



JANUARY 2020

# THE PARTNER

*The Partner is the official newsletter of the Cleveland Police Foundation*



## CPF Police Officer of the Month, December 2019: Detective John Freehoffer

**Detective John Freehoffer** is assigned to the Cleveland Police Domestic Violence Unit and is a tremendous advocate for victims of domestic violence. Freehoffer has also done incredible work in promoting police-community relations. He volunteers his time to organize the Heroes Run, a 5K race/run on Rocky River Drive in Cleveland.

Each year the race funds three scholarships to surviving family members of officers and firefighters listed on the Police and Firefighter Memorial. Proceeds also pay for the maintenance of the memorial. And if that isn't enough, Detective Freehoffer also organizes the Cleveland Police "Shop with a Cop," a Christmas shopping spree for children who have witnessed or are victims of domestic violence, homicide, or sex crimes.

When asked about this program, Detective Freehoffer stated, "I am honored to say 'Shop with a Cop,' which started nine years ago and began with 20 children, had 95 kids this year who shopped and interacted with our officers. In total since we started the program, we have spent around \$100,000 and helped around 500 children."

It is because of his devotion and dedication to the community that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Detective John Freehoffer as its **Police Officer of the Month for December 2019**.

[More about the Police Officer of the Month Program . . .](#)



## Community Partners of the Month, December 2019: Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation

For the last nine years, the **Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation** has held a Christmas stocking drive for the Cleveland Police Second District Children's Christmas Party!

Third grade teacher Cherise Goodrich established and organized this drive from the get-go! It was started with 30 third-graders at Royalview Elementary School and has now snowballed into donations from the entire W-E School of Innovation!

This year over 300 stockings stuffed with toys, candy, and goodies will be given out to kids from struggling families. Even Santa made an appearance at the Christmas stocking drive to celebrate the

Christmas spirit and to thank these wonderful students, families, and staff for showing everyone the true meaning of Christmas.

A big thank you and Merry Christmas to the Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation!!

It is because of this generosity in helping the kids of the Cleveland community that the Cleveland Police Foundation is honored to name the Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation as its **Community Partner of the Month for December 2019**.

[More about the Community Partner of the Month Program . . .](#)

## Order your 2020 "Dog and Pony Show" calendar today!

Woof woof! [We invite you to buy](#) the 2020 Dog and Pony Calendar. Featuring beautiful shots of the K-9 dogs and horses in the Cleveland Mounted Unit in our second edition calendar!



[How to Purchase](#)

## "BOLO"

### Be on the Lookout: Mark Your Calendar

January 29-January 31, 2020

[Introduction to Crime Prevention Training](#)  
[& CPS Certification with the OCPA](#)

9:00 am-5:00 pm

## In the News Around Town



## Cops, Kids & Christmas at Ronald McDonald House

The 37th annual Cops, Kids & Christmas was held at the Ronald McDonald House December 12, 2019.

The facility was beautifully decorated for the season as the kids waited for the arrival of Santa Claus. The children received t-shirts, toys, sang Christmas carols with the police officers, and when Saint Nick arrived, they got to sit on his lap for a chat. Upon completion, everyone gathered in the cafeteria for a nice lunch and a good time was had by all!

Thank you to all the officers and volunteers that made this yearly event a success and made this day special for these special children. When asked about this event that he started 37 years ago, retired CPD Officer John Thomas stated, "It is a humbling experience to see these children every year that are dealing with all sorts of health problems that we can perhaps help them forget about those problems for one day and have them spend time with our officers and Santa." Well said, J.T., and here's hoping we can continue to do this for another 37 years!



## 9th Annual Cleveland Police Children's Holiday Party

On Saturday, December 7, 2019 the **Cleveland Police Athletic League (PAL)** held their 9th annual Children's Holiday Party at the Public Auditorium.

PAL invited children from all neighborhoods in the city to participate in games, train rides, a bouncy house, and a visit with Santa, and all received a Christmas present. They also had the opportunity to interact with the numerous CPD Officers from around the city who volunteered their time to ensure the kids had a great time.

This event carries on PAL's tradition of bringing joy to many of our community's poorest children during the holiday season. Cleveland PAL feels every child deserves a special holiday experience, and want each child to leave the event with a special individual toy or gift that they they choose, something to eat, and some wonderful childhood memories. This year, PAL served over 3,000 youngsters and 1,500 adult chaperones.

A big thank you goes out to Santa, his elves, CPD retired Sergeant Bob Kumazec from PAL, Niko Frangos from the Rascal House for providing the pizza, Cleveland Police Foundation board members Dick Clough and Doug Bugie, and all the CPD officers and volunteers who helped to make this event a success!



## Second District Children's Christmas Party

The Cleveland Police Foundation and Cops for Kids supported the Second District Children's Christmas Party on Saturday December 21 at [Our Lady of Mount Carmel](#).

Over 200 kids with families were treated to a visit by Santa! There was a show, lunch, and a Christmas story. Each child also received a gift, free books, and a stocking!

A big thanks and Merry Christmas to the Second District Community Relations Committee, Second District officers, Community Relations officers, Cuyahoga County Prosecutors Office, [Skylight Financial Group](#), and [The Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation](#).



## PAL Around Town

Outside of the Annual Children's Holiday Party, many of the **Cleveland Police Athletic League's (PAL)** officers and kids participated in these community service programs in the months of November and December.

### Keeping Resee's Children Warm

Held November 17th at the Arbor Park Village, the event is named for De'Etta "Miss Resee" Brown, long time tenant activist, PAL volunteer program coordinator, and all-around charitable woman. Each of over 100 children received a gift bag with thermal underwear, socks, hats, and gloves, while participating in games, raffles, and enjoying some food. Books and shelves were also provided free of charge for over the youngsters and their needy families. Many thanks to the other organizations and donors involved!

### 35th Annual Tour of Good Cheer

This year several PAL mentors and mentees assisted in the Tour of Good Cheer, helping to give away nearly 9,000 pieces of clothing, toys and gift cards to more than 1,500 adults and children. Over the years this program has delivered tens of thousands of coats, sweaters, gift cards, toys and necessities to adults and children in need throughout Cleveland. On December 20th, 85 volunteer "elves" and a fleet of four buses filled with volunteers and gifts visited 10 different facilities including homeless shelters, hospitals, halfway houses, and children's homes.

# We get mail!

## #Giving Season

**Eric Brooks:** "Happy to help with this great group and cause!! Big thanks to the kids from Solon Wrestling Club and our friends at JAWs: Junior Aurora Wrestling, Bomber Wrestling Club and Nordonia for donating the toys!!"

**Stephanie Doerner:** "Thank you, The Cleveland Police Foundation and Keith G. Sulzer for having us! The Greater Cleveland Chorus had an amazing time!!!"

**Leo Tully:** "Awesome. Keep up the good work. I'm happy to contribute to such a great cause. 🙏❤️🚗 u"

## #Remembrance

**Janet Frost:** "God bless and protect our defenders of this great country! We love you!! 🙏❤️us❤️"

**Pat Gaul-Linder:** "R.I.P. Thank you for your service and sacrifice....❤️💔🙏"

## #PoliceOfficerOfTheMonth

**JB Marie:** "This recognition is long overdue. His assignment is extremely difficult working in the Domestic Violence Unit as its longest serving member. His additional volunteer community activities, most of which he leads, is unmatched. Congratulations Detective Freehoffer."

## Recap photos . . .

Simply amazing amount of work - impossible to track it all! Here are photos from the many events local police officers were involved in over just a short period.

[Read all about it here!](#)





# Safety and Crime Prevention Tips

*The Cleveland Police Foundation in partnership with the Cleveland Division of Police and the Ohio Crime Prevention Association presents these tips so citizens can help to make our community safer.*

## Winter Driving Tips

Winter driving can be treacherous and stressful. Snow, ice, freezing rain and sub-zero temperatures all combine to make driving in the winter dangerous and, potentially, life threatening. The good news is that there are steps people can take to protect themselves when behind the wheel in winter. Here are a few safety tips to help you lessen the chances of having an accident or getting stuck in frigid conditions.

- Check weather and road conditions frequently.
- Use your G.P.S. when necessary.
- Keep a survival kit in your vehicle.
- Travel with a charged cell phone and keep emergency numbers within reach.
- Clear all snow and ice from your car.
- Keep an assured clear distance from snow plows.
- Always allow extra time to get where you are going.
- Dress in layers and wear comfortable clothes.
- Keep your gas tank full.
- Never use cruise control on slippery roads.
- Learn how to use your car's anti-lock braking system and four wheel drive.
- Make sure your tires are in good condition



—  
*Safety is everyone's business. Practice good safety measures. Stay alert; if you see something, say something.*

**Subscribe to our website news articles, safety tips and *The Partner***

To receive articles in your inbox, [subscribe to our newsfeed here](#). Forward this email and ask friends to sign up [here](#).



**Join us on Facebook**

Keep in touch with what's happening. Join our social community on Facebook! News, videos, photos and other items of interest.

**CPF on Facebook** 

**Subscribe**

**The January 2020 *Partner***

*Contributors:* Angela Thi Bennett, Robert M. Guttu, Keith Sulzer, Cleveland Division of Police and the Ohio Crime Prevention Association

*Co-editors:* Marilyn Jech, Kathy Smith



Share



Tweet



Forward

*The Cleveland Police Foundation is the official charity for the Cleveland Division of Police and the only organization authorized to solicit charitable contributions on its behalf.*

*In addition to providing funding for youth and community outreach programs, community policing and engagement initiatives, safety & crime prevention programs, and supporting the members of the Cleveland Division of Police to help them better perform their duties, the CPF proudly supports the following charities in accomplishing their mission.*



*Contributions to the CPF are tax deductible under section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code.*

**Donate Here**

*Thank you for supporting the mission of the CPF.*

---

*Copyright © 2020 Cleveland Police Foundation, all rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)



