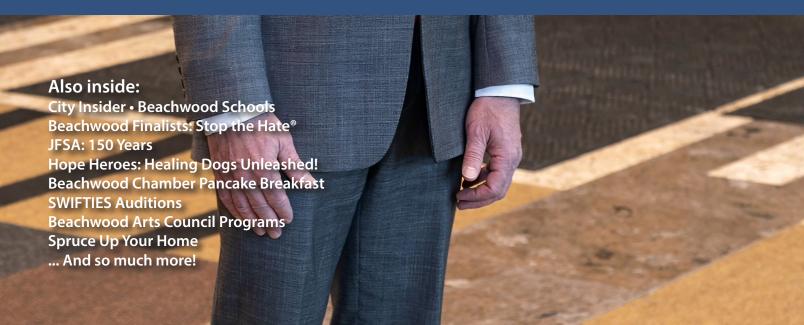


PRESENTED BY MAYOR JUSTIN BERNS



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Letter from THE EDITOR

By Debby Zelman Rapoport



"If you light a lamp for someone else, it will also brighten your path." - Buddha

> "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." - Oscar Wilde

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up." - Mark Twain

n today's increasingly polarized climate, we all know someone whose political values and opinions differ from our own, and the energy surrounding these differences may not align with how we strive to navigate our daily lives. However, we have the power to create positive change through small, meaningful actions. By practicing kindness and paying it forward, we can foster connection, understanding, and a more harmonious environment in both our personal and professional interactions.

Global Pay It Forward Day is an international movement celebrated annually on April 28 to encourage acts of kindness without expecting anything in return. The idea is to inspire people to make the world a better place by initiating small gestures that spread generosity.

Founded in 2007 by Australian Blake Beattie, this movement has spread to more than 80 countries, encouraging millions to participate. The concept is simple: do something kind for someone without expecting anything in return and inspire them to do the same for others, causing a ripple effect.

The message from Pay It Forward Day transcends borders, politics, and religions, making it a universal celebration of goodwill. Since it's not tied to any specific organization, anyone – whether individuals, businesses, or entire cities – can take part. The beauty of this is its inclusivity, ensuring that kindness remains accessible to everyone.

Every day brings countless opportunities to make a difference in someone's life. Whether it's buying a cup of coffee for a stranger, offering a kind word, holding the door open, or making eye contact with a smile, small gestures embody the spirit of this day.

While the purpose of paying it forward is to help others, it also brings profound benefits to ourselves. Neuroscience and psychology research shows that acts of kindness trigger the release of endorphins, reduce stress, and enhance overall well-being. Kindness also fosters connection, so when people experience generosity they are more likely to pay it forward, which strengths relationships and cultivates a more compassionate community.

In a world that often feels divided, Global Pay It Forward Day serves as a reminder that small actions can spark meaningful change and have

a lasting impact that brings people together.

This month's cover story highlights key takeaways from Mayor Justin Berns' State of the City address, showcasing the achievements and strengths of our vibrant, forward-thinking community – a place we are fortunate to call home. As we celebrate Beachwood's strong foundation, let's continue to build upon it by embracing kindness and uplifting those around us.

Let's not wait until April 28 to do our part to create a chain reaction of goodwill. Instead, let's start today. Small acts of kindness add up, creating a ripple effect that can brighten someone's day, inspire others, and ultimately make the world a more compassionate place. Every gesture, no matter how small, has the potential to spark meaningful change.



Why Paying It Forward Is Important

- It fosters a sense of community and connection.
- Small acts of kindness create a ripple effect of positivity.
- It boosts mental well-being and happiness for both the giver and receiver.
- · Kindness breaks barriers and brings people together.

Ways to Pay It Forward

- Buy coffee or a meal for a stranger.
- · Leave a kind note for a co-worker or neighbor.
- · Donate to a local charity or food bank.
- · Volunteer your time to help someone in need.
- · Compliment someone and brighten their day.

- Express gratitude to someone who has helped you.
- Offer to help a friend, family member, or colleague with a task.



The Power of a Smile

- · A smile is a universal sign of kindness and positivity.
- It can uplift someone's mood.
- It reduces stress and releases endorphins.
- It helps build trust and stronger social connections.
- It can make someone's day and inspire them to pay it forward.

Family Kindness Festival Returns Sunday, May 4, from 1-4 pm!

SENDER



Thirty inspiring nonprofits, 28 innovative students, and 20 area schools are joining together to celebrate the importance of being kind-hearted at this FREE community festival.

ark your calendar for a special afternoon that brings kids and parents together to have fun, do good, and be kind – all under one roof. Family Kindness Festival, on Sunday, May 4, from 1-4 p.m., at Beachwood High School, is a free family event geared for children 5 years and up. All ages are welcome to attend; however, children must be accompanied by an adult. Now in its fourth year, the festival is presented by Senders Pediatrics in partnership with Beachwood City Schools.

This year's theme, Be Kind-Hearted, emphasizes the power of art to inspire kindness and connection. Thirty inspiring nonprofits, 28 innovative students, and 20 area schools will join together to create a one-of-a-kind landscape where families can have fun while engaging in service projects, meeting inspirational kids, and learning about volunteer opportunities within the community. Teens can connect with local nonprofits and identify a number of ways to meet their service hours requirement.

Highlights of the Day

- Interactive Family Games Including Gaga
- Video Games for the Older Kids
- Henna Art Tattoos
- Tile Painting
- Card-Making for Area Hospitals
- Printmaking
- Friendship Bracelets
- "Shrinky Dinks" to Design Colorful Key Chains and Charms
- Upcycle Academy Crafts
- Cleveland Artist, Brandon Graves, Brings a Painting to Life
- Ice-cold Treats from East Coast Custard and Kona Ice Trucks

Popular Favorites Include:

- Interacting with Cleveland area nonprofit organizations and discovering ways to get involved and give back.
- Connecting with area kids who have developed awesome ideas to spread acts of kindness in their schools, neighborhoods, and communities.
- Wigs for Kids Cut-a-Thon participate or cheer on volunteers donating their hair to children experiencing hair loss.

"We are so pleased to partner with Beachwood City Schools for the fourth year in a row to present an extraordinary afternoon for families," said Dr. Shelly Senders of Senders Pediatrics.

"When we model and teach kindness to our children, we are not only teaching them empathy and awareness of others' feelings, we are also shaping their character and giving them the tools that serve as a bulwark against the epidemic of anxiety and depression that is engulfing our society. In short, we are laying the groundwork for creating a kinder, gentler, and more compassionate world. That's why we are so committed to this remarkable event," Dr. Senders continued.

"Beachwood Schools' mission, 'To develop intellectual entrepreneurs with a social conscience,' aligns seamlessly with the Family Kindness Festival," said Dr. Robert P. Hardis, superintendent. "We are excited to once again host our community for this important event and are proud to feature acts of kind-heartedness that young people engage in every day."

Family Kindness Festival is a project of the Senders Pediatrics Health Initiative, a federal 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Support for the Festival has been provided by a number of generous sponsors, including: Akron Children's, The Driftwood Group, The Floor King, NEOMED, Values-in-Action/Kindland, Brunswick Companies, Cleveland Clinic Children's, Crestmont Cadillac, Five C Foundation, Magis Advisory Group, Pease Bell, SEIA, Success Orthodontics, and TXI. Media sponsors include: Cleveland Jewish News, Macaroni Kid, and Northeast Ohio Parent Magazine. School partners include nearly all eastside public, private, Jewish, and Catholic parochial schools.

While the event is free, advance registration is encouraged. For more information and to register, visit www.senderspediatrics.com/kindness or scan the QR code.



"In short, we are laying the groundwork for creating a kinder, gentler, and more compassionate world. That's why we are so committed to this remarkable event."

Dr. Shelly Senders



Dr. Robert Hardis and Dr. Shelly Senders



Beachwood



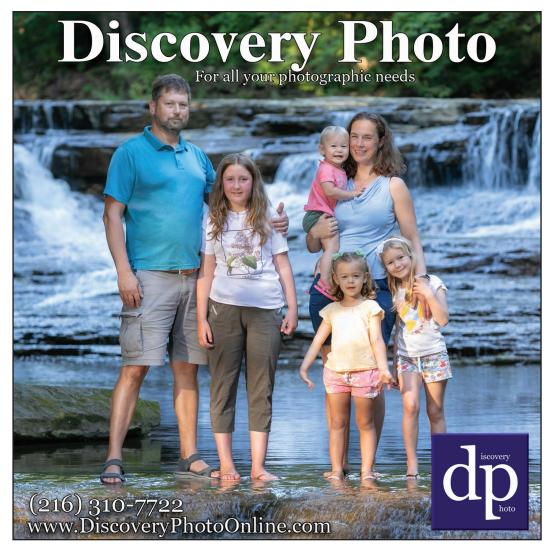
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Story, by Debby Zelman Rapoport, starts on page 6. Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo.

Spruce Up Your Home

Special advertising section starts on page 46.





Who We Are

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Kent Smith Jennifer Stern **Contributing Writers**

Calendar Section

Please send information about clubs, organizations, events and meetings to beachwoodbuzz@ gmail.com. The deadline is the 10th of each month.

Article Submissions

If you have a story idea or photos you would like to share, email beachwoodbuzz@gmail.com.

Subscriptions

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General Information

Beachwood Buzz is a privately owned, independent community magazine that supports the City of Beachwood and Beachwood Board of Education. We reserve the right to accept or decline any advertising or content.

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PRESENTED BY MAYOR JUSTIN BERNS

n Wednesday, Feb. 19, Mayor Justin Berns presented the 2025 State of the City address at SITE Centers, on Richmond Road. Hosted by the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, David Lapierre, executive director, introduced Mayor Berns, saying how instrumental our mayor has been in shaping our community's growth and prosperity. "With a vision for a safer, cleaner, and more prosperous city, Mayor Berns continues to drive progress and innovation."

Mayor Berns then expressed sincere gratitude to each and every person in attendance, saying their continued support, engagement, and dedication to our city plays a crucial role in shaping the success of Beachwood. "Through your collaboration and commitment, we continue to move forward, building a brighter and stronger future together."

The State of the City address focused on the city's achievements in key areas that define effective governance: fiscal responsibility, public safety, infrastructure improvements, economic development, community engagement, and innovative

partnerships. Mayor Berns emphasized that all accomplishments are a result of a collective effort between himself, City Council, our city's department directors, leadership team, and staff whose expertise and commitment ensure that our city operates efficiently and effectively each and every day.

He also emphasized the importance of collaboration, which extends beyond our government, by recognizing Dr. Bob Hardis, Beachwood School's superintendent, the Beachwood School Board, and its leadership team for their continued dedication to providing exceptional education and preparing students for bright futures; and the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, led by executive director David Lapierre and its board of directors, saying its efforts to cultivate a thriving business environment have been instrumental in our city's economic success. Mayor Berns then thanked David for hosting this annual event, saying, "It's always a privilege to come together and celebrate our community's progress."

He then expressed deep appreciation for the community's involvement and support, thanking residents for their valuable feedback and active participation – key drivers of the city's growth and success. "Whether enhancing infrastructure, advancing economic development, or strengthening community engagement, every decision is made with the shared vision of building a brighter future for Beachwood, making it an even better place to live, work, and learn."

At the end of Mayor Berns' presentation, he sincerely thanked every resident, partner, and city employee who has contributed to our city's shared success. "None of these initiatives could have been successful without your engagement," he said. "Through leadership, meaningful collaboration, and progress, we are writing the next chapter of Beachwood's story, filled with promise, innovation, and opportunity.

"Thank you for your trust and commitment to making Beachwood the best it can be. Let's move forward, united and optimistic, toward a future guided by our shared vision of success."

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Beachwood has a long-standing reputation for strong financial management, and I'm proud to reaffirm our city's dedication to fiscal responsibility. Thanks to disciplined financial management, we have funded education, secured valuable land, and invested in infrastructure without impacting city services.

An innovative financial initiative with the Beachwood School District allows the city to pause collections on 1.4 mills of its charter millage for three years, unlocking more than \$2 million annually in additional funding for our schools.

This bold, forward-thinking strategy has bolstered our school district's resources and maintained flat property taxes for all residents and business owners. By 2027, we will recoup these funds and strategically invest them in transformative projects, enhanced city services, and initiatives to further strengthen our city's financial standing.

The \$8 million Fairmount Temple property investment is also a testament to this vision. This 17-acre site will be transformed into a residential community that will allow our residents to age in place while simultaneously enhancing our economic landscape.

Once again, we received a clean audit with an unqualified opinion, affirming that Beachwood operates with the highest standards of financial integrity.

The strength of our financial position is reflected in our Triple-A bond rating from Moody's, a rating that the city has held for more than 20 years. This is the highest possible rating, which demonstrates strong financial health, lower borrowing costs, and economic stability.

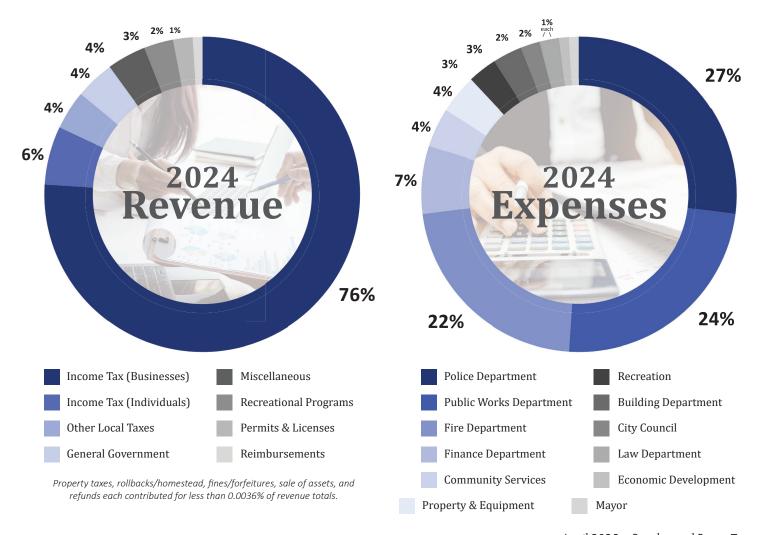
Our dedication to financial transparency has earned Beachwood top recognition, including the Highest Achievement in Open and Transparent Government Award from the Ohio Auditor of State.

Once again, we received a clean audit with an unqualified opinion, affirming that Beachwood operates with the highest standards of financial integrity.

As mayor, I assure you that city leadership will continue to make strategic financial decisions that enhance our city, strengthen our economy, and uphold the trust of the residents we serve.

By The Numbers

2024 City Finances At A Glance



PUBLIC SAFETY

Ensuring the safety and security of our community remains our highest priority. Through strategic leadership, advanced technology, and proactive policy making, we continue to set the highest standards for public safety.

Most notably, I had the honor of appointing Police Chief Dan Grispino. Choosing the right leader for this vital role was one of the most significant decisions of my tenure as mayor. Chief Grispino stood out for his extensive credentials, diverse training experiences, and numerous accolades in the field. His unwavering commitment to law enforcement and professional development aligns seamlessly with our city's values, ensuring a safer and stronger community.

We continue to invest in cutting-edge technology and advanced training to expand our public safety efforts. Our dispatchers, the first line of communication in emergencies, have the technology to pinpoint the location of all calls, improving response time. Plus, our city oversees more then 350 security cameras strategically placed throughout public buildings and intersections, improving oversight and response capabilities.

The Fire Department's emergency preparedness efforts have expanded significantly. The department now offers affordable bi-monthly CPR classes, empowering residents with lifesaving skills. Three new AEDs have been installed at key recreational sites, including the pickleball courts, playground, and Beachwood City Park West, ensuring rapid access in emergencies. The purchase of a new ambulance brings our total fleet to five. This expansion ensures we can meet growing service demands and provide rapid medical assistance when it matters most.



We've modernized our public safety fleet, which is essential to maintaining efficient and effective service. In doing so, the police department will introduce its first all-electric vehicle, a Ford Mach-E Mustang, marking our commitment to sustainability and innovation. This vehicle will enhance traffic enforcement and serve as a community engagement tool at city events.

Beachwood remains proactive in enacting policies that strengthen public safety and enhance our community's well-being. Recently, City Council reinforced its commitment to crime victims' rights by implementing the requirements of Marsy's Law, which provides victims with support and protections at every stage of the legal process.

Your safety is our top priority and we will continue to invest in the necessary resources, policies, and personnel to maintain the highest public safety standards.

INFRASATRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Beachwood's commitment to infrastructure improvement reflects on our dedication to progress, sustainability, and community well-being. Our top-tier city services continue to set the standard for excellence, with our Public Works Department providing the highest-quality rubbish and recycling collection, efficient snow



and leaf removal, and forward-thinking sustainability initiatives. These essential services ensure our city remains clean, safe, and environmentally responsible.

In 2024, we completed capital projects tied to our annual road program, repaving, sanitary relief sewer project, and concrete road patch program.

Our newly opened playground, designed with several ADA-compliant features, has quickly become a top destination in Northeast Ohio.

Innovation continues to drive our city forward through implementation of software that makes it easier to process overnight parking and vacation checks. Plus, families can now register for Beachwood Camp programs online.

Our commitment to sustainability, reducing waste, and protecting the environment continues to expand. An example of this is our partnership with Rust Belt Riders, offering free composting services to residents which significantly reduces food waste and promotes environmental responsibility.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The city's Economic Development Department drives business growth and innovation within our community. Through strategic leadership and collaborative partnerships, we continue to enhance the local economy, creating new employment opportunities and ensuring the success of businesses of all sizes.

One of the most transformative milestones was the acquisition of the Fairmount Temple property. This strategic investment allows us to shape the future of Beachwood in a way that honors our past while embracing new possibilities. This investment represents a forwardthinking commitment to our city's long-term prosperity.

Other key examples of success are the significant investments made by businesses that chose Beachwood as their home. Porsche Beachwood has unveiled a cutting-edge showroom and service area, representing a \$30 million investment in our community; and Millennium Control Systems has established its new headquarters in Commerce Park, investing \$2 million in renovations and committing to \$6.5 million in new taxable payroll, a presence that solidifies Beachwood's reputation as a hub for innovation and growth.

Our commercial landscape continues to thrive with initiatives like the Commercial Building Revitalization Loan Program, our One-Stop Business Resource Center, and the newly established



Community Improvement Corporation. Together, these efforts create a comprehensive, forward-thinking approach to economic development, ensuring sustained growth and innovation in our city.

Additionally, events like the Mayor's Business Reception and the Female Entrepreneur Summit enhance community engagement by fostering collaboration, networking, and economic inclusivity. Looking ahead, Beachwood remains committed to building a sustainable and prosperous future for our business community.

INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Innovative partnerships are one of our community's greatest strengths. Together with our residents, stakeholders, and organizations, we are moving toward a future of innovation, safety, and success.

Our commitment to public safety is stronger than ever. By dedicating an officer to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, we are actively partnering with national experts and local allies, including the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, to stay ahead of emerging threats.

Beachwood is the first city in Ohio to earn the "Store It Safe City" designation in collaboration with the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. This program promotes firearm safety education to protect families in our community.



Our economic future is equally bright, thanks to our strong collaborations with the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce. Together, we host signature events, from our annual Business Expo to the Women's Entrepreneurship Summit. Our collaborative job fairs, which have connected over 200 job seekers with 50 employers, prove that when we work together, we create real opportunities that empower our local workforce.

As mentioned earlier, we have an excellent partnership with Beachwood City Schools. From financial collaborations to programming, we are committed to promoting educational opportunities by making city resources and leaders accessible to local schools.

Through events like the City Hall Leadership Summit, where second-grade leaders from Bryden Elementary get a firsthand look at local governance, and our collaboration with the school district to host the Beachwood Blackout Solar Eclipse Celebration at Beachwood High School, we are investing in our youngest residents.

We nurture these strategic alliances to advance public safety, economic growth, and educational initiatives for all of our residents.

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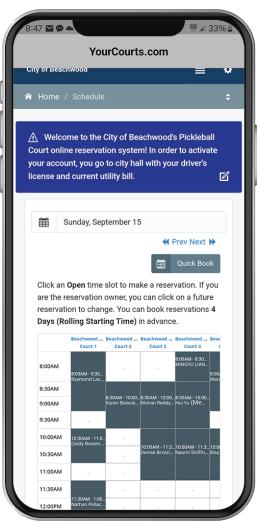
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is at the heart of Beachwood's mission to foster a dynamic, inclusive, and thriving city. By prioritizing collaboration and actively involving residents, we ensure that our programs, services, and initiatives align with the diverse needs and aspirations of our community. Through open dialogue, innovative programs, and strategic planning, Beachwood is dedicated to enhancing the wellbeing and quality of life for everyone who lives and works here.

Clear communication and resident engagement in decision-making have been top priorities for this administration. Over the past year, community input has driven innovative initiatives, including:

- Residential Carriage/Solar Street Lighting Pilots, designed to enhance environmental sustainability and cost-effectiveness.
- Same-Gender Swimming Pilot, fostering inclusivity by creating spaces where all residents feel comfortable.





Residential Satisfaction Survey

The City of Beachwood conducted a Residential Satisfaction Survey in September to gain insights into residents' perspectives on city services and identify areas for improvement. The survey results (280 responses) affirm Beachwood's successes and provide actionable insights. Here are the survey's key findings:





Quality of Life

With an average of 4.6, 93% of residents indicated a high level of satisfaction in overall quality of life with a 4 or 5 rating.



Public Works Services

Many recognized Public Works as the best in the region with 80% expressing excellent satisfaction with a 5 out of 5 rating.

Exceptional Public Safety Interactions

Public Safety

Residents appreciated the professionalism and visibility of police and fire with 63% expression high satisfaction in patrols and 72% having exceptional direct interactions.

Excellent Recreational Facilities & Amenities

Recreation Facilities

Beachwood's parks, aquatic center, and more received high marks with 64% responding 5 out of 5.

Opportunities for Improvement

- Street Lighting & Sidewalks: Residents highlighted the need to enhance safety and walkability.
- Traffic Safety: Concerns were raised about speeding and violations on specific streets and intersections.

- Online Pickleball Reservation System through YouCourts, allowing Beachwood residents to conveniently book courts.
- Future Development of the Fairmount Temple Property, transforming it into a residential community that meets Beachwood's evolving housing needs, allowing residents to age in place.

These initiatives reflect our commitment to responsive leadership and a city shaped by the voices of its residents.

Additionally, we continue to enhance services that improve residents' daily lives. Free senior van rides are available for those 60 and better, ensuring accessible transportation, and our rubbish assistance program supports over 130 seniors, reinforcing our commitment to finding creative and meaningful ways to serve every member of our community.

Large-scale community events, including February Freeze, Juneteenth Community Celebration, and Fall Fest were huge hits that serve as a reminder that Beachwood is much more than a city: It is a thriving community.

February Freeze, with a Candy Land theme, drew in approximately 1,000 guests, providing sweet family fun for all ages; Juneteenth drew in more than 2,000 attendees, becoming one of Beachwood's most popular events; and Fall Fest, which attracted more than 4,500 residents and visitors, lived up to its theme, "The Greatest Fall Festival on Earth." It featured a kick-off concert, carnival-style games and rides, and a spectacular fireworks finale.



To better communicate with residents and visitors, a dynamic, changeable copy sign at the corner of Richmond Road and Fairmount Boulevard has been installed to keep residents and visitors informed about community events, meetings, and city updates.

The residential survey offered residents a valuable opportunity to share input on key topics shaping the future of our city. While we celebrate our current achievements, our focus remains on the future, ensuring Beachwood continues to be a place where families thrive, businesses prosper, and residents feel safe, valued, and heard.

LOOKING AHEAD

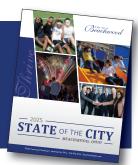
As we look forward to the remainder of 2025, I am optimistic about the future we are building together. Our roadmap for progress embodies core values of leadership, collaboration, and progress which will continue to keep Beachwood a premier suburb.

Here are some highlights:

- Beachwood is paving the way toward sustainability. By installing solar-powered lighting along Beachwood Boulevard and Ranch Road, we are reinforcing our commitment to renewable energy. We will closely monitor this program. If it is successful, we will expand its benefits across the city.
- Capital projects for 2025 are equally vital. From improving the capacity of our sanitary sewers to resurfacing key roads, every project is a step toward a safer and more efficient Beachwood.
- The Beachwood Police Department is enhancing traffic enforcement in critical areas, ensuring safer streets for all. It is also upgrading officer body cameras, ensuring accountability and transparency.

- City Council has approved a new ambulance that is slated for delivery in 2026. This demonstrates our forward-thinking approach to emergency readiness and public well-being.
- Economic Development achievements include a one-onone business consulting program and has the launch of a new podcast, the Beachwood Business Compass.
- New initiatives to enrich community connections include Breakfast Bites & Insights, a monthly breakfast series, that will offer a forum for residents aged 55 and better to engage with city leadership; and additional resources to support residents to age in place. As part of this effort, we are exploring the launch of a pilot snowplow assistance program, next winter, for senior residents.
- Enhancements at the Beachwood municipal complex, including a safer diving board, the introduction of sand volleyball leagues, and playground pop-up events, all designed to bring our community closer together.

Special thanks to Ryan Kennedy, graphic designer, for producing captivating videos and a magazine that powerfully supported this event. His creativity and expertise play a crucial role in driving economic development, strengthening community engagement, and advancing innovative partnership strategies. To view the State of the City booklet, visit https://online.flippingbook.com/link/673002/. To learn more about programs mentioned in this article, visit www.beachwoodohio.com.



Balance Solutions

Physical Therapy





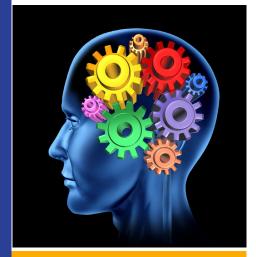
Keeping Your Mind Sharp:



How Physical Activity Boosts Brain Health

Step up your health game: improve balance, enhance memory, and protect your brain!

Most Insurances Accepted



Same Week Appointments Available!

Balance = Spirit, Body, Mind Solutions = What We Provide

Our goal is to keep YOUR whole body in balance!

Move your body & sharpen your mind Balance exercises can make this easy and fun!

We all know that physical activity is great for the body, but did you know that it's also crucial for your brain? Staying active, especially with balance and coordination exercises, can help improve memory, cognitive function, and reduce the risk of cognitive decline as we age.

The Mind-Body Connection

Exercise doesn't just keep the body in shape—it also promotes brain health. When we move, our body releases brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), a chemical that supports the growth of new neurons and protects existing ones. This is like fertilizer for your brain, boosting memory and mental clarity. Regular exercise increases BDNF levels, helping the brain stay sharp and resilient.

But not all exercise is created equal. While general physical activity is important, exercises that challenge balance and coordination specifically stimulate brain activity. These exercises require the brain to process signals from muscles, joints, and eyes to keep you steady. The more complex the movement, the more brainpower is involved.



440-449-3400
BalanceSolutions.com
23175 Commerce Park

Keeping Your Mind Sharp: How Physical Activity Boosts Brain Health



The Power of Balance and Coordination Exercises

Balance and coordination exercises not only improve physical stability but also engage the brain. Activities like standing on one leg or heel-to-toe walking are great examples. These exercises require focus, spatial awareness, and mental processing - all key to keeping the brain active and engaged.

In fact, studies show that adults who participate in regular balance training have up to a 40% reduced risk of cognitive decline. This is especially important as we age, as mental sharpness tends to naturally decline over time. Engaging in exercises that improve balance directly benefits cognitive function, helping to keep the mind as fit as the body.

A Simple Activity You Can Try at Home

One easy activity you can start performing today to improve both balance and brain health is standing on one leg and incorporating different upper body and concentration activities.

Here's How To Do It:

- 1. Stand tall with your feet hip-width apart.
- 2. Slowly lift one foot off the ground and balance on the other leg.
- 3. Try to hold the position for 20-30 seconds, then switch to the other leg.
- 4. Repeat for 3-5 sets on each leg
- 5. Perform near a support surface such as a counter, wall, or chair for safety.
- 6. For an added challenge, try performing one or two of these activities while standing on one leg:
 - a. Gently move your arms in circles
 - b. Reach for items on a counter
 - c. Say the alphabet backwards
 - d. Subtract from 100 by the number 7
 - e. Play a word game
 - f. Work on a puzzle



This simple yet effective exercise improves balance, strengthens muscles, and stimulates brain activity by challenging your coordination and focus. As you practice, your brain will strengthen its ability to process spatial and movement information, which enhances overall cognitive function.

How Physical Therapy Can Help

If you're new to balance exercises or want to take your workouts to the next level, physical therapy is an excellent way to ensure you're performing exercises safely and effectively. A physical therapist can create a customized program tailored to your specific needs, whether you want to improve your balance, strength, or flexibility.





Physical therapy also helps identify and address physical limitations, making sure you can perform exercises safely while preventing injury. Whether you're looking to stay active in your later years or improve your brain health, a physical therapist can guide you through the right exercises to meet your goals.

Physical activity—especially balance and coordination exercises—has a significant impact on brain health. By staying active and incorporating simple exercises, like standing on one leg, into your routine you can sharpen your mind, improve memory, and reduce the risk of cognitive decline. It's never too late to start—your brain and body will both benefit from it!

- Kelly Beaudoin, CEO Balance Solutions Physical Therapy, Inc

Staying physically fit isn't just about looking good—it's about thinking sharp, too. Incorporate balance exercises into your routine and give your brain the workout it deserves!

If you need help getting started, just call Balance Solutions! (440) 449-3400

Steady, Showing at CIFF, Packs a Punch

oey Rogoff, a 2018 graduate of Beachwood High School, has long felt a calling to write and produce movies. "My love for film started in high school, where I took television and video production classes and worked as a videographer for sporting events," he shared.

Joey moved to Los Angeles in 2019 and immediately dove into the social media content world. In just over a year, he grew audiences of over 6 million followers across all platforms. He then founded JoRo Productions, in 2022, with the goal of creating and sharing stories that make a difference in the world. His inaugural project, *Guardian Angel*, went on to premiere at Oscar-qualifying festivals.

His latest project, *Steady*, co-directed with Brian Yuran, premiered at the LA Shorts International Film Festival in July and will be screened during the Cleveland International Film Fest, which runs from March 27 through April 5.

The screening will take place on Tuesday, April 1, at 7:45 p.m., in the Upper Allen Theater at Playhouse Square. It will also be available on CIFF Streams, April 6-13, as part of the Local Heroes Shorts 1 program.

Steady is about a troubled teen who seeks the tutelage of a former boxer, now crippled by Parkinson's disease, to defend himself against more than just his demons.

"We present this journey through an innovative and unconventional lens," Joey said. "The film stars Tate Donovan, known for his roles in *Argo*, *Friends*, *Hercules*, and most recently, *The Holdovers*. It also features Michael Paré, known for his roles in *Streets of Fire* and *Eddie And The Cruisers*."

Joey highlighted the irony of boxing both contributing to Parkinson's disease and serving as a therapeutic tool, frequently recommended by neurologists to help patients manage its symptoms.

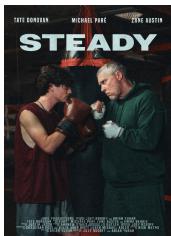
Joey knows about Parkinson's all too well, as the film was inspired in part by his grandfather, Charles Babbush, who introduced Joey to medical specialists who provided input before the script was finalized.

"Our intention is to gain traction, raise funds, and shoot a feature version of this film in Cleveland," he added. "It is a dream to film in and around my hometown."

Joey's film is one of 300 new and independent films to be showcased at the Festival this year. A mix of feature length and short films representing filmmakers from 60 countries, audiences can explore an exciting mix of documentary, drama, comedy, adventure, romance, thriller, and more in just 10 days. To see the full line-up, visit clevelandfilm.org.

For complete details about CIFF, visit www.clevelandfilm.org. Enter BUZZ in the discount code box on the payment information screen during checkout to take \$1 off of each ticket in your cart.







Joey Rogoff and Brian Yuran, co-directors of *Steady*, which will be screened at CIFF. *Photos by Cole Falkner*.

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CIFF Streams: Steady

April 6-13 (Local Heroes Shorts 1)

For details, visit www.clevelandfilm.org/films/ steady-2025

Beachwood Finalists in Stop the Hate® Contest

Winners to be announced at ceremony on April 3

he Maltz Museum proudly announces its 17th Annual Stop the Hate® Youth Speak Out and Youth Sing Out Awards finalists, including Beachwood residents Farai Amanda Chiunda, Abby Gourley, and Sophia Tsuang.

Winners will be named on Thursday, April 3, 6:30 p.m., at an awards ceremony at the Tri-C Eastern Campus, Simon and Rose Mandel Theatre at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Humanities Center.

The community is invited to attend this free event. Seating is limited and advanced registration is required at https://tinyurl.com/MaltzSTH.

The annual Stop the Hate® Youth Speak Out and Youth Sing Out Awards Ceremony annually awards \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes to middle and high schools, students, and teachers

who speak out against bias and discrimination.

Meet the winning students and be inspired by young people of different cultures, backgrounds, and identities who are raising their voices to effect change in our communities. You will also find out who will take home \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes.

This year, 4,419 students at more than 160 Northeast Ohio schools participated in the Stop the Hate® contest and workshops, writing individual essays, poems, or group songs for a chance to win academic scholarships,

educational grants, and prizes for themselves and their schools.

Stop the Hate® encourages personal storytelling that builds bridges and creates empathy. Through this program, students gain awareness of hate-related issues, discrimination, bullying, etc., while being inspired to courageously create positive change when facing these challenges. The program celebrates Northeast Ohio students committed to creating a more accepting and inclusive society.

Since Stop the Hate® began, more than 50,000 students in 15 counties across Northeast Ohio have participated and \$1.7 million has been awarded to students and schools.

The community is invited to attend this free event.

Seating is limited and advanced registration is required at https://tinyurl.com/

To the right are excerpts from Farai, Abby, and Sophia's speeches, based on personal experiences of how an act of love or kindness was the response to injustice, bias, discrimination, or exclusion.

Farai, Abby, and Sophia, all Beachwood residents, will present their essays on Thursday, April 3, 6:30 p.m., at Tri-C East Campus.

Farai Amanda Chiunda 7th Grade Beachwood Middle School

"One of my school's beliefs is this: "Many cultures, One Bison." This basically means that even though we all might not be the same race, faith, or ethnicity, we are still united as one student body. That message alone should be enough to spark positive change. That alone should inspire people to love and appreciate diversity."



Abby Gourley 8th Grade Beachwood Middle School

"We cannot control what others say, but we can change how we view ourselves. Creating an environment we can turn to is the first step. ... It is hard to live in a world where body image and appearance are thought to be more important than everything else. Still, we must stick together and advocate not just for ourselves but for future generations as well."

Sophia Tsuang 8th Grade Laurel School

"In order to shine light on those who feel out of place, I started an affinity group at school. The purpose is to build an environment where people can discuss personal experiences without worrying about being critiqued. This affinity group inspires and encourages others to speak up for who they truly are and what they believe."





UnBroken: Would You Hide Me?

by Debby Zelman Rapoport

Last month, I received an email from first-time filmmaker Beth Lane, who directed, produced and wrote *UnBroken*, a powerful documentary chronicling the plight of the seven Weber siblings. After the siblings' mother was murdered at Auschwitz, these children evaded horrifying dangers in war-torn Nazi Germany, relying on each other to survive.

This generational story is told by Beth, the daughter of Ginger Lane, the youngest Weber sibling. Beth spent years making this film, feeling a profound responsibility to share stories that inspire hope – especially in a time when antisemitism is becoming increasingly normalized.

The Weber children survived two years on their own after being hidden in a laundry hut by a courageous farmer and his wife. Guided by their father's final words, "Always stay together," their journey of survival culminates in a painful ultimatum that both saved and separated them.

Throughout the film, Beth explores their extraordinary courage and resistance, the love and sacrifice of their parents, and the selflessness of the farmers and upstanders who risked everything to protect them. Using interviews, archival footage, and animation, *UnBroken* is a testament to resilience, compassion, and the importance of remembering history.

Beth shared details about the film and her grassroots initiative to raise awareness. Her email caught my attention. I watched the film, was deeply moved, and am now spreading the word.



"Our story is about community and upstanders," Beth said. "We are living in such a polarized time in America and globally. Just as the silent heroes in our film refused to be complicit in antisemitism and hatred, we – as global citizens – must always promote inclusivity, empathy, and understanding."

The documentary was produced by The Weber Family Arts Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to combating antisemitism, bigotry, and hate through storytelling and the arts.

UnBroken was screened at the 2024 Cleveland International Film Festival and has toured over 30 festivals nationwide. It won the Audience Choice Award for Best Documentary at three festivals and Beth was honored as Best First-Time Filmmaker at another.

I encourage you to watch *UnBroken*. If it touches you as it did me, please help Beth spread the word by sharing it. *UnBroken* can be viewed on Apple, Amazon Prime or Fandango.



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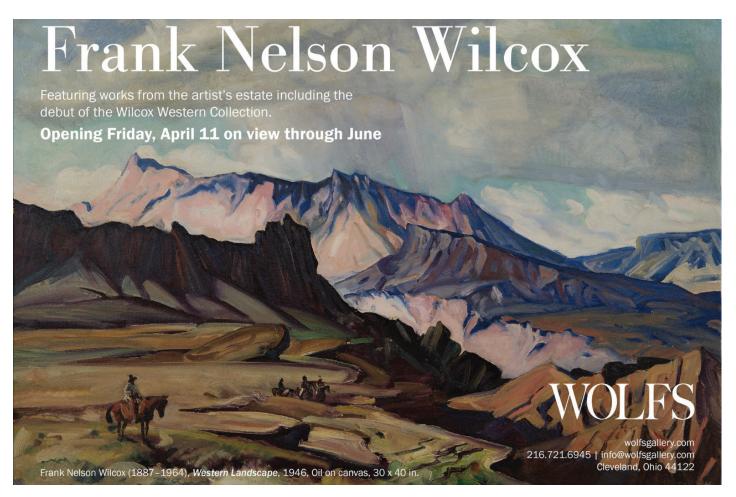
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WOLFS Presents Frank Nelson Wilcox

Opening Friday, April 11 • 5:30 - 8 p.m.
On view through June • Tuesday - Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. • 23645 Mercantile Rd., Beachwood

OLFS, a large, impressive gallery at 23645 Mercantile Rd., has been a gem in the art world for more than 45 years. It began life as an auction house and has since evolved to become an eclectic art gallery dealing in fine paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts.

In its long history, WOLFS has set world record prices for artwork and has sold hundreds of thousands of items through its gallery and estate sales. For the last 10 years, it has evolved into an operation with a large, interesting collection.

WOLFS prides itself on the gallery's eclectic vibe and thrives on the excitement of dealing with many different works, each with a different world of collectors ranging in periods, styles, and disciplines.

Unlike most galleries, WOLFS personality is ever-changing. It now proudly presents the Frank Nelson Wilcox exhibition, which

will open on Friday, April 11, 5:30-8 p.m. This exhibition will feature works from the artist's estate, including the debut of the Wilcox Western Collection.

Known as "the Dean of Artists," Frank Nelson Wilcox (1887-1964) was a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1910 and began his legendary teaching career at the Institute in 1913. As a student of Henry Keller and a teacher to Charles Burchfield, Clarence Carter, Carl Gaertner, and Paul Travis, among others, Wilcox grew to become one of the foremost leaders in the development of the Cleveland School.

Not only was Wilcox a masterful artist and nationally renowned watercolorist, but a historian, scientist, and author as well, leaving an estate rich with artwork, publications, journals, and sketchbooks. WOLFS is honored to be representing the Wilcox estate and proudly presents the exhibition featuring many fine works completed throughout his long and prolific career.

As a professor, Wilcox used his long vacation time to travel extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and parts of Canada, sketching endlessly and chronicling everything he saw. Beginning in 1937, Wilcox made numerous long excursions throughout the American West, resulting in voluminous sketches and paintings of western life, a collection virtually unseen until now. These works, when hung together, create an illuminating and colorful show.

This exhibition includes 65 works and features a lecture by the two most illustrious scholars of the Cleveland School, Dr. Marianne Berardi and Professor Henry Adams.

For more information, visit www.wolfsgallery.com, call 216.721.6945, or email info@ wolfsgallery.com.





Frank Nelson Wilcox (American, 1887-1964) Peak in New Mexico circa 1937

"My biggest thrill came when, somewhat east of Cheyenne, we saw the serrated distant peaks of the Rockies filling the whole western half of the horizon – a pale blue edge to the earth seen in the blinding light of sunset. For the first time, I saw a whole city lying like but a small dark patch in a wide basin, with the shadows of the foothills reaching towards it and the peaks now larger and dark beyond."

~ Frank Nelson WIlcox





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Hope, Hair, and Heroism: Shaving the Way for Pediatric Cancer Awareness

by Radha Pareek

n March 11, at a school assembly, more than 500 Beachwood High School students raised their hands when asked if they knew someone affected by cancer – a stark testament to the disease's reach.

For the past two years, *Beachwood Buzz* has covered the efforts of Beachwood High School students led by Bison Buddies, a peer-to-peer learning and service-oriented club, to introduce the first-ever head-shaving and pediatric cancer awareness campaign in our community. This year, Bison Buddies amplified these efforts by collaborating with Excel TECC's Marketing/Junior Achievement class who founded the nonprofit organization Hope Heroes (*see next page*).

Like many world-changing ideas, St. Baldrick's Foundation started in a pub, when three friends challenged each other to shave their heads at a St. Patrick's Day party to raise money for kids with cancer. The challenge was successful, raising \$104,000 and resulting in 19 bald heads, which encouraged the founders to create the St. Baldrick's Foundation. Today, it is the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants, committed to advancing treatments and generating awareness for the cause.

This year's initiative was especially personal to student leaders who were motivated by family members affected by cancer and deeply inspired by Hope Heroes' mentors Greg Perry, Jing Laungeco, and Shane Winnyk, all of whom are cancer survivors themselves, embodying resilience, advocacy, and social entrepreneurship leadership.

Throughout February, Bison Buddies and Hope Heroes student leaders spread the word, encouraging students to join the cause by temporarily dyeing their hair green, donating 8-12 inches, or shaving in solidarity.

On March 7, I, along with Cherie Li and Joanna Kwon, donated 12 inches of hair at the annual UH Rainbow Babies Shave It Off event, where we met with cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, families, and research scientists.

We know we cannot heal ourselves, but we can lean on each other; we can lift each other up, and hopefully start a ripple effect that cascades to impact real lives.

"We donated our hair with our cancersurvivor friends, current patients, and inspiring caregivers at heart," said Cherie.

"We may not be able to cure cancer today, but we can show our unreserved care," added Joanna.

In 2024, an estimated 1,040 children under the age of 15 lost their lives to cancer – a decline of more than half since 1970 because of advances in treatment, high participation in clinical trials, and breakthroughs in gene therapy and immunotherapy.

On the morning of March 11, more than 75 students and staff temporarily dyed their hair green as a show of support, creating a sea of green in the school.

"Throughout the day, so many people came up to me and asked why my hair was green. I had so many meaningful conversations. Now I see that something as simple as going green for one day can truly make a difference," said Evan Tew.

The assembly united students, staff, and teachers in an event that built a contagious spirit to combat childhood cancer. Karina Krishnan and Maria Zarjetskiy introduced the program and reiterated the cause behind the gathering was to put a month-long awareness campaign into perspective.

Then, the program kicked off with a vibrant dance performance choreographed by Ida Chang, Ellen Hawkins, Srishti Ithychanda, Yeru Shim, Angelica Tall, Eliana Worku, and Amy Zhou, who donned St. Baldrick's attire and green bows to spread spirit and solidarity. The energy carried into an interactive musical chairs game, moderated by junior Ilana Thal, that kept the audience engaged before shifting to the heart of the event, when Joseph Mo, Aaron Zheng, Junbo Wang, and Tony Zheng stepped up to shave their heads in front of the entire school.

"Heroism isn't just found in extraordinary feats; it's in the everyday moments of courage and community," said Tony.

Next, unexpectedly, Lauren Nagy-Oleski made an impromptu decision to shave her head as well.

"When I saw only boys stepping up, I chose to be the example I hadn't seen. Making others happy through giving, even in the smallest way, is what brings me happiness," she said. "I hope my act encourages others to give in whatever way and whenever they can."



Radha Pareek dyes Vice Principal Aubrei Erikins' hair green; Lauren Nagy-Oleski proudly holds up 8 inches of hair to donate to kids with cancer before embracing a buzz cut in solidarity.

Lauren's hair will be donated to create wigs for children undergoing chemotherapy, providing them with dignity and a semblance of normalcy.

All of these students teach us that leadership stands not above us but within us, if we allow it.

The March 11 assembly was more than just an event: it was a call to action, a declaration of solidarity, and a showcase of what is possible when people choose to see, listen, and participate.

In our shared universe of obligation, fulfillment comes not only from the outcomes of our actions but also from the generosity of the acts themselves. The dedication of Bison Buddies and Hope Heroes reaffirms that our support for St. Baldrick's was more than a single-day commitment – it was a lasting promise.

With every act of kindness, we choose to stand together, lifting one another up every day.

Hope Heroes: Healing Dogs Unleashed!

lacktriangle iant inflatable balloon dogs are now making surprise appearances in parks, city centers, and shopping areas across Northeast Ohio. The traveling installation, which aims to brighten the day of critically ill children, is the creative vision of students from 10 local high schools participating in the Excel TECC Marketing/Junior Achievement program at Beachwood High School.

The students are building off of the success of the 2024-25 Beachwood Marketing/Junior **Achievement Hope Heals** campaign that was able to place over 2,000 Medi Teddys in pediatric hospital rooms across Northeast Ohio. The Medi Teddy is a teddy bear sleeve that covers an IV bag to help reduce children's fear during medical treatments.

Determined to make an even more profound difference, this year's Marketing Junior Achievement students launched Hope Heroes, a campaign aimed at unleashing the healing power of dogs by adding additional facility dogs to UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland Clinic Children's, and Akron Children's, a hefty goal made possible through the students' fundraising efforts. To date, they have raised nearly \$190,000 - breaking all previous fundraising totals.

Proceeds from Hope Heroes will also enhance the volunteer therapy dog program at MetroHealth. Students are still raising funds by selling

sponsorship packages and balloon-themed merchandise, all while managing the campaign's budget, organizing events, and promoting their cause.

In developing the Hope Heroes campaign, students collaborated with District Gallery in the Van Aken District to enlist world-renowned artist Josh Mayhem to design a "Blown Away Balloon Dog" to serve as the campaign's mascot. The balloon dog is featured on all branding and merchandise.

Four giant, inflatable balloon dogs, along with an inflatable backdrop and/or dog house, will be on display as part of the Hope Heroes traveling installation this spring, which will make stops at:

- · Beachwood Library and **Beachwood High School** April 1-7
- Pinecrest April 11-21
- Crocker Park April 25-May 5
- Legacy Village May 9-19

Downtown Willoughby



Additionally, on Tuesday, May 20, there will be a dedication ceremony for sponsors and hospital guests at District Gallery.

"We attribute our success to the hard work of students and the very fact that people love dogs," Greg Perry, marketing/ Junior Achievement teacher, said. "When they can help critically ill children, their families, and caregivers, it's a home run."

To learn more about Hope Heroes, to buy merchandise, and/or to become a sponsor, please visit

www.hopeheroesohio.com. To make a donation, please scan this QR code. Sponsorships and donations will be accepted through June 1.

For more information, please contact Greg Perry at 330.524.0759 or gwp@beachwoodschools.org.



\$1 = 167 Wags



There is so much suffering. Here and abroad. I try to stay present, informed, aware. I feel concern, disappointment, frustration, and often shock at what is happening. I pray that this suffering opens me to be more of an advocate. more compassionate, more empathetic. I pray to let this suffering open me to be brave and somehow hopeful in spite of this very real ache of loss, disgrace, disappointment in all its many forms. This is proving tricky indeed.

My prayer is to not lose sight of what *is* good, who *is* good, and what is possible - still.

To Remain Open To ...

Can I sit with suffering, both yours and mine, without trying to make it go away? Can I stay present to the ache of loss or disgrace – disappointment in all its many forms – and let it open me? This is the trick." – Pema Chödrön

This is **not** about politics. It is about human decency.

Differences in perspective are not what make someone good or bad, and isn't this subjective, anyway? To me it's about speaking and acting with integrity, dignity, and compassion. Being intentional. Living a life rooted in the ethical treatment of others.

I waiver between wanting to shut down and close off the world - to hibernate - until the grace of humanity returns - and to answer the call to be the change I wish to see in the world. Like all of us, I am human having a human experience. My

thoughts and feelings ebb and flow. In my soul, I trust that I can be open to the suffering and to the hope that I can try to be a part of what and who is good.

May each of us who is trying to remain open be visited by patience, peace, hope, humility, kindness, confidence, focus, freedom, and love.

Love Visited Me

by Tahlia Hunter

Patience visited me

and it reminded me that good things take time to come to fruition and grow slowly with stability

Peace visited me

and it reminded me that I may remain calm through the storms of life regardless of the chaos surrounding me

Hope visited me

and it reminded me that better times lay ahead and it would always be there to guide and uplift me

Humility visited me

and it reminded me that I may achieve it not by trying to shrink myself and make myself less but by focusing on serving the world and uplifting those around me

Kindness visited me

and it reminded me to be more gentle, forgiving and compassionate toward myself and those surrounding me

Confidence visited me

and it reminded me to not conceal or suppress my gifts and talents in order to make others feel more comfortable but to embrace what makes me me

Focus visited me

and it reminded me that other people's insecurities and judgements about me are not my problem and I should redirect my attention from others back to me

Freedom visited me

and it reminded me that no one has control over my mindset, thoughts, and well-being but me

And love visited me

and it reminded me that I need not search for it in others as it lies within me





Jennifer Stern, LISW, is a Loss and Bereavement Specialist at Ellen F. Casper, PH.D and Associates in Beachwood. For more information, call 216.464.4243, or visit www. transformativegrief.com and sign up for monthly posts.



All the Budget Drama in Washington, D.C. and How It Impacts Columbus. By State Senator Kent Smith

uring the first six months of odd years (like 2025), the Ohio General Assembly works between the two chambers (the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio State Senate) to pass a budget. We must pass the state budget by July 1 and, unlike the budget passed by our federal government friends, our budget must balance.

It is important to keep in mind that about 33% of the State of Ohio General Revenue Fund budget comes from Washington, D.C. There are almost 250 separate categories of our state budget spending that have been sent to us from the federal government.

They include things like: Air National Guard operations; Crime Victim Compensation; the revolving Ohio Farm Loan program; money to fix leaking underground storage tanks; Medicaid; Home Weatherization dollars; Meat Inspection; Community

Development Block Grant; high speed Broadband access; the Women, Infants, and Children program; Highway Safety grants; Federal Disaster Relief; Juvenile Justice Prevention: the Federal School Breakfast and Lunch programs; Air Pollution Control: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funds; Veterans housing; Water Quality Protection; funds for Blind and Deaf schools: and more than 220 other programs. These programs total more than \$14 billion dollars.

Here is why this is important: As we have seen, the new administration has begun imposing its budget priorities. Their Department of Government Efficiency spending cuts have often been sudden and arbitrary. There has also been a good deal of talk about possible federal government shutdowns, continuing funding resolutions, and negotiations surrounding what it will take to keep the federal government open and operating.

I share this all to say that we in Columbus are watching the federal budget discussions very closely. If Washington, D.C. makes cuts to any of those 250 or so budget line items, then the State of Ohio will have to make some tough choices about what we fund, what we cut, and how we pay for it.

The D.C. drama is likely going to impact our next Ohio state budget and we all have about 14 billion reasons to pay attention.

State Senator Kent Smith represents Ohio's 21st Senate District which includes most of the East Side suburbs of Cuyahoga County and about 33% of the City of Cleveland.

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Shalom Plotkin Receives Honorary Doctorate

The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) recently conferred honorary doctorates upon a group of esteemed clergy, including Beachwood resident Shalom Plotkin, in recognition of their unwavering dedication to community service, spiritual leadership, and pastoral guidance over the past 25-plus years. This prestigious honor reflects their lifelong commitment to enriching Jewish communities and fostering education, faith, and engagement.

"This honor is not only a reflection of our individual efforts but also a testament to the wisdom and dedication of those who guided us," Shalom said. "It was a privilege to reunite with colleagues and celebrate the enduring legacy of those who came before us."

Shalom was recognized because of his continued service

to our community and beyond. Before venturing into home care, he served as a congregational rabbi and a chaplain in the U.S. Naval Reserves, providing pastoral support to Navy and Marine Corps service members and their families. His 15 years of military service included roles in crisis management and counseling, experiences that now inform his compassionate approach to home care.

In 2014, Shalom and his wife, Elise Braverman-Plotkin, established Right at Home Cleveland East. After caring for Elise's father, who battled Parkinson's disease for over two decades, they created the service to help individuals maintain independence in the comfort of their homes.

Additionally, Shalom is founder of Cleveland Senior Network, a collaborative group of professionals and organizations focused on improving resources and support for the aging population in Northeast Ohio. Its main event in Beachwood is the Halloween Health Fair, scheduled for Oct. 30, 2025, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Beachwood Community Center. Through this affiliation, he works closely with other senior care experts to promote education, advocacy, and comprehensive care solutions for seniors and their families.

He also supports Kosher Food Pantry, Bikur Cholim and the Alzheimer's Association; serves as a chaplain for veterans at the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center; and frequently volunteers at other locations and conducts educational sessions on topics such as fall prevention and dementia support.

Congratulations to Shalom, whose dedication to compassionate care and community engagement continue to make a positive impact in Beachwood and the surrounding areas. The Jewish Theological
Seminary continues to serve as
a cornerstone of Jewish learning
and leadership, inspiring future
generations to carry forward the
values of scholarship, service,
and community-building.
Right at Home Cleveland

Right at Home Cleveland East is committed to improving the quality of life for those they serve. The agency offers a range of services designed to help clients remain safe and independent at home.

For more information, Shalom can be reached at 216.752.2222.



Shalom Plotkin recieves an honorary doctorate from The Jewish Theological Seminary.



Holi - The Festival of Colors

Holi is a vibrant and colorful Hindu spring festival celebrated by Indians and the Indian diaspora across the world in the universal spirit of brotherhood. It symbolizes the victory of good over evil, fostering of friendship, peace, and harmony in the community and appreciation of nature which is in full bloom at this time of the year.

People, regardless of background, culture, religion, age and financial disparities, come together to indulge in merriment by putting colors on each other as a gesture of goodwill and friendship, and share sweets among themselves.

The Indian American Affinity Group of Beachwood Schools invites you to celebrate Holi – The Festival of Colors on April 27, from 3-5 p.m., at the Beachwood High School with colorful, fun activities and mouth-watering treats. May this festival bring us together to spread peace and joy in and around Beachwood.



JFSA: 150 YEARS

Celebrating Our Past. Strengthening Our Future.

This is the first in a series of articles highlighting JFSA Cleveland's 150 year history.

stablished in 1875, the sole purpose of the Hebrew Relief Society (as JFSA was known) was to resettle Jewish immigrants in Cleveland. Today, JFSA is a contemporary health and social service organization. Influenced by local and world events, JFSA consistently responds to our community needs with progressive, high-quality programming.

JFSA Cleveland was here when ...

- Immigrants came to Cleveland due to political unrest or as a result of post-war conditions and needed assistance and resources to start a new life in a new country.
- Food insecurity, experienced during the Great Depression of the 1930s or in response to the rising incidence today, created the need for nutritious food.
- Individuals with serious mental illness were released from institutions into the community during the 1970s and needed housing and quality-of-life supports.
- Holocaust survivors began facing the extra demands associated with aging and sought assistance to meet their physical, emotional, and social needs.
- Parents of adults with developmental disabilities sought independent living and a path forward to ensure their children would be taken care of when they were no longer able to.
- The high cost of a college education deprived students of their educational goals and dreams.

These historic milestones lay the foundation for JFSA today and our commitment to provide individuals and families with solutions to face life's challenges with confidence.

Without these roots, we would not be an organization today with over 600 staff touching thousands of lives every year, 55 residential sites in three counties, a medical clinic, a shelter for women and children facing domestic violence or homelessness, a kosher food pantry, a homecare agency, or providing social services to families living in Summit County through JFS Akron.

> We'd love to hear from you! Help us build our history exhibit by sending us your stories or photos to info@jfsa-cleveland.org.

Save the Date: 150th Celebration • Monday, Aug. 25, 2025

Every step you took, he was there.



Together, let's take the next steps to give him the best care.

JFSA's Caring at Home services can help you help your parents with cooking, shopping, laundry, housekeeping, as well as their bathing, grooming, and dressing needs. We can also help with post-hospital recovery and rehabilitation. You don't need to do this alone.

WE CAN HELP.

Call 216.378.8660 today for a free assesment, or visit jfsa-cleveland.org.





JFSA Cleveland helps individuals and families with solutions to face life's challenges with confidence.

A Community's Call to Action: Helping Brandon Musick in His Fight Against PKD

olycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) is a silent but devastating genetic disorder that causes fluid-filled cysts to develop in the kidneys, gradually impairing their function. Once the kidneys fail, the only options for survival are dialysis or a transplant.

Brandon Musick, a Beachwood High School graduate, class of 2007, was diagnosed with PKD at just 12 years old. His father, Daryl, underwent a kidney transplant in 2007. Now, Brandon's condition has reached a critical stage – without a living donor, he will soon require dialysis and a transplant. He is currently under the care of Dr. Andrew Lazar.

Beyond his health struggles, Brandon is a devoted father, raising his 14-year-old daughter, Layla, with the support of his family. He takes great pride in providing her with a stable and enriching life, and Beachwood has been an incredible community for her. However, the need for dialysis could significantly impact his ability to work and provide for his family. A kidney transplant would provide him the best option to continue being the dedicated father and hardworking professional he strives to be.

Layla is Brandon's greatest source of strength and motivation. "She inspires me every day to keep pushing forward," he said. "My goal is to be here for her for many years to come."

Brandon finds joy in family, nature, sports, and music – especially the Grateful Dead, whose lyrics remind him to find hope, stay resilient and embrace the journey, no matter the challenges. Recently, he also welcomed a puppy into his home, adding even more love and energy to his life.

"Despite my health challenges, I remain optimistic and determined," Brandon said. "Receiving a kidney transplant would allow me to continue providing for my daughter, creating cherished memories with my family, and living life to the fullest."

April is National Donate Life Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about organ, eye, and tissue donation. With more than 100,000 people in the U.S. waiting for life-saving transplants, this month serves as a reminder of the profound impact one donor can have. One organ donor can save up to eight lives and improve the quality of life for many more through tissue donation.

Now, Brandon and his family are reaching out to the community for support. Those interested in becoming a potential living donor can start the confidential testing process, fully covered by Brandon's insurance, by contacting the University Hospitals Transplant Unit at 216.983.5138 or visiting www.uh.donorscreen.org. Simply mention that you are testing for Brandon Musick and the transplant team will guide you through every step.

"Embracing Judaism and being part of a close-knit Jewish community has been incredibly meaningful to me throughout this journey," Brandon shared. "The warmth, support, and traditions have given me strength and I cherish celebrating the holidays with my family. I remain hopeful and am profoundly grateful for the chance to receive this lifechanging gift."

To show support for Brandon and raise awareness for organ



Brandon Musick with his daughter, Layla.

donation, Suburban Temple-Kol Ami (22401 Chagrin Blvd.) will host a Tikkun Olam event on Friday, April 18, from 6-7 p.m., followed by an Oneg. Everyone is welcome to attend and stand in solidarity with Brandon on his journey to finding a donor.

Brandon is the son of Laurel Musick Bloom and Daryl Musick, and stepson of Eddie Bloom. "It takes a village. Please join us to help Brandon get the life-saving transplant he urgently needs," said Laurel.

"Receiving a kidney transplant would allow me to continue providing for my daughter, creating cherished memories with my family, and living life to the fullest."

- Brandon Musick

To show support for Brandon and raise awareness for organ donation, Suburban Temple-Kol Ami (22401 Chagrin Blvd.) will host a Tikkun Olam event on Friday, April 18, from 6-7 p.m., followed by an Oneg. Everyone is welcome to attend and stand in solidarity with Brandon on his journey to finding a donor.

SWIFTIES Auditions

The songs of Taylor Swift



Marquee Showcase Productions and Beachwood Community Theater introduce a new concert series, cabaret style, on stage at the Beachwood Community Center. This opportunity provides kids and teens a platform to perform their favorite songs, while gaining experience in front of an audience.

Auditions are now open. Get ready for SWIFTIES, celebrating the songs of Taylor Swift.



The show will be held at the **Beachwood Community Center** on Sunday, May 4, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance or \$15 at the door, and can be purchased by emailing Miss Julie at gold2@aol.com.

"We encourage kids and teens, both residents and nonresidents. to come perform," said Miss Julie. "Reserve your spot in the show by sending an email to Miss Debi at marqueeshowcase@gmail.com. Song selections are on a firstcome, first-served basis."

SWIFTIES

Sunday, May 4 · 6 p.m. **Beachwood Community Center**



Join us for a fun-filled evening of Mingling and Mahjong!

Thursday, May 8 • 5:30 p.m. StoneWater Golf Club 1 Club Dr., Highland Heights

Whether you're a seasoned pro or just learning the game, this event is for you! Gather your friends or come solo and enjoy a night of camaraderie, competition, and fun.

> Register your foursome or purchase an individual ticket at cjn.org/mahjongnight

Tickets include:

One drink ticket • Heavy vegetarian hors d'oeuvres • A gift bag A chance to win exciting prizes throughout the night!

Reminder: Please bring your own tiles and 2025 rule cards.

Supporting Sponsor







Jewish News

Questions? Contact Gina Lloyd at 216-342-5196 or glloyd@cjn.org

TOUS les JOURS

COMING SOON

APRIL - MAY 2025

LYNDHURST





The Insider



Keeping you connected to The City of Beachwood!

April 2025

The Mayor's Message

Investing In Our Future

Dear Beachwood Residents,

As we move into spring, Beachwood continues to take thoughtful steps to ensure a thriving future for our city. Investing in our community today ensures long-term success and sustainability. I want to share some significant updates that reflect our commitment to this vision.

Strategic Investment in Chagrin Highlands

I am proud to announce the successful acquisition of 42.94 acres in Chagrin Highlands, a significant investment strengthening our city's long-term economic development strategy. This purchase, approved by Beachwood City Council on March 3, solidifies Beachwood's position as a premier business destination in Northeast Ohio.

Our city has pursued the opportunity to secure this key parcel of land for over two decades, and I am proud that our administration finalized this strategic purchase. The \$3,014,500 investment was funded through the City's Capital Projects Fund, ensuring taxpayers face no additional financial burden. This acquisition will provide valuable flexibility for future growth and economic opportunities that benefit our residents and business community.

Fairmount Temple Property Development

Another key investment in our city's future is the redevelopment of the Fairmount Temple property. After an extensive review process of potential developer-builder teams, we have invited qualified teams to submit proposals for a high-quality residential development. Our review committee will assess these proposals in the coming months and recommend moving forward with a development agreement.

This project represents an exciting opportunity to enhance our residential offerings and strengthen Beachwood as a premier community.

Breakfast Bites & Insights

I would also like to express my gratitude to the 30 residents who participated in our city's first Breakfast Bites & Insights event. This gathering provided a valuable opportunity



to share key accomplishments from 2024 and preview upcoming projects that will shape Beachwood's future. Your thoughtful questions and engagement made for a meaningful and productive discussion. I am continually inspired by the passion and involvement of our residents, and I look forward to continuing these conversations as we work together to strengthen our community.





Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our great city. Together, we are investing in a bright future for Beachwood!

Sincerely,

Chester Down

Mayor Justin Berns MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com

Beachwood City Council



How To Email A Council Member: FirstName.LastName@BeachwoodOhio.com



Alec Isaacson Council President 216.291.2797



Danielle Shoykhet Council V.P. 216.212.9212



Jillian DeLong 216.509.3514



Joshua Mintz 650.464.6788



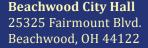
Pete Smith 216.299.3557



Ali B. Stern 240.706.7478



June E. Taylor 216.533.7640









AUDITOR 216.595.3712

BUILDING DEPARTMENT 216.292.1914

CLERK OF COUNCIL 216.595.5493

COMMUNITY SERVICES 216.292.1970

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 216.292.1915

FINANCE 216.292.1913

FIRE & RESCUE 216.292.1965

LAW 216.595.5462

MAYOR'S OFFICE 216.292.1901

POLICE 216.464.2343

PUBLIC WORKS 216.292.1922

EMERGENCY Dial 9-1-1 or 216.464.1234

Beachwood Secures Long-Sought Land in Chagrin Highlands, Paving the Way for Economic Growth

After more than two decades of pursuit, the City of Beachwood has finalized the acquisition of 42.94 acres in the highly sought-after Chagrin Highlands business district. Approved by City Council on March 3, this landmark purchase strengthens Beachwood's position as a premier business destination in Northeast Ohio and represents a significant step forward in the city's long-term economic development strategy.

The \$3.01 million purchase was funded entirely through the city's Capital Projects Fund, ensuring that no additional tax burden is placed on residents. By leveraging existing resources, Beachwood's leadership has secured a prime development site to drive business attraction, job creation, and sustainable growth.

"This acquisition is a transformative investment for Beachwood," said Mayor Justin Berns. "Not only does it reinforce our



An aerial view including a portion of the Chagrin Highlands property.

commitment to thoughtful, strategic development, but it also ensures our continued success as a hub for business and innovation. This investment secures new opportunities for our community without putting a financial strain on our residents."

Situated in a high-demand commercial corridor, the newly acquired land enhances Beachwood's competitiveness on both a regional and national scale. The site's prime location offers excellent visibility, superior connectivity, and access to a highly skilled workforce, making it an attractive option for businesses looking to establish or expand operations.

The acquisition aligns with Beachwood's broader economic vision, supported by regional partners such as Jobs Ohio, Team NEO, and the Cuyahoga County Department of Development. With strategic financial planning, Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and economic development grants, the city can maximize the land's potential while ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability.

Looking ahead, Beachwood's leadership remains committed to unlocking new economic opportunities that will benefit both businesses and residents for generations to come. This acquisition is not just about securing land—it is about ensuring the future of Beachwood as a thriving, prosperous community.

STAY ENGAGED IN YOUR COMMUNITY:



Meeting agendas, minutes including legislation, live and recorded meetings are available on our website at BeachwoodOhio.com or please attend an upcoming meeting.

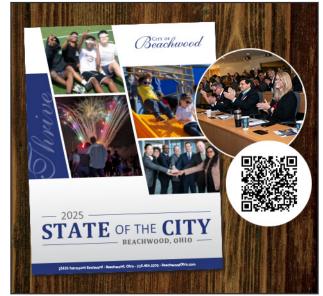
Legislative Update

The city is focusing on six key areas essential for the city's advancement, which serve not only as a roadmap, but as a guiding light for our city's progress. Each update highlights these areas.

March 3 City Council Meeting

Fiscal Responsibility: City Council approved an increase in the Mayoral salary. Starting Jan. 1, 2026, the Mayor's salary will be \$165,000. Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, it will increase each year by either 3% or the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), whichever is lower. Moving forward, City Council will review the mayoral salary every four years to determine if any changes are needed. In accordance with city ordinances, this salary adjustment will take effect with the next mayor elected into office, as changes to an elected official's salary cannot occur during their current term.

Economic Development: Council members voted 5-1 to approve the city's purchase of 42.94 acres of land in Chagrin Highlands for \$3.01 million. The site offers several business development opportunities, supporting the city's long-term economic development strategy.



Get an in-depth look at the State of the City in this month's cover story on page 6 or scan the QR code to view our booklet and video.

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

Beachwood Fire Honors 2024 Firefighter of the Year

Beachwood Fire Chief Steven Holtzman recently announced the department's 2024 Firefighter of the Year, Ben Welch. He was honored during the Feb. 18 City Council meeting with family and friends present. Welch has been with the department since 2014. The Beachwood Fire Department's Officer Corps votes to select the firefighter of the year.

Firefighter Welch is a dedicated department member, serving in many roles, including SWAT Medic, department mentor, social media committee member, union executive board member, and interview committee member.

Chief Holtzman praised firefighter Welch's commitment to the department: "Ben sets the standard for what it means to be a Beachwood Firefighter. He brings knowledge and a strong work ethic, always leading by example with a great attitude. Firefighter Welsh constantly puts others ahead of himself and is a true asset to the department and community."

Beachwood Mayor Justin Berns also congratulated Firefighter Welch on his award, stating, "In the short time I have known Ben, he has already demonstrated the qualities of a strong leader. His dedication, professionalism, and commitment to the Beachwood Fire Department put him on track for a leadership position in the future."

Congratulations on the award, Firefighter Welch. It is well deserved!



Firefighter of the Year, Ben Welch, with his wife and child alongside Chief Holtzman and Mayor Berns.

FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY:

Friday, May 9, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fairmount Temple Property (23737 Fairmount Blvd.) Proof of residency required. Please use paper bags and banker boxes only; no plastic grocery bags.

Beachwood Police Department Relaunches 'Coffee with a Cop'



The Beachwood Police Department successfully relaunched its "Coffee with a Cop" initiative under the leadership of Chief Dan Grispino, drawing around 35 community members for an afternoon of conversation and connection.

The event took place on Friday afternoon, Feb. 21, at Nordstrom Ebar Artisan Coffee in Beachwood Place. Residents, business

owners, and visitors had the opportunity to engage with officers in a casual, welcoming setting, reinforcing the department's commitment to creating strong relationships within the community.

With positive participant feedback, the Beachwood Police Department plans to continue "Coffee with a Cop" as a regular event, ensuring ongoing engagement with the community.



Left to right: Beachwood Place K-9 Security Officer Chris Ritondaro (K-9 Mandy), Chief Dan Grispino, Captain Richard Lessick, Deputy Chief John Resek, Captain John Korinek, Officer LaCameron Workman







Beachwood Firefighter Nick Ricco Conquers Key Tower

Beachwood Firefighter Nick Ricco recently took on the 2025 Fight for Air Climb - Cleveland, an annual stair-climbing event dedicated to supporting those battling lung disease. This year's climb returned to Key Tower in downtown Cleveland, the tallest stair climb challenge between Chicago and Philadelphia. The event provided a unique blend of fun and camaraderie as participants ascended 54 flights of stairs to raise awareness and funds for the American Lung Association.



Firefighters like Ricco face unhealthy air as an occupational hazard, making this cause personal. By participating in the climb, Ricco and his fellow first responders tested their endurance and showed support for more than 2.2 million Ohioans living with lung disease.

This year's event raised over \$160,000 for the American Lung Association, thanks to firefighter Ricco and other climbers.

Beachwood Firefighter Nick Ricco

Save Our Pollinators

As spring approaches and temperatures rise, gardeners begin preparing for early planting. However, delaying leaf and brush removal can



positively impact pollinators like butterflies and bees, which overwinter in dead plant material. Experts recommend

waiting until daytime temperatures consistently reach the 50s to allow these beneficial insects to hatch naturally, supporting a thriving pollinator population for the season ahead. Thank you for doing your part for the local pollinators!

PUBLIC WORKS LOOSE LEAF REMOVAL: Loose leaf removal officially began Monday, March 31, and will run through mid-May. Please call 216.292.1922 and verify loose leaf removal is still operating after Friday, May 16.

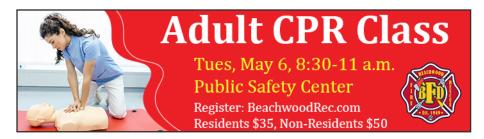
Plan Your Next Party in Beachwood

Not only are there more ways to play in Beachwood, but there are also more ways to party! Whether it's a block party, splash party or room rental, there's an option to suit your next celebration.

Block Parties: Build community pride, meet your neighbors and enjoy some family fun on your street with a Beachwood Block Party featuring complimentary supplies! That's right: a free trailer with tents, tables, chairs, coolers, street barricades, lawn games, cornhole boards and a selfie frame. The city will also assist with the road closure. Two trailers available per weekend. Reservations begin April 7 at BeachwoodRec.com.

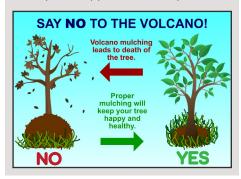
Splash Parties: Looking to host a party at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center? Splash parties are available to residents only for \$85 which includes 10 admission wristbands and use of the pavilion with eight picnic tables. Additional wristbands are available for \$6 each with a maximum of 50. BFAC members do not need wristbands for admission. Splash parties are offered on Saturdays and Sundays from 12-3 p.m. or 4-7 p.m. only. Two forms of proof of residency required upon registration, limit two parties per household during the season. Registration begins in person at Beachwood City Hall on April 7.

Community Center Room Rentals: Beachwood residents, Beachwood businesses and community groups are eligible to rent rooms at the Community Center! The space is ideal for birthday parties, baby showers, corporate meetings and more. Each of the center's six rooms may be rented individually or combined to form a larger room. Learn more and view the rental rates online at BeachwoodRec.com.



Tree Health Tip

As spring arrives and landscaping projects begin, proper mulching is key to tree health. Avoid volcano mulching, which can cause root rot, decay, pests, and even tree death. Instead, apply mulch 2–4 inches deep, keeping it away from the trunk to form a donut shape. Healthy trees enhance Beachwood's beauty and supports the ecosystem.





Cleaning up after your pet is a simple way to help keep our neighborhoods, local waterways and Lake Erie clean. It's the right thing to doo!

April Recreation Guide



Beachwood Beats Returns with Fresh Sounds

Get ready to groove all summer long! The Beachwood Beats Summer Concert Series is back, bringing a mix of new bands and expanded genres to entertain music lovers of all ages.

Join us every Tuesday in June and July from 6:30–8:00 p.m. at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center for free live music under the summer sky. In case of inclement weather, concerts will be moved indoors to the Beachwood Community Center.

- June 10 The Nick Puin Band
 Upbeat Jazz/Great American Songbook
- June 17 Revival Rock Band Rock and Roll
- June 24 3 Birds & The Wire Three Voices. One Harmony.
- July 1 Subliners

 Jazz-Rock Fusion Band
- July 8 The Elvis Wonder Show An Authentic Elvis Experience
- July 15 Nitebridge

 Jazz, Country, Blues & Everything in Between
- July 22 Taking Off Monday
 The Ultimate Pop Punk Experience
- July 29 POP Machine
 Chart Topping Hits 1970s to Today

Mark your calendars, bring your own chairs, and get ready for a summer of fantastic music and community fun.

New Sand Volleyball League

Dig deep and bring the energy to the sand this summer with Beachwood's new Sand Volleyball League! Assemble your dream team and enjoy some friendly competition under the sun. All skill levels welcome. Leagues are seven weeks plus a playoff, referee fee due to the official at the time of the match. Register your team online at BeachwoodRec.com.



- Adult Co-Ed 4s: Mondays, May 12-July 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$240 per team (4 players) No matches on May 26.
- Adult Co-Ed 6s: Fridays, May 16-July 11,
 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$288 per team (6 players)
 No matches on July 4.
- High School Boys 4s: Mondays, June 9-July 28
 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$192 per team (4 players)
- High School Girls 4s: Wednesdays, June 11-August 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$192 per team (4 players)
 No matches on July 9 and July 30.



DIMENSIONAL DELIGHTS

On Display April 4 - April 28

Artists' Reception: April 6, 2-4 PM

Girls Capture Championship

Congrats to the Beachwood Recreation Girls Basketball team, led by Coach Alain Serels, on winning the Great Lakes Girls Recreation Basketball League Championship for grades 3–5!

Beachwood has partnered with neighboring cities and schools to help in the formation of this recreational league. The program gives our girls the chance to compete, grow, and play the game they love.





An Oh-So Sweet Production

That's a wrap on SugarTown Follies by Beachwood Community Theater! The show was a full-on sugar rush — packed with talent, candy-coated charm, and performances that were oh-so sweet. Huge shoutout to our directors, Julie Matthews and Debi Lewin, for a sensational original production.







SugarTown Follies was held on March 1 and March 2 at Beachwood Middle School.

Aquatic Center Memberships On Sale Beginning April 7



From splash pads to water slides, you can find it all at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center! We're looking forward to another great summer as your go-to destination for fun in the sun.

Memberships go on sale Monday, April 7, at City

Hall for residents only. Save 20% with early bird rates through May 23. Please bring a driver's license and current utility bill as proof of residency. For more information and an application, visit BeachwoodRec.com.

Sunday	PADDLE UP 2025 Spring League		
May 4-J 9:00 AN Interna Tuesda May 6-J 6:00-9:0 Register Online: Beachw	1-Noon ediafe ny Nights une 24 00 PM		

Membership	Early Bird (4/7-5/23)	Summer Rate
Children 3 & Under	Free	Free
Individual	\$60	\$72
Family of 2	\$115	\$138
Family of 3	\$165	\$198
Family of 4	\$175	\$210
Each additional member	\$25	\$30
Seniors (60 & Better)	\$35	\$42

Beachwood Seniors

Upcoming Programs

• April Lunch Bunch & Supper Club

Lunch Bunch - Mavis Winkle's Irish Pub in Twinsburg, April 9, 12:00 p.m. Supper Club - Kiln in Shaker Heights, April 22, 6:00 p.m.

New! We're venturing out further to some of the best spots in Northeast Ohio. To accommodate travel, van transportation is offered for up to nine people. Van registration is \$5 per resident and \$7 per non-resident.

Drawing Class with Marlene Weinstein

Tuesdays, April 29-June 3, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00-3:00 p.m. **Beachwood Community Center**

Explore light, composition, color and more. All artistic levels welcome. The upcoming session will cover art history inspired drawing over six weeks. Register by April 22, \$79 for residents and \$89 for non-residents.

Mahj Tournament

Monday, May 5, 12:30-4:30 p.m. **Beachwood Community Center**

A crowd favorite! Regularly hosting over 70 players! Join in the fun. Registration includes snacks and prizes. Please bring a Mahj set if possible. Only \$17 for residents and \$20 for non-residents. Register by April 25.

April Meet & Eat

Elvis Is In Our House Thursday, April 17, at Noon **Beachwood Community Center**

Residents \$13 Non-Residents \$16 Program Only \$5

Register by April 10.

Elvis tribute artist, Frank Worley, is native to the greater Cleveland area's west side where his education excelled in theater and music performance. He created KINGtinued as a tribute to Elvis's live performances and his legacy. Take a trip back in time and visit with the KING of Rock & Roll. Blue suede shoes optional!

Meal choices include a BBQ chicken sandwich or egg salad sandwich. All entrees served with chips, beverage, and dessert.

May Meet & Eat (5/15): What's in your health and wellness toolbox? Join Tim Carney for a fun, inspiring journey to better health.

Register for events at BeachwoodRec.com, City Hall or call 216.292.1970.

Where Business Is Booming!

Beachwood Business Compass Podcast: The Business Growth Wheel

The latest episode of the Beachwood Business Compass Podcast features Katie Van Dyke, Director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), as she shares expert insights on strategic positioning for business growth.



The SBDC, with multiple locations throughout Northeast Ohio, is dedicated to helping businesses at every stage—from aspiring entrepreneurs to established companies—develop and execute tailored strategies for success. Katie Van Dyke, an advocate for Cleveland's entrepreneurial community, highlights how small businesses are a major contributor to the strength of local economies.



Catherine Bieterman (left), Economic Development Director and host, with Katie Van Dyke (right) of the Small Business Development Center.

In this episode, learn how the SBDC Growth Wheel and one-on-one consulting help businesses refine their strategic direction. The SBDC also connects local entrepreneurs with valuable resources such as APEX, JumpStart, Bounce, ECDI, and more, fostering a dynamic ecosystem of support.

To take the next step in growing your business, schedule an appointment with the SBDC through the City of Beachwood One Stop Business Resource Center or the Cleveland State SBDC. Let these complementary and customized resources be your guide to success.

Episode 3 of the Beachwood Business Compass is available now on Apple Podcasts.







Primrose Schools Opens Beachwood Location

Primrose Schools help lay the foundation for a lifelong love of learning through purposeful play and nurturing guidance. Their new center has opened at 23825 Commerce Park. They are planning for a grand opening celebration this spring.

Chamber Pancake Breakfast to Support Scholars

Mark your calendars and bring your appetite! The Beachwood Chamber of Commerce is serving up a morning of delicious pancakes, community spirit, and support for local students at its pancake breakfast. The event takes place on Sunday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Beachwood High School Cafeteria, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast while contributing to a meaningful cause — supporting the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce High School Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. No advance tickets are necessary; simply pay at the door.



Officials from the City of Beachwood and the Beachwood School District will greet and serve community members, making this event a great opportunity to connect with local leaders. Partial proceeds from the breakfast will directly benefit the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce Scholarships, helping local students achieve their educational goals. For local businesses looking to gain visibility, there is an opportunity to set up a promotional table for \$125. Businesses that participate will also receive a business card-sized ad featured on the event placemats, ensuring exposure to attendees. Don't miss out — join us for a morning of food, fun, and philanthropy!

Always Be An Insider, Stay Connected!

Official Social Media Pages









Facebook Pages:

- @BeachwoodOH
- @BeachwoodPolice
- @BeachwoodFire
- @BeachwoodOHRec
- @BeachwoodPublicWorks @BarkwoodDogPark

X Accounts:

- @BeachwoodOH
- @BeachwoodPolice

Instagram Account:

- @BeachwoodOhio
- **LinkedIn Account:** @CityOfBeachwood



Early Detection Saves Lives: Prioritize Your Colon Health at **UH Ahuja Medical Center**



Bridget Gallagher, MD

olorectal cancer is the fourth most diagnosed cancer in the U.S. and the second leading cause of cancer death. Given these statistics, timely screening is essential for early detection.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 154,270 people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with colon and rectal cancer in 2025, and 52,900 lives will be lost to the disease. Even more alarming, 10% of colorectal cancer cases occur in people under 50, with rates rising 1-2% annually.

Screening Saves Lives

While these statistics are sobering, colorectal cancer is preventable with routine screening and treatable when detected early.

"Colorectal cancer often develops silently, which is why regular screening is key for prevention" said Bridget Gallagher, MD, Gastroenterology, who specializes in Colon Cancer Screenings at UH Ahuja Medical Center. "The most important takeaway is that early detection saves lives."

At UH Ahuja Medical Center, we offer a full range of diagnostic and preventative options, including advanced colon cancer screenings such as colonoscopies and stool-based tests, utilizing the latest technology. We place an emphasis on educating patients about the importance of early detection and providing access to cutting-edge diagnostic tools, ensuring that individuals receive the best possible care for their health.

Who Should be Screened?

University Hospitals recommends that adults at average risk begin screening options at age 45:

A colonoscopy: A procedure using a thin, flexible tube with a camera to examine the colon and rectum.

Stool-based tests: Sensitive tests that check for hidden signs of cancer in stool samples.

Individuals with the following risk factors should talk to their doctor about starting screenings earlier:

- Family history of colorectal cancer.
- Personal history of colorectal cancer or polyps.
- · A history of ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease.

Recognizing Symptoms

While symptoms may go unnoticed earlier, some warning signs might include:

- Changes in bowel habits: Diarrhea, constipation, or inconsistent bowel movements.
- Ongoing abdominal discomfort: Cramping, bloating, nausea, or unexplained feelings of fullness.
- Rectal bleeding: Blood in the stool, toilet, or toilet paper.
- Weakness and fatigue: Symptoms of anemia caused by internal bleeding.
- Unexplained weight loss: Sudden weight loss without changes in diet or activity.

Don't wait until symptoms arise. Take the proactive step to protect your health by scheduling your colonoscopy screening today.

> To schedule your colonoscopy or learn more about our comprehensive digestive health services, call 216 844 3636 or visit uhhospitals.org/colonoscopy to schedule online.

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Beachwood Middle School Students Named Stop The Hate Finalists

Beachwood Schools congratulates seventh grader Farai Chiunda and eighth grader Abby Gourley on being named finalists in the 2025 Stop the Hate Contest.

This year, 4,419 students from more than 160 Northeast Ohio schools participated in the contest and workshops, submitting essays, poems, or group songs for a chance to win scholarships, educational grants, and prizes for themselves and their schools.

The Maltz Museum's Stop the Hate contest encourages personal storytelling to build empathy and understanding in students in grades six through 12. Through this initiative, students explore issues of discrimination, bullying, and hate while learning how to create positive change in their communities.

"Being a finalist has made me more confident in my writing," says Farai. Her essay underscores the importance of valuing names as part of cultural identity and calls for greater inclusion through correct name pronunciation. "I'm happy that my story connected with others," she says. "I hope it makes people think about the importance of names and respect."





Abby's essay explores her growing awareness of gender-based harassment and societal beauty standards. She highlights the importance of creating supportive communities to challenge harmful perceptions and empower women. "It is an honor to receive an award that gives young people the opportunity to advocate for things that are important to us. We can showcase our voices through our writing and hopefully inspire others," says Abby.

Winners will be named on Thursday, April 3, at an awards ceremony at the Tri-C Cuyahoga Community College. The community is invited to attend this free event. Seating is limited and advanced registration is required at: www.maltzmuseum.org/events.



Elderclass

April 10, 12 - 2:15 p.m.

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

White & Gold Talent Show

April 15, 6:30 p.m.

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Spring Orchestra Concert

April 29, 7:30 p.m.

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Spring Band Concert

April 30, 7:30 p.m.

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.



VIEW THE FULL CALENDAR

www.beachwoodschools.org/calendar

Students Compete in STEM Wars

High school students in the design and engineering class put their problem-solving skills to the test by designing and racing cardboard boats in the natatorium as part of the annual STEM Wars competition.

Using only cardboard and duct tape to secure the seams, students worked in teams to design their boats with SolidWorks, a widely used computer-aided design and engineering program. They used the software to create 3D models, simulate real-world performance, and refine their plans before construction.

"It was really fun to see our design on the computer before building it in real life," says ninth-grader Adina Gordon.

She and her teammates - ninth graders Raya Magence and Rebecca Fishbach, along with 10th grader Tamar Klein applied principles of structural integrity, ratios and scaling, and surface area to maximize their boat's stability and speed.

"We decided to stuff cardboard into our boat like a sponge to absorb water," explains Rebecca.

The strategy worked. "Our boat was very successful," says Raya. "We ended up getting second place."

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

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Classroom Spotlight: Criminal Justice



Beachwood High School's Criminal Justice elective was introduced in the 2023-24 school year following a survey of students and families about their academic interests and educational goals. In this Q&A, teacher Pam Crossman shares how students examine the foundations of the criminal justice system and how its processes unfold through engaging lessons and experiential learning.

What are some of the key concepts and skills that students learn in this course?

Throughout the Criminal Justice course, juniors and seniors evaluate each aspect of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, the courts, corrections and juvenile justice. First, we focus on the basic rights of citizens and key terminology they will encounter at each step, such as warrant, probable cause and Miranda rights. Then, we delve into each component of the justice system and evaluate its strengths and weaknesses.

Beyond the boat races, students design and build CO2 dragsters, mousetrap cars, and suspension bridges to compete in other STEM Wars challenges. "This is always a fun time of year," says design and engineering teacher Brian Hill. "I love watching students' minds work as they develop creative solutions to attack these problemsolving activities."



Can you share some recent lessons that were Particularly engaging to students?

Students enjoyed a visit from Director of Security Officer Colton Pekarski during our unit on law enforcement. He spoke about his path into law enforcement, his experience in both Cleveland and Beachwood, and how a typical Beachwood patrol operates. He also answered student questions on a range of topics, including legal consequences for specific offenses and how to respond in various situations.

Another popular lesson is a crime scene investigation. In this simulation, I set up a mock crime scene, and students search for evidence, question witnesses, obtain warrants and interrogate suspects. They love it because many staff members get involved.

How does this course help students develop into "intellectual entrepreneurs with a social

It's imperative that students understand their rights before they head to college and beyond, but it's also important to cultivate strong relationships between the police and the communities they serve. This course helps students find answers to their questions about the criminal justice system and connect what they learn to their own experiences and goals.

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



Recent Resolutions

- · Created policy committee and appointed members
- Approved out-of-district trips for high school math club and cheerleading team
- Heard presentations on trauma-informed practices and community-based learning program

Upcoming Board Actions

- Approve updated five-year financial forecast
- Hear human resources update
- Hold public hearing on approval of the 2027-2028 district calendar

Board Meeting Calendar

- Monday, April 14 @ 7 p.m.
- Monday, April 28 @ 7 p.m.



VIEW AGENDAS & MINUTES

www.beachwoodschools.org/BOE

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Winter Sports Review

This season is one for the record books, from state championships and school records to breakthrough moments in wrestling, basketball, swimming, and cheerleading!

Indoor Track & Field

The Beachwood boys' and girls' indoor track and field teams delivered standout performances March 7 at the Ohio Association of Track & Cross Country Coaches Indoor State Championships at SPIRE. The girls' 4x200 relay team raced to victory and claimed the state championship title. The talented team consisting of freshmen K'Dyn Harris-Tate, Meena Abdul-Basser, and Kyrsten Ginn, along with sophomore Marley Readance, showcased the strength and depth of the program's future. Meena also had an impressive individual showing, earning state runner-up honors in the 400-meter dash and placing fifth in the 200-meter dash.

For the boys' team, sophomore Luke Warner finished as the state runner-up in the long jump, while senior Levi Turell placed fourth in the 200-meter dash. Additional podium finishes included:

- 4x800 Relay: Henrik Burda, Junbo Wang, Dirck Van Tassel, Peter Adobamen – 5th Place
- 4x400 Relay: Levi Turell, Braylon Moultrie, Henrik Burda, Peter Adobamen – 8th Place
- · 800-Meter Run: Peter Adobamen 8th Place



Girls' Basketball

The Bison girls' basketball team wrapped up the season with a 13-10 record, the program's best finish since 2014-15. The team was led by seniors Goldi Aschkenasy, Lexi Jaffe, and Londyn Travis, along with freshman standout Zoe Walters. Goldi capped off her high school career as the state's leader in blocks across all divisions, averaging 4.2 per game. She was named First-Team All-District and earned Chagrin Valley Conference (CVC) Second-Team honors. Zoe finished her freshman season with 372 points, averaging 16.9 per game, and was recognized as a Second-Team All-District and CVC Second-Team selection. Sophomore Marley Readance also received Honorable Mention All-District honors, rounding out a strong season for the Bison.



Swimming & Diving

The Bison swimming team finished as the most successful swim team in Beachwood history, placing in seven events at the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) State Championships and finishing fourth in the state as a team. The Bison also broke nine school records, and Brad Burget was named CVC Coach of the Year.

State championship results:

- 200 Medley Relay: Colin Elwell, Derek Fan, Kevin Zhang, Ben Keyerleber – State Runner-Up
- · 100 Fly: Kevin Zhang 3rd Place
- · 100 Fly: Derek Fan 4th Place
- · 200 Free Relay: Colin Elwell, Kevin Zhang, Derek Fan, Ben Keyerleber – 4th Place
- 400 Relay: Kevin Zhang, Ben Keyerleber, Colin Elwell, Sam Park – 10th Place
- · 200 Free: Colin Elwell 12th Place
- · 100 Breast: Derek Fan 21st Place
- · 500 Free: Ben Keyerleber 23rd Place

Swimmers set school records in the following events: 200 medley (1:35), 200 freestyle (1:27.24), and 400 freestyle (3:17.41). Individually, Ben Keyerleber (500 free), Colin Elwell (200 free), and Kevin Zhang (200 IM, 100 back, 100 fly, 100 free) also etched their names in the record books.



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Dr. Linda LoGalbo, Director of Curriculum & Instruction · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2208 · Ihl@beachwoodschools.org



beachwoodschools.org

Wrestling

Junior Caleb Greenwood made history at the OHSAA State Wrestling Championships, competing March 7-9 at the Schottenstein Center in front of more than 16,000 fans. Wrestling in the Division III 150-pound weight class, he battled through a challenging bracket to claim the state title. In a dramatic championship match, he staged a stunning comeback, erasing a 7-1 deficit in the final period to secure a 12-11 victory. With this win, Caleb became Beachwood's first wrestling state champion since 2014, the 19th in program history, and only the sixth junior to capture a state title. Caleb also earned CVC First-Team and Northeast All-District honors.

Other standout performances included ninth graders Solomon Miklowski, who earned CVC First-Team honors, and Justin Elwell, who was named to the CVC Second-Team. Ninth grader Ben Linick and 12th grader Mikael Edwards also qualified for the Northeast All-District tournament, capping off a strong season for the Bison.

In middle school wrestling, eighth grader Phoenix Peters and seventh graders Mekai Lawniczak Hons and Alex Adler advanced to the Ohio Athletic Committee (OAC) State Championships, held March 15-16 at the Covelli Centre in Youngstown. Mekai entered the tournament as both a District and CVC Champion. This marked Adler's first appearance at the OAC State Championships and Phoenix's third.

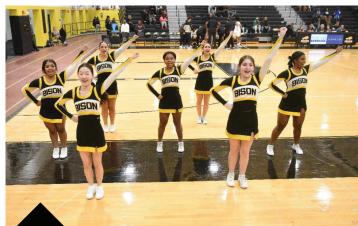




Boys' Basketball

The Bison varsity boys' basketball team was led by fouryear varsity letter winner Nick Reese, along with fellow senior Jacob Thomas and junior standouts Jayden Koonce, CJ Payton, and Ethan Malek. Jayden earned First-Team CVC honors. Twelve players were recognized as scholar-athletes for maintaining a GPA above 3.5.

At the middle school level, the seventh-grade boys' basketball team captured the CVC Championship on Feb. 22 with a thrilling victory over Fairview. This marks the program's first middle school conference title since 2019, showcasing the hard work, determination, and teamwork of our young athletes. Congratulations to our champions: Nixon Bateman, Jack Burkons, Jamier Edwards, CJ Mobley, Cameron Norman, Mason Payne, Zavier Perez, Parker Smith, Kaden Springer, Max Vlad, and Taylor Warner.



Cheerleading

The Bison cheerleaders made a strong return to competition, placing fourth at the Ashland Cheer and Dance Competition at Ashland University. This marks the team's first competition in more than a decade. Director of Athletics Ryan Peters says, "We couldn't be prouder of the hard work, dedication, and energy our athletes and coaches have put into building this program. The cheerleading program is headed to a higher level, and it is making an impact on our student body and community."

Johnathon Owens Signs to Play Football at Capital University

eachwood Schools celebrated senior Johnathon Owens' commitment to continue his football career at Capital University during a signing ceremony on Sunday, Feb. 26. Johnathon, a standout strong safety, will join the Capital Comets this fall.

A three-time all-conference football player and multi-sport athlete, Johnathon has excelled in swimming, wrestling, and track in addition to football. Known for his infectious enthusiasm and energy, he has been a leader both on and off the field.

During the ceremony,
Director of Athletics
Ryan Peters commended
Johnathon's dedication. "Your
work ethic and your positive
outlook inspires those around
you," he said. "Today is a true
testament to the dedication
and support from you and your
family. You have been a leader,
a motivator, and a role model.
I have no doubt that you're
destined for greatness."

Assistant Coach James Basha recalled the first time he met him as a sixth grader at Beachwood Middle School. "I was a building

sub then, and when I'd cover phys ed classes, I'd see this little kid running around the gym like the Energizer Bunny," he said.

Since then, Coach Basha has watched Johnathon develop into a dominant force on the field. As a four-year varsity letter winner, Johnathon served as team captain and was named the team's Most Valuable Performer in 2024. He earned first-team All-District honors, was selected to the Chagrin Valley Conference (CVC) First Team in 2023 and Second Team in 2024, and led the team with 20 receptions for 252 yards in the 2023 season.

"He is a true example of what working hard, sticking with something, and believing in yourself can achieve," said Coach Basha.

During the ceremony, Johnathon thanked his mother, Charisse Fort, for her support



Jonathon Owens signs to play football at Capital University

in both his athletics career and academics. "She always told me, 'You're a student before an athlete," he said.

Johnathon chose Capital University for its proximity to the vibrant city of Columbus and its surrounding business opportunities, which he hopes

to leverage for internships and professional connections. He plans to study marketing and management, with a long-term goal of pursuing a career in real estate.

Please join us in congratulating Johnathon on his exceptional achievement!

From the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

Annual Board and Members Meeting

Tuesday, April 8 • 4:30-6 p.m. Cater4U2

3333 Richmond Rd. • Lower Level Members: \$15

- Election of Board and Officers
- New Business
- · Committee Reports
- School and City Updates
- Next Meeting Date
- Adjournment

This meeting is open to all members. Register at www.beachwood.org.

Women's Coffee Hour

Thursday, April 10 • 8:30-9:30 a.m. Beachwood Community Center Members: No fee Non-members: \$10

Guest Speaker Pamela Paynther, founder of Ergo Inspire LLC, will talk about ergonomic tips and tools for optimal workday health. Register at www.beachwood.org.



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 27 • 8:30-11:30 a.m. Beachwood High School \$10/person at the door \$5/kids 12 and under

Networking at Nite

Wednesday, April 16 4:30-6:30 p.m. 25700 Science Park Dr. • Room 100 Members: No fee Non-members: \$10

Connect and unwind with fellow chamber members and guests, and learn about Case Western Reserve University's Siegal Lifelong Learning Program. Remember to bring business cards. Register at www.beachwood.org.



For additional details, see pages 18 and 34.

Chamber Luncheon

Wednesday May 21 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Corporate College East • Room 230 Members: \$20 Non-members: \$25

Join us for an engaging session with guest speaker Josh Troche as he explores podcasting as a powerful tool for marketing and content creation.

Enjoy a light lunch while gaining valuable insights into the booming audio medium. Josh will cover podcast fundamentals, effective storytelling techniques, audience engagement strategies, marketing approaches, and monetization options. Register at www.beachwood.org and bring business cards!



Jerusalem Quartet to Perform Shostakovich's Complete String Quartet Cycle for CCMS's 75th Anniversary



Jerusalem Quartet, from left: Ori Kam, viola; Alexander Pavlovsky, 1st violin; Kyril Zlotnikov, cello; and Sergei Bresler, 2nd violin. Photo by Felix Broede.

Between April 21-30, the Cleveland Chamber Music Society (CCMS) will celebrate its 75th anniversary season with five concerts featuring the internationally acclaimed Jerusalem Quartet. The ensemble will perform the complete set of string quartets by Dmitri Shostakovich, one of the greatest Russian composers of the 20th century. This historic cycle has never before been performed in Cleveland.

A signature repertoire for the Jerusalem Quartet, these quartets have been performed by the group to sold-out audiences and rave reviews worldwide.

Beachwood resident and CCMS board member Frank Ell expressed his excitement about bringing this landmark event to local audiences. "We're thrilled to present these fifteen incredible quartets, performed by the world-class Jerusalem Ouartet, for the first time in our region."

Ell also emphasized the historical significance of Shostakovich's quartets, composed between the 1930s and 1970s, reflecting key moments in Russia's 20thcentury history. "I hope our

Jewish community members recognize Shostakovich's deep understanding, empathy, and support for the Jewish people of Russia. He wove Jewish folk tunes throughout his quartets in homage to them."

Reflecting on CCMS's milestone anniversary, Frank added, "It's truly an honor to serve on the board of an institution that has brought world-class artists to our community for 75 years."

Performances will take place on April 21, 22, 23, 29, and 30, 7:30 p.m., in the Gartner Auditorium at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

"The acoustics at Gartner are phenomenal," said Frank. "I can't wait to experience this music there and hope many of my Beachwood neighbors will

Each evening at 6:30 p.m., musicologist James Wilding will present a pre-concert talk, free to ticketholders.

Tickets are available at ClevelandChamberMusic.org or by calling 216.291.2777. Single tickets are \$40 for adults (\$35 for seniors and \$5 for students/anyone under 19), with package deals starting at \$60.



From Beachwood Arts Council

Backtraxx Concert

Sunday, April 6 • 2-3 p.m. • Beachwood Community Center

Backtraxx is a popular high energy rock, disco, and soul band based in Cleveland. Known for its dynamic performances throughout Northeast Ohio, the band covers hits from the 60s through the 80s with its signature sound and energy.

The event, sponsored by grants from Ohio Arts Council and Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, is free and open to the public, with refreshments following the performance.

Backtraxx Band Members

Front row: Jeannie Tyler, Hal Becker, and Gwen Coats.

Back row: Bill Friedson, Dave Rader, Jon Negrelli, Bob Liskiewicz, and Marc Paige.

BEACHWOOD



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lleen Kelner Juried High School Art Show Award Recipients

This special exhibit, which ran through March 29, featured inspiring artwork from students from 23 Northeast Ohio high schools. Judged by professional local artists Stuart Pearl and Judy Takacs, the show highlighted exceptional creativity and talent. Congratulations to all participants, with special recognition to the artists below:

- First Place (pictured): Lauren Baka, Persona, Aurora High School, grade 12. Teacher: Sean Berrodin.
- Second Place: Jasmine Neumann, *Fickle Flesh*, Hathaway Brown School, grade 12. Teacher: Shelly Ahern.
- Third Place: Onesti Grant, *Finding the Beauty in Myself*, Orange High School, grade 12. Teacher: Melissa Conrad.

Visit www.beachwoodartscouncil.org to see some additional artwork from this show!

Beachwood K-12 Art Show

Thursday, May 1 - Wednesday, May 28 Beachwood Community Center

Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Weekends: Call 216.292.1970 for available hours

Open House: Thursday, May 1 • 5-7 p.m.

View the creative talents of Beachwood K-12 students at this exhibit of collages, paintings, drawings, sculptures, and more.

Mariama Whyte Concert



Sunday, May 18 • 2-3 p.m. Beachwood Community Center

Mariama Whyte's silky voice and unique sounds will entertain the audience with everything from R&B/soul to pop, jazz, ballads, and Broadway hits. The event, sponsored by grants from Ohio Arts Council and Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, is free and open to the public, with refreshments following the performance.

Mariama is a creative force as a

performer, songwriter, and recording artist. She has performed in the Broadway National Tours of *The Lion King* and *The Color Purple*, and on several regional theater and music stages in the Cleveland area. Having been praised as having one of the best voices in Cleveland, Mariama has headlined various shows, has shared the stage with world renowned performers and musicians, including David Foster and John Legend, and has been a featured vocalist at Severance Hall and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

As an independent recording artist, Mariama recently released her uplifting single, *Eyes on Me*, and will be releasing her new album, *Beyond*, in 2025. A TEDx and keynote speaker, as well, Mariama enjoys sharing her insight through story and song to inspire and entertain her audiences.



Degenerate Art Is Leaving Soon:

Here Are Three Reasons You Don't Want to Miss This Exhibition

The Maltz Museum's latest special exhibition, DEGENERATE! Hitler's War on Modern Art features famous works by Picasso, Chagall, Kandinsky, Kirchner, Grosz, and more – all labeled as "degenerate" by the Nazi regime to sway public opinion. This world-renowned exhibition will only be on view at the Maltz Museum until April 20. Now is the time to visit and see it before it moves to its next destination.

Seeing original works from the world's greatest artists alone is a great reason to visit. But, if that doesn't convince you, here are three more reasons you don't want to miss this special exhibition at the Maltz Museum.

1. Explore why the Nazis targeted modern art.

The artwork produced in the early 20th century reflected the tumultuous period surrounding World War I. Themes depicted some of the grittier aspects of life, like poverty, strife, and destruction. Rather than glorifying a "perfect" world, the art of the time reflected the lived experiences of people from all walks of life – Jewish and otherwise. When the Nazis gained control of Germany in 1933, they began coordinating and synchronizing all aspects of German life to align with the values of the Nazi party. The regime wanted to rid the world of modern art as a part of that effort because they said it glorified the degenerate, and this kind of expression had no place in our world.

2. Understand the tactics used to influence public opinion.

One way the Nazis controlled the people of Germany was by manipulating culture. Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi's propaganda minister, spearheaded the Degenerate Art Show in Munich to give German society a look at what they deemed a "house of horrors." The primary goal of this exhibition was to convince the public that modernist artwork was dangerous and produced by inferior, criminal minds that sought to destroy Germany. Visitors can see footage from this event at the Maltz Museum's exhibition.

3. See famous artwork that survived the Nazi purge.

For those who aren't familiar with what the Nazis did leading up to and during World War II: The regime removed more than 20,000 artworks from museums and private collections. Some were destroyed, others were sold to fund the Nazi war machine, despite the regime's insistence it wasn't selling art to fund warfare. In 1939, the Nazis even burned more than 5,000 paintings they couldn't sell.

DEGENERATE! Hitler's War on Modern Art gives visitors the chance to see rare artworks that survived the Nazi purge – extraordinary given the regime's destructive power. The events surrounding World War II and the Holocaust are grim evidence of just how far they can go with unchecked military power.

Remember: The Nazis were responsible for the deaths of an estimated 75-80 million people worldwide during World War II. Today, these lessons remain essential and can help us address the challenges we face - in America and around the world.

DEGENERATE! Hitler's War on Modern Art is FREE for **Museum Members!**





HITLER'S WAR ON MODERN ART

Explore how artwork was used as propaganda to sway public opinion by the Nazi party. The exhibition features nearly 100 original works by world-renowned artists labeled as "degenerate" by the regime.

Bring this ad with you for \$2 off of general admission, Oct. 30, 2024–Apr. 20, 2025. Good for up to 4 visitors. Not valid on programs. Cannot be used with any other offer.

DEGENERATE! Hitler's War on Modern Art, an original exhibition created by and on loan from the Jewish Museum Milwaukee. Image courtesy of Jewish Museum Milwaukee: No Title (Yellow, Red, Black, White Abstract), 1915, Wassily Kandinsky. Monograph. From the collection of Kevin and Meg Kinney

maltzmuseum.org

Eastside Blades Glide to Victory

ust a few weeks ago, Eastside Blades, a group of Beachwood skaters, joined forces with the Twinsburg and Orange teams in the Ohio High School Skating Competition, hosted by Shaker Figure Skating Club at Thornton Park.

Beachwood skaters Anna Tonyushkin and Lorena Tovanche, grade 11; Abigail Gourley, Maria Tonyushkin, Dominik Herjan, and Jacob Isaacson, grade 8; and Natalia Agudelo, grade 5, all worked hard to prepare for the competition.

Jacob and Dominik both placed second in Solo Free Skate.

Lorena, Anna, and Abby, participated in Intermediate Maneuvers, placing second in Steps.

Lorena medaled in two categories: first place for Solo

Pattern Dance and third place for Solo Free Dance.

Lorena's performance in her high school events earned the team an overall second place in the Small Teams Category against all other high schools that competed.

Congratulations to each and every skater!





Above: Natalia Agudelo,
Dominik Herjan, Lorena
Tovanche, Anna Tonyushkin,
Jacob Isaacson, Abby Gourley,
and Maria Tonyushkin.



Above: Anna Tonyushkin and Lorena Tovanche.
Left: Jacob Isaacson,
Lorena Tovanche, and
Dominik Herjan.

Spruce Up Your Home This Spring · Advertising section starts on page 46.

The Luz House CLE to Host Community Shabbat and Passover Recognition Event

All welcome: singles, couples, and families.

"No one is without an invitation to recognize Shabbat and Passover this year. Although The Luz House CLE creates a specific Jewish community for single Jewish adults over age 45, this is a special time to extend an invitation to everyone," said Jennifer Gale, concept originator.

The Luz House offers this program to ensure that everyone has a place to celebrate the first night of Passover, especially those who may not have family, friends, or a synagogue to join for the meal. "We even welcome

individuals who simply prefer not to cook or clean their kitchen," Jennifer added.

The Luz Houses' mission statement incorporates the importance of creating connectivity points and new friendships, therefore gathering community members around a common table fits like puzzle pieces.

Although holiday dinners generally start after sunset, Gale notes that this community celebration will attract Jews who do not uphold these timeline laws, as the more secular and aged population tends not to wait until 9 p.m. to start a Seder that could last hours.

Participants will experience highlights that include the conclusion of Shabbat, points of the story of Exodus, and the importance of matzah.

The event will take place Saturday, April 12, 6:30 p.m., at the South Euclid Community Center. Security will be present.

RSVPs are requested by April 10. Registration and more information can be found at www.theluzhouses.com/events. The cost is \$36 per person, with no cost for children under 5 years of age. Confidential arrangements available for those with financial concerns. For additional information, contact Jennifer at 602.541.4410 or jennifer@ theluzhouses.com. The Luz Houses is a 501(c)(3).

Community Shabbat and Passover Event

Saturday, April 12 6:30 p.m. South Euclid Community Center RSVP by Friday, April 10

Jewish Federation of Cleveland Programs



Mimouna Celebration

Monday, April 21 • 7 - 9 p.m. Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Join Federation's Young Leadership Division and the Israeli American Council for a Mimouna celebration. Together we will eat and make customary Mimouna foods and embrace this Moroccan custom. Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Thursday, May 1 • 5:30 p.m. Congregation Mishkan Or

Join us for a community gathering showcasing the resilience and beauty of Israel. Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.



Yom Hashoah V'Hagvurah

Wednesday, April 23 • 6:30 - 8 p.m. B'nai Jeshurun Congregation

Join our community for a commemoration of the Holocaust and heroism. We will remember the Holocaust with a candlelighting by Holocaust Survivors and their families, march of generations, and a procession of Holocaust-era Torah scrolls. Sean Martin, associate curator for Jewish History at Western Reserve Historical Society, will give remarks on connecting the past trauma of the Shoah to the current rise in antisemitism seen today. Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.



Ratzim Lezichram

Sunday, April 27 • 3:30 - 5 p.m. Location will be provided upon registration

Ratzim Lezichram, "running in their memory," brings together community members during Yom Hazikaron to honor fallen soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and victims of terror.

Join Federation's Young Leadership Division and a visiting IDF delegation to walk, run, jog, or bike to honor the heroes we've lost. This event is hosted in partnership with Nice Jewish Runners and Run for Their Lives. Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.

Hansel, Gretel & You: A Theatrical Summer **Adventure**

Gilmour Academy is teaming up with The One of a Kind Theater Company this summer to offer Gilmour's premier six-week Youth Theater Camp for students in grades three through eight.

Students will explore acting, improv, vocal performance, dance, and crafts. Field trips, swimming, guest artists, special activities, and daily lunch will also be included. This camp is customized for the student who loves to perform.

Camp will be directed by Jill Koslen-Freireich, with Lucus Clark, Gilmour's theater director, working with master program students in grades nine through 11.

Camp will run from June 23 -Aug. 1, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For pricing and more information, visit www.gilmour.org/ summercamp.

Protect Your Assets: Great Estates Outreach Event with Sunny M. Simon

District 11 Cuyahoga County Councilwoman Sunny M. Simon invites Beachwood residents to Cuyahoga County's Great Estates Outreach Event on Wednesday, April 16, 6-8 p.m., at the Beachwood Community Center.

Great Estates Outreach Events help residents avoid unnecessary costs and delays in settling an estate by providing 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. In addition, there will be a discussion on the importance of trusts in estate planning.

Representatives from the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office and Cuyahoga County Probate Court will be available to

provide residents with a Great Estates Program Kit. The kit contains documents needed for real estate and motor vehicle title transfer. Representatives will answer questions about how to fill out and file the appropriate paperwork and be available to process real estate affidavits on-site.

Registration is encouraged. Register at https://greatestates. timetap.com/#/.

For those unable to attend, Great Estates Program Kits are available at the Cuyahoga County Public Library and Cuyahoga County Auto Title Bureau.

Cuyahoga County District 11 Councilwoman Sunny M. Simon invites residents:





Great Estates Program Info Session

Free and open to the public!

The Great Estates Program provides residents with the tools and information needed to avoid unnecessary costs and delays in settling an estate.

Wednesday, April 16, from 6-8 p.m.

Beachwood Community Center 25325 Fairmount Blvd., Beachwood

Register at

cuyahogacounty.gov/greatestates or call 216-443-7000





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Spruce Up Your Home This Spring

s the days grow longer and temperatures rise, spring invites us to refresh our homes and embrace a lighter, brighter atmosphere. Whether you're tackling small projects, major renovations, or are planning a move, now is the perfect time to make meaningful updates. We've partnered with trusted local businesses to help you complete your projects with ease – whether it's enhancing comfort, boosting curb appeal, improving energy efficiency, or preparing your home for sale.

Declutter and Organize

• A tidy home creates a peaceful environment. Donate, repurpose, or store items to clear space and reduce stress.

Design for Relaxation

• Invest in cozy seating, soft lighting, and calming colors to create a haven you truly enjoy. You may want to refresh with new flooring, area rugs, window coverings, throw pillows, or paint colors. Small changes can have a huge impact.

Bring the Outdoors In

• Fresh flowers, houseplants, and natural elements can improve air quality and add a touch of serenity.

Home Comfort and Efficiency

- HVAC maintenance and upgrades will ensure your heating and cooling system is in top shape. Schedule maintenance, replace filters, or upgrade to an energy-efficient unit.
- Waterproofing and drainage solutions will prevent costly water damage by sealing basements, repairing foundation cracks, and improving yard drainage.
- Landscaping maintenance and design will increase curb appeal, creating a sense of calm around your home. Refresh flower beds, trim overgrown shrubs, and invest in professional landscaping for a polished look. Also consider adding value and functionality with pergolas, patios, decks, or outdoor kitchens.

Interior Upgrades and Shopping

- Furniture and accessories will refresh your living spaces, pull in your individual style, and create a warm, inviting atmosphere that reflects your personality.
- Carpet and flooring will modernize your space, enhance comfort, and add a fresh, polished look that complements your home's overall aesthetic.
- Window treatments, from elegant drapes to energy-efficient blinds, will enhance both aesthetics and functionality.

Selling Your Home?

- Spring market prep is essential if you plan to sell in the near future. Consider decluttering to create a clean, open feel, and make strategic upgrades to enhance your home's appeal and attract potential buyers.
- Homeowners putting their home on the market may want to have a home inspection and complete necessary repairs to attract buyers, prevent surprises during negotiations, and ensure a smoother, faster sale at the best possible price.
- Real estate guidance with a local expert will help you navigate the buying or selling process seamlessly.
- Your home is more than just a place to live it is a reflection of who you are and a sanctuary from the outside world. By making thoughtful improvements, refreshing your space, and prioritizing comfort, you can transform your home into a true haven this spring.

Benefits of Enhancing Your Living Environment

- Reduces Stress and Anxiety A clutter-free, serene environment promotes relaxation and mental clarity.
- Enhances Well-Being A peaceful home nurtures emotional balance and overall happiness.
- Boosts Productivity An organized space minimizes distractions, helping you focus and stay efficient.
- Encourages Restful Sleep A calming bedroom environment improves sleep quality and relaxation.
- Supports Healthy Living Clean, clutter-free spaces reduce allergens and promote better physical health.
- Creates a Welcoming Atmosphere A beautifully designed home invites comfort and connection with family and friends.
- Reflects Personal Style Thoughtful décor and organization make your space uniquely yours.
- Increases Home Value A well-maintained, aesthetically pleasing home is more appealing to buyers.
- Promotes Mindfulness Living in a harmonious space encourages presence and appreciation of your surroundings.
- Provides a Sanctuary from the Outside World Your home becomes a true retreat where you can recharge and feel at peace.

Buying or Selling This Spring?

Get Your Home Ready to Sell In This Busy Market

When thinking of sprucing up your home, some of you may be looking to start fresh by selling your home. If so, it's time to take spring cleaning to a whole new level!

Many experts on HGTV, or home stagers, recommend you start by de-cluttering. Get a few bins from a dollar store and organize your belongings in three categories: purge, save or donate. This can be done with clothing, tools and all items throughout your home.

Clothing is usually the first to go. If you have not worn it in a year or two, let it go. There are many organizations in need of gently-worn clothing, and there are resale and consignment stores as an alternative when getting rid of things. If you're getting rid of books, local libraries are a great resource for disposal. They regularly have book sales and would love to include them in their inventory.

Next: dishes, bric-a-brac and collectibles. Many young people today, regrettably, do not want grandma's dishes. As with clothing, there are organizations that will pick up donations, and consignment shops are always an option. The same goes for furniture, and the tax deduction/benefit you will receive is often greater than what a used sofa will sell for on the open market. If you find there is still clutter in your home after sorting through your items, it may be wise to rent a short-term storage unit



Recent Sale - 25405 Halburton Rd.

until your home is sold; and, if you have difficulties sorting through items, you may want to hire a professional organizer to help you.

When putting your home on the market, in addition to cleaning, remember: Less is more. Clean the garage. Counters should be free of ancillary items. If you have a lot of personalized items, put them away. Stage your home so prospective buyers can see

themselves living there. And, if repairs are needed, make them.

As an experienced realtor, I can assist with many of these recommendations and can provide referrals to help get your home in tip-top condition. The cool trend you may be looking for this spring is a new home – and I can help you with that, too!

~ Sharon Friedman

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Sharon's Recent Beachwood Sales & Listings

JUST SOLD 2/25: 27500 Cedar Rd #809, Point East list \$649,000 JUST SOLD 1/25: 26800 Hurlingham Road list \$800,000 JUST SOLD 1/25: 3 Bennington Court in The Village list \$449,900 **SOLD 12/24: 25405 Halburton Road list \$975,000** SOLD 12/24: 4 Haverhill Court in The Village list \$599,000 **SOLD 12/24: 2141 Halcyon Road list \$419,900** SOLD 12/24: 23512 E Baintree Road list \$395,000 **SOLD 12/24: 3272 Richmond in Baywood Estates list \$359,900** SOLD 10/24: 25053 Letchworth Road list \$645,000 **SOLD 9/24: 24418 Hazelmere Road list \$399,900** SOLD 9/24: 6 Stratford Ct in The Village list \$599,000 SOLD 9/24: 27500 Cedar Road #402 in Point East list \$265,000 SOLD 8/24: 2166 Lyndway Road list \$499,900 SOLD 8/24: 15 Saratoga Ct in The Village list \$439,900 **SOLD 8/24: 3094 Richmond in Wedgewood list \$325,000 SOLD 8/24: 24001 Glenhill Drive list \$275,000 SOLD 7/24: 25129 Maidstone Lane list \$650,000 SOLD 7/24: 25019 Hazelmere Road list \$449,000**

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At Eastside Landscaping, "Details Make the Difference"

pring is here and it is time to start thinking about the outside of your home. When Eastside Landscaping sends a crew to your yard, they remove leaves and debris from the lawn and beds, trim groundcover, cut down remaining grasses and perennials, and establish bed edges.



Installing mulch in garden beds, seeding bare areas of the lawn, or replacing unhealthy or dead plants will add instant curb appeal. An addition of perennials will provide color and texture that will return year after year, while a planting of annual flowers will give you the opportunity to install a fun, splashy color theme that you can change according to next year's whim.

If you're seeking a new look for your outdoor living space, you might want to consider replacing a walk or patio, making drainage improvements, or installing landscape lighting. The addition of a custom screened porch, a handcrafted fence or pergola,

a custom outdoor fireplace or firepit, a water feature, or a state-of-the-art outdoor kitchen will enliven vour yard and provide you with an entertainment space to enjoy with family and friends.

Whether you plan to install a new landscape or renovate your existing one, a well-thought-out plan will transform ideas into a functional and aesthetically pleasing yard.

Whether you plan to install a new landscape or renovate your existing one, a well-

thought-out plan will transform ideas into a functional and aesthetically pleasing yard. Allow the designers at Eastside Landscaping to discuss all of the details with you. Eastside is a full-service landscaping company that has been providing snowplowing, landscape maintenance, and design/build construction services for homeowners on Cleveland's east side for more than 36 years.

This spring, allow us to spruce up your property. At Eastside Landscaping, "Details Make the Difference."

For more information, call us at 216.381.0070 or visit www.eastside-landscaping.com.







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