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MARCH 2021

THE PARTNER

The Partner is the official newsletter of the Cleveland Police Foundation



FEBRUARY 2021 POLICE OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

The Cleveland Police Foundation is honored to recognize Patrol Officers James Grotenrath, James Lally, Brandon Melbar, Christopher Musson, Ashley Santa, and Mason Sedlak as the February 2021 Police Officers of the Month.

The words "Good will towards men" are often heard during the Christmas season. On this past Christmas Eve, six Cleveland Patrol Officers from the Fourth District expressed their

goodwill!

These six Heroes in Blue, **Patrol Officers James Grotenrath, James Lally, Brandon Melbar, Christopher Musson, Ashley Santa, and Mason Sedlak** responded to a call received from an elderly male. This man lives alone and had been snowed into his home from the recent snowstorm.

Despite this not being a typical police call, the officers went to the man's home and brought snow shovels with them. During brutal weather conditions, they proceeded to shovel the citizen's driveway, walkway, and the steps to his front porch. They finished the job by completely salting the driveway and walkway and informed the grateful resident it was now safe to leave the house.

When asked about this Christmas gift provided by these officers, Fourth District Sergeant Barry Bentley stated, "These are very special officers that were proud to do a good deed for a good person and remained in good spirits while doing so."

It is because of their unselfish actions to assist a needy individual from the community they serve that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Patrol Officers James Grotenrath, James Lally, Brandon Melbar, Christopher Musson, Ashley Santa, and Mason Sedlak as its **Police Officers of the Month for February 2021**.

(Special note): Thank you to Fourth District Commander Brandon Kutz for this nomination!

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



FEBRUARY 2021 COMMUNITY PARTNER Wade Park School

Paraprofessional Eloise Bullock and Principal Dr. Lee Clinton Buddy, Jr.
flanked by CPF Staff Keith Sulzer and Bob Guttu

February 2021 Community Partner of the Month

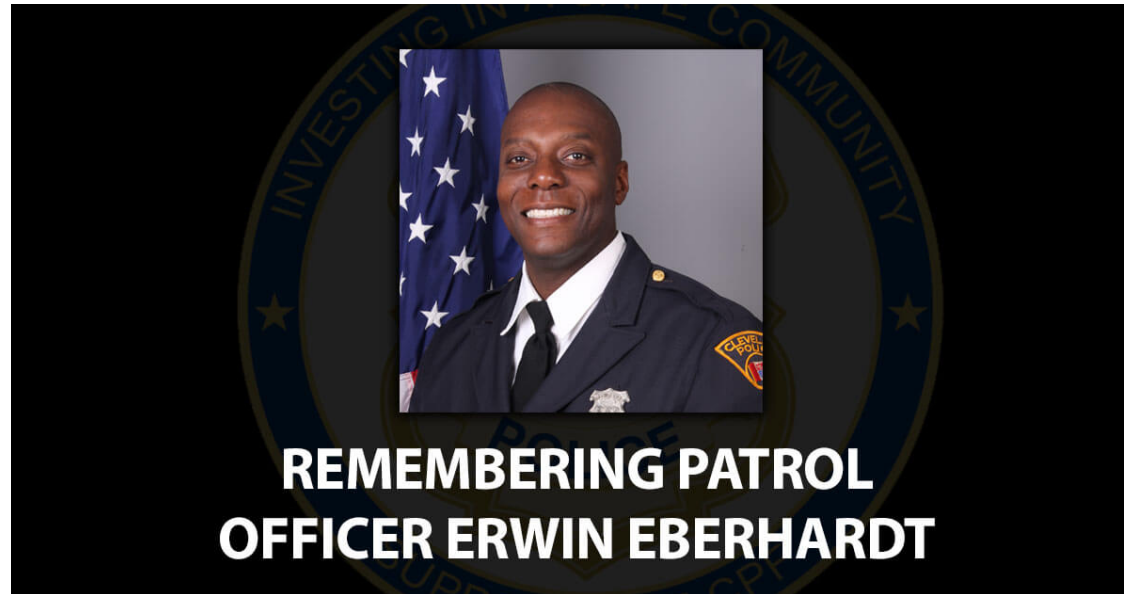
The students, staff, and families of **Wade Park School** (Kindergarten – 8th grade) have been terrific friends and partners to the Cleveland Division of Police, the Cleveland Police Foundation, and the entire City of Cleveland!

Over the last few years, the CPD and CPF have worked with Wade Park School and their principal, Dr. Lee Clinton Buddy Jr., as well as Paraprofessional Eloise Bullock. They collaborated on several projects including beautifying the school through planting flowers, ice skating at Public Square, Cooking with Cops at Dave's Supermarket, and getting together just to get to know each other.

After the 2020 May riots in Cleveland, the students and staff from the school came downtown and cleaned up much of the mess. This is indicative of the leadership of the staff at Wade Park, understanding that teaching our children about responsibility, understanding, and caring about their community are cornerstones of building a stronger Cleveland!

It is because of their dedication to the community and the Cleveland Division of Police that the Cleveland Police Foundation is honored to name Wade Park School as its **Community Partner of the Month for February 2021**.

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



It is with deep sorrow that I report the passing of Patrol Officer Erwin Eberhardt, a Police Officer of the Month for June 2017 and a recipient of the Edward P. Kovacic Memorial Police Officer of the Year Award. Officer Eberhardt was respected by all who knew him. RIP my friend.” ~ Bob Guttu, CPF Community Outreach Coordinator

Our sincerest sympathy to the Eberhardt family and to all who knew Patrol Officer Erwin Eberhardt.

THE CLEVELAND POLICE FOUNDATION HONORS OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

PATROL OFFICER ERWIN EBERHARDT (Airport Unit), along with Retired Detective Carl Bowers and Detective Michael Belle, volunteered for years with the Progress with Chess Program hosted by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. The program teaches students the rules of the game and gives them the skills to compete in chess as well as creating a positive interaction with members of law enforcement. The three officers were on the chess team themselves when they were in high school at John Adams.

Thank you Officer Eberhardt, for your service and for passing on a legacy!

Memorial Scholarship Fund

Thank you to the friends and family of Officer Eberhardt for creating the new [Erwin Eberhardt Memorial Scholarship Fund](#). Funds raised go directly to Tri-C's Public Safety Training Center. As of this point, \$5030 has been raised!

BOLO

MAY 2 - 8, 2021

National Correctional Officers Week

MAY 13

33rd Annual Candlelight Vigil

MAY 9 - 15

National Police Week

MAY 15

Peace Officers Memorial Day

In the News Around Town

Dr. Yvonne Pointer and Crew Continue Their Mission

A big thank you goes out to Cleveland Police Foundation board member Dr. Yvonne Pointer and her "Crew" for once again feeding our Heroes in Blue. The grateful recipients of this outing were **Second District Officers** who lined up for food goodies consisting of McDonald's breakfast sandwiches, doughnuts, and coffee.



The group has been feeding Cleveland Police officers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The donated dinners have come from Angie's Soul Cafe, Chic-fil-A, and Beckham's B&M Bar B Que. Additional donations have been raised by [Hope Haven](#), the Jeff Brown Radio Show, and the Urban League of Greater Cleveland Guild.



In February, the Fourth District Police Department was served coffee and donuts in appreciation of their service for Black History Month. Community partners on this project included Margaret W. Wong, Peaches and Geoffrey Ledwidge, Michael A. Bailey, and Laquania Sheree Graham.



Conversations for Change

Thanks to [Fox News 8](#) for covering “Conversations for Change” February 25. This forum was organized and hosted by the [Cavaliers](#), [Browns](#) and [Indians](#). The Cleveland Police Foundation's Pipeline Program and National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) also took part in the event.

Monthly meetings focused on improving the relationship between law enforcement and citizens, encouraging non-partisan voting activities and increasing opportunities for quality education for everyone. [Watch the coverage here.](#)



Cleveland Police Museum Preserves & Collects History

The Cleveland Police Museum continues to collect and preserve the history of our police, despite the coronavirus!

Although the museum is closed to the public at this time, we are busy creating new exhibits, collecting artifacts and photographs, and sharing the story of the Cleveland

Division of Police through our website and social media. When the police museum reopens, a new panel exhibit will be installed: *Early Criminal Detection*.

In 2021, we are focusing on collecting the important history of women in the police department. If you would like to share your story, photographs, or artifacts, [please contact us](#).

The Cleveland Police Historical Society & Museum can only continue its work through the financial support of its members, including active and retired officers of the Cleveland Division of Police. We also welcome the community to join – from individual memberships to business sponsors! [Please click here to donate](#).

We thank you for your support and look forward to the day we can welcome you back to the museum!

Check us out:

director@clevelandpoliceuseum.org

www.clevelandpoliceuseum.org

<https://www.facebook.com/clevelandpoliceuseum>

The Murphy Call Box

In 1887, Cleveland Police Commissioner J.H. Bradner persuaded a Western Union lineman by the name of Jerry Murphy to work for Cleveland's City Signal System. The innovative Murphy devised a telegraph/telephone system as a call box for police officers on patrol. The original call boxes were so large that citizens complained about the seven-foot tall, three-foot wide metal structures, forcing Murphy to produce a more compact version. The new version, later coined the Murphy System, was produced in 1890. An original "Murphy System" police call box is on display at the Cleveland Police Museum.



The way it worked

Patrolmen on their beat were required to ring-in at pre-determined times. This was accomplished by pulling the lever inside the box that sent a coded message via telegraph to the precinct house. The boxes were numbered and the coded message coincided with that number.

- **1 Pull** signaled that the officer was on post and alright.
- **2 Pulls** was a request for a patrol wagon to pick up an arrested person or render assistance.

~ Cleveland Police Museum

We get mail

Remembering Patrol Officer Erwin Eberhardt

"He was my nephew's dad and such a sweet man with the biggest heart for all and the biggest infectious smile. He truly will be missed. I'm still in shock and heartbroken. CPD lost a truly great man. Thank you. 💔🙏❤️" ~ Nicole Kostelnik

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 residents can help to make our community safer.

WHAT IS A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

This is part one of a series of articles about Neighborhood Watch programs.

Each day, crime and the fear of crime threaten communities. Residents change their plans and lifestyles based on the fear of going out after dark. Parents and children are afraid to use local parks where criminals meet, and businesses refuse to put shops in areas they believe are unsafe. It often seems as if nothing can be done to make neighborhoods safer places to live and work.

But something can be done. Neighborhood Watches and community mobilization offer citizens the ability to work with law enforcement to prevent, and rid, neighborhoods of vandalism and crime. Proven to be one of the most effective and least costly answers to crime, Neighborhood Watches encourage residents to join together and be aware of activities around them in their daily lives.

WHY DO RESIDENTS MOBILIZE?

- To get something done about an immediate problem
- To problem-solve on future goals
- To gather resources for community needs
- To improve the quality of life in their community

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ARTICLES

- Part Two: [“A Neighborhood Watch is Not...”](#)
- Part Three: [“Organizing a Neighborhood Watch”](#)
- Part Four: [“The Neighborhood Watch Meeting”](#)
- Part Five: [“The Role of Neighborhood Watch Members”](#)
- Part Six: [“Neighborhood Watch: Solving Problems”](#)
- Part Seven: [“What Motivates Neighborhood Watch Members”](#)
- Part Eight: [“How Neighborhood Watches Grow”](#)

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

safety tips and *The Partner*

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The March 2021 *Partner*

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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.

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