

# Beachwood Buzz

May 2024

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

MAGAZINE

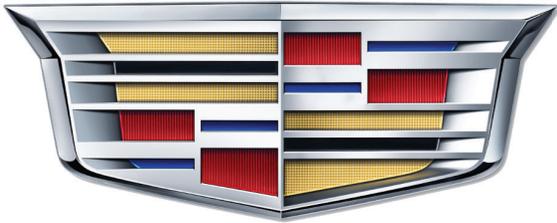
## TWO NEW ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS

Investing in the Future of Beachwood City Schools



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**W**hen was the last time you played for the sake of playing? I don't mean playing something to obtain a specific outcome or goal. I mean playing something just for the fun of it: engaging in a voluntary and enjoyable activity for the sake of amusement, entertainment, or recreation, rather than work, competition, obligation, or achievement.

At times, we use the word *play* for things that aren't always so playful: I'm going to play tennis or I'm going to play golf.

Are you really *playing* or are you doing something that is competitive and/or goal oriented?

As kids, play comes natural. Kids are carefree; they do what they like to do without thinking about results or outside influences.

Then, as we get older – and supposedly wiser – activities that we once engaged in as play often become goal oriented or are dropped because of we feel we may be judged.

Adult play can take various forms, including physical games, creative hobbies, social activities, and imaginative pursuits. It involves a willingness to embrace spontaneity, creativity, and lightheartedness, often leading to stress reduction, enhanced social connections, and improved overall well-being.

We've all seen children or animals get lost in blissful abandon when they are playing. When was the last time you experienced that feeling?

Honestly, although I often do things I enjoy, I really hadn't thought much about playing until its importance was reintroduced to me in an art class. The message that is consistently presented is to paint what we're feeling. Just play, without thinking about the results.

Dr. Stuart Brown, a psychiatrist, clinical researcher, and the founder of the National Institute for Play, emphasizes

in his book, *Play: How it Shapes the Brain, Opens the Imagination, and Invigorates the Soul*, that play is not only enjoyable but also essential because it stimulates the brain, promoting neural connections, and fosters creativity, problem-solving skills, and emotional regulation.

Plus, great ideas come from play because it stimulates the imagination, which allows us to explore new ideas, perspectives, and possibilities.

Overall, Dr. Brown emphasizes the importance of play and encourages all of us to incorporate it into our daily lives because it enhances physical, mental, and emotional well-being. It also leads to greater happiness, fulfillment, and personal growth.

#### Benefits of play include:

- **Stress Reduction:** Play promotes relaxation, which releases endorphins, the body's natural feel-good chemicals.
- **Improved Creativity:** Play utilizes imagination and creativity, fostering a mindset for generating new ideas and solutions.
- **Enhanced Cognitive Function:** Engaging in playful activities stimulates the brain, which promotes problem-solving skills, memory, and learning.
- **Better Relationships:** Playful interactions with others can strengthen social bonds, increase empathy, and improve communication skills.

- **Physical Health:** Many forms of adult play involve physical activity, which can improve cardiovascular health, increase energy levels, and promote better sleep.

- **Emotional Resilience:** Playfulness can help adults foster a more positive outlook on life.

- **Increased Productivity:** Taking breaks for playful activities can boost productivity by refreshing the mind, which will lead to improved focus and concentration.

- **Sense of Well-being:** Play contributes to increased happiness and satisfaction, promoting a sense of well-being and fulfillment.

- **Personal Growth:** Play fosters a mindset of personal growth and lifelong learning.

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When we incorporate play into our life we reap profound benefits for physical health, mental well-being, and overall quality of life.

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We all have time for what we prioritize and not everything we do has to be productive. When we incorporate play into our life we reap profound benefits for physical health, mental well-being, and overall quality of life.

Debby ♥



Immersed in the process of playing with paint.

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Please send information about clubs, organizations, events and meetings to [beachwoodbuzz@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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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**Beachwood Buzz**  
Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month. MAGAZINE

## Cover Story:

# TWO NEW ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS

## Investing in the Future of Beachwood City Schools



Dr. Robert P. Hardis • Superintendent of Beachwood City Schools

In May 2023, the Beachwood community made an important investment in the future of Beachwood City Schools by approving the construction of two new elementary schools. This exciting project will replace the aging Bryden and Hilltop buildings, which have served the community for 68 years.

Story starts on page 7. Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo.

*Cover caption:* Ryan Schmit, project architect, ThenDesign Architecture; Douglas Myers, senior project consultant, Project Management Consultants; Dr. Robert Hardis, superintendent, Beachwood City Schools; Matthew Brown, treasurer/chief financial officer, Beachwood City Schools; Mia Katz, architect design lead, ThenDesign Architecture; and Steven Zannoni, director, Project Management Consultants.



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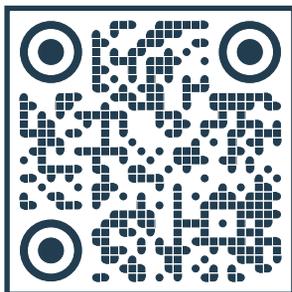
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# TWO NEW ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS

## Investing in the Future of Beachwood City Schools

Dr. Robert P. Hardis • *Superintendent of Beachwood City Schools*

**I**n May 2023, the Beachwood community made an important investment in the future of Beachwood City Schools by approving the construction of two new elementary schools. This exciting project will replace the aging Bryden and Hilltop buildings, which have served the community for 68 years.

Following a year of collaboration with the school board, staff, students, families, and residents, the design for these state-of-the-art facilities is nearing completion. Construction is scheduled to begin in just two months. The new Bryden and Hilltop

schools will remain on their existing sites, with the new Bryden school incorporating the Fairmount Early Childhood Center.

The design integrates these buildings into the surrounding neighborhoods, while maintaining the established design

aesthetics of our district. These modern learning spaces prioritize energy efficiency, safety, and security. They offer amenities that will benefit the entire Beachwood community for generations to come.

### A Safe, Secure Learning Environment

The new Bryden and Hilltop schools will be equipped with the latest safety and security features. Beachwood's police, fire, and building departments have been actively engaged in the design process since its inception. For secure entry, all visitors will pass through a vestibule where they will present identification and confirm the purpose of their visit. Every classroom will be outfitted with a door leading to the outside, enabling rapid evacuation in emergencies. The buildings can be shut down in sections to control emergencies and allow first responders to quickly assess situations and ensure everyone's safety. These features enhance our comprehensive safety program and exemplify our strong partnership with the City, reinforcing our shared commitment to providing a secure learning environment for all members of our educational community.

Recognizing the importance of safety beyond the school walls, the new buildings will address traffic concerns during student arrivals and departures. Unlike the current



**Top photo**, sitting: Ryan Schmit, project architect, ThenDesign Architecture; Dr. Robert Hardis, superintendent, Beachwood City Schools; and Bill Schurman, owner, Hammond Construction. Standing: Douglas Myers, senior project consultant, Project Management Consultants; Steven Zannoni, director, Project Management Consultants; Mia Katz, architect design lead, ThenDesign Architecture; Joe Swantek, project executive, Hammond Construction; Nicole Monaco, interiors design lead; ThenDesign Architecture; Neil Bennett, director of operations, Beachwood City Schools; and Matthew Brown, treasurer/chief financial officer, Beachwood City Schools.  
**Bottom photo**: Architectural drawing of Bryden's dining area.



Architectural drawing of Hilltop Elementary School entrance.

facilities, designed in a time with less focus on traffic logistics, the new schools will feature dedicated spaces to keep traffic flowing smoothly. This includes designated bus loops and separate parent drop-off and pick-up zones, alleviating congestion and creating a safer journey to and from school.

### Classrooms Designed for Innovation

The Beachwood Schools staff has played a vital role in designing the new classrooms at Bryden and Hilltop. These will be highly functional spaces that enable educators to design instruction that meets the needs of students. Abundant natural light creates a welcoming environment, while a robust technology infrastructure supports innovative instruction. Ample presentation and work spaces, along with flexible furniture, facilitate different configurations within the room to support a wide range of learning activities. Students will also have convenient access to lockers, cubbies, bathrooms, and both indoor and outdoor collaborative learning spaces.

Other learning spaces are being designed specifically to support the wide-ranging programming offered by Beachwood's elementary schools. These programs include choir, band, orchestra, art, technology, and

language instruction in Chinese and Spanish as well as myriad services such as gifted education, tutoring, and special education. These programs are critical to a well-rounded education and offer exciting opportunities to our young learners. Currently, these programs are functioning in makeshift spaces. The new facilities will finally provide dedicated spaces that support and enhance these unique educational experiences.

Libraries serve as a hub for exploration, discovery, and learning in elementary schools. The new Bryden and Hilltop libraries are being designed with this in mind. Located centrally in each school, the new libraries will provide display space for thousands of volumes of books. They will be outfitted with furnishings tailored for individual reading, collaborative learning, and direct instruction. Abundant natural light will contribute to an inspiring atmosphere, perfect for both quiet reading and group projects.

## Construction Timeline

### May 7, 2024

Ceremonial groundbreaking school assemblies at Bryden and Hilltop.

### May - August 2024

Extensive site work, including installation of fencing, construction roads, grading, and utilities.

### August 2024 - December 2025

Construction of the new schools.

### January 2026

Students move into new school buildings.

### January 2026 - August 2026

Demolition and removal of original buildings, accompanied by the construction of permanent drives, parking lots, blacktops, playgrounds, and fields.

### August 2026

Completion of permanent drives, parking lots, blacktops, and playgrounds. (Note: Fields require two growing seasons before opening in Spring 2027.)



Architectural drawing of collaborative spaces that will be located in both buildings.



Architectural drawing of Bryden Elementary School entrance.

### Promoting Physical and Mental Well-Being

The well-established connection between physical and mental well-being is a core consideration in the design of the new schools. The new gymnasiums will promote this connection by providing ample space and equipment for a wide variety of activities, fostering the rigorous physical activity essential for young students' growth and development. The thoughtful placement of the gyms near the playing fields, blacktops, and playgrounds creates a flexible indoor/outdoor learning environment. This will be particularly valuable in Northeast Ohio's unpredictable weather, where recess often needs to move indoors. With this design, gym classes can continue uninterrupted while other students enjoy an active recess within the same large space.

Contemporary elementary schools meet a wide variety of social and emotional needs for students. Recognizing this, the new schools will include rooms to serve the continuum of needs that

children may experience throughout the day. School staff can accompany students to smaller break rooms located nearby, which offer either higher stimulation or lower stimulation environments. Students who learn best by taking breaks in short spurts outside the classroom environment will find that the new buildings have spaces to support this need.

### Long-Term Vision

The new Bryden and Hilltop schools are designed with a long-term vision in mind. They will continue Beachwood's tradition of maintaining low teacher-to-student ratios, fostering a personalized learning environment. The buildings also are adaptable and can accommodate future enrollment growth, mirroring Beachwood's community expansion over the past decade. These new schools are an exciting and sensible investment in the future of education that will pay dividends to the Beachwood community well into the future.

### Amenities for the Whole Community

Public schools are important centers of community activity for residents of all ages. The new Bryden and Hilltop schools will include site amenities that have been suggested by community members, as well as families and students. Both sites will have large green spaces, shade structures, tables and benches, as well as dynamic, exciting playground structures and multiple basketball hoops. Walking paths will circle the sites and low fencing will separate these easily accessed recreational areas from parking lots. Outdoor restrooms adjacent to the playgrounds will be open to students and staff during recess and gym class. These restrooms will also be open to community members until they are locked after sundown.

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As the Beachwood community welcomes these state-of-the-art facilities, a new chapter in educational excellence and community connection will begin.

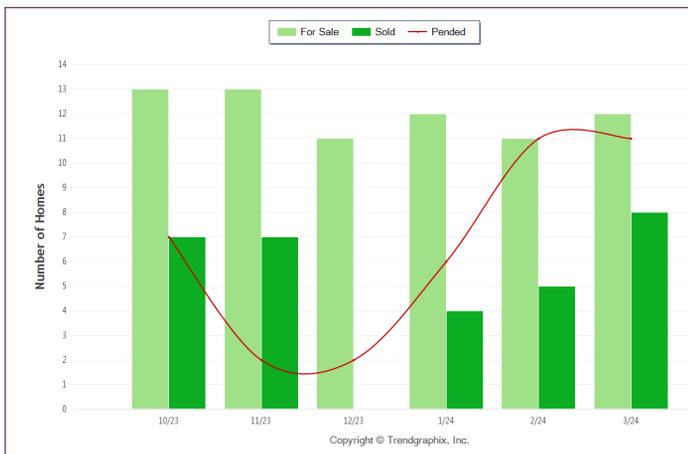
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Architectural drawing of Hilltop media center.

Beyond the exciting outdoor features, the new schools prioritize community use. Large spaces within the buildings, ideal for hosting events, are strategically situated near the front entrances, allowing for easy access from parking lots. This thoughtful design ensures visitors can attend events in libraries, cafeterias, or gymnasiums without having to navigate academic hallways. As the Beachwood community welcomes these state-of-the-art facilities, a new chapter in educational excellence and community connection will begin.

# Real Estate Statistical Update by Sharon Friedman



"With the spring selling season now in full effect, we are seeing a strong seller's market as inventory remains low. The number of sold listings increased 60% month over month from February to March. Average sold price per square foot of \$180 is an increase of 28% month over month. The average sold price versus list price for the quarter is 98%, indicating that sellers are getting close to their asking price. Although there are more homes for sale now, inventory is not able to keep pace with buyers' pent-up demand. The sustained lack of homes for sale will improve the outlook for real estate in the coming months. Northeastern Ohio continues to be a desirable location, attracting new residents from out of state, while Beachwood remains very competitive due to the quality and age of the housing stock and the excellence of schools and community amenities."

— Sharon Friedman

## Homes SOLD in Beachwood January 12, 2024 – April 12, 2024

Street	Days	List	Sold	LP/SP%	Bed	Bath	Built
Halburton	5	\$ 279,900	\$ 280,100	100%	3	2	1951
Belvoir	3	\$ 310,000	\$ 317,000	102%	3	2	1959
Elmhurst	62	\$ 349,000	\$ 325,000	93%	3	3	1952
Fairmount	97	\$ 365,000	\$ 325,000	89%	4	3	1966
Elmhurst	2	\$ 284,995	\$ 332,000	116%	3	3	1949
E Groveland	5	\$ 356,000	\$ 360,000	101%	3	2	1957
Edgehill	110	\$ 375,000	\$ 362,000	97%	3	3	1954
Ramsay	71	\$ 399,900	\$ 392,000	98%	3	2	1958
Halburton	5	\$ 410,000	\$ 410,000	100%	4	4	1957
Larchmont	37	\$ 439,000	\$ 419,000	95%	3	3	1952
E Baintree	5	\$ 399,900	\$ 425,000	106%	4	2	1953
S Green	11	\$ 429,900	\$ 425,000	99%	4	4	1956
Bryden	132	\$ 435,000	\$ 435,000	100%	3	3	1956
Annesley	35	\$ 489,000	\$ 475,000	97%	3	4	1970
Halburton	4	\$ 515,000	\$ 515,000	100%	4	4	1956
Almar	73	\$ 559,000	\$ 525,000	94%	4	5	2020
Halburton	91	\$ 575,000	\$ 560,000	97%	4	4	1980
Fairmount	18	\$ 639,000	\$ 619,000	97%	4	3	1973
Larchmont	9	\$ 799,000	\$ 747,500	94%	5	5	2020
Bridgeton	112	\$ 899,000	\$ 850,000	95%	5	4	1970
Hilltop	24	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 1,260,000	93%	6	6	2023
Hurlingham	55	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000	100%	4	5	2023
Buckhurst	253	\$ 1,458,400	\$ 1,458,400	100%	5	6	2024

### Beachwood Market Update

This data was provided by Sharon Friedman, courtesy of NEOHREX. Data provided was accurate at the time of reporting. The source for the spreadsheet is MLS Now.

The market data is from Trendgraphix, Inc. Information is believed to be accurate, but not guaranteed. Data does not reflect sales of property not included in MLS.

Consult a Realtor® if you have questions about the market.

## SHARON LISTS AND SELLS BEACHWOOD!



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**FOR SALE!**  
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List price \$399,000  
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**SOLD IN 7 DAYS!**  
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List price \$449,900  
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- Sharon's Recent Beachwood Listings & Sales**  
**NEW LISTING, CALL FOR DETAILS!** 4 Bed, 3 Bath Split Level  
listed at \$749,900  
**SOLD 4/24** 23700 Halburton Road  
listed at \$575,000  
**SOLD IN 1 DAY 4/24** 8 Bordeaux Lane in The Village  
listed at \$450,000  
**SOLD 11/23** 25404 Bryden Road  
listed at \$365,000  
**SOLD 10/23** 24423 Bryden Road  
listed at \$350,000  
**SOLD 10/23** 19 Deerfield Lane in The Village  
listed at \$409,900  
**SOLD 10/23** 7 Deerfield Lane in The Village  
listed at \$375,000  
**SOLD 9/23** 24301 Bryden Road  
listed at \$399,900  
**SOLD 6/23** 24410 Greenwich Lane  
listed at \$850,000

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# 2024 Hometown Heroes

In 2021, the Beachwood Historical Society and City of Beachwood created a program to recognize Hometown Heroes who either live or work in Beachwood; make a positive impact on our city; show dedication to helping others; display courage, care, and concern; and/or make contributions that have enhanced Beachwood.

Congratulations to this year's Hometown Heroes:

- Chaya Dalya Berezovsky, student and resident
- Alan Berger, resident
- Shannon Diamond, Beachwood Community Services
- Chunny Hahn, Beachwood Schools
- Dr. Michael and Dr. Gretta Jacobs, residents
- Daniel MacVeigh, Beachwood Schools
- Debbie Rubenstein, teacher and resident

- Dan Wochele, Beachwood Firefighter of the Year
- Robert Young, Veteran and resident
- Debra Zelman Rapoport, resident

The community is invited to meet this year's heroes on Wednesday, May 15, 5:30 p.m., at Beachwood City Park West, when they are honored for their contributions.

Watch for more information in next month's issue of *Beachwood Buzz*.



## STRATEGICAL CRIME PREVENTION

**Sunday, June 16  
9 AM–Noon**  
Beachwood Community Center

A free classroom based self-defense course led by the Beachwood Police Department Subject Control Officers.

**REGISTER:**  
BeachwoodRec.com  
or 216-292-1970

Gain the knowledge needed to prevent crime in everyday situations and locations. Tactical advantages and enhancements will be taught that help deter criminals and give the individual increased reaction time to prepare physical defense options. Physical defense options will also be discussed and participants will be given the option to partake in basic hands-on personal defense techniques. Recommended minimum age for participants is 16 years of age. Participants under 18 years of age need to be accompanied by an adult.

*CITY OF Beachwood* 25325 Fairmount Blvd, Beachwood, Ohio, BeachwoodOhio.com



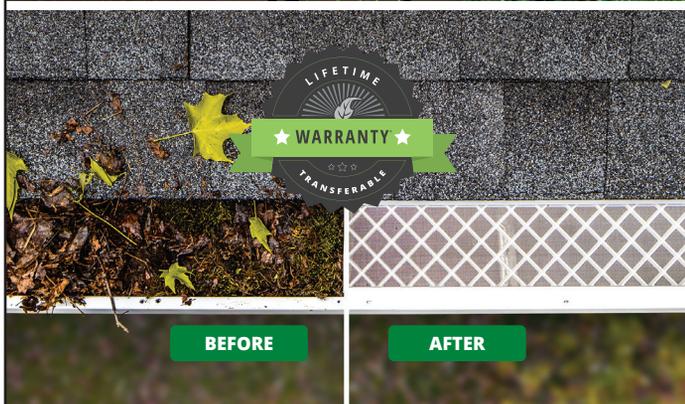
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# For the Love of Music

A Friends of the Beachwood Orchestra benefit concert featuring Dr. Donna Lee and Daniel Gilbert

**F**or the Love of Music, a Friends of the Beachwood Orchestra benefit concert featuring Beachwood residents Dr. Donna Lee and Daniel Gilbert, will take place on Thursday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., in the Beachwood High School auditorium. Proceeds from this event will directly benefit the Beachwood Orchestra and students who are traveling to Spain on a performance tour over spring break 2025.

Donna and Daniel, both professional musicians (Donna on piano and Daniel on clarinet), and parents of Holden, a seventh grade orchestra member (cello), are generously donating their time to support FOBO. The first half of the program will feature the couple as a duo and then a trio when Holden joins them on stage. The second half will feature collaborations with Beachwood Orchestra students, primarily from the high school, with younger musicians performing on the final song, *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*.

The Beachwood Orchestra is under the direction of Allison Siekmann and Noël DeViney. "We are very grateful for Donna and Daniel's generosity in donating their time and talents," Allison said. "What a fantastic experience for our students to play alongside of and learn from such accomplished musicians."

Donna and Daniel are proud to live in a community that values the arts. "We are continually impressed and grateful for the phenomenal music education program at Beachwood Schools that

provides all students the opportunity to experience the many great benefits of studying music in such creative and passionate ways," Daniel said.

"We look forward to collaborating with talented students in a varied program that will showcase fantastic music and music-making," added Donna. "We are both enthusiastic supporters of Beachwood Orchestra and are delighted to be participating in this benefit concert."

Special thanks to Sophia Fields, FOBO president, and

Cheryl Isaacson, treasurer, for their hard work in supporting this program.

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"We are very grateful for Donna and Daniel's generosity in donating their time and talents," Allison said. "What a fantastic experience for our students to play alongside of and learn from such accomplished musicians."

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**FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 16 · 7:30 P.M.**  
**BEACHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:**  
**[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/FOBOTICKETS](http://tinyurl.com/fobotickets)**

## About the Artists:

Steinway artist Donna Lee made her solo debut in 1990 with the National Symphony Orchestra. She has since appeared as a soloist and collaborative artist in prestigious national and international venues. Critics have described Donna's performances as elegant, refined, engaging, and brilliant.

An acclaimed pedagogue, Donna has received accolades for her teaching. In October of 2021, she was inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame. In that same year, she received a Distinguished Teaching Award from Kent State University, the institution's highest teaching honor, where she serves on the faculty as Professor and Coordinator of Piano.

Daniel is Professor of Clarinet at the University of Michigan where he has served on faculty since 2007. Previously, he held the position of Second Clarinet in the Cleveland Orchestra from 1995 to 2007.

A native of New York City, Daniel received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University and both a Master of Music degree and Professional Studies Certificate from The Juilliard School. He, too, has performed in prestigious national and international venues. In addition to teaching at the University of Michigan, Daniel serves on the faculty of Case Western Reserve University. He plays exclusively on Vandoren products.



During the summers, Donna and Daniel are both on faculty at Brevard Music Center in North Carolina, one of

America's premier summer training programs and festivals. As a couple, they often perform together.

# Jewish Federation of Cleveland: Running for Them

To commemorate six months since the October 7, 2023, attacks on Israel, the Cleveland Jewish community came together on April 7 for Ratzim Bishvilam (*Running for Them*), a community-wide run/walk.

More than 1,000 participants gathered to honor the thousands of innocent people murdered and hundreds held hostage. The event began with a program featuring the inspiring words of Natalia Ben Zvi, whose son, Sagiv, was one of the innocent people killed by Hamas at the Nova Music Festival. Participants then walked/ran in honor of a victim, their names displayed on running bibs.

This event was co-hosted by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland's Young Leadership Division, Run for Their Lives, and Nice Jewish Runners.

For more information about how you can Stand with Israel, visit [jewishcleveland.org](http://jewishcleveland.org).



Above: More than 1,000 participants took part in Ratzim Bishvilam on April 7.

Right: Ran Ben Zvi, Natalia Ben Zvi, Federation Board Chair Daniel N. Zelman, Federation President Erika B. Rudin-Luria, and Beachwood Mayor Justin Berns.



For more information about how you can Stand with Israel, visit [www.jewishcleveland.org](http://www.jewishcleveland.org).

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## Big Movements, Big Results

# Parkinson's Disease

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### Back Cover Word Search Answer Key

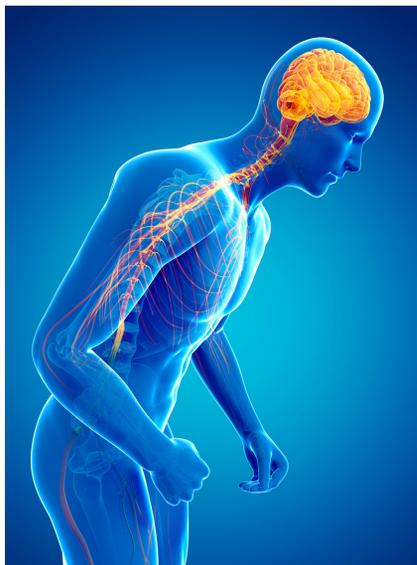
#### Across:

2. Health
6. Sciatica
9. Massage
11. Parkinsons Disease
13. Balance
14. Rehabilitation
15. Stapes

#### Down:

1. Fascia
3. Orthopedic
4. Physical Therapy
5. Sarcopenia
7. Vertigo
8. Falls
10. Excellent
12. Exercise

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Parkinson's Disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that affects movement, balance, and coordination. While there is currently no cure for PD, there are therapies aimed at managing its symptoms and improving the quality of life for those affected. One such therapy gaining traction in the PD community is LSVT BIG<sup>®</sup> (Lee Silverman Voice Treatment BIG), a specialized program designed to address the motor symptoms of PD and enhance mobility. *Continued on next page.*

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# The Transformative Power of LSVT BIG® for Parkinson's Disease: A Path to Improved Movement and Quality of Life



LSVT BIG® is rooted in the principles of intensive, high-amplitude movement training. It focuses on exaggerating movements to counteract the characteristic rigidity, slowness, and reduced amplitude of motion seen in PD. Through tailored exercises and repetitive practice, individuals undergoing LSVT BIG® learn to generate bigger, more fluid movements, helping them regain functional abilities and independence in daily activities.



One of the primary benefits of LSVT BIG® is its ability to address the motor symptoms of PD comprehensively. By targeting movement amplitude, coordination, and balance, the therapy addresses the core impairments that significantly impact a person's ability to perform everyday tasks.

Research has shown that LSVT BIG® leads to improvements in gait velocity, balance, and overall motor

function, translating to enhanced mobility and reduced risk of falls among individuals with PD.

Moreover, LSVT BIG® is more than just a physical exercise program; it fosters a holistic approach to wellness. Participants not only experience physical improvements but also gain confidence in their abilities and a sense of empowerment over their condition. The therapy emphasizes functional tasks relevant to daily life, such as walking, getting out of a chair, and reaching for objects, ensuring that the skills learned in therapy translate into real-world scenarios.



Another notable advantage of LSVT BIG® is its long-lasting effects. Research indicates that the benefits of LSVT BIG® endure beyond the completion of the program, with participants maintaining improvements in motor function and quality of life months and even years after therapy. This sustainability is crucial in the management of a chronic condition like PD, offering hope and stability to individuals facing

the challenges of progressive neurological decline.



Furthermore, LSVT BIG® is highly customizable to accommodate individuals at different stages of Parkinson's progression and with varying levels of mobility. Whether someone is newly diagnosed or has been living with PD for years, LSVT BIG® can be tailored to their specific needs and goals, ensuring a personalized approach to therapy.

In conclusion, LSVT BIG® represents a promising intervention for individuals with Parkinson's Disease seeking to improve their movement and overall quality of life. By addressing motor symptoms, enhancing mobility, and instilling confidence, this specialized therapy provided by LSVT BIG® Certified therapists offers a pathway to greater independence and well-being for those navigating the complexities of living with PD. As research continues to validate its efficacy and refine its protocols, LSVT BIG® stands as a beacon of hope for the Parkinson's community, offering tangible benefits and improvements in the face of a challenging condition.

- *Kelly Beaudoin, CEO*  
*Balance Solutions Physical Therapy, Inc*

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# Three Minutes of Totality: A Once-in-a-lifetime Experience

On Monday, April 8, the City of Beachwood and Beachwood Schools hosted its Beachwood Blackout Solar Eclipse Celebration. Thousands of residents filled the stadium at Beachwood High School to view this celestial event – and what a spectacular event it was!

The celebration featured family-friendly activities, including eclipse-themed coloring and activity sheets, trivia, and crafts. There were also inflatables, yard games, a DJ, a NASA live-stream LED screen, and signs that included fun facts about the eclipse.

### Did you know?

- The solar eclipse occurred in Mexico, Canada, and the U.S.
- Earth is unique because it's the only planet where the moon and sun line up perfectly, creating a total solar eclipse.

- The next total solar eclipse visible in the United States will be in 20 years.
- Partial or annular eclipses happen a few times a year, but not total solar eclipses.

Special thanks to Crestmont Automotive for supplying eclipse glasses to those in attendance. Additional photos, by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo, may be seen on the city's and school's Facebook pages.

"This is a note to say thanks. I, along with my wife, daughter, and two elementary-school-aged grandchildren just returned from the city-sponsored eclipse party. We all appreciated the event for how well it was run, what it offered, and that it was shared with family and community. We were greeted by Derek Schroeder in a festive and welcoming manner, which helped set the tone for the excitement of the moment. Again, many thanks and much appreciation from my family."

– Loren Shapiro

"Wow ... You sure know how to throw a party! I 'totally' enjoyed the Watch Party at the stadium with my kids and grandkids. It was such a joyful atmosphere, especially seeing the unity of the Beachwood Community. The DJ picked some terrific songs – nailing it with *Here Comes the Sun*. The whole afternoon was epic!"

Thanks so much,  
– Ellen Wohl



*Pictured, from bottom left: Mort, Lenette, Michael, and Lisa Goldman; Pooja Narayanañ and Laya Viswanath; Cedar the Service Dog; Kevin Houchins, Beachwood Schools Director of Equity & Community Engagement; and City Council member Ali Stern with her children.*

*Bottom photos, opposite page, clockwise from top right: Liz Morrison; Londyn, Alan, and Keesha Travis; Brian Ritzenberg and Michael Friedman; Mayor Justin Berns with his daughters, Sarah and Allie;*

Dear Derek Schroeder and the City of Beachwood Team,

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for the incredible Beachwood Blackout Total Solar Eclipse Party that you organized on April 8, 2024. It was an exceptional event that brought our community together in a truly memorable and enjoyable way.

From the moment I arrived at the event, I was impressed by the careful planning and attention to detail that went into creating such a wonderful experience. The setup with bounce houses, live NASA screen, and the option for attendees to choose between sitting on the bleachers or enjoying the spacious field with their own seating arrangements truly catered to everyone's preferences. The provision of solar-safe eclipse viewing glasses, courtesy of Crestmont Automotive, ensured that everyone could witness this rare celestial event safely.

Moreover, the inclusion of family-friendly activities and the opportunity for businesses and community groups to participate added to the vibrancy of the celebration. It was evident that Beachwood Blackout was not just an event, but a testament to the spirit of our community coming together to commemorate this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

I also wanted to extend my appreciation for the economic impact that events like Beachwood Blackout bring to our region. It's heartening to see the collaboration between the City of Beachwood and local businesses and organizations, resulting in positive outcomes for our community as a whole.

As I reflect on the wonderful memories created during Beachwood Blackout, I extend my gratitude to the talented DJ who provided the fantastic music that accompanied the event.

Once again, thank you for organizing such an unforgettable event. Beachwood Blackout will remain a cherished memory for me and many others in our community for years to come.

– Akiva Freund



# Yin Mei Lim Recognized by Connecting for Kids for Founding Neurodiversity Family Network

Connecting for Kids provides resources, support, and community to families in Northeast Ohio who have children with mental health concerns, developmental delays, or disabilities, as well as those facing major life changes. The organization offers programs, resource fairs, presentations, and a Family Resource Specialist program to help families navigate available resources. All programs are offered free to families.

Four individuals, including Beachwood resident Yin Mei Lim, were recently recognized for exemplifying the mission of Connecting for Kids.

Yin Mei, founder and president of Beachwood Schools' Neurodiversity Family Network (NDFN), was awarded 2024 Parent of the Year for spearheading a team of parents to create a community for families to connect, support, and work toward full inclusion of students who are neurodivergent, disabled, or require adaptive education from the school district.

The NDFN hosts social gatherings, support groups, educational programs, awareness campaigns, and community building events. The group also advocates for policies and best practices that promote inclusion and equity for neurodivergent students and individuals within the school system and community at large. In addition, NDFN offers an online Family Resource Digital Binder that provides a one-stop shop with links to vetted online resources and parent recommendations. This binder includes service providers,

local recreational activities, and ideas for what to do if a child is struggling. All are welcome.

Additional recipients include Amy McElwain, Educator of the Year; Katelyn Colborn, AuD., Professional of the Year; and Alaka Chandurkar, M.D., Kathleen Louise Nash Board Member of the Year.

To learn more about Connecting for Kids, visit [www.connectingforkids.org](http://www.connectingforkids.org).

To learn more about Beachwood Schools' Neurodiversity Family Network, visit [www.beachwoodschoools.org/Neurodiversity.aspx](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org/Neurodiversity.aspx).



# Jewish Federation Presents Gabrielle Lincoff Jerusalem with Top Young Leadership Award

Congratulations to Gabrielle Lincoff Jerusalem on being awarded the 2023 Bennett and Donna Yanowitz Leadership Award, which recognizes and honors an outstanding young individual who has demonstrated commitment, involvement, and leadership within Cleveland's Jewish community. Gabrielle, a Beachwood resident, received the award at the Federation's Board of Trustees meeting on March 13.

"In every facet of my life here in Cleveland, I experience the profound impact and support of our community," Gabrielle said. "I am truly honored to receive this award, and to be in a small way now associated with the Yanowitz family's legacy."

Gabrielle, 35, has been involved in the Cleveland Jewish community in a variety of capacities. She serves on the Federation's board of trustees and community relations committee's executive committee. She is also a current participant

in the Wexner Heritage Program, a Jewish learning and leadership development program for volunteer leaders in North America.

Gabrielle is also a volunteer with the Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Project, and holds leadership roles at Green Road Synagogue, Gross Schechter Day School, and Fuchs Mizrahi School. She served previously on Federation's Young Leadership Division (YLD) board and Montefiore Associate board, and she is an alumna of Mandel

Symposium and ADL Glass Leadership Institute. She is a past co-chair for Super Sunday Kickoff, a community-wide project which brings together more than 1,000 community members annually.

Gabrielle works as deputy general counsel at Case Western Reserve University. The Yanowitz Award has been given annually since the early 1960s. As recipient of the award, Gabrielle is invited to join the Cleveland delegation to a General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America.



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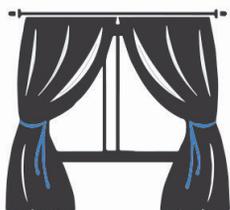


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# The BHS Class of 1974 is Celebrating 50 Years

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## BHS 2024 Gallery of Success

In 1985, the Beachwood Board of Education established the Beachwood High School Gallery of Success, in conjunction with the high school's 25th anniversary. Its goal was to induct, every three years, accomplished graduates who would serve as role models for BHS students.

On April 19, seven distinguished alumni were inducted into the Gallery of Success. The program started with a continental breakfast, followed by an assembly and luncheon for invited guests. High school students then had an opportunity to interact with the inductees during an afternoon meet-and-greet program.

Congratulations to the 2024 Gallery of Success inductees:

- David A. Arnold • 1986 (deceased)
- Marshall E. Barron • 1974
- Monique Davis Gordon • 1996
- Gayle I. Horwitz • 1998
- Rebecca Boroff Suhy • 1995
- Dr. Brian Weiss • 1976
- Alex Wyse • 2005

Each inductee has demonstrated leadership, service, humanitarianism, creativity, courage, and/or career contributions benefiting others. To date, 139 alumni have been inducted.

The 20-member selection committee from a cross section of the Beachwood community received an abundance of exemplary nominations. The group had a very difficult, time-consuming job paring their



selection down to those who were chosen.

Watch for more detailed information in next month's issue of *Beachwood Buzz*.

## Beachwood High School Pilots Digital Hall Pass Program

Last year, Beachwood High School created a pilot program to implement digital hall passes throughout the building. A digital hall pass is a cell phone app that tracks student whereabouts when they are out of the classroom. It provides an automated process of real-time tracking, with minimal interruption to instructional time.

"When a student leaves a classroom, they scan a QR code that is posted by the door. A drop-down menu then appears for the student to indicate where they're going," said Paul Chase, Beachwood High School principal. "Then, when they return to the classroom, they rescan the code."

It's a simple process. The data then appears on a spreadsheet so administrators know how often and for how long students are out of the classroom.

While the QR code system is mandatory throughout the building, teachers have an option to utilize a pouch system in their

classrooms, requiring students to drop their cell phones in a pouch when they enter the room.

"A pouch is placed on each door, along with the QR code. Students place their phones in the pouch when they enter the room and take it when they leave. If they require a digital hall pass during the class, they remove the phone from the pouch, scan the QR code, and then place their phone back in the pouch," Mr. Chase explained. "Then, when they return, they rescan the code and put their phone back in the pouch until the end of the class."

To date, about 60% of the classrooms use this system. Next year, it will be mandatory in all classrooms.

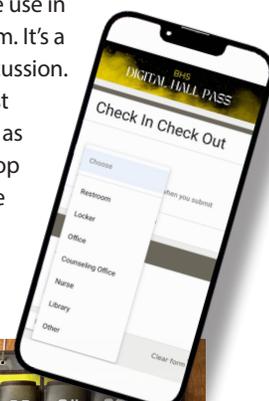
"This program really works," Mr. Chase added. "Angela Maxwell, BHS teacher librarian, developed the system in-house. The spreadsheet tells us who left the classroom, where they went, and for how long. We

monitor the system and when students are habitually leaving the classroom, we meet with them, in a counseling manner, to see why they're out of the room and how we can help.

"We want class time to be sacred, with students engaged throughout the day," he continued. "Some districts are using a system that requires that all cell phones are locked up in the morning and picked up at the end of the day. We feel our system is more effective since there are times when students benefit by having their phone. With this program, cell phones are being used as a learning opportunity to teach digital literacy and accountability."

Administrators monitor the system and do spot checks to ensure that students are following it. Plus, \$2 gift cards to be used in the Spirit Shop are randomly distributed to students who are properly using the system.

Beachwood is not the only district seeking a solution that balances benefits and deficits of cell phone use in the classroom. It's a national discussion. "For the most part, as long as we stay on top of it, I believe our system is 80-85% effective."





# Playing the Long Game: Fighting for Trans Kids and their Families

By State Senator Kent Smith

Republicans have an overpowering majority in both the Ohio House and the Ohio Senate. A straight party-line vote will never yield a Democratic victory. Knowing that, to be effective in the Ohio General Assembly, Democrats sometimes have to play the long game. Most recently, in the Senate, we did that with House Bill 68, the state-sponsored bullying legislation that targeted trans kids and their families. This bill was written to cut out rights for minor trans individuals.

The way the legislative process works is that any member of the House or Senate can propose a new law. Then, the bill is vetted through a legislative committee that first hears testimony from the person who sponsored the bill. If the legislation is passed in the initial chamber, the process is repeated when said legislation goes over to the other chamber.

That is what happened when House Bill 68 was passed by the Ohio House. In the Senate, we, the Democrats, knew that we had one shot to question the bill sponsor in committee.

As it played out, when HB 68 and its sponsor first appeared in the Senate, I was the only Democrat on that committee. Since the anti-trans legislation had passed in the House, I knew that it was probably going to pass in the Senate, so we played the long game.

Our best hope was to put the bill sponsor on record by asking questions to determine if HB 68 violated any parts of the U.S. or Ohio Constitution.

Prior to that committee hearing, I met with equality and legal advocates, and

trans individuals. to develop our strategy. Although HB 68 passed, we raised constitutional doubts with the intent of placing this bill in a courtroom prior to its implementation.

On March 26, 2024, the Ohio ACLU filed a lawsuit to try to stop HB 68 from taking effect. The argument being made is that HB 68 violates four sections of the Ohio Constitution, including the single-subject rule, the healthcare provision, the equal protection clause, and the due course of law provision.

On April 16, 2024, a Republican Judge from Franklin County issued a temporary restraining order to stop the ban on gender-affirming care for trans kids from taking effect. The lesson here: When you can't win the short game, play the long game.

*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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*Read their essays on pages 38-40*

In addition to their personal awards, Beachwood City Schools will receive a \$500 Anti-Bias Education Grant to be used in the year ahead to benefit many more students!

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# To Live in Awe

By Jen Stern

To Live in Awe ... Women's basketball was exciting! Inspiring!

From fierce play, to elevated sportsmanship, to setting the record straight about the respect that exists off of the court: from coaches to players, women do not have to be pitted against one another, we can respect and compete at a high level.

And speaking of records ... 18.7 million tuned in to watch South Carolina and Iowa's National Championship. This is more than any other basketball game – womens', men's, college, or pro – in five years.

Dawn Staley coached an undefeated season. She celebrated her players, this incredible accomplishment, and she thanked Caitlin Clark, on the opposing team, for lifting up women's basketball.

All I could think of was the young girls and boys who now recognize that playing like a girl is a *huge* accomplishment!

To witness the total solar eclipse was humbling, life affirming, and comforting – to hold space knowing that for a few minutes we were united in awe, together, joined in a miraculous shared experience. The quiet. From light, to dark, to light again.

We are small. We are insignificant. We are impermanent. We are here to witness magic. To come together, to live together, in awe.

Trees bare one moment, flowering the next.

Birth. Death. Life once more.  
Light. Dark. Light once more.  
The circle of life.

How lucky are we to be a part of this? To bear witness. To live together in awe.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude for this cosmic reminder. Our world is filled with divisiveness in place of unity, ego and ignorance in place of wisdom and compassion, darkness that results in so much instability, uncertainty, pain and suffering: This, the very darkness that is covering our collective light.

I hope to witness darkness return to light once more.

*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](http://www.transformativegrief.com) and sign up for monthly posts.*

We are small.  
We are insignificant.  
We are impermanent.  
We are here  
to witness magic.  
To come together,  
to live together,  
in awe.



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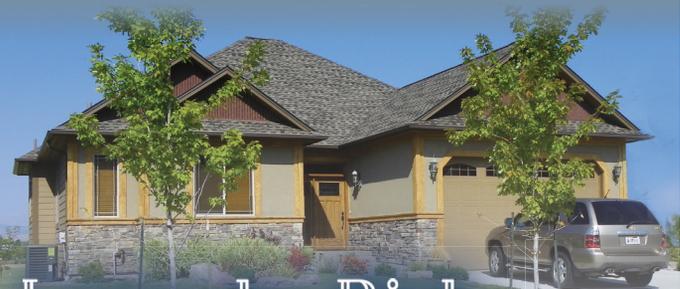


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## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

### EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY: A PATH TOWARD A HEALTHIER FUTURE

As your Mayor, I'm proud to share with you the strides our community has made in embracing sustainability and how these efforts are crucial for our collective well-being and enhancement of our environment.

In recent years, sustainability has emerged as a cornerstone of responsible governance. It encompasses a holistic approach to ensure the long-term health and vitality of our society, economy, and environment. Our community has recognized the importance of this ethos and has embarked on a journey toward a more sustainable future.

Our most recent initiative is the adoption of the **Rust Belt Rider food scrap composting program** which kicked off last month on Earth Day. Beachwood is the first city in Cuyahoga County to provide this service free for residents. Food scrap collection bins are located next to public recycling bins behind the Beachwood Community Center.

This service can accept 100% of your kitchen-generated food scraps. But no liquids, plastic, or trash. Bins are accessible via a 4-digit lock code made available through online registration for the program at [BeachwoodOhio.com/composting](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/composting).

You may not be aware of all our ongoing sustainability initiatives, so I have highlighted some of our most recent ones below:

- Integration of hybrid vehicles into our city's fleet, marking a significant step toward reducing emissions and promoting cleaner transportation.
- Use of solar-powered speed awareness signs, harnessing renewable energy to enhance road safety while minimizing our carbon footprint.
- An annual tree program dedicated to planting site-specific species throughout our landscape, enriching our city's green canopy and fostering biodiversity.
- Recycling 100% of the curbside brush and leaves collected, diverting organic waste from landfills, and contributing to a circular economy.
- A curbside recycling program, empowering residents to actively participate in waste reduction and resource conservation efforts.
- Continuous enhancements and maintenance of our storm and sanitary sewers, ensuring efficient water management and minimizing the risk of pollution.
- Pioneering the creation of an alternative energy section within our municipal code, setting a precedent for sustainable development and inspiring neighboring communities to adopt similar standards.
- Collaboration with First Energy to transition all streetlight lamps to

energy-efficient LEDs, thereby reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

- Our Municipal Center was constructed in alignment with LEED guidelines, the gold standard for sustainable building design and operation. Featuring motion-operated lights and faucets, recycled carpeting, LED lighting, and geothermal energy systems, our facility exemplifies sustainable practices in action.
- Installation of two electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the Aquatic Center parking lot, facilitating the adoption of clean transportation options, and supporting the growing EV community.
- Replacement of Municipal Center parking lot lights with energy-efficient LEDs, furthering our commitment to energy conservation and sustainability.

In addition, we offer two community shred days annually. These events not only provide a vital service for residents to securely dispose of sensitive documents but also contribute significantly to our efforts in waste reduction and community engagement. Our next shred day is scheduled for Friday, May 10, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Community Center.

On a final note, our sustainability initiatives have caught the attention of the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District. This recognition materialized as a \$4,482 grant to support our 2024 shred day program and to enhance the eco-friendliness of our rubbish collection fleet with a new wrap.

As we forge ahead into the complexities of the 21st century, sustainability remains an important initiative. It's through collaborative efforts and a steadfast commitment to innovative solutions that we'll navigate these challenges and pave the way for a more prosperous and resilient future. Your input and ideas are invaluable in this journey, so please don't hesitate to call or email me with any questions or suggestions.

Together, let's continue to build a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.

Mayor Justin Bernis  
[MayorBernis@beachwoodohio.com](mailto:MayorBernis@beachwoodohio.com)



## BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL



HOW TO EMAIL A COUNCIL MEMBER: [FIRSTNAME.LASTNAME@BEACHWOODOHIO.COM](mailto:FIRSTNAME.LASTNAME@BEACHWOODOHIO.COM)



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ALI B. STERN  
240.706.7478



ERIC SYNENBERG  
216.401.0074



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

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MARCH 18, 2024 - APRIL 1, 2024

The city is focusing on six key areas essential for the city's advancement. These delineations serve not only as a roadmap but as a guiding light for our city's progress. Each legislative update will highlight ordinances within these critical focus areas, underscoring the measures we are undertaking within each.

## Fiscal Responsibility – Fostering Accountability and Efficiency

**Ordinance 2024-43:** In pursuit of fiscal responsibility, City Council has approved the acquisition of two 28-yard rubbish/recycling trucks at a total cost slightly exceeding \$1 million. These new units are intended to replace aging vehicles for which sourcing parts has become challenging. Their introduction into our fleet will not only ensure balance but also enhance reliability, thereby bolstering the effectiveness of our programs.

## Infrastructure Improvements – Enhancing Quality of Life and Community Service

**Ordinance 2024-44:** In response to a previous motion by City Council, bids were requested for the installation of a changeable copy sign at the intersection of Richmond and Fairmount. Guide Studios developed a comprehensive signage package aimed at enhancing the navigability and visual appeal of our city. This initiative marks the initial phase of a broader program slated for gradual implementation. Through this ordinance, Council has approved the bid submitted by Archer Sign, not exceeding the amount of \$174,860.75.

**Ordinance 2024-42:** City Council adopted this ordinance granting authorization for the city to revise its agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) pertaining to the Richmond/Chagrin I-271 corridor project, thereby facilitating the transition to the project's final design phase. The City of Beachwood has established a dedicated webpage for this project, serving as a platform for ongoing updates at [BeachwoodOhio.com/CorridorProject](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/CorridorProject).

## Innovative Partnerships – Strengthening Community Connection Through Collaboration

**Ordinance 2024-41:** City Council approved the renewal of a shared services agreement between the City of Beachwood and the Beachwood Board of Education, reinforcing our longstanding partnership. Under this agreement, the schools continue to provide student transportation services for city camps and grant access to their facilities. In reciprocation, the city offers essential security services to the schools and extends the use of tennis courts for school activities. This ongoing partnership not only streamlines resource utilization, but also strengthens community bonds, ultimately enriching the lives of Beachwood residents. The contract remains in effect until July 31, 2027.

**FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY:** Friday, May 10 | 3:00-6:00 p.m. | Beachwood Community Center Parking Lot  
Paper bags and banker boxes only, no blue grocery bags. ID required for residency verification.

## Public Safety – Strengthening Community Resilience

**Ordinance 2024-22:** This ordinance proposes the reclassification of several properties currently utilized for institutional and public assembly purposes. The proposed rezoning aims to designate these properties under the U-5 zoning category, specifically tailored to accommodate institutional activities while implementing appropriate safety regulations for gatherings held at these locations. This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission on Feb. 5. Subsequently, it has been placed on the second reading and scheduled for a Public Hearing on May 6.

*Note: Only the focus areas with relevant action are highlighted above.*

For a complete list of all our ordinances, resolutions, or motions passed by City Council, or for more information regarding these agenda items and backup materials, please visit our city website at [BeachwoodOhio.com/AgendaCenter](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/AgendaCenter).



Third-grade students from Hilltop Elementary visited City Hall for a tour on March 19.

## LIVE & RECORDED MEETINGS

Scan the QR code or visit our website at [BeachwoodOhio.com/WatchMeetings](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/WatchMeetings).



## UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

**City Council:**  
May 6 at 7:00 p.m.  
May 20 at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning:**  
May 30 at 6:30 p.m.

**Architectural Board of Review:**  
May 6 at 4:30 p.m.  
May 20 at 4:30 p.m.

# WORK - LIVE - LEARN - THRIVE

Free Family Event!

CITY OF Beachwood



BEACHWOOD  
1949 2024  
FIRE DEPT  
10

75-Year Celebration



**SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1-4 PM**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER**  
*3777 Richmond Road, Beachwood*

**DEMOS, TOURS, ACTIVITIES, DJ, FOOD TRUCKS & MORE!**

## ECLIPSE CAPTIVATES ALL AGES AT HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM

The city, in partnership with Beachwood Schools, hosted an extraordinary Beachwood Blackout watch party where residents and visitors alike forged unforgettable memories. This once-in-a-lifetime, out-of-this-world occurrence drew more than 2,000 people, spanning generations, inside Beachwood High School's stadium. The city extends heartfelt gratitude to Crestmont Automotive for its generous support in providing eclipse glasses to all attendees.

For extended coverage and additional photos, see pages 16-17.



Residents and visitors from as far away as Utah and even Malaysia, gathered in Beachwood to view the eclipse. Photography by Discovery Photo.

## LIGHT OHIO BLUE WEEK



Show your support for local law enforcement during Light Ohio Blue, a statewide campaign May 8 through May 18. Residents and businesses are encouraged to change their exterior lights to blue to show their support.

## EARLY BIRDS GET A VIOLATION

Public Works has still been receiving complaints regarding residents who are placing their trash and/or recycling to the curb too early for collection. Please remain mindful of Codified Ordinance 660.01: Rubbish should be placed on the tree lawn no earlier than 6 p.m. on the evening before the collection day and no later than 7:30 a.m. on the day of collection. Empty cans must be removed no later than 9 a.m. the day after collection and stored in an area that is not visible from the street. Public Works has been giving notices to those in violation. Anyone in violation of the ordinance will receive a warning notice on their door; repeated violations will result in an issued citation which can include a fine and court appearance.



Many residents walk in our wonderful city and trash cans are unsightly. Please help keep your city beautiful!

While I rarely have the occasion to contact the Beachwood Police Department, I recently needed to contact them twice within 24 hours, and in both cases, I appreciated their helpfulness and responsiveness. The first was simply a case of connecting us with the owner of a lost dog that was wandering behind our house in the afternoon. On the second occasion, my family was awakened around 1:30 a.m. by a couple arguing quite loudly inside their car in our driveway. Since I did not feel comfortable approaching the car, I was pleased that the police officers arrived within a few minutes, calmly addressing the couple and peacefully resolving the situation in a short period of time. I appreciate knowing that Beachwood Police Department is there for residents at all times of the day. Many thanks.

Chris Keller, Resident

## COMPOSTING PROGRAM Q&A

On Earth Day, the City of Beachwood proudly introduced a free residential composting program with Rust Belt Riders, becoming the first city to offer this free service in Cuyahoga County. Beachwood is now minimizing waste and promoting a more sustainable community, one food scrap at a time!

Learn more at [BeachwoodOhio.com/composting](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/composting).

**Q:** How do I sign up? Does it cost anything?

**A:** Registration for the free program is required to participate. Visit [BeachwoodOhio.com/composting](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/composting). If you have trouble signing up online, call City Hall at 216.464.1070. You'll be given a unique code to unlock the collection bins upon registration.

**Q:** Where are the collection bins located?

**A:** Food scrap collection bins are co-located with the public recycling bins behind the Beachwood Community Center.

**Q:** Why do we need to compost? What is the benefit?

**A:** It's all about the soil! Compost can support thousands of microorganisms vital to healthy soil while also offsetting rainwater runoff and cleaning our water from pollutants. Diverting food scraps from your trash generates less food waste that typically finds its way to landfills generating methane in the atmosphere.

**Q:** What is compostable?

**A:** A good rule of thumb is that if it is food, it can be composted! The service can actually accept 100% of your kitchen generated food scraps. This includes raw and cooked food, moldy cheese, pits, peels, shells, nuts, seeds, bones, pantry items and even BPI certified plates/cutlery. To educate yourself or search for a specific product, download the Betterbin app on Apple and Android or visit [about.betterbin.app](http://about.betterbin.app).

**Q:** What items are not acceptable?

**A:** Human waste including diapers, used tissues, dyed cardboard, pizza boxes, pet food, Q-tips, rubber bands and twist-ties, staples (some tea bags use them), plastic wrap, junk mail, pet waste, and any non-BPI certified compostable products (if it doesn't have 'BPI certified' on it - it's not!).

**Q:** What is the best way to collect food scraps?

**A:** Rust Belt Riders recommends a 5-gallon bucket with a lid. Plan to empty your bucket weekly into the drop-off bins.

## KEEPING YOUR TREE HEALTHY

The birds are chirping, the days are getting longer, and many will be starting landscape projects. Mulch can either be your tree's best friend or a slow death. Volcano mulching leads to a multitude of issues including root rot, decay of the trunk, pest infestation, weakened roots, nutrient deficiencies and tree death.

Proper mulching should be 2-4 inches deep, keeping it away from the tree trunk. It should resemble a donut with little to no mulch in the middle near the tree trunk and a thicker layer along the perimeter of the mulch bed. Not only do trees keep Beachwood attractive, but they also play a vital role in the ecosystem.

If you have questions, please contact Beachwood Public Works Department at 216.292.1922.

# RUST BELT RIDERS

Working Together To Feed People,  
**Not Landfills!**

CITY OF  
*Beachwood*

SCAN THE QR CODE!  REGISTER TODAY!

Get started by scanning the QR code or visit [BeachwoodOhio.com/composting](http://BeachwoodOhio.com/composting).

### ACCEPTABLE TO COMPOST

### UNACCEPTABLE TO COMPOST

Learn more about what you can compost with the Betterbin app.

## SAY NO TO THE VOLCANO!



**NO**

Volcano mulching leads to death of the tree.

←

Proper mulching will keep your tree happy and healthy.

→



**YES**

Questions? 216.292.1922

CITY OF *Beachwood*

# MAY RECREATION GUIDE

CITY OF *Beachwood*

## BARKIN BRUNCH

Dog-Friendly!



**SPECIALS & TREATS!**

**11AM - 1PM**

Beachwood Truck Park  
24619 Chagrin Blvd.

Sunday, May 26  
Sunday, June 30  
Sunday, July 28  
Sunday, August 25

Learn more at [BeachwoodRec.com](http://BeachwoodRec.com)  
or [BeachwoodTruckPark.com](http://BeachwoodTruckPark.com).

## BEACHWOOD BEATS BRINGS THE SUMMER HITS

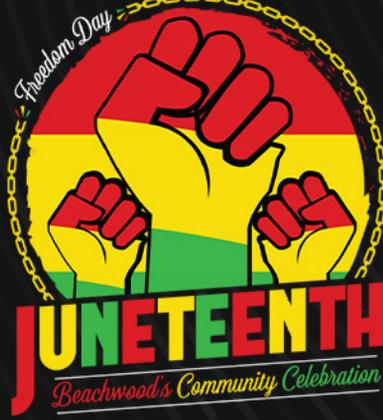
Take in your favorite hits this summer with Beachwood Beats on Tuesday evenings at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center, 25125 Fairmount Blvd. The free, family friendly concerts are open to both residents and nonresidents of all ages from 6:30-8 p.m. Concert attendees should bring their own chair or blanket for seating. A concession stand is available at the Aquatic Center for refreshments. Questions? Call Community Services at 216-292-1970.

- **June 11:** 3 Birds & The Wire - Dianne Palmer, Harmony Group
- **June 18:** Masterpiece - Motown/Disco/Funk/Pop
- **June 25:** Rachel Brown & The Beatnick Playboys - Country/Honky Tonk Band
- **July 2:** Bob Frank & His Delta Blues Cats - Acoustic Blues
- **July 9:** FM Project - Steely Dan Tribute Band
- **July 16:** Blue Lunch - Jump/Blues/Swing Band
- **July 23:** FM 77 - Music of the 70s
- **July 30:** Cleveland TOPS - Swing Band



CITY OF *Beachwood*

Freedom Day



BEACHWOOD CITY SERVICES  
African American Affinity Group

**JUNE 19 4:00-7:00 PM**  
**BFAC Parking Lot**

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

Outdoor movie nights are the perfect opportunity to gather with friends and family for free summer fun! Movies are shown in the Beachwood High School parking lot, 25100 Fairmount Blvd., with the exception of the June 19 movie, which will be shown



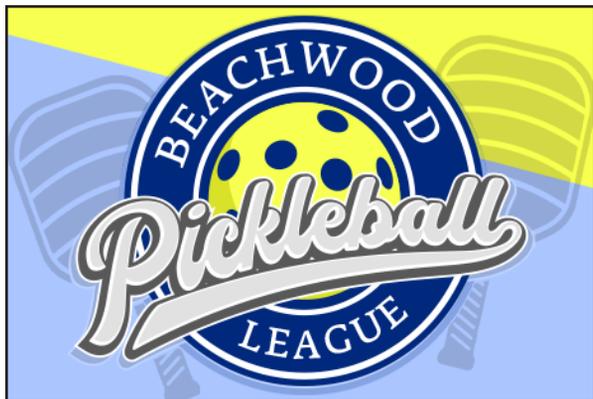
at the Juneteenth Community Celebration. All movies begin at 5:00 p.m. Please bring your own chairs and blankets. Snack bar available with concessions for purchase. For more information, visit [BeachwoodRec.com](http://BeachwoodRec.com).

- **June 19:** *Soul* (Juneteenth Celebration, BFAC parking lot)
- **July 21:** *Trolls Band Together*
- **August 11:** *Wonka* (Beachwood Schools Family Night)

## NEW PICKLEBALL LEAGUES

New courts, new leagues! Beachwood is excited to announce the addition of pickleball leagues to the community. Beginner, intermediate and advanced adult leagues will be held weekly with the choice of Tuesday evenings (6-9 p.m.), Friday evenings (6-9 p.m.), or Sunday mornings (9 a.m.-noon).

Leagues include six weeks of matches plus playoffs. All matches are played at the new Beachwood Pickleball Courts at 25125 Fairmount Blvd. Play is scheduled and organized by representatives from The Little Leagues. The fee is \$120 per team, open to residents and non-residents. Sign up online at BeachwoodRec.com or call Community Services at 216-292-1970.



## TENNIS Summer Programs

**Instructor: David Cole**

Beachwood High School Varsity Coach

**Adult Intro to Tennis, Adult Cardio  
Tennis and youth programs  
beginning at age 4!**

Register at BeachwoodRec.com.



## BFAC, WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Early Bird Membership Rates:** Save 20% on your BFAC membership through Friday, May 24, with early bird pricing. All membership sales occur at City Hall. Membership is available to residents only.

**New Aqua Aerobics Class:** Join instructor Paula Flauto for Aqua Cardio Stretch on Fridays, June 7 through August 9, from 11:00-11:45 a.m. No class on July 5. The class is designed for all ages and fitness levels with cardio moves followed by big stretches. Reserve your spot at BeachwoodRec.com. All payment will take place at the BFAC desk before class. Members are free, residents are \$5 and non-residents are \$10.

**Pool Party Nights:** Registration for Luau Party Night (June 27) and Disco Party Night (July 25) begins Monday, May 13. Swim under the lights, enjoy music, games and dessert trucks.

### BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY:

Beachwood K-12 Art Show | May 1 - May 28 | Opening reception on May 1, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Beachwood students put their artistic talent on display, presented by the Beachwood Arts Council.

## BEACHWOOD SENIORS

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS & TRIPS

- **Making A Connection In May with Mayor Berns**

Monday, May 13, 10:15 a.m., Community Center  
Free, RSVP required by May 10.

May is Older Americans Month and the 2024 theme is *Powered by Connection*, recognizing the impact of meaningful relationships. Join Mayor Berns to make connections and conversation over a morning milkshake.

- **Hooray for Hartville Trip**

Monday, June 24, Depart at 8:30 a.m. from the Community Center  
Residents \$53, Non-Residents \$64

Shop Hartville's array of merchandise from antiques to sweets. We'll also stop at the famous hardware store too. Register by May 20.

### CALL FOR 50-YEAR RESIDENTS

The City of Beachwood would like to invite residents who have lived here for 50 years to join us for a moment of special recognition at the upcoming May 20 City Council meeting. Newly minted 50-year residents will receive a commemorative gift. If you have not been previously recognized at a 50-year resident salute, please RSVP by calling Community Services at 216.292.1970 by Friday, May 10.

## SENIOR DAY OUT

**Scandalous or Ingenious?**

Thursday, May 16, at Noon  
Beachwood Community Center

Residents \$13

Non-Residents \$16

Program Only \$5

Register by May 8.

Meet Cassie Chadwick, the most dangerous woman in America in 1905! Her trial, the "trial of the century," was held in Cleveland. She bilked businessmen and banks out of millions of dollars. Decide for yourself if she was a criminal, a little crazy, or a savvy businesswoman! Her story is told by Ruth Pangrace.

Meal choices include a 1/4 lb. all beef Kosher style hot dog, a 1/3 lb. all beef hamburger or a veggie burger. All entrees served with baked beans, chips, a beverage and ice cream novelty.

**June SDO (6/20):** Hear the stories behind the British royal weddings! Register by June 12.

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

# WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## ANTICA ITALIAN KITCHEN & BAR

Beachwood recently welcomed Antica Italian Kitchen & Bar to the community, next to Heck's Cafe and under the same ownership. Joining Mayor Justin Berns at the ribbon cutting: Council Members Jillian DeLong and June E. Taylor, along with Economic Development Director Cathy Bieterman, City Administrator Tina Turick and Public Relations Consultant June Scharf. Beachwood Chamber of Commerce Director David Lapierre also attended. Reservations are offered through OpenTable.



The ribbon cutting ceremony at Antica Italian Kitchen & Bar, 3355 Richmond Rd.

## TEELA BENNETT DESIGN

Teela Bennett Design held their grand opening on April 4, sharing their new design studio at 23945 Mercantile Rd. The company is growing quickly in both residential and commercial interior design. Tehilla Bennett leads a team of designers and client coordinators, responsible for overseeing every facet of each project from start to finish. They specialize in custom designed spaces and homes from top to bottom. Visit their website at [teelabdesign.com](http://teelabdesign.com).



Tehilla Bennett holding a city proclamation from Mayor Justin Berns.



## UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR, MAY 24

The Economic Development Office is hosting their next One-Stop Business Resource Center coffee hour on Friday, May 24, at 9 a.m. These coffee hour sessions provide companies with a more in-depth explanation of the business resources available and how to use them. The May discussion will be focused on financing opportunities and loan structuring. RSVP for the May 24 coffee hour by emailing Catherine Bieterman, Economic Development Director, at [catherine.bieterman@beachwoodohio.com](mailto:catherine.bieterman@beachwoodohio.com).

## CALL FOR JUNETEENTH VENDORS

In partnership with the Beachwood Schools African American Affinity Group, the City of Beachwood is now accepting vendors for our annual Juneteenth Community Celebration! Vendor registration is currently available online for \$25 at [bit.ly/Beachwood-JuneteenthVendors2024](http://bit.ly/Beachwood-JuneteenthVendors2024). The event is on June 19 from 4-7 p.m. outside the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center, 25125 Fairmount Blvd. Vendors must be an African American owned business.



## RECENT JOB FAIR BOASTS STRONG TURNOUT

The City of Beachwood co-hosted a successful job fair in partnership with Ohio Means Jobs, the Tri-C Eastern Campus, the City of Warrensville Heights, the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce and the Cuyahoga East Chamber of Commerce. This collaborative effort provided a valuable platform for employers to connect with qualified job seekers and students. In total, 43 employers were able to showcase their open positions, convey job details and even conduct interviews onsite.



**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

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# BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

## Beachwood's Jack Felder Signs to Play Football at Washington & Jefferson College

Beachwood High School celebrated senior Jack Felder's commitment to continue his football career at Washington & Jefferson College next fall.

A standout center with a 4.2 GPA, Jack is a leader on and off the field. He founded the Bison Cares mentorship program, which connects students with professional athletes, business leaders, and alumni for guidance and support. He also played a key role in organizing the successful Hope Heals campaign, a marketing effort by the Excel TECC Marketing/Junior Achievement program, which raised over \$170,000 to benefit critically ill children.

The Beachwood school community honored Jack's accomplishment during a College Commitment Signing Day on March 21. Family, friends, coaches, staff, and administrators gathered in the Beachwood High School Community Room to celebrate Jack. "Jack has always been a very focused, determined athlete and a strong team leader," said Director of Athletics Ryan Peters. At the



ceremony, Mr. Peters praised Jack for his motivation and leadership qualities, which have made him a role model for younger students.

Football Head Coach Scott Fischer expressed excitement for Jack's college career, highlighting his determination and potential. "When Jack puts his mind to anything, he's going to accomplish it," Coach Fischer said. "We can't wait to watch you play college football next year, and I can't wait to see what you do with the next step of your life."

Assistant Coach James Basha recalled first noticing Jack's exceptional technique and footwork when he was just in fifth grade. Years later, Jack's perseverance never waned, despite facing challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic and a knee injury in his junior year. His resilience and leadership qualities propelled him to become one of the team's senior captains. "Jack Felder is one of the finest young men I've coached," said Coach Basha.

Before signing his Letter of Intent, Jack expressed his gratitude to his parents, Julie and Todd Felder, for their unwavering support as well as his coaches and teammates. He also reflected on his recruitment journey. "It was a great learning experience," he said. "In the end, I chose W & J because it checked all the boxes for me in what I was looking for in a university. The coaches made me feel at home and very comfortable."

Driven by a passion for sports and an interest in law, Jack plans to major in sports economics, followed by a law degree, with the aim of working in professional athletics. W & J perfectly fit the bill. "Attending a smaller school allows for a better connection with professors and staff," he explained. "The city of Washington really embraces the school, and it is not too far from home."

With his intelligence, dedication, and leadership skills, Jack is sure to make a lasting impact at W & J.

## EVENTS CALENDAR



### Holocaust Remembrance Day Film Rescreening: *From the Holocaust to Freedom: A Journey to Cleveland (2010)*

May 2, 7 p.m.

Beachwood High School  
25100 Fairmount Blvd.

### Bison Talk

May 6, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Beachwood Board of Education  
24601 Fairmount Blvd.

### Class of 2024 Commencement

May 28, 7 p.m.

Severance Music Center  
11001 Euclid Ave.



**VIEW THE  
FULL CALENDAR**

[www.beachwoodschoools.org/calendar](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org/calendar)

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Megan Walsh, President · (216) 287-4657 · [mwalsh@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:mwalsh@beachwoodschoools.org)  
Wendy Leatherberry, Vice President · (216) 409-2211 · [wleatherberry@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:wleatherberry@beachwoodschoools.org)  
Kim Allamby · (216) 533-3358 · [kimallamby@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:kimallamby@beachwoodschoools.org)  
Dr. Josephine Chan · (216) 235-1129 · [jchan@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:jchan@beachwoodschoools.org)  
Rini Ghosh · (631) 629-9441 · [rgosh@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:rgosh@beachwoodschoools.org)



[beachwoodschoools.org](http://beachwoodschoools.org)

# Launch into Learning: Fairmount Early Childhood Center Sets the Stage for Success

The early years are a whirlwind of growth, with young children blossoming at an incredible pace. A high-quality preschool education lays a critical foundation for a child's overall success. The Fairmount Early Childhood Center offers a nurturing and stimulating environment specifically designed to prepare children ages 3-5 for kindergarten and beyond. With small class sizes, a play-based learning approach, and a focus on social-emotional development, Fairmount equips young learners with the skills and confidence they need to thrive.

"Our philosophy is all about allowing students to have time to explore and learn at their own pace," says Arianna DeGeorge, principal of Fairmount Early Childhood Center and Bryden Elementary. Fairmount's academic program incorporates thematic units drawn from the Creative Curriculum. Popular units such as the "rock study" and "animal study" captivate children's interests while fostering creativity and problem-solving skills through play. "Play engages children's minds and imaginations," says Ms. DeGeorge. "If you think about all the different aspects of play – such as learning how to work with one another, communicate, and show expected behaviors – it really supports the growth of the whole child."

Fairmount emphasizes early intervention and tailors its approach to meet the developmental needs of each child. "We focus on providing students with many opportunities to grow academically, socially, and emotionally," she says. "This includes a lot of teaching around social skills, how to play collaboratively, and taking turns. These are all essential skills that benefit students throughout their educational journey."

## A Five-Star Rated Program

Affirming its commitment to the highest quality standards in early childhood education, Fairmount has earned a five-star Step Up to Quality rating from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. This prestigious recognition highlights Fairmount's excellence in areas such as staff qualifications and professional development, classroom environment, family engagement, program administration, and adherence to health and safety practices.

Ms. DeGeorge credits preschool director Karen Leeds and Fairmount's talented staff for this achievement. "There is an incredible amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to receive that recognition, and the fact that we've been getting it year after year is a huge, huge piece of the work that Karen Leeds does," she says.



## Continuity of Learning

Fairmount is poised for more exciting developments as it prepares for integration into Beachwood's new Bryden Elementary school, a key component of the \$65 million facilities project to construct two new elementary schools. The move presents a unique opportunity to enhance collaboration between preschool and kindergarten staff, facilitating smooth transitions and continuity of learning for young students. Designs for the new preschool through second-grade building are nearing completion, with doors opening to students in January 2026. "We are so excited," says Ms. DeGeorge. "Having children over a course of four years in the same space really allows you to build a stronger culture. Young children have a higher sense of safety and connection because they become very familiar with the building and get to know the staff."

Looking ahead, Fairmount remains dedicated to continuous improvement and meeting the evolving needs of students. Ms. DeGeorge explains, "Every year we continue to look at our programming to ensure what we put forth is truly what's best for our kids."

*Fairmount Early Childhood Center is welcoming students for summer camp and enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. To schedule a tour call (216) 464-2600 or visit [fairmount.beachwoodschoools.org](http://fairmount.beachwoodschoools.org).*

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION OPEN!

Enroll your child in kindergarten at Bryden Elementary for the 2024-2025 school year! We invite you to attend our family orientation on May 16, from 4 - 5 p.m. at Bryden Elementary. This is a great opportunity to learn about our school and what your child can expect in kindergarten.

Kindergarten screening for registered students is May 22. Questions? Contact Grace Perryman at [gperryman@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:gperryman@beachwoodschoools.org) or (216) 464-2600 ext. 2107. To enroll your child, visit [www.beachwoodschoools.org/registration](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org/registration).

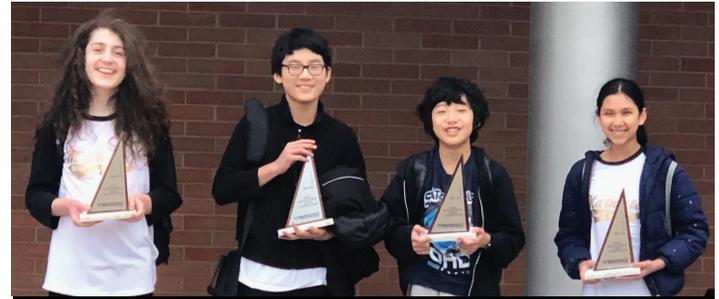
# BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

## Beachwood Middle School Math Club Excels in State and National Competitions

The Beachwood Middle School Math Club, coached by math teacher Amy Hazelton, demonstrated exceptional performance in both state and national mathematics competitions. In the Ohio Mathematics League, the eighth-grade team captured first place in the state for the third consecutive year. The sixth- and seventh-grade teams both secured third place statewide. In regional standings, the sixth-grade team led in Cuyahoga and Summit counties, while seventh graders took second place. Individually, several students distinguished themselves at the state level. Among eighth graders, Antoni Hinczewski ranked first and Nathan Mu and Sarah Zhou placed second and third, respectively. Seventh graders Priyasha Ghosal and Derek Gong both secured second-place finishes, and sixth grader Jianna Qu took fourth place.

In March, four students – Nathan, Antoni, Priyasha, and Derek — competed in the Mathcounts State Competition at Columbus State College. This highly competitive event featured two individual rounds and one team round, with scores combining individual and team performances. More



Antoni Hinczewski, Derek Gong, Nathan Mu, and Priyasha Ghosal won third place at the Ohio Mathcounts competition.

than 133 schools across Ohio competed regionally, with only the top schools advancing to the state level. The Beachwood team placed third in Ohio, and Nathan finished 10th overall in individual rankings. Ms. Hazelton praised the team, saying, "This amazing team has been working hard, practicing many problems that require enormous amounts of perseverance and knowledge."

Building upon these successes, the math club shined in the MathCON competition, with six students ranking in the top 3% nationally in the first round. Aakanksha Gadani and Benjamin Soprunov, along with Antoni, Nathan, Priyasha, and Derek, will advance to the national finals in Chicago later this month. Congratulations to our middle school mathletes for their outstanding achievements, and best of luck as they continue to represent Beachwood on the national stage.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



### Recent Resolutions

- Heard Elementary Facilities Presentation Early Site Package Presentation
- Approved Third and Final Reading of the Revised Board Policies
- Approved Out-of-District Trip for Junior Achievement Marketing Students

### Upcoming Board Actions

- Approve Five-Year Financial Forecast
- Hear K-12 Math Curriculum Update
- Recognize Outgoing Student Council President and Oath of Office for Incoming Student Council President

### Board Meeting Calendar

- May 13 @ 7 p.m.
- May 20 @ 7 p.m.



## VIEW AGENDAS & MINUTES

[www.beachwoodschoools.org/our-district/board-of-education](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org/our-district/board-of-education)

## Beachwood Schools Unveils New Website

Beachwood Schools proudly announces the launch of our new website, developed in collaboration with Finalsite, a leader in K-12 digital solutions. Officially live as of March 28, the new BeachwoodSchools.org has been designed with input from our community and staff to enhance user experience across all devices.

### What's New?

- ✔ **Mobile-Friendly Interface**  
Your browsing is now seamless on any device.
- ✔ **Enhanced Navigation**  
Quickly find what you need with our intuitive layout.
- ✔ **Up-to-Date Content**  
The information has been updated and extensively rewritten.
- ✔ **Modern Design**  
Enjoy a fresh look that embodies our district's innovative spirit.

### Tell Us What You Think!

Your thoughts are important to our continuous improvement. Share your ideas for our website at [www.beachwoodschoools.org](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org).



## ADMINISTRATION

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## Alumni Spotlight: Blake Atherton, Class of 2012



Blake Atherton (Class of 2012) embodies Beachwood Schools' mission to "develop intellectual entrepreneurs with a social conscience." Driven by a desire to solve complex legal challenges and contribute to a more peaceful world, Blake thrives as an international-disputes lawyer.

Blake credits his time at Beachwood Schools and participation in Model United Nations for sparking his interest

in political science, competitive debate, and international relations. "Beachwood was academically rigorous," he reflects. "The standards for academic performance were high, and I was surrounded by some brilliant students who pushed me every day."

After graduating from Beachwood High School, Blake studied International Political Economy in Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He received the Saint Andrew's Society Scholarship to study at the University of Saint Andrews in Scotland, where he obtained a master's degree in International Security Studies, focusing on the relationship between international criminal courts and domestic judiciaries.

Driven by a desire to become a trial lawyer, Blake enrolled at Georgetown Law School. He honed his legal skills with a clerkship in a federal trial court in Dallas before joining a Washington, D.C., law firm specializing in trial and appellate litigation, including international disputes. This experience provided a solid foundation for his current role as a judicial law clerk for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans. "Being a judicial law clerk is one of the best jobs you can have out of law school," explains Blake.

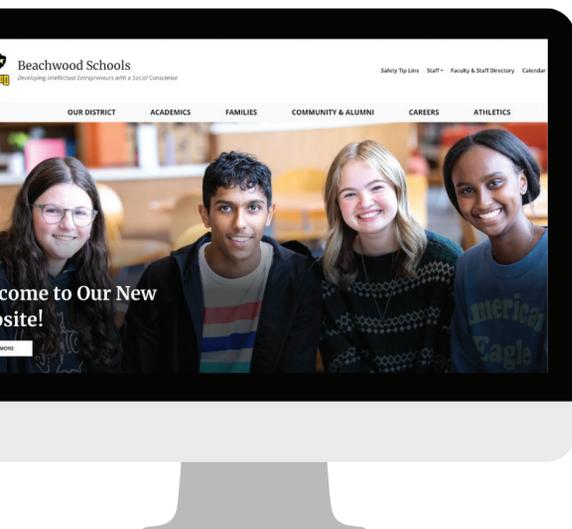
"You get fantastic legal research and writing experience on cases of all kinds, you build close relationships with your judge and co-clerks, and you get to witness and learn from some of the best advocates in the country." After the clerkship, Blake intends to return to private practice to specialize in international disputes.

Coming from a family of creative professionals – musicians and artists – Blake recognizes the importance of storytelling and writing in the legal field. He recalls his trial-practice professor's words, "If your case is about a breach of contract, don't tell the jury, 'This case is about a breach of contract.' Instead say, 'This case is about a promise...and someone who broke that promise.' Evocative narration resonates more than legalese."

Outside of work, Blake is a seasoned traveler, having explored destinations including South Korea, Japan, Thailand, Serbia, Cyprus, and Lithuania. The former varsity soccer player remains a loyal fan of Cleveland sports and also finds enjoyment in playing golf and following the English Premier League.

Blake's advice to current students? "There's real value in specialization. Starting in college, I would begin to think about areas of interest in which you can leverage your skill set and develop expertise. Doing so will likely give you a comparative advantage."

Read more Alumni Spotlights at [www.beachwoodschoools.org/alumni](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org/alumni).



**Beachwood Schools**  
3d · 📍

Bryden has been putting a lot of effort into enhancing their writing skills in Room 123! As part of their how-to writing unit, they made "dirt dessert" and used the writing steps to sequence words, making the steps detailed so our readers could make dirt dessert, too! They continued talking about adding details in their writing by using WH words—what, when, where, and who—to expand our thinking. During the handwriting sessions, they practiced this technique with one of their beloved characters, Chicken Jane, from their favorite series of decodable videos. They applied newly learned skills to the April bulletin board, "April Showers Bring May Flowers." For this, they wrote about what they like to do on a rainy day and used WH words to provide more detail.



# Social Scene

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# Beachwood Arts Council Happenings



## Beachwood K-12 Art Show

**Wed., May 1 – Tues., May 28 • Beachwood Community Center**

Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

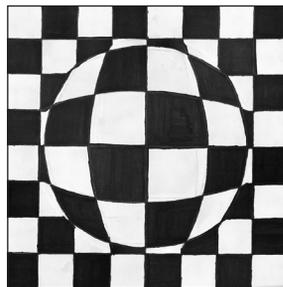
Weekends: Call 216.292.1970 for available hours

**Opening Reception with Music Program: Wed., May 1 • 5-7 p.m.**

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



Also at the Opening Reception, enjoy music by talented Beachwood student musicians in the Bryden Elementary Choir, BMS Choir (solos and small groups), BMS Chamber Strings, and BHS Orchestra.



*Op Art Drawing*, by Samuel Kuenzler, Grade 8  
*The Color Wheel Cactus*, by Emily Su, Grade 4  
*Specimen #17*, by Chengyu Li, Grade 11

## Paul Wolf Christensen Duo Concert

**Sunday, May 19 • Beachwood Community Center • 2-3 p.m.**

Paul Wolf Christensen (*pictured left*) has been a multi-instrumentalist musician, singer and songwriter over the past four decades. He played sax and keyboards with many groups in the 90s, and recorded and performed shows with Michael Stanley and the Resonators for over two decades.

Rick Matousek (*pictured right*) is recognized as one of the top keyboard players in the Northeast Ohio area. The duo will play a mix of jazz, classic, easy listening, pop/rock, R&B, and Motown.

This free concert, sponsored by a grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, will be followed by refreshments.



## If It Stands Still

**Sat., June 1 – Fri., June 28 • Beachwood Community Center**

Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Weekends: Call 216.292.1970 for available hours

**Opening Reception: Sat., June 1 • 5-7 p.m.**

This art exhibit will feature works by Kathleen Craig, Cody Heichel, and Jean Koeller.

Kathleen is an oil painter whose work in abstract realism encompasses still lifes, landscapes, and figures. She works from observation, memory, and imagination with an emphasis on color, composition, and expression.

When Cody paints, he drifts between modes of observing,

remembering, and imagining. This combination of translating what is in front of him and exploring what is within him is the part of his artistic process that he finds most meaningful.

Jean is a landscape and still-life painter. Her still-life paintings are built around objects she finds while painting en plein air. These objects are integrated into her studio painting during rainy days and

winter. The arrangements continue to celebrate her love of color and nature.



*Above: Kathleen Craig*  
*Right top: Cody Heichel*  
*Right bottom: Jean Koeller*

## Beachwood Arts Council Sponsors

*Beachwood Buzz* • Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, Sharon Friedman • Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More • Cleveland Foundation  
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture • Eileen Dorsey Studio • Goldfarb Weber Creative Media • Keller National Insurance, Brian Ritzenberg  
Lawn Doctor • Ohio Arts Council • Marshall Flooring • The O'Brien Law Firm, LLC (now part of the Brennan, Manna and Diamond Family)

# Stop the Hate Contest Results

**S**top the Hate® is an initiative of the Maltz Museum that celebrates Northeast Ohio students committed to creating a more accepting, inclusive society by standing up and speaking out against bias and bigotry as they compete for the chance to win monetary awards.

Each year about 3,000 students enter, and with the help of more than 300 volunteer readers, 26 finalists are named. Since the contest started 16 years ago, more than 50,000 students in 12 counties across Northeast Ohio have participated and, as of this year, \$1.6 million has been awarded. Rooted in the Jewish value of respect for all humanity, the Maltz Museum is proud that it continues to give young people

of all faiths and backgrounds a platform to speak out in support of inclusion and diversity.

2024 *Stop the Hate*® Youth *Speak Out* and *Youth Sing Out* winners were announced on April 3, during an event at the Cleveland Museum of Art, with nearly 450 in attendance.

Congratulations to all students who stepped up to share their inspiring stories. Special congratulations to

Zoë Schmidt, this year's grand prize winner of a four-year, \$20,000 scholarship. Zoë, a student at St. Joseph Academy, also won a \$5,000 Anti-Bias Education Grant for her school.

We also congratulate Beachwood residents Gal Naveh, Radha Pareek, and Heeba R. Sossey Alaoui who were recognized in their respective categories.

We share their essays and invite you to view additional thought-provoking essays at [www.maltzmuseum.org/sth24](http://www.maltzmuseum.org/sth24).



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## Gal Naveh

Grade 12 • Orange High School

Honorable Mention • \$1,000 Cash Prize and \$500 Anti-Bias Education Grant for School



Navigating life as an Israeli-Jew in the United States, my existence was framed by caution. My parents, deeply protective, cloaked our cultural identity in invisibility. Displaying signs of our heritage, like wearing a Magen David or Hebrew-scripted clothing, was off-limits. I struggled to grasp the necessity of these precautions, unaware of the fears driving my parents' protective measures.

At 15, I challenged these silent rules, propelled by youthful defiance. Wearing an IDF shirt, I felt a surge of pride going to soccer practice, a supposed haven of acceptance for my identity. This sense of belonging was brutally upended later as I joined a men's league game right after practice.

The atmosphere was charged, the competition fierce, and the hostility palpable. Opposing players,

kitted in Palestinian shirts, targeted me with increasing aggression. The tackles I endured were physical and laden with animosity. One brutal charge left me sprawled on the ground, the assailant hissing a venomous slur at my Jewish heritage. Their words, laced with contempt, were clear in their intention. By halftime, the accumulation of hate and concern for my safety reached a tipping point. Realizing the situation was beyond just a sport and fearing further harm, I made the decision to leave the game. This wasn't merely a game anymore; it had escalated into a harrowing ordeal of prejudice and identity.

This episode transcended a mere act of hostility; it was a jarring revelation. For the first time, I confronted the reality behind my parents' protective shield. The hostility of the outside world was neither abstract nor distant.

It was a tangible, painful experience that left a lasting scar. But within this moment of vulnerability and pain, I discovered an inner strength and a resolve for change.

This ordeal became a catalyst for my active involvement in the community. I began volunteering with the Cleveland Jewish Federation, sharing my experiences and learning from others. This past week, in response to Hamas's attack on Israel, I've been working to raise awareness about the situation. I played a key role in organizing a ceremony attended by both Jews and non-Jews, drawing over a thousand Clevelanders. The ceremony commemorated the hostages taken, innocent lives lost, and women and kids who suffered atrocities. I read out a song that poignantly captured the experiences suffered on October 7th.

I've also been actively discussing with my peers about

the issues of anti-Semitism and the prevalent negative attitudes towards Israel. Furthermore, I've dedicated myself to a relentless campaign, displaying posters to advocate for the liberation of Israeli hostages. Each of these actions has strengthened my belief that personal change can indeed lead to societal transformation.

My journey from that soccer field to where I stand now is marked by growth, challenges, and insights. Embodying Etty Hillesum's philosophy, I've

learned that changing the world starts with changing oneself. By proudly owning my identity and confronting bias through education and openness, I contribute to a world where understanding and acceptance can flourish, displacing fear and discrimination.

*Gal, a Beachwood resident, is a varsity soccer player and two-time team captain. He has volunteered at Ninos de Luiz, an orphanage in the Dominican*

*Republic. Gal interned at Case Western Reserve University in the Chopra Lab. For two years, he has been researching a hormone called asprosin, leading to*

*discoveries in anxiety and Alzheimer's research. He plans to become a doctor and wants to help those without resources to support their families.*

We also congratulate Beachwood residents Gal Naveh, Radha Pareek, and Heeba R. Sossey Alaoui who were recognized in their respective categories. We share their essays and invite you to view more thought-provoking essays at [www.maltzmuseum.org/sth24](http://www.maltzmuseum.org/sth24).

## Radha Pareek

Grade 11 • Beachwood High School

Honorable Mention • \$1,000 Cash Prize and \$500 Anti-Bias Education Grant for School

I can never forget that snowy Sunday afternoon when a little girl wearing ragged clothes, a soft smile, and twinkling eyes walked into my average suburban apartment with her single mother, who cleaned homes like mine for a living. Immediately, I saw a friend in her and pleaded to play. But my aunt warned, "Don't even get close to her!" I was shocked to hear these cold words that instantly shattered my excitement.

I sought to comprehend this incident but found no difference between us that could create a barrier in our friendship. My conscience urged me to question this prejudiced ritual of judging those who might have less available resources than us. I discovered that no one in her family attended college, and her primary motivation to attend school was to get free lunch meals. Learning that her family's starkly different experiences were not a product of discriminatory behavior but

rather the silence against discriminatory systems revealed to me our staggering acquiescence to structural inequity. My research exposed me to the pervasive presence of *classism* and *aporophobia* in society.

The following summer, I tutored this girl and her friends, observing they were markedly wise by circumstance, yet their academic proficiency lagged. Nonetheless, I realized I was not only teaching them, but they were teaching me about the underlying societal hatred against their socioeconomic class that bars them access to everything I took for granted.

Realizing that this effort must be executed at a larger scale, this year, I established a 501(C)3 nonprofit, EduRipple, to bridge systemic societal inequality gaps in education. I envision initiating cross-cultural, cross-generational, and cross-disciplinary dialogue to challenge the orthodoxy of

curriculum-centered education while connecting students to professional, real-world opportunities irrespective of their socioeconomic status. At the core of this initiative is my belief that education can no longer be a structure; it must be transformed into a powerful engine that propels individuals to emerge from cyclical poverty. An extension to this initiative is my engagement in my Congresswoman's youth advisory council, through which I am developing policy proposals to equitize access to fundamental resources.

Currently, 10% of the global population lives on less than \$1.90 a day, and one billion children live in extreme poverty, which kills about 22,000 of them each day, suggesting poverty is the biggest pandemic of our time. Mahatma Gandhi described poverty as the worst form of violence. We can't eradicate the global economic disparity without altering

*Continued on page 40.*



people’s perceptions of poverty. There is an underlying rejection of poor people, and this phobia is manifested at different levels in our society. Discrimination is deeply entwined with poverty, becoming the cause and obstacle in its alleviation.

As Nelson Mandela said, “Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life.” We must take proactive measures at individual,

institutional, and policy levels to eliminate the biased perceptions against people experiencing poverty.

*Radha is an active member of Science Olympiad, Pre-Medical Academy, and Model United Nations. She writes for her school’s newspaper and is co-editor-in-chief of its literacy and arts magazine. Radha participated in research at Case Western Reserve University and plans to major in political science or*

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*international relations while on a pre-med track. She hopes to offer expertise in medicine*

*and foreign policy to help solve and prevent international conflicts.*



## Heeba R. Sossey Alaoui

Grade 8 • Beachwood Middle School  
1st Place • \$400 Cash Prize

I thought I was joining a circle of friends bound by the love of the game. Little did I know that my religion would become a barrier in this seemingly open

arena of sportsmanship. The initial practice felt promising – a blur of introductions and smiles. But beneath the surface, a storm was brewing. Whispers and hushed conversations lingered, and I sensed the curious glances directed at me as if I were an alien. The whispers soon materialized into actions, and the friendships I thought I had began to erode. During practices, an invisible wall formed around me. The ball conveniently avoided my reach, passes were strategically skipped, and my mistakes were met with laughter that reinforced their unity. I became an outsider, not only because of my religion but also because I was the *new girl* disrupting their established dynamics. The silent exclusion cut deep. No one said it out loud, but I could feel it in every practice and every game. It wasn’t about my skills; it was about something beyond my control: my faith. Many emotions swirled within me – anger, hurt, and confusion.

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As I continue my athletic journey, I aim to seek opportunities to support and guide other athletes, ensuring that they don’t encounter the same exclusion I faced. My goal is to actively cultivate inclusive environments where every athlete, regardless of their background or beliefs, feels valued and respected.

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Why should my religion dictate my place on a volleyball team? The game should be about teamwork and skill, not about religious beliefs. My experience wasn’t just about personal struggle; it unveiled a wider issue of prejudice and intolerance. This journey taught me the importance of resilience. I’ve learned that victory lies not only in winning games but also in eradicating exclusion, and creating a team where everyone has an equal place. I didn’t take action then, but looking back, I recall the struggles of being excluded due to my background, and in the face of exclusion, I held onto a hope – a hope for change.

is to actively cultivate inclusive environments where every athlete, regardless of their background or beliefs, feels valued and respected. I will do this by giving the same level of respect to every player and listen and display empathy to all athletes. It’s about instilling hope for change and creating a culture of inclusivity so that athletes can grow and thrive in an atmosphere that celebrates diversity and sustains the true spirit of sportsmanship.

*Heeba loves volleyball and plays for Force, a club where she pushes herself to new heights in the sport. She also finds joy in playing the piano and violin, drawing, and theater. Heeba aspires to become a lawyer and to advocate for others. She believes a career in law will allow her to continue to make a meaningful difference in people’s lives.*



As I continue my athletic journey, I aim to seek opportunities to support and guide other athletes, ensuring that they don’t encounter the same exclusion I faced. My goal

# Addressing Fear on Campus



## Dear JFSA:

*Our son is a college freshman and attends school out of state. Since the October 7th attack on Israel, he has seen antisemitism up close and says he does not feel safe anymore and has decided to conceal his Jewish identity. How can we help him?*

## Answer:

The October 7th attacks have had a deeply troubling impact on the sense of safety and belonging of Jewish students on college campuses. As parents, you can play a vital role in supporting your college-aged children by offering emotional support, practical advice, and connecting to resources that can help.

**Listen and Validate:** Encourage open communication and let your son know you're there to listen without judgment. Acknowledge his fears and concerns as valid. Maintain regular check-ins to offer steady support and plan regular visits home, which can offer respite in a safe environment.

**Advice on Safety:** Encourage him to stay informed about campus safety initiatives and resources, as well as those provided by campus Jewish organizations. Make sure he has contact information/phone apps for campus security, local emergency resources, and other safety features. Having this information handy can be reassuring.

**Balance Identity and Safety:** Have an open discussion about the challenges of balancing his Jewish identity with feelings of safety. While it's important to respect his choice to conceal his identity if it makes him feel safer, remind him that there are communities and spaces (face-to-face and virtual) where he can express his Jewish identity freely and safely.

**Find Jewish Groups:** Encourage your son to find a safe place to be a Jewish student, such as Hillel or Chabad. If he attends a small school without these organizations, there may be opportunities to connect with Jewish faculty or a local congregation. Going at this alone can be frightening. These communities offer additional layers of support and a sense of belonging.

**Limit media exposure:** Encourage him to stay informed, but to take breaks from continuous news coverage and social media scrolling. I encourage students to limit their consumption of digital media to 30 minutes per day and to avoid unmindful scrolling. We simply are not meant to process indefinite amounts of distressing information without it taking a toll emotionally or mentally.

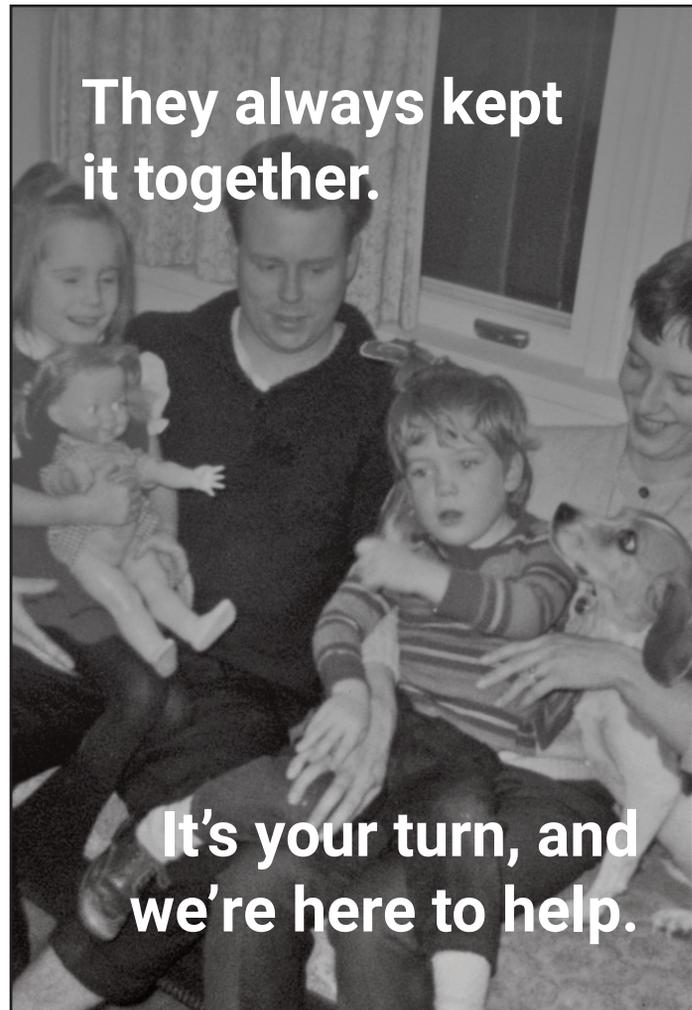
**Encourage professional help:** If you notice signs of stress, depression, or anxiety in your son that are significantly disrupting his daily activities, professional counseling services can help. Many campuses offer these services for free or at a reduced cost for students.

**Encourage Advocacy:** Encourage him to report any incidents of antisemitism or harassment he experiences or witnesses, whether through campus security, online reporting systems, or organizations like the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).



*If you would like more information about helping your college student, contact Nathaniel Jones, LPC, at [njones@jfsa-cleveland.org](mailto:njones@jfsa-cleveland.org) or 216-538-2457.*

*If you would like to submit a question to "Ask JFSA", email it to [info@jfsa-cleveland.org](mailto:info@jfsa-cleveland.org).*



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# Beachwood Artist Emerges at Miami Art Week

**R**ena Haber has always had an appreciation for art, yet never viewed herself as an artist. She told us that the last time she drew or painted, prior to 2020, was in eighth grade. In October 2020, while healing from a back injury, something in her soul said she had to draw the flowers that were sitting on her table. She had to draw them now.

“Something spoke to me about the flowers,” she said. “So I went to Michaels and spent an hour in the pencil and paper section figuring out what to buy.”

Rena then went home and started to draw. “When I drew them, they looked horrible, but I liked the feeling inside while doing it,” she said.

The next day, Rena wanted to draw something else. “I like to people watch: to observe their movements and individuality,” she said. “So I drew a face and it didn’t turn out bad.”

Rena continued drawing every day since then, first with graphite pencils and then with charcoal. Through repetition, she found her niche of drawing women and anything having to do with the human form.

“I’ve always been creative and I tried various things as an adult to tap into my creativity,” Rena said. “Piano didn’t feel quite right. Neither did poetry, which I tried because my brother is a great poet. Then, I tried writing a book. Nothing felt right until I started drawing.”

In 2021, Rena met with family friends Steve Hartman and Karen Tschene, co-owners of Contessa Gallery. “I showed them my drawings and they were impressed,” Rena recalled. “Steve said that the craftsmanship I exhibited in such a short time showed him that I had a natural, in-born skill. He and Karen both suggested that I put down the pencils and start painting if I wanted to build this into a career.”

Rena didn’t know anything about painting, so, once again, she went to Michaels to buy acrylic paint and canvases. “I started with acrylics because I thought it would be easier,” she said. “I was nervous to try painting in oils because of solvents, ventilation, and layering.”

Then, a friend suggested I try painting in oils, Rena recalled. “She said, ‘Just do it! The worst that will happen is that you won’t like it!’”

Rena created her first oil painting in 2022 and now loves the medium. She paints women from photo references and often uses collage in the creative process.

She had never sold her work, nor was she represented by a gallery when she had a conversation with Dr. Lee Ponsky, who is very knowledgeable about art. He had seen her work and suggested she apply to exhibit at Art Basel in Miami.

“Art Basel is the biggest show during Miami Art Week. That’s why the entire show is often referred to as Art Basel,” Rena said. “Overall, there are about 17 art shows throughout Miami and South Beach at the time.”

“I thought you had to be gallery represented to apply to this juried show,” she continued. “Lee told me that Spectrum Miami is a show for up-and-coming artists, without a gallery-representation qualification, so I applied and was accepted!”

Spectrum Miami was a five-day fine art happening that showcased hundreds of independent artists, studios, and younger galleries from 27 countries around the globe. “I went with my mom, Ida, and we had a great time. The first night, there were about 5,000 people flooding through the show,” Rena said. “Then, on the first full day of the show, I sold a piece to a Florida collector. I was shocked!”

Rena’s next shock was being awarded one of two Best New Exhibitor Awards. “Comments about my art were incredible,” she said. “Selling something and receiving this award were the cherries on top.”

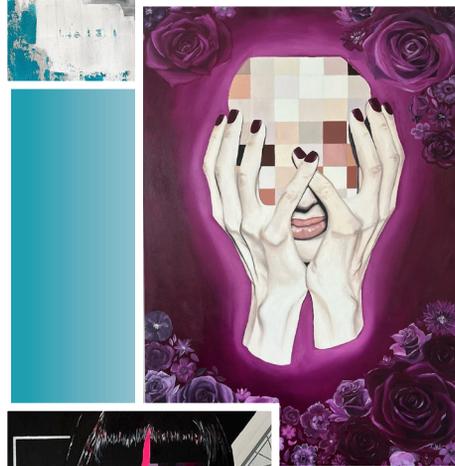
Rena is now taking steps to build her business. She has sold some commission pieces, plans to revisit Miami Art Week later this year, and is seeking additional juried show opportunities. She is also building a contact list and a website, and is seeking out galleries for representation. Most of her paintings are on 48-inch by 36-inch canvases.

“I love doing this. I paint every day. It’s about the process,” Rena said. “I’m grateful to be working in a family business (executive assistant at the PDI Group) where I have flexibility to build my art business and attend shows.”

Rena’s goal is to become a full-time artist. “When you love doing something, you want to do it constantly, even if you’re not making money. When you find what you’ve been searching for, you’ll know. You’ll feel it.”

Rena, a Beachwood resident, is always willing to collaborate and is open for commission work.

For more information, she can be reached at [renahaberart@gmail.com](mailto:renahaberart@gmail.com).



# Mandel JCC Takes Over Annual Shining Star CLE Singing Competition

The Mandel Jewish Community Center proudly announces its stewardship of Shining Star CLE 2024 as it becomes host of the eighth annual event. Slated to hit the stage on Sept. 22 at Playhouse Square, the event is a solo singing competition for high school students from 10 Northeast Ohio counties who compete for college scholarships.

After years of being organized by the Menorah Park Foundation, the cherished community event will now be spearheaded by the nonprofit Mandel JCC. Longstanding presenting sponsor KeyBank, whose support has been vital, is committed to the 2024 event. WKYC is the media partner with Monica Robins, senior health correspondent, serving as event emcee.

"We are thrilled to bring this amazing competition to our community and showcase vocal performers from our region and positively impact their future," said Rabbi Carnie Rose, president and CEO of the Mandel JCC. "Since its inception, Shining Star CLE has served as a platform not

only for artistic expression and community engagement but as an important fundraiser. We are excited to honor the legacy of Shining Star CLE as we usher the competition into a new chapter."

In the past, the event had raised funds for individuals coping with dementia, since music provides deep-seated memories and allows individuals to reconnect with the world. Now, under the auspices of the Mandel JCC, Shining Star CLE will continue to connect individuals through music, and support an array of healthy aging programs and services that Mandel JCC provides to the community.

"KeyBank's purpose is to help our communities thrive," said Eric M. Fiala, KeyBank head

of corporate responsibility. "One of the ways we do that is by supporting programs that serve the needs of individuals. Funds raised through Shining Star CLE help support vital programs for youth and aging adults through the Mandel JCC. There are few better examples of a thriving community than one that collectively cares for all neighbors. That is what you'll find at the Mandel JCC."

Among the event's founding co-chairs are Judy and Steven Willensky, whose vision and guidance contributed to the success of the prestigious Northeast Ohio competition. They said, "We are so excited to be part of Shining Star CLE's eighth season and grateful to Mandel JCC for showcasing the amazing student talent in Northeast Ohio while raising important funds for youth and senior services. Under the continued leadership of our Artistic Director Connor O'Brien, we know that this year's Finals event on Sept. 22 will be better than ever."

Larry Mack, honorary trustee for life at Mandel JCC and culture of philanthropy

chair, was integral in starting this event in Cleveland and advocating for the Mandel JCC to acquire the competition to steer it into the future.

Confirmed co-chairs for Shining Star CLE 2024 are Marti and Jeff Davis, Michelle and Evan Hirsch, Susan and Robert Hurwitz, Hallie and Eric Kogelschatz, Drs. Marcy Schwartz and Daniel Simon, Adrienne and Harvey Siegel, Cathy and Dr. Jonathan Stamler, Jennifer and Neil Tramer, and Judy and Steven Willensky. All past co-chairs have been invited to participate.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. To learn more, visit [www.shiningstarcle.org](http://www.shiningstarcle.org).

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Ananya Yadati, a Beachwood resident who attends Hathaway Brown (class of '26), sang a crowd favorite, *Hopelessly Devoted To You*, by Olivia Newton-John in 2022. Originally selected as an alternate, she advanced to the finals. In 2023, Ananya made it to the semifinals as one of the Top 25. She is eligible to compete in Shining Star CLE 2024.



The City of Beachwood will host a free family event to celebrate the Beachwood Fire Department's 75 years of service. This community open house will take place on Sunday, May 19, 1-4 p.m., at the Public Safety Center, 3777 Richmond Road. Enjoy demonstrations, self-guided tours, a kids' challenge, activities, a DJ, food trucks and more. *An illustrated graphic for this event is on page 26.*

# Beachwood Library Happenings

Listed below are select library programs in June. Unless otherwise noted, please register for all programs online or by calling 216.831.6868. All Cuyahoga County Public Library branches will be closed on Sunday, May 26, and Monday, May 27, in honor of Memorial Day.

## The Vocabulary of a Good Relationship

Thur., May 9 • 7-8 p.m.

Relationship coach Kathy Dawson will teach effective communication strategies. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9771749>.

## The Music of Doris Day with Debbie Darling and David Strieter

Fri., May 10 • 2-3 p.m.

Debbie will take you on a journey from Doris Day's rise in popularity with the Big Bands through her successful transition into film, singing many of her hit tunes along the way. Piano accompaniment by David Strieter. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9604936>.

## Blood Drive

Sat., May 11 • 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Donate blood. For more information or to make an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call the American Red Cross at 800-RED-CROSS (800-733-2767).

## Mother's Day Concert with Debbie Darling and David Strieter

Sun., May 12 • 2-3 p.m.

Friends of the Beachwood Library invite everyone to a free concert. Debbie Darling, with piano accompaniment by David Strieter, will present music from the Great American Songbook. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9673622>.



## Tuesday Book Chat

Tues., May 14 • 7-8 p.m.

Enjoy a discussion of *Birnam Wood*, by Eleanor Catton. Registration not necessary.

## Third Wednesday Book Discussion

Wed., May 15 • 2-3 p.m.

Enjoy a discussion of *The Family Chao*, by Lan Samantha Chang. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9597446>.

## Through the Eyes of the Artist: Georges Seurat

Fri., May 17 • 10-11 a.m.

Art historian Felicia Zavarella Stadelman will present on the life and works of French artist Georges Seurat. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9604697>.

## Knit & Lit

Mon., May 20 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Join us for knitting and informal chats about what everyone is reading. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9605650>.

## Art and an Alaskan Adventure

Wed., May 22 • 7-8 p.m.

Local artist Tom Hanicak will share his travels through Alaska's Tongass National Forest and the art it inspired. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9653622>.

## Harp Recital

Sat., May 25 • 2-4:30 p.m.

Enjoy a harp recital featuring the students of Jody Guinn. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/10161163>.

## Meet Author Patricia Averbach

Wed., May 29 • 7-8 p.m.

Enjoy a visit by author Patricia Averbach as she discusses her new book, *Dreams of Drowning*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/9753009>.

## Children's Programming

### Storytimes

Storytimes take a break during May. They will return in June and July. For a full list of children's events, please visit <https://cuyahogalibrary.org>.

### Play Learn Grow Workshop

Thursdays, May 2-30  
10-11 a.m.

Boost your toddler's brain through play at this five-week series for caregivers and children ages 1 to 3. Connect with your kids and other families, and get answers about your growing child.

### Hebrew Language Storytime

Wed. May 8 • 4:30-5 p.m.

Families

Join us for stories, songs, movement, and rhymes in Hebrew and English. Presented in collaboration with the Mandel Jewish Community Center.

### STEAM Club

Tues., May 14 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Grades 2-5

Join us for fun monthly STEAM activities.

### Yes Chef!

Tues., May 28 • 4-5 p.m.

Grades 3-5

Roll up your sleeves, tie up your aprons and try out some fun and super simple recipes. Supplies provided.

## Art Explorers

Thurs., May 30 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Grades K-5

Get creative while learning something new. Hear about the life of a famous artist and get inspired to create your own works of art.

## Kindergarten Countdown

Tues., May 28 • 6:15-7:15 p.m.

For children entering kindergarten this fall and their caregiver

Join us as we help your child build kindergarten readiness skills in a program aligned to Ohio's Early Childhood Standards. The May theme is nutrition.

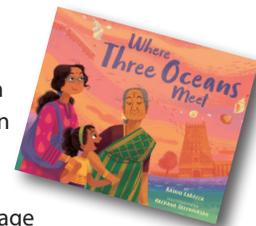
## May StoryWalk® Beachwood City Park East

The May StoryWalk®, in honor of Asian American and Pacific

Islander Heritage Month and in recognition of mothers everywhere, is *Where Three Oceans Meet*, by Rajani Larocca, illustrated by Archana Sreenivasan.

Sejal, Mommy, and Pati travel together to the southern tip of India. The family finds their way to Kanyakumari, where three oceans meet, and delight in making it to the end of the earth together.

The StoryWalk® Project was originally created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library to help build children's interest in reading, while encouraging healthy activity for children and adults. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Anne.



# Greg Perry Surprised with Original Bluebear Painting

On April 4, Tim and Jenny Smucker stopped by Beachwood High School to present Junior Achievement marketing teacher Greg Perry with a special surprise – an original Geoffrey Gersten painting featuring Bluebear, the adorable mascot of the Hope Heals campaign.

Hope Heals, led by Greg’s marketing students, raised more than \$170,000 to bring comfort to critically ill children with the support of the Smuckers and the J.M. Smucker Company.

Beyond financial contributions, Tim, chairman emeritus of J.M. Smucker Co., extended invaluable mentorship to the students.

Greg’s exceptional teaching and leadership recently earned him the prestigious Samuel H. Elliott Award from the Harvard Business School Club of Northeast Ohio.

During the visit, Tim praised Greg as a leader who embodies mindfulness, hope, and compassion. “Greg has blessed so many people,” he said. “I don’t know of anybody who shows the example of Hope Heals better than this gentleman right here.”

To learn more about Hope Heals or to make a donation, please visit [www.hopehealsohio.com](http://www.hopehealsohio.com).

*Pictured:* Greg Perry being presented an original Geoffrey Gersten painting of Bluebear by Tim and Jenny Smucker.



**Did you know?** The first Sunday of May is World Laughter Day, which raises awareness about the benefits of laughing. Those who take part in World Laughter Day help spread positivity and cheerfulness in ways that could help change the world. Laughter improves physical and mental health, fosters social connections, and enhances overall quality of life.



## JUNETEENTH

The City of Beachwood, in partnership with the Beachwood Schools African American Affinity Group, is now accepting vendors for its annual Juneteenth Community Celebration.

Juneteenth vendor registration is available for \$25 at [bit.ly/Beachwood-JuneteenthVendors2024](http://bit.ly/Beachwood-JuneteenthVendors2024).

The event is on June 19, 4-7 p.m., outside the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center. Vendor opportunities are available to African American owned businesses.



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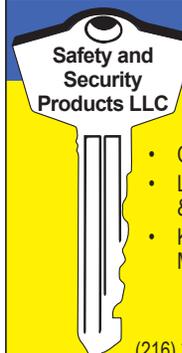
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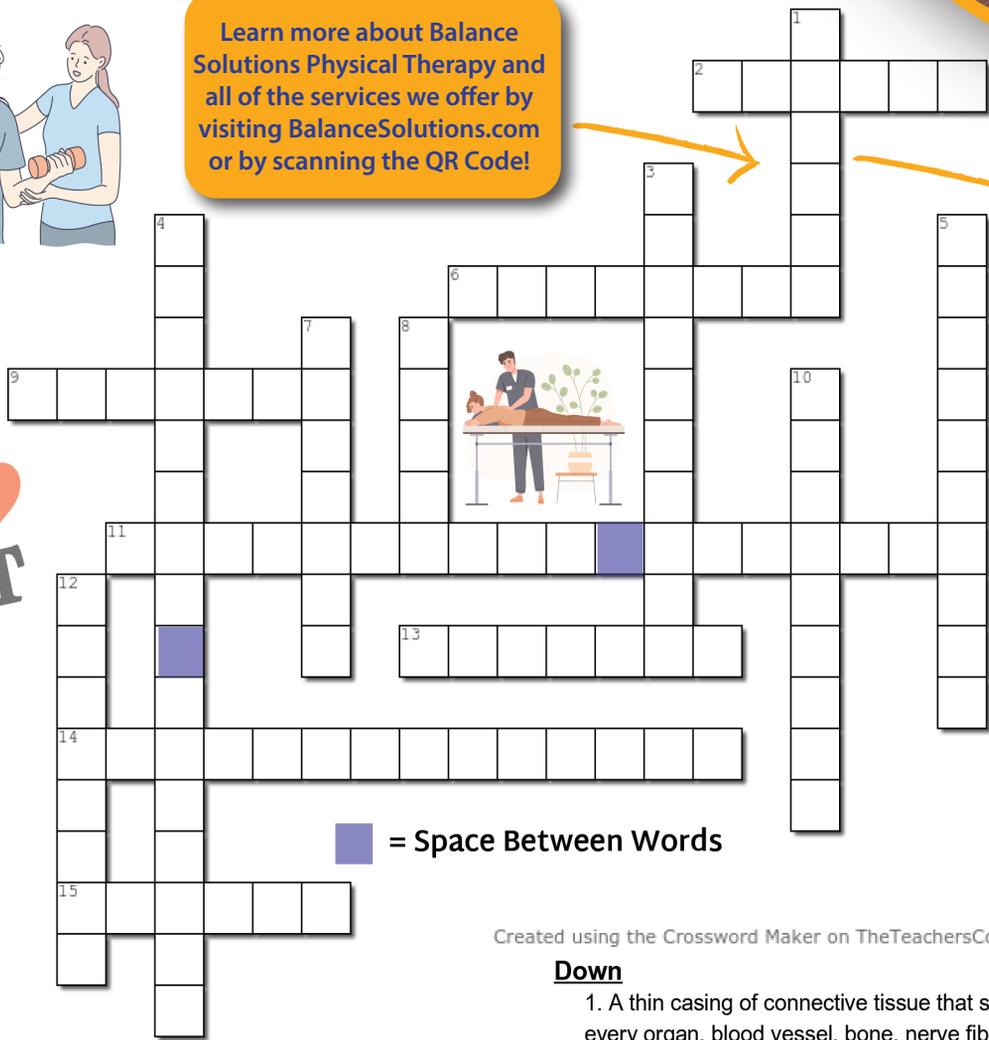
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**Across**

- 2. The state of being free from illness or injury.
- 6. Pain, weakness, numbness, or tingling running down the leg caused by injury or pressure on a nerve.
- 9. Manipulation of tissues (as by rubbing, stroking, or kneading) with the hand or an instrument especially for therapy.
- 11. A progressive disorder of the nervous system marked by muscle tremors, muscle rigidity, decreased mobility, and stooped posture.
- 13. A state of equilibrium.
- 14. The action of restoring someone to health or normal life through training and therapy after illness.
- 15. The smallest bone in the human body.

**Down**

- 1. A thin casing of connective tissue that surrounds and holds every organ, blood vessel, bone, nerve fiber and muscle in place.
- 3. Relating to the branch of medicine dealing with the correction of deformities of bones or muscles.
- 4. Treatment of disease, injury, or deformity by physical methods such as massage, heat treatment, and exercise rather than by drugs.
- 5. Age-related progressive loss of muscle mass and strength.
- 7. Sensation of motion or spinning that is often described as dizziness.
- 8. Leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults.
- 10. Extremely good; outstanding.
- 12. Activity requiring physical effort, carried out to sustain or improve health and fitness.



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