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101st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025

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FREE

CHPD gets new officer, honors another with award



Prior to the Cuyahoga Heights Village Council meeting on March 12, Mayor Jack Bacci (at right) administered the Oath of Office to the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department's newest officer, Patrolman Braden Susnik.



In addition, Patrolman Tyler Selig (at left) received the department's commendation award for "Exceptional Service," which was presented to him by Police Chief Brian Sturgill.

St. Monica Ladies Guild to hold fashion show, lunch

The St. Monica Ladies Guild's 39th Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon will be held on Sunday, April 27, at Woodside Event Center at Archangel Michael's, 5025 E. Mill Rd., off Wallings Rd. and I-77, in Broadview Heights, at 1 p.m.; fashions by Blossoms N Bows Boutique in Sagamore Hills.

Plated dinner includes Woodside Signature Salad, vegetable medley, rolls, dessert, beverage and choice of apricot glazed chicken with oven browned potatoes or stuffed shells with ricotta cheese and marinara sauce with gluten-free substitute available.

Tickets are \$35 each. For tickets or more information please contact Marlyn at 216-218-2482 or mpraznik@aol.com.

Former FOX-8 newsman Tim Taylor honored with proclamation at Bedford Council meeting

By Judith Goldsworth

Former FOX-8 TV news anchor Tim Taylor made a special appearance at the Bedford Council meeting Monday night to accept a proclamation from Mayor Stan Koci declaring Saturday, March 29, 2025, as "Tim Taylor Day" in the city.

Taylor's life and career, in which he has always spotlighted his pride in his hometown, are the subject of a new exhibit at the Bedford Historical Society and Museum in the city's Historic Downtown District, after he recently donated more than 45 years of radio, television and school memorabilia for the exhibit to the society for its collection.

Taylor, who served the Northeast Ohio area as a news reporter and anchor for FOX-8 TV for almost 30 years of his decades-long career, will also be honored with a Celebrity Roast, to benefit of the Bedford Historical Society, at the Sherwood Forest Party Center in Valley View on Saturday, March 29. Tickets for the event, which will include appearances by many local celebrities, are \$100 per person, and a limited number of tickets remain. Go to eventsatsherwoodforest.com for more information.

Taylor thanked the city for the honor and accepted it on behalf of the Bedford Historical Society, noting that from a very young age he'd always been a huge fan of history. He also praised the Society's founder, the late Dick Squire. "What he did for this community is immeasurable. I'm just so honored now to be continuing Dick's legacy with his daughter (current Historical Society Director Betsy Squire Lee).

He invited everyone to visit the exhibit and "see what Jack Draga and his team have done putting together this exhibit of just dozens of boxes of things that I saved over 45 years, it's just amazing."

Howland, Finance Dept. awarded

Finance Director Jennifer Howland and the city's Finance Department staff were all honored with an award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for financial reporting achievement, with this year's honor representing the 34th consecutive year that Bedford's finance department has received the award.

Koci expressed his gratitude that Howland was continuing the legacy of her predecessor, former longtime Finance Director Frank Gambosi, who had received the award for many of those 34 years.

(Continued on Page 5)

G.H. Ward 7 Block Watch

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

GHHS SOS group assists Blood Drive with Red Cross

The Students of Service group at Garfield Heights High School, realizing the critical need for blood donations throughout the nation, took the community-based initiative to help conduct a blood drive in the Auxiliary Gymnasium recently in partnership with the American Red Cross.

The drive was open for blood donations from students, staff and the community.

The American Red Cross incentivizes the Garfield Heights High School Students of Service for the total amount of blood collected during the drive, which has translated in the past to scholarships for students.

Congratulations to Students of Service adviser Austin Stamatis and his hard-working students.



Garfield Heights High School's Students of Service conducted a blood drive recently at the high school in partnership with the American Red Cross.

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-8. 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**

Music & Movement Storytime. Tuesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 10 a.m. Join us for a fun, interactive storytime featuring music and movement.

Family Storytime -All ages with caregiver. Tuesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6 p.m. Join us for stories, songs and fingerplays.

Engineering Hour -Grades 1-5. Thursdays, April 3, 17, 3:30 p.m. Bring your creativity and dexterity for an hour of building!

Art Quest -Grades 2-5. Fridays, April 4, 11, 18, 25, 4 p.m. Join library staff as we learn about famous artists and try our best at replicating their style!

Kindergarten Countdown -Children entering kindergarten next fall and their caregiver. Wednesday, April 9, 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**

Ellenwood Book Discussion -Adults. Wednesday, April 9, 2 p.m. Attend our monthly book discussion held at the Ellenwood Community Center, 124 Ellenwood Ave., in Bedford. Copies of the book will be available at the Bedford Branch and at the Ellenwood Center one month before the date of the discussion. April 9th: "Pineapple Street" by Jenny Jackson.

Self-Care Saturday -Grades 6-12. Saturday, April 12, 2 p.m. Ease your mind with calming activities. Art, yoga, writing and more! A release form must be completed by a parent/guardian prior to the program in order to participate. **MUST REGISTER**

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.

ADULTS

Fifth Decade Mastery Learn how to unlock your potential in your 50s and beyond with Natalie Rudd, a certified professional life and business coach. Thursday, March 20, 7-8 p.m. Registration required.

PowerPoint Basics Learn how to create a simple presentation with text, images and transitions to slides. Wednesday, March 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration required.

Innovation Center Hands on Help Need help with a project in the Innovation Center? Bring your ideas and materials and staff will be available to help you get started. This program is open to users who have already completed an Innovation Center Orientation. Wednesday, March 26, 6-8 p.m.

CHILDREN and FAMILIES

La Hora del Cuento: Spanish Language Storytime Participate in this Spanish storytime with rhymes, songs, games, movement, puppets, and stories in Spanish. The lead artist helps with translations in English. Monday, March 24, 6-6:30 p.m.

Respect, Kindness, Unity: A Family Plan Against Bullying For children ages pre-K through 12 and their caregivers, this interactive, multi-generational program with Bright Beginnings' Positive Parenting Program, will help teach your child how to stand up to bullying and how to avoid being a bully themselves. Thursday, March 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

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Village of Newburgh Heights

Housing & Building Department
3801 Harvard Avenue
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216-641-4654
newburgh-oh.gov

NOTICE FOR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

The Planning Commission of the Village of Newburgh Heights will meet on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Village Hall Council Chambers located at 3801 Harvard Ave. in Newburgh Heights.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes (10/24/2024)
- III. Review of site plan for construction of commercial shop by Paint Medics Inc. at vacant lots 2727 & 2729 Harvard Ave (PPN 511-06-094, 511-06-093, 511-06-092, 511-06-091, 511-06-090, 511-07-042, 511-07-040, 511-07-039, 511-07-038, and 511-07-018).
- IV. Public comment
- V. Action
- VII. Adjournment

Notice posted at Village Hall, Village Facebook, The Neighborhood News and mailed on March 10, 2025. The Neighborhood News: March 12, March 19, 2025



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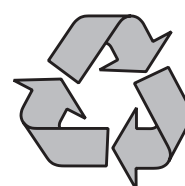
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Community police reports

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

Garfield Heights

Criminal Damage-Residence

On March 7, officers spoke to a female homeowner who came to GHPD to report damage done to a lock on her residence on Blythin Rd. She stated sometime between 6:50 p.m. on March 1, and 10:50 a.m. on March 3, an unknown person damaged the deadbolt lock on her back door by attempting to drill two holes through it. She said entry was not gained into her residence, and no damage was done to the actual door or frame. The homeowner could not provide any possible suspects. The damaged lock was already changed at the time of report.

Traffic Offense-Fleeing

On March 7, at 3:34 a.m., police observed a dark-colored sedan across from St. Monica Church traveling at a high rate of speed down Rockside Rd. They began a pursuit and the driver then turned off his exterior lights and traveled down Dunham Rd., then Maplewood Ave., at about 60mph. Officers lost sight of the car on Northwood Ave. During that time Maple Heights PD assisted with the pursuit. They located a vehicle, a black Honda CRV, in an open garage on Edgewood Ct. MHPD observed tire tracks leading into the listed address and through various side lawns. Police said the smell of brakes, hot calipers and wet tires on the car caused by driving through snowy lawns gave them further reason to suspect that the Honda had been the fleeing vehicle. Independence PD had been in pursuit of the Honda on Rockside Rd. The Honda was going approximately 90mph before the pursuit was terminated. Independence PD positively identified the Honda as their subject vehicle. The owner of the vehicle was contacted and stated it was potentially her ex-boyfriend. She stated he has possession of spare keys to the vehicle as well as her residence and is known for taking her vehicle without her knowledge. She refused to give any further information on the male. A GHPD officer noted in the report that the ex-boyfriend did not appear to be the same individual he saw driving the car when it initially passed by near St. Monica's.

Theft-Firearm

On March 13, an officer was met at the station by a resident of the 5000 block of E. 88 St., who wished to file a stolen firearm report. He told the officer that between

March 11, at 7 p.m., and March 12, at midnight, his Glock 9mm semiautomatic pistol was stolen from the glove box of his Kia while it was parked in his driveway. Nothing else was taken. Firearm entered into LEADS as stolen.

MVA Hit Skip

On March 13, at 10:35 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the Sunoco gas station, 6009 Turney Rd., for a car that struck a gas pump and fled the scene. When the officer arrived, the manager was placing cones around one of the gas pumps, which was dislodged from the island and leaning off slightly to the side due to it being hit from a car striking it. The manager had footage of the incident, which showed an unattended silver Nissan Sentra struck the gas pump while the driver was inside the gas station. The officer reviewed the footage which showed that about 8:41 p.m., the Nissan is parked just west of the station on an incline near the curb. A male is seen exiting the vehicle and walking into the store, leaving his car running. The car was not placed in park and eventually overcame the resistance from the incline and began to move forward, striking the gas pump. The man exits the store, sees his car has struck the gas pump and enters the store again. At that time the plate number of the car is clearly visible on the video. The man left the store again and drove off south on Turney Rd. It was learned the Sentra had been involved in an incident with Independence PD on Jan. 5, 2025, and that the same man who was driving the car during the incident was the same man who had been driving the car that hit the Sunoco gas pump. The man was not the owner of the vehicle. Report forwarded to the G.H. Detective Bureau for review.

Weapon Offense

On March 14, at about 4:08 a.m., an officer on routine patrol in the area of Broadway and McCracken Rd., saw a car at the stop light sit through the entire green light cycle. The officer approached the car, a Volkswagen Atlas, and saw two males sleeping in the front seat of the car. Other police units arrived and they knocked on the

windows which woke up the two men, who were taken to separate cruisers for interrogation. When asked by police, both men denied there were any firearms in the car. The driver was found to not have a valid driver's license and a tow was requested. He was also found to have a prior conviction for improper handling of a firearm in a motor vehicle. Inventory of the Volkswagen discovered a loaded firearm inside the car which had been stolen out of Cleveland. When asked about the firearm, both men denied having possession of it and they were transported to jail for receiving stolen property.

While at the jail the driver admitted that the gun was his and was charged with having weapons under disability, receiving stolen property and improper handling firearms in a motor vehicle and cited for no operator's license and expired tags. The passenger was cited for no seat belt and released.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS 2025 GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES

Sealed Requests for Proposals (RFP's) will be received by the Planning and Development Department at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until 4:00 p.m., local time, on the **16th day of April, 2025** for the **"2025 GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES"** in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio. **NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.** RFP's may be submitted in person, through the U.S. Postal Service or via e-mail to englebrechtg@mapleheightsohio.com within the solicitation period.

The Requirements for Proposals and Bidder Information Forms may be procured at the Office of the Planning and Development Director or on the City's RFP web page at:

www.citymapleheights.com/government/city-bids-rfps/.

Three (3) successful contractors will be required to register as a contractor with the Maple Heights Building Department.

RFP's are to be submitted in sealed envelopes marked, **"2025 GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES."**

Geoff Englebrecht
Planning and Development Director
City of Maple Heights

PUBLISHED: The Neighborhood News
March 19, 2025
March 26, 2025
April 2, 2025

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Cleveland Metroparks News

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

March 22: Coexisting with Coyotes. If you're curious about coyotes or wonder why you've seen them in your neighborhood, join Naturalist Emily for a presentation all about coyotes. We'll learn about coyotes' lifestyles, habitats and adaptations that help them survive in developing areas. March is coyote pup season so we will discuss how animals' behavior may change when they have young. We will have a short presentation followed by a hike to look for evidence of coyotes in our park. Noon–2 p.m. CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved, 1.2 miles.

March 22: Hike to the Overlook. Join a naturalist for an early spring hike along the Towpath. As we travel along the Cuyahoga River, we will look for bald eagles and

waterfowl. At the overlook we can see the river below, the location of our resident bald eagle nest, and one of the beaver lodges found in this reservation. 2–4 p.m. Meet at CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved, hills, 3 miles.

March 23: Sunday 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. 1–3 p.m. Meet at CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved surface, 3 miles.

March 24: CanalWay Kids. Young children and an adult can join us for this 6-week class that meets each Monday (3/24 - 5/12, no class 4/14, 4/21). We'll spend a little time indoors learning about seasonal nature topics and some time exploring the outdoors each week. 10–11:30 a.m., or 1–2:30 p.m. CanalWay Center. Ages 3–5 years w/adult. Fee: \$30 per child for 6-week session. Registration required: 8 people.

March 28: Connecting The Parks Walk. Join a naturalist to walk the paths connecting the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation and Washington Reservation. We will take the paved path down the hill from the Center, around the Lower 40 loop and back up past the center to E. 49 St. We'll head north to do a loop around Washington Reservation, then back to CanalWay Center. We will talk about how nature can be successful in industrial areas and the wildlife that surrounds these parks. 10 a.m.–noon. Meet at CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved, some hills, 3.5 miles.

March 29: Preschoolers in the Park: Amphibians. Bring your preschoolers to CanalWay Center to learn about amphibians found in Ohio. They will get to meet some of our nature center amphibians and listen to the different calls we might hear in the springtime. At the end of the program, we will walk down to the pond to look and listen for amphibians. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Ages 2–6 years w/adult. Terrain: paved and natural trails, hill, less than a mile.

March 29: Great Lakes Cargo Ships. Cleveland is a port city and ships are vital to our economy. Since before William Gordon orchestrated the first shipment of iron ore from Lake Superior to Cleveland, we've been receiving raw materials by bulk cargo ship. Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak will help you understand how these behemoths of transportation work and where you can go to see them in action. Noon–2 p.m. CanalWay Center.

March 30: Storytime Sunday: Rocks! Join Naturalist Emily for a story about rocks! Rocks are important in nature and come in many shapes and sizes. We'll read a story, take a short walk and then make our own rock crafts to take home. Come learn why rocks rock! 10–11 a.m. CanalWay Center. Terrain: paved, less than 1 mile. Ages 3–6 years w/adult.

Washington Reservation

March 22: A Buried Ravine Beneath the Green. Burke Brook was a tributary to the Cuyahoga River with a deep ravine. Although the stream is gone, remnants of this natural feature are still visible, and the former stream valley has become a vital urban greenspace. Join a naturalist on a short walk to reveal this hidden natural feature in Washington Reservation. 10–11 a.m. Meet at First Tee of Greater Cleveland parking lot. Terrain: paved, 1 mile.

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Tired of renting? Want to own a home?

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6:00 PM-7:30 PM

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Former FOX-8 newsman Tim Taylor honored

(Continued from Page 1)

Howland said, "I want to thank my finance staff and the Local Government Services Division of the Auditor of State's Office for helping us get this award every year. It's my whole department that gets this credit, with the support of city council. Thank you."

City buys former Nature Stone building

Council passed an ordinance authorizing Mike Mallis to enter into a purchase agreement with Masetta Holdings, LLC, for the purchase of real property located at 15 North Park St. in Bedford, the former Nature Stone facility, at a cost of \$435,000.

City Manager Mike Mallis noted that the property is about 104 years old and that the city had first inquired about buying it in 2020. "We look at this as making substantial improvements to the Commons, and we also believe that with a facility like that, being able to preserve the integrity of the Commons is important, with that historical component."

Mallis said the city would maintain ownership of the space, and in the short term would look to use it for its own needs while pursuing an end user that would complement the Commons area in the Historic Downtown district, which is undergoing a major expansion and renovations project this year, scheduled to start by the end of the month with completion by August.

Also passed

• Ordinance to enter into a contract with Carpet Country for replacement of the 22-year-old carpeting in the dorms, offices and radio rooms of the Fire Department, at a cost of \$16,211.37, amended to reflect a change in the cost from a previously quoted figure of \$25,567.15 from Carpet One.

• Ordinance to enter into an agreement with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to work with Ohio Emergency Medical Services leaders and to assist the Ohio Department of Medicaid in developing an Ambulance Supplemental Payment Program for the city.

Mallis explained that PCG was the only vendor that had been approved by the State of Ohio, and will assist the city in obtaining additional federal Medicaid funds to help recover the costs of our EMS transports annually.

Council also passed two motions to approve decisions of the Planning Commission.

The first motion approved Airian Pruitt, Owner/CFO of Peter James Behavioral Health, Inc., for an occupancy permit to open an office to provide mental health and behavioral health services in a business district at 767 Broadway Ave.

The second approved Ronald Kluchin of Ronald Kluchin Architects, Inc., to build a new automobile dealership at 18850 Rockside Rd. Ward 2 Councilman Steve Salvi said the new facility will be Jay Honda, representing an investment of \$9 million at the Rockside-Bartlett intersection. The project is expected to create an expected 70 new full-time jobs at this location.

Announcements

Mallis said Ward meetings will be held on the following Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers of Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Rd.: Wards 1 and 6 on March 31; Wards 3 and 4 on April 14; and Wards 2 and 5 on April 28.

He also said the city had been awarded a Cuyahoga County Planning Grant, which will allow the city to update its Master Plan citywide.

Dinners at Bohemian Hall

Sokol Fish Fry

Sokol Greater Cleveland will be holding a Friday Fish Fry on March 21, serving from 5 to 7:30 p.m., at Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland. Dinners are \$10 to \$15 with fried fish, baked fish, shrimp, pierogis and mac and cheese on the menu. All dinners include tater tots, cole slaw, dessert and coffee. Music by Frank Moravcik.

Sokol Pork Dinner

Sokol Greater Cleveland will hold a Pork, Dumplings & Sauerkraut Dinner on Sunday, March 23, at Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, serving from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$20; reservations necessary by Friday, March 21. Call Vlad Nemecek at 216-894-3591.



The Neighborhood News

Since 1923 - Publishes every Wednesday

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

GET HOOKED ON THESE NEIGHBORHOOD LENTEN FISH FRYS AND SPECIALS

St. Monica Fish Fry

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March 7 thru April 11, 4-7pm
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March 7-14-21-28
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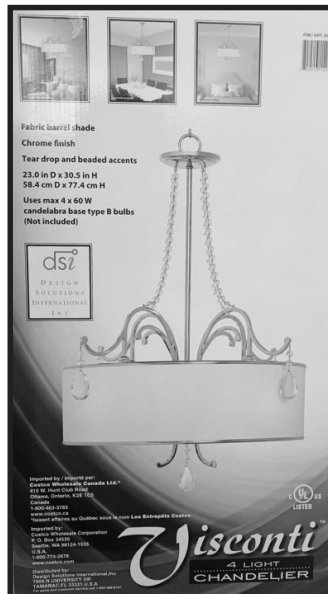
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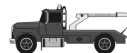
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For more information, call Garfield Heights
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GH Service Garage, 13600 McCracken Rd.

Cuyahoga Hts. Elementary School one of 47 Ohio schools honored through Science of Reading program

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) Director Stephen D. Dackin announced the first group of Ohio schools to be honored through the new Governor's Science of Reading Recognition Program, which included Cuyahoga Heights Elementary School in the Cuyahoga Heights Local School District.

A total of 47 schools across the state were recognized for their exemplary work aligning their curriculum with the Science of Reading, embracing professional development for teachers, and raising literacy achievement among their students.

"Reading is the key to learning. Reading is the key to life. With this new recognition, we celebrate the schools throughout Ohio that are going above and beyond to bring the Science of Reading into their classrooms," said Governor DeWine.

"In many of our schools that were early adopters of the Science of Reading, we're already seeing tremendous results," said Director Dackin. "More students are reading at grade level and literacy achievement is improving. Every day more schools are becoming fully aligned with the Science of Reading. While this kind of change takes time, the reward for our students will be well worth it."

Governor DeWine announced the Science of Reading Recognition Program as part of his 2025 State of the State Address on March 12.

Visit Our New & Improved Website:
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South East Kiwanians tour First Tee Cleveland at Washington Reservation

Members and guests of the Kiwanis Club of South East Cleveland, with Kiwanis President Tony Brancatelli at far left, and Kiwanis Division 15 Lt. Gov. Hasani Wheat in center (red shirt), are shown with officials from First Tee of Cleveland at the Washington Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks in Newburgh Heights, which operates a 9-hole golf course there. Kiwanis held its regular meeting at First Tee on Thursday, March 13, and toured the facility, which has expanded into the former Washington Park School.

"First Tee is a youth development organization that enables kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges," according to its website. "By seamlessly integrating the game of golf with a life skills curriculum, active learning experiences are created that build inner strength, self-confidence and resilience that kids can carry to everything they do."

EASTER CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

Starts at 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

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