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102nd YEAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024

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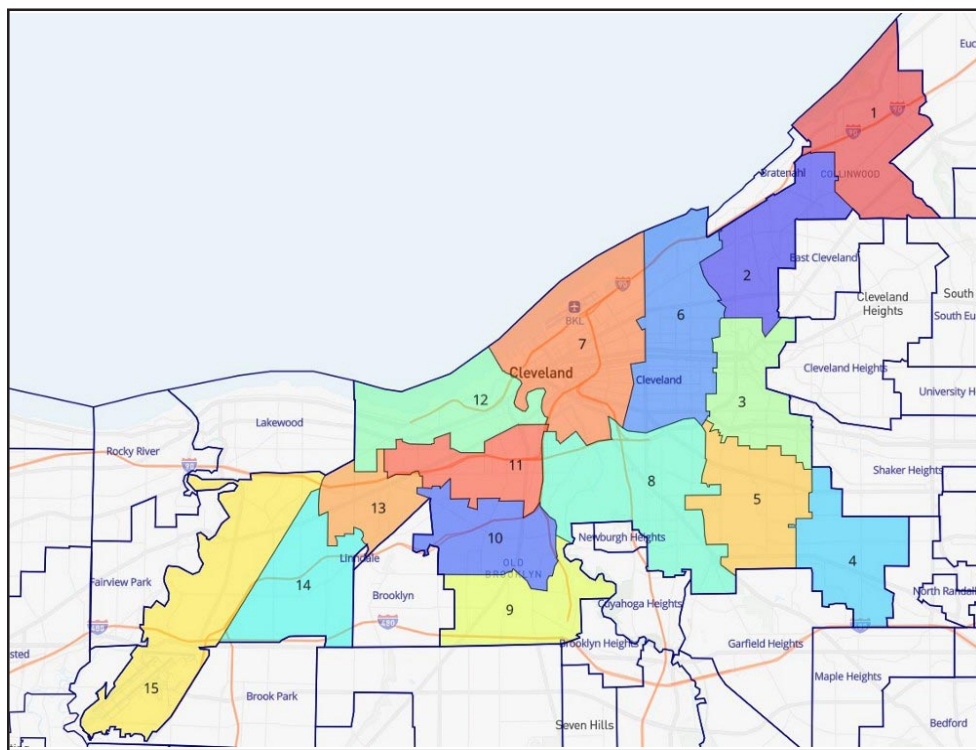
FREE

Cleveland City Council seeking public input for new ward redistricting

Cleveland City Council is seeking input from residents regarding the upcoming ward redistricting as mandated by the city's charter.

Cleveland's population has declined by 6.1% from the most recent U.S. Census and will require council to be comprised of 15 members for the 2025 election, down from the current 17 members. City Council recently held three public meetings to discuss the upcoming redistricting and may hold another before the end of the year. The videos and comments from those meetings can be viewed at ClevelandCityCouncil.org.

Public input is still being accepted and residents can send in their recommendations and comments to maps@clevelandcitycouncil.org. Residents and stakeholders can also submit their own Cleveland Ward Maps for an individual ward or the entire city by going online to Dave's Redistricting website: <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#home>



This map shows a sample of Dave's Redistricting Map drawing 15 possible new ward boundaries based on Statistical Planning Areas using census block data, submitted by a Ward 12 resident.

S.V. Holiday Decorating Contest is back!

The Slavic Village Holiday Decorating Contest returns for its 19th year of recognizing and honoring the neighborhood's most spirited residential and commercial Christmas decorators.

And as always, there's no application needed. Just go all out on the exterior of your home/building and judges will find it during their street tours on the evenings leading up to and just after December 25. For more information call 216-469-4806.

G.H. Ward 7 Block Watch holiday party

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch meeting and Christmas Party, sponsored by Councilwoman Jenn Newrones, will take place Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria of St. Benedict School, 13633 Rockside Rd. Attendees are asked to bring a gift-wrapped tree ornament for the holiday game and a side dish or goodies to share. All are welcome. For more information, contact Gail, 216-662-9213.

Two Garfield Heights bars among those indicted for illegal operations

The Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) and Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office have announced a 45 count Criminal Enterprise indictment in connection with a complex network of illegally operated bars across Cuyahoga County, two of which are located in Garfield Heights.

A press release from OIU stated the investigation uncovered a scheme in which "straw" owners began to purchase bars illegally as early as 2019, using illegal proceeds to continue to purchase more bars over a period of several years.

Between 2019 and 2024, alleged illegal operations were established at the following locations: Boozerz and The Bench Lounge in Euclid; Aura-Iconic and Aries Restaurant & Lounge in Garfield Heights; Night Capz and The Score in Cleveland Heights; and Bar Mayfield in South Euclid. Investigators allege that ownership of several of these businesses were subsequently transferred to individuals with significant criminal histories who would have been prohibited from being documented owners.

Using these bars as their base, OIU said the enterprise generated nearly \$4 million in illegal proceeds that went almost wholly unreported. Investigators allege that these proceeds were distributed to members of the enterprise and were used to purchase property and fund considerable personal expenses, entertainment and leisure activities.

While being operated, these premises became significant public nuisances with frequent shootings, gun crimes, assaults and disturbances. This placed a substantial drain on local law enforcement resources, said OIU, and prompted numerous complaints from residents near these establishments. During the execution of search warrants in October, OIU agents seized cash, business records and multiple firearms.

(Continued on Page 4)

Southeast Clergy Meals on Wheels program honored, receives donations at meeting of Bedford Council

By Judith Goldsworth

The Southeast Clergy Meals on Wheels program was honored for its service to the Bedford community and awarded donations during a presentation at the Bedford Council meeting Monday night.

The program delivers hot lunches on weekdays to senior citizens and other individuals at home in Bedford and the surrounding area.

Mayor Stan Koci presented Dinah Mouat of Meals on Wheels with a check for \$850 on behalf of City Hall employees who pay \$1 each to dress down on Fridays and other special days, with the proceeds going towards an annual donation to the program.

Thanking Koci for the donation, Mouat said, "We take care of all our seniors. With the cost of food, it's never been as bad as this past year or two because the cost of food just keeps going up. And this really helps out. It's \$4 per meal, and this will buy quite a few, and it's appreciated."

Mouat said it's a big worry for their seniors that they will not be able to feed their animals, who they consider family, because the cost of pet food is also expensive. "So we got some grants to pay for the pet food, about \$50 every other month, so they don't have to worry about whether or not they'll be able to take care of their animals."

The Firefighters Local 1683 also presented Mouat with a \$500 donation from the Bedford Fire Department, and another donation of \$150 in care of K&K Portage Meats to go towards the program.

Volunteers are also needed, Mouat said. "We're very interested if anyone is willing to join us, an hour a week, that's all it takes, from 11 a.m.-12 p.m."

(Continued on Page 2)

Southeast Clergy Meals on Wheels program honored

(Continued from Page 1)

She also announced a fundraiser, the "First Annual Cookie Crawl," where participants can visit six Bedford churches from 2-4 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 15, to feast on delicious cookies. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$30 per family; kids under 15 are free.

The tickets are good at all six churches, and all proceeds will go to the Meals on Wheels program. Call 419-265-0509 or visit bedfordohio.org/event/first-ever-cookie-crawl for more information.

2025 budget passed, rec rental fees raised

• Council passed an ordinance at Monday's meeting to approve the 2025 budget, to fund expenses, services and operations in the city next year, with a figure stated at \$45,196,739.

Finance Director Jennifer Howland stated that the new budget will go into effect Jan. 1, 2025.

• Also passed was an ordinance amending previous legislation of a section of the Codified Ordinances entitled "Fees, Deposits and Charges"... in an effort to further update its rules and regulations regarding utilization of the city's recreation centers.

City Manager Mike Mallis said, "We last adjusted our fees for those wishing to reserve space at the Community Center about seven years ago. We are making modest changes to the hourly quote to help defer some of the costs of running the Center and staffing that facility."

He said the increases will affect the reserving of the gymnasium, reserving of the multi-purpose room, which is a double sized classroom during prime hours, and reserving the single room, at an approximate \$25 increase per hour.

• Council also passed an ordinance authorizing Mallis to enter into a contract with Magnequip for installation of a new fully automatic Magnequip Diesel Exhaust Extraction System in the Fire Department, at a cost of \$89,903.

It was noted in the legislation that the city was awarded a grant in an amount up to \$92,000, including a 5% non-federal match from the Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant, to assist in the purchase of such a system.

Announcements

Ward 1 Councilwoman Sandy Spinks announced the Bedford Historical Society will be holding a Kris Kringle Market at the Historical Society Museum downtown on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Ward 5 Councilman Jeff Asbury said the Bedford Police are having their annual "Shop With a Cop" on Saturday, Dec. 14, with plans to take area youth shopping at the Macedonia Wal-Mart, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Also on Dec. 14, Ward 6 Councilman Anthony Longino said Wreaths Across America, which places wreaths on military members' gravestones across the country, will be observed.

Free legal advice available for domestic violence survivors in custody battle

By Tonya Sams

Family turmoil can be difficult to manage, and a custody battle can add even more strain. If your case goes before the court, it's important to understand what to expect.

The most common custody cases involve both parents, and the court's primary goal is to create a parenting plan focused on the child's best interests. Generally there are two types of plans: residential parenting and shared parenting.

Several roles or responsibilities may be assigned by the court or agreed upon by both parents. For instance, the designation of "residential parent" can sometimes be limited to decisions like choosing the child's school district. In other cases it may include broader rights, such as making choices about healthcare and extracurricular activities.

"Something less than a 50/50 split is considered shared parenting time, and that's more typical," explains Andrea Gonzalez-Burton, senior attorney in the Family Law Practice Group at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

The court determines the appropriate custody plan by considering multiple factors beyond Ohio law alone. Input from child advocates, mental health professionals, psychologists and parents is carefully weighed. Often a thorough review of the family's background is essential to ensure the child's safety and well-being.

In some cases, a child may be appointed a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) or an attorney called a guardian ad litem. Both roles serve the child's best interests, and sometimes an additional guardian ad litem is appointed to represent the child's personal wishes.

"Occasionally, a child's desires may differ from what's in their best interest," Andrea said. "In unique cases, especially with older teens, the child might become a party to the case so that their wishes can be considered, though this is rare. Ultimately, it is up to the judge to decide what parenting time will look like."

Even in cases involving domestic violence, the court generally believes a child should still have the opportunity to build a healthy relationship with both parents. To prevent any risk to the child, structured guidelines are put in place during visitations or custody exchanges. For example, drop-offs might be arranged in public places, at a police or fire station, or via school transfers, where each parent takes turns picking up or dropping off at the school.

Andrea emphasizes that custody cases are not about "winning" or "losing" in the traditional sense. "Winning means being able to see your child in a therapeutically appropriate setting with safe, healthy behaviors. That's the only standard of winning that we recognize."

Are you a victim of domestic violence and involved in a custody case? Legal Aid may be able to help! To apply for assistance, call 888-817-3777, or complete an online intake 24/7 at laslev.org.

Tonya Sams is a Development & Communications manager at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

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Non-profit organizations may print their upcoming events in The Neighborhood News at a cost of \$20 per week. Limit of 100 words or less. Email your information to: nnews1923@aol.com. Include contact name & phone number. Questions? Call 216.441.2141

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Garfield Heights 216-662-8685
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Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am and 10:45 am
All Mass times are Live streamed.

Community police reports

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

Garfield Heights

Assault

On Nov. 22, at about 3 p.m., an officer responded to Garfield Heights High School for a report of an assault. Two juvenile females, both accompanied by their mothers, told police they were "jumped" in the SAVE-A-LOT parking lot at 4790 Turney Rd., by a group of juveniles known to the victims as they were walking home from school. The report noted that the assaults were in connection to a large fight for which police had been called. One of the mothers said she went to the SAVE-A-LOT parking lot to pick up the victims being attacked and as she was trying to get the girls in her car she also began to be assaulted by the group of subjects. Report forwarded to Juvenile Bureau for possible charges.

Traffic Stop

On Nov. 26, about 7:11 a.m., a black Ford F-450 pickup truck was observed by police in front of Garfield Heights High School going approximately 45 mph in a 20 mph school zone. The officer attempted to catch up with the truck as it weaved in and out of southbound traffic on Turney Rd. to initiate a traffic stop. The truck initially slowed down but gained speed and did not pull over. It eventually turned right onto Hempstead and then into the parking lot of Family Dollar, 5522 Turney Rd., and came to a stop. The male driver got out of the truck with his hands up and was ordered by police to lay on the ground where he was then handcuffed and placed under arrest. He told the officer he was trying to find a safe place to stop. He was taken to city jail and held on no bond for investigation of fleeing and eluding, and cited for speeding, red light and weaving.

Theft

On Nov. 26, at 10:25 a.m., an officer spoke with a woman who said she had recently evicted a tenant from an apartment in the 4800 block of Turney Rd., and the tenant had vacated the residence on Nov. 24. She said during an inspection of the apartment afterward, a stove and refrigerator had been taken. The landlord said she had security camera video that showed the former tenant taking the items. She wanted the tenant to return them items and contingent upon their return, the landlord would be willing to drop the charges. She was asked to follow-up with detectives if the items were not returned.

Disturbance

On Nov. 28, at 8:11 a.m., police were dispatched to the area of Dave's Supermarket in Turney Town for a report of a heavy-set black female "tearing up the store." Prior to

their arrival, dispatch notified officers that the suspect had entered a gray Honda Odyssey, removed her license plate and hit several vehicles while fleeing the area towards Alexander. Officers located the car traveling eastbound on McCracken Rd., initiated a traffic stop and the Odyssey pulled into the Speedway parking lot. An officer informed her she was pulled over for no license plate and that her vehicle matched the description regarding the incident at Dave's. She told police she had not been at Dave's, but then admitted she has been having issues with the staff there and that day she had been there and had been asked to leave due to the recent issues. She said while she was leaving the store that day she knocked over some merchandise and while she was leaving the parking lot had "barely tapped" another car in the lot then left the area. She was issued traffic citations for driving under suspension, no seatbelt and no visible plate. She was verbally advised to not trespass at any of the Dave's Supermarkets. Maple Heights and Westlake PDs advised on her warrants.

Shots Fired

On Nov. 29, at 12:20 a.m., police were dispatched to the Gas USA, 4561 E. 131 St., for shots fired. The caller said approximately three shots were fired and a black SUV was seen leaving the area. Police found three 9mm shell casings in the Gas USA parking lot. They reviewed the station's video surveillance which appeared to show a black, newer model Jeep Cherokee arrive at the gas station and park at a pump. It appeared that a black male wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and sweat pants approached the front of the Jeep and possibly fired shots at the Jeep. He then ran north towards the marijuana dispensary at 4545 E. 131 St. The Jeep then exited the parking lot and went north on E. 131 St. The area was checked for the suspect and Jeep Cherokee with negative results.

Local library programming Cleveland Public Library: Fleet

Here are some of the FREE programs for the month of December being held at the Fleet Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, 7224 Broadway Ave., Cleveland. To register for any programs, please call 216-623-6962.

Kids Café: Cleveland Foodbank after school lunch program for youth ages 1-18. Monday-Friday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Children's Book Club: School aged. Wednesday, Dec. 11, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Patron Appreciation Day: Adults. Thursday, Dec. 12 (all day). Stop by and enjoy some light refreshments, free books and CPL Swag giveaways (while supplies last).

Garfield Heights Branch Library

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

La Hora Del Cuento: Spanish Language Storytime Come for a fun session with rhymes, games, movement, stories and more in Spanish. This storytime is offered in Spanish, but the lead artist helps with translations in English if needed. Monday, Dec. 9, 6-6:30 p.m.

†
Condolences
to the family and friends of
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Citizens of Slavic Village

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NOVEMBER 25 & DECEMBER 9, 2024
IN COUNCIL CAUCUS OF
BEDFORD CITY HALL AT 5:00 P.M.

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Two G.H. bars among those indicted for illegal operations

(Continued from Page 1)

Nine people from northeast Ohio were indicted in the enterprise, including:

- Randy Pittman (Age 53, of Macedonia)
- Sharita Roberts (Age 42, of Newburgh Heights)
- Rayshawn Duncan (Age 35, of Cleveland)
- Donald King Jr. (Age 43, of Cleveland)
- Daryel Jones (Age 43, of Cleveland)
- Dewayne Stewart (Age 37, of Cleveland)
- Daisha'vu O'Neal (Age 38, of Cleveland)
- Tremaine Golston (Age 35, of Cleveland)

Jazmyn Barrow-Stover (Age 40, of Solon)

In addition to the criminal indictment, 76 administrative violations were issued against the liquor permits in use at the involved premises. Those citations will ultimately be heard by the Ohio Liquor Control Commission, with possible sanctions including revocation of the liquor permits.

"Unfortunately we've seen this pattern before," said OIU Cleveland Agent-in-Charge Greg Croft. "Individuals with no regard for the law or impact they have on the communities they operate in. This investigation is a testament to the ongoing relationship between the Ohio Investigative Unit, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and our local law enforcement partners."

The Ohio Investigative Unit was assisted by the following agencies during the investigation: the Euclid Police Department, Garfield Heights Police Department, Cleveland Heights Police Department, South Euclid Police Department, U.S. Marshal's Violent Fugitive Task Force, Ohio Division of Liquor Control and Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.



Bedford (Bedford Heights/Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs coming up 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.

Kids Cafe - 18 & younger, Monday-Friday, 3 p.m.- 4 p.m. Kids ages 18 and under can get a **FREE** lunch provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, while supplies last.

Student Success - K-8, Mondays-Thursdays (school days) 4-6:30 p.m. Since 2002, our **FREE** Student Success Center's program has helped thousands of students in grades K-8 improve their grades and subject comprehension. Our student success centers are available in 10 of our branches. Students will receive tutoring from trained tutors in the following subjects: language arts, math, reading, science, and social studies. **MUST REGISTER.**

Self Care Saturday (Grades 6-12), Saturday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m. Ease your mind with calming activities. Art, yoga, writing, and more! A release form must be completed by a parent or guardian prior to the program in order to participate. **MUST REGISTER.**

Wood Slice Holiday Decorations - Adults, Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m. Relax and enjoy exploring your creative side. We will transform simple wood slices into painted holiday decorations. All materials are provided, so bring your imagination! **MUST REGISTER.**

Baby Craft - Birth to 35 months with parent or caregiver. Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m. Drop in for a seasonal baby craft using our hands and feet. We'll use nontoxic, washable paint but dress to get messy.

Kindergarten Countdown - For children entering kindergarten next fall and their caregiver, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 10:30 a.m. Join us as we help your child build kindergarten readiness skills in a program aligned to Ohio's Early Childhood Standards. **MUST REGISTER.**

Kids Cook! - Grades 3-6. Thursday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m. Expand your cooking skills with quick, simple, and delicious recipes. Registration required. This program may include activities that could be considered harmful. In order for your child to participate you must sign the Release and Hold Harmless form and return it to the program location

at least one week prior to the program's start date. To access the form please visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org/parent-options. Participants may be recorded and observed to capture this program's effectiveness.

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Death Notices

MARY ANN FAUGHT



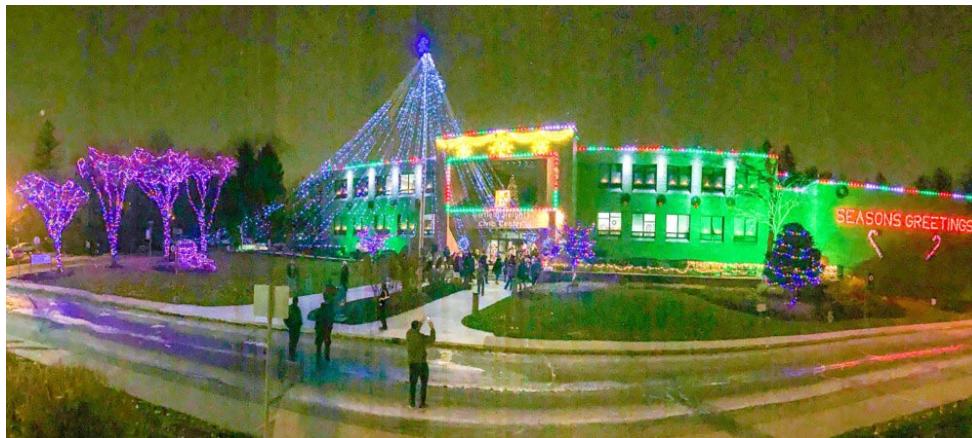
Mary Ann Faught (nee Schuman) passed peacefully on Saturday, Nov. 30, after a brief illness. Predeceased by her parents Robert J. and Gertrude Schuman (Miller), brother Robert A. Schuman, son Russell Faught, and niece Teah Schuman. Survived by her sister Eileen Morgan (Michael), step-grandson Jordan Hook, grandchildren Crislyn and James Faught, niece Tanya Schuman, and great nephew Anthony Schuman and many Miller family cousins.

Mary Ann was passionate and active in the Slavic Village community donating her time and gifts to many activities including the Iron Ward Music Festival, selling raffle tickets to raise money for Holy Name Church, and cooking and delivering meals for the priests and anyone who needed a little help.

She was the family historian and remembered birthdays and anniversaries. She was an AA Sponsor to many over the decades and a proponent of sobriety.

A Mass will be held in her honor on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Holy Name Church, 8328 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44105. A gathering for family and friends will follow at Holy Name Church. Interment will be at a later date.

Garfield Heights lights up for holidays!



Shown are scenes from the Garfield Heights holiday lighting Sunday evening at the Civic Center. Along with a panoramic view of the lights decorating the outside of the Civic Center is the St. Monica Church Choir singing Christmas carols inside before the lighting took place. *Photos by Wendy Walters and Debra Ballachino*



GIFT SHOPPE

Holiday Event

Saturday, December 7, 2024
11:30pm - 1:30pm
Jennings' Garfield Heights campus
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Bedford, Ohio Churches welcome you to come make new memories with us at the first ever

Cookie Crawl

December 15, 2024, 2-4 pm



Bring your ticket and come join us at all 6 locations:

- Bedford Baptist Church, 24 E. Grace Street
- Bedford Church of the Nazarene, 365 Center Road
- Church of Christ at Center Road, 264 Center Road
- Father Dan's Food Pantry, 79 Center Road
- Hope United Methodist Church, 79 Center Road
- Bedford Meals on Wheels at South Haven Church, 415 Northfield Rd.

Tickets \$10/16 and up, family tickets \$30
All proceeds going to Bedford Meals on Wheels

Tickets can be purchased at all locations listed above or by calling Bret Johnson at 419-265-0509

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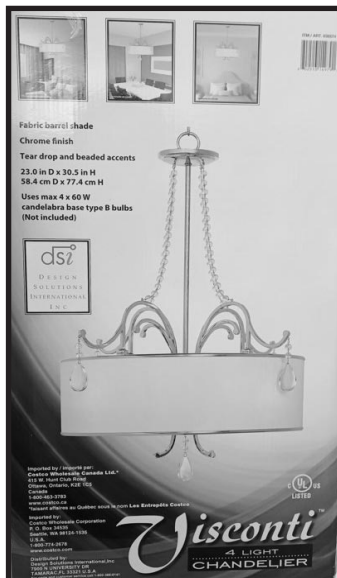
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The Neighborhood News

Advertising Information

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Come join our team and serve our community.

Current vacancies include:

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- Human Services Assistant Director
- Clerk of Council
- Records Data Entry (Police)
- Police Officer, Lateral
- Firefighter/Paramedic, Lateral
- Mechanic
- Laborer - Service Department
- Crossing Guard



For more information and to apply, visit www.citymapleheights.com or stop by Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights 44137.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

PLACING A DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENT:

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 \$12.00 per column inch (minimum \$48).

Business Directory deadline is 5:00 p.m. Fridays. Ads must print for 4 weeks. Advertising rate is \$10 per column inch (minimum \$20).

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:

Classified Advertising rate is \$12.00 for 15 words or less and 10¢ a word over 15 words. Boxed classified rate is \$12.00 per column inch (starting at \$24).

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.

PAYMENT IN ADVANCE:

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. All credit card payments will have an additional charge of 3.75% added due to the high cost of credit card processing. We appreciate your understanding and thank you for your business.

CANCELLATIONS:

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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All programs are free unless marked otherwise. For questions or to register for programs, please visit clevelandmetroparks.com or call CanalWay Center at 216-206-1000.

CanalWay Center – Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation

December 6-8: Eagle Weekend Cart Tours. Join a naturalist for a ride along the Towpath in search of eagles. We'll stop at the eagle's nest and take a little time to watch for eagles and wildlife that are often seen by the river. The tour may be in an electric cart or a small bus. December 6: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. December 7 and 8: 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Begins at CanalWay Center. Fee: \$6 per person. Terrain: paved surface, 0.1 mile. Register online with 7 people per trip.

December 6-8: Eagle Weekend Hikes. Join a naturalist for a guided walk to get a view of an eagle's nest and a chance to see several bald eagles. 10:10 a.m.–noon. CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved surface, 2 miles.

December 6, 7 and 8: Kids Discover Eagles. Young children will discover the wonders of bald eagles with a naturalist. We will learn about eagles with a story, a craft and some exploring of biofacts. 10:30–11:30 a.m. CanalWay Center. Ages: 3–6 years w/adult. Terrain: paved, 0.5 mile.

December 14: Preschoolers in the Park: Eagles. Bring the kids to learn about bald eagles. We will explore some of the qualities of this large raptor and learn how to use binoculars inside the center. Then we will go for a walk to see if we can spot any eagles perched or flying along the Cuyahoga River. This time of year we see more bald eagles along the river looking for food and friends. We will have some binoculars for families to borrow, but feel free to bring your own. 10:30 a.m.–Noon. CanalWay Center. Ages: 2–6 years w/adult. Terrain: paved, hill, 1 mile.

December 14: Beginner Archery for Adults (offered twice!) REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Designed for those intrigued by archery but do not know where to begin. We supply bows, arrows, targets and provide instruction. You supply enthusiasm. We will do our best to help you succeed so you can determine if archery is for you! From the CanalWay Center parking lot, follow the All-Purpose Trail down into the valley, across the canal and straight ahead to our temporary archery range set up in the field. 1:30–2:30 p.m., and 3–4 p.m. For adults. Terrain: paved, one hill, 0.5 mile. Fee: \$5.50.

December 18: Connecting Communities: CanalWay Center to Washington Reservation. Discover how trails and parks connect by joining a naturalist on an urban hike from CanalWay Center to Washington Reservation and back again. We'll also discuss future trail connections to Morgana Run and Downtown. 1–2:30 p.m. Terrain: paved, some small hills, icy conditions possible, 3 miles.

December 23: Nocturnal Life in the Park Camp. Today we are going to discover what happens in the park at night. We will discuss the wildlife that are awake at night while playing games, reading a story and making a craft. We will also get a chance to explore the night sky in our StarLab. 10 a.m.–1 p.m. CanalWay Center. Fee: \$25. Terrain: natural and paved, hill, 1–1.5 miles. Registration required – 12 campers.

Garfield Park Reservation

December 13: Friday Hike to the Falls. We will explore the waterways of Garfield Park. We'll hike around the newly created pond and into the woods along Wolf Creek. We will look for the hidden waterfall of Wolf Creek that was created by the deep rock ledges of this creek. 2:30–4 p.m. Meet at the Garfield Park Program Center.

December 15: Welcome Winter Luminary Walk. This can be a hectic time of year, so take this chance to embrace one of the darkest nights of the year with a luminary lit walk around beautiful Garfield Pond anytime between 5-6:30 p.m. Warm up at the Garfield Program Center with some hot chocolate and chat with a naturalist. Hikes with a naturalist leaving each half-hour or hike self-paced and self-guided. Meet at the Garfield Park Program Center. Terrain: paved surface, 0.5 mile. 216-206-1000.

St. John Lutheran to host holiday event

St. John Lutheran Church, 11333 Granger Rd., Garfield Heights, will be hosting "All for Christmas" on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 3 to 4 p.m. This event will include a Cookie Walk, Christmas Ornament Walk, caroling and a box of items for families to take home to help prepare for Christmas. And it's all free, but reservations are requested so preparations can be made for all family participants. Call the church 216-587-4222 or email sjlutheran@att.net by Dec. 10.

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