## Councilman Charles J. Slife | Winter 2022-2023 Ward 17 Dispatch



## A Message from Councilman Charles Slife

I like winter in Cleveland. There, I said it! Winter gets a bad rap, but I think there's beauty in a quiet snowfall. And who doesn't like to warm up with a cup of hot cocoa?!

Instead of hibernating this coming winter, check out some of the great free and nearly free activities that are available to us in Cleveland. Here are some of my favorite activities all around town that you might not know about.

#### **Big Met Golf Course: Cross-Country Skiing & Snowshoeing** 4811 Valley Parkway

Head down into the valley after a fresh snow. Metroparks offers low-cost crosscountry ski and snowshoe rentals. Or bring your own from home. It's fun and a great exercise!

#### **Cleveland Metroparks Zoo Rainforest** 3900 Wildlife Way

It might be cold outside, but it's hot and humid in the Zoo's rainforest building. Take the kids and check out the animals. Admission to The RainForest is \$6.00

on Mondays for Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township residents.

#### **Cleveland Museum of Art & Transformer Station \*FREE\*** CMA: 11150 East Blvd.

Transformer Station: 1460 W. 29th St.

The Cleveland Museum of Art and its Transformer Station are world class art institutions. And unlike other renowned museums across the country and world, ours is always free. Spend an entire day or just swing by when in the neighborhood.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

CITY HALL 216-664-4239 EMAIL cslife@clevelandcitycouncil.org

**WEB** www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-17

## **Kudos in** KAMMS

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Kudos in Kamms. It was too difficult to pick only one to be named "The Nicest Neighbors in the Ward" so we thought we'd give them all a shout out.

**Kudos to you Todd Sheppard** – for plowing your neighbor's sidewalks and driveway. Thank you for always having time for a chat and being an all-around nice neighbor.

**Kudos to you Dan Carrick** – for always being ready to help.

**Kudos to you Tim Comerford** – for taking in your neighbors garbage cans after

**Kudos you to Joe Cavanagh** – for getting your neighbors daily newspaper from the sidewalk and placing it right at their front door.

Kudos to you Terri Mulhorn & **Linda Marchak** – for treating your neighbors like family. You have been there to

help with the biggest and smallest of fixes. Your neighbors are grateful to have you around.

**Kudos to you Bryan Blankenship** – for always doing things that someone might need on the street, like plowing all the sidewalks, cleaning debris from drains and trimming trees. Thank you for keeping your street beautiful.

Kudos to you Ron & Nancy Martin – you have always been wonderful neighbors. This included going above and beyond while your neighbor's daughter was deployed overseas, you helped with grass cutting, snow removal, and just watching out for her safety. You gave her one less thing to worry about when she was serving our country.

It was wonderful reading all the stories of neighbors being there for each other. Let this your sign to be a great example of what a neighbor can do in our beautiful city.

> Email submissions to Mary at mbreitweg@clevelandcitycouncil.org with the subject line "Kudos in Kamms"

### **Grand Opening of the Relmagined West Park Campus**



### **GRAND OPENING SAT., JANUARY 7, 2023**

Cleveland Public Library invites the community to the grand opening of the reimagined West Park!

Community members will get a chance to reconnect with their favorite librarians and learn about new services. There will also be food, entertainment, and fun activities for the entire family.

To RSVP, go to: https://cpl.libcal.com/event/10012455





## How to Winterize Your Plumbing



### Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses and empty rain barrels

Detaching the hose allows water to drain from the pipe instead of leaving it to freeze. Shut off the water supply to outside spigots if they have a separate shutoff valve.



### Insulate water pipes in unheated

If you have pipes in an unheated area, like a garage or a crawl space, wrap the pipes with an insulating material like foam tubing or heat tape. Make sure to not leave any gaps without insulation.



### Seal gaps and cracks in doors and windows

Winter winds whistling through overlooked openings can quickly freeze exposed water pipes. Seal places where cold air gets in with caulking or spray foam. Be careful not to plug air vents that appliances need to function properly.



### Find your main shut-off valve and

Know where to access and how to use your main water shut-off valve. You can usually find it in your basement or crawl space near your water meter. Turning off your water quickly will limit damage and control costs in case a frozen pipe



### Leave a pencil-lead-thin stream of water flowing

During the worst of a cold spell, allow a small flow of water to run from the faucet that is furthest from your meter. You can also leave your cabinet doors open to allow the heat of your house to circulate around plumbing under sinks.



### Turn off the water if you are away for a long period of time

If you'll be away from home for several days, turn the water off at the main valve and drain the outside faucets. Or, leave your thermostat set at 55 degrees or higher to ensure your home stays warm enough to keep interior plumbing from freezing.



#### Cleveland Water

1201 Lakeside Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 4411 216.664.3130 | clevelandwater.com









# **Our First Responders**

### Rank/Name: P.O. Rodriguez

**Year you joined CPD: 2018** 

Why did you become a police officer?: ? I wanted to be a change in my community not only from a officers perspective but as a second-generation Latino it was important for me to pave the ways for others who look like me and come from where I come from.

**Favorite part of the job:** The relationships you build with the community during your interactions.

### Favorite places in Ward 17/

West Park: I'll have to say Gunning Rec Center, I spent a lot of my Childhood at Gunning Recreation Center and it was a safe haven for many of us as kids.

**Fun fact about you:** I enjoy reading books when I am not working.





### **HIGHLIGHTS**

### Drakefield Park Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

September 14 we had the ribbon cutting for the Lt. Richard A.
Petras Playground at Drakefield Park. Thank you to everyone who participated and attended! Please enjoy the photos from this event.





### 2022 Senior of the Year: Vincent Birt



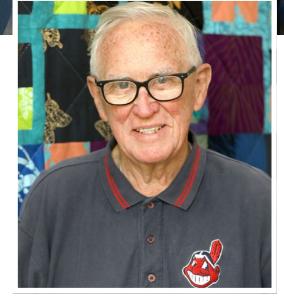
The 2022 City of Cleveland Senior Day Celebraion took place September 15 and Councilman Slife honored Vincent "Binky" Birt as Ward 17's Senior of the Year!

Binky is a lifelong West Park resident and attended OLA and St. Ed's. He married Karen in 1963 and together they have 4 children, 3 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

For 37 years he was a volunteer coach at Our Lady of Angels School, including football, baseball, basketball and track teams. Known by hundreds, if not thousands, of young men as "coach", "Bink" or Binky".

We are happy to have Binky as a member of our community.

**Congrats Binky!** 



TOP: Vincent "Binky" Birt at the 32nd Annual Senior Day Event at Cleveland Public Hall, being recognized as Ward 17's Outstanding Senior of the year. Pictured are Sonya Pryor-Jones, City of Cleveland Chief of Youth & Family Success, Council President Blaine A. Griffin, and Councilman Charles Slife.

### **Cleveland Department of Aging Programs**

**Chore Services** – Chore services may include: general house cleaning, lawn mowing, leaf raking, snow shoveling, and installation of smoke detectors.

**Cleveland Care Calls – Cleveland Care Calls** is an automated telephone reassurance system for Cleveland seniors to check on their well-being.

**Cleveland Tree Assistance Program for Seniors** – This program assists Cleveland seniors and adults with disabilities by removing and trimming hazardous trees on their property.

Senior Guest House - Located on the campus of Fairhill Partners, this home like setting for persons 60 years of age and older provides a safe environment for seniors in residential crises or unsafe living conditions. This is a collaborative project of Fairhill Partners and the Cleveland Department of Aging.

> Learn more about these and other helpful programs by contacting the **Department of Aging:**

216-664-2833 www.clevelandohio.gov/aging

#### CLEVELAND PUBLIC UTILITIES

### **Customer Assistance Resources**

Cleveland Water, Water Pollution Control, and CPP offer home repair and weatherization services via CHN Housing Partners' Home Energy Efficiency Services Program.

Services are available to renters and homeowners to help with water conservation, plumbing repair, water heater repair or replacement, insulation, heating system repair or replacement, appliance replacement, and more. All improvements are provided based on income qualifications and a home energy inspection.

For more information or to apply, visit chnhousingpartners.org/energyservices or call 216-325-1149.

#### **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**



#### **CLEVELAND WATER**

**Customer Service: 216-664-3130 Emergency Line: 216-664-3060** clevelandwater.com



#### **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL**

**Customer Service: 216-664-2513 Report Illegal Dumping:** 216-664-DUMP

clevelandwpc.com



### **CLEVELAND PUBLIC POWER**

**Customer Service: 216-664-4600** Report an Outage: 216-664-3156 cpp.org

#### **ACTIVITIES CONTINUED**

### **Cleveland Museum** of Natural History \*FREE\*



One Wade Oval Dr.

The Natural History Museum is free for Cleveland residents on Sundays. See some dinosaur bones, learn about space, check out some insects, and more!

#### **Cleveland Police Museum \*FREE\*** 1300 Ontario St.

The Police Museum covers the history of the Division of Police, back to when it began in the mid-1800's. Learn more about our police and parts of our city's history including Eliot Ness.

### **Cleveland Public Library Main Branch \*FREE\***

325 Superior Ave.

After exploring the newly renovated West Park Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, head Downtown to the Main Library. It's a beautiful building to explore and is full of great books and Cleveland history.

#### **Collinwood Recreation Center Aqua Playground \*FREE\*** 16300 Lakeshore Blvd.

Grab your passport and head to the far east side. The Collinwood Recreation Center features an indoor splash pad that is a great for restless kids on a cold winter day.

#### **Halloran Park Ice Rink** 3550 W. 117th St.

Grab your jacket and some gloves and head over to Halloran Park's outdoor ice rink. The city offers \$1 skate rentals or bring your own.

#### **International Women's Air & Space Museum \*FREE\*** 1501 N. Marginal Rd. (Burke Airport Terminal)

This museum, though often overlooked, yet amazing museum documents the role women have placed in aviation. A visit to the Women's Air & Space Museum is a key component to a winter day trip to lakefront museums.

### **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame** \*FREE\*

1100 E. 9th St.

Did you know the world-famous Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is FREE to Cleveland residents? And not just on special days. Always!

### **Rockefeller Park Greenhouse** \*FREE\*

750 E. 88th St.

Not go be confused with the Botanical Gardens!, the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse is a personal favorite and is wear the city grows many of the plants you see in public buildings. Check out a variety of exotic and unusual plants ranging from desert cactuses to the tropics.

1/16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day 1/2: New Year's Day (observed)

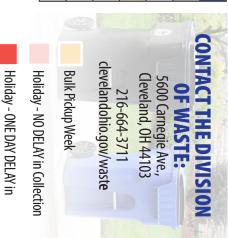
2/20: Presidents' Day

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Vinter 2022-2023 Waste Collection Calendar





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Visit www.ClevelandCityCouncil.org/ward-17



CLEVELAND, OH PERMIT NO. 2893

Does Your Home Have Smoke Alarms?

If not, call the Operation Save-A-Life 24-hour hotline at

216-361-5535

to apply for **FREE** smoke alarms

Operation Save-A-Life, a program of the American Red Cross and the Cleveland Fire Department, provides FREE smoke alarms and batteries to Cleveland firefighters at no cost to residents. Please note that application and installation process may take up to 90 days.

#### Why do I need smoke alarms?

Smoke alarms provide an early warning of fire and can increase the chances of a safe escape. According to the Cleveland Fire Department, nearly 75% of deaths in house fires are caused by smoke rather than burns. Children and senior citizens are at greatest risk.

- » Install smoke alarms on every level of your home.
- >> Test the batteries once a month. Change them twice a year.
- ightharpoonup Develop a home escape plan in case of fire. Have at least two exits from every room and designate an outside meeting spot.
- » Keep anything that can catch fire away from space heaters. Unplug them when not in use.





