

The Neighborhood News

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102nd YEAR NO. 23

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026

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

FREE

Cable Ave. homes ablaze after explosion Bedford takes first step to switch its dispatch services to Twinsburg; making the move will save millions, says Mallis



Cleveland firefighters responded to a reported house explosion on Cable Ave., east of Broadway Ave., in the Slavic Village area of Cleveland last Friday, Feb. 27, about noon. Arriving companies found a collapsed house, two neighboring houses and a car all on fire.

The Cleveland Division of Fire issued a second alarm call bringing additional personnel and resources to the scene. Ten companies and 45 firefighters fought the blaze and had all fires under control in about 1.5 hours. No injuries were reported. All residents were safely evacuated and are being assisted by the American Red Cross of Northern Ohio.

The cause and dollar loss estimates are still being determined. Enbridge was on scene to shut off gas and investigate.

(Editor's Note: Information for this story and the photo above were taken from a Facebook post by the Cleveland Division of Fire.)

Attention Slavic Villagers: People's Budget Cleveland launches idea submission phase of pilot program

The People's Budget pilot in Slavic Village, a project of People's Budget Cleveland (PBCLE), has launched its idea generation phase in which Slavic Village residents and stakeholders can propose ways to spend \$100,000 to improve their neighborhood. Deadline for idea submissions is April 15, 2026. Idea submission forms are available at: <https://tinyurl.com/PBCLEIdeas>

"This is a great day for Slavic Village residents," says Steering Committee member Debbie Daniels. "I hope that PB will be a way of strengthening the networks of community leadership in Slavic Village to make sure our neighborhood thrives."

Slavic Village residents and stakeholders may submit an idea online at pbcle.com, at marked drop boxes around the neighborhood, or through a PBCLE representative at community events such as the following:

- Hyacinth Block Club on Thursday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m., at Elizabeth Baptist Church, 6114 Francis Ave.

- Fleet Bunny Hop on Saturday, March 28, from 12-3 p.m., along Fleet Ave.

Once idea submission closes, budget delegates will work alongside the Steering Committee and PBCLE to develop ideas into proposals. Residents interested in becoming a budget delegate may indicate their interest on the idea submission form or email pbclecoalition@gmail.com. For more information on idea submissions and the pilot program, visit: pbcle.com

By Ellen Psenicka

Bedford City Council met Monday night and passed for a first reading legislation to change the city's emergency dispatch services from Chagrin Valley Dispatch to that of the city of Twinsburg, with Bedford City Manager Mike Mallis citing significant savings with the switch.

He said the administration's intent is to move toward a more "community dispatch" service, adding that the contract with Twinsburg will provide that and also help address the escalating cost of Chagrin Valley Dispatch's services.

In a memo to council, the mayor and city directors, Mallis noted that in 2026, Bedford is scheduled to pay Chagrin Valley Dispatch \$761,492.00, and its finance director confirmed that while the 2027 increase is not yet finalized, it is expected to include cost-of-living and health care increases.

The 10-year contract with the city of Twinsburg includes an initial cost of \$513,381.03 for the first year of its contract for dispatch in 2027. A set 3% increase will be applied for each year of the contract. The estimated savings to Bedford is \$250,000.00 annually, and nearly \$3 million over the length of the contract.

At the council meeting Monday, Mallis said dispatch service discussions with Twinsburg have been ongoing for over a year. He noted that Bedford is just one of over 30 communities now served by Chagrin Valley Dispatch. With Twinsburg, he said, "They are looking to add just one community to its dispatch center and we would be that community."

The dispatch legislation will go to second and third readings at future Bedford Council meetings. It was the only item on the agenda at Monday's meeting.

Mallis also noted at the meeting that the deadline for residents to submit surveys on the city's Master Plan has been extended to March 14, 2026.

Independence PD only one of 24 in state to achieve accreditation in new Ohio law enforcement program

The Independence Police Department was named one of the latest Ohio law enforcement agencies to achieve accreditation through the new Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, as announced last week by Gov. Mike DeWine.

The Independence PD joins the Beachwood Police Department and the Cleveland State University Police Department as the only agencies accredited by the state in Cuyahoga County.

DeWine created the program in 2024 to recognize law enforcement agencies that voluntarily meet or exceed nearly three dozen state standards of professional excellence that address core responsibilities such as professional conduct, bias-free policing, crisis intervention and community engagement.

"Attaining accreditation through this program is a prestigious achievement," said Gov. DeWine. "Those living in communities served by an accredited department can be confident that their local law enforcement agency demonstrates exceptional professionalism and meets Ohio's high expectations for excellence in public safety services."

The Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is the only state-administered accreditation program in the nation that does not charge law enforcement agencies to participate. The program is voluntary and open to all law enforcement agencies in the state.

A total of 24 law enforcement agencies have fully met Ohio's standards of professional excellence, and several other agencies are working toward accreditation.



SPRING IS COMING!

Snows are melting, days are getting longer, sunlight is getting stronger. Nature is about to come back to life.

Do This First

- Clean up beds before new growth starts
- Repair and build structures
- Prune trees/shrubs; research ea. variety for proper timing
- Get soil tested; supplement as needed; add compost
- Plan garden; order plants and seeds
- Start seedlings indoors

Save These Dates

- March 9th, 5:30pm: **Warsaw Park** upgrades zoom meeting
Contact Krystal at krystals@slavicvillage.org
- March 17th, 1:04pm: The SV Green Team will march in Cleveland's downtown **St. Patrick's Day parade**.
- March 26th, 6:30-7:30pm: **Rain barrel workshop** at Jones Rd. Church, 8000 Jones Rd. Sign-ups are required at: https://www.cuyahogascwd.org/event_products/rain-barrel-workshop-slavic-village/
- April 11th, 10am-2pm: **Warsaw Park clean up**
- April 25th, 10am-2pm: **E. 63rd St. Block Club clean up**
- May 2nd, 9am-2pm: **Riversweep** clean up along the **Morgana Run Trail**
- May 16th, 8:30-12pm: **Arch Park clean up**
- June 4th, 6:30-7:30pm: **Backyard Composting 101** class. 8000 Jones Rd. Register at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0448ACA922ABFCE9-62589673-composting>

Join These Projects

- Third Friday of every month: 8:30am: **Friends of Slavic Village Parks** meetings at SVD Building
- In order to restore our tree canopy, Slavic Village Development is offering **free trees to residents**. Contact greenteam@slavicvillage.org
- **Village Gardener volunteers** are getting back in action to maintain our public spaces. Join the fun. Contact Debbie at 216.496.1514
- Slavic Village **Gardening Contest** coming this Summer.
- **The Green Team is hiring**. Get paid to plant trees, maintain greenspaces, educate neighbors. Ten hours per week. Contact Krystal at KrystalS@slavicvillage.org

Advocate

Contact the city to encourage them to restore **Morganic Gardens**, one of Cleveland's original community gardens.
Email our Councilwoman Deborah Gray,
dgray@clevelandcitycouncil.gov

Have garden info you want to share?
Contact 216.469.4806

Compiled by: **The Village Gardeners**

Community police reports

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

Fleeing

On Feb. 17, around 10:12 p.m., an officer observed a dark-colored sedan driving around Taco Bell, 5185 Turney Rd., without any lights on. When the vehicle went south on Turney from Taco Bell the officer pulled out and followed the vehicle. In the area of Turney Rd. and Mapleleaf, the officer initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle, a black Hyundai Elantra. At the time of the stop the Hyundai turned east from Turney Rd. onto York Rd. and did not stop, initiating a police pursuit. During the pursuit the Hyundai operated well over the posted speed limit, ran multiple stop signs along E. 130 St., and almost caused an accident on Rockside Rd. and E. 130 St. with a vehicle traveling westbound. The Hyundai almost lost control multiple times along Rockside due to the excessive speed and attempted quick turns, and almost struck the pursuing officer's cruiser while making a U-turn in the middle of Rockside Rd. near Broadway. While making the U-turn, the officer observed a young black male driving with dreadlocks who was the only occupant. After the Hyundai continued westbound after the U-turn, officers lost sight of the vehicle in the area of E. 141 St.

and Rockside Rd., where the pursuit was terminated.

The vehicle owner came back to house on Carpenter Rd., so officers checked the address and found the Hyundai parked in the driveway not running and unoccupied. More officers were sent to the residence to assist. They made contact with a resident at the house and gave her a description of who they were looking for and she went to get him. She returned to let the officers in. As they entered the home a crashing sound could be heard coming from the east side window and the suspect attempted to flee. Police apprehended the suspect and he was taken into custody. The male was identified and matched the description of the male operating the Hyundai during the vehicle pursuit. The suspect was transported to city jail and will be charged with failure to comply – fleeing, obstruction of official business, and issued traffic citations for speeding and driving under suspension.

Weapon Offense

• On Feb. 13, at approximately 11:40 p.m., officers were traveling east on Rexwood Ave. approaching E. 136 St., on a routine patrol. While going through the intersection police observed a dark-colored, older model sedan running the stop sign at Saybrook Ave. and E. 136 St. The officers continued east on Rexwood and got to the intersection at E. 139 St., when they observed the same vehicle running another stop sign and continuing east on Saybrook Ave., and police initiated a traffic stop. An officer approached the passenger side of the car and informed both occupants the reason for the stop. Upon checking the back seat, the officer observed what appeared to be an AR-15 rifle missing the stock, sticking out from under the front passenger seat, although both occupants denied there were any guns in the car. The officers immediately removed the driver and the passenger and detained both of them. The rifle was found to be loaded and chambered.

(Continued on Page 3)

LEGAL NOTICE

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEMBERS NEEDED

Any Bedford resident interested in serving on a Board or Commission should send a resume and letter stating which Board or Commission you are interested in and a brief background on yourself to Tracy Simons, CMC, Clerk of Council at tsimons@bedfordoh.gov.

The following Boards and Commissions have vacancies:

- Planning Commission has one (1) opening
- Board of Building Standards & Appeals has two (2) openings

All resumes and letters from interested residents are kept on file in case we have an opening.

Tracy M. Simons, CMC
Clerk of Council/Boards & Commissions Secretary
Published in The Neighborhood News 03/04/2026

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TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT AT THE RACES

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

This event directly benefits Trinity's life-changing retreat program, which furthers our students' growth.



Purchase your tickets today!



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

Community Police Reports

(Continued from Page 2)

The barrel had been removed as well as the stock. One of the suspects admitted to being the owner of the rifle and the other suspect was released on scene. The other was taken to city jail and booked on charges of possession of a dangerous ordnance and improper handling of a firearm in a motor vehicle. Request to follow up with the Detective Bureau.

•On Feb. 24, at 1:22 p.m., an officer on patrol observed a green Kia Soul making a right turn onto Orchard Rd., without using a turn signal and began traveling north. The officer also saw a white trash bag covering the rear driver's side window. This is commonly seen with stolen vehicles. He then got behind the Kia and attempted to pull the car over as it had failed to stop for a stop sign at E. 143 St. and Rexwood Ave. It came to a stop in the 4400 block of E. 143 St. The driver said it was his girlfriend's car and the window was damaged because someone had tried to steal it the night before. During the course of the investigation it was found that the driver had no driver's license and had an active felony warrant from Lake County for dangerous drugs. A search of the vehicle was conducted and a Taurus G3 9mm handgun loaded with 14 live rounds in the magazine and 1 in the chamber was found under a sweatshirt on the front passenger floor board. It was learned it had been stolen with the Cleveland Clinic Police Department. The suspect was taken to city jail without incident. It was found he had multiple felony convictions including drug possession and weapons under disability. He was booked for handling of firearms in a motor vehicle, having weapons under disability and receiving stolen property.

•On Feb. 27, at 11:08 a.m., officers responded to Trinity High School. They were met by the school principal in the parking lot who told them one of his students, an 18-year-old male, had brought a gun to school and was being detained in his office. Police

immediately went to the principal's office and placed the student in handcuffs. The principal explained they had secured the firearm and it was in his coat pocket. An officer safely removed the weapon, a Springfield Armory Hellcat 9mm pistol with a total of five rounds in the magazine plus one chambered. The student was transported to city jail. Police interviewed the principal and a male school staff member who said he had been informed by another student that they had seen the suspect had a gun. The principal and staffer found him with two of his friends alone in one of the classrooms. The principal ordered the suspect to raise both his hands which is when they located the loaded pistol tucked in the student's waistband. Both employees noted that they had utilized their A.L.I.C.E. training (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) to defuse the situation and make the school safe. The student was charged with carrying a concealed weapon, illegal conveyance/possession of a firearm on school property and held with no bond.

Shots Fired

On Feb. 20, at 12:08 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of 12300 Crest Ave., for a report of shots fired. Upon arrival, officers canvassed the area and located three 9mm shell casings in front of a residence. The shell casings were Ruger brand. A witness told police they watched a "black sedan" pull in front of a house shooting a gun in the air and then left. Officers did not locate any damage to the property or injury of any person.

Theft

On Feb. 25, an officer spoke to a man in the lobby of the police station for a report of a theft. The complainant said that he purchased a lottery ticket at the convenience store at 8808 Garfield Blvd., and won \$1250. He said that he posted a photo of the winning ticket online and someone copied the bar code and deposited the money into their bank account. The complainant is not sure who stole the numbers of the ticket. He said he contacted The Ohio Lottery and they requested a police report.

Robbery

On Feb. 25, at 2:45 p.m., an officer was in the area of Saybrook and E. 131 St., when he was flagged down by an elderly man in the parking lot of Open Pantry, 4541 E. 131 St. He said a younger male just took his car keys from him and ran east on Saybrook wearing a grey jacket. The keys were to a white Kia Soul. The officer saw a male juvenile matching the description the complainant had given him walking east on Saybrook near E. 136 St. The officer recognized the suspect as someone he had dealt with before. He then lost sight of him so he went to the juvenile's home. His mother said her son had just gone to the store. With additional officers on scene the juvenile was located in a wooded area behind a home on Cranwood Park Blvd. He was placed in handcuffs and put in the rear of a police cruiser. The keys to the Kia were found in his pocket. The suspect was taken to city jail and booked for theft and robbery. He was released to his mother.

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(Fees deducted from refund **NO** upfront costs) tax@uniquetaxaccounting.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

HAVE A SPECIAL EVENT YOU WANT TO ADVERTISE???

E-mail Information to:
NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

Include Contact Name and daytime phone number

The Neighborhood News Advertising deadline is Mondays at 5:00pm

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Community Garage Sale

Saturday, March 14

9 AM - 2 PM

Independence Fieldhouse

6354 Selig Drive

Free admission, plenty of parking!



Furniture | Home Decor | Sporting Goods
Jewelry | Baby & Children's Clothing
Adult Clothing | Books | Games | Art
Musical Instruments | Electronics & More!



THESE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

Garfield Heights United Methodist Church
 4977 Turney Road
 Garfield Heights, Ohio
 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.

The Lucas Legacy Lives On.....



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St. Therese Church holds Lenten Mission on Mar. 10

A Lenten Mission will be held Sunday, March 8, through Tuesday, March 10, at St. Therese Church, 5276 E. 105 St., in Garfield Heights, at 6:30 p.m. each evening. Please note that on Monday and Tuesday the programs will follow the 6 p.m. Mass.

Trapper Jack, longtime broadcaster and podcaster, will share stories of how God is still moving in our world. Blind for decades, he speaks about learning to see God in ways far deeper than physical eyesight. This mission is not just about hearing what God says. It's about seeing what God is doing and asking the hard Lenten question:

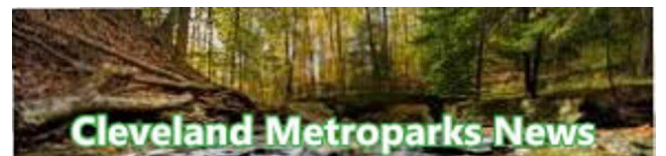
What have I been blind to? Come for three nights of reflection, challenge and encouragement as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

Union Ave. Bridge Update

The Ohio Department of Transportation is scheduled to replace the SR 14 (Union St.) bridge over Tinkers Creek just south Taylor Rd. in Bedford, with an estimated completion date of June 2027.

Union St., just south of Taylor Rd., will be closed on Monday, March 9, through October.

The northbound detour will be SR 8 to Rockside Rd. to Broadway/SR 14. Southbound detour will be Broadway to Forbes Rd.



GARFIELD PARK RESERVATION

March 7: Chair Yoga at Garfield Park. Chair yoga adapts traditional yoga poses to be done while seated or standing with a chair for support, making it accessible for everyone. Join instructor Sandra Bishop in this free class as she guides you through breathing and stretching exercises. 10-11 a.m. Garfield Park Program Center. 40 people. Registration recommended; walk-ins are welcome.

March 11: Learn-It: Nordic Ski Waxing. Go Faster. Glide Longer. Maintain the health of your equipment. Join our instructors as we prepare to store our Nordic ski equipment for the off-season. This course will cover how to hot glide wax skis and properly store them for the off-season. 6-8 p.m. Garfield Park Program Center. Registration required. Fee: \$20.

March 13: Friday Hike to the Falls. Join a naturalist this afternoon for a walk around the Garfield Park pond area. We will traverse along the runs and riffles of Wolf Creek and then follow the middle road to the small waterfall that flows over the rock ledges. From there we will loop back through the woods, passing the wetland to complete the hike. 2-3:30 p.m. Meet outside Garfield Park Program Center. Terrain: natural and paved surfaces, hills, 1.5 miles.

FISH FRY FRIDAY
St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church
 DINE-IN/TAKE-OUT • SERVING 5:00-7:00 PM
 CASH OR CHECK ONLY - NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
March 6th St. Andrew's Dinners
 CRISPY COD WITH PIROHI OR FRENCH FRIES
 SHRIMP DINNERS • COMBO DINNERS
 LARGE ORDERS OF PIROHI AVAILABLE - CALL AHEAD
 Future Dates: 216-475-9365
 March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 16029 MAPLE PARK DR. MAPLE HEIGHTS

LEGAL NOTICE
 The Annual Financial Report of The Village of Walton Hills for the year ended December 31, 2025 has been completed and is available for public inspection between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the office of Finance at the Walton Hills Village Hall, 7595 Walton Road, Walton Hills, Ohio. A copy of the report can be provided upon request by contacting Fiscal Officer Nickol Sell at 440-232-7800.
 NN: 3-4-26

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS
2026 GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES

Sealed Requests for Proposals (RFP's) will be received by the Planning and Development Department at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until 4:00 p.m., local time, on the 30th day of March, 2026 for the "2026 GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES" in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio. NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED. RFP's may be submitted in person, through the U.S. Postal Service or via e-mail to englebrechtg@mapleheightsohio.gov within the solicitation period.

The Requirements for Proposals and Bidder Information Forms may be procured at the office of the Planning and Development Director or on the City's RFP web page at: <https://mapleheightsohio.gov/download/Request-for-Proposals-2026.pdf>

Three (3-4) successful contractors will be required to register as a contractor with the Maple Heights Building Department.

RFP's are to be submitted in sealed envelopes marked, "2026 GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES."

Geoff Englebrecht
 Planning and Development Director
 City of Maple Heights

PUBLISHED: The Neighborhood News
 March 4, 2026
 March 11, 2026

Village of Newburgh Heights
 Housing & Building Department
 3801 Harvard Avenue
 Newburgh Heights, Ohio 44105
 216-641-4654
 newburgh-oh.gov

NOTICE OF BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING

The Village of Newburgh Heights Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Village Hall Council Chambers located at 3801 Harvard Avenue in Newburgh Heights.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Elect Chairperson
- III. Approval of Minutes (7/17/2025)
- IV. Approval of Minutes (11/13/2025)
- V. Review of request for a variance of The Village of Newburgh Heights Codified Ordinance Chapter 1131.03(b)(4)(A) Residential District that limits the size of storage sheds at 4418 McGregor Ave (PPN 511-12-081).
- VI. Review of request for a variance of The Village of Newburgh Heights Codified Ordinance Chapter 1313.07(b) Building Permits Required that surcharges work completed without a permit at 4065 E 42 St (PPN 511-12-008).
- VII. Public comment
- VIII. Action
- IX. Adjournment

Posted at Village Hall, Village Facebook, in The Neighborhood News, and mailed, March 4, 2026.

GET HOOKED ON THESE NEIGHBORHOOD LENTEN FISH FRYS AND SPECIALS

HOLY NAME PARISH FISH FRY
 4:00-7:00 PM
HAREN HALL
 Feb. 20-27
 March 6-13-20-27
 April 3

JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT!

All dinners include Coleslaw & Bread with Butter. Dine-In includes Free Coffee w/dinner purchase

2-pc PERCH Dinner w/French Fries \$15	... SIDES AVAILABLE ...
6-pc SHRIMP Dinner w/French Fries \$16	Fish (1pc) ... \$5
5-pc PIEROGI Dinner w/Sour Cream/Onions ... \$11	French Fries ... \$4
2-pc BAKED TILAPIA Dinner w/Baked Potato... \$15	Mac & Cheese ... \$3
COMBINATION DINNER ... \$15 ...	Cabbage & Noodles ... \$4
(3-Pierogi, 1-Fish & Cabbage and Noodles)	Hush Puppies (8pcs) ... \$4
	Pierogi (2pcs) ... \$4
	Shrimp (2pcs) ... \$5
	Coleslaw ... \$1
	Desserts ... \$2
	All Beverages ... \$1.50

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 Holy Name Catholic Church, 8328 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, 44105, 216.271.4242

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 Every Wednesday & Friday
 During Lent

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 Homemade Rolls & Cole Slaw
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The NASH on East 80th
 SLOVENIAN NATIONAL HOME
 3563 E. 80th St.
 Cleveland, 44105
 Lenten Fish Frydays
 FRIDAYS...
March 6 & March 20
 Dinner served: 5:30 to 7:30pm in Hall
 Dinner range from \$12-\$17
BREADED WALLEYE, TILAPIA, SHRIMP, PIEROGIES AND MAC & CHEESE.
 All dinners come with side. A la Carte Options available.
LIVE POLKAS! Bring your friends!
On March 6 and March 20
 Reservations Encouraged
 Judy: 216-401-2602
 Open Bowling: 6 to 11pm

St. Monica Fish Fry
 13623 Rockside Rd, Garfield Hts.
 Fridays during Lent - February 20, 27,
 March 6, 13, 20, 27, Serving 4-7pm
 Battered Cod, Baked Salmon,
 Shrimp, Homemade Cabbage &
 Noodles, Homemade Macaroni
 & Cheese, Potato Pierogi.
 Senior & Child Dinners Available
 Free Coffee & Ice Tea with Dine-in
 Dessert included With All Meals
 Dine-In or Carryout
 Handicapped Accessible
 Debit & Credit Cards Accepted
 Questions 216 662 8685

Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry's are back!
 March 6 5:00 - 7:30
 Fish, Shrimp, pierogies and more

Bohemian National Hall
 4939 Broadway Ave
 Cleveland, OH 44127

Music by
Patty C & The Guys
 216-288-5692
 cash bar

Garfield Heights breaks ground on the future with first comprehensive zoning code update since 1962

Submitted by The Office of Mayor Matt Burke

After more than two years of planning, public engagement and legislative review, the city of Garfield Heights' newly modernized Planning and Zoning Code officially went into effect Feb. 16, 2026. This milestone marks the city's most significant land use reform since the code was last updated in 1962, positioning Garfield Heights for a more vibrant, economically competitive future.

Since 1962, the city has transitioned from a "bedroom community" with no I-480 overpass, to a center of connectivity at I-480 & I-77, with economic drivers focused on healthcare, manufacturing and small businesses. The previous code - characterized by outdated content going as far back as 1955, decades of repetitive amendments, difficulty to understand and navigate, inhibiting residential and commercial investment - often acted as a barrier to the very growth the city sought to attract. "Updating the code with modern best practices" was identified as a catalyst project in the city's 2022 Community Master Plan.

The project's kickoff session was held on Oct. 19, 2023. Nolan Nicaise, Certified Urban and Environmental Planner and Principal with ZoneCo, LLC, served as the project lead, with support from OHM Advisors. Janice Tubbs, the city's Assistant Director of Economic Development, and John Lippus, owner and president of Community Consulting Services, LLC, were the city's internal project leads.

Throughout 2023-2025, the project team worked closely with city leadership, staff and residents to resolve issues,

calibrate proposed standards and refine the draft code, while ensuring that all had multiple opportunities to shape the final product. To achieve that, a series of 11 public meetings and workshops were held, including three required readings by council.

The updated Planning and Zoning Code introduces several transformative improvements, including:

- **Clearer Standards and Graphics:** user-friendly definitions and diagrams to help residents, developers and businesses navigate requirements.
- **Mixed-use and Walkable Districts:** encouraging pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods and revitalized commercial corridors.
- **Streamlined Approval Processes:** simplifying regulations and improving predictability for investment.
- **Tailored Zoning Districts:** supporting a wider range of housing types and land uses.
- **Sustainability and Green Infrastructure:** promoting stormwater best practices, infill development and environmentally responsible growth.

"With the original zoning code, our city's potential was viewed primarily through a 1962 lens when it was last updated, a world before the internet, before modern transit and before the wide-ranging needs of today's residents," said Mayor Matt Burke. "By updating this code, we haven't just changed building and zoning rules on a page, we are tearing down the invisible walls that held

back modern real estate development. Garfield Heights is officially open for business, open for innovation and open for a future we can build together."

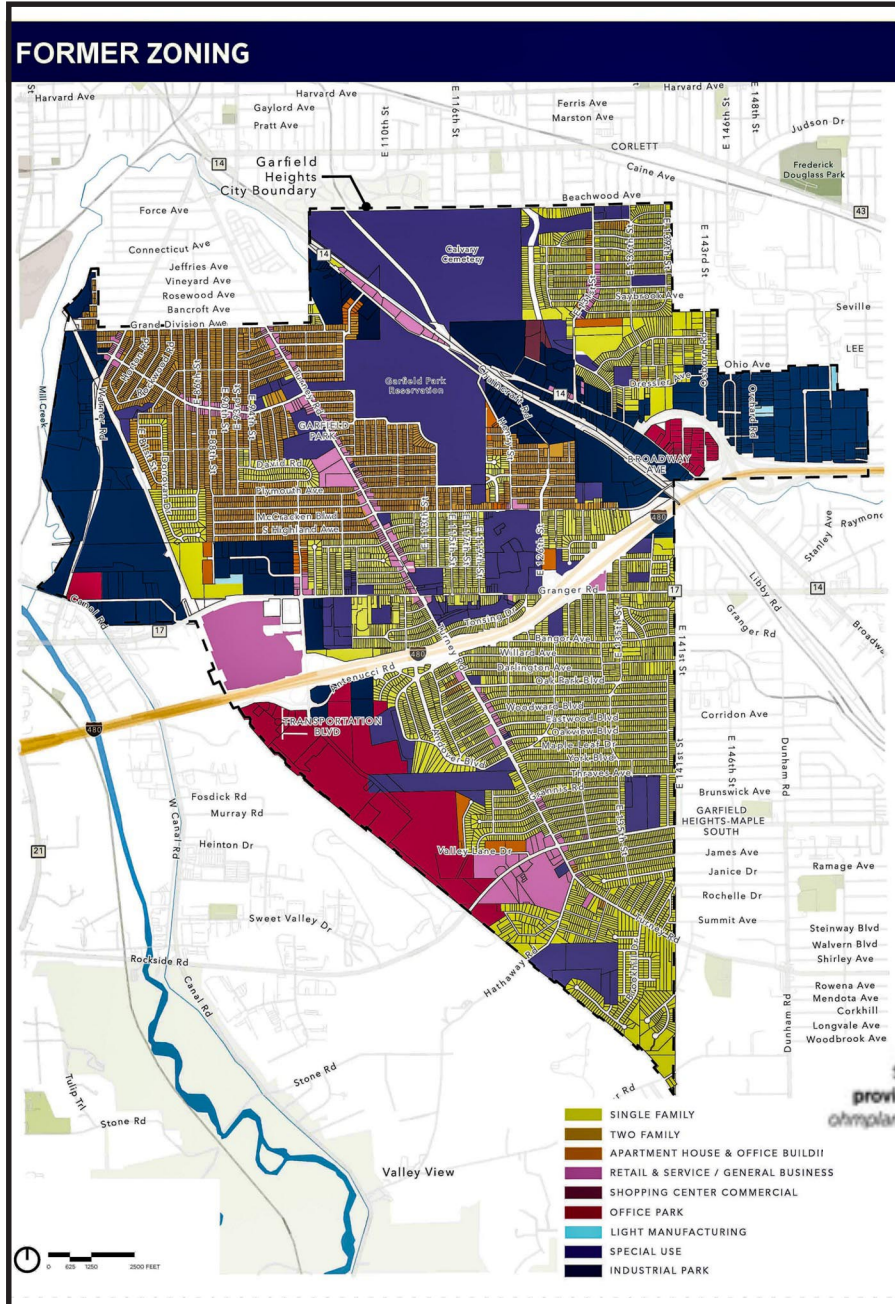
"This isn't just a technical update, it's a strategic investment in the city's financial future," said City Council President Avery Johnson. "By approving the funding for this comprehensive overhaul, city council fully supported the replacement of an outdated system with a new blueprint for growth throughout the city."

For more information, the full Planning & Zoning Code and map are available on the city of Garfield Heights website. Residents, property owners and developers are encouraged to review the new standards and contact the building department with any questions.

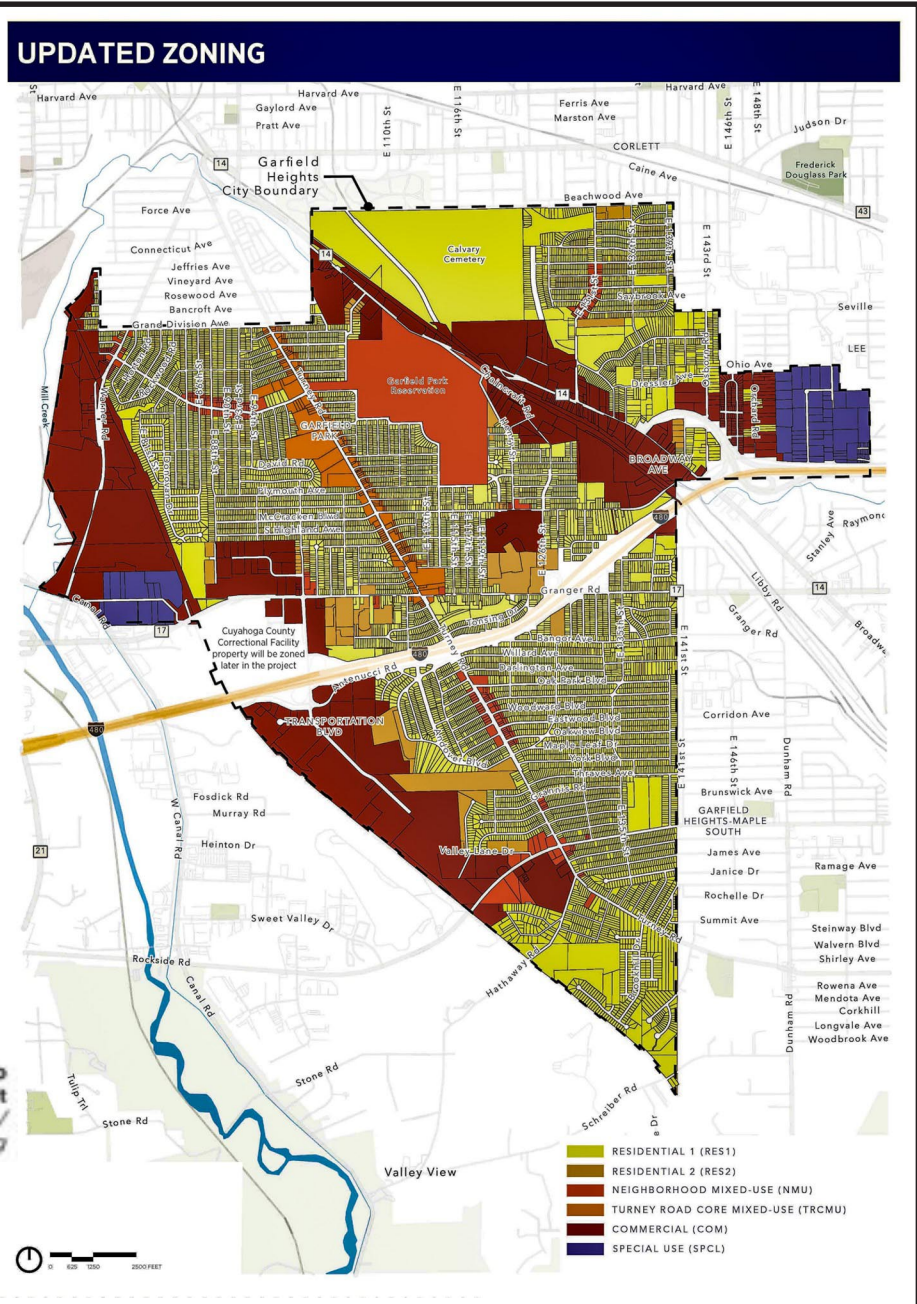
County Treasurer's Office to host community outreach session for property owners at Garfield Civic Center

The Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office and the Board of Revision will host an outreach session on Wednesday, March 11, at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., from 6 to 8 p.m., to help residents get on track with their tax bills and understand the process for contesting their current property valuation.

Meet one-on-one with a member of the treasurer's tax outreach team and get your questions answered about payment plans and tax reduction programs. No registration required.



Scan the QR code to provide feedback or visit ohmplanning.typeform.com/GHdraftzoning



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Ad size: 2" high = \$48 x 4 weeks = \$192

Ad size 2.5" high = \$60 x 4 weeks = \$240

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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 \$12 per column inch (minimum \$24).

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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RENT APARTMENT

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HELP WANTED

The Neighborhood News

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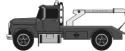
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The Neighborhood News

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**Help Wanted
Garfield Heights Service Department**

Part-time, seasonal workers needed for GRASS and ROAD crews. Applications are available at: www.garfieldhts.org.

- MUST be 18 years of age
- MUST have valid driver's license
- Work hours: M-F 7:30am - 3:00pm
- \$15.50 an hour (Weather permitting)

For more information, call Garfield Heights Service Office - (216) 475-1107.

GRASS - Return applications to pbirk@garfieldhts.org

ROAD - Return applications to: servicegarage@garfieldhts.org or drop off at:

GH Service Garage, 13600 McCracken Rd.



Cleveland Public Library: Fleet

Fleet Campus, 7224 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, is hosting some wonderful FREE programs this month for youth, adults and families. For more information or to register for any programs, please call 216-623-6962.

Digging Through the Crates – Adults/Seniors: Saturday, March 7, 12-1 p.m. Drop in to explore and experience music from these vintage medium “records.” Other fun activities will be featured during these listening party hangouts. March’s featured genre is Blues.

Amateur Detectives Mystery Party – School-age/Teens: Wednesday, March 11, 3-5 p.m. Create a valentine for a close friend to show them how much you love them.

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 or for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Google Sheets Learn how to enter, modify and organize data using Google’s free web-based spreadsheet applica-

tion. A Google account is needed to participate in this class. Monday, March 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration required.

Understanding the School-to-Prison Pipeline Join us for a presentation that explores the school-to-prison pipeline and the root causes behind this economic phenomenon that disproportionately affects marginalized communities. Monday, March 9, 7-8:30 p.m.

TEENS

Teens Innovate Teens can come explore STEAM activities, new technologies, and make cool things in the library’s Innovation Center like Perler bead keychain charms. Tuesday, March 10, 3-4 p.m.

Teen Tuesday Meet up with friends and enjoy trying a new activity each month! Tuesday, March 24, 3-4 p.m.

Independence Branch Library

Here are some of the FREE programs being offered at the Independence Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 6361 Selig Dr., Independence. For more information or to register for any program, please call 216-447-0160.

Chill & Create - Grades 5-9 / Registration required. Get creative with art, games and tech projects in this fun, hands-on afterschool hangout. No experience needed—just bring your imagination! Tuesday, Mar. 10, 3 p.m.

CHILDREN PROGRAMS

Playdough Party! - Grades K-2 / Registration re-


quired. We will be making playdough and then, of course, playing with it! Prepare to get a bit messy! For children in grades K-2. Saturday, Mar. 7, 11 a.m.

Maple Heights Branch Library

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

World of Dance, Grades 4-8. Mondays, March 9, 16, 23, 4-5 p.m. Explore global styles of dance with the Beck Center for the Arts.

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