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98th YEAR NO. 15

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2020

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

FREE

Homicide on I-77S near Harvard Ave.

On Dec. 19, at approximately 1 a.m., Cleveland police officers responded to I-77S at Harvard Ave. for a female shot in a vehicle. On arrival officers were met with Newburgh Hts. police who were already on scene performing lifesaving measures on the 33-year old female who had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. She has been identified as Breyana Presley, cleveland.com reports.

Newburgh Hts. EMS transported Presley to MetroHealth Medical Center, where she was pronounced deceased. Cuyahoga Hts. EMS took two of her daughters, who were also in the vehicle, ages 12 and 8 months, to Metro for evaluation. Both were uninjured.

NHPD had a suspect in custody with a firearm secured. Members of CPD Homicide Unit responded to the scene for investigation. Preliminary information indicates that the victims were traveling in a vehicle with the suspect, who was arrested in the shooting.

Ellis Wilson, 34, has been charged with aggravated murder and is in the Cuyahoga County jail on \$1 million bond, cleveland.com further reported.

Donations for victim's children sought

"The NHPD has taken up a collection of donations for the surviving children of the mother who was the victim of a domestic violence homicide early Saturday morning," Police Chief John Majoy said.

"There are specific details available on our public Facebook page where you can share the sizes and such," he continued. "While we have asked for donations up until Wednesday at noon, anything received thereafter will also be given to the family."



NN on holiday; no issue Dec. 30

This issue of The Neighborhood News will be the last one of 2020, as there will be no edition published on Dec. 30, for a well-deserved holiday for staff and management.

NN offices will be closed beginning Thursday, Dec. 24, and will reopen at 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 4. Normal deadlines for the Wednesday, Jan. 6 edition will apply.

The safest and happiest of holidays are wished to all our readers and advertisers as we navigate together these difficult times. And we can all look forward to next year's holidays when, hopefully, our churches will be packed and our families together again for traditional celebrations. Stay safe and God bless.

'Decking the Halls' with the Russells

By Bob Russell

DAY 1: Well, it is the Friday morning after Thanksgiving. I have been up for a while. Normally I would have been at Home Depot for the Black Friday Sale. But the China virus and our politicians messed that up this year! Ugh... 2020.

Nevertheless, it's time to take down the cornstalks and pumpkins. Then I get ready to set up the outside Christmas decorations and lights. First I need to dig them out of the basement. Into the storage area under the steps I go, wading through 30-plus boxes.

Next I check out Grandma's 50 strands of old C7 lights (the old fashioned big multicolored bulbs we all used to decorate). I am only going to use about 6 strands. But I have to see how many bulbs went dead over the winter and replace them with lights from the other 44 strands. Finally I got them untangled! Then with the help of our two cats, Furbee and Ziggy, they are tangled up again. Untangled one last time and we're ready to roll.

Step 2 of the setup, go to the attic. Up on the ladder I pass them down to my wife. We get the snowman, candles, deer, spiral trees, candy canes, Santa Claus and his makeshift cart. That is a 2x12 with two metal wheels nailed to it. It is the sled I fashioned for the Jolly Old Man and his presents. That about covers it for Day 1 with no major Grinch issues.

DAY 2: This gets tough. C7 lights go on the front of



The Russell home is decked out for the season.

the house. Then I get about 10 strands of mini-lights on the bushes and trees. I need to get all the extension cords hooked up and the connections secured with electrical tape. It is time... fingers crossed... to turn the switch and hope it all works. Drum roll please... flip the switch. And they light up with just a few tweaks. OK.... Time for a beer. End of Day 2. So far... so good.

DAY 3: Do the back yard. I am going high tech. These will be all LED lights on the bushes and trees.

(Continued on Page 2)

Trash pickup schedule for Christmas and New Year's

Bedford: Friday collections will be delayed one day.

Cleveland: Friday collections will be on Saturday.

Cuyahoga Heights: Garbage, recycling and yard waste will be picked up on both Mondays as usual.

Garfield Heights: Friday collections will be delayed until Saturday.

Independence: If your rubbish day falls on Christmas and New Year's, it will be collected the following day.

Maple Heights: Friday collections will have a one-day delay.

Newburgh Heights: Monday is trash pickup day throughout the village and will not be affected by the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Valley View: If the holidays fall on a scheduled rubbish

Neighborhood News online

Neighborhood News readers can get their favorite newspaper on the web at: theneighborhoodnews.com.

The entire newspaper is available on the N.N. website every Wednesday morning and can be read in Adobe Acrobat. Just click on the front page to download the remaining pages.

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Bedford Council passes more CARES Act funding

By Judith Goldsworth

At its meeting Monday night, Bedford Council passed legislation approving two additional payments of \$140,040 and \$959.22 in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funding. This brings the total amount of CARES money allocated to Bedford to a little over \$1.16 million for this year, Finance Director Frank Gambosi said.

In addition to costs incurred through paramedic response, the combined payments approved through Monday's ordinance will be used for additional personal protection equipment, disinfecting and sanitation in municipal buildings, providing food to vulnerable and disabled residents, costs of videos of council meetings to

maintain communication with the public, touch-free replacement of doors in Ellenwood Recreation Center and the municipal complex and other operations, services, materials and equipment.

"The city was lucky enough to get some additional funding from the county," Gambosi said, crediting Jennifer Kuzma of the city's Economic Development office for her work in getting the funds.

Also approved was an amended budget ordinance to reflect receipt of the additional CARES funding and other items.

Council passed two separate ordinances to approve two contracts with Allied Door Systems, Inc., of Solon, to install the no-touch, automatic doors at Ellenwood and at the municipal complex at a total cost of \$40,967.30.

Also passed was an ordinance to raise the annual salary of Bedford Clerk of Court Tom Day from \$120,045 this year to \$122,145.85 beginning Jan. 1, 2021. The city of Bedford will pay 60% of the cost of the raise and 40% will be paid by Cuyahoga County, the ordinance states.

The state of Ohio mandates a 1.75% raise to clerks of municipal courts to coincide with judges' raises, "and in consideration of the outstanding efforts of the clerks in regards to efficiency and economics of administration of the court," according to the legislation.

Bedford Mayor Stan Koci praised Day, stating, "He does a terrific job... Like the rest of our administration, he has dealt with the coronavirus remarkably well, but he deserves this compensation. The court has been a good partner to the city."

Gratitude at year's end

Bedford officials admitted to what was a challenging year in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, but offered their thanks to everyone for their help and cooperation in getting through 2020.

City Manager Mike Mallis stated, "I just wanted to take a minute and thank all of the residents in town for their patience and being flexible with how we have changed, how we deliver services and how we do business. That does not go unnoticed, and I appreciate that cooperation."

He also thanked the businesses and city employees. "We can't get through a year like this without everyone working together," he said.

'Decking the Halls'

(Continued from Page 1)

Now set up the Star Shower projector to shoot dots all over the back of the house. It looks really cool, like snowflakes on the house, which bounce off the Trump flag still hanging. Oh, Furbee and Ziggy really like to chase the ones that come through the windows. Of course chasing them as they haphazardly knock decorations down and ornaments off the tree.

With over 50 strands of lights and numerous other decorations adorning the front and back yard, I am finally done. That's about it for this year's outside light show. Now it's time to start inside. Ho ho ho.... Merry Christmas!

(Editor's Note: Bob and Cheryl Russell are stay-close-to-home travelers who are sharing some of their adventures with The Neighborhood News readers. Cheryl was born and raised in Garfield Heights and is a Garfield Heights High alum. Bob hails from Cleveland, where he graduated from Rhodes High. Both are now retired and living in Aurora.)

LEGAL NOTICE

The Garfield Heights Board of Education will hold its Organization Meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. This meeting will be held virtually. In addition, the District will also hold a public hearing on the proposed 2021-22 Tax Budget. Draft copies of the 2021-22 Tax Budget along with the 2020 General Purpose Financial Statements are available upon request, pursuant to the requirements of the law.

Allen D. Sluka, Treasurer/Director of Business Services
Garfield Heights City Schools

N.N. 12-23-20

Seasons Greetings

from the
City of Maple Heights

Mayor Annette M. Blackwell



Rare Diamond STNA Training Center

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Upcoming Classes for 2021

January 25th - February 5th

February 8th - February 19th

February 22 - March 5th

Registration begins January 4, 2021

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or Tawonda Jordan-Smith at 216-939-5133

or visit our website @ www.rarediamondstna.com to register
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Happy Holidays!*

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SWEET GARLIC & ONION	\$7.00 LB.
BBQ	\$7.25 LB.
MAPLE BROWN SUGAR	\$7.75 LB.
ALL BEEF SMOKIES	\$8.00 LB.
BEEF-N-CHEDDAR SMOKIES	\$8.50 LB.

POTATO PANCAKES	\$4.59 LB.
BULK SAUERKRAUT	\$2.89 LB.

FREE! SINCE 1923
The Neighborhood News

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION, (Garfield Hts. Only)

Saturday, Dec. 19th, 10am-Noon



The Rock Community Church, located at 9403 Garfield Blvd., Garfield Heights, will be having a food pantry distribution for Garfield Hts. residents only on Saturday, Dec. 19th from 10am-Noon.

Those walking also need to queue in car line.

All food distributions will be drive-through only till further notice.



Just a line to
let you know
how much we
appreciate your
continued support.

The Neighborhood News

Phone: 216-441-2141

Email: nnews1923@aol.com

Indy Council updates

The city of Independence Council met in regular session on Tuesday, Dec. 8, and voted to retain the services of Lori's Custom Catering and TJK Catering & Concessions to provide meals for the Community Service Department's 55+ Drive-Thru Contactless Lunch Program which is provided two days per week.

The meals are now offered free of charge, but beginning Jan. 1, residents will be charged \$5 per meal, still a bargain for seniors.

In his mayoral report, Mayor Gregory Kurtz said that because of the dramatic spike in new COVID-19 cases after Thanksgiving, he has decided to close nonessential city operations from Dec. 24-Dec. 31 so that a deep-cleaning of all facilities can take place.

Kurtz said the police, fire and service departments will all remain open.

Also passed on Dec. 8 were the following legislation:

- To retain Akhia Communications, Inc. for professional services to assist the Economic Development Department with updating the city's branding to attract new businesses to the city and continue growth;

- To retain Guide Studio, Inc. to assist the city with

wayfinding and placemaking;

- To accept the bids of All-American Fire, Fire-Force, Howell Rescue Equipment and Municipal Emergency Services for the purchase of loose equipment to upfit the fire department's refurbished Pierce rescue pumper;

- To purchase software licensing and professional services for the city's Microsoft Windows infrastructure upgrade;

- To amend and establish a comprehensive ordinance establishing benefits for all regular, full-time municipal employees;

- To authorize a change order to the city's 2020 Creek, Utility and Infrastructure Maintenance and Repairs Contract with Geotech Services, Inc.;

- To participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement programs for capital improvements to the water mains on Kleber Ct. and Longano Dr.;

- To participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement programs for the Cuy-77-8.37 Project;

- To accept the bid of Fabrizi Trucking & Paving Co. for

the Upper Brookside Road Improvements Project – Phase 2, in an amount not to exceed \$1,113,070.60.

Special meeting Dec. 15

A special meeting of Independence Council was held on Dec. 15, at which time a limited agenda was addressed.

Passed was an ordinance amending a section of the city charter concerning open storage or parking of recreational vehicles. Also okayed was an ordinance establishing the Chestnut Woods Phase VII Incentive District and declaring improvements to certain parcels in the Incentive District to be a public purpose to benefit or serve the Incentive District.

The 2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance was approved as amended as well as the 2020 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

A motion to ratify and approve the spending of certain Coronavirus relief funds on budgeted police and fire department personnel and services diverted to a substantially different use which totaled \$439,986.86 and acknowledging the city of Independence spend another \$97,241.04 for non-personnel emergency protective measures between March 13, 2020 and December 14, 2020 was approved unanimously.

Our Best Holiday Wishes To You

Merry Christmas

**Garfield Heights Ward 7
Councilman**

Tom and Barb Vaughn

Happy Holidays!

Best wishes to all this special time of year.

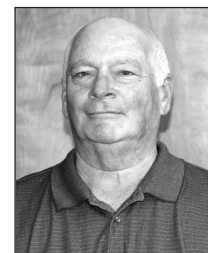
Jason and Anne Marie Blake

Councilman Ward 5 City of Garfield Heights

Merry Christmas

Hope the holidays bring much happiness to you and yours.

Many thanks for your kind support.



CHARLES DONAHUE & FAMILY

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Legal Advertisement

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Garfield Heights ("Owner"), at the office of the Fiscal Officer, Garfield Heights City Hall, 5407 Turney Road, Garfield Heights, OH 44125 on the 5th day of January 2021 until 10:00 am current local time for the:

"Midwest Neighborhood Phase 4"

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

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

Copies of the Contract Documents are on file at SE Blueprint, Plan Room and may be obtained at cost (1) online at <https://www.seblueprint.com/plancycle/>, (2) in person at the SE Blueprint Akron Office, 540 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44311 or at the SE Blueprint Cleveland Office 2035 Hamilton Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114, or (3) via phone SE Blueprint Akron (330) 376-1689, SE Blueprint Cleveland (216) 241-2250.

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

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

The "Owner" is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against the handicapped.

Barbara A. Biro, Finance Director
City of Garfield Heights

Publish Dates: Neighborhood News
Week of December 13, 2020
Week of December 20, 2020

Merry Christmas!!

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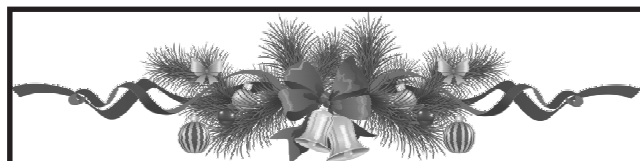
BONELESS PORK SIRLOIN ROAST . . . \$2.99 LB.

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Wishing You and Yours a very Merry and Blessed Christmas!

*Cuyahoga Heights
Mayor Jack M. Bacci
and Family*



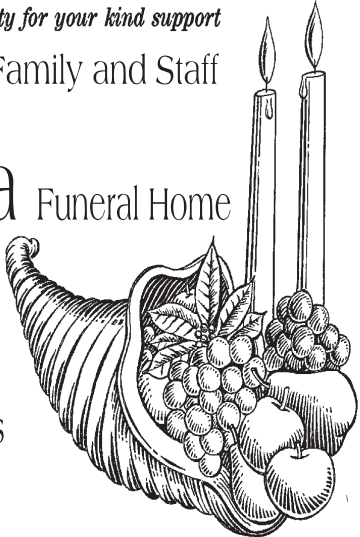
A BOUNTY OF GOOD WISHES

No matter where you spend your Christmas holiday, we hope it's overflowing with all the blessings this magical season has to offer.

Thanks aplenty for your kind support

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Sagamore Hills

Mustangs seek 10th consecutive wrestling title

The Maple Heights High School wrestling team enters the 2020-21 season in search of their 10th consecutive Lake Erie League team title. Overall, the Mustangs have won 46 championships in both the Greater Cleveland Conference and the Lake Erie League since 1950.

Returning Lake Erie League and Sectional Tournament champions Daniel Eggleton, Christian Edge and Curtis Jenkins will headline a young Mustang team looking to fill the void left by seven graduating seniors from a year ago.

Sectional place winners Vontez Tyus, Kaden Pulley and Devin Jones also return to provide leadership.

Other returning letter winners include Jayshawn Eggleton, Aaron Alpaugh, Abijah Cummings-Byrd, Kean Price and Michael Pace.

A strong freshman class and some talented newcomers should provide depth to a Mustang lineup which will gain momentum throughout the season.

Jamie Milkovich enters his 40th season as head coach of his alma mater with a career mark of 523 dual meet victories, which is the most all-time among Ohio Division I coaches. He will once again be assisted by longtime cohort Rick LaScala and Andrew Wolf. This season will be a landmark for LaScala as it will mark his 30th year as an assistant with the program.

Maple Heights will travel to Willoughby South (Jan. 14), Villa Angela/St. Joseph Viking Duals (Jan. 23), Garfield Heights Triangular with Holy Name (Jan. 30), Chagrin Falls (Feb. 4), Beachwood (Feb. 6), the Sectional Tournament (Feb. 27), the District Tournament (March 5-6), and The Ohio State Tournament (March 11-12).

The Mustangs will host the 11th annual Maroon & White Duals (Jan 9), Lake Erie League Tournament (Feb. 13), and Garfield Heights (Feb. 20).

Cleveland man sentenced to 25 years for rapes of 2 women

Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley announced earlier this month that Derrick Brown, 26, was sentenced to 25 years in prison for raping a 30-year-old woman in Garfield Heights in 2013 and a 76-year-old woman in South Euclid in 2019.

"This predator violently beat and raped these victims, whose lives are now forever changed," said Prosecutor O'Malley. "He deserves every day of this decades-long prison sentence for these despicable actions."

An investigation conducted by South Euclid police connected Brown to the crime. DNA evidence from the 2019 rape in South Euclid matched DNA evidence collected by GHPD from the 2013 rape. The U.S. Marshals Service arrested him on Jan. 21, 2019.

Brown has pleaded guilty to three counts of rape, two counts of felonious assault, one count of aggravated burglary, one count of kidnapping, one count of aggravated robbery and one count of grand theft.

Brown was sentenced to 25 years in prison. He will also be classified as a Tier-III Sex Offender, which requires him to register every 90 days for the rest of his life.

BLESSINGS OF THE SEASON

*When a blanket of snow embraces the land,
The beauty we see is the work of God's hand.
Each snowflake unique in its own special way,
Reminds us that soon it will be Christmas day.
So give thanks to the Lord for the birth of the Savior;
May you always enjoy both His love and good favor.*



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Merry Christmas!



Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz
Finance Director Vern Blaze
Independence City Council

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STEVE COOK, EA



PAUL COOK

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Boze Narodzenie
Glaedelg Boze
Buone Feste
Natalizle Festas
Merry Christmas*

All the Best to You this Festive Season!

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Ohio’s Home Energy Assistance Program now accepting applications

Older residents needing help with winter energy bills can get assistance through Cuyahoga County’s Division of Senior and Adult Services (DSAS) and the Ohio Development Services Agency’s Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). The program is accepting applications now through May 31, 2021.

DSAS partners with the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging as one of its Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC). Through this partnership, DSAS can provide residents ages 60 and over (or 18 to 59 with a disability) with assistance on HEAP and a variety of other programs to keep them safe and supported at home.

“Many older adults struggle to pay their energy bills when the temperature drops,” said Danette Allums, chief of DSAS’ Aging and Disability Resource Center. “The Home Energy Assistance Program helps residents at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty guideline to pay their heating bills. The benefit is applied directly to the

customer’s utility or bulk fuel bill after Jan. 1, helping to manage heating costs through the winter.”

Residents ages 60 and over can contact DSAS for assistance in applying for HEAP. When applying, individuals need to have copies of their most recent utility bills, a list of all household members (including birth dates and Social Security numbers), proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members, proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members and proof of disability (if applicable).

HEAP is not an emergency program. The county is offering emergency utility assistance for eligible residents who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through CARES Act funding grants. Visit <https://cuyahogacounty.us/assistance#utility> for details. DSAS also offers other types of emergency assistance for older adults.

Applications for HEAP must be received by May 31, 2021. Contact DSAS for information and application assistance at 216-420-6700 or visit dsas.cuyahogacounty.us.

Your **ONLY** Newspaper For Community News!
The Neighborhood News

Merry Christmas



In the spirit of the season, we pause and count our many blessings of friends and family. We'd like to extend our sincere thanks for your friendship.

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Happy Holidays from Councilwoman Shayla L. Davis!

Please visit www.shaylaldavis.com to view my holiday video message to you!

GREETINGS, FRIENDS!



The holiday season is here, and my family and I want to wish our many friends and neighbors all good things now and far into the future.

Thank you so much for your loyal support.

Michael Nenadovich and Family

GARFIELD HEIGHTS COUNCILMAN WARD 3



from The Perk Family

The Perk Family Christmas



Christmas holds a special meaning to us all. It's a time of hope and peace . . . a time of faith and love . . . as we're reminded anew that all people from all walks of life are brothers in His eyes. At Christmas and throughout the year, let's live by His words as we share His love with those around us . . . and pray for peace and unity throughout the world. May you and your families enjoy a merry and memorable Christmas. We truly appreciate the goodwill and friendship you have shown us.

Shown above is the family of Mayor and Mrs. Ralph J. Perk. Although Mayor Perk and his wife, Lucy, (inset) are now deceased, their children continue in public service. Ralph J. Perk, Jr. is a retired judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court. Judge Perk's wife, Kelli, is the Director of Risk Management for the County's ADAMHS Board. Tom Perk is a retired Cleveland firefighter and retired councilman in Valley View, and Ken Perk is a former member of the Cuyahoga Heights School Board. The Perk family extends to the entire community their best wishes for a happy and holy Christmas holiday and a healthy and prosperous year ahead.

Landscape Architects award Morgana Bluffs Nature Preserve top design honor

The Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects has bestowed its top honor, the Award of Excellence, on Morgana Bluffs Nature Preserve, the 4-acre park in Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood.

AECOM, a top infrastructure consulting firm, was honored for the project's design.

The Bluffs project is a collaboration between Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio, the Clean Ohio Fund, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, West Creek Conservancy, Third Federal Foundation, the city of Cleveland, the Ohio & Erie Canalway, Cleveland Municipal School District and Slavic Village Development.

The landscape architects group has made the award only five times in the past 10 years.

AECOM designed the project, which transformed an abandoned brownfield site next to BGCNEO's Broadway Club into a nature preserve serving the neighborhood. The project routes stormwater runoff away from the combined sewer system to an innovative zero discharge stormwater wetland on the site. A restored meadow and woodlands offer a variety of ecological habitats for nature study and enjoyment.

The preserve was formally opened to the public in October 2019 and features trails, boardwalks and an

amphitheater for outdoor learning.

"Morgana Bluffs is a true community asset and a place where our kids can truly appreciate the wonders of the natural world," said Jeff Scott, president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio.

Bordered by the Club, Morgana Run Trail and Mound STEM School, the preserve gives about 1,700 kids in the neighborhood the chance to explore nature in their back yard. It has been used for nature-based learning programs led by BGCNEO, Mound School and Footpath Foundation.

The preserve is on land where the powerhouse for the massive Cleveland Worsted Mill Co. complex once stood. Worsted Mill, which operated from 1878 to 1956, was once one of the largest garment manufacturers in the country.

On July 4, 1993, a spectacular fire destroyed the complex. In 2011, the city and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conducted an environmental assessment and remediation on the lower portion of the site, cleaning up remnants of a junkyard, reviewing fuel tank locations and removing a crumbling smokestack. The remediation also removed several tons of junk tires and filled in the old tunnels that led to the upper mill site.



"This long-abandoned site in the center of our neighborhood has been given new life thanks to the leadership of the Boys & Girls Clubs and the care that the team from AECOM gave throughout the design and implementation process," said Chris Alvarado, executive director of Slavic Village Development.

"We at SVD were proud to play a role in creating a true community asset."

Merry Christmas

Mayor Vic and Jeannie Collova
City of Garfield Heights

Hope
Love
Joy
Peace

May your new year
be filled with these.
From our family to yours,



Tony, Gail, Jack, Kluber and Casey

Best wishes of the Season and for a wonderful 2021.

Councilman Anthony Brancatelli

Cleveland, Ward 12

216.664.4233 ABrancatelli@ClevelandCityCouncil.org

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newburgh-oh.gov
Mayor Trevor Elkins

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Unto You;
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Jamie Pawlak	Secretary

Death Notices

WILLIAM D. KRAY

Newburgh Heights resident William (Bill) D. Kray, age 71, passed away December 14th due to complications from COVID-19.



He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Dorene (nee Bode), son Richie (Rachel), and daughter Erin; grandsons Jack and Sam, who were the light of his life. Siblings Linda Kray Moskus of North Olmsted, David Kray (Nancy) of Stow, and Barbara Hardin of Georgia; and in-laws Becky Bode of Newbury, Dan Bode (Meg Doerr) of Cleveland, Michael Bode (Mary) of North Royalton, Mary Ann Pepper (Rob) of Moncks Corner, SC., Patty Bode (Mark Moriarty) of Amherst, MA, Mary Beth Rezek (Rick) of Shaker Hts., Jayne Bode Pandey of Sandusky, Lori Naples of Liberty Township; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, cousins and friends. Parents Samuel E. Kray and Helen Cerveney Kray predeceased him.

Bill worked in the outdoor power equipment manufacturing industry for 40 years and was president of the Mechanics Educational Society of America, the last union at the old SK Wellman plant, and worked tirelessly in support of his family his entire life, finally retiring from Standby Screw Machine of Berea in 2015, earning him the admiration of everyone who met him.

Bill served as a U.S. Naval Communications Technologist during Viet Nam, and went on to organize the Hakata 40th year reunion in Cleveland, bringing together a group of sailors that worked together at various posts throughout the world. Their friendships continued with weekly video chats through the years. Bill loved his community and was active in veterans' groups, serving as chaplain of American Legion Post 627 and as vice

commander of American Legion Post 309, was a member of the Newburgh Heights Root Club and served as the first president of the Bedford Futball Club in 1993.

Additionally, Bill was an avid photographer in his early years, with showings at Akron Art Institute and Butler Institute of American Art, and was even published in American Photographer magazine.

A celebration of Bill's life will be held later this summer, once conditions allow us to celebrate his life with the sort of warmth and togetherness we know he would want.

Memorial Visitation will be held Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, from 4-7 p.m. at Fortuna Funeral Home, 7076 Brecksville Rd., Independence. Concluding service conducted by American Legion Post 627 at 7 p.m. Only 40 people permitted in the funeral home at any given time. Masks required. Interment 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020, at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery. For those who wish to attend the cemetery service, please arrive at the Fortuna Funeral Home on Wednesday by 11:30 a.m. to assemble for procession to the cemetery. However, be advised that the National Cemetery allows only 30 people in the committal shelter area. All others attending must remain in their cars. Donations may be made to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, 15500 S. Waterloo Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44110.

STACY SOTO

Stacy Soto of Garfield Heights. Born: Sept. 12th, 1985. Entered into Rest: Dec. 15th, 2020. Beloved son of Linda & Ron Brilla of Garfield Heights; Loving Father of Marya, Cameron, Lucius, Calista, Mila, Daxton & Carlee. Dearest Brother of Fermain Soto, Sarah Brown-ing & Christopher Brilla. Funeral Arrangements: Sunday, Dec. 27th at Bican Brothers Funeral Home, 5215 Fleet Ave., Cleveland, OH. Hours: 4-7 p.m.



Newburgh Hts. mandates police officers have at least an Associate's Degree

Newburgh Heights Village Council has adopted an ordinance introduced by Mayor Trevor Elkins mandating a minimum standard of education for all police officers within the department.

The mayor said it is part of his ongoing efforts to support the staff by ensuring they are properly educated, trained and equipped to manage a diverse population and the issues the officers will encounter during the course of conducting their responsibilities.

In a partnership with Cuyahoga Community College, the village has enrolled nine officers into a specialized Criminal Justice Associate's Degree program beginning in January of 2021.

Mayor Elkins noted, "It is our intent to provide training in traditional coursework as well as additional schooling to address bias, diversity and an individual's rights. Newburgh Heights is an integrated community and our location within the region places us at a juncture where our personnel interact with a diverse population of citizens. It is important that we approach all interactions fairly, objectively and professionally. We believe this level of education will help to ensure that."

Police Chief John Majoy added, "As both a chief of police and college professor I see the value of a degree, how this will benefit our officers and policing as a whole. Today's society calls for an educated police officer, and I am encouraged by the efforts put forth to make this a reality."

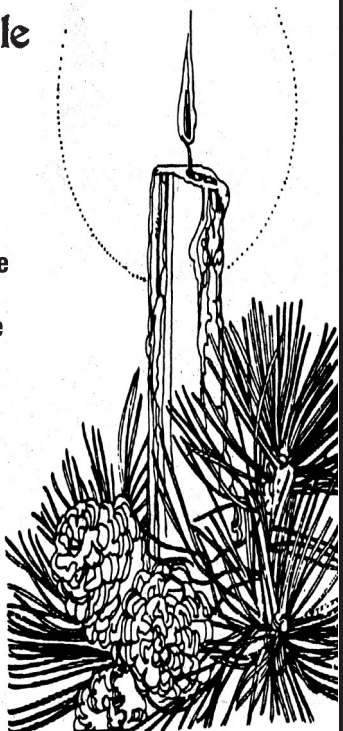
Newburgh Heights is believed to be the first agency in the region to mandate this level of education and training for its police personnel.

Light a Candle of Love

Since Christmas is a time for remembering, we are lighting a candle in our funeral home for all the families we have served this past year.

As you enjoy this Christmas season, we hope this gesture will serve to remind you of Holidays past and the importance of family.

May the quiet peace of Christmas fill your heart and home.



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Christmas

We all know the story
how Jesus was born,
away in a manger
by Mary, one wonderful morn.

The angel had told her,
how it would be.
His name would be Jesus!
What a wonder! To see.
Christmas, is to honor Him.

He was to be, God's way to heaven
For you, and for me.
We must remember what this day means
and praise our dear Savior
fulfilling our dreams.

Have a wonderful Christmas,
Jesus loves us!
God bless us all.

Jennings is proud to celebrate the creative talent of individuals we serve. The image is from an oil painting by resident Sister Maresa, SND titled "Holy Child". The poem "Christmas" was written by resident Dillie.



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Newburgh Hts. Council news

The Village of Newburgh Heights held a regular council meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and a special meeting on Dec. 18. Ordinances and resolutions passed at these meetings included the following:

- To purchase a Biometric fingerprint unit from Biometric Information Management and to pay monthly costs to Sundance Systems for interface with the police

Hark!
The Herald Angels Sing
Inspired by the carols of Yuletide, we celebrate His birth with reverence, joy and happiness. Bless everyone and Merry Christmas.

LICENSED STAFF
Joseph A. Fortuna, John J. Fortuna
Mary Ann Trzaska & James Trzaska
and Joshua D. Leuck

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department's existing electronic records management system;

- To make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the village through Dec. 31, 2020, and through March 30, 2021;

- To enter into an agreement with EAP Division of Recovery Resources for behavioral services to village employees;

- To consolidate the pay, remuneration and other benefits for all police department personnel;

- To amend the village's personnel policy manual;

- To contract with Quality Control Inspection to perform inspection services in connection with the East 41st Street Project;

- To transfer \$377,125.53 from the General Fund to the General Obligation Fund.

Among the approvals and purchases okayed were \$2,075 to Ciuni & Panichi to prepare financial reports, \$2,362 to Police One Academy for online annual training, \$5,097

Merry Christmas
from
Matt Burke

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Council President
and Councilman
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to Software Solutions for annual accounting software support and approval of Dave Bittner and Ryan Oryl as full-time laborers for the service department.

Community Police Reports

CLEVELAND

Motor Vehicle Accident/Fatality

On Dec. 18, at approximately 4:40 p.m., a female, age 88, drove a Hyundai Accent on Independence Rd. from Fleet Ave., and for reasons unknown drove off of the road striking a tree, dying from her injuries.

MAPLE HEIGHTS

Shooting

On Thursday, Dec. 17, at 5:20 p.m., Maple Heights police received a call about a male being shot in the chest in the area of Warrensville Center and Libby rds. The male victim, 17, was located and transported to the hospital. The victim, who was alert and talking, was shot twice in the chest and is currently in critical but stable condition.

The victim said he was walking on Warrensville Center Rd., when he saw two African-American males approaching him. Words were exchanged and one of the male suspects pulled a gun out of his pocket and shot the victim twice in the chest.

The suspects are possibly in their late teens, both were wearing hoodies. At this time there are no suspects.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Maple Heights Detective Bureau: 216-587-9624, Detectives@mhpdc-ohio.com or CrimeStoppers.

Merry Christmas

to our many friends
throughout the area.

May the holiday
bring many
wonderful surprises.

**Vince and Kay
Liotta**



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New housing comes to Jefferson Ave. in Maple Hts.

By Judith Goldsworth

In a partnership with the Cuyahoga County Land Bank, the city of Maple Heights is seeing the first new homes constructed in the city in 10 years on Jefferson Ave. in the “Presidents’ Row” neighborhood, which “lays the foundation for racial justice,” Mayor Annette Blackwell stated.

The two new homes, both featuring 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, are 1,200 square feet with attached garages set on approximately 0.2-acre lots on the south side of Jefferson Ave., adjacent to Broadway Ave. near Lee Rd. Both homes are modular construction built by Unibilt of Vandalia, Ohio.

Each home, which is delivered approximately 85% complete, is made up of two sections that are trucked in from Unibilt’s facility to Maple Heights, lifted by crane and set on their foundations. The sections were set on their new foundations in late November and the finishing touches, including constructing the interior finishes, attached garages and driveways, will be completed in the next several weeks, Blackwell and Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers stated, adding that both homes are expected to hit the market shortly.

Choosing to construct the new homes in Presidents’ Row was intentional, Blackwell and Grogan-Myers said. “Given its history of redlining and disinvestment, building new homes in Presidents’ Row is designed to establish comps [comparable sales] and encourage private investment in the local housing stock and to underscore the city’s commitment to addressing systemic racism,” they said.

As a section of the first home was lifted into place, Blackwell said, “This feels good. This work is dedicated to righting a wrong and investing in an area that has not seen significant outside investment in a really long time.”

At city council’s recent meeting, Blackwell added, “This was a long time coming, to finally be able to bring two new

houses to Maple Heights. These include granite counters and two full baths in beautiful, modern homes. This is a significant reinvestment in this particular area.”

Presidents’ Row background

Blackwell and Grogan-Myers provided some background on Presidents’ Row, a series of streets named after American presidents, including Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Harrison and Garfield, which was first settled around the turn of the 20th century, on a flat, wooded, 54-acre area west of Broadway and east of the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks.

As the area was developed and the streets platted, the Presidents’ Row moniker was given to the neighborhood. Seeking to boost home ownership and with the backing of the federal government, the Home Owners’ Loan Corporation (HOLC) broke the city of Maple Heights into sections in 1940, rating each section by the relative security of an investment in real estate.

Grogan-Myers stated that the HOLC “redlined” Presidents’ Row, restricting the ability of black families to access capital and the opportunity to purchase homes elsewhere in Maple Heights.

“Since the 1930s and 1940s, significant disinvestment in homes in Presidents’ Row has led to several homes being demolished and numerous homes being left vacant and in disrepair,” Grogan-Myers said. “Today, residents of Presidents’ Row tirelessly work to see this historic area of Maple Heights is improved and maintained for the next generation.”



Mayor Annette Blackwell points out one of the new homes going up on Jewfferson Ave.

Grogan-Myers encouraged anyone with questions or seeking more information on the Jefferson Ave. project to contact him at 216-587-9031, or pgrogan@mapleheights.ohio.com. Alternatively, Andrea Bruno, Cuyahoga County Land Bank Real Estate Officer, may be contacted at 216-698-2311 or abruno@cuyahogalandbank.org.

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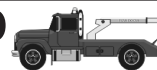
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SAME DAY SERVICE**CASH PAID**

CITY OF BEDFORD

The City of Bedford is accepting applications for a full time Carpenter. Starting rate is \$27.10 per hour. All phases of carpentry experience required. Experience in electrical, plumbing, general repairs, and building maintenance is also desired. The City of Bedford offers an excellent starting pay and benefits package. Applicants must be in good physical condition and must have a State of Ohio CDL, with tanker endorsement. High school diploma or equivalent, Pre-employment physical, drug screening, and background required. The city of Bedford is an Equal opportunity employer.

Applications can be found online at www.bedfordoh.gov. Please email resumes and applications to cbellar@bedfordoh.gov.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

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, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS 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.

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.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Phone: 216-441-2141 • E-Mail Address: NEWS1923@AOL.COM

BUSINESS and SERVICE DIRECTORY

ROOFING

SNOWPLOWING

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Richard Levensky (216) **271-9503**
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*Med Jervans***SNOWPLOWING AND
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Spring & Fall Clean-ups

Mulching • Fertilizing • Cutting • Seeding
Sodding • Rototilling • Thatching • Aeration
Waterscapes • Stone Pathways • Trees/Shrubs

FREE ESTIMATES **216-587-2784** OR **216-326-1551****BASIC TRANSPORTATION**

• DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS • AIRPORT • ETC.

• GROCERY SHOPPING

Call 440-749-2225

Trinity High School honors NHS inductees

In March of 2020, Trinity High School in Garfield Heights was getting ready to celebrate its National Honor Society inductees for 2019-2020 when the pandemic hit and students had to learn remotely for the remainder of the school year.

The honorees were recently gathered together for the picture you see here and recognition on their outstanding achievement.

The 2019-20 inductees from Trinity High School are:

Olivia Galek, Stephen Gudcz, Nadia Hermida, Anna Ibos, Christina Ibos, Isabella Kuches, John Maloney, Gabriella Mercado, Samantha Ratliff, Nina Scaparotti, Merrell Sheehan, Sarah Shuba, Madeline Skinner, Hailey Smith, Jada Tucker, Matthew Williams, Hannah Zenczak, Katie Ziegler and Jayme Zoeckler.



The Neighborhood News

Since 1923 - Published every Wednesday

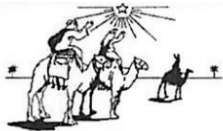
Delivered in Southeast Cleveland, Garfield Heights, Newburgh Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, Valley View, Maple Heights and Bedford

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year
to all our Best Friends!!*

Zhara Marie Brutus Brew

Eddie, Gary, Charles, Ronald,
Cheryl, Kevin and Staff

SHANNON
LANDSCAPING AND SNOW PLOWING
216-441-6167
Kevinlandscaping@aol.com



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2021
from
CZECH CATHOLIC UNION/CCU LIFE
Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1879

5349 Dolloff Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44127
(216) 341-0444

BLESSINGS AT CHRISTMAS

For FOUR GENERATIONS the Golubski Deliberato Family has touched the lives of so many grieving families during the most difficult time. It is our promise to dedicate ourselves to future generations with the same excellent care that was entrusted to us by our ancestors.

May the New Year bring not only promise and hope, but peace and love to all. That is our wish to you. God Bless.



Over 100 Years of Quality Care

 **Golubski Deliberato**
FUNERAL HOME

4747 Turney Road
Garfield Heights, OH 44125
(216) 883-3900

6505 Brecksville Road
Independence, OH 44131
Fax (216) 341-2229

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FROM THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY THE PEACE AND JOY OF THIS
HOLIDAY BE WITH YOU ALWAYS

Stay safe & remember to practice social distancing!

Joseph M. Juby, President
Christine A. Kitson, Vice President
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