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102nd YEAR NO. 27

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

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

FREE



SEE HOLY WEEK SERVICES
ON PAGES 6 & 7

Pancake Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt at St. John's

St. John Lutheran Church, corner of Turney & Granger rds., Garfield Heights, is hosting its annual Easter Egg Hunt with a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, April 4, beginning at 9 a.m. Come for pancakes quickly being flipped by Chris Cakes. During the breakfast you'll be entertained by seeing the flapjacks flying and activities with prizes for the kids until the time of the Easter Egg Hunt.

Tickets for the Pancake Breakfast are pre-sale only. They are \$5 each or \$20/family. Call 216-587-4222, email sjlutheran@att.net or the tickets may be purchased through the St. John website: www.sjlutheran@att.net

Womankind Community Resource Fair April 18th

Womankind, a prenatal and maternal care center in Garfield Heights, will hold a Community Resource Fair on Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd.

Connect with local organizations and find valuable resources from prenatal care, health and wellness, education, parenting, housing, food and more.

All are welcome to this free event, which will also feature food, activities for kids and giveaways. For more information email: info@womankind-cleveland.org

Visit Our New & Improved Website:
theneighborhoodnews.com

Senior housing okayed for Hyacinth area

Wallick Communities has won conceptual approval for Ironwood Flats, a 62-unit senior housing development in Cleveland's Broadway-Slavic Village neighborhood, specifically located in the Hyacinth enclave on Waterman Avenue.

The project, targeting residents aged 55+, aims to fill a need for affordable senior housing, with construction tentatively planned for 2027.

Garfield Hts. Mayor Burke reports at council meeting on closing of basketball courts... for now

By Ellen Psenicka

Mayor Matt Burke, in his report to council at its Monday, March 23 meeting, said unruly behavior at the renovated basketball courts has forced the city to shut them down.

"We had to take this step because of some dangerous situations that could have happened there," the mayor said.

He added that when the basketball courts reopen there will be some "guardrails" on using them. The city is discussing ways to make the area safer for everyone. And one way to do that, he said, would be to have those who want to use the basketball courts call the Rec Center for a pass allowing them to be there.

He also announced that the annual State of the City Address will be held on Thursday, April 16, at 5:30 p.m., at the Civic Center. The event is free and all those wishing to learn more about what's going on in Garfield Heights are encouraged to attend.

Legislation passed

Garfield Heights Council passed the following legislation at last Monday's meeting:

- Entering into a new agreement with Dex Imaging LLC for the purchase and maintenance of multi-function copiers and black-and-white laser and color printers.

Under the proposed agreement, the city will receive brand new equipment and receive maintenance at a cost of \$2,380.27 per month for a term of 60 months.

- Clarifying outdoor parking and storage requirements for recreational vehicles. The ordinance stipulates that: "Any owner of recreational equipment may park or store such equipment not in excess of 27 feet in overall length on property owned by him" in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the ordinance.

- Amending appropriations for current expenditures during the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2026.

- Providing for only one council meeting to be held the second Monday for the months of May, June, July and August 2026.

- Appointing all nine members of the city's Charter Review Committee for 2026. Those members are: Joe Lamalfa (mayor's appointment); Donna Bell (Ward 1); Annette Nurse (Ward 2); Michael Jeffrey (Ward 3); Queen Charlie Pride (Ward 4); Doug Piascik (Ward 5); Debbie Ballachino (Ward 6); Dave Pignatello (Ward 7); Ian Cox (president of council's appointment).

A first reading was held for an ordinance establishing hours of operation for vehicle repair and servicing establishments. One of the provisions in the ordinance states that vehicle repair, mechanical work, servicing, diagnostic work, or similar activities associated with vehicle repair and servicing uses, whether conducted indoors or outdoors, shall only be conducted between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

A second reading was held for an ordinance amending a section of the Codified Ordinances by adding a section to establish hours of operation for tobacco and vape retailers, amending the penalty section and making legislative findings. It will go to a third and final reading at a future meeting.

Independence Historical Society program tells tales, impact of Ohio-Erie Canal



Restored canal Twelve Mile Lock, 38, Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Photo and article courtesy of the Independence Historical Society

History buffs will enjoy "Trails and Tales: The Ohio-Erie Canal," a presentation hosted by the Independence Historical Society on Thursday, April 9, at 7 p.m., at Historic Hall, 6675 Brecksville Rd., Independence. The program will be presented by a Cuyahoga Valley National Park interpretive park ranger.

The canal system was a 19th century engineering marvel that transformed Ohio into a commercial powerhouse. The Ohio-Erie Canal connected Lake Erie to the Ohio River, linking Ohio to global markets via the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico.

Hand-dug, the canal included many features that laid the groundwork for Ohio's economic and population growth. The canal carried freight traffic from 1827 to 1861, when construction of railroads ended demand.

From 1862 to 1913, the canal was a water source for industries and towns. During 1913, much of the canal system was abandoned after important parts were severely flooded.

Beech Brook to host 5th annual 'Bash for the Brook'

Beech Brook will host its 5th Annual "Bash for the Brook," presented by PRADCO, on Friday, April 24, 2026, at Huntington Bank Field, home of the Cleveland Browns. The event will raise funds to support the organization's mission of strengthening children and families across Northeast Ohio.

Beech Brook, located on Granger Rd., Garfield Heights, provides counseling, trauma-informed care, and family support services to thousands of children and families each year, helping them navigate mental health challenges and life transitions.

The event will offer guests a unique experience inside Huntington Bank Field, including behind-the-scenes stadium tours, interactive games, raffle prizes and food and beverages.

"Bash for the Brook is an important opportunity to bring the community together in support of children and families who need it most," said Tom Royer, president and CEO of Beech Brook. "Funds raised from this event directly support programs that make a lasting impact across Northeast Ohio."

Tickets are \$195 per person, and sponsorship opportunities are available. Organizers encourage early registration as attendance is expected to be strong.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.beechbrook.org/bash or contact Heidi Lang at hlang@beechbrook.org or 216-831-2255, ext. 2240.

Sokol Schnitzel Dinner

Sokol Greater Cleveland will hold a Sokol Sunday Dinner, featuring pork schnitzel with potato salad, coffee and dessert, on April 19, serving from 1 to 2:30 p.m., at the historic Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland.

Dinners are \$20 per person; cash bar. Reservations are needed by Monday, April 13, by calling Vlad Nemecek, 216-894-3591.

Connecting for Kids free April programs in Maple Heights and virtual

Registration is required for these programs. Register online: www.connectingforkids.org/register, or 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, April 25, 10 a.m. Maple Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Virtual Programs

Pizza, Prizes and Waivers: A Night of Fun & Learning. What are Medicaid waivers, and could your child qualify? What services do they cover, and what can you do if your application is denied? Join us for a fun and informative evening designed to help families better understand Medicaid waivers for children with disabilities. Ginger Wilson, attorney with Disability Rights Ohio, will break down the basics of waivers, eligibility, what they cover and how to navigate the appeals process if needed. Enjoy pizza, snacks, games and prizes while connecting with other families in your community. This event is presented in partnership with M.O.V.E. - Mamas Organizing Voter Economics. Thursday, April 9, 6 p.m. **Virtual**

Caregiver Support Group. Are you the caregiver of a child with ADHD, anxiety, autism or other concerns 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, April 27, 7 p.m. **Virtual**

Grandparents for Vaccines Receives \$250,000 Grant from Cleveland-Based Mt. Sinai Health Foundation

Grandparents for Vaccines, a national grassroots organization that champions the powerful, trusted voices of America's grandparents in reminding people of the importance of childhood vaccination, last week announced it had received a grant of \$250,000 from The Mt. Sinai Health Foundation, which is based in Cleveland.

"Promoting vaccines is at the nexus of The Mt. Sinai Health Foundation commitment to primary prevention and sound health policy," said Foundation President Mitchell Balk. "We're impressed with Grandparents for Vaccines and their focused, storytelling-based approach, and proud to work shoulder-to-shoulder with them in this important work."

Grandparents for Vaccines was conceptualized by Arthur Lavin, MD, a retired, Harvard-trained pediatrician and grandfather living in Cleveland. Dr. Lavin pitched the idea to a meeting of public health organizations and advocacy groups leading to the collaboration of founding leaders Nurses for America, Voices for Vaccines, Physicians for a Healthy Democracy, and Coffee House Communications.

Grandparents for Vaccines will use the grant to extend its efforts to inform and educate the public about the importance of vaccinating children against serious diseases. It is the first grant the organization, which was founded on Grandparents Day, Sept. 7, 2025, has received. The organization has established a presence in 29 U.S. states since its founding.

"We are grateful to The Mt. Sinai Health Foundation for supporting us in our efforts," said Dr. Lavin. "The grandparents we talk to share a common bond – they love their grandchildren and want to raise their voices to help protect children from preventable diseases."

"I'm excited that The Mt. Sinai Health Foundation grant will enable us to tell more stories, engage more people, sign up more volunteers, and ultimately help shift the national conversation on childhood vaccination," said Kimberly Boller, PhD, executive director of Grandparents for Vaccines.

For more information visit: grandparentsforvaccines.org

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Community police reports

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

Garfield Heights

Criminal Damage

• On March 11, at 9:04 a.m., an officer responded to Preet Beauty Salon, 5663 Turney Rd., for a criminal damaging report. The incident was believed to have occurred at approximately 1:10 a.m. Surveillance footage from next door at Woodward Beverage and city surveillance cameras captured the incident. The footage shows two suspects walking south toward the store along Turney Rd. One suspect was wearing long pants and a black bubble jacket with an elephant on the back. The second suspect was wearing shorts. Both suspects had their faces/heads covered.

The suspect wearing the bubble jacket used a crowbar to smash two windows on the left side of the beauty salon's storefront. The suspect wearing shorts threw several rocks through the right-side window of the storefront. Both suspects then fled north on Turney Rd., turning east and exiting the camera's view. The crowbar was left on scene. No items from the beauty shop were taken. There are no known identities for the suspects.

• On March 12, at 3:17 p.m., an officer responded to the 12000 block of Woodward Blvd., and met with a complainant who said that at approximately 2:30 p.m., while he was inside his residence, he heard a noise coming from outside. When he went out to check he observed that his two vehicles parked in the driveway, a Ford Explorer and a Ford Taurus, both had cracks in their front windshields. He also noticed three rocks lying in the driveway.

The victim stated that a group of school children were on the street near Turney, but he did not see anyone actually throwing rocks at his vehicles. The victim further reported that in January of this year, he contacted the police regarding criminal damage to the rear windshield of his Ford Windstar. He stated that an unknown school child threw a rock and damaged the windshield. Dispatch checked the records and did not locate a previous report regarding that incident. No suspects at this time.

Shots Fired

On March 11, at 10:48 p.m., officers responded to the area of E. 104 St. and Broadway Ave., for a report of shots fired. The caller was leaving the Fraternal Order of

Eagles, 10612 Broadway Ave., when he heard multiple "popping" sounds. He said he then saw a dark-colored sedan driving north on E. 104 St. at a high rate of speed. The caller stated he heard multiple more "pops" as the car turned west onto Broadway Ave. Upon officers arrival they located three spent casings at the intersection of Broadway and E. 104 St.

The caller stated the shooter did not appear to be shooting at anyone or anything and could be seen shooting into the air. Officers could not locate any person or property that had been harmed by the gunfire. There are no suspects at this time. Report will be forwarded to the Detective Bureau for further investigation.

Theft-Shoplifting

On March 17, at about 9:24 a.m., GHPD units were dispatched to the area of Family Dollar, 5522 Turney Rd., for a report of shoplifting. The suspect was described as wearing a pink sweatshirt that had been stolen from the store and had been last seen leaving northbound. The suspect had taken the sweatshirt valued at \$12.50 and a pair of slippers valued at \$12.50. The suspect was spotted in the 11900 block of Willard Ave. by police and then immediately fled into a backyard and a foot pursuit by officers began. The suspect was ultimately apprehended in the area of the 12800 block of Oakpark Blvd. A drone was deployed during the pursuit to assist in tracking the fleeing suspect, who was arrested for theft and obstructing official business.

Illegal Dumping

On March 18, at 10:35 a.m., police spoke with someone from American Dream Builders, the property management company for 13201 Granger Rd. He said he was contacted by one of his tenants that day regarding illegal dumping in the trash dumpster for the complex. The tenant sent the property manager a photo of a black Ford F150 pickup truck which was registered to a Maple Heights woman. The manager asked officers to ask the owner of the pickup to remove the several bags of trash they had put in the dumpster. An officer went to the Maple Heights address but there was no answer at the door. Management asked for special police attention to the illegal dumping there as it is an ongoing problem.

Burglary

On March 19, at 2:44 a.m., officers arrived at a home in

the 13900 block of Oakview Blvd., in connection with a complaint of a home break-in. The homeowner told police he and his family left for a vacation on March 1, 2026, and returned home about 2:30 a.m., on March 19. He quickly noticed that it appeared the house had been "ran through." Multiple drawers in various bedrooms were opened and a large portion of his shoe collection was missing. He said the rear sliding door of the house appeared to have been tampered with as glass had been broken and shattered. Two doors to the home were unlocked and one of them was wide open when they returned.

The victim said about 10 pairs of shoes were missing with an estimated value of \$2,500. No suspect information at time of report, which was forwarded to the Detective Bureau.

Juvenile(s)

On March 24, about 8:14 a.m., while at the high school, a police officer working as the Garfield Heights School Resource Officer got a call from the school security officer that a student had refused to put his bookbag through a metal detector prior to entering school, which is part of the security protocol.

The resource officer located that student on the second floor of the school and asked him to go the office with him, and reached for the student's bag. The student pulled the bag away and placed it behind him. The officer was worried that the bag might contain a weapon and told him he would be placed in handcuffs if that's what it would take for the officer to search through the bag. After several attempts to explain this to the student he was taken to the ground and placed in handcuffs.

The officer found 7 grams of raw marijuana in the pocket of the student's hoodie and inside the bookbag was a tobacco vape. He was taken to the Garfield Heights Police Department and issued a citation for underage possession of tobacco and will be charged for refusing to identify himself. He was released to his mother. The case will be heard in the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court.

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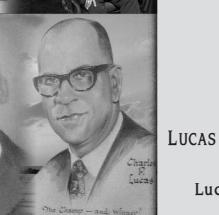
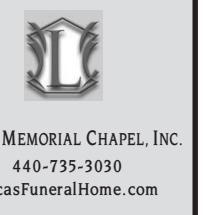


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Letters to the Editor

Warner Road resident fed up with area's bars

As a resident of Warner Road, I want to describe what a nightmare it is living near Communion Social Lounge and Aries Restaurant and Lounge (formerly Thirsty's). There are shots fired often in the area. It's terrifying! Police and Fire have a presence sometimes but it's not nearly enough.

Lounge guests scream and yell at all hours of the night. I lose lots of sleep. Sometimes patrons are running or driving around on people's private property. Vehicles are parked in NO PARKING areas, cars are two, sometimes three deep in front of fire hydrants, driveways - just everywhere. Not to mention so much disgusting litter - used prophylactics, glass bottles, drink cups, straws, cigarette butts, blunt ends, styrofoam food containers and more. It's scary. It's gross anywhere but especially around homes, apartments, seniors, children and babies.

I pray that city and state law enforcement will do more about this. I hope others speak up. Maybe Prosecutor, Police and Fire can do more if the residents get loud.

Thank you.

Name withheld upon request
Garfield Heights, Ohio

LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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.

"Traitor! The Tragic Tale of Benedict Arnold." - Adults, Wednesday, April 22, 7 p.m. How could Colonial America's most renowned battlefield general become the most despised man in America? Here is the sad tale of an ex-patriot who sought honor and glory but received the opposite. Presenter Carl Quatraro has spent his whole life in the Akron area. He graduated from Walsh Jesuit High School and The University of Akron and lives in Fairlawn. Carl retired in 2018 and now stays involved in his community by delivering entertaining and informative presentations to local libraries, senior and professional associations and retirement centers. **MUST REGISTER**

Earth Day Seed Bombs. Thursday, April 23, 4 p.m. Join us to celebrate Earth Day and the start of spring by making your own seed bombs. **MUST REGISTER**

Excel Basics. Friday, April 24, 10 a.m. Learn the essentials of Excel. Topics include entering data, using autofill and performing calculations using basic formulas and functions. Prerequisite: Computer Basics or equivalent experience. **MUST REGISTER**

African American Authors Book Group. -In-Person or Virtual—All Adults Are Welcome. Thursday, April 30, 7 p.m. African American Authors Book Group meets the last Thursday of the month. April Title: "We Refuse: A Forceful History of Black Resistance" by Kellie Carter Jackson. **MUST REGISTER**

Cleveland Public Library: Fleet Branch

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.

Kids Café – Ages 1-18: Every Monday-Friday, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Cleveland Foodbank's free afternoon lunch program for the school year.

Renovation Book Sale – All Ages: All Month, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Shop a selection of used items from the library's collection at unbeatable prices as we prepare for our upcoming renovation! All proceeds benefit The Cleveland Public Library Foundation.

Library Scavenger Hunt – School-age: All Month, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Throughout the month, hunt through the children's area for five different pictures. Win a prize when you locate all five! (Limit one per child per month.)

Egg Hunt – School-age: Friday, April 3, 4-5 p.m.

Digging Through the Crates – Adults / Seniors: Saturday, April 4, 12-1 p.m. Drop in to explore and experience music from this vintage medium - "records!" Other fun activities will be featured during these listening party hangouts. April's featured genre is 60's and 70's.

Monthly Movies: A Journey Through Pixar – School-age: Monday, April 6, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Acrostic Poems – School-age / Teens: Tuesday, April 7, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Celebrate National Poetry Month by learning about acrostic poems and writing one yourself.

Comic Book Club – Teens / Adults: Thursday, April 9, 4-5 p.m. Learn about and discuss different comic book or graphic novel titles available at the library. April's title is "The Secret to Superhuman Strength" by Alison Bechdel.

Design & Create Buttons! – School-age / Teens: Monday, April 13, 4-5 p.m. Design and create customized buttons for bags, jackets and more.

Shakespeare and His Sonnets – Teens: Wednesday, April 15, 3:30-5 p.m. Learn how to use a calligraphy pen to write a poem in sonnet style.

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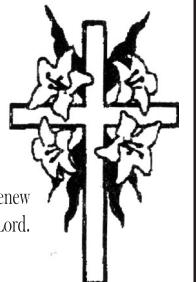
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Holiday fun means happy faces at Garfield Hts. Easter Celebration



Easter fun was the name of the game last Saturday at the Garfield Heights Easter Celebration at the Civic Center, where scores of kids turned out with their parents and grandparents to enjoy the morning's holiday activities.

And there was plenty for them to do including a Balloon Twister, Face Painting, Kids Craft Stations and games, pictures with the Easter Bunny, free refreshments and a Senior Center Bake Sale. *Photos by Wendy Walters*



Happy Easter!

From our family to yours!



Mayor Trevor Elkins and family

Village of
Newburgh Heights



Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz

Finance Director Vern Blaze

Independence City Council



Rejoice...for He is risen!

*Wishing you a very happy
and Blessed Easter.*



Mayor Jack Bacci and Family

Village of Cuyahoga Heights

**Your ONLY Newspaper for Community News
THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**



(All Holy Week Services listed are for Thursday, April 2, Friday, April 3, Saturday, April 4, & Easter Sunday, April 5.)

Concordia Lutheran Church, 6705 Brecksville Rd., Independence 44131

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 6 p.m.
GOOD FRIDAY: 6 p.m.
EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:30 a.m.

Garfield Heights United Methodist Church, 4977 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights 44125

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE: 10:30 a.m.

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

HOLY THURSDAY: No services. Please go to St. John Nepomucene
GOOD FRIDAY: Private adoration, noon to 3 p.m. Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.
HOLY SATURDAY: Blessing of the food baskets, 11:30 a.m. No Mass at 4 p.m. or Confessions.
EASTER SUNDAY: Masses 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. No Mass at 6 p.m. on Easter Sunday.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 4341 E. 131 St., Garfield Heights 44125

HOLY THURSDAY: 7 p.m. - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
GOOD FRIDAY: 7 p.m. - The Lord's Passion
HOLY SATURDAY: 8:30 p.m. - Easter Vigil
EASTER SUNDAY: 10:30 a.m. - Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

Jones Road Church, 8000 Jones Rd., Cleveland 44105

EASTER SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE: 11 a.m.
FREE COMMUNITY BRUNCH: 12 noon

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 6700 Lansing Ave., Cleveland 44105

HOLY THURSDAY: (No 8 a.m. Mass.) 7 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper (bilingual). 8:15 p.m. - Adoration until Closing Service
GOOD FRIDAY: 2:15 p.m. - English Stations. 3 p.m. - English Passion Service. 5:30 p.m. - Polish Stations. 6 p.m. - Polish Passion Service
HOLY SATURDAY: 12 p.m. - English Food Blessing. 1 p.m. - Polish Food Blessing.
EASTER SUNDAY: 8 a.m. - English Mass. 10 a.m. - Polish Mass. 12 p.m. - English Mass

Lutheran Church of the Covenant, 19000 Libby Rd., Maple Heights 44137

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 7 p.m. Service.
GOOD FRIDAY: 7 p.m. Service.
EASTER SUNDAY: Eucharist at 9 a.m..

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

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Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 3395 E. 53 St., Cleveland 44127

HOLY THURSDAY: 7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (bilingual). Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY: 12 noon - Stations of the Cross - outside - Spanish. 3 p.m. - Good Friday Service (English). 7 p.m. - Good Friday Service (Spanish)

HOLY SATURDAY: 2 p.m. - Blessing of Food. 7:30 p.m. - Easter Vigil Mass (bilingual). (No 4 p.m. Mass on Holy Saturday)

EASTER SUNDAY: 10 a.m. Mass (English). 12:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

Pearl Road Methodist Church, 8235 Memphis Ave., Brooklyn, OH 44144

Pearl Road Methodist Church is celebrating its first Easter Sunday at 10 a.m., and a Maundy Thursday at 6:30 p.m., at its new location at 8235 Memphis Ave., Brooklyn, OH 44144 while their original location is being renovated. Please call 216-661-5642 for more details. Look for the Easter Banner.

St. Casimir Catholic Church, 8223 Sowinski Ave., Cleveland 44103

HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 p.m., with the traditional Washing of the Feet and Eucharistic Procession followed by a time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament until all have finished.

GOOD FRIDAY: Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 7 p.m., with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

HOLY SATURDAY: Traditional Blessing of Easter foods on-the-hour at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12 noon. Solemn Easter Vigil at 8 p.m., with the Blessing of the New Fire, extended Liturgy of the Word, Renewal of Baptismal Promises and sprinkling with the newly blessed Easter water.

EASTER SUNDAY: Rezerekcja Mass in Polish with Traditional Procession at 8:30 a.m. Solemn Mass of Easter with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Easter water at 11:30 a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church, 11333 Granger Rd., Garfield Heights 44125

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Service at 6 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY: Service at 6 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY: Service at 9 a.m.

St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church, 5000 Fleet Ave., Cleveland 44105

HOLY THURSDAY: 7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper. Eucharistic Adoration following Mass until 9 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY: 12 p.m. Living Stations of the Cross.

HOLY SATURDAY: 3 p.m. Blessing of Easter Baskets. (No confessions; no 4 p.m. Mass.) 7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY: 10 a.m. Mass

St. Monica Church, 13623 Rockside Rd., Garfield Heights 44125

HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross, 12:30 p.m. The Passion of Our Lord, 3 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY: Food Blessing, 1 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass, 8:45 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY: Masses at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 E. 65 St., Cleveland 44105

HOLY THURSDAY: 7 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper with the traditional Washing of the Feet followed by Solemn Eucharistic Procession and time for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross in English at 12 noon. Solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion in English with Veneration of the Cross and distribution of Holy Communion at 2 p.m. Stations of the Cross and Veneration of the Cross in Polish at 6 p.m., with distribution of Holy Communion.

HOLY SATURDAY: The traditional Blessing of the Easter Foods will take place on-the-hour at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, and 1 p.m. The Solemn Easter Vigil with the Blessing of the New Fire, extended Liturgy of the Word, Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Blessing with the Easter Water at 8 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY: Traditional Rezerekcja Mass at dawn in Polish with traditional procession at 6:30 a.m. Solemn Masses of Easter with renewal of Baptismal Promises and Blessing with Easter Water at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. (Polish) and 11:30 a.m., all featuring full musical accompaniment.

Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church, 4750 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights 44125, and St. Therese Catholic Church, 5276 E. 105 St., Garfield Heights 44125

HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 p.m. at Ss. Peter & Paul. Adoration and Confession at 8 p.m. at Ss. Peter & Paul followed by Night Prayer at 9 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY: 3 p.m.: Celebration of the Lord's Passion at Ss. Peter & Paul followed by Confessions. Stations of the Cross at St. Therese at 6 p.m., followed by Confessions.

HOLY SATURDAY: 1 p.m. Blessing of Food at St. Therese. 2 p.m. Blessing of Food at Ss. Peter & Paul. Easter Vigil Mass at St. Therese at 9 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY: 8:30 a.m. Mass at Ss. Peter & Paul. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Therese

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UPCOMING Events

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

HAVE AN EVENT YOU WANT TO ADVERTISE?

The Neighborhood News is distributed every Wednesday in South East Cleveland, Garfield Heights, Newburgh Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, Valley View, Maple Heights and Bedford

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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.

BEDFORD RESERVATION

April 1: Sounds of Spring Sunset Walk. Let's explore the trails of this interesting place and pay special attention to the sounds that accompany spring evening. We'll keep our ears tuned to the wet areas for frogs and to the skies for dancing birds. 7:30-9 p.m. Astorhurst Trailhead. Terrain: natural surface trail, hill, 1.5 miles

April 10: Friday Hike to the Falls. Join a naturalist as we hike through the woodlands of Bedford Reservation. We will travel under pines, above the gorge, and along the creeks. Throughout our adventure we will discuss any spring changes that are happening in the area. Trails may be muddy or slippery; hiking boots and poles suggested. 2-4 p.m. Bridal Veil Falls parking lot. Terrain: natural surface, hills, 1.5-2 miles

April 17: Preschoolers: Hike with Me. Bring your preschoolers to adventure through the woodlands of Bedford Reservation in search of spring wildflowers. We will follow the mountain bike trail into the woods and loop back at the little overlook. Field guides will be provided to help us identify some of the flowers we see. 10-11 a.m. Egbert Picnic Area. Ages 2-6 years w/adult. Terrain: natural surface, 1 mile

April 19: Spring Wildflowers - Morning along the

Creek. Join Naturalist Carly Martin for a morning hike along a charming little creek that winds through the woods and is dotted with spring wildflowers along the way. 9:30-11 a.m. Forbes Woods Trailhead. Terrain: natural surface, narrow trail, wooden boardwalk, creek crossing, 2 miles

April 19: Spring Wildflowers: Woodland Wildflowers. The forest is slowly waking up, and our woodland wildflowers are sneaking in before the canopy shades the forest floor. Join Naturalist Pam Taylor as we search for and identify the most recent blooms. Spring wildflower season is short, and it changes daily; you won't want to miss out on this season. 3-4:30 p.m. Hemlock Creek Picnic Area. Terrain: flat, natural surface, roots, mud, up to 1.5 miles.

CANALWAY CENTER - OHIO & ERIE CANAL RESERVATION

April 11: Hike to a Hidden Ravine. Discover a lesser-known ravine with towering trees and scenic views of the Cuyahoga Valley below as a naturalist leads you on a rugged hike. The dense forest will make you feel miles away from the industrial valley that surrounds this area. 2-3:30 p.m. CanalWay Center. Terrain: natural surface, steep hills, muddy conditions possible, 3-4 miles

April 12: Career Exploration - Naturalist 101. Are you passionate about nature and connecting others with the outdoors? Join a naturalist from CanalWay Center to learn more about how to pursue a career as a naturalist and what it takes to do what they do. Activities may include hiking, animal care, and naturalist trivia! Lunch will be provided. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. CanalWay Center. Ages 14-17 years. Fee: \$20.. Terrain: paved and natural surfaces, some hills, 3 miles Registration for 16 people. Registration ends at 5 p.m. on April 7.

April 18: Preschoolers in the Park. Bring your preschooler out to the park to discover signs of spring. On our hike, we'll listen to hear which amphibians are making noise and look for wildflowers popping up through the leaf litter. The trail may be muddy, so please dress for the weather. 10:30-11:30 a.m. CanalWay Center. Ages 3-8 years w/adult. Terrain: natural surface, hills, less than 1 mile

April 18: Walk the Lower 40 Loop Trail. Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak covers a little bit of history and

science while we cover some ground in the Cuyahoga River valley. We'll briefly cover trains, canals, sewer infrastructure, beavers and why they're all here. 12-1:30 p.m. CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved surface, hill, 2 miles

April 15: Let's Get Ready for Firefly Season. We get to enjoy the magic of firefly watching for only a few weeks each year. Join naturalist and firefly enthusiast Carly Martin at this indoor presentation to learn more about firefly identification, ecology and how you can help with firefly conservation before summer arrives. 3-4:15 p.m. Ages: best suited for adults.

April 24: Last Hike to the Eagle's Nest. We will take one last look at the eagle nest along the Cuyahoga River before tree leaves obscure our view. Bring your camera if you have one. Binoculars available for loan. 2-4 p.m. CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved surface, one hill, 4 miles

April 25: Drop-by - City Nature Challenge. Get the weekend started by discovering how you can help our region compete in a global competition to expand knowledge of our planet's diversity of life by participating in a weekend-long community science survey of wild plants and animals. Stop by anytime between 10 a.m. and noon inside CanalWay Center.

April 25: Out in the Parks - Turtles. Join fellow LGBTQ+ friends and family for an afternoon at CanalWay Center to learn about turtles. We will discuss the turtles that live in Ohio. Then meet a few of our animal ambassadors. A turtle craft will also be available for those who would like to make a take-home turtle. 2-3 p.m.

GARFIELD RESERVATION

April 4: 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 registrants recommended; walk-ins are welcome.

April 13: Garfield Park Outer Loop. Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak will help you walk circles around the other park users as we traverse the paved outer loop of Garfield Park Reservation. We'll walk and talk a little about the area's history and recent work in the park. 2-4 p.m. Garfield Program Center. Terrain: paved surface, hills, 2 miles

April 22: Garfield Park Walking Club. Join our new Wednesday walking club as a naturalist leads you on an exploration of the many scenic and tranquil pathways and trails of Garfield Park. Joining the club is easy and free - just show up in your favorite walking shoes or snow boots, bring a water bottle and be ready to meet new people! 10-11 a.m. Garfield Park Pond (outside of Program Center). Terrain: paved, gravel, hills, 1 - 2 miles.

April 23: Minister Creek Backpacking Trip. Learn about back country travel on this 2-night beginner backpacking trip in the beautiful Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania. Enjoy natural rock overlooks, streamside camping, and scenic hiking while learning about back country travel, cooking, hygiene, water purification, safety and more. Guests must attend the mandatory pre-trip meeting on Thursday, April 23, 6-9 p.m. at Garfield Park Program Center, 6 -9 p.m., Garfield Park Program Center. Ages: 14 years & over. (Minors between the ages of 14-17 MUST have a registered and participating adult.) Registration Required. \$185.

Happy Easter!
May you enjoy Easter Sunday with the love of family and friends.

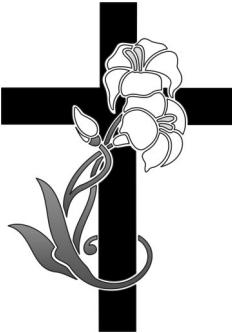
Mayor Annette M. Blackwell
City of Maple Heights

Wishing Everyone a Happy Easter

Mayor Matt Burke and family
City of Garfield Heights


Easter Blessings

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An Easter Message . . .

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Happy Easter!

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Councilman - Ward 3
Phone (440) 735-7530 Option 5

City of Bedford Heights
5661 Perkins Road
Bedford Heights, Ohio 44146
Clerk's Office 440-786-3220
michaelw@bedfordheights.gov
www.bedfordheights.gov

LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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.

ADULTS

Wednesday Night Book Discussion / No registration required. Join us for a casual and lively book discussion of "The Demon of Unrest" by Erik Larson. The books will be available approximately one month before the discussion date. Wednesday, April 15, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday Afternoon Book Discussion / No registration required. Join us for a casual and lively book discussion of "The Demon of Unrest" by Erik Larson. The books will be available approximately one month before the discussion date. Thursday, April 16, 2:15 p.m.

What's the Deal with Dead Man's Curve - and Other Good Questions about Cleveland / Registration required. Join us for an exploration of what makes Cleveland "Cleveland" with author Jim Sweeney. This program will be held at the Independence Civic Center: 6363 Selig Dr., Independence, OH 44131. Friday, April 17, 12:30 p.m.

Spring Craft Supply Swap / Registration required. Join us at the library for a fun and friendly Craft Supply Swap! It's the perfect chance to do a little spring cleaning,

clear out those extra arts and crafts supplies and discover something new. Saturday, April 18, 12 p.m.

Therapeutic Art for Parent Bereavement: Expressive Group Art Making to Help Parents / Registration required. Join UH Connor Whole Health, Jess Grimm, ATR-P, for a therapeutic art group. In these groups you will learn how to utilize art materials in an expressive way to help with coping skills. No prior experience is required to participate. All needs will be accommodated. Monday, April 27, 6 p.m.

Live Magic ~ Behold the Impossible! Tricks & Tales from the Golden Age of Magic / Registration required. Experience live magic, laughs and stories with Cleveland magician Mark Jarvis. Be part of the show as the impossible unfolds right before your eyes! Wednesday, April 29, 7 p.m.

Be the Fire: Rewriting Stress with Science and Soul - Adults / Registration required. What if your stress is not a flaw, but a fire waiting to be understood? In this empowering and approachable workshop, author, published researcher and health educator Libbey Pelaiia-Krumhansl share tools for navigating stress, shifting mindset and reconnecting to your inner strength. Blending neuroscience, storytelling and a little soul, participants will explore how language, thought patterns and daily habits shape the brain and body - and how understanding these processes can keep us stuck, or set us free. Thursday, April 30, 7 p.m.

TEENS

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, April 7, 3 p.m.

Tween Escape Room: Outer Space - Grades 4-8 / Registration required. You are trapped on a space station and must solve puzzles, crack codes and work as a team to escape before time runs out! Tuesday, April 21, 7 p.m.

Volunteers - 11-18 / Registration required. Volunteer at the library, earn service hours. We will work on a project benefitting the library or for a need in the community. Tuesday, April 28, 6:30 p.m.

CHILDREN

Baby & Toddler Storytime / No registration required. Birth-35 months with caregiver. Join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and books. Mondays, March 2, through April 27, 11 a.m. Wednesdays, March 4, through April 29, 10 a.m.

Preschool Storytime / No registration required. Ages 3-5 (but not yet in kindergarten) with caregiver. Join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and stories. Thursdays, March 5 through April 30, 10 a.m.

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PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF BEDFORD

Cuyahoga County Competitive Municipal Grant Program

The City of Bedford is eligible to apply for funding from Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Special CDBG funds administered by Cuyahoga County through the Department of Housing and Community Development. Funds can be used for a variety of housing, economic development and community improvement projects. Residents are invited to attend a public meeting to voice their opinions on local development needs, or to submit opinions in writing to City Manager, 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 8th, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. at 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146.

For further information, please contact 440-232-1600.

The Neighborhood News 4-1-26



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, April 16, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Village Hall Council Chambers located at 3801 Harvard Avenue in Newburgh Heights.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes (3/19/2026)
- III. 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).
- IV. Review request to determine if existing swimming pool is permanent or temporary accessory use
- V. Public comment
- VI. Action
- VII. Adjournment

Posted at Village Hall, Village Facebook, in The Neighborhood News, and mailed, April 1, 2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS

2026 Cuyahoga County Special Municipal Community Development Block Grant

The City of Maple Heights is eligible to apply for funding from Federal Block Grant funds administered by Cuyahoga County through the Department of Development. The 2026 Special Municipal Grant funds are going toward street improvement projects and going toward Senior related projects. Block Grants funds can be used for a variety of housing, economic development and community improvement projects.

Residents are invited to attend a Public Hearing to voice their opinions on local housing and community development needs, or to submit opinions in writing to the address below. A list of eligible activities and application requirements will be provided at the hearing.

The Public Hearing will be held IN PERSON on Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 11:00AM at:

**Maple Heights Senior Center
15901 Libby Rd.
Maple Heights, Ohio 44137**

For further information, contact Kennada Nash at (216) 587-9032 or email: Knash@mapleheightsohio.gov.

Any persons who wish to attend and require special accommodations under the Americans With Disabilities Act, please contact the Maple Heights City Hall at (216) 587-9032, or by email at no later than 72 hours prior to public hearing.
The Neighborhood News 04-01-26

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on **Monday April 6, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.**, before the **Maple Heights Planning and Zoning Commission** in the Maple Heights City Hall Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, to consider the following application(s):

2026-PZ-23 An application from Jim Ptacek-Larsen Architects requesting Approval of the following Variances to operate a Gas Station and Convenience Store in the Central Business District (CBD) Zoning District at **15650 Broadway Avenue**, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137.

1. A variance from the front yard/building setback requirement of Cod. Ord. Sec. 1282.07 that the front yard setback shall be a maximum of 15 feet to permit the gas pump canopy located in the front yard to be set back approximately 35 feet and the main store building located in the front yard to be set back approximately 140 feet.
2. A variance from the land use intensity requirement of Cod. Ord. Sec. 1282.09 that the front facade of the main building shall occupy at least sixty percent (60%) of the width of the lot as it fronts Libby Road to permit the front facade of the main store building be 17.2% of the width of the lot as it fronts Libby Road because the front facade of the main store building is 93.33 feet and the frontage along Libby Road is 542.92 feet.
3. A variance from the off-street parking requirement of Cod. Ord. Sec. 1282.10(B)(1) that off-street parking shall not be located in a front yard to permit parking in the front yard for the main store building and the gas pumps.
4. A variance from the off-street parking requirement of Cod. Ord. Sec. 1282.10(B)(2) that if a parking lot must be placed adjacent to a street, the parking lot shall be set back ten (10) feet from the right-of-way, to permit parking spaces adjacent to the Dunham Road right-of-way that are set back less than 10 feet.
5. A variance from the off-street parking requirement of Cod. Ord. Sec. 1282.10(B)(3) that all off-street parking areas shall be screened from view from a public right-of-way with fencing and/or landscaping approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Architectural Review Board.

All Applicant(s) and/or their representatives are required to attend this meeting. Members of the public are invited to attend, but will only be allowed to speak during the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

The application(s) and all supporting materials are available for review during normal business hours in the Maple Heights Building Department, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio.

Frank Consolo, Law Director

The Neighborhood News 3/25/26; 4/1/26



Village of Newburgh Heights

3801 Harvard Avenue
Newburgh Heights, Ohio 44105
216-641-4654
newburgh-oh.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE

VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMPETITIVE MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAMS

The Village of Newburgh Heights is eligible to apply for funding from Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, 2026 Special Municipal Grant Funds, and Community Development Supplemental Funds (CDSG) administered by Cuyahoga County through the Department of Development. Funds can be used for a variety of housing, economic development, and community improvement projects. Residents are invited to attend a public hearing to be held at Newburgh Heights Village Hall, 3801 Harvard Avenue, Newburgh Heights, OH 44105, on April 13, 2026 at 5:30 PM to voice their opinions on local development needs. Residents may also submit opinions in writing to the same address, attention Mayor Elkins.

Posted at Village Hall
3/26/2026
The Neighborhood News
4/1/2026

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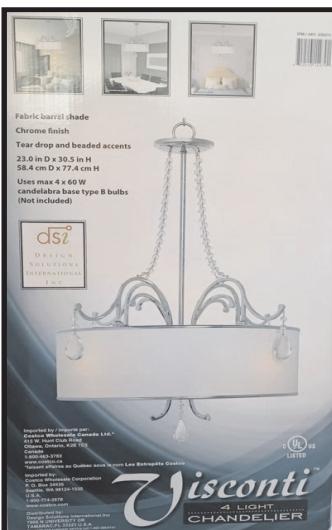
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Vote-by-Mail, early voting opens April 7th for May 5th 2026 primary election

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is informing voters that on April 7, 2026 Early In-Person Voting and Vote-by-Mail opens for the May 5, 2026 Primary Election.

Vote-by-Mail Ballot applications are available online at www.boe.cuyahogacounty.gov or by calling 216-443-VOTE (8683), and at all public libraries. Vote-by-Mail Ballot applications must be received on or before 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

Vote-by-Ballot applications must indicate, Democrat, Republican, Libertarian or Issues Only. The month and year of the election must also be indicated on the Vote-by-Mail Ballot application.

New Rule: All Vote-by-Mail ballots must arrive at the Board of Elections on or before 7:30 p.m., on Election Day. Mail your ballot back to the Board of Elections at least five days prior to the election. Vote-by-Mail ballots can also be hand delivered 24/7 to the Board of Elections ballot drop box until 7:30 p.m. on Election Night.

Early In-Person Voting is conducted at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections Early Vote Center located at 1803 Superior Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44114. The Early In-Person Voting schedule is as follows:

Weekdays, (Mondays through Fridays), April 7 to April 24, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday, April 27, 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Weekdays, April 29 – May 1, 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 2, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 3, 1 to 5 p.m.

Blood drive scheduled at Indy Community Theater

The American Red Cross will hold a blood donor drive on Monday, April 6, from noon to 6 p.m., at the Independence Community Theater, 6652 Brecksville Rd., Independence.

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

Garfield Hts. looking for Memorial Day paraders

Plans for the annual Memorial Day parade and service in Garfield Heights are underway. The city will honor deceased veterans of all wars and conflicts on Monday, May 25.

The parade will step off at 10 a.m. from Mapleleaf Elementary School, 5764 Turney Rd. The city is looking for participants. Anyone interested in being in the parade can contact Ward 7 Councilwoman Jennifer Newrones,

parade chairperson, at 216-478-9977 or jnewrones@garfieldhts.org.

The next committee planning meeting for the Memorial Day observance is at 5 p.m., on Tuesday, April 14, at the Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd. All are welcome.

C.V. Genealogical Society meets in Independence

The Cuyahoga Valley Genealogical Society will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, April 6, at 7 p.m., at the Independence Civic Center in the Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., Independence. Members and the interested public are invited to attend.

The program, entitled "What's in Your Canadian Genealogy Toolbox?" will be presented by Kathryn Lake Hogan. Explore the top websites for researching your ancestors in Canada. Learn where to find the best online resources for Canadian and provincial record groups, history, newspapers, maps, photographs and more to help you fill your Canadian genealogy toolbox.

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