order from TK Elevator in the amount of \$63,756 to complete repairs to the Senior Center elevator and use \$31,878 in NOPEC Grant funds towards the cost of those repairs, with the city paying the remainder. Council also approved two previous work orders from TK Elevator totaling \$108,631, which were funded by American Rescue Plan Act funds from the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging.

Police chief warns of gel pellet guns

Maple Heights Police Chief Todd Hansen gave a pre-

sentation to warn officials and residents about teens and young adults using Orbeez gel pellet guns in the city.

Orbeez pellet guns were originally designed to function as a toy gun to shoot soft, water-based gel pellets at others during safe, supervised play, according to the company's website.

Hansen displayed a number of colorful toy Orbeez guns at the meeting, but cautioned that at night, and from a moving vehicle, they could be difficult to distinguish from a real weapon.

"This seems to be one of the hot toys in our area," he said. "Orbeez guns shoot little water balls, and they don't really do any harm per se, in and of themselves, but if you shoot someone close up with it on their bare skin it can sting them."

Hansen said the police department will be starting a public relations campaign to let people know more about these gel guns. "Basically, for the legal department, these are going to be treated like BB guns, and you're not allowed to do anything with BB guns anywhere in the city."

'Heroes' recognized

Blackwell presented a proclamation and the Key to the City to a local hero, District 1 resident Moneka Lewis, for saving the life of an unconscious motorist on Dunham Rd., on Thursday, May 30.

Lewis was with her friend on the way to an event when she noticed a woman sitting behind the wheel of a stopped car who appeared to be unconscious. Lewis shut off the car to prevent it from rolling further into the road, and she and her friend began to direct traffic around the car, Blackwell stated. Lewis called 911 for emergency help and stayed with the woman until the Maple Heights Fire Department and EMS personnel arrived and confirmed the woman would be all right.

In another presentation, Agee honored resident Jaden Dean, recognizing him for his "strength and bravery" in a Friday, April 26, incident when he was attacked by a large group of individuals.

"Your courage in the face of adversity is truly commendable. We want you to know that there are people who care about you and support you," Agee said.

Judge Ray Pianka honored

The legacy of the late Judge Raymond L. Pianka was celebrated last Thursday with an honorary street dedication of West Clinton Avenue, as requested by Ward 15 Council-person Jenny Spencer.

Judge Pianka was first elected to the Cleveland Housing Court in 1995. His innovative work as a judge was widely recognized and gained national praise during the 2008-2010 foreclosure crisis.

Pianka was a key player in many economic development and community projects and was instrumental in saving the Gordon Square Arcade building from demolition. Today it is the centerpiece of the thriving Gordon Square Arts District.

Prior to being elected judge, Pianka spent nearly a decade as a Cleveland city councilman.



Shown above are Kirsten Pianka, at left, daughter of Judge Ray Pianka, and Kirsten's mother, Karen wife of Judge Pianka. Photo by Elena Psenicka

State of Ward 12 Address:

Maurer addresses neighborhood concerns, shows optimism for future of her ward

Cleveland Ward 12 Councilwoman Rebecca Maurer presented her State of Ward 12 Address last Thursday evening at the Polish American Cultural Center on Lansing Ave., to a packed crowd of her constituents and neighborhood stakeholders.



Councilwoman Rebecca Maurer gave her State of Ward 12 Address last Thursday at the PACC.

She touched on several key topics that impact the everyday lives of those living in Slavic Village and other areas of her ward, like better city services, including cutting of vacant lots, cleanups of illegal dumping and faster delivery of new garbage and recycling bins.

New 311 system coming

Maurer said the biggest change coming in the next year will be the launch and implementation of the new 311 system, a centralized tracking and management system for basic city services with both phone, app and web options.

She also stressed more money has to be set aside in the city budget for road repaving.

"At the rate we're going, we will only get to half of the D- and F-rated streets over the next 20 years," Maurer said.

Another source of frustration for Maurer and her constituents is the fact that more than 15 years after the foreclosure crisis, the city is still plagued by vacant and abandoned homes, attracting crime as well as being an eyesore.

"Building and Housing needs to proactively case manage these properties instead of waiting for resident com-

plaints," she explained.

Addressing safety issues

"Across the city," the councilwoman told her audience, "we are refocusing our efforts to fund violence prevention."

She said that for the first time in 2023, the city supported more than \$2 million in grants to grassroots, community-centered programs which will show up in Ward 12 through organizations like God's Vision Foundation, Golden Ciphers, Beat the Streets, and Building Hope in the City.

Maurer said work is also being done to decrease response time from police and EMS so that when people call 911, they have a sense that a vehicle will show up - and quickly. Which means more officers are needed to answer those calls.

"That is why we've seen such a critical focus on increasing academy classes. We want our public safety divisions fully and adequately staffed," she said.

What's ahead

Looking to the future, Councilwoman Maurer pointed out several things being planned to build stronger neighborhoods in the coming months and years:

- Slavic Village is partnering with RTA to build a master plan that includes not just the neighborhood but a high-frequency bus line along Broadway. That line would run every 15 minutes and make Slavic Village a more transit-friendly neighborhood.

- Property owners along commercial districts will soon be able to apply for matching grant dollars to improve the exterior or interior of their buildings, and more code enforcement and ticketing for commercial corridor properties that are not being kept up.

- The Downtown Connector Trail will connect Slavic Village to downtown and the Towpath Trail. The trail work, however, will not begin for a few more years because a large portion of the trail will be built by ODOT at the same time that they widen the shoulder along I-77.

- Maurer has spearheaded an effort to fully re-do the weight room above the now open gymnasium at Stella Walsh Recreation Center and get brand new equipment. The funding has been secured and the equipment will be installed later this year.

- Forest City Park has gotten a facelift and is expected to be open this summer with a new playground, pavilion, green space, art installations and more.

The councilwoman concluded her presentation by pointing out that connectivity - neighbors coming together - is essential to a thriving community.

"Your engagement with your community makes a difference," she said. "Each and every one of you is critical to the success of our ward and our city."



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LIBRARIES PLAN
SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Bedford (Bedford Heights/Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs coming up in June at the Bedford Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 70 Columbus Rd., Bedford, Ohio 44146. For more information, or to register for any program, please call 440-439-4997.

African American Authors Book Group - In-Person or Virtual. All adults are welcome. Thursday, June 27, 7 p.m. June title: "Two Parts Sugar, One Part Murder" by Valerie Burns. Join us for this cozy mystery that takes place in a bakery with recipes included. When Maddy Montgomery’s groom is a no-show to their livestream wedding, it’s a disaster that no amount of filtering can fix. But a surprise inheritance offers a chance to regroup and rebrand—as long as Maddy is willing to live in her late, great-aunt Octavia’s house in New Bison, Michigan, for a year, running her bakery and caring for a 250-pound English mastiff named Baby. Trouble ensues. This title is available in many formats: regular print book, eBook & eAudio.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

By order of the Council of the City of Maple Heights, sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Agent, at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until 12:00 Noon, local time, on the **27th day of June, 2024** for the **“2024 ASPHALT PROGRAM”** in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.

The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

Each bidder is required to furnish with its proposal, a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. Bid security furnished in Bond form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety. Each bid must be made upon the Proposal Form provided in the set of specifications and must be accompanied by a bank check or cashier’s check drawn on a solvent bank in Cuyahoga County in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, or a bid bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the amount bid, as a guarantee that if said bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and a Surety Bond satisfactory to said City in an amount equal to 100% of the total bid will be furnished. Checks shall be made payable to the City of Maple Heights, Ohio.

Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Cuyahoga County and the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, as determined by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Wage and Hour Division, (614) 644-2239.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, **"2024 ASPHALT PROGRAM"**

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: **The Neighborhood News**
June 12, 2024
June 19, 2024

Garfield Heights Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs available in June at the Garfield Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 5409 Turney Rd. Call 216-475-8178 to register or for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Tuesday Evening Book Discussion Join us for our monthly book discussion. This month’s title is "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng. Tuesday, June 18, 6-7 p.m.

Word Basics Join us for this class on the basics of Microsoft Word. Learn how to enter and format text and images, change line spacing, and the copy and paste function. Wednesday, June 19, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration required.

PowerPoint Basics Join us for this beginner-friendly class offering an overview of Microsoft PowerPoint, a software program for designing creative presentations and slideshows. Create a simple presentation and learn how to add text, images and transitions to slides. Monday, June 24, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Registration required.

Innovation Center Hands-On Help Bring in a project you’re working on and get help from a staff member. A previous Innovation Center orientation is required. Wednesday, June 26, 6-8 p.m.

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The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

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Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity. The owner intends and requires that this project be completed no later than October 18, 2024.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

All contractors and subcontractors involved with the project will to the extent practicable use Ohio products, materials, services, and labor in the implementation of their project. Additionally, contractor compliance with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123 is required.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Cuyahoga County and the City of Maple Heights, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Department of Commerce, Bureau of Wage and Hour Administration, 614.644.2239.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, **"LONGVALE AND WOODBROOK AVENUE RESURFACING PROJECT."**

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: **The Neighborhood News**
June 5, 2024
June 12, 2024

TEENS

Teen Poetry and Fiction Writing Come explore creative writing! Poetry, flash fiction, and story writing will be covered. Saturday, June 15, 2-3:30 p.m.

Summer Comic Club Join us in the Teen Room to talk about and read comics! Wednesday, June 19, 6-7 p.m.

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The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

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Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

The **Maple Heights Senior Center Generator Installation Project** is partially funded by the Cuyahoga County Department of Development’s Block Grant Program. A bidder/contractor will be deemed committed to the Department of Labor’s goals and timetables for the Cleveland, Ohio area as specified in the Notice of Requirements for Affirmative Action to ensure Equal Employment Opportunity Order 11246 by submitting a properly signed bid. Each bidder must ensure that all employees and applicants for the employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or veteran status.

A copy of the Bid Specification package for the **Maple Heights Senior Center Generator Installation Project** will be available for review by all potential bidders at the offices of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development located at 2079 East Ninth Street., 7th floor office 7-303, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Small Business Enterprises (SBE’s) are encouraged to participate on this project. The goal for SBE participation is 35% of total contract award for this project.

A Pre-bid Conference for the **Maple Heights Senior Center Generator Installation Project** will be held at **10:00 A.M. local time on the 20th day of June, 2024 in the Council Chambers at the Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137** for all interested parties. Information will be disseminated concerning proper completion of bid package documents.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, **“MAPLE HEIGHTS SENIOR CENTER GENERATOR INSTALLATION PROJECT”**

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: **The Neighborhood News**
June 12, 2024
June 19, 2024

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GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE



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GARAGE SALE - SATURDAY, JUNE 15
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
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Some brand new clothing including Jeans - sizes ranging from 10 to 1X.
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YARD SALE

YARD SALE - JUNE 14-15-16, 10AM-6PM
4071 E. 59 St., Off Harvard
Like new Craft Table, New under cabinet exhaust fan, Moen chrome wall mount towel bars, Kids backpacks, TV, Glass cutting boards, Portable crib mattresses. Lots of vintage and costume jewelry. Way too much to list! Come check it out!

PERSONALS

PERSONALS

Did you ever think, when we die, who shall we meet or do you say it's over? Don't think that way, it is the devil's way. We will meet Jesus, his Dad, who is the creator of us. You will be there and he will look at what you did on earth. Did you waste your time or did you harm people or live a bum's life. Did you bring up your children, you or your loved ones. Did you show love and speak to them in a good way. Sometimes you should tell them or mention, we all have been seen by our creator. Mention to them and to yourself, that we are here for a short time. Be an example to your wife and children. I found myself 20-30 years late. Someone came into my life. These are my friends who changed my life. I know there are others but there are 7 that I say a prayer to: the Creator, his Son, his Mother, Blessed Mary, who changed me, also St. Joseph, Holy Ghost and my Guardian Angels. Believe me, they are there to meet you and your children some day. I used to think, another day to make money, party, drink. All there is, another day, another year. Say a prayer so he'll be able to get there, where he's waiting for all of us. D.S.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

The City of Maple Heights is hiring!
Come join our team and serve our community.
Current vacancies include:
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A Night to Remember...



Last Thursday evening was a night to remember for all those attending the pre-release showing of "The House Next Door," a documentary on the 2008 foreclosure crisis focusing on the nightmare it brought to Slavic Village and how it became an opportunity for a community to come together to make way for a brighter tomorrow. Director/producer John Vourlis was on hand to see his film receive a standing ovation from an enthralled crowd of local stakeholders.

Here are some photos of the event at Elizabeth Baptist Church, which featured local "celebrities" in the movie. And it was all for a good cause. The Kiwanis Club of South East Cleveland partnered with Slavic Village Development, Literacy Through the Arts, and The Well at Elizabeth Baptist Church to donate all profits from the event to children's summer learning camps sponsored by Jones Road Family Development and Elizabeth Baptist. *Photos by Elena Psenicka*

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JUNE 30, 2024

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