

The Neighborhood News

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SERVING SOUTHEAST CLEVELAND, GARFIELD HEIGHTS, NEWBURGH HEIGHTS, CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS, INDEPENDENCE, VALLEY VIEW, MAPLE HEIGHTS, BEDFORD AND BEDFORD HEIGHTS

102nd YEAR NO. 17

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026

PHONE: (216) 441-2141 • EMAIL: NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

FREE

Fatal car accident in M.H.

Police are investigating a horrific car crash in Maple Heights Saturday that fatally injured one and sent another to the hospital.

On Saturday, Jan. 17, around 11:30 p.m., the Maple Heights Police Department responded to a motor vehicle accident on Rockside Rd. near Lee Rd. south. Upon arrival officers located a vehicle that had struck a tree. It was split in half by the tree and a female victim could be seen laying underneath the vehicle. She was identified as 45-year-old Sherece Mays. She showed no signs of life and was later pronounced deceased on scene.

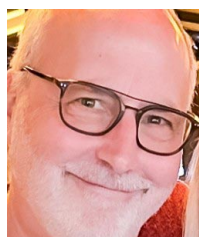
The second victim was still trapped inside the vehicle and needed to be mechanically extracted by the Maple Heights Fire Department and surrounding agencies that assisted. She was identified as 44-year-old Maurita Mays. Maurita Mays was transported to MetroHealth Medical Center by Life Flight helicopter. As of press time she was listed in critical condition.

The cause of the crash is under investigation by the Southeast Area Law Enforcement Accident Investigation Unit and the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office.

Anyone that may have witnessed this accident or who has information regarding this incident is urged to contact the Maple Heights Detective Bureau: 216-587-9624 or Detectives@mhpd-ohio.com.

Information can also be supplied to Crime Stoppers at its Hotline, 216-252-7463; submit a tip online at WebTips; or text message anonymously to: Text TIP657 plus your message to CRIMES (274637).

Cleveland Vaudeville talk coming to Slavic Village



Chris Roy

The Slavic Village Historical Society has invited author Chris Roy to talk about the history of vaudeville in Cleveland next Thursday, Jan. 29, at 7 p.m., at the Slavic Village Museum, 6804 Lansing Ave., Cleveland, with secure parking accessible from Worley Ave. The presentation is the third in the society's Cleveland History Hours series, which launched last fall.

Roy will talk about the five years of research that went into his book, "Mr. Moser's Neighborhood: the Intersection of Cleveland and Vaudeville."

It's an entertainment and theater history of Cleveland during the vaudeville era at the turn of the nineteenth century (roughly 1885-1930), when dozens of live theaters operated along downtown's booming streets, some in the shadow of Otto Moser's Restaurant at E. 14 St. and Euclid Ave.

After the talk light refreshments will be served and Roy will have copies of his book available for sale. Because space is limited, attendees are encouraged to register early at www.slavicvillagehistory.org.

CONGRATULATIONS KATIE McBEATH! Wins Bronze Medal with skating partner in U.S. Figure Skating Championships

On Friday, Jan. 9, Garfield Heights girl Katie McBeath, who got her start right here at the Dan Kostel Recreation Center in its Tots Learn to Skate program, and her skating partner, Daniil Parkman, received the Bronze Medal at the 2026 U.S. Figure Skating Championships (highest level) in St. Louis, MO.

"We are so proud of Katie!" said staff at the Rec Center and city leaders.

During her skating career, Katie has competed in both singles and pairs. In 2015, she received the Gold Medal in North Atlantic Regional Figure Skating Senior Ladies. In 2022, she competed at the U.S. Nationals Olympic qualifying competition where she and her partner at the time placed 5th and qualified for the Four Continents figure skating competition.

She has traveled the world in her skating competition journey, and was in Poland last November before her big win at the national championships in St. Louis.

Katie resides in California now and teaches skating when she is not busy traveling or competing. Her proud parents still reside in Garfield Heights.

When Katie is visiting Garfield Heights she always stops into the Rec Center to say hello and show her support for the place she got her start. She was part of the Garfield Heights Skating Club for many years, then taught in the Rec Center's Learn to Skate program and performed in many of the annual Ice Skating shows.

You can view the 2026 U.S. Figure Skating Championships now on the PEACOCK network.



Bronze Medal champions Katie McBeath and her partner Daniil Parkman.



Katie McBeath is shown third from left with partner Daniil Parkman behind her.



Shown above is Katie McBeath giving the "thumbs up" sign at the U.S. Figure Skating National Championships on Jan. 9, in St. Louis, MO. The person to her left is partner Daniil Parkman.

Community police reports

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

Garfield Heights

Traffic Offense – Fleeing

On Jan. 9, at 1:29 a.m., dispatch was notified by a GHPD officer that a gray minivan traveling at high speeds westbound on Granger Rd. had just passed him. Officers began pursuit of the minivan, which started to head north on Turney Rd. Officers were able to successfully spike strip the vehicle near the front entrance of Garfield Heights High School. During the two-minute pursuit the vehicle reached speeds up to 90 mph, with very light traffic. While officers continued the pursuit north on Turney, they saw that the minivan had crashed into a light pole near Ella Ave. in Cleveland and was completely disabled. When officers approached the crashed vehicle, the driver exited the vehicle and began to flee on foot east on Ella. As officers began a brief foot chase the suspect

gave up and laid face down in a field near where the vehicle had crashed. The suspect was apprehended and placed into the police cruiser. Officers were able to locate two other passengers who remained inside the vehicle. Dispatch was told to notify Cleveland EMS because the suspect complained about shoulder and back pain. He was transported to MetroHealth Medical Center for treatment. The driver was placed under arrest for fleeing and eluding, obstructing official business, and at the time of this report was still being treated at Metro.

Theft

On Jan. 10, at approximately 3 p.m., officers responded to C Wireless, 5001 Turney Rd., concerning a stolen cellphone. Upon arrival officers spoke with the complainant and owner of the store. The store owner stated that a black male juvenile around 15 or 16 had entered the store and requested a prepaid phone. As requested the owner removed a black iPhone 13 and activated the device assigning it a phone number. The juvenile attempted to purchase the phone, but the card he used was declined. The juvenile initially exited the store, but returned, reached behind the counter, grabbed the device and fled out the front door. The store owner attempted to chase down the suspect northbound on Turney Rd., towards Sunoco, but was outran. Store security footage depicted the suspect wearing gray sweatpants, a gray hoodie with white writing on the front, and two dark letters on the front left side. The suspect seemed to look very similar to a male from another incident concerning theft of a phone from Metro by T-Mobile on Oct. 23, 2025.

Felonious Assault

On Jan. 11, at 2:07 p.m., officers were dispatched to CVS Pharmacy at the Turney/Granger Rd. intersection. They were responding to a call regarding a male and female in the parking lot engaged in some type of suspicious activity. The female was reported to have gotten out of a moving vehicle and was almost struck by the male who seemed to be following her while she tried to get away. Officers located the vehicle, a red Hyundai Elantra, at the Granger Rd./Transportation Blvd. intersection, while it was sitting at a red light. The vehicle didn't have any visible license plate and a traffic stop was initiated. The male pulled off from the traffic stop, fleeing south on Transportation. The vehicle ran the red light, drove left of center and began driving directly at officers' patrol car. The driver made a quick last moment maneu-

ver and swerved past the patrol car, missing it by inches, and began driving on the wrong side of the road nearly striking other vehicles as well. The Elantra entered I-480 west from Transportation and began to flee at speeds nearing 90 mph over the Valley View bridge. As the pursuit neared Brooklyn Heights, the suspect began to drive too recklessly for the conditions, weaving in and out of increasing traffic, and his vehicle began to exceed speeds past 100 mph. Officers terminated the pursuit due to safety reasons but notified the Ohio State Highway Patrol where the vehicle was last seen.

Capias/Warrant on File

On Jan. 14, at 1:44 a.m., an officer initiated a traffic stop at E. 131 St. and Broadway Ave., on a silver Hyundai with no headlights on. While speaking with the driver, the officer saw marijuana in the front area of the car. The driver was asked his name but refused to give it. He was ordered out of the vehicle and detained. He then identified himself to police and was found to have a warrant for trespassing with Warrensville Heights. A juvenile female passenger also refused to give her name and was detained. Because the driver was the only adult with her and not being able to confirm her identity she was taken to city jail. While waiting for Warrensville Heights PD to pick up the driver, police were able to get in contact with the female's mother, who was advised to come pick up her daughter at the GHPD. She was released to her mother without being booked into jail. Report forwarded to the Juvenile Bureau for any follow-up.

Weapon Offense

On Jan. 14, at about 8:15 a.m., officers were dispatched to the E. 98 St. and South Highland area regarding a report of a student on a bus armed with a knife. A bus aid, the driver and the female suspect were the only ones left on the bus. The bus driver had pulled over and evacuated them from the bus, and the female student with the knife started coming towards the bus aid. An officer arrived and ordered the girl to put down the knife and to keep her hands where they could be seen. She dropped the knife and was secured in handcuffs and taken to city jail without incident. Officers spoke to the bus driver, who said she was driving students to Leap Program School, 11333 Granger Rd., and when they arrived there the juvenile suspect refused to get off the bus.

(Continued on Page 4)

CLEVELAND PIEROGI WEEK

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Email: jankapierogis@gmail.com

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Food Lovers Converge on Slavic Village!



If you're craving mid-winter, stick-to-your ribs comfort food,
Slavic Village will be the place to be
this weekend and in the coming weeks!



• **National Pierogi Week**
The Pierogi Lady Pop-up
Fri January 23 from 5-9pm
Sat January 24 from 1-9pm
5322 Fleet Ave.
(Next to Philomena Bakery)
Pierogis and way more

• **Pork Chop Meal Deal**
Saturday, January 24th
from 5-7 pm
P.L.A.V. Lincoln Post #13
6009 Fleet Ave.
Call ahead to reserve
216-341-9556

• **Fat Thursday (Tłusty Czwartek)**
Pre-Lent Paczki Party
Thursday, February 12th
from 4-10 pm
Polish American Cultural Center
6501 Lansing Ave.
Food + Drink + Live Music

Give something
that means something.

Donate Blood

when you can



**American
Red Cross**

Help Save A Life.



STEVEN P. COOK, EA
Enrolled Agent



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Upcoming Events



Having A
Valentine's Day Event?

Why not Advertise in The Neighborhood News!

Ads start at \$48. Cost of this size box is \$72.

Non-Profit organizations may receive a write-up for \$20.

Advertising Deadline is every Monday at 5:00 pm.

Email your information to: nnews1923@aol.com.

Include contact name & phone number.

Questions? Call Mary at 216.441.2141

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Step Forward urges residents to seek walk-in energy assistance during dangerously cold weather

With dangerously cold temperatures and snowfall gripping Northeast Ohio this week, thousands of Cuyahoga County families are at immediate risk of losing heat. Step Forward, the county's sole provider of the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), is urging residents to seek help now through its Winter Crisis Program as emergency energy needs surge during life-threatening winter conditions.

The Winter Crisis Program assists residents who are threatened with disconnection, have already been disconnected, or have less than a 25% supply of bulk fuel in their tank.

Households must have a gross income at or below 175% of federal poverty guidelines - for example, \$52,500 annually for a family of four - to qualify.

"When temperatures drop this low, losing heat isn't an inconvenience, it's a serious safety risk," said Douglass Bennett, Step Forward's vice president of External Affairs. "We're seeing families who are doing everything right and still struggling to keep their homes warm. We want residents to know help is available right now, and we strongly urge anyone at risk of disconnection or running out of fuel to come in as soon as possible so we can help keep them safe during this dangerous cold."

Residents seeking assistance are encouraged to visit Step Forward offices for walk-in service, which remains the primary and fastest way to receive help this winter. A limited number of walk-in appointments are available Monday through Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., at 1801 Superior Ave., Suite 400, and 2203 Superior Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114. Residents seeking same-day service should bring all required documentation with them.

Individuals may also schedule a phone appointment by calling 216-480-HEAP or online at stepforward.itfrontdesk.com. After scheduling, applicants must complete an online application at energyhelp.ohio.gov and follow instructions provided by Step Forward staff for submitting required materials during the phone interview.

To find a list of required documentation, or to learn more about Step Forward's energy assistance programs, please visit <https://www.stepforwardtoday.org/energy-assistance-programs>.

Free in-person, virtual music therapy programs

Registration is required for these Connecting for Kids programs. Register online: www.connectingforkids.org/register; via email: info@connectingforkids.org; or call/text: 440-570-5908.

Music Therapy & More

Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's academic, motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is designed for families and their children, ages 0-6 years, who have concerns about development. connectingforkids.org/music. Saturday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m., at the Maple Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Virtual

You Are Not Alone: Supporting LGBTQ+ and Gender-Expansive Kids. How can you best support your LGBTQ+ or gender-expansive child in today's shifting social and political climate? Where can families turn when laws, care and community feel uncertain or out of reach?

It's a challenging time to be raising a gender-questioning, expansive or LGBTQ+ child, and many caregivers are feeling overwhelmed, isolated or unsure of what to do next. Join K. Pepera, MEd, LPCC-S, of Colors+ Counseling, and Connecting for Kids, for a supportive conversation where families can learn, connect and gather resources to better affirm and protect their children. This

program offers a safe space to ask questions, share concerns and build community, because in uncertain times, knowing you're not alone can make all the difference. Monday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m.

Virtual

Complex Needs Caregiver Support Group. Are you the caregiver of a child with complex needs who is looking to connect with others? Share & Support is a peer support group where caregivers can meet families on a similar journey.

Join CFK staff for virtual, monthly themed sessions where we'll share our "roses" (joys), "thorns" (struggles) and "buds" (hopes) to foster connection and support. Monday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m.

About Connecting for Kids

Connecting for Kids is a group in Northeast Ohio that helps parents. We support families who are worried about their child — whether it's autism, ADHD, anxiety, school or just a hard time in life. We offer free programs, help finding resources and a caring community where parents feel welcome.

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CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO

List of Meetings for February 2026

Monday, February 2, 2026	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 3, 2026	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 11, 2026	Southeast Area Law Enforcement (SEALE) Board of Trustees Meeting (if needed) Work Session - 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting - 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 17, 2026	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 18, 2026	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 24, 2026	Board of Zoning Appeals (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

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

All Meetings will be held at Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146. For agendas and minutes please go to www.bedfordoh.gov or call the Clerk of Council at 440-735-6510.

Tracy M. Simons, CMC
Clerk of Council

NN: 1-21-26

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**Garfield Heights
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Worship Sundays at 10:30am
In Church and on Facebook Live
Pastor Anthony Ruth

St. Monica Church
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.

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Community Police Reports

(Continued from Page 2)

The bus driver, who with the aid and suspect were now the only ones on the bus, told her they were going back to the juvenile's residence and drop her off to her parents. While traveling back to the girl's residence, she began cutting the back of a bus seat with a pocket knife in the seat occupied by the bus aid. She then stated, "If I put the knife in the back of the seat, will it hit your back?" The bus driver feared the girl would attack them with the knife, so she stopped the bus and the driver and aid both exited. Then the suspect followed them off the bus and charged at the aid with the knife in her hand. He ran in fear of being seriously hurt. Officers had to block all access points to the roadway for the safety of the public. The incident took place during school hours in the city causing it to interfere with school bus routines and traffic. While she was being booked into jail, the suspect told the jail supervisor that this was a pre-planned attack. Suspect held for felonious assault, vandalism and inducing panic. Report forwarded to the Juvenile Detective Bureau.

AVOID PROBATE

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ESTATE ADMINISTRATION

DANIEL J. KLONOWSKI

LAW OFFICE: 6300 Rockside Road | Suite 302
Independence | OH

216-241-0666



Legal Advertisement

Sealed bids will be received by the Village of Newburgh Heights (“*Owner*”), at the office of the Fiscal Officer, Cathleen Nagorski, Village of Newburgh Heights, 3801 Harvard Avenue, Newburgh Heights, OH 44105, on the 17th day of February, 2026 until 10:00 am current local time for the:

Gamma Avenue Water Main Replacement - Part A

and will be publicly opened and read immediately thereafter. Each bid must contain the full names of the party or parties making the same, with an affidavit as to interested parties, and in the case of a corporation not chartered in Ohio, with a proper certificate that such corporation is authorized to do business in Ohio, and shall be accompanied by a Bid Guaranty Bond for the full amount (100%) of the Bid, in favor of the “*Owner*” or a certified check, cashier's check, or letter of credit pursuant to Chapter 1305 of the Ohio Revised Code, in the amount of 10% of the Bid, payable to the “*Owner*”.

It is agreed that the bid guaranty shall be for the benefit of the “*Owner*” pursuant to Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code if the undersigned fails to execute the Contract in conformity with the Form of Contract incorporated in the contract documents and furnish Bond and insurance certificates within ten (10) days after the notification of the award of the Contract to the undersigned.

1. Copies of the Contract Documents are on file at SE Blueprint, Plan Room and may be obtained at cost (1) online at www.ohm-bidderplanroom.plancycle.com, (2) in person at the SE Blueprint Akron Office, 520 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44311 or at the SE Blueprint Cleveland Office 2035 Hamilton Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114, or (3) via phone SE Blueprint Cleveland (216) 241-2250.

Please note that in order to be considered as a “**responsive bidder**” for this project, you must purchase a set of plans and bid documents, and follow all instructions provided. Bids from contractors who are not on the **Plan Holders List** will be disqualified.

The “*Owner*” reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities in the bids received, and to accept any bid which it deems most favorable.

The “*Owner*” is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against the handicapped.

Cathleen Nagorski, Fiscal Officer
Village of Newburgh Heights

Publish Dates: Neighborhood News
Week of January 11th, 2026
Week of January 18th, 2026

Counterfeiting

On Jan. 14, at about 12:21 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Family Dollar, 5522 Turney Rd., regarding a male attempting to pass counterfeit money. An employee said a male wearing a black jacket and gray sweatpants had passed counterfeit money twice the previous night and once that morning. The suspect was reportedly in front of the store pacing. When the officer arrived they saw the male matching the description of the suspect given in the previous counterfeiting incidents walking on the sidewalk north on Turney Rd. The officer stopped him near the intersection of Turney Rd. and Antenucci Blvd., and explained why he was being detained. The suspect said he had never been in the Family Dollar store. Police took him to Family Dollar and he was identified as the counterfeit money-passing suspect. One of his pants pockets contained four counterfeit one-dollar bills and two counterfeit five-dollar bills, all bearing the writing, "Motion Picture Purposes." While sitting in the back of the police cruiser he said several times he got the money from the bank. He did admit that packs of candy found in both his pantlegs were from Family Dollar. The employee told the officer he did not wish to pursue charges on behalf of Family Dollar. Suspect cited for possessing criminal tools and trespassing.

Property Damage - City Vehicle

On Jan. 16, at 10:24 a.m., a GHPD officer responded to I-480 west at the Broadway on ramp for a report of an accident involving a city vehicle, a GHPD cruiser. On arrival the officer noticed snow and ice covering about 50 feet of the on ramp where cars would begin to merge with I-480 traffic. The officer spoke to the GHPD officer who had been driving the involved city vehicle. He reported that he was traveling on the I-480 on ramp from Broadway when the vehicle in front of him, a red Mazda FL, drove into a snow drift on the right side of the roadway and

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Gamma Avenue Water Main Replacement - Part B

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Cathleen Nagorski, Fiscal Officer
Village of Newburgh Heights

Publish Dates: Neighborhood News
Week of January 11th, 2026
Week of January 18th, 2026

began to lose control. The officer said that due to the icy road conditions and heavy traffic he was unable to maneuver his police cruiser out of the way of the Mazda. Minor damage was sustained to both vehicles when they collided. No injuries were reported.

Red Cross faces severe blood shortage; seeks donors

The American Red Cross is facing a severe blood shortage as requests from hospitals exceed the available supply of blood, leading to about a 35% drawdown of blood products in the past month.

Individuals are urged to give now so patients don’t face delays in lifesaving care. The shortage is especially serious for platelets and types O, A negative and B negative blood.

Donor opportunities

Bedford Heights

1/24/2026: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Bedford Heights Community Center, 5615 Perkins Rd.

Independence

1/29/2026: 12-6 p.m., Independence Community Theater, 6652 Brecksville Rd.

Maple Heights

1/30/2026: 12-5 p.m., City of Maple Heights Senior Center, 15901 Libby Rd.

For more information on other locations or to schedule an appointment, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

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East 42nd Street & Beta Avenue Reconstruction

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Please note that in order to be considered as a “**responsive bidder**” for this project, you must purchase a set of plans and bid documents, and follow all instructions provided. Bids from contractors who are not on the **Plan Holders List** will be disqualified.

The “*Owner*” reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities in the bids received, and to accept any bid which it deems most favorable.

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Cathleen Nagorski, Fiscal Officer
Village of Newburgh Heights

Publish Dates: Neighborhood News
Week of January 18th, 2026
Week of January 25th, 2026

Troop 380 in Maple Hts. celebrates 60th Eagle Scout

Ryan Bartley, of Slavic Village, was honored last Saturday at a Court of Honor where he was sworn in as Scout Troop 380's 60th Eagle Scout. This is the highest award that Boy Scouts of America, now Scouting America, offers for youth to achieve.



Eagle Scout Ryan Bartley

Ryan's Eagle Project was building a storage shed for the Rocky River Nature Center at the Cleveland Metroparks. He celebrated with his family and fellow Eagle Scouts at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church in Maple Heights, where the troop meets on Monday nights at 7 p.m.

Ryan started his scouting journey at Pack 28 in Cuyahoga Heights, which continues to thrive.

Troop 380 helps scouts learn outdoor adventure and leadership skills and goes on a campout each month. New scouts ages 11-17 are always welcome to join the fun, regardless of what city they live in.

For more information about Troop 380, contact Scoutmaster Mike McDonald at michaelmcd19@gmail.com. As of 2019, Boys Scouts and Cub Scouts programs (for grades K-5) became open to both boys and girls. To find a program near you visit beascout.org.

Indy police chief sworn in as county chiefs chaplain

Independence Police Chief Robert Butler was sworn in as chaplain of the Cuyahoga County Police Chiefs Association (CCPCA) last week.



Police Chief Robert Butler

During his term, Chief Butler, an ordained minister, will provide emotional and spiritual support to assist officers and their families in times of personal or professional crisis.

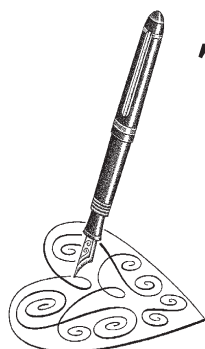
The CCPCA is a community of police chiefs who are dedicated to serving their communities by keeping them safe and working together, as noted in Independence Mayor Gregory Kurtz's Weekly Update email last Friday.

Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch to meet Jan. 29th

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch, sponsored by Councilwoman Jenn Newrones, will meet Thursday, Jan. 29, at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria of St. Benedict School, 13633 Rockside Rd. Guest speakers will be members of the Garfield Heights Police Department. They will be giving a wrap-up of 2025 and sharing what to expect from them in 2026. Nonperishable items for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry would be appreciated. All are welcome. For more information contact Gail, 216-662-9213.

Valentine's Day, Feb. 14th, 2026

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Burt Saltzman of Dave's Markets passes away Food lovers to converge on Slavic Village this week

Burton I. "Burt" Saltzman, 88, beloved patriarch of the Saltzman family and driving force behind Cleveland's hometown grocery chain, Dave's Markets, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 13.



Burt was born in Cleveland in 1937, the first child of Polish-Jewish immigrant parents who helped build what would become a local institution, according to his obituary.

His grandfather, Alex Saltzman, began selling produce from a horse-drawn wagon. In the early 1930's, Alex opened a small corner fruit and vegetable store at E. 33 St. and Payne Ave., eventually naming it after his son, Dave.

Burt ran the company for about 30 years before transitioning it to his two sons. Under Burt's leadership Dave's Markets grew from a single neighborhood store to a regional chain of more than a dozen locations across Greater Cleveland, which includes stores on Harvard Ave., in Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood, and at Turneytown Shopping Plaza in Garfield Heights.

Former Cleveland City Councilman Tony Brancatelli extolled Burt's kindness and generosity.

"Burt was an inspiration to many and a pillar of our community," Brancatelli said. "He was always generous with his time and resources to help out families in the Broadway/Slavic Village neighborhood and throughout the city and region."

"I fondly remember he and Tony Zajac loading turkeys for Thanksgiving into my truck to distribute to families on behalf of the South East Kiwanis and Councilman Ed Rybka's office."

"He will be missed. It is wonderful to see the Saltzman legacy live on with his family still operating the wonderful Dave's grocery stores," Brancatelli concluded.

Former Cleveland City Councilman Ed Rybka had this to say: "If I needed to see Burt, I did not find him in an office. I found him in the Payne Ave. store packing groceries and talking to the customers. He was always willing to help others."

Funeral services for Burt Saltzman were held last week. His family, employees and friends across the city of Cleveland mourn his passing and celebrate a life well-lived, his obituary concluded. Donations in Burt's honor can be made to the Cleveland Food Bank.

Board meeting rescheduled

Phillip J. Oko, treasurer/CFO of the Garfield Heights City School District, has announced that due to the calamity day and weather circumstances, the Garfield Heights CSD Board of Education's regular meeting yesterday evening has been cancelled and rescheduled to next Monday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m., at the Board of Education building, 5640 Briarcliff Dr.

If you're craving mid-winter, stick-to-your-ribs comfort food, Slavic Village will be the place to be this weekend and in coming weeks.

National Pierogi Week: The Pierogi Lady Popup

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