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103rd YEAR NO. 06

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026

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FREE



Happy Halloween

ALL TRICK-or-TREAT TIMES IN
NN AREA ARE ON SATURDAY,
OCT. 31, 6-8 P.M.

BIG CITY BOO!

At all Rec Centers in Cleveland on
Friday, Oct. 30, 5-7 p.m. Including Stella
Walsh Rec, 7345 Broadway Ave.

Garfield Hts. Council meets Garfield Hts. Police Dept. awarded state grant to fight violent crime

By Ellen Psenicka

At Monday's meeting of Garfield Heights Council, a resolution was passed authorizing the mayor to accept the Violent Crime Reduction Grant made available by the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.

The city was awarded a grant of \$89,999.99 with no required matching funds to aid the Garfield Heights Police Department in reducing violent crime in its jurisdiction.

Also passed by council

The following legislation was also passed by council at its Monday meeting:

- Authorizing the sale of service and police department vehicles and disposal of phones, switches and servers no longer needed by the city.

- Accepting and directing the mayor to accept and utilize the 2027 Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for fiscal year 2026. The Garfield Heights Police Department is eligible to receive up to \$14,470.00 in funding which can be used for additional personnel and/or the purchase of equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, etc.

- Honoring the life and legacy of Austric James "Pete" Harwell, "a beloved husband, father, grandfather, U.S. Army veteran, pioneering businessman and cherished member of the Garfield Heights community," who passed away Oct. 2, 2026. His distinguished career included becoming the first black supervisor at Westvaco before retiring in 1985; establishing Harwell's Barber Shop in Garfield Heights in 1975, that would become a treasured neighborhood institution for 45 years; recognition of Harwell's Barber Shop as the longest-standing black-owned business in the city's history; and the official renaming of the corner of E. 131 St. and Rexwood Ave. as "Pete Harwell Parkway."

- Accepting and utilizing the Leary Firefighters Foundation-Jeremiah Lucey Grant for fiscal year 2026, if awarded. The foundation may award between \$2,500.00 and \$25,000.00 under the grant to fire departments for training, equipment or technology purchases.

The next meeting of Garfield Heights Council is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m.

**ELECTION DAY IS
TUESDAY, NOV. 3, 2026**

Don't Forget To

VOTE!!!



Trick-or-Treat on Fleet is Saturday in Slavic Village

Good weather is expected to draw big crowds of ghosts and goblins to Trick-or-Treat on Fleet this weekend. The event will happen on Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31, from noon to 3 p.m., along Fleet Ave., from E. 50 to E. 63 streets.

The event is simple. Kids and families walk the street in search of treats and find them at vendor tables along the route. Organizers are still welcoming more vendors, including electoral candidates looking for crowds of public-spirited constituents.

There are new features for 2026: a field of games for kids and The Haunted Meadow, by the Fleet Sign, for visitors ready for a wild, fun take on the year's scariest holiday.

Trick-or-Treat on Fleet is free and open to all ages, and all Clevelanders interested in one last outdoor social activity before warm weather departs. Arrive in costume!

Trick-or-Treat Trunk event big success in G.H.



Hundreds of kids and their families turned out last Friday evening for a Trick-or-Treat Trunk candy giveaway in the parking lot of the Garfield Heights Civic Center. Residents filled the trunks of their cars with all sorts of candy as costumed youngsters came by for some of the goodies. Awards were given out for the top three most "spooktacular" decorated trunk as well, making it a night to remember for everyone! *Photo by Wendy Walters*

New local project to create jobs with state help

Governor Mike DeWine, Lt. Governor Jim Tressel and Ohio Department of Development Director Lydia Mihalik have announced the approval of 10 projects that will create and retain thousands of jobs statewide, and result in \$2.2 billion in investments across Ohio.

Among these projects is one located in Valley View and Seven Hills. Avtron Power Solutions, LLC expects to create 150 full-time-equivalent positions, generating \$10,946,360 in new annual payroll by Dec. 31, 2029, as a result of the company's project in the village of Valley View and the city of Seven Hills

Avtron manufactures industrial load banks and power testing equipment used to test and ensure the reliability of backup generators, uninterruptible power supplies, and critical power systems supporting digital infrastructure, hospitals, utilities and industrial facilities worldwide.

The Ohio Tax Credit Authority approved a 1.613 percent, nine-year Job Creation Tax Credit for the project.

Garfield Ward 4 Meeting

There will be a Garfield Heights Ward 4 Community Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 29, at the Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., at 6:30 p.m., in Room 118. Special guest will be Mayor Matt Burke. All are welcome.

Free Community Meal at Garfield United Methodist

Garfield Heights United Methodist Church, 4977 Turney Rd., will hold its monthly Community Meal on Sunday, Nov. 1, from noon to 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.

TIME TO FALL BACK!!

Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2 a.m.
this Sunday, Nov. 1. Set your clocks
back one hour before bedtime!

CLE Council strengthens lead certification program

Letters to the Editor

On Monday evening, Cleveland City Council met and approved an ordinance to update and strengthen Cleveland's lead certification program. Cleveland has roughly 100,000 housing units that need lead abatement. Since the city's lead safe law was passed in 2019, roughly 31,000 units have been made lead safe. While that is a huge number, the city and lead-safe advocates agree the process needs to be faster and more effective.

The Bibb Administration collaborated with the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition and the Lead Safe Advisory Board and held dozens of conversations with tenants, landlords and advocates over the last year to develop this legislation.

The proposed changes will incentivize landlords to focus on high-contact areas like porches, doors and windows, where clouds of poisonous lead particles are most likely to form, and will reward investment in lead safety by allowing landlords to qualify for longer certification periods. The ordinance was passed unanimously.

No Repair. Cleveland City Council also considered an

ordinance which would have authorized the city to pay for required repairs to Huntington Field. The city of Cleveland owns Huntington Field, and the Cleveland Browns operate it. The Oct. 23, 1998, lease requires the Cleveland to maintain the structure and keep it usable as a sports facility. Under the lease, the city must reimburse the Browns for necessary emergency repairs the Browns perform or cause to be performed. This ordinance would have authorized total reimbursement of \$1,122,824.02, more than half of which is for concrete and joint repairs.

Despite the city's obligations under the lease, councilmembers were divided, and many expressed frustrations about having to pay the Browns' maintenance expenses on a building that will be torn down in three years. They also expressed anger at the deal the city struck with the Browns over leaving the city. Proponents expressed similar frustrations but concluded they were obligated to fulfill the lease terms or spend even more money to defend the city in a subsequent lawsuit. The ordinance failed 6–7.

Brookpark Road. The city of Brook Park applied for and received a grant from the State of Ohio to help pay for resurfacing Brookpark Road between W. 130 St. and Rocky River Drive, which goes through Brook Park, Parma, and the city of Cleveland. Ordinance 1205-2026 authorizes the city to enter into agreements with the cities of Brook Park and Parma to resurface the portion of Brookpark Road located in Cleveland. Some councilmembers were reluctant to agree to this ordinance because it is part of preparing roadways leading to and from the new Browns Stadium being constructed in Brook Park. This ordinance was also a matter of debate. Despite Councilman Charles Slife's advocacy for the project, which would repair a long-neglected stretch of road in his ward and help prepare the surrounding neighborhood for future Browns' traffic, some members of Council again expressed their frustration at helping fund anything Browns- or Haslam-related. But the ordinance passed 8-5.

Cleveland City Council is off next week leading into Election Day. The next full council meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 9, 2026, at 7 p.m. in Cleveland City Hall's Council Chamber.

(Editor's Note: This article was written by Cleveland City Council Communications.)

Enjoys Tom Kaschalk's stories

Dear Editor:

Tom Kaschalk's column about Slavic Village's vast history has been very enjoyable to read. Keep up the good work!

Best regards,
Jeff Walters
Sheffield Lake, Ohio

WHY VOTE?

Others paved the way
for your Election Day
Some with their lives

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Should keep you away

This inspired day

No reason at all

Not to answer election's call

GO VOTE!

Ron Jackson
February 24, 2008

TRICK-or-TREAT
on FLEET
THIS SATURDAY

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I have been asked to publish the recommended Judicial candidates as I traditionally have done with the Judge4Yourself ratings. I have been speaking to numerous residents, block clubs, social and civic organizations in an effort to get more voters focused on our Judicial elections.

The Judge4Yourself ratings can be viewed at:
<https://www.judge4yourself.com/judicial-candidate-ratings/>.

Below are the Judge4Yourself recommended and Plain Dealer endorsed judicial candidates in contested elections.

Ohio Supreme Court

FTC 01/01/2027: Marilyn Zayas
FTC 01/02/2027: Jennifer Brunner

Eighth District Court of Appeals

FTC 02/12/2027: Anita Laster Mays

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas
General Division

FTC 01/01/2027: Kira Krivosh
FTC 01/02/2027: Daryl T. Dennie
FTC 01/03/2027: William Vodrey
FTC 02/09/2027: Antonio S. Nicholson

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas
Domestic Relations Division

FTC 01/09/2027: Sunny Simon



Anthony Brancatelli
Cuyahoga County
Committee Member

Issues

NO on Issue 3
YES on Issues 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

Amy Acton, Governor

Sherrod Brown, U.S. Senator

Shontel Brown, 11th District Congress

Annette Blackwell, Ohio Auditor

John Kulewicz, Ohio Attorney General

Allison Russo, Ohio Secretary of State

Seth Walsh, Ohio State Treasurer

Paid for by Tony Brancatelli

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Community police reports

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

Garfield Heights

Animal Cruelty

On Oct. 20, at about 12:49 p.m., police responded to the 4900 block of E. 97 St. regarding a dog that had been shot. Officers located a black pit mix that had an apparent gunshot wound to the left eye. The dog's owner said her dog was loose in the front yard of her residence when a black male, wearing all black and carrying a backpack, jumped the fence at the dead end and shot the dog, which police found along the curb across the street from the dog owner's address. She said the dog was walking toward the male when he shot. Officers were unable to locate any shell casings or the suspect. The dog was stable and taken by the owner to VCA Animal Hospital.

Trespassing

On Oct. 20, about 4:10 p.m., police were dispatched to McDonald's, 5240 Turney Rd., for a group inside refusing to leave. They met the group in the lobby of the restaurant and saw a female was engaged in a verbal dispute with the manager. The manager made it very clear to her she would not be served and he wanted her to leave. The female refused. Police told her if she did not leave she would be arrested. She replied, "I ain't going nowhere." She was arrested, charged with criminal trespass, held on bond and given a mandatory court date.

Juveniles

On Oct. 22, at 12:56 p.m., officers and detectives responded to North Shore High School, 4744 Turney Rd., as administrators had asked police for special attention there due to multiple fights occurring after school involving students. Garfield Heights High School experienced disruptions while preparing for dismissal as North Shore students began congregating on and near GHHS grounds with the apparent intent to engage in physical altercations. The GHHS principal requested police assistance. While police were in the area they observed multiple groups beginning to congregate with group sizes ranging from 20 to 50 individuals. Officers issued verbal warnings to the students to disperse or pepperballs would be deployed. Following deployment of pepperballs the groups fled south on Turney toward the high school, some of which began entering high school property. Officers began locating the involved students and placing them in handcuffs. All those arrested were taken to city jail where their parents or legal guardians were notified. All arrested individuals are to be charged with riot as well as disrupting GHHS activities and obstructing official business. All were released to their parents or guardians. Report forwarded to the Juvenile Detective Bureau.

Fleeing and Eluding

Pursuit Initiated: Oct. 13, at 2:18 a.m., on E. 126 St., first observed at E. 131 St. and Service Court.

Initial Reason for Pursuit: Marked lanes violation
Pursuit Details: Suspect vehicle continued fleeing

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north on E. 116 St., then turning east on Corlett Ave., when officers attempted an intervention maneuver which was unsuccessful as was a second one at Global Ave. and Sandusky Ave. At approximately 2:23 a.m., CPD was notified of the pursuit. GHPD lost sight of the vehicle near E. 131 St. and Union Ave., but picked it up again near E. 131 St. and Abell Ave.

Resolution: At about 2:25 a.m., the suspect vehicle crashed near E. 130 St. and Abell Ave., and the male driver fled on foot. He was eventually located hiding in the basement of his sister's home on E. 130 St. She was determined to be the owner of the suspect vehicle.

Disposition: Suspect charged with felony three fleeing, lanes of travel, headlights required, stop signs and driving under suspension; held without bond.

Pursuit Initiated: Oct. 13, at about 8:36 p.m., Ohio Ave. and Osborne Rd.

Initial Reason for Pursuit: Traffic violations

Pursuit Details: Continued north on E. 131 St. in Corlett Ave., Barlett Ave. and Farrington areas. Due to suspect's continued flight, operation at speeds exceeding three times the speed limit on residential streets, repeated travel into opposing traffic, and disregard for all traffic-control devices, officer believed his continued operation presented an immediate and substantial danger to motorists and the public.

Resolution: As the suspect approached Lee Rd. and Chagrin Blvd., suspect began to slow down in anticipation of the crowded intersection. Officer then initiated a PIT maneuver, resulting in the suspect vehicle spinning into a telephone pole on the north side of Chagrin Blvd., just west of Lee Rd. The vehicle was immediately immobilized and suspect detained in double-locked handcuffs.

Disposition: Suspect taken to GHPD jail and booked and housed without further incident. Arrested for fleeing and eluding and citations issued for stop signs, driving while suspended and speed.

Pursuit Initiated: Oct. 14, at 2:08 a.m., driving north on Turney, then east onto Park Dr.

Initial Reason for Pursuit: Driving behavior suggested attempt to evade police. Registration check showed

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vehicle's registration had expired and registered owner also had an active license suspension for license forfeiture.

Pursuit Details: After police initiated a traffic stop, the suspect vehicle came to a stop just east of Wolf Creek Lane in the Metroparks. As an officer approached the vehicle the driver put the car in gear and fled east toward Broadway. The vehicle turned west onto Broadway, lost control and nearly caused a collision before regaining traction and continued toward E. 104 St. As the vehicle approached the E. 93 St. split on Broadway, police started closing the distance and positioned the cruiser for a possible PIT maneuver. However, the suspect driver then abruptly applied the brakes and swerved into oncoming traffic before accelerating to about 90 mph, finally turning west onto Way Ave. and pulling into a parking lot in the area of the 3700 block of E. 91 St.

Resolution: The driver exited the vehicle and fled on foot while the vehicle was still moving forward, eventually coming to a complete stop against a fence. The female passenger in the suspect vehicle told police she had known the suspect for a few months and had met up with him that night at a local bar. She was dropped off at the GHPD lobby to call for a ride. Police located a handgun on the ground on E. 91 St., near where the driver had fallen.

Disposition: Officers were unable to locate the driver and cleared the scene. Dispatch was able to identify the driver, which GHPD has had prior history with from previous traffic stops.

Pursuit Initiated: Oct. 14, at about 7:55 p.m., CPD advised they were in pursuit of a silver Nissan stolen from their city which was seen entering Garfield Heights. GHPD officers located the car at E. 131 St. and Forestdale Ave., which passed the police car traveling at a high rate of speed.

(Continued on Page 7)

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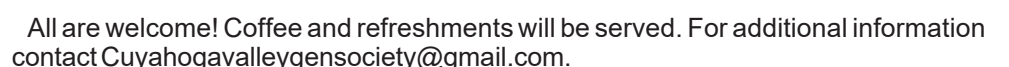
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All programs are free unless marked otherwise. For questions or to register for programs, please visit clevelandmetroparks.com or call CanalWay Center at 216-206-1000. Also, call or visit the website to confirm that the program you wish to attend has not been changed or cancelled.

BEDFORD RESERVATION

Nov. 27: Long Haul Turkey Burner. Join Naturalist Jake Kudrna on a 9-mile loop around the Tinker’s Creek Gorge. This hilly and physically challenging hike will take you past gorgeous waterfalls, breathtaking views and give you the chance to experience one of the most interesting natural areas in northeast Ohio. This hike includes off-trail sections that may impact guests with a fear of heights. Hiking poles recommended, some available to borrow. Water bottles recommended as fountains will most likely be shut off. The hike will average a 25-minute mile pace including time needed for restroom stops. Restrooms are available at the start, and around the 1, 4, 4.5, and 6 mile markers. Noon-4:30 p.m. Meet at Hermit’s Hollow Picnic Area. Terrain: natural surfaces, strenuous hills, shallow stream crossings, uneven terrain, off-trail, 9 miles.

Nov. 28: Out in the Parks - Hike & Pie Irons. Join fellow LGBTQ+ friends, family and allies for a hike through the forest of Bedford Reservation. After our hike we will enjoy some time around the campfire and make some pie iron snacks. 1-3 p.m. Meet at the Egbert Picnic Area. Terrain: natural surface, 1 mile.

CANALWAY CENTER - OHIO & ERIE CANAL RESERVATION

Nov. 14: 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 mature forest will make you feel miles away from the industrial valley that surrounds this area. 2–4 p.m. CWC. Terrain: natural surface, steep hills, may be muddy, 3-4 miles.

Nov. 17: Hike Because It’s Good for You. Research tells us that being in nature, being active, and being with other people are all good for us. Join a naturalist for a walk along the Ohio & Erie Canal, and we’ll do all those things. 3–4:30 p.m. CWC. Age: adults. Terrain: paved, 2 miles.

Nov. 21: Drop by - Turkey. Stop by CanalWay Center between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to learn about wild turkeys. We will share some facts about these birds, have a craft to complete, and provide biofacts to explore. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. CWC.

Nov. 21: History Bike Ride – Towpath Trail from Steel Heritage Center to Canal Basin Park. Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak leads you on an 8-mile bicycle journey along the Towpath Trail through Cleveland’s industrial valley. We’ll have a few stops to discuss the importance of trails, science, history and interagency cooperation in reconnecting Cleveland. HELMETS REQUIRED. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. 2–4 p.m. Off Site Steel Heritage Center. Terrain: paved, significant elevation changes, 8 miles. 25 participants.

Nov. 22: Hike to the Eagle’s Nest. Join a naturalist for a guided hike to an active bald eagle nest while we look for birds, beavers and other wildlife that call the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation home. On the way we will compare observations of animal activity throughout the winter. This hike is offered several times each month when the eagle nest is visible. 9:30–11:30 a.m. CWC. Terrain: paved, hills, icy conditions possible, 3 miles.

Nov. 22-30: Mystery Room. Bring your friends and family to follow clues, complete puzzles, and resolve problems to solve this year’s mystery. Non-scary challenges are appropriate for adults and children aged 7 and older. Recommended group size is 2-6 individuals and must include at least one adult participant. The experience lasts approximately one hour. Call to reserve a time; limited walk-up registration may be available. (Closed Nov. 26). Accessibility Information: Established groups who would benefit from an adapted version of the Mystery Room are invited to call at least 3 days

in advance to register. Groups requesting an adapted Mystery Room will receive a social story and other communication in advance. 216-206-1000 to register or if you would like more information. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. CWC. Ages 7 years to adult; adult participant required. Fee: \$15 per group of 2–6 individuals.

Nov. 28: History Bike Ride - CanalWay Center to Harvard Rd. Trailhead. Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak peddles a little bit of history while we pedal along the Towpath Trail. With any luck we may see a bald eagle. Helmet required. 10:30 a.m.–noon. CWC. Terrain: paved surface, two large hills, 4 miles.

GARFIELD PARK RESERVATION

Nov. 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.

Nov. 11: Garfield Park Walking Club. Join our monthly walking club as a naturalist leads you on an exploration of the many scenic and tranquil pathways and trails of Garfield Park Reservation. Joining the club is easy and free - just show up in your favorite walking shoes, bring a water bottle and be ready to meet new people! 3–4 p.m. Garfield Park Pond (outside of Program Center). Terrain: paved, gravel, hills, 1–2 miles.

Nov. 25: Hike to Mill Creek Falls. The tallest waterfall in Cuyahoga County is just over 1.5 miles from Garfield Park, and it was moved by a railroad! Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak is your guide to understanding some of the complexities of moving a waterfall and a simple history of Garfield Park. 1–3 p.m. Meet at Windy Ridge Picnic Area. Terrain: paved surface, elevation changes, 3.25 miles.

Post 309 Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner

American Legion Post 309, 15521 Broadway Ave., Maple Heights, will hold a Pork, Sauerkraut & Dumplings Dinner today, Wednesday, Oct. 28, serving for dine-in or carryout from 3 to 7 p.m. Donation: \$13. Advance orders preferred by calling 216-662-7768.

Garfield Ward 7 Block Watch to meet

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch, sponsored by Councilwoman Jenn Newrones, will meet Thursday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria of St. Benedict School, 13633 Rockside Rd. Guest speaker will be a representative from the Garfield Hts. Service Dept. He will be updating everyone on leaf pickup, snow removal and other city services.



LEGAL NOTICE

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD BUDGET WORK SESSIONS ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAYS: **OCTOBER 26, 2026 AND NOVEMBER 9, 2026**, IN COUNCIL CAUCUS OF BEDFORD CITY HALL AT **5:00 P.M.**

Tracy M. Simons, CMC
Clerk of Council

Published in The Neighborhood News
October 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026 and November 4, 2026

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Garfield Hts. Police news

(Continued from Page 3)

Pursuit Details: During GHPD's pursuit, the vehicle entered Maple Heights and continued to flee. The Nissan lost control when another vehicle tried to make a left hand turn in front of it, causing the Nissan to crash into a parked Chevy truck in the 15900 block of Broadway Ave. An officer deployed his Taser twice, one of which struck the suspect. But the driver fled on foot west toward Maple Heights Blvd., with police pursuing on foot, and continued to Lee Rd. and Maple Heights Blvd., to the parking lot of Mr. Waffles, 5354 Lee Rd.

Resolution: When the suspect tried to open a running car door on a Lexus SUV the owner of the car shoved the suspect into another car and police were able to grab the suspect and placed him in handcuffs. CPD and MHPD officers were also on scene.

Disposition: The suspect was transported to Marymount Hospital after showing signs of losing consciousness and being Tased, where he began to harass the staff and spit at them. Suspect charged with fleeing and eluding, obstructing official business, receiving stolen property. Bond set by court and reported forwarded to the Detective Bureau.

Pursuit Initiated: Oct. 17, about 1:05 a.m., on Turney Rd., near Langton. Officer observed a large group of vehicles exiting the adjacent parking lot where Iconic Ultra Lounge night club is located.

Reason for Pursuit: Suspect driver's evasive actions and traffic violations.

Pursuit Details: SUV going north on Turney Rd., disregarded red traffic signal and was traveling on the opposite side of the roadway at about 70 mph in light traffic. At about 1:06 a.m., the SUV continued north onto Miles Ave., at about 60 mph with its lights extinguished. At about 1:07 a.m., CPD was notified of the pursuit. The vehicle went toward E. 93 St. and Way Ave. before proceeding north toward Easton Rd. at about 70 mph, disregarding another traffic signal causing two vehicles to collide. The suspect driver began to lose control near a McDonald's restaurant, and the SUV began traveling off-road striking a tree and nearly the restaurant itself.

Resolution: After a successful PIT maneuver an officer pointed his duty weapon and ordered multiple occupants to raise their hands while two of them attempted to exit the vehicle. CPD units then arrived in the area of Kinsman Rd. to assist officers in detaining all suspects. The three passengers were identified as sisters and their brother was identified as the driver of the car. An inventory of the SUV showed multiple liquor bottles, loose marijuana and multiple pill bottles. The driver was placed under arrest.

Disposition: The suspect is being charged with felony fleeing, OVI, obstructing official business, open container in a motor vehicle, no seatbelt, driving in marked lanes and red light violations.

Pursuit Initiated: Oct. 17, at approximately 11:30 p.m., Rexwood Ave.

Reason for Pursuit: Flock license plate reader notification of a stolen Jeep entering the city limits.

Pursuit Details: Officer attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the stolen Jeep but it fled the scene which started the pursuit going north on E. 131 St., from Rexwood. The Jeep turned east on Benwood Ave., and officers lost sight of the stolen vehicle and the pursuit was officially terminated at the intersection of Benwood and E. 141 St. During the pursuit speeds varied from 25 mph to 80 mph with little to moderate traffic.

Resolution: Cleveland PD advised that a Jeep with the suspect vehicle's plate number had been left in the area of the 3900 block of E. 142 St. at an abandoned property.

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Police officer retention resolution introduced at M.H. Council meeting

By Ellen Psenicka

Maple Heights Council met last Wednesday, Oct. 21, and introduced on first reading a resolution authorizing the mayor and police chief to spend up to \$200,000 for bonuses, new vehicles and/or vehicle upgrades as part of a program to retain police officers.

The mayor and police chief, after meetings with representatives of the police department's bargaining units, listened to their concerns and determined that increasing salaries, purchasing new vehicles and upgrading vehicles, are subjects of their immediate concern.

The finance director has determined that the city's 2026 budget has \$200,000.00 available for use by the mayor and police chief to implement this retention program for the police department.

Passed for a third reading was an ordinance amending the city's Codified Ordinances concerning obstruction or closing of streets in residential districts.

The resolution to initiate a program to retain police officers and the ordinance concerning street closings will be read at future meetings for possible passage.

Resolutions passed

•Authorizing a change order for Vandra Brothers, increasing their contract by \$62,949.94 for the Summit and James Resurfacing Project. The change order is required to pay for the cost of quantity adjustments to contract line items for actual work performed, the cost of work performed in the city of Garfield Heights which will be paid for by Garfield Heights, and the cost of work items not included within the original contract documents.

•Declaring October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the city, and recognizing the importance of early detection, education, screening, treatment and support for those affected by breast cancer.

•Entering into a contract with Zcape, LLC to provide for the Southgate Park Boulevard Gateway Enhancement Tree Planting Project.

The mayor had been advised that Cuyahoga County Council awarded the city of Maple Heights \$150,000 for the Maple Heights Gateway Enhancement Project through the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Program which will help to fund aesthetic improvements to the entrances of the city of Maple Heights at Lee Rd. near I-480, and at Southgate Park Blvd. All funds awarded by the Cuyahoga County Department of Development through the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Program are required to be expended before Dec. 31, 2026.

Holiday Happenings

The following holiday events in Maple Heights were announced at the council meeting by Council President Dana Anderson:

- Trick-or-Treat from 6-8 p.m., Oct. 31.
- Thanksgiving Giveaway, from 5-6:30 p.m., Nov. 24, 5345 Warrensville Center Rd. Hats, scarves, gloves, fruits and vegetables.
- Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, from 1-3:30 p.m., Dec. 12, at the Maple Heights Branch Library, second floor, children's section. Christmas music, arts & crafts, hot chocolate, cookies and more.

Councilman Timothy Tatum announced a Christmas Party for Maple Heights senior citizens on Dec. 17, at 10:30 a.m.

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