

# The Neighborhood News

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101st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024

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

FREE



## Easter Fest in Maple Hts.

Last Saturday nearly 150 children and their families attended this year's City of Maple Heights Easter Fest, held at the Maple Heights High School Cafetorium.

The children enjoyed decorating Easter-themed cookies, jumped and played in a bounce house, filled individual Easter baskets, enjoyed a chicken strip lunch pack and had a great time building wooden tool kits, along with additional crafts.

And one of the highlights of the day was getting their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny!

At the conclusion of the day, six Easter Lilies and 10 bicycles were raffled off to the delight of all who attended.



**Shown with Mayor Annette Blackwell last Saturday at Easter Fest is one of the happy winners of bicycles raffled off at the event.**

## Billowing smoke seen for miles from early morning wood mulch fire in Valley View

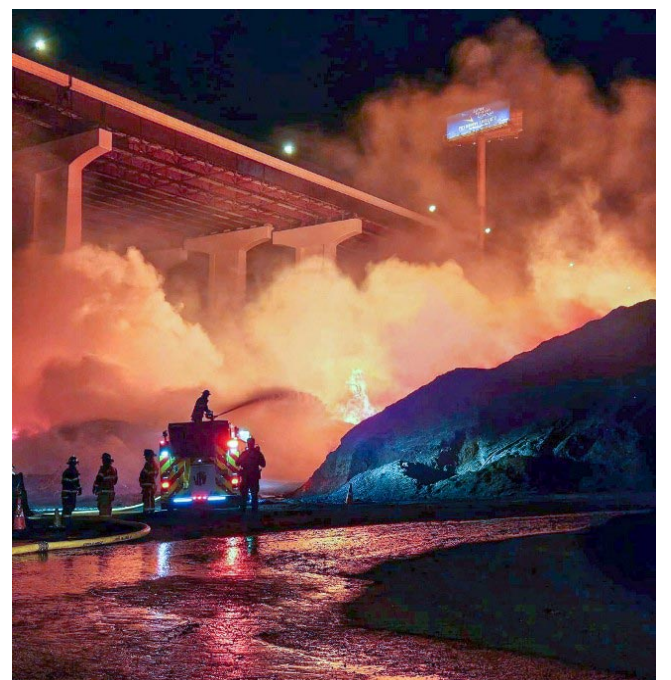
Firefighters from multiple departments were called about 4 a.m. Tuesday morning to battle a large wood mulch fire off Canal Rd., in Valley View, at a production facility owned by Kurtz Brothers, Inc.

Multiple crews were on scene performing water relay to get water to the remote area the fire was in, according to a Facebook post by Maple Heights Firefighters Local 1184. The smoke from the mulch fire could be seen and smelled for miles around.

A statement from Kurtz Brothers explained that they had experienced a spontaneous combustion with their raw wood products at the scene of the fire.

"While these kinds of occurrences are not uncommon due to the nature of the materials," the statement continued, "rarely do they accelerate to the point they did today."

The company reported that no injuries resulted from the incident and thanked the emergency personnel from Valley View, Independence, Cuyahoga Heights and Maple Heights for their "prompt action which undoubtedly prevented further escalation and potential harm."



**Firefighters from Valley View, Independence, Cuyahoga Heights and Maple Heights battled a large mulch fire at Kurtz Brothers, Inc. in Valley View early yesterday morning.** Photo courtesy of the Maple Heights Fire Department

## Eclipse party in Garfield

The city of Garfield Heights will present a Viewing Party for the Great American Eclipse on Monday, April 8, from 2 to 4 p.m., at 5672 Transportation Blvd.

Free eclipse glasses to the first 400 people. Bring your own chair.

## Baumann's Recycling in Garfield Heights agrees to pay \$1.5 million over environmental lawsuit

Baumann's Recycling Center has agreed to pay \$1.5 million to settle an environmental lawsuit centered on an illegal landfill operated by the company for nearly a decade, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost announced last week.

Yost's office filed a consent order Thursday in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court outlining the agreement, which is subject to the approval of Judge Kelly Ann Gallagher.

The settlement would end a five-year legal battle with Baumann's Recycling, based in Garfield Heights. The case originated in January 2019 when Yost sued the business for allegedly disposing of construction and demolition debris, open dumping of solid waste and several violations of the state fire code.

The lawsuit stemmed from an investigation by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency indicating that the company was not properly recycling construction and demolition debris. Instead, it allegedly had been operating an unlicensed landfill for many years, illegally amassing nearly 200,000 cubic yards of waste and creating environmental and public-health hazards that threatened

the surrounding communities.

Yost, representing the Ohio EPA, Cuyahoga County Board of Health and Garfield Heights Fire Department, secured a court order in June 2019 requiring Baumann's to immediately begin cleaning up the site, located at 4801 Chaincraft Rd. The order imposed strict quotas on debris removal and measures to monitor fire hazards and air pollution.

Despite ongoing legal challenges by Baumann's and contempt charges imposed against the company and its owner, Bill Baumann, Yost's office continued to push for the cleanup work. To date more than 50,000 cubic yards of decomposing debris have been removed which officials say has reduced the imminent fire hazard and safeguarded the neighborhood.

The settlement agreement includes:

A civil penalty of \$1.5 million, with opportunities to have that amount lowered based on compliance milestones. and provisions for processing remaining construction and demolition debris, removing legacy material, implementing fire-control measures and assessing noncompliance penalties.

## Fleet Bunny Hop reset for this Saturday, March 30th

A number of bewildered Easter Bunnies got lost in last Saturday's early morning snowfall and were unable to attend the 4th annual Fleet Bunny Hop. Therefore, the Community Yahoos have announced that the event has been rescheduled for this Saturday, March 30, from noon till 3 p.m., from E. 50th to E. 63rd sts., along Fleet Ave. in Slavic Village. Children of all ages welcome. Call 440-975-6318 for more details.

## Neighbors on Duty meets

The next Neighbors On Duty meeting will be Tuesday, April 2, at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., at 6:30 p.m. It is open to all Garfield Heights residents.

Guest speakers include GHPD Chief Mark Kaye, who will give a video presentation; Ohio State Highway Patrol representative, Mayor Matt Burke and Supreme Court Justice Michael Donnelly. Refreshments will be served.

The meeting is sponsored by Flava Catering, Cross Country Mortgage, Lightcomm Designs, Weldon PC & Mayor Burke. RSVP by calling Ward 4 Councilman Avery Johnson, 216-365-3009, or Ward 6 Councilman Clifford Kelley, 216-253-0142, or visit neighborsonduty.org

# Maple Heights Council approves 3.5% raises for nonunion city employees

By Judith Goldsworth

Non-bargaining unit employees for the city of Maple Heights will get a 3.5% raise for this year, retroactive to January 1, 2024, after council passed legislation enacting the raises at their Wednesday meeting last week.

The non-union employees, including the police and fire chiefs, service director and others, will get raises in a percentage equal to those of the city's bargaining unit employees whose 3.5% raises were approved through separate legislation earlier this year.

Mayor Annette Blackwell said the salary ranges were based on a direct comparison to all of the other 58 communities in Cuyahoga County, and a review of a salary survey for the entire state.

She stated, "I'm happy to say on this final reading that we can offer our employees a 3.5% raise, which is slightly higher than the average which is about 2.79%."

## Collections agreement OK'd

Also passed at last week's meeting was a resolution authorizing Blackwell to enter into a Delinquent Debt Collection Agreement with Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost's Office, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, for the collection of delinquent debts owed to the city.

The debts Yost's office are to collect include those owed to Mayor's Court, and Yost's office "is authorized to deduct the Attorney General's collection cost (10%) from all amounts collected... plus interest and fees," the legislation states, adding that all collection costs will be passed on to the debtors as an additional obligation along with the amount owed.

At the meeting Law Director Frank Consolo stated that the agreement was brought to his office's attention by Maple Heights Clerk of Courts Stacey Dennison to allow the Attorney General's Office to collect delinquent debts for the city.

"There is a significant delinquent debt owed in Mayor's Court fines and fees," Consolo said, stating that the amount was more than \$100,000.

## \$825K NOACA grant for Southgate Park Blvd.

In her report to council, Blackwell said that Maple Heights had recently received an \$825,000 grant from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency to be used for the repair and reconstruction of Southgate Park Blvd., a major roadway between Warrensville Center and Northfield rds., directly to the south of the Southgate USA shopping center.

Blackwell said that over the years, she and her administration had been working on ways to find the funding to fix the crumbling street for the benefit of the city's residents and businesses.

"We've been saying it would take \$1.5 million to pave that street, and our entire budget for street repairs is \$2 million a year," she said.

The city then applied for a grant to NOACA, Blackwell said, "and we have received \$825,000," as the audience broke into applause.

Residents can expect to see the work on Southgate Park Blvd. begin in 2025, Blackwell said.

## Announcements

Blackwell announced that Meteorologist Bryan Shaw, the son of a Maple Heights Senior Center member, will give a special presentation on the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, from 10:30-11:30 a.m., at the Senior Center, 15901 Libby Rd. Shaw will discuss the mechanics of the solar eclipse, including the science involved, to get attendees ready for the eclipse which is expected to start at 3:13 p.m. on April 8 and last about four and a half minutes. The event is free and open to all. Those interested in attending are asked to call 216-587-5481 to reserve a place.

Blackwell also said that through a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, there will be a "Shred Day" at Stafford Park on Saturday, April 20, from 9 a.m.-noon. Residents are asked to bring loose paper only, with all clips, binders and rubber bands removed, to be shredded at the event.

District 5 Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden noted there will be a District 5 Community Meeting tonight, Wednesday, March 27, at 6 p.m. at the Maple Heights Library.

# Garfield Heights police confiscate guns, drugs at home on Oakpark Boulevard

Garfield Heights detectives, through their investigation into incidents of gun violence, located two AR-15 pistols, two Glock handguns equipped with modified automatic switches, which are federally prohibited, and two ounces of fentanyl, according to a post on the GHPD Facebook page. A search warrant executed by police on March 15, at a residence on Oakpark Blvd., led to the discovery of the contraband.

Two males were taken into custody for weapons violations with charges pending through the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Police noted that anyone with information regarding criminal activity in Garfield Heights is urged to call the city's Targeted Enforcement Unit at 216-475-0142.



HAPPY  
Easter

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





WESOLEGO ALLELUJA  
BOUNA PASQUA

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**The Neighborhood News**

# Cleveland City Council condemns attacks on Israel; OKs hiring of 30 more police officers to fight violent crime

Cleveland City Council held its regular meeting Monday night and passed a resolution sponsored by all council members stating “this council condemns the attacks in Israel on October 7th that led to the loss of Israeli and American lives and the taking of hundreds of hostages

" The resolution also stated that, “Council supports all efforts to resolve the tragic conflict in Gaza and further supports the resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council that calls for a halt to the fighting in Gaza and for the release of all hostages taken captive on October 7th."

## Other legislation passed

**Reducing Violent Crime:** Council approved legislation authorizing the city to accept a \$3.75 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, COPS Office, for the FY23 COPS Hiring Program for Violent Crime Reduction.

This grant will provide funding for 30 police officers over three years for violent crime reduction and will pay a portion of their base salaries for three years. The goal of the grant is to provide funding for violent crime reduction by assigning six additional officers to each of the five police districts.

These additional officers in each of the districts will work as a team and will attend community meetings and community events. The city is contributing an additional \$4,453,320 for the 30 officers.

**Tax Increment Financing District Established:** Council passed the establishment of the Shore-to-Core-to-Shore TIF District. This will mean that as property values of parcels of property in the prescribed district increase in value, the increase in property taxes will go to the city to fund major public improvements. This funding will go to public infrastructure improvements to be made to directly benefit the district, as well as benefit neighborhoods.

Cleveland Municipal School District will be held harmless, meaning they will continue to receive an amount equal to the property tax increases they would have received.

# Slavic Village trees studied

A small band of nature lovers and professional arborists converged on the Harvard Grove district of Slavic Village Friday afternoon to get a closeup look at some of the neighborhood's oldest street trees and to learn of ways to optimize their preservation and development.

Jennifer Kipp, vice chair of the Urban Forestry Commission and Urban Forestry manager for the city of Cleveland, led the tour around E. 65 St., Hosmer, Gertrude and Fullerton aves., pointing out how time and human activity affect the life and health of the natural environment.

The walk was the first of many scheduled across the city, in cooperation with Grai Oleksi, Slavic Village resident and member of the Urban Forestry Commission’s tree maintenance committee.

Slavic Village Development is in the midst of a comprehensive neighborhood-wide tree census. The organization just completed a maintenance plan it began writing in 2019 for all trees within the public street right-of-way, facilitated through the Healthy Urban Tree Canopy grant program and the Cleveland Tree Coalition.

Krystal Sierra, director of Neighborhood Sustainability at SVD, says that healthy urban trees enhance a place's quality of life and, with proper maintenance, will help mitigate the impact of climate change.



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Mayor Trevor Elkins and family  
Village of Newburgh Heights



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# Signup for ReadyNotify

The Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management has a system called ReadyNotify to alert citizens, residents and businesses of emergency situations, non-emergency events and provide information about action to take.

ReadyNotify is primarily used for emergency notifications when rapid and accurate information is essential for your immediate safety. However, you may choose to be notified of general Cuyahoga County government news as well.

Participation in the program is voluntary. A valid email and phone number will be needed to signup. To register go to: [www.cuyahogacounty.us/ready/readynotify/readynotify](http://www.cuyahogacounty.us/ready/readynotify/readynotify)

NEIGHBORHOOD  
GOOD FRIDAY  
LENTEN FISH FRYS  
AND SPECIALS



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**FRIDAY FISH FRY**

**Good Friday, March 29th**  
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**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT - CALL: 216-662-7768**



**HOLY NAME PARISH** **4:00-7:00 PM**  
**FISH FRY** **HAREN HALL**

Feb. 16, 23  
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

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|                                                   |                                |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2-PC PERCH Dinner w/French Fries ... \$15         | ... <b>SIDES AVAILABLE</b> ... |                       |
| 6-PC SHRIMP Dinner w/French Fries ... \$16        | Fish (Lpc) ... \$5             | Shrimp (2pcs) ... \$5 |
| 5-PC PIEROGI Dinner w/Sour Cream/Onions ... \$11  | French Fries ... \$4           | Coleslaw ... \$1      |
| 2-PC BAKED TILAPIA Dinner w/Baked Potato ... \$15 | Mac & Cheese ... \$3           | Desserts ... \$2      |
| COMBINATION DINNER ... \$15 ...                   | Cabbage & Noodles ... \$4      | Soda Pop ... \$1      |
| (3-Pierogi, 1-Fish & Cabbage and Noodles)         | Pierogi (2pcs) ... \$4         | Bottled Water ... \$1 |

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April 12 **16029 MAPLE PARK DR. MAPLE HEIGHTS**





(All Holy Week services listed are for Thursday, March 28, Friday, March 29, Saturday, March 30 and Sunday, March 31.)

**Concordia Lutheran Church, 6705 Brecksville Rd., Independence 44131**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 4:15 and 6 p.m.  
**GOOD FRIDAY:** 4:15 AND 6 p.m.  
**EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP:** 9:30 a.m.

**Forward Church, 5350 Broadway Ave., Cleveland's Slavic Village 44127**  
**EASTER SUNDAY:** Service at 11 a.m. Easter Brunch at 12 p.m.



Easter reminds us to celebrate our blessings both big and small. We have been blessed to provide 111 years of continuous family service to the community.

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# Easter Blessings



from the Ferfolia Family & Staff

Stay safe and be healthy.

*Christ has Risen!*

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**Holy Name Catholic Church, 8328 Broadway Ave., Cleveland 44105**  
**HOLY THURSDAY:** Confessions 4-5 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper, 6 p.m.  
**GOOD FRIDAY:** Meditation, noon to 3 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3 p.m. Confessions, 4-5 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. Easter Vigil Mass, 8:30 p.m.  
**EASTER SUNDAY:** Masses 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 6700 Lansing Ave., Cleveland 44105**  
**HOLY THURSDAY:** 7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (bilingual, Polish & English). Adoration until closing of service at 8:15 p.m.  
**GOOD FRIDAY:** 2:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross (English). 3 p.m. Passion Service (English). 5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Polish). 6 p.m. Passion Service (Polish).  
**HOLY SATURDAY:** 12 p.m. Food Blessing (English). 1 and 2 p.m. Food Blessing (Polish). 7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil



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## EASTER

A time of faith. . .  
A time of hope. . .  
A time of renewal and love.

May the warmth of this most holy season strengthen your faith, renew your hope, and heighten your love for each other and our risen Lord.

**Happy Easter from all of us at. . .**

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(bilingual, Polish & English).  
**EASTER:** 8 a.m. English Mass. 10 a.m. Polish Mass. 12 p.m. English Mass.  
**Independence United Methodist Church, 6615 Brecksville Rd., Independence 44131**  
**GOOD FRIDAY:** Prayer Station from 4-6 p.m.  
**EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE:** 10 a.m.

**Jones Road Church, 8000 Jones Rd., Cleveland 44105**  
**EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE:** 11 a.m.  
**COMMUNITY BRUNCH:** 12 noon  
**Lutheran Church of the Covenant, 19000 Libby Rd., Maple Heights 44137**  
**EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE:** 9 a.m.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 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 the Food. 8 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).

**The Rock Community Church, 9403 Garfield Blvd., Garfield Heights 44125**  
**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:** 6:30 p.m.  
**EASTER SERVICES:** 10:02 a.m.  
(Continued on next page)

## Happy Easter!

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



**Mayor Annette M. Blackwell**  
City of Maple Heights

## An Easter Message . . .



*May the glory and splendor of the Easter season embrace you and yours with His love.*

**BICAN BROS. FUNERAL HOME**  
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**Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 E. 65 St., Cleveland 44105**

**HOLY THURSDAY:** Mass of the Lord's Supper with the traditional Washing of the Feet followed by Solemn Eucharistic Procession and time for silent prayer in the church in front of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Stations of the Cross in English at 12 noon followed by the Passion Service with Veneration of the Cross and distribution of Holy Communion at 2 p.m. The church will remain open throughout the day to venerate the Cross. Stations of the Cross in Polish at 6 p.m., followed by Gorzkie Zale and the 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, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The Solemn Easter Vigil with the blessing of the new fire, extended Liturgy of the Word, renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing of the Easter Water will be at 8 p.m. Note: There will be no afternoon confessions or the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass this day.

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

**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, Eucharistic Procession and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 7 p.m., with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. Traditional second collection taken for the Holy Land.

**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 Fire, extended Liturgy of the Word, renewal of Baptismal Promises and Blessing with the Easter water.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** Rezurekcja Polish Mass at dawn at 8:30 a.m. with the traditional procession. Solemn Mass of Easter at 11:30 a.m.

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

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 5p.m.  
**GOOD FRIDAY:** 5p.m.  
**EASTER SUNDAY:** 9a.m.

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

**HOLY THURSDAY:** Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration follows the 7 p.m. Mass until 9 p.m. The Rosary will be prayed following Mass.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Living Stations of the Cross, 12 noon. Solemn celebration of the Passion of Our Lord at 3 p.m.

**HOLY SATURDAY:** (No confessions; no 4 p.m. Mass). Blessing of food and Easter baskets, 3 p.m. Easter Vigil and Mass at 7:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** 10 a.m. Mass.

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

**HOLY THURSDAY:** Morning Prayer, 8 a.m. 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. Confessions following.

**HOLY SATURDAY:** Food Blessing, 1 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass, 8:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** Morning Masses: 9 and 10:45 a.m.

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

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

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 3 p.m.- The Lord's Passion Service at Ss. Peter & Paul Parish. 7 p.m.- The Lord's Passion Service at St. Therese Parish. Confessions to follow both services.

**HOLY SATURDAY:** 1 p.m.-Food Blessing at St. Therese Parish. 2 p.m.-Food Blessing at Ss. Peter & Paul Parish. 8:30 p.m.-Easter Vigil Mass at St. Therese Parish.

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

**Valley View Village Church, 11401 Tinkers Creek Rd., Valley View 44125**

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Service will begin at 7 p.m.  
**EASTER SUNDAY:** Worship starts at 10:45 a.m.

*Rejoice...for He is risen!*

*Wishing you a very happy  
and Blessed Easter.*

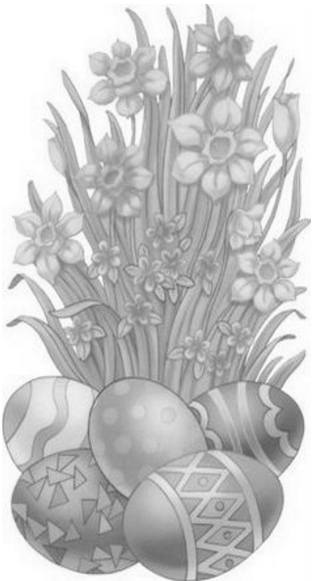


*Mayor Jack Bacci and Family*  
*Village of Cuyahoga Heights*

Happy Easter



On behalf of  
Mayor Koci,  
City Council  
and the  
Administration



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!*

**Matt Burke  
and family**

Mayor  
City of Garfield Heights



**WISHING EVERYONE A JOYOUS  
AND HEALTHY EASTER**



Ralph Perk, Jr.,  
Kelli Perk  
and Family



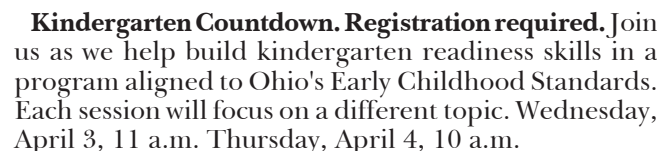
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<sup>1</sup>Actual monthly payment for above example is based on 252 month term and is \$52.95 at a fixed APR of 2.99%. Rates effective as of 2/1/2024 and are subject to change. <sup>2</sup>Fixed APR is 2.99%. Homeowners Insurance required. Flood insurance required, if applicable. Maximum LTV 85%. Minimum loan amount \$1,000. Maximum loan amount \$9,900. 21-year term. A Third Federal Home Repair Loan is available as a first or second lien on owner-occupied primary residences and can be the only HELOC on your property. \$0 annual fee and \$10 minimum monthly payment. Borrowers must meet certain income, geographic and other requirements to qualify. Product features subject to change without notice. ©2024 Third Federal.



## Cleveland Metroparks News

For questions or to register for programs, please see [clevelandmetroparks.com](http://clevelandmetroparks.com) or call CanalWay Center at 216-206-1000. All programs are free unless otherwise marked.

### Bedford Reservation

**April 15–May 31: Bilingual Self-Guided Spring Wildflower Trail.** Enjoy a springtime stroll to discover the color and diversity of our native spring wildflowers. Signs along a short loop trail will showcase many species. Signs will be in English and Spanish. 6 a.m.–11 p.m. in Hemlock Creek Picnic Area. Terrain: 1-mile, natural surface.

**April 12: Friday Hike to the Falls.** Join a naturalist this afternoon as we hike the woodlands and rocky ledges of Bedford Reservation. We will hike through pines and among the hemlocks. The trail will take us along the edge of a few tributaries of Tinkers Creek and see both Quarry Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. Trail may be muddy. 2:30–4:30 p.m. at Bridal Veil Falls parking lot. Terrain: natural surface, hills, 2 miles.

**April 13: Gorge to Gorge Calorie Burn Hike.** Winter is ending, so it's time to burn off that extra winter fat! Do it the fun way by joining a naturalist at Bedford Reservation as we hike from Sagamore Creek to the Tinkers Creek Gorge and back. Limited parking. 2–5 p.m. at Alexander Trailhead. Adults. Steep hills, natural surface, 5–6 miles.

**April 16: Two Mile Tuesday.** Join us for an afternoon hike through the woodlands of Bedford Reservation. We will explore the area along the edge of

Tinkers Creek looking for signs of spring and wildflowers. We will travel along several different types of trails to make our two-mile loop. The trails may be muddy. 2–4 p.m. in Egbert Picnic Area. Terrain: natural and paved surfaces, 2 miles.

### CanalWay Center/ Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation

**April 1–30. Hunt of the Month.** We asked guests to color frogs as they visited in March and 20 of them have "escaped" and hidden themselves around CanalWay Center!

Stop by and see how many visitor-designed frogs you can find! 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

**April 1: Solar Eclipse Drop-by.** Stop by CanalWay Center to learn more about the upcoming solar eclipse! We will have hands-on eclipse demonstrations to prepare you for this once-in-a-lifetime event. 10 a.m. to noon.

**April 6: Hike the Mountain Bike Trail.** Join a naturalist as we hike along the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation's mountain bike trail looking for spring wildflowers.

We will look for skunk cabbage, spring beauty, cut leafed toothwort, and more along the trail. This trail will be muddy so wear sturdy shoes; hiking poles suggested. 1–3 p.m., CanalWay Center. Terrain: natural surface, hills, up to 3 miles.

**April 14: Kids Love Toads.** Let's discover the story of toads from egg to warts and all the lovable toadness in between. We'll hear a story, go on a toad safari hike and make a little project to take home. 11 a.m.–noon at CanalWay Center. Ages: 3–7 years w/ adult. Terrain: paved, natural surface trails, 0.5 mile.

**April 16: CanalWay Kids.** It's spring! Let's discover the wonders of nature this season through stories, time outdoors and making a memorable project. This class meets each Tuesday from April 16–May 21. 10–11:15 a.m., at CanalWay. Ages: 3–5 years w/ adult. Fee: \$30 for 6-weeks. Terrain: paved and natural surface trails; 0.7 miles.

**April 19: Muskrats, Beavers and Otters, Oh My!** The Ohio and Erie Canal has become a haven for mammals that live in the water. Let's go find them! Join a naturalist for a stroll along the Towpath Trail to see if we can find signs of muskrats, beavers or river otters. 3–5 p.m. at the Aqueduct Gateway Trailhead. 3 miles, paved, some hills.

**April 19: Out in the Parks: Sunset Walk along the Canal.** LGBTQ+ people, family and friends join us for a sunset stroll along the Ohio & Erie Canal. We will walk down into the valley along both the river and the canal and look for any of our crepuscular animals enjoying

this special time of day. Social and a snack after the walk for all who attend. 6:30–8:30 p.m. at CanalWay Center.

**READ THE N.N. ONLINE AT**  
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For additional information about our services, contact WRAAA's Aging & Disability Resource Center at 216.621.0303

This project is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through USAGing as part of a financial assistance award to USAGing totaling \$74,000,000 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official view of, nor an endorsement, by USAGing ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

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# Community police reports

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

## Garfield Heights

### Theft

On March 14, at 1:22 p.m., police were dispatched to the area of the 12900 block of Darlington Ave., where a witness told officers she had seen a black vehicle driving slowly through the neighborhood. It then stopped on the street in front of a home on Darlington and a black male got out, went to the home's front porch and took a package there. The male then left the area in the black sedan. Police attempting to contact the homeowner after initial attempts failed.

## Washington Park Community School

4000 Washington Park Blvd., Newburgh Heights, Ohio 44105, 216-271-6055



The Washington Park  
Board of Directors  
will have a Special Meeting  
on Thursday, March 28, 2024  
at 5:30 p.m. at the school.

N.N.: 3-27-24

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## CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC NOTICE FOR OPEN POSITION

Applications for the City of Maple Heights Planning and Zoning Commission will be available to qualified Maple Heights residents beginning **Wednesday, March 20, 2024** from the **Clerk of Council Office**, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137, to fill one (1) open position for the term expiring **May 31, 2029**.

The Planning and Zoning Commission consists of five (5) qualified electors of the City not holding any other official position in the Municipality, who have resided in the City not less than two (2) years prior to appointment, and who shall retain such residency during their appointed term.

Completed application forms are to be submitted only to the **Clerk of Council Office**, Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137. **The deadline for submission of said applications is by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.** For further information, call the Clerk's office at (216) 587-9000.

**Leonette Cicirella Johnson**  
Clerk of Council/PZC Secretary  
City of Maple Heights

The Neighborhood News  
March 20, 2024  
March 27, 2024

### Theft of Motor Vehicle

On March 14, at 8:30 a.m., police were dispatched to a business at 13213 Broadway Ave., where the owner informed officers that three classic cars, a 1978 black Pontiac Trans Am, 1972 yellow/gold Cadillac DeVille and 1972 green Chevy Chevelle, were stolen from the lot. The owner told police he had reviewed surveillance video which showed a white U-Haul van was in the parking lot of his business around 4 a.m. The van had South Beachwood written on the side. Stolen vehicles entered into LEADS.

### Shots Fired

On March 16, at 2:34 a.m., police responded to the area of Langton and E. 110 St., for a report of shots being fired. Officers found a 2011 Nissan Rogue parked on E. 110 St., with a shattered rear window. The owner told police her rear window had been shot out. She said she was initially parked on Vernon Ave., and when she came back to her car from the Showcase Bar, 5015 Turney Rd., her front right tire was deflated. She drove to Turney Rd. and made a right turn onto Wadsworth Ave., where she saw a group of younger looking black males pull guns from their waistbands and begin shooting at other males across the street/parking lot of Turney Town. The victim told police that was when her window had been shot out

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and she drove to E. 110 St. and Langton. She told police she did not wish to pursue charges against anyone found responsible. Police canvassed the area and located over 30 spent casings at the corner of Wadsworth and Turney Rd. Report forwarded to the Detective Bureau.

On March 17, at about 11:30 p.m., police were dispatched to the area of the 12100 block of Valley Lane Dr., for a report of shots fired. The complainant told officers two males had shot at his car as it was parked, unoccupied in the rear parking lot of Valley Lane Dr., at the time of the shooting. No suspects or vehicles possibly involved were located. The victim's car had a single bullet hole in the rear passenger quarter panel and a shattered vent window on the rear driver's side door. Four 10mm spent shell casings were also located in the vicinity of the car. He told police his car had been vandalized over the past few days and thought maybe juveniles could be trying to steal his car. The victim said he needed to go inside the apartment building and he would speak with them further when he returned. He went in and came back outside with a couple of other people, got inside his car and proceeded to begin pulling out of the parking lot. Police asked him if he wanted a report and photographs taken of the damage to his car, but he told officers he "needed to get out of here" and left the area before officers could get further details on what exactly had occurred. No known suspects at this time.

## GHFD hydrant flushing

On Tuesday, April 2, the Garfield Heights Fire Department will begin the annual flushing and inspection of the 1,300 fire hydrants in the city. The work will be performed Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., depending on the weather. It will take about eight weeks to complete.

The work will begin in Ward 1 and end in Ward 7. Should you have any questions, please call Sandy at the GHFD, 216-475-4053.

**SUBMIT YOUR COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ADVERTISING  
TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS  
VIA EMAIL: [NNEWS1923@AOL.COM](mailto:NNEWS1923@AOL.COM)**

## PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on **Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.**, before the **Maple Heights Planning and Zoning Commission** in the Maple Heights City Hall Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, to consider the following application(s):

**2024-PZ-04** An application from Katherine James requesting Approval of a Conditional Use Permit under Sect. 1272.04(A) of the MH Codified Ordinances to operate an Adult Assisted Living Facility in a Residential Single Family-Medium Density (RSF-M) Zoning District at 5255 Arch Street, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137.

**2024-PZ-05** An application from Rayshawn Wiley requesting Approval of a Conditional Use Permit under Sect. 1272.04(A) of the MH Codified Ordinances to operate an Adult Assisted Living Facility in a Residential Single Family-Medium Density (RSF-M) Zoning District at 16000 Shirley Avenue, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137.

**2024-PZ-06** An application from Kani Israel requesting Approval of a Conditional Use Permit under Sect. 1278.04(T) of the MH Codified Ordinances to operate a Religious Place of Worship in a Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Zoning District at 5880 Lee Road South, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137.

**2024-PZ-07** An application from Vereese Lewis requesting Approval of a Conditional Use Permit under Sect. 1278.04(U) of the MH Codified Ordinances to operate a Restaurant in a Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Zoning District at 5156 Warrensville Center Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137.

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.

**Leonette Cicirella Johnson**  
Clerk of Council/PZC Secretary  
City of Maple Heights

The Neighborhood News  
March 27, 2024

## LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### Bedford (Bedford Heights/Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs coming up in April 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.

**Kids Café -18 & younger. Monday-Friday, 3-4 p.m.** Kids ages 18 and under can get a FREE lunch provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, while supplies last.

**Student Success Center -K-8th. Monday-Thursday (school days), 4-6:30 p.m.** Since 2002, our FREE Student Success Center's program has helped thousands of students in grades K-8 improve their grades and subject comprehension. Student Success Centers are available at 10 branches. Students who participate in the program receive homework assistance from trained tutors in the following subjects: language arts, math, reading, science, and social studies. **MUST REGISTER**

**Baby Club -Ages birth - 35 months with parent/caregiver. Monday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.** Join us for a five-week club for caregivers and children ages birth to 35 months. Connect with your kids and other families and get answers about your growing child. Siblings welcome! Parents ages 18 and older who register to participate in Baby Club will be entered into a sweepstakes to win a \$529 college savings award from Ohio's 529 Plan, College

Advantage, for their child. Read the sweepstakes rules. If you have questions about registering for this program, please contact a librarian at the Bedford Branch at 440-439-4997. **MUST REGISTER**

**Kindergarten Countdown -Children entering kindergarten next fall and their caregiver. Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 10:30 a.m.** Join us as we help your child build kindergarten readiness skills in a program aligned to Ohio's Early Childhood Standards. **MUST REGISTER**

**Family Storytime -All ages with caregiver. Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 6 p.m.** Join us for stories, songs and fingerplays.

**Celebrate National Poetry Month -Grades K-12. Thursday, April 4, 12 p.m.** Did you know April is National Poetry Month? Drop by the Bedford branch anytime Thursday, April 4, to explore different types of poetry. Then, use your creativity to write your own poems.

**Engineering Hour -K-5, Thursday, April 4, 18, 3:30 p.m.** Use your imagination and the materials provided to build, play, create and learn.

**Family Storytime -All ages with caregiver. Saturdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27, 10 a.m.** Join us for stories, songs and fingerplays.

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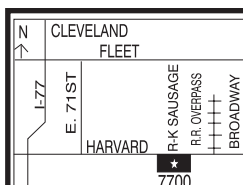
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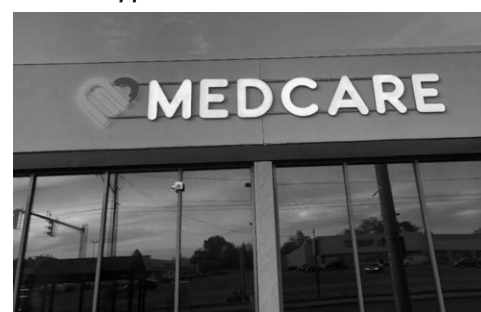
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PERSONALSPERSONALS

My 7 friends in Heaven - they can tell me and all of us about when Jesus was spreading the good news to all. The Word is what it's all about, love of family, also neighbors. The power to be who Jesus might take their influence and recognition. So they asked one apostle of Jesus for 30 coins. Shake hands with him and the money is yours. Hug him and shakes hands for 30 coins and the money is yours. When Jesus was praying and asking his father what should I do; God, the father, must have mentioned, whatever you decide will be the right choice. At night, a person we know his name, went up to Jesus. This is what the beginning of what we call Holy Week. Jesus was taken away, never did he ever harm or belittle people by sharing his love for mankind. The power wanted him out of the way so they mention to the Romans, must haven been Thursday, he was taken in as a prisoner. He had no crime, the people wanted him out of the way. After torturing for hours, the next day they really started to do Jesus more harm to his body. Friday was the day the Roman soldiers did more harm, nailing him, but first he had to carry the cross, set him on the cross. His mother, Mary, who we call Blessed Mother and a man named John, a good friend who kept an eye on blessed mother. As he was dying he spoke to his dad, God in Heaven. He stated, let there be eternal life for all who will die and live a good life to meet me (Jesus) and my father, who is God and my stepfather St. Joseph. This is what we call the beginning of Easter week. Easter is a day of celebration. He came to us as a baby. He learned the human way of doing things; was educated by his earthly father, Joseph and his blessed mother. Look at each other this weekend and just look at your family and your friends and wish them a Happy Easter. I wish that everyone who comes to church (Holy Name) says Happy Easter to Msgr. Antall! ...your friend, Dan Stys

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For more information, call Garfield Heights Service Office - (216) 475-1107.  
GRASS - Return applications to [pbirk@garfieldhts.org](mailto:pbirk@garfieldhts.org)  
ROAD - Return applications to: [servicegarage@garfieldhts.org](mailto:servicegarage@garfieldhts.org) or drop off at:  
GH Service Garage, 13600 McCracken Rd.

# A Finale to the 2023-24 Garfield Hts. Recreation Center Skating Season

The Garfield Heights Rec Center skating season of lessons and practicing came to its conclusion last Saturday, March 23, with the 55th annual Ice Skating Exhibition. Skaters performed to their favorite Disney cartoons and movies showcasing all their accomplishments from the season.

March 18th was also the final day for the In-House Learn to Play Hockey program as well.

Since the passing of past Recreation Director Robert Dobies in 2020, we award top skaters from both our Learn to Skate and In-House Hockey programs with the Robert A. Dobies, Sr. Bulldog Award.

This award is presented to the skaters showing the characteristics of always being a team player, positive attitude and most improvement and dedication to the sport. This year was difficult to pick just one from each program as so many participants gave it their all this season and were dedicated in coming week after week to skate and most of all to have fun.

The two award winners from the In-House Hockey program were Liam Roberts and James Giaippe. The winners from our Learn to Skate program were Emery Cloud and Madilynne Miller. Congratulations to all of our Skaters!

Thanks to all the dedicated coaches, instructors, recreation center staff, and Director Paul Birk, Sr. for making these programs possible.

We have one more public session tonight, Wednesday, March 27, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., before our rink closes for the season this Friday. The ice skating rink will reopen in mid-September with lessons beginning at that time. We will be offering free "try before you buy" sessions before each new session of lessons begins, so mark your calendar or call us in early September.

Our spring open office hours are posted to the web page as we will begin taking registrations for our summer T-Ball program April 10 through May 30. Information will be coming soon for summer pool and programs; registration for summer passes will begin May 28th after Memorial Day.

216-475-7272 – [www.garfieldhts.org](http://www.garfieldhts.org)



Shown above are award winners and participants in the Learn to Skate and In-House Hockey programs at Saturday's 55th annual Ice Skating Exhibition at the Dan Kostel Rec Center in Garfield Heights. Mayor Matt Burke and Parks & Recreation Director Paul Birk, Sr., are also shown with the winners and their awards.

## South High School Class of '74 reunion

Cleveland South High School Class of 1974 will hold its 50-year Reunion on Sept. 28, 2024, at Brewster, 2681 Creekside Dr., Twinsburg, OH 44087, from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

The \$55 charge includes hearty appetizers; cash bar available. Send check or money order to Katarina Wasson, 18203 Drake Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136 by Aug. 15. Please include your email address for confirmation. For questions, call Katarina, 216-288-3168.





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Happy Easter!



Alleluia, Alleluia.  
This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.

Psalm 118:24

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