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101st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

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FREE

Indicted for murder of local rapper

A Cuyahoga County grand jury has returned an indictment charging Devon Jones, 25, for his involvement in the homicide of Carlos Banks, 28, in December 2024, at an apartment in the North Broadway area of Slavic Village, according to Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley.

"We continue to investigate others who may be involved in the homicide of Carlos Banks," said O'Malley. "If you have any information, please contact the Cleveland Division of Police's Homicide Unit at 216-623-5464."

Prosecutors allege that on Dec. 29, Jones and additional unknown males planned to rob Banks, who was staying at an apartment complex near Broadway and Fowler aves., in Cleveland. Prosecutors said that in order to gain access inside the apartment complex, they kidnapped a 30-year-old female victim who let them inside. It is alleged that once they were inside, they approached Banks, robbed him, shot him multiple times and then fled the scene.

The Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) and Cleveland EMS responded to the scene. Banks was pronounced deceased on scene.

Jones was arrested on Jan. 16, 2025, by the U.S. Marshals in Pennsylvania. The investigation is being conducted by CDP and remains ongoing.

On Feb. 4, Jones was indicted on the following charges: four counts of aggravated murder, two counts of murder, one count of involuntary manslaughter, two counts of felonious assault, one count of aggravated robbery, one count of robbery, one count of aggravated burglary, one count of kidnapping, one count of abduction and two counts of having weapons while under disability.

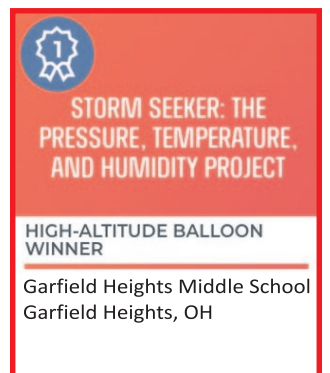
Gifted class at Garfield Heights Middle School wins NASA's Tchrise High Altitude Balloon Challenge competition

The talented students of Garfield Heights Middle School's gifted class placed themselves on the national stage recently with the announcement that their experiment submission to NASA's Tchrise High Altitude Balloon Challenge was a winner!

The Middle School was selected as 1 of only 60 school groups throughout the entire United States whose proposal was selected, out of an estimated 720 total proposals. This means that the Middle School gifted students will be able to continue with their experiment proposal and bring it to life, with the guidance from a NASA engineer-mentor who will help the students build this project out!

Specifically, the students will be constructing an instrument that helps to measure the intensity of storms that will be affixed to a weather balloon. To offer help, a representative from NASA will visit Garfield Heights Middle School each and every Wednesday between now and the end of May 2025.

Their project, entitled Storm Seeker: The Pressure, Temperature, and Humidity Project, will be updated on the Future Engineers website, aligned with NASA, as it works toward completion. More updates to come in the future.



Mayor Bibb meets with local media



Shown above with Mayor Justin Bibb, seated center, are representatives from the Neighborhood & Community Media Association of Greater Cleveland who participated in a roundtable discussion with the mayor last Thursday afternoon at a local radio station on Kinsman Rd. The Neighborhood News publisher Elena Psenicka and editor Ellen Psenicka are standing center behind Mayor Bibb.

Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb met with members of the Neighborhood & Community Media Association of Greater Cleveland last Thursday for a Community Media Roundtable at WOVU 95.9FM radio station on Kinsman Rd.

Mayor Bibb regularly meets with this community journalism group to answer their questions and learn the concerns of the publishers and editors of small media outlets

(Continued on Page 8)

CVCC Job Fair scheduled for March 6

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) will host a Job Fair on Thursday, March 6, from 3 to 5 p.m., at 8001 Brecksville Rd., Brecksville, OH 44141, one mile east of the I-77/Wallings Road exit, opposite Wallings Rd. on Rt. 21.

CVCC invites all job seekers age 14 and older to attend. It is free for job seekers; registration is not required. Area businesses and non-profit organizations will be on site to interview potential employees for full-time, part-time and seasonal employment opportunities.

If you plan to attend, dress professionally and bring multiple copies of your resume, along with pen and paper. Be prepared to fill out applications and interview with prospective employers. For more information, including job fair tips and a list of participating businesses and organizations, visit cvccworks.edu or contact Josh Hayes at JHayes@cvccworks.edu or 440-746-8260.

The Cuyahoga Valley Career Center serves the public school districts of Brecksville-Broadview Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Garfield Heights, Independence, Nardon Hills, North Royalton, Revere and Twinsburg. Adult and student workshops and Adult Education courses are open and available to all residents of Northeast Ohio.

IHM Church, museum tours on Lansing

Are you interested in Cleveland's Polish history? If so, you're in for a treat! Join Glenn Sobola, a parishioner of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and the director of the Slavic Village Historical Society, for an exclusive tour of both IHM Church and the SVHS Museum.

Sobola will conduct two free guided tours on "Fat Thursday," Feb. 27, at 5:30 p.m., and 7 p.m. Both locations are situated at 6700 Lansing Ave., Cleveland.

While in the area, don't miss the opportunity to visit the Polish American Cultural Center, JPPI at 6501 Lansing Ave., for its "Fat Thursday" Polish Paczki Party, a cherished pre-Lenten tradition, just a short walk from IHM Church. For further details, please get in touch with Glenn at 216-218-7779.

New housing projects approved at Cleveland City Council meeting

Cleveland City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 10, and authorized the city to acquire the Martin Luther King, Jr. High School property located at 1651 E. 71 St., in the Hough neighborhood, for future redevelopment and then sell the property to Structures Unlimited, LLC.

Three proposals were received for the Martin Luther King, Jr. High School site. Structures Unlimited offered the full-appraised price of \$880,000 to CMSD. The company is a real estate development firm from Greenbelt, Maryland, and is planning to renovate the property for a mixed-use development with affordable and market-rate housing, apartments and townhomes, as well as a charter school.

Senior housing in former McCafferty Health Center

Council approved transferring the old McCafferty Health Center, 4242 Lorain Ave., from the Health Department to the Department of Community Development or Economic Development which will then sell or lease the property to Pennrose Holdings for future redevelopment. The city will enter into a development agreement with Pennrose, which plans to create high-quality affordable housing for seniors. A 72-unit building is planned.

Introduced

Legislation was introduced to amend the city of Cleveland's tobacco laws, including illegal distribution. Separate legislation was introduced requiring tobacco retail licensing. Other legislation was introduced about window advertising of tobacco. And finally, legislation was introduced that would enact zoning requirements for "smoke shops," including prohibiting some locations, such as near churches, schools, libraries and parks. The legislation would also require a certain amount of space between smoke shops.

Sokol Gymnastic Exhibition at Bohemian National Hall

Sokol Greater Cleveland will hold a Gymnastic Exhibition on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 6 p.m., at Garfield Heights Middle School, 12000 Maple Leaf Dr., Garfield Heights, OH 44125. Enjoy the music of the Sokol Concert Band beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Advance sale is \$7 by calling 216-642-1429, or \$10 at the door; children under 12 are free.

A social will be held after the exhibition at Sokol Greater Cleveland, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland. Admission is free; food and beverages available for all ages.

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LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Bedford (Bedford Heights/Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs coming up at the Bedford Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 70 Columbus Rd., Bedford, Ohio 44146. For more information, or to register for any program, please call 440-439-4997.

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 grade. 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**

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PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on **Monday, March 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.**, before the **Maple Heights Planning and Zoning Commission** in the Maple Heights City Hall Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, to consider the following application:

2025-PZ-05 An application from the City of Maple Heights pursuant to Sect. 1268.03(A) of the MH Codified Ordinances requesting recommendation of a Zoning Code Text Amendment to Sect. 1298.19(D)(3)(f) of the MH Codified Ordinances to Allow Battery-Charged Fences Pursuant to R.C. 3781.1011.

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

The Neighborhood News
February 19, 2025

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Garfield Heights Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs available at the Garfield Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 5409 Turney Rd. Call 216-475-8178 to register or for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Innovation Center Hands on Help Need help with a project in the Innovation Center? Bring your ideas and materials and staff will help you get started. This program is open to users who have already completed an Innovation Center Orientation. Monday, Feb. 24, 6-8 p.m.

Diabetes and Food Workshop Learn skills and knowledge to effectively manage your health through eating. The workshop will end with an interactive cooking experience with Chef Tynisa from Food with Purpose. Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

TEENS

Winter Comic and Graphic Novel Club Join us in the Teen Room to talk about and read graphic novels and comics! Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6-7 p.m.

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List of Meetings for March 2025

Monday, March 3, 2025	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 4, 2025	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 12, 2025	Southeast Area Law Enforcement (SEALE) Board of Trustees Meeting (if needed) Work Session - 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, March 17, 2025	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 18, 2025	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 25, 2025	Board of Zoning Appeals (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

It should also be noted that the Board of Building Standards and Appeals, Civil Service Commission, Bedford Arts and Cultural Board, Bedford Historical Preservation Board, Assessment Equalization Board, Public Hearings, Planning Commission, Animal Appeals Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and Tree Board meet **as needed**. Notification of these meetings will be posted at the five most public places in the City per **Ordinance No. 8461-09**.

All Meetings will be held at Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146. For agendas and minutes please go to www.bedfordoh.gov, <https://bedfordoh.primegov.com/public/portal>, or call the Clerk of Council, at **440-735-6510**.

Tracy M. Simons, CMC
Clerk of Council

NN: 2-19-25

Public meeting in Bedford Heights to provide county residents with guidance needed to settle an estate

The Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office is once again hosting Great Estates Program outreach events to help residents avoid unnecessary costs and delays when settling an estate. The program provides guidance and documents for real estate, bank accounts, motor vehicles, and other personal property to ensure that assets are passed directly to the intended beneficiary. Information on the importance of trusts in estate planning will also be discussed.

An upcoming local meeting will be held Wednesday, March 12, at Bedford Heights Community Center, 5615 Perkins Rd., Bedford Heights, from 6 to 8 p.m.

"We know that planning and settling an estate can be a challenging experience, and that is why we are here to help," said Michael Chambers, Cuyahoga County's Fiscal Officer. "The Great Estates Program has been instrumental in giving residents the resources they need to make the estate planning process easier to navigate and more manageable."

The county's fiscal team will join Probate Court representatives at the meeting for a presentation and provide residents with a Great Estates Program Kit. The kit contains documents needed for real estate and motor vehicle title transfer. Representatives will also answer questions about how to fill out and file the appropriate estate paperwork and be available to process real estate affidavits on-site.

Registration is encouraged. Great Estates Program Kits are also available at the Cuyahoga County Public Library and Cuyahoga County Auto Title Bureau.

Garfield Ward 7 Block Watch meeting

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch, sponsored by Councilwoman Jenn Newrones, will meet Thursday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria of St. Benedict School, 13633 Rockside Rd. Guest speaker will be Janice Tubbs, Garfield Heights Assistant Economic Development Director. Nonperishable items for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry would be appreciated. All are welcome. For more information contact Gail, 216-662-9213.

Free admission to Cleveland Museum of Natural History for some residents

Garfield Heights, Maple Heights and Cleveland residents can receive free admission to the Cleveland Natural History Museum on Saturdays and Sundays through the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Community Days program.

Tickets should be reserved online and proof of residency must be presented at the Welcome Desk upon arrival at the museum. Residents of East Cleveland, Brooklyn, Euclid and Warrensville Heights also get free admission.

Roast duck dinners bring crowd to Bohemian Hall on snowy Sunday



There's nothing like a mouthwatering roast duck, sauerkraut and dumplings dinner to draw a sold-out crowd at Bohemian National Hall on North Broadway, and Sunday was no exception. Duck lovers braved the cold and snow to partake in one of the most popular Czech dinners served at the historic hall. Photo by Elena Psenicka

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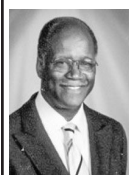
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Elmwood STEM 3rd graders consider clean energy alternatives for Garfield Heights



Elmwood Principal Jill Frimel visits with 3rd graders in Ms. Sullivan's class, who constructed a model of the city of Garfield Heights with the addition of solar and wind energy technology to learn valuable science, technology, engineering and math skills.

Elmwood Elementary School third grade STEM students are helping to consider clean energy alternatives in the city of Garfield Heights as they learn about environmental factors and constructing real-life diagrams and models with their teacher, Ms. Sullivan.

The students designed and built a model of the city with homes and streets designed out of household items like cardboard, cotton and more, but with an environmental twist. Elmwood students were asked to consider solar panels, wind energy and other energy-saving techniques when constructing their model homes.

The students will officially share their plans with Mayor Matt Burke and other city officials at the project's conclusion.



All programs are free unless marked otherwise. For questions or to register for programs, please visit clevelandmetroparks.com or call CanalWay Center at 216-206-1000.

CanalWay Center – Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation

Feb. 21: Friday Hike to the Eagle's Nest. Join a naturalist for a guided hike to an active bald eagle nest while we look for birds and other wildlife that call Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation home. On the way, we will pass a beaver lodge as we travel along the Cuyahoga River and the Ohio and Erie Canal. 10 a.m.–noon. CanalWay Center. Terrain: ice and snowy conditions possible.

Feb. 21: Connecting Communities - Towpath Trail to Treadway Creek. See how it all connects with a naturalist as we walk the route from the Towpath Trail to the Treadway Creek Trail and back again in Cleveland's Old Brooklyn neighborhood. Limited parking. Consider carpooling. Parking not permitted along Harvard Road. 3–4 p.m. Harvard Gateway Trailhead. Terrain: icy conditions possible.

Feb. 22: Busy as a Beaver Hike. Join us for a hike along the Ohio and Erie Canal to visit our resident beaver lodges! We'll search for evidence of beaver activity along the canal and the Cuyahoga River. Along the way we'll

stop to observe other local wildlife and discuss all things beavers. Binoculars are recommended; some will be available to borrow. Please note that the path may be snowy, icy or slippery. 3–5 p.m. CanalWay Center.

Feb. 27: Coffeehouse Trivia Night. Join us at CanalWay Center for our first Trivia Night. We will have coffee, tea, hot chocolate and some snacks for you to enjoy as we play. Come by yourself or with some friends to test your knowledge of the different types of relationships in nature. 6:30–8 p.m. Age: adults. Registration: 25 people.

Feb. 28: Preschoolers - Hike with Me. Bring your preschoolers out to CanalWay Center this morning as we hike along the Cuyahoga River. This time of year we tend to see bald eagles and great blue herons flying in the area. We will explore the valley in search of animal activity. Dress for the weather, path may be slippery. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Ages 2–6 years w/adult.

I-77 N exit ramp to Fleet Avenue to close next week

The following restrictions and closures will be in place nightly Tuesday, Feb. 25, through Friday, Feb. 28, between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. for utility work. All work is weather dependent. I-77 northbound at Harvard Ave. will have various lane restrictions, and I-77 northbound exit ramp to Fleet Ave. will be closed. Detour will be Pershing Ave. to I-77 south to Fleet Ave.

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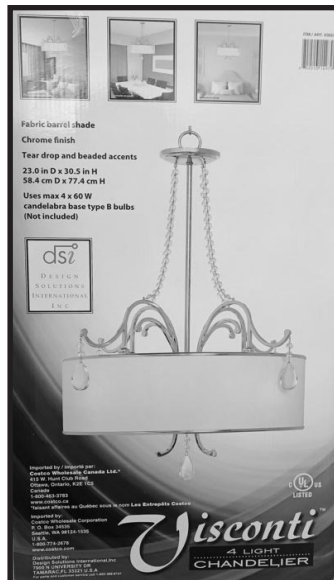
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MSRP \$90
FOR SALE: \$35

Fabric barrel shade,
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teardrop and beaded
accents,
23" D x 30.5" H,
uses max 2x60W bulbs
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M-F, 9am-5pm

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comes with
cooking basket
and lifting hook.
The safe way to
deep fry turkey.

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M-F, 9am-5pm

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Email: NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

PERSONALS**SOBER LIVING GROUP HOMES**

We have the space, we care about you, we want to help you in your sobriety. You are important to us. Please call us. We are waiting for you. (937) 756-0384

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**SAME DAY SERVICE
FREE TOW! 216-372-2000**

**TOP
\$\$\$
PAID**

PERSONALS**PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads, so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the Divine gift to forgive & forget all evil against me & that in all instances of my life you are with me. I want this short prayer to thank you for all things, as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you even in spite of all material illusions. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days, after 3 days the favor will be granted even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mentioning the favor. Only your initials should appear at the bottom. **L.O.**

Make the Right Choice

**Don't Drink
and Drive!**

HELP WANTED

Warehouse Worker/Delivery Driver. No weekends, flexible hours, clean driving record. Ability to lift 40 pounds. This is an enjoyable environment for someone looking for flexible, part-time hours. (440) 934-6879.

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BUSINESSES AND
HELP SUPPORT YOUR
COMMUNITY!**

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY**PLACING A DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENT:**

Call The Neighborhood News at (216) 441-2141 to place your ad. Our office is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Ad information can also be E-mailed to: nnews1923@aol.com.

Advertising deadline is 5:00 p.m. Mondays. Advertising Display rate is \$12.00 per column inch (minimum \$48).

Business Directory deadline is 5:00 p.m. Fridays. Ads must print for 4 weeks. Advertising rate is \$10 per column inch (minimum \$20).

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:

Classified Advertising rate is \$12.00 for 15 words or less and 10¢ a word over 15 words. Boxed classified rate is \$12.00 per column inch (starting at \$24).

PUBLISHER'S DISCRETION:

All contents of advertisements are subject to publisher's approval. Publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any advertisement, insertion order, space reservation or position commitment at any time. Positioning of advertisements is at the discretion of the publisher except where a request for a specific preferred position is acknowledged by the publisher.

PAYMENT IN ADVANCE:

All advertising may be paid by using your VISA, MASTERCARD or DISCOVER credit cards; Cash or Check. Payment in advance is required in certain instances. Please place your ad early to allow payment to reach us before deadline. All credit card payments will have an additional charge of 3.75% added due to the high cost of credit card processing. We appreciate your understanding and thank you for your business.

CANCELLATIONS:

Deadline for cancellations is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Save your cancellation number in case an adjustment on your bill is necessary. Ads placed for only one week cannot be canceled.

ERRORS/ADJUSTMENTS:

Advertisers should check the first insertion of their ad. The Neighborhood News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Upon noting an error, the advertiser should call the Advertising Department at (216) 441-2141. Adjustments are made to the degree the error reduced the value of the ad. Publisher shall not be liable for any costs or damages if for any reason it fails to publish an advertisement.

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• FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK •

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CLE Mayor Bibb meets with local media outlets County selling rain barrels

(Continued from Page 1)

throughout the Greater Cleveland area. The Neighborhood News is proud to be a charter member of this organization.

Neighborhood & Community Media Association of Greater Cleveland is a dynamic co-op of over a dozen community media outlets. They share resources, combine reporting, connect investigative and data journalism support, mentor new community media outlets and navigate the media landscape together rather than alone.

Its mission is to help small local media producers seek mutual assistance and to support each other in a new technological environment and media landscape.

Members include: The Cleveland Observer, Cleveland Street Chronicle, Collinwood Observer, The East Cleveland Magazine, East Side Daily News, Erie Chi-

nese Journal, Euclid Observer, Heights Observer, La Mega Nota Cleveland, The Neighborhood News, Plain Press, Profile News Ohio, The Real Deal Press, The Tremonster and The West Park Times.

Mayor Bibb will also participate in 2025 Mayor Town Hall meetings which are open to the public. The scheduled meetings all begin at 6:30 p.m., and include: Wednesday, Feb. 19, at John F. Kennedy High School; Wednesday, March 12, at Max S. Hayes High School; and Wednesday, May 14, at Clara E. Westropp Elementary School.

Date changed for Town Hall meeting in Bedford

The city of Bedford Town Hall meeting date has been changed to Tuesday, March 11, at the Ellenwood Recreation Center starting at 6:30 p.m., according to Clerk of Council Tracy Simons.



Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb shared with The Neighborhood News Editor Ellen Psenicka plans for proposed new housing in Slavic Village in cooperation with Elizabeth Baptist Church Pastor Richard Gibson and more potential housing opportunities near the Boys & Girls Club headquarters on Broadway Ave. Photo by Elena Psenicka

The Cuyahoga County Soil & Water Conservation District is sponsoring the sale of rain barrels, along with an instructional video for those who register and pay online by Friday, March 7.

The rain barrels and diverter kit can then be picked up on Wednesday, March 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at Veterans Plaza at the Garfield Heights Civic Center Complex, 5407 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, behind the Garfield Heights Historical Society Museum.

Rain barrels are \$60, with the second barrel and linking kit for a two-barrel system costing \$40. The diverter kit has everything you will need, even for the winter. All you have to supply is a drill. Register online at: www.cuyahoga.swcd.org (click on Events and find March 19) or email tbecker@cuyahogawcd.org

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and phone number

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

Tired of renting? Want to own a home?

Third Federal Savings and Loan, the City of Garfield Heights, and Cleveland Clinic are hosting an informal discussion on Homebuyer Education.

Join us Wednesday, March 26 for a free home buying seminar at the Garfield Heights Library.

6:00 PM-7:30 PM

- ✓ Steps to Homeownership
- ✓ Financing Options
- ✓ Learn how you may qualify for up to \$13,000 in down payment assistance

Registration required

Email: Toniya.Powell@thirdfederal.com
or call 440-461-9583

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