

Beachwood Buzz

June 2025

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

MAGAZINE



JUNETEENTH

BEACHWOOD'S FASTEST GROWING CELEBRATION



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- Maltz Museum's New Gallery Installation
- TECH Day at Nasa Glenn Research Center
- Family Kindness Festival
- Plus programs, events, and so much more!



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Just a few weeks ago, during an art program in which I'm participating, I listened to an inspiring interview with Martha Beck, renowned life coach, author, and speaker who is known for her transformative approach to personal development. Her work often focuses on helping people break free from limiting beliefs to align with their true selves.

I find it interesting how the quote, "Where thoughts go, energy flows," by Tony Robbins, resonates with me. It highlights the idea that what we focus on most, whether consciously or unconsciously, tends to manifest in our lives.

When we focus on gratitude and abundance, we attract more gratitude and abundance. When we focus on a particular goal, we attract opportunities and people who can help us achieve that goal. Similarly, when we worry or focus on what could go wrong, we may notice more problems and obstacles on our path than solutions or possibilities.

The energy we give to our thoughts directly influences the energy we attract in our environment and interactions. This is why it is important to be conscious of where we allow our energy to flow.

My energy over the past few months has been flowing toward "play," which I wrote about last month. This month, I continue the conversation because of its importance.

Enter Martha Beck. When Art2Life creator Nicholas Wilton interviewed her, she shared her core beliefs about play and reinforced its importance, which is an integral part of her new book, *Beyond Anxiety: Curiosity, Creativity, and Finding Your Life's Purpose*.

She explained that play and anxiety cannot coexist – they are neurologically and emotionally incompatible states: You can't play when you're anxious and you can't be anxious when you're playing. The brain isn't wired to do both at once. Therefore, engaging in creative activities can help reduce anxiety by shifting main focus from the left hemisphere of the brain, which is associated with analytical and anxious thinking, to the right hemisphere, which is linked to creativity and joy.

Since my thoughts have been focused on play, that's where my energy has been flowing. Therefore, I dug deeper into the topic and found the following quotes that capture the power and purpose of play:

"The opposite of play is not work – the opposite of play is depression."
– Dr. Stuart Brown

"Play is the absence of stress and purpose. It's about doing things just because they're fun and bring joy."
– Brené Brown

"Serious art is born from serious play."
– Julia Cameron

"You can measure your worth by your dedication to your path, not by your successes or failures. You must be willing to play."
– Elizabeth Gilbert

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."
– Pablo Picasso

"This is the real secret of life – to be completely engaged with what you are doing in the here and now. And instead of calling it work, realize it is play."
– Alan Watts

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."
– George Bernard Shaw

"The creation of something new is not accomplished by the intellect but by the play instinct."
– Carl Jung

"Play is the highest form of research."
– Albert Einstein

These quotes remind us of the power of play, which nurtures creativity, restores our sense of wonder, and has the power to shift us from anxiety into a more joyful way of being. Much like last month, I invite you consciously let your energy flow toward something that brings you joy.



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**Beachwood 2025
Hometown Heroes**

On Wednesday, May 21, The City of Beachwood celebrated this year's Hometown Heroes. Be sure to read next month's cover story to take a closer look at them and the inspiring ways they make a difference.

Veteran

- Dr. George Vourlojanis

Beachwood Historical Society

- Rosemary Nemeth
- Jim Nemeth

Residents

- Paula Rollins
- Karen Williams Berger

Physician

- Dr. Joseph Baskin

Fire Department

- Firefighter Ben Welsh

Police Department

- Officer Nolan Majewski

Teachers/Schools/Crystal

Apple

- Mia Kovalsky
- Rob Ristau

Letter to the Community

To all of our friends and families that came to show support for Brandon Musick, thank you, thank you, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We felt the love and strength from our community!

What an absolutely beautiful service it was at Suburban Temple Kol Ami. Rabbi Vann, as usual, was amazing. Much thanks to Brett Shankman, Rabbi Shana Nyer, Rochelle Silberman Arian, and Annika Balish for your help.

Special thank you to Dr. Andrew Lazar for agreeing to speak about transplants. We are so glad you are Brandon's doctor thru this process. How lucky Brandon is to have a doctor as caring as you.

Dena Balk, from Life Banc, you were great. You provided so much great information about being an organ donor and how important it is to donate.

We are so lucky to be a part of Suburban Temple Kol-Ami congregation. Since we joined, we have been treated like family. It's small but mighty – kind of like *Cheers*, where everyone knows your name.

Brandon is blood type O+, so anyone with O+ or O can donate a kidney. You can contact University Hospitals Transplant Unit at 216.983.5138 or www.uh.donorscreen.org. They will help you register to see if you are a match for Brandon.

With much gratitude,
Laurel and Eddie Bloom
Brandon Musick



Brandon Musick with his daughter, Layla.

PKD (Polycystic Kidney Disease) is genetic disorder where fluid-filled cysts grow in the kidneys, causing them to get larger and lose function over time.

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

Article Submissions

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

Subscriptions

Beachwood Buzz is distributed via the U.S. Post Office to every resident and every business, every month. If you live outside our distribution area, subscriptions are available by sending your name, address and a check for \$36 (12 issues) to *Beachwood Buzz* P.O. Box 22194 Beachwood, Ohio 44122

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:

Juneteenth: Beachwood's Fastest Growing Celebration



Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19, marks the day in 1865 when news of freedom finally reached enslaved people in Galveston, Texas – more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. It became a powerful tradition in Black communities, honoring freedom, resilience, and the long fight for justice. First celebrated in Texas, Juneteenth has grown nationwide and was made a federal holiday in 2021.

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

Do you have a story to share? If so, please email beachwoodbuzz@gmail.com!

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Neighbors Who Nourish: Beachwood Women Honored for Their Dedication to the Kosher Food Pantry

Volunteer Appreciation Celebration to be held June 23 at Waxman Chabad

On Monday, June 23, at 7:15 p.m., the Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry will host its annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration at Waxman Chabad, and this year's honorees are three Beachwood residents who have turned neighborly friendship into meaningful action.

Rene Gordon, Helayne Loeb, and Priya Rajgopal – who all live near one another in Beachwood – were looking for a way to give back together. What they found was a shared purpose at the Kosher Food Pantry, where they are known informally as the “Thursday Power Packers.”

For Rene, a retired social worker who spent years supporting cancer patients, the work is personal. “I saw firsthand how people often had to choose

between food and medicine,” she shared. “Being able to give generous, nutritious food to those in need – it matters. I like to do things that make a difference to others.”

Priya was drawn to the pantry for its sensitivity to dietary needs. Because of her religious observance, she cannot handle meat, eggs, or certain prepared foods. At the Kosher Food Pantry, she focuses on packing grains, produce, and nuts. “There’s so much alignment between Jewish and Indian values around food and giving,” she says. “It’s a privilege to be part of this.” Her daughter, when home from college, often joins her. “We love helping together.”

Helayne began volunteering during the height of the

COVID-19 pandemic, when need was high and volunteer numbers were low. She came up to four times a week back then and continues to support the pantry today. Volunteering is part of her family legacy – she’s a fourth-generation Hadassah member and her daughter is the fifth. “Giving to the community has always been a priority,” she says. “Food is a basic need. Helping provide that is deeply meaningful.” She also notes the sense of community she’s found at the pantry. “After retirement, volunteering gives you purpose – you know you’re making a difference.”

Tami Witkes, pantry manager, is thrilled these three women are being honored. “They’re fast, efficient, and incredibly dedicated,” she says. “Rain, snow, or summer heat, they show up – week after week. They’re one of our most valued teams and we’re so grateful for everything they do.”

The community is warmly invited to attend the celebration and show appreciation for these inspiring women – and for the hundreds of volunteers who make the Kosher Food Pantry’s work possible.

RSVPs for the celebration are required and can be submitted by emailing celebration@kosherfb.org or by calling the KFP office at 216.382.7202.

The Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry was established over 40 years ago by Rabbi and Mrs. Zalman Kazen as part of their efforts to help Russian Jews settle in Cleveland through the Semach Sedek Russian Immigrant Aid Society (RIAS). The Kazens’ daughter, Devorah Alevsky, is now director emeritus and her daughter-in-law, Sarah Yaffe Alevsky, is executive director. The

Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry Advisory Board is chaired by Muriel Weber.



From top: Beachwood residents Rene Gordon, Helayne Loeb, and Priya Rajgopal found a shared purpose at the Kosher Food Pantry, where they are known informally as the “Thursday Power Packers.”

The community is warmly invited to attend the celebration and show appreciation for these inspiring women – and for the hundreds of volunteers who make the Kosher Food Pantry’s work possible.

B”H

CLEVELAND KOSHER FOOD PANTRY’S ANNUAL

VOLUNTEER Appreciation Celebration

In honor of all of our dedicated volunteers

Volunteers of the Year
**Rene Gordon
 Helayne Loeb
 & Priya Rajgopal**

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 7:15 PM

**WAXMAN CHABAD CENTER
 2479 S GREEN ROAD, BEACHWOOD**

Dessert Reception

RSVP AT [CELEBRATION@KOSHERFB.ORG](mailto:celebration@kosherfb.org)

JUNETEENTH

BEACHWOOD'S FASTEST GROWING CELEBRATION



Event chairs include Kevin Houchins, Beachwood Schools director of Equity & Community Engagement; Sharnez Payne, Donna Houston, Kandi Kee-Bey, and Lori Crump, Beachwood Schools African American Affinity Group founders; Derek Schroeder, Beachwood Community Services director; and Shannon Diamond, Beachwood Community Services program manager.

Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19, marks the day in 1865 when news of freedom finally reached enslaved people in Galveston, Texas – more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. It became a powerful tradition in Black communities, honoring freedom, resilience, and the long fight for justice. First celebrated in Texas, Juneteenth has grown nationwide and was made a federal holiday in 2021.

Beachwood held its Juneteenth inaugural event in 2023. What began as a conversation with Kevin Houchins, director of Equity & Community Engagement at Beachwood Schools; Derek Schroeder, Beachwood Community Services director; and Shannon Diamond, Beachwood Community Services program manager, evolved into this vibrant, community-wide celebration of freedom, culture, and unity.

Capitalizing on the Beachwood Schools community engagement efforts, the founding members of the African American Affinity Group were brought in as partners to provide valued voices from the community. The group's founding members, Kandi Kee-Bey, Lori Crump, Sharnez Payne, and Donna Houston provided their insight,

time, and talents to lay the foundation for an annual tradition that brings people together to honor the past, celebrate the present, and inspire unity in the future.

"In 2023, we started the group with four people," Kandi said. "Since that time, our group has grown and we continue to encourage and welcome the participation of families throughout the district. We are truly grateful to everyone who lent a hand to make this event successful!"

Juneteenth is the fastest growing event in the city. The inaugural event, which was planned in about three months, hosted approximately 1,000 people. Last year, the event took about nine months to plan and attendance doubled. This is now the second most well-attended event that the City of Beachwood sponsors, behind only the Beachwood Fall Festival.

This year's Juneteenth celebration takes place on Thursday, June 19, from 4-7 p.m. at the Beachwood High School main stadium. The event is open to the public and free of charge. An indoor option will be available in case of rain. The event will be packed with fun family activities for all ages, new food trucks, a Movie Truck screening of *Piece*

"I'm proud to serve a community that values teaching future generations about the power of hope and perseverance, as well as the importance of unity to securing and maintaining liberty for all."

– Dr. Robert Hardis, Superintendent



Participants try their luck with this inflatable basketball game

"Thanks to the collaboration between the city, Beachwood Schools, and the district's affinity groups, we are building a tradition that honors history, celebrates diversity, and brings our entire community together in a meaningful way."

– Mayor Justin Berns

by Piece, live DJ, local vendors, a roller skating rink, inflatables, carnival and yard games, a face painter, a balloon twister, and a 360-degree photo booth. In a powerful show of support and solidarity, all attractions are run by African American-owned businesses, making this celebration not only fun, but meaningful.

"The growth of our Juneteenth celebration into one of Beachwood's signature events is a testament to the power of community partnership," said Mayor Justin Berns. "Thanks to the collaboration between the city, the Beachwood Schools, and the district's affinity groups, we are building a tradition that honors history, celebrates diversity, and brings our entire community together in a meaningful way."

Due to the quick growth of the event, the venue was relocated from the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center parking lot to the Beachwood High School stadium. The venue change allows for more parking, more space, better access for vendors, nearby restrooms, ample seating, improved electrical access, and overhead sound for announcements.

"Juneteenth is a powerful opportunity for our community to come together," said Derek Schroeder, Beachwood Community Services director. "I hope attendees walk away with a deeper understanding of the historical significance of the day, a genuine appreciation for Black culture and contributions, and a renewed commitment to equity and unity. It's a chance to honor the past, celebrate the present, and work together for a more inclusive future."

"This event is highly significant as it celebrates our freedom and cultural heritage," added Kandi Kee-Bey, president of the African American Affinity Group. "We hope that attendees will understand that while we are on



School Board Vice President Kim Allamby leads the crowd in line dancing

"We take great pride in contributing to the Juneteenth Celebration in Beachwood. This initiative represents a wonderful legacy for our families and community, fostering cultural awareness, pride, and unity in our students and the community as a whole."

– Kandi Kee-Bey, Lori Crump, Sharnes Payne, and Donna Houston

an ongoing journey toward true equality, we will still commemorate our 'Freedom Day.'"

Beachwood is proud to offer one of the biggest Juneteenth celebrations in the area – on its originating date of June 19. At its heart, this event is all about community. It's an open, inclusive celebration that invites everyone to come together in the spirit of unity and pride. More than just honoring history and culture, it stands as a powerful reminder that we are stronger when we stand together. This vibrant gathering showcases the very best of Beachwood – our diversity, our shared values, and our commitment to building a future where everyone belongs.



Superintendent Dr. Robert Hardis



Beachwood resident Stephen Terry and City Council Member June Taylor

About Beachwood Schools Department of Equity and Community Engagement

In the coming years, Beachwood Schools Department of Equity and Community Engagement will continue to provide opportunities for our parents and community to participate in their children's education. Various organizations, such as student and parent affinity groups, and our building Parent Advisory Collaboration Teams (PACT) will offer opportunities to provide valuable feedback that helps shape the education and learning environments of our schools.

Parents and students are encouraged to reach out to your building principal to express interest in joining a building PACT or visit the district website at www.beachwoodschoools.org/families/affinity-groups to join or start an affinity group that represents your unique identity. Beachwood Schools currently offers the following affinity groups:

Affinity Groups

- African American Affinity Group
- Asian and Pacific Islanders Affinity Club
- Chinese Family Affinity Group
- Council For Exceptional Children
- Hispanic and Latino Affinity Group
- Gender & Sexualities Alliances
- Indian American Family Affinity Group
- Israeli Culture Club
- Muslim Affinity Group
- Minority Achievement Committee (MAC) Scholars
- Neurodiversity Family Network



Mayor Justin Berns

Beachwood 100's Scholarship Dinner

Beachwood 100, a not-for-profit volunteer organization, was founded in 1969 with the mission to raise funds to aid the police and fire safety forces of the City of Beachwood in time of personal emergencies. Its areas of impact include an emergency fund, safety projects, and scholarship awards to the children of Beachwood's first responders.

On May 1, Beachwood 100 held its annual Scholarship Dinner, which was recently renamed the Beachwood 100 Irving Berger Scholarship Dinner in honor of the late Irving Berger, one of the organization's founding members.

Andy Baskin, Cleveland sports commentator and *Cleveland Jewish News* columnist, was emcee. Congratulations to Mackenzie Thompson, Hailey Brooks, Luke Holtzman, Tim Kemer, John Lessick, and Allison Combs, each of whom received a \$2,500 scholarship.

"We are here to honor students and their families – In this case, heroic first responders who serve us every day," said Ivor Kiwi, Beachwood 100 president.

"Beachwood 100 has been serving our first responders for 56 years, with the mission of citizens and businesses giving back to the safety forces that serve our community through financial support, safety and fitness equipment, and this great scholarship program.

"Irving Berger, for whom the scholarship program is named, helped run Beachwood 100 for many years. His son, Alan, has been on the board for many years and recently his grandson, Josh, has joined the board to follow in his footsteps."

Mayor Justin Berns then said, "I thank the officers and board members of Beachwood 100 for the incredible work you do year-round to support our police officers, firefighters, and dispatchers – and their families – especially in times of personal need. I also thank Heck's for hosting this important event and for their generous contributions this evening.



Award recipients Tim Kemer, Allison Combs, Mackenzie Thompson, Hailey Brooks, and John Lessick. *Not pictured:* Luke Holtzman, whose award was accepted by his father, Fire Chief Steven Holtzman.

"When I talk to residents, I frequently hear how fortunate they feel to live in such a safe community. Let me be clear – this isn't about luck or chance. Our safety doesn't just happen. It's the direct result of the skill, dedication, and consistent work of our public safety professionals.

"From our dispatchers, the first contact in every emergency, to our police officers and firefighters who put themselves in harm's way to protect others, your service defines the strength and values of the City of Beachwood.

"As mayor – and as someone who served as a volunteer firefighter – I want you to know that I don't take your work for granted. Public safety has been my top priority since I ran for office and remains my top priority today. I am proud to serve as both mayor and safety director, and I do everything in my power to support and advance our safety services.

"The commitment of Beachwood 100 to step in during difficult times – whether through emergency aid or the scholarships we celebrate tonight – reflects the very best of our community. It's a testament to what can happen when caring citizens rally behind those who serve us every single day."

Josh Berger then said, "On behalf of my family, we are deeply honored to have this scholarship named after my grandfather, Irving Berger. One of the many lessons my grandfather passed down was the importance of giving back – especially to your community. As a World War II veteran, he had a profound respect for those who risk their lives every day to protect others.

"So tonight, I want to say thank you – to all of you who work every day to keep our community safe. Your service

matters. And it is appreciated more than words can express.

"To those receiving the Irving Berger Beachwood 100 scholarships tonight, congratulations. This recognition is not just about your past achievements, but about your promise, your potential, and the future you're about to create."

Award recipients were then individually recognized, each reading their thoughtful essay before being presented with an award and \$2,500 check.

Eric Synenberg, who previously served as a member of the Beachwood City Council and is now a representative in the Ohio House of Representatives, presented each awardee with an official commendation. He also recognized Ivor for his dedication and revitalization of Beachwood 100, and offered heartfelt thanks to our city's heroic first responders.

“We go to work, and then when kids come along, everything changes. Our job has inherent risks, but our goal every day is to come home and see our families. You’re the bright spot. It’s hard to see you go, but I congratulate all of you and look forward to hearing all the wonderful things you’ll be doing in the future.”

– Steven Holtzman, Beachwood Fire Chief

Tim Kemer (Patrol Officer Richard Kemer)
Avon Lake High School • Ashland University

“My dad would always be the first person to tell me to shoot for the stars and you’ll get there one day. But not much can be achieved without working hard and striving for perfection.”

Allison Combs (Det. Luke Combs)
Mentor Christian School • Bob Jones University

“My dad is a hero, not just because of the badge he wears, but because of the way he carries the weight of his job while still showing up for his family, even when he’s exhausted.”

John Lessick (Capt. Richard Lessick)
Kirtland High School • The Ohio State University

“My father, a Beachwood Police Captain, faces adversity daily but remains a steady, dependable force for both his department and our family.”

Mackenzie Thompson (Lt. Chad Thompson)
Nordonia High School • Walsh University

“I try to take the lessons of compassion and connection that my father always shows his patients ... and me.”

Hailey Brooks (Fire Fighter/Paramedic Jason Brooks)
North Ridgeville High School
Kent State University, School of Nursing

“His commitment to saving lives and protecting the community gave me a deep sense of respect for those who dedicate their lives to serving others.”

Luke Holtzman (Fire Chief Steven Holtzman)
Avon High School • Lorain County Community College

“People may take all the firefighters’, first responders’, and police officers’ sacrifices for granted; but as a son of a firefighter, these sacrifices were very real.”



Sitting: Award recipients Tim Kemer, Allison Combs, Hailey Brooks, Mackenzie Thompson, and John Lessick. *Standing:* Board members Michelle Ryb, Warren Sklar, Cindy Keller, Josh Berger, Jennifer Ferns, and Susie Loparo; Mayor Justin Berns, Board President Ivor Kiwi, Ohio House Rep. Eric Synenberg; Fire Chief Steven Holtzman, and Board Vice President Marc Soroka.

Beachwood 100 extends our deepest gratitude to all of our sponsors and supporters. Your generosity and commitment make our mission possible – we truly couldn’t do it without you.

To see a full list of our valued partners, to donate, or learn more, please visit www.beachwood100.org or scan the QR code.



We value your support!
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- Leaking or incontinence
- Difficulty urinating
- Increased sense of pressure
- Low back/hip/sciatic pain
- Difficulty with bowel movements & control

Pelvic Floor Therapy Isn't Just for Moms, It's for Every Woman

Reframe what you thought you knew — this therapy is
for all stages of womanhood.

Ladies of Beachwood — whether you're expecting, recovering from delivery, or just dealing with discomfort no one seems to talk about — it's time we normalize a conversation around pelvic floor physical therapy. This isn't just about "down there" (though we'll go there!); it's about your entire well-being.

Pelvic floor dysfunction can quietly contribute to a wide range of problems — from chronic low back or hip pain, to urinary leakage, pain with intimacy, and even discomfort while sitting or driving. Because the pelvic floor supports core stability and organ function, issues in this area often show up in ways women don't immediately associate with it.

Pregnancy Pains?

They May Be Common, But They're NOT Normal

Feeling achy, sore, or unstable during pregnancy — especially in the first two trimesters — is not something you just have to "deal with." Pelvic floor physical therapy can help relieve those pains and make your pregnancy a more comfortable, empowering experience. At Balance Solutions, we specialize in helping women stay strong, mobile, and pain-free throughout their pregnancy journey.

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BalanceSolutions.com

23175 Commerce Park

Let's Talk Pelvic Floor Physical Therapy – Your Body Will Thank You!



Birth Prep Like a Pro

Preparing for labor isn't just about packing your hospital bag. Pelvic floor physical therapy can teach you breathing techniques, optimal labor and delivery positions, and how to relax and manage muscle tone so your body is working with you, not against you. We give you practical tools to help reduce trauma, strain, and unnecessary interventions during delivery.

The Postpartum Period Deserves More Than Just a "You'll Be Fine"

Every woman deserves pelvic floor physical therapy after giving birth — regardless of how the baby arrived! Whether you had a vaginal birth or cesarean section, your body has gone through major changes. A pelvic floor PT can evaluate your recovery and offer safe, gentle exercises you can start immediately postpartum. You'll also learn how to lift your baby (and that clunky car seat!) without hurting your back.

Here's what we help address early on - before they become bigger problems:

- **Diastasis Rectus Abdominus:** That abdominal separation that doesn't always heal on its own? We can help it close effectively.
- **Urinary Issues:** Leaking when you laugh, sneeze, or run? That's common, yes — but absolutely not normal!
- **Pelvic Organ Prolapse:** Even though it's rare postpartum, it's possible — and we know what signs to look for.
- **Chronic Low Back and Hip Pain:** When traditional treatments don't help, the issue may be your pelvic floor.



Painful Sex or Exams? That's Not Just "How It Is"

We're here to shout it from the rooftops — pelvic pain is not normal. Pain with gynecological exams, intercourse, or even sitting for long periods (especially while driving) could be related to pelvic floor dysfunction. And if you've ever taken

a hard fall on your tailbone, those lingering symptoms may be rooted in the pelvic floor too.

A Few Fun (and Surprising) Facts

- Pelvic floor issues can happen even if you've never been pregnant.
- Kegels aren't a cure-all — and in many cases, they actually make things worse.
- If pushing during birth took longer than two hours (or less than 20 minutes), pelvic floor therapy can help your recovery.



Laugh, Jump, Run & Play Without A Worry!

Pelvic floor physical therapy is about restoring confidence, comfort, and control. At Balance Solutions Physical Therapy in Beachwood, we're here to support your body through every stage of life — pregnancy or not. It's never too early, or too late, to feel better.

Ready to Reclaim YOUR Core Confidence?

Let's talk.

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Did You Know That Balance Solutions Offers the Following Services?

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 - Neuromuscular
 - Therapeutic & Sports
 - Himalayan Salt Stone
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 - Enhanced Massages
- **Myofascial Release**
- **Deep Tissue Laser Therapy**
- **Dry Needling**
- **Cupping**

Rekindle: Building Bridges Between Black and Jewish Communities, One Conversation at a Time

Eighteen years ago, when Beachwood resident Matt Fieldman moved to Cleveland, he noticed something troubling. “I’d never lived in a place where the effects of segregation were so visible,” he said. “The Black and Jewish communities were working in parallel, almost never in partnership.”

That observation planted the seed for what would become Rekindle, a fellowship program focused on rebuilding relationships between Black and Jewish communities. Since launching in Cleveland in April 2021, Rekindle has graduated 10 cohorts of 145 fellows in Cleveland alone, with active programs now operating in more than 25 cities, including St. Louis, Long Island, Detroit, Baltimore, and Miami.

Matt, whose career has touched upon the Jewish community, workforce development, and equitable

access to opportunity, has long worked with Cleveland’s inner-city communities, yet rarely found space to talk about deeper issues.

“In prior positions, there was not a safe space to have meaningful conversations about race, religion, or politics,” Matt explained. “People are scared to say the wrong thing, scared to ask questions. We needed a space where people could be vulnerable and real without fear of being vilified.”

In 2019, Matt connected with Charmaine Rice, a diversity, equity, and inclusion facilitator and global learning consultant,

to explore ideas for fostering real, sustained dialogue. They began researching Black-Jewish partnerships around the country and found almost nothing.

“What we discovered was how little infrastructure there was to support ongoing, thoughtful Black-Jewish dialogue,” Matt says. “We knew we had to build it ourselves.”

The result was Rekindle’s cohort-based model grounded in shared learning, storytelling, and civic partnership. In each cohort, 16 fellows meet for five three-hour sessions, hosted in inclusive community spaces. Cohorts include a mix of Jewish and Black participants representing a wide swath of both communities, creating room for honest dialogue around identity, systemic challenges, and shared values.

“Our goal was to create a foundation on which we could build meaningful relationships by sharing perspectives and listening with compassionate curiosity,” Charmaine said. “Rekindle provides a platform that didn’t previously exist in Northeast Ohio, so we teamed up and launched it together.”

The program follows a natural progression: from exposure, to awareness, to friendship, to partnership, to allyship.

“We start by simply bringing people into the same room because the reality is, our communities don’t know each other,” Matt explained. “From there, we build understanding and relationships. Once we’ve created real friendships, then partnership and allyship

becomes possible, working together, proactively, for a better Cleveland and a better country.”

Beyond the core curriculum, Rekindle includes RISE (Rekindle Intercultural Sharing Experience) Projects, where fellows host each other in personally meaningful experiences – from dinners at local restaurants, to visits to churches or synagogues, to hikes and volunteer projects. “It’s like adult cultural show-and-tell,” says Matt. “It moves the relationship beyond the classroom.”

Rekindle has quickly grown beyond its Cleveland roots. As word spread, Jewish Federations, ADL chapters, and community organizations across the U.S. began reaching out. Rekindle responded with toolkits: a curriculum, facilitation guides, session outlines, and best practices that allow other cities to launch their own programs. With over 100 fellows now outside Cleveland, Rekindle has become a national movement.

“This model started with a few friends sitting around a restaurant table,” Matt said. “Now it’s in 25 cities and counting and the interest keeps growing.”

The organization’s fractional chief program and engagement officer, Gilon Rubenko, is a Rekindle graduate from Cohort 8. He chose to participate and to then accept this professional role because he deeply believes in cultivating honest, relational connections that can grow into genuine partnerships – and ultimately, long-term, sustainable allyship – between the Jewish and Black communities.

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“We’re focused on helping people develop enduring leadership skills, especially given the urgency of today’s global climate,” Gilon said. “It’s about bringing people together to engage in hard, honest, constructive conversations and to then, hopefully, empower them to spark meaningful social change in their own communities.”

“Rekindle started in Cleveland and is now a national movement that we really want to expand and grow. We can’t do it alone,” he added. “We’re working hard to spark people’s interest for conversation and to keep them engaged once the program ends. Our mission is to develop social entrepreneurs who will activate their knowledge and become partners for life.”

Gilon told us that his participation as a fellow profoundly changed and impacted his life. “I learned to sit comfortably with my own foundational story and can now be present as I listen to others’ stories. Together, we build strength because our truths can work toward genuine dialogue and conversation to get to a better place.”

In March 2025, Rekindle organized a powerful trip to Washington, D.C., bringing together 40 fellows from Cleveland, Detroit, Rochester, and Miami. The group visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and Baltimore’s Great Blacks in Wax Museum. They held a ceremony at the MLK Memorial and shared a Shabbat dinner at the historic Sixth & I Synagogue.

“This trip was transformational,” Matt reflected. “Everything was co-created by the fellows. It was an honest, emotional, joyful deep dive into our shared and distinct histories.”

Rekindle has also established a Juneteenth



Rekindle board members at their April 2025 retreat:
Front row: Susan Reis, Debbie Rosenthal, Brittany Barron, India Hobbs, Carrie Miller, Aaron Ziff, and Gilon Rubanenko.
Middle row: Charmaine Rice, Ilene Frankel, Keshia Chambers, and Jereme Sykes.
Back row: Donny Singleton, Matt Fieldman, Ras Olugbenga, Jon Steiger, and Charlie Beer.

celebration and a unique winter holiday event called ChristmaChanuKwanzaakah. It also hosts monthly alumni gatherings that reinforce learning and relationships. “We want to maintain a vibrant community of people who care,” said Matt. “And that means joy, connection, and continued growth.”

Rekindle is actively recruiting applicants for its fall cohort. Applications will be available at rekindlefellowship.org, beginning August 1. The team

hopes to welcome another diverse and committed group of change-makers.

For Matt, the mission remains both simple and urgent: “There are a lot of well-intentioned people out there who want to do something to heal our divides. Rekindle gives them the tools to turn that intention into action.”

Charmaine added, “With Matt, Gilon, and fellow Rekindle alumni leading the board, the Cleveland cohort is transforming

conversations into meaningful action – driving progress for the incredible region and country in which we proudly live and work.”

To learn more, visit rekindlefellowship.org.



Rekindle Juneteenth Celebration Brunch

Thursday, June 19 • 9 a.m. - Noon

Edwins Leadership & Restaurant Institute • 12383 Cedar Rd., Cleveland Heights

Join Rekindle’s diverse group of Black and Jewish fellows to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and celebrate their rich culture and history. Come together with friends, family, and community members to enjoy a scrumptious brunch, with live drumming and storytelling by Djapo Cultural Arts. Indulge in a variety of delectable options while soaking in the vibrant atmosphere and engaging in meaningful conversations. Let’s honor this significant day and rejoice in the progress we’ve made. Don’t miss out on this special event! For details, visit <https://tinyurl.com/RekindleJuneteenth>.



Making a Pitch for Beachwood Men's Softball League

By Arlene Fine



At age 94, Dick Cohen is still very much in the game. Ask any of the 128 current members of Beachwood Men's Softball League.

Dick joined the 72-year-old league when he was 31 and has been actively involved, in one way or another, ever since. For many decades, he could be seen in the outfield catching balls – until time and age caught up with him. Determined to continue to be part of the league, Dick served as a team manager, commissioner, and most recently, handled the league's finances.

"Team sports has always been a big part of my life," said the Beachwood resident. "When I attended Case Western Reserve University, I was on the basketball and baseball teams for four years. I still miss playing ball, but with two torn rotator cuffs, I know my limits."

Reflecting on the evolution of the still very popular local softball league, Dick is delighted by the ongoing participation of so many regular and new members. Men can join the League at age 25, unless they are related to a current player. This allows them to join at age 21.

"Originally, this was a league just for Beachwood residents, but over time, men from Solon and other neighboring suburbs asked to play and we were happy to have them," said Dick. "Also, we have many father and son players and we wanted to be inclusive, no matter where people lived. My own sons, Michael and Randy, played in the league for 10 years."

The league plays their slo-pitch softball games at fields located in Beachwood and in Solon. The diamonds are set up with two home bases, so that the catcher and runner do not run into each other. There is no sliding allowed.

Players participate in one of four league games on Sunday in a season that goes from May through August, with a big celebratory banquet two days before Thanksgiving in November.

Ed Bernstein, a Beachwood Men's Softball League commissioner, has great praise for Dick's long-time involvement. "Dick Cohen has been the heart of the Beachwood Men's Softball League, dedicating countless hours to ensure it runs smoothly year after year," he said. "His leadership and selfless commitment have helped turn

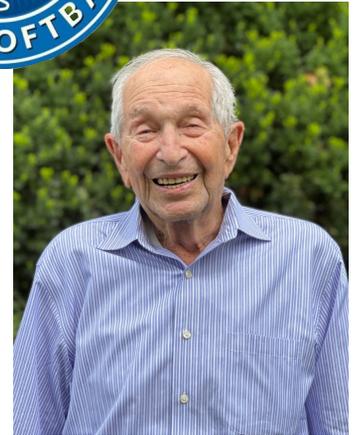
a game into a lasting brotherhood."

Having served as commissioner alongside Dick for many years, Beachwood resident Jim Heller has seen his friend and neighbor's enthusiasm and loyalty to the league. "Dick is one-of-a-kind," said Jim. "He has a very warm heart; not many people can match up to him. It's been a wonderful partnership."

Dick, who owned LCA Auto Wholesale on 65th and Euclid for 55 years, and still lives in the Tunbridge Road ranch home he built with his late wife, Sharon, 68 years ago, has high praise for the Beachwood community.

"There is so much here for everyone, and that is what keeps me active," he said. "I exercise at the Peter B. Lewis Aquatic Fitness Center three times a week, and then I like to go to Davis Bakery for a corned beef sandwich. I am a pretty simple guy. I don't smoke or drink, and am very grateful for the life I have."

Dick's advice for anyone thinking of joining the Beachwood Men's Softball League is to give it a try. "It's a very friendly league and a great way to meet new people," he said. "If you like to play ball, and you make it through tryouts



At 94, Dick Cohen proves that staying in the game is about heart, not age.

which are held in early spring, you will be warmly welcomed."

Although Dick is not sure what role he will play with the league this season, one thing is sure – "I'll do my best to never miss a game," he said.

Although Dick is not sure what role he will play with the league this season, one thing is sure – "I'll do my best to never miss a game," he said.

For information about the Beachwood Men's Softball League, visit www.beachwoodsoftball.com.

16th Annual Summer Soirée

Hosted by Jewish Federation of Cleveland's Young Leadership Division
Thursday, June 12 • 7 - 10 pm • Good Night John Boy • 1167 Front Ave., Cleveland
21 and over • Drinks and light bites (Kosher dietary laws observed)



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Reunite with old friends, make new ones, and enjoy an awesome night out.

Pre-register by June 10 and pay \$35 or pay \$45 at the door. Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.



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Jewish Federation of Cleveland Celebrates Community at 121st Annual Meeting

More than 300 community members came together for the Jewish Federation of Cleveland's 121st Annual Meeting on May 13. The event was an opportunity to celebrate Cleveland's Jewish community.

Featured speaker Haviv Rettig Gur, senior analyst of the *Times of Israel* and host of the *Ask Haviv Anything* podcast, shared a timely and thought-provoking perspective on current affairs in Israel.

The event also celebrated outgoing Federation Board Chair Daniel N. Zelman for his three exemplary years of service during a pivotal time in our history. Under Dan's leadership, Cleveland's Jewish community navigated significant challenges, launched impactful campaigns to support those in need, and united an unprecedented number of community members.

Congratulations to the Mt. Sinai Health Foundation,

recipient of the 2025 Charles Eisenman Award, Federation's highest civic honor. This award is presented for exceptional civic contributions. The Mt. Sinai Health Foundation is a major philanthropic force in health and medical grantmaking, distributing over 2,200 grants totaling \$160 million that benefit both the Jewish and general communities.

An election of Federation trustees also took place.

To learn more about this event or other Federation events, please visit jewishcleveland.org.



Above: Dan Zelman, Federation board chair, reflects on his tenure. *Top right:* Dan Zelman, Jimmy Ratner, incoming Mt. Sinai Health Foundation board chair, and Mitch Balk, Mt. Sinai Health Foundation president, at the Eisenman Award presentation. *Bottom right:* Israeli journalist Haviv Rettig Gur addresses the audience at the 121st annual meeting.



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Keeping Ohio Libraries Strong

By State Senator Kent Smith

Malcom Forbes once said, "The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one." Once you leave the classroom, the best public resource for information is the public library because libraries are the community center of lifetime learning.

The longstanding partnership between the State of Ohio and Ohio libraries might be one of the best things state government does. In fact, in 2023, Ohioans visited their local libraries more than 44 million times. That's the equivalent of 434 sold-out Buckeye football games at the Ohio Stadium.

Ohioans go to their libraries for children's programming, tax preparation assistance, maker spaces, homework help, employment and career assistance, free internet, and dozens of other reasons. Ohio's 251 public libraries are also a place where one of the state's 7.4 million cardholders can visit, expand their mind and world view by

borrowing a book, and return it in a week or two.

So it was more than a little mystifying when the Ohio House version of the budget did two things that would hurt Ohio's libraries.

1. It replaced the longstanding funding formula with a single budgetary line item, and
2. It instituted mandatory censorship of the public collection by putting extra restrictions on materials relating to gender identity or sexual orientation.

In other words, they are attempting to reduce what you can get from your library and the services your library offers.

Libraries are not substitutes for parents, nor do they try to be. They create an independent space that allow their patrons to utilize its collection individually – exercising their own personal freedom and reasoning. A library full of diverse selections is a sign of a healthy society.

Our democracy rests on the right of the public to choose between opposing views. An informed public is vital to the sound operation of the government and American civil society.

As Akron native and former U.S. Poet Laureate Rita Dove once said, "The library is an arena of possibility, opening both a

window into the soul and a door onto the world."

The budget must be passed by July 1, so there is still time to fix this. If you want to tell Ohio's State Senators to restore the Public Library Fund to the budget and end their state mandated censorship, you can call or email them. To email them, use their last name @ohiosenate.gov and feel free and copy my office at Smith@OhioSenate.gov.

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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BAKED by Abbie

Rhubarb & Strawberry Galette

A galette is an unstructured pie, or a free-form tart, baked on a baking sheet. The crust is folded over the filling to contain it. Galettes are commonly filled with fruit or savory fillings and are often described as casual or rustic looking.

Rhubarb, a spring vegetable related to buckwheat that looks like red celery stalks, is available from April through early July. This makes it a perfect item to be featured in June celebratory treats for dads or new grads. Its tart, green apple-like taste is complemented by citrus, cardamon or ginger.

My recipe is a mash-up of *Smitten Kitchen's Any-Kind-of-Fruit Galette*, May 21, 2020; and *Strawberry Rhubarb Pie*, from sallysbakingaddiction.com.



Crust

- 1 ¼ C all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ t granulated sugar
- ¼ t salt
- 8 T unsalted butter, cold, cut into pieces
- ¼ C plain yogurt or sour cream
- 3 – 4 T ice water
- 1 t orange zest

Filling

- 2 C rhubarb diced into ½" chunks
- 1 ½ C sliced strawberries
- ¼ C granulated sugar
- 1 - 2 T cornstarch or tapioca
- ¼ t salt
- 1 t orange zest
- ½ t vanilla extract (optional)

Topping

- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Demerara sugar for garnish (optional)

Directions

- Prepare the filling: stir ingredients together in a large bowl and set aside.
- Make the crust: Combine flour, sugar and salt in a medium-sized mixing bowl. Toss to blend. Using a pastry blender or your fingertips, cut in the butter and zest until mixture resembles coarse crumbs.
- Sprinkle the yogurt and 3 T of the water over the mixture. Knead mixture together into a ball. If needed, add 4th T of water. Flatten the ball into a



- disc. Cover disc with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.
- Preheat oven to 350° F.
- Roll out chilled dough to form an 11-inch circle on a lightly floured piece of parchment paper that fits your baking sheet. Transfer to baking sheet. Trim/smooth ragged edges (optional).
- Spread filling evenly over the center of the dough leaving a 2 – 3- inch border.
- In small sections, fold up and overlap the edges of the dough to cover the mixture.
- Brush the edges with the egg wash and if desired top with demerara sugar.
- Bake until the crust is golden and filling bubbles, about 40 minutes. Cool before serving. Delicious à la mode.

Abbie Nagler Sender, a licensed, award-winning baker, is the owner of BAKED by abbie, a home bakery that offers customized baked goods with a Jewish twist.

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BHS Class of '75 50-Year Reunion

Beachwood High School
Class of 1975 50-Year Reunion
Saturday, Aug. 23 • 7 p.m.
Beechmont Country Club, 29600 Chagrin Blvd.



Kick off the weekend on Friday, Aug. 22, 6 p.m.
Roll House • 33185 Bainbridge Rd. • Solon
Hot and cold appetizers, classmates only.

Beachwood High School Tour
Saturday, Aug. 23 • 11 a.m. • Open to all.

For details about the weekend events, call Danny Silverstein at 216.387.3916.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Wednesday, July 23, 6-7 p.m. • Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$60, Non-Residents \$72



Learn how to harvest rainwater for all your garden needs and to combat stormwater pollution in your community by constructing a rain barrel! Registration includes a diverter kit and a barrel. A connecting barrel can be added for extra storage. This program will be led by Kate Chapel of the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District.

About Rain Barrels

Did you know you can “harvest” rainwater? In fact, harvesting rainwater helps conserve water and protect our waterways from stormwater pollution. One way you can harvest rainwater is with a rain barrel. When connected to a roof downspout, a rain barrel can capture and store roof runoff that can then be used for gardening and other non-potable water use. Rain barrels are inexpensive, easy to install, and a great way to protect natural resources.

One inch of rain falling on a 1,000-square-foot roof has the potential to yield 600 gallons of water.

By implementing a rain barrel system, you can:

- Reduce water pollution from rainwater runoff which carries pesticides, fertilizers, sediment, oil, and trash into local rivers and lakes.
- Reduce soil erosion and improve the ability of water to infiltrate the soil at a reduced intensity.
- Reduce dependency on the municipal water supply and see a cost savings on your water bill.
- Treat your garden, plants, and lawn to clean and free rainwater and help save energy by reducing demand on our drinking water supply

With proper installation and maintenance, your rain barrel will last many years and provide free clean water for your yard or garden.

To register, visit www.BeachwoodRec.com or call Beachwood Community Services at 216.292.1970.



Market Insights and Alzheimer's Conversations

Wednesday, June 11 • 11:30 a.m. • Beachwood Community Center

Please join us for Market Insights and Alzheimer's Conversations, a timely and important lunch and learn. Stay informed and prepared with this valuable two-part presentation:

• Market Insights

Get the latest updates on the financial markets and discover key insights into how current events may impact your financial well-being.

• Alzheimer's Conversations: Protecting your Health and Wealth

Engage in a thoughtful discussion about planning for

the unexpected. Learn how to have critical conversations about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, and explore strategies to safeguard your health and financial future.

Please pre-register by Wednesday, June 4. A light lunch will be provided. This program will be presented by Ryan Heyman, financial advisor, Edward Jones. Don't miss this opportunity to gain essential knowledge and peace of mind for you and your loved ones.

Blooming With Creativity

Beachwood seniors showed petals of personality at a recent Paint & Pot event at the Beachwood Community Center. Like a garden in full bloom, their designs danced with

color, character, and a whole lot of heart. Special thanks to Cornerstone Caregiving – Cleveland for planting the seeds for this vibrant event to take root!



Clockwise from left: Thea Rus, Chris Ticknor, Belynda Swanson-Newell, Annabelle Crawford, and Alicia Ciliberto work on their flower pots. Nancy Ward and Linda Scott share their creations after planting spring blooms.



Coach Pop

By Jennifer Stern

I love sports. From the PGA to the NBA, sports carry me through the seasons of life. I love to witness greatness, grit, and sportsmanship. I love to see an underdog win. I love to see selfless team play and leadership.

Gregg Popovich, who coached the San Antonio Spurs for 29 seasons, is one of my favorite coaches. He won five NBA championships and was named NBA Coach of the Year three times.

In 2020, he coached the Gold Medal Olympic team. Gregg Popovich, affectionately known as Coach Pop, is deeply admired for his humanity, prioritization of family over all else, and, of course, his knowledge and understanding of basketball, leadership, and team building.

There are endless stories about his honesty, compassion, mentorship, and generosity. He is considered one of the greatest coaches of all time.

Coach Pop always put family first and expected the same from his players and coaching staff. One powerful example comes from basketball player Robert Horry, who shared how, when his daughter was hospitalized, Coach Pop insisted he stay by her side. Even after she returned home, Coach Pop told him not to worry about basketball and to focus entirely on his family. Horry remains deeply grateful for that support, especially since his daughter's passing in 2011.

Coach Pop is known for hiring the people he believes are truly qualified for the position. As a result, Becky Hammon became the first female assistant coach in the NBA.

He is a man who lives with integrity, works hard, and truly cares about others, in both word and action. He stands up for what is right and he speaks out against what is not.

In November, Coach Pop suffered a stroke and will not be returning to coach the Spurs. His absence will be felt.

Pop's wisdom transcends basketball.

It was said that his approach serves as a masterclass in leadership, emphasizing honesty, fairness, character, and genuine human connection to manage powerful personalities effectively and build championship teams.

He says, "It's not about any one person. You've got to get over yourself and realize that it takes a group to get this thing done.

"No one is bigger than the team.

"Play the right way' means play unselfishly, respect each other's achievements, play hard, fulfill your role.

"We believe in people executing their role and caring about the team more than anything individually."

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

Saturate the Beachwood market by advertising in *Beachwood Buzz*. Every resident, every business, every month!

From Beachwood Arts Council



The Golden Age of Shlomo Katz Art Exhibit Tour

Tuesday, June 17 • 10 a.m. - Noon

Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building • 25701 Science Park Dr.

Please join us for a free guided tour of the Shlomo Katz exhibit. As a young man, Katz went to Paris where he studied art at Ecole des Beaux-Arts. Inspired by medieval icons and Asian miniatures, he developed an original technique of painting by applying oil on top of gold leaf. The result was a combination of deep vibrant colors combined with a metallic surface that glowed, forming a totally new modern image filled with light. *The Golden Age* is the first exhibition of Katz's work since his death in March 1992, in Holon, Israel. Participants must register no later than June 10 by calling 216.595.3400.



Jacob and the Angel, 1987

Diamond Necklace Raffle: A Gem of a Cause

Beachwood Arts Council is commemorating its 60th anniversary by raffling off a \$1,000, ladies, 14-karat, yellow gold FJ Kashi diamond circle pendant, featuring round brilliant cut diamonds weighing a combined total of .50 carats set in a prong setting. Raffle entries cost \$10 for 10 entries and \$25 for 30 entries. The winning entry will be chosen on Saturday, Oct. 4.

Please scan the QR code and follow the link to purchase entries or visit <http://go.rallyup.com/bac60>. Sales, which end Wednesday, Oct. 1, at 6 p.m., help support the intergenerational art activities sponsored by Beachwood Arts Council.



Supporting Dementia Caregivers: Then and Now



In honor of Alzheimer's Awareness Month, explore JFSA Cleveland's long history of supporting individuals living with dementia and the families who care for them. This article is the third in a series celebrating JFSA's 150-year legacy.

In 2013, a community-needs assessment by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland revealed a rise in Alzheimer's and other dementias among older Jewish adults. In response, JFSA and community partners in aging – including the Federation, Bikur Cholim, Menorah Park, Montefiore (now King David), the JCC and others – committed to developing creative, community-based solutions to support those affected.

JFSA's dedication to dementia care began as early as the 1980s, when the agency recognized the unique emotional and physical toll of Alzheimer's on families:

- **1984:** JFSA launches its first counseling group for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's.
- **1987:** The Respite Care Program begins, offering trained, in-home companions for families.
- **1997:** JFSA partners with Montefiore to offer a continuum of home health services called Jewish Community Care at Home.
- **2004:** Specialized home health aides begin providing advanced Alzheimer's care.
- **2019:** With \$1 million in federal and local funding from the Administration for Community Living (and as one of 15 providers to receive such funding), JFSA launches the Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Support Program. With it, the "Savvy Caregiver" webinar series begins, offering caregivers six weeks of free, expert-led training as well as the monthly Brain Health and Wellness Speaker Series.
- **2020:** The Dementia Caregiver Support Group is launched to help caregivers reduce stress, access resources, and connect in a supportive environment.
- **2024:** The JFSA Memory Café opens, offering a welcoming space for individuals with memory loss and their care partners to socialize, enjoy music, and engage in activities. JFSA is also selected as one of four Cleveland organizations to join the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services new GUIDE Model, a national initiative focused on improving dementia care and caregiver support.

JFSA has always understood that older adults value independence – and that with the right support, they can maintain it. Since revitalizing its dementia services in 2019, JFSA has served 732 individuals and their families through assessments, referrals, education, counseling, and respite care. For more information, contact Hannah Doles at 216.378.3462.

She's always been your anchor.



Together, let's navigate her care.

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

WE CAN HELP.

Call **216.378.8660** today for a free assessment, or visit [jfsa-cleveland.org](https://www.jfsa-cleveland.org).



Save the Date

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025

Beechmont Country Club

Celebrating Our Past. Strengthening Our Future.

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

The Mayor's Message Beachwood in Bloom

Dear Beachwood Residents,

Summer has arrived in Beachwood, and with it comes an exciting season full of activity, connection, and community spirit. Our Beachwood Family Aquatic Center is officially open, and it's already buzzing with families, friends, and neighbors enjoying one of our city's most popular gathering places. In addition to the pool, our summer camp programs begin June 9, teen night events are drawing significant participation, and our sports leagues are in full swing. We're especially excited to introduce a fresh take on our Beachwood Beats concert series—new energy, new performers, and the same great community atmosphere. Whether you're relaxing to live music or cheering from the sidelines at a game, there's something for everyone to enjoy this summer.

I want to thank our Community Services Department, led by Derek Schroeder, and his outstanding team. Their dedication to expanding programs and creating more places to play empowers our community to stay active and engaged. Beachwood is a vibrant place to live because of the work of city employees who consistently find creative ways to enrich the lives of our residents.

"Beachwood is a vibrant place to live because of the work of city employees who consistently find creative ways to enrich the lives of our residents."

Looking ahead, I encourage everyone to attend our annual Juneteenth Community Celebration on Wednesday, June 19. This event has quickly become one of Beachwood's largest and most meaningful signature celebrations. It's a day of joy, reflection, and unity; I'm proud of how our community has embraced this event. I want to thank the Beachwood Schools African American Affinity Group for their continued partnership in hosting this celebration. Their leadership and collaboration have helped elevate this event to new heights

each year. Be sure to read this month's cover story for a deeper look at our Juneteenth celebration's history and remarkable growth.

I also want to highlight another vital community event: the Beachwood 100 Scholarship Dinner. This annual event honors the achievements of scholarship recipients and the unwavering commitment of Beachwood's safety services. From our dispatchers—often the first voice in a moment of crisis—to our police officers and firefighters who protect our city with courage and compassion, their service defines the strength and values of Beachwood.

As Mayor and Safety Director, public safety remains my top priority. I am proud to support and advocate for our safety personnel every single day. The Beachwood 100's commitment to standing beside these heroes, especially during times of need, is a powerful testament to the spirit of our community. Their work reminds us of what's possible when residents come together in support of those who serve us.

Thank you for being an active part of all that makes Beachwood such a unique community. I look forward to seeing you around town this summer.

Sincerely,

Mayor Justin Berns
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com



Beachwood City Council



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



Alec Isaacson
Council President
216.291.2797



Danielle Shoykhet
Council V.P.
216.212.9212



Jillian DeLong
216.509.3514



Joshua Mintz
650.464.6788



Pete Smith
216.299.3557



Ali B. Stern
240.706.7478



June E. Taylor
216.533.7640



AUDITOR
216.595.3712

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
216.292.1914

CLERK OF COUNCIL
216.595.5493

COMMUNITY SERVICES
216.292.1970

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
216.292.1915

FINANCE
216.292.1913

FIRE & RESCUE
216.292.1965

LAW
216.595.5462

MAYOR'S OFFICE
216.292.1901

POLICE
216.464.2343

PUBLIC WORKS
216.292.1922

EMERGENCY
Dial 9-1-1 or
216.464.1234

Beachwood Police Host First “Cookout with Cops” to Build Community

The Beachwood Police Department hosted its first-ever “Cookout with Cops” event on Wednesday, May 14, drawing over 500 attendees to the Beachwood Playground for an afternoon of food, fun, and meaningful conversation.

About a dozen Beachwood police officers were in attendance, grilling hot dogs and offering kosher-friendly options while chatting with families and residents. Children took full advantage of the playground while the city added to the festive atmosphere with yard games, a DJ spinning music, and an interactive display of police motorcycles, bicycles, and e-bikes for kids to explore.

Sponsored by 360 Painting and Hunter Wellness Center, the cookout provided free food and camaraderie, creating stronger connections between officers and the residents they serve.

“The event was a great success, and it was rewarding to see so many people come out and engage with our officers,” said Mayor Justin Berns. “Opportunities like these are essential. They allow our police to build trust and relationships with residents in a positive environment.”

Police Chief Dan Grispino echoed that sentiment, saying, “Building relationships with the people we serve is one of the most important things we can do. Events like this help us connect on a personal level, and our goal is to host even more in the future.”



Photography provided by Discovery Photo.



Officer PekarSKI with Jordyn and Ashlyn Erkins.

STAY ENGAGED IN YOUR COMMUNITY:



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

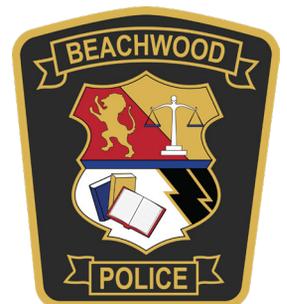
Beachwood Police Department Pursues State of Ohio Law Enforcement Accreditation

The Beachwood Police Department is proud to announce its participation in the newly expanded Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, joining 19 other agencies across the state in a commitment to advancing excellence in law enforcement practices.

Launched by Gov. Mike DeWine in 2024, the program recognizes agencies that voluntarily meet or exceed nearly three dozen rigorous state standards in professional conduct, bias-free policing, crisis intervention, and community engagement. The initiative is the only state-run accreditation program in the nation that is free for law enforcement agencies to join, reflecting Ohio's commitment to accessible and accountable policing.

"Accreditation is a way for local law enforcement agencies to show their communities that they are meeting Ohio's high standards and are among the top agencies in the state," said Gov. DeWine. "I'm pleased to see these 20 agencies step up and take on the challenge of being among the best of the best."

The Beachwood Police Department is also nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), a recognition that demonstrates adherence to internationally recognized law enforcement best practices. This dual accreditation effort highlights the department's continued dedication to transparency, public trust, and operational excellence.



UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
June 16 at 7:00 p.m.
July 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
June 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
June 2 at 4:30 p.m.
June 16 at 4:30 p.m.

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

Beachwood's Cathy Bieterman Honored with Team NEO Award for Regional Economic Development Leadership

The City of Beachwood's Director of Economic Development, Cathy Bieterman, has been named the 2025 Team NEO Regional Economic Development Champion Award recipient. The award was presented during the annual NEO Rise Event on May 7, recognizing outstanding leadership across Team NEO's 14-county region in Northeast Ohio.

This distinguished honor places Bieterman among Northeast Ohio's top economic development leaders, celebrating her innovative strategies and transformative impact on the City of Beachwood. The award was presented by Matt Dolan, CEO of Team NEO, in recognition of the city's significant economic attraction efforts, including high-profile companies, such as Millennium Control Systems and MasterBrand Cabinets. The award also reflects Beachwood's forward-thinking use of economic development tools and resources to foster business growth, innovation, and support for emerging industries.



Cathy Bieterman (left) among the 2025 Team NEO award recipients with CEO Matt Dolan (right).



Cathy Bieterman, City of Beachwood, Economic Development Director

"Receiving this award is a tremendous honor," said Bieterman. "It truly inspires me to think more creatively and continue to move forward profoundly as we shape our city's future. Our department remains deeply committed to fulfilling the objectives set forth by our community stakeholders through the City's Master Plan and Economic Development Action Plan. This recognition bolsters the importance of that mission and the momentum we are building together."

The award is significant, given the vast pool of eligible candidates — economic development directors from across 14 counties in Northeast Ohio. Team NEO selected Beachwood and Bieterman for the city's innovative initiatives and exceptional results in business attraction, site development, and support for growing industries.

Mayor Justin Berns, who attended the event with other city representatives, expressed pride in the achievement. "Cathy's leadership has been instrumental in making Beachwood a destination for innovation and investment," said Mayor Berns. "This award is not only a celebration of her accomplishments but reinforces the vision and dedication of the city's economic development strategy."

Also in attendance were Economic Development Council Representative Jillian DeLong, City Administrator Tina Turick, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director David Lapierre, and Team NEO event sponsor Russ Balthis, who helped present the award.

HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to **Juneteenth** on Thursday, June 19, rubbish and recycling collection will be delayed one day. Thursday collections will occur on Friday. Monday through Wednesday remain unchanged.

Successful Spring Shred Day

Thank you to all the residents who participated in our Spring Shred Day! 420 residents took part, shredding nearly 16 thousand pounds of documents, promoting both privacy and environmental responsibility.

This free event is made possible through a Recycling Awareness Grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District.

If you missed it, don't worry: Another Shred Day will take place this fall on Sept 12.

Mayor Justin Berns and Audit Director Harvey Rose with personnel from Beachwood Public Works at Shred Day on May 9.



City of Beachwood Goes Cashless, Expands Digital Payment Options

The City of Beachwood is officially going cashless for city-run services and programs. It now offers a variety of new digital payment options that make transactions faster, more secure, and convenient for residents.

From a city operations perspective, the move to cashless transactions increases efficiency and reduces the potential for fraud. “We’ve improved accuracy in balancing tills, eliminated the need to visit the bank for change, and no longer have to pull officers off the road to handle nightly deposits,” said Community Services Director Derek Schroeder.



New payment processing device at City Hall.

Residents have long requested the convenience of mobile payment options, and now they’re here. Apple Pay and Google Pay are accepted for all city-related fees, memberships, and program registrations. As long as your digital wallet is activated, you can take advantage of these payment options.

In addition to mobile wallets, the city accepts Mastercard, Visa, Discover, and American Express, ensuring fewer card restrictions. Many residents are credit card rewards users, and the updated system allows them to continue earning points with every transaction. While there is a slightly higher processing cost to the city for Amex, customers have no additional fees for using any accepted cards or digital payment methods. Checks will continue to be accepted as a payment method, although the city will no longer routinely accept cash at municipal facilities.

Please note, third-party vendors, including the BFAC concession stand and vendors at city events, will each have their own payment systems and options.

The shift to digital payments marks a major step toward modernizing Beachwood’s public services, creating a more streamlined and secure experience.



Snack Shack Debuts New Management & Order-Ahead App

This season, Beachwood Family Aquatic Center patrons will recognize a pair of new faces behind the Snack Shack, as longtime Beachwood residents Saree Doyle and Jen Ferns take the reins. After being operated last summer by the city’s Community Services Department, the concession stand is now in the hands of these experienced local entrepreneurs under third party management.

One standout upgrade this season is the introduction of a convenient order-ahead app — now available for download on the Apple App Store and Google Play. The new app allows customers to browse the menu, place their orders in advance, and view real-time estimated wait times, making snack breaks quicker and easier. Google and Apple Pay will also be accepted.

Additionally, a dedicated playground menu will be offered at the opposite serving window, helping to better serve families enjoying the play area.

From classic summer treats to exciting new menu items, the Beachwood Snack Shack is looking forward to serving you this year.

Arbor Day Celebration

The City of Beachwood celebrated Arbor Day with a special event highlighting its commitment to environmental stewardship and urban forestry. Mayor Justin Berns, City Council Vice President Danielle Shoykhet, Council Member Josh Mintz, Beachwood Public Works Department members, and enthusiastic students from Fairmount School gathered to honor the city’s green legacy.

This annual celebration marks more than just the planting of trees—it reaffirms Beachwood’s 29-year designation as a Tree City USA, a national recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation. The event served as a hands-on learning opportunity for Fairmount School students, who participated in tree planting near the city’s community garden.



Fertilizer Safety

When fertilizing, please make sure fertilizer stays on the lawn and is cleaned from sidewalks, driveways and streets. Chemicals also pose a health threat to pets. Failure to remove granules from previously mentioned locations is a violation of Ohio Pesticide Law. Please be sure to advise your landscaper to comply while fertilizing.

An advertisement for the Beachwood Snack Shack app. It features the app's logo at the top, which says "BEACHWOOD SNACK SHACK ESTABLISHED 2015". Below the logo, it says "Search for 'Beachwood Snack Shack' on the App Store." and "DOWNLOAD AND SHARE OUR APP". The main part of the ad shows two smartphone screens displaying the app's interface. The left screen shows the home screen with a menu of food items and buttons for "Order Now", "Punch Card", "About Us", and "Party Menu". The right screen shows the "Order Now" screen with a list of menu items and prices: Veggie Burger (7.99), Tuna Wrap (7.99), Turkey Wrap (7.99), Salad w/ Chicken Balsamic (8.00), Salad w/ Chicken Ranch (8.00), Salad w/ Chicken Italian (8.00), and \$3.99 Drink (8.00). To the right of the screens is a QR code and logos for "ANDROID APP ON Google play" and "Available on the App Store". At the bottom right is a small version of the Beachwood Snack Shack logo.

June Recreation Guide

Beachwood Beats
Summer Concert Series

Live Music

- 6.10 THE NICK PUIN BAND**
Upbeat Jazz & American Songbook
- 6.17 REVIVAL ROCK BAND**
Maximum Energy Rock & Roll
- 6.24 3 BIRDS & THE WIRE**
Three Voices, One Harmony
- 7.01 SUBLINERS**
Jazz-Rock Fusion Band
- 7.08 ELVIS WONDER SHOW**
An Authentic Elvis Experience
- 7.15 NITEBRIDGE**
Jazz, Country, Blues, & More
- 7.22 TAKING OFF MONDAY**
Ultimate Pop Punk Experience
- 7.29 POP MACHINE**
Chart Topping Hits

FREE: Tuesdays, 6:30-8 PM
Beachwood Family Aquatic Center
25125 Fairmount Blvd.
Learn more at BeachwoodRec.com!

SOLON POINTE
Prosper

Cornerstone CAREGIVING

Bring Your Own Chairs | Concessions Available | Inclement Weather Location: Community Center

JUNE 19
4-7 PM
BEACHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

JUNE TEENTH
BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

FREE FAMILY FEST
ACTIVITIES & GAMES
DJ & MOVIE TRUCK
LOCAL VENDORS
FOOD TRUCKS

CITY OF Beachwood
Beachwood City Schools
African American Affinity Group

TEEN Night at the Courts

PICKLEBALL | VOLLEYBALL | YARD GAMES | DJ | SNACKS

July 9 & July 30
6:00-8:00 PM
BEACHWOOD PICKLEBALL COURTS

TO PERFORMANCE
CITY OF Beachwood
FREE! REGISTER ONLINE:
BEACHWOODREC.COM

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT: Showing: *Piece by Piece* | Thursday, June 19, 5:00 p.m. | Beachwood High School
June's Movie Night is part of the Juneteenth Community Celebration. Bring chairs and blankets.

New Diving Board Installed

If you've visited the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center recently, you may have spotted a sleek new addition. A brand-new diving board has been installed, complete with upgraded steps, railings, and landings — all thoughtfully designed to enhance safety and improve the experience for our patrons.



We're excited to welcome thousands of swimmers this summer to test it out. Come make a splash! Learn more about the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center and view summer rates at BeachwoodRec.com.

POOL Party Nights

SWIMMING • MUSIC & GAMES • POOLSIDE SNACKS • FAMILY-FRIENDLY

JUNE 26
ICE POP PARADISE
A Chill Night at the Pool

BFAC MEMBERS \$3
RESIDENTS \$5
NON-RESIDENT GUESTS \$8

REGISTER: BEACHWOODREC.COM

STATEMENT
NAIL & WAX LOUNGE

Leaf Party Day Returns June 18

Leaf Party Day continues to grow as 23-year-old Bartu Hatipoglu will lead the eighth annual celebration on Wednesday, June 18, from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center. Bartu, a resident who doesn't let autism get in the way of his unique ability to connect with others through nature, began bringing leaves to the pool in 2017 to share with now retired Pool Manager Missy Bystrom. The leaves quickly became a favorite of other children at the pool who would follow Bartu around the lazy river chanting 'Leaf Party' as they swung their branches around their heads.

Fast forward to today, the Leaf Party is an annual tradition with leaf-themed crafts, garlands, crowns, shirts and more. The event is attended by some of Beachwood's summer camps and is open to BFAC members only on June 18.



Bartu with his signature grand entrance!



BEACHWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2025

PICKLEBALL
TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, JULY 12
Beachwood Pickleball Courts

Courts located behind the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center.

9 AM Doubles \$40, Rain Date: July 13
Register at BeachwoodRec.com!

CITY OF
Beachwood

Summer Specialty Camps

Beachwood Community Services offers a diverse selection of specialty camps that extend beyond the traditional summer camp schedule, providing participants with an opportunity to delve deeper into their interests as summer draws to a close. Some of the offerings include:

- **Dennis Weyn's Soccer Group Camp - Ages 4-13**
June 9-13 or Aug. 4-8, Full Day or Half Day Options, Fairmount School
Residents \$175-\$225, Non-Residents \$210-\$270
- **LEGO Bots with Classroom Antics - Ages 7-9**
July 28-Aug. 1, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Beachwood Middle School
Residents & Non-Residents \$265 (ClassroomAntics.com)
- **Crayola Artblazers Camp - Grades K-5**
July 28-Aug. 1, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$375, Non-Residents \$450
- **Skyhawks Flag Football Camp - Ages 6-12**
July 28-Aug. 1, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Fairmount School
Residents \$163, Non-Residents \$196

Explore more summer specialty camps in the Spring/Summer Recreation Guide or visit BeachwoodRec.com.

Beachwood Seniors

Call for 50-Year Residents

Have you called Beachwood home for 50 years? We want to recognize you at a special event later this summer!

Beachwood Community Services is planning a Senior Cookout in August, and as part of the event, we'll be honoring our newest group of 50-year residents with a short ceremony, award, and gift. If you haven't been recognized in a previous year, please contact Jayme Jirousek, Senior Adult Manager, at 216-292-1911 to add your name to the list.

Spread the word—we hope to see you there!

June Meet & Eat

Magic & Music with Dustin Kaiser
Thursday, June 12, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

Residents \$13, Non-Residents \$16, Program Only \$5
Register by June 5.

While we enjoy a delicious lunch, Dustin will captivate us with his incredible magic tricks, leaving us in awe and wonder. But, the entertainment doesn't stop there! After lunch, he will take the stage, as a one-man band, performing a lively and engaging set of tunes.

The meal includes a Super Spud Buffet with baked potatoes and toppings including grilled chicken, steamed broccoli, jalapenos, diced tomatoes, sauteed mushrooms and onions, salsa, bacon bits, and more.

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Business Compass Podcast: From Startup to Standout, Inside Tri-C's Center for Entrepreneurs



Left to right: Cathy Bieterman, Economic Development Director; Ronna McNair, Executive Director for the Center of Entrepreneurs; Josh Troche, Pedal Stomper Productions

This month on the Beachwood Business Compass Podcast, we explore the energy behind Beachwood's entrepreneurial success. This episode features an engaging conversation and advice on making your business stand out. We get valuable insight from Ronna McNair, Executive Director of the Center for Entrepreneurs, and Josh Troche, podcast connoisseur with Pedal Stomper Productions.

The Center for Entrepreneurs, located at Corporate College and powered by Cuyahoga Community College, has become a hub for innovation and growth. With a mission to empower entrepreneurs through resources, mentorship, and hands-on experiences, the Center offers programming that supports business structure development, branding, lending strategies, profitability, and much more.



Ronna McNair shares how this vibrant network, composed of business owners, creatives, investors, and students, impacts businesses by creating a culture of collaboration and resilience. From podcast storytelling to strategic workshops, the Center helps businesses unlock new levels of potential in an ever-evolving marketplace.



As Beachwood continues to lead with innovation, this episode reminds us that by investing in our entrepreneurs, we are building more than companies—we are shaping the future of our business community.

Beachwood Hosts Destination Cleveland's Coffee Hour

The City of Beachwood welcomed industry leaders for Destination Cleveland's Coffee Hour, a dynamic networking event to strengthen ties across Northeast Ohio's hospitality, dining, retail, and cultural sectors.

Held at La Place in Beachwood, the gathering served as a platform to highlight the city's growing role as a premier destination for visitors. From corporate travelers to concertgoers, Beachwood continues to offer top-tier amenities and experiences that support the local economy.

Tourism remains a key economic driver for the region, increasing the city's tax base and supporting a wide range of local businesses. As part of its ongoing collaboration with Destination Cleveland, Beachwood will be featured in this year's Beachwood Visitors Guide and prominently on Destination Cleveland's website.

With its strategic location and strong community partnerships, Beachwood is well-positioned as a premier destination in Northeast Ohio.



Attendees outside Nervous Dog Coffee Bar in Beachwood's La Place.

ERC HR Solutions Celebrates Grand Opening

The City of Beachwood welcomes ERC HR Solutions to its community with the opening of its dynamic new office at Site Center. ERC has been a trusted partner to Northeast Ohio businesses for over a century and is known for its exceptional service to foster regional success. ERC leadership continues to invest in initiatives like NorthCoast 99, that recognize and promote top workplaces across the region.



Mayor Berns presenting a proclamation to the ERC team during their grand opening event.

*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

When Every Second Counts: Trust Your Heart and Vascular Health to the Experts at University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center



William Wolf, M.D.

As innovations in heart and vascular care continue to develop, more minimally invasive options are available for patients needing emergency or planned procedures.

Instead of traditional “open” surgery, interventional cardiologists and endovascular specialists provide a non-surgical way to diagnose and treat heart and blood vessel conditions. Catheter-based tools help measure blood pressure and flow, and advanced techniques enhance and save the lives of patients with heart or vascular disease.

At University Hospitals (UH) Ahuja Medical Center in Beachwood, patients find the same level of experience and state-of-the-art equipment as they find at UH Cleveland Medical Center – in the convenience of a community hospital setting.

“The breadth of precision catheter techniques is resulting in remarkable clinical quality and patient outcomes. Our team is wholly committed to offering the most complex minimally invasive therapies close to home,” says William Wolf, M.D., medical director of UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute at UH Ahuja Medical Center.

As a site of UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute, UH Ahuja Medical Center offers everything from simple tests to advanced interventional procedures, including:

- **Advanced Cardiac Catheterization:** Utilizing state-of-the-art imaging for precise diagnosis and treatment.
- **Angioplasty and Stenting:** Effectively opening blocked arteries to restore crucial blood flow to the heart and circulatory system.
- **Complex Coronary Interventions:** Employing specialized methods and technologies for challenging blockages.
- **Pacemaker and Defibrillator Implantation:** Providing essential support for managing irregular heart rhythms.
- **Catheter Ablations:** Treating the full range of abnormal heart rhythms, both simple and complex.
- **Endovascular Procedures:** Using minimally invasive approaches to remove blood clots, improve blood flow or repair damaged blood vessels.

With a combination of more onsite experts, more complex procedures performed locally, and a one-stop site for pre-and post-care, patients can feel confident in the highest-quality program – right in the neighborhood.

Are You a Heart Attack Waiting to Happen?

A no-cost, noninvasive scan available at UH Ahuja Medical Center can help predict your risk for heart attack. Coronary artery calcium scoring is a form of CT scan that measures the amount of calcium present in your coronary arteries.

“The presence of calcium in your arteries is a marker of coronary artery disease, the most common cause of heart attacks,” says Dr. Wolf.

Who Should Have Calcium Scoring?

Men and women age 45 or older, with no history of coronary artery disease, and with one or more risk factors for heart disease, including:

- High blood cholesterol
- Low HDL cholesterol
- High blood pressure
- Cigarette smoking
- Type 2 diabetes
- Chronic inflammatory condition
- Early menopause
- Chronic kidney disease

Testing at a younger age may be indicated for certain situations.

A doctor’s order is required. Learn more at UHhospitals.org/calciumscore.



To make an appointment, call 216.844.3800 or visit UHhospitals.org/Ahuja.

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Beachwood Welcomes New Director of Communications



Gregory Murphy

Beachwood City Schools welcomes Gregory Murphy as the district's new director of communications. Murphy began his role with the district on May 1 and will lead the strategic communications program to promote the mission and vision of the Beachwood City School District.

"Thank you to the Board of Education for this opportunity," Murphy said. "I am thrilled to join the Beachwood team and look forward to working closely with students, staff, families, and the entire school community. Beachwood has an outstanding reputation, and I am eager to contribute by sharing stories that reflect the district's values and achievements."

Murphy joins Beachwood from the Rocky River City School District, where he served as communications specialist since 2018. There, he led the development and implementation of strategic communications plans, including a website redesign, the launch of a mobile app, producing school and district newsletters and maintaining the district's presence on Instagram, Facebook and X. Under his direction, Rocky River's social media channels generated nearly one million impressions each year.

"Greg's creative storytelling skills and approachable style make him an excellent fit for our district," Superintendent Robert P. Hardis says. "He understands how to effectively communicate the achievements of students and staff, and we look forward to his contributions in strengthening our community relationships."

Before joining Rocky River, Murphy served as assistant athletics director for communications at Cleveland State University and also held communications roles with Colorado School of Mines, Washington & Lee University, and the Cleveland Browns. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in communications from John Carroll University.

Murphy resides in Aurora with his wife Erica and their sons, Keegan and Barrett.

EVENTS CALENDAR



Last Day of School for Students
June 3

Juneteenth Celebration
June 19, 4:00-7:00 p.m.
Beachwood High School
25100 Fairmount Blvd.



VIEW THE FULL CALENDAR

www.beachwoodschoos.org/calendar

BHS Student Selected for Journalism Conference

Beachwood High School junior Lyndia Zheng has been selected to attend the Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference in Washington, D.C., from June 22-27. The five-day summer program brings together one high school junior from each state for a skill-building, network-growing, life-changing experience that gives students a head start on their futures.

The managing editor for the *Beachcomber* this year, Zheng is the first BHS student to ever be selected for this program. She will receive an all-expenses paid trip to the conference and a \$1,000 college scholarship.

"At first, I was very shocked when I received the acceptance email, but then I became very excited," Zheng said. "I want to learn from media journalism professionals and am also excited to meet other student journalists my age."



Lyndia Zheng

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

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



beachwoodschoools.org

Robotics Team Competes at World Championships

Beachwood High School's Robotics Team 695 concluded an impressive 2024-2025 season by competing at the World Championships in Houston, Texas. The team qualified for the top-level competition by winning a regional event in Cleveland while partnering with their alliance captain Team 1787, The Flying Circuits, from Orange High School and Team 1559, Devil Tech, from Victor, New York.

This season's game "Reefscape" was released in January and the team immediately began analyzing all aspects of game play and scoring. Based on the team analysis, the group decided to focus on playing coral, which centers around robots placing PVC pipes (called coral) onto different levels of a 6-foot reef structure.

"The team built a robot that was extremely efficient at playing coral, which in turn greatly contributed to our success," robotics advisor John Keyerleber said.

After qualifying for the World Championships in early April, the team had just one week to prepare. They focused on robot maintenance and producing spare parts to ensure the robot was ready for competition with the quick turn-around time.

Beachwood finished 16th in its division and advanced to the elimination rounds, finishing in eighth place. The team's final season ranking was 103rd out of 3,690 teams worldwide.



In addition, the group also earned the Innovation in Control Award during a regional competition in Rochester, a judged award that celebrates a team's innovative control system or application of control components to provide unique robot functions.

"The World Championship consisted of 600 teams from around the world in eight divisions and more than 50,000 people in attendance, so it was an amazing, high-energy experience for the students," Keyerleber said. "The team returned home tired but motivated to work even harder next season to get back to Houston."

With their sights already set on returning to Houston next year, the team looks forward to welcoming new members and continuing to build upon Beachwood's robotics tradition.

Student Creativity Shines at District Art Show

The annual Beachwood City Schools K-12 Art Show sponsored by the Beachwood Arts Council was on display during the month of May at the Beachwood Community Center. The exhibition began with an open house for the first night on May 1 and featured a range of artworks from all grade levels, including colorful collages, sculptures, and advanced portfolio pieces.

Organized by the district's four art teachers – Chunny Hahn, Sarah Krieger, Rachel Hartwig, and Heather Grano – the event highlights artwork created by students across all grade levels.

"The art show offers the community a window into the culture and creativity that we foster with our students all year," says Ms. Hartwig. "It is a great opportunity for students to showcase their talents, feel seen, and become more confident sharing their work."



BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Elementary Facilities Project Update

Bryden and Hilltop Construction Update

If you happen to have driven through Bryden or Hilltop schools recently, you have undoubtedly noticed the progress of construction on our new elementary buildings. This construction update will cover:

- ★ Recent work and work slated to be completed in the next few months
- ★ Timeline of milestones for both building projects
- ★ Construction budget update

With the arrival of warmer weather, work has been proceeding at a fast clip. Over the next few months, you can anticipate seeing walls finished, roofing set, and exterior finishes installed, including brickwork, siding and doors.. Harder to see, but equally important, is the massive amount of internal and underground utility work being completed across the project sites.

Bryden Timeline



- ✔ **December 2025:** construction, commissioning, and inspections complete
- ✔ **January 2026:** staff and students move into new Bryden
- ✔ **January - April 2026:** old Bryden abated and demolished
- ✔ **May - August 2026:** playground, blacktop/bus loop, parking lots/drives, and landscaping completed (fields need two growing seasons before use)

Hilltop Timeline



- ✔ **May 2025:** shale mitigation completed
- ✔ **March 2026:** construction, commissioning, and inspections complete
- ✔ **April 2026:** staff and students move into new Hilltop
- ✔ **April - July 2026:** old Hilltop abated and demolished
- ✔ **July - August 2026:** blacktop/bus loop completed (temporary parking lot to remain)
- ✔ **August - October 2026:** playground, permanent parking lot/drives, and landscaping completed (fields need two growing seasons before use)

Construction Budget

Bryden's and Hilltop's construction costs were divided by phase into four distinct "guaranteed maximum price" (GMP) budgets. The fourth of these publicly bid budgets was recently completed and approved by the Board of Education. Like the prior three GMPs, the fourth and final GMP came in under budget. As you can see below, these two massive projects are tracking to be completed within our original projections. We are confident we will remain under budget because we are prudently holding almost \$2 million in contingency funds for any unforeseen future costs.

Total Project Budget: \$65,000,000

Total of GMPs: \$64,944,129 (includes \$1.985M in remaining contingency funds)

Balance: \$55,871

We thank the Beachwood community for generously supporting these important projects that replace our 70-year-old elementary school buildings. The new Bryden and Hilltop schools will be sources of great pride and serve as valuable resources for the entire Beachwood community.

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



Recent Resolutions

- Approved textbooks for 2025-2026 school year.
- Approved parent/student handbooks and Program of Studies for 2025-2026.
- Approved continuing contracts for six certificated staff members.

Upcoming Board Actions

- Approve the certification of the 2025 Beachwood High School graduates.
- Presentations on operations and upcoming projects.

Board Meeting Calendar

- June 9 @ 7:00 p.m.
- June 23 @ 7:00 p.m.



VIEW AGENDAS & MINUTES

www.beachwoodschoools.org/BOE

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Robert Hardis, Superintendent · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2201 · rph@beachwoodschoools.org
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Dr. Linda LoGalbo, Director of Curriculum & Instruction · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2208 · lhl@beachwoodschoools.org



beachwoodschoools.org

Student-Athlete Spotlight: Josh Rosenblitt



For Beachwood High School senior Josh Rosenblitt, baseball has always been a part of his life. He was drawn to the sport by his father around the age of 3 or 4 and has never lost his love for the game.

“I have played baseball for as long as I can remember,” Rosenblitt said.

His early role models were former coaches, but one specific coach who stood out was Garrett Mayers, a former all-state standout at Beachwood. “Coach Mayers was my first private coach and made everything fun,” Rosenblitt said. “But he also taught me a lot about the game and shaped how I approach baseball.”

Rosenblitt’s approach has led to one of the most successful careers in Beachwood history. During the 2025 season opener against Keystone, Rosenblitt surpassed Brad Goldberg’s school record of 246 career strikeouts, a total that Rosenblitt built upon throughout his senior campaign. Just a few weeks later, he became Beachwood’s all-time winningest pitcher, picking up his 18th career win with a 5-0 shutout of West Geauga.

Early in his career, Rosenblitt delivered in big moments on the mound, leading Beachwood to Chagrin Valley

Conference titles as a freshman and sophomore, by pitching in both championship games which took place at Beachwood High School Varsity Baseball field.

“Winning the CVC my freshman and sophomore years were my most memorable team moments,” Rosenblitt said. “I prepared myself by staying calm and trusting my abilities and the people around me. Getting a chance to pitch in those championship games was special.”

Reflecting on where he began, Rosenblitt remembers being the undersized freshman on the team—physically smaller than the rest, but already having a good feel for the game and control of the strike zone. The right-hander has been able to get bigger and stronger over the past four years, increasing his velocity and becoming a tough match-up for hitters.

“My experiences in Beachwood sports have shaped me into a better person and athlete,” Rosenblitt said.

Baseball will continue to be part of Rosenblitt’s life even after his graduation from Beachwood. In November, he signed to continue his academic and baseball careers at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. And whether he is in the classroom working toward his degree, or striking out another batter with a four-seam fastball, Rosenblitt will be able to reflect on the lessons and memories from Beachwood that have helped shape his path.

Alumni Spotlight: Jamie Lader (Class of 1992)



Jamie Lader has been part of the Beachwood community for most of his life, beginning as a student and now as a long-time educator and coach.

Lader attended Beachwood Schools from grades eight through 12, graduating as a member of the Class of 1992. After graduation, he pursued a career in education, earning his Bachelor’s degree in

Education from Ohio University in 1997 and later receiving his Master of Science in Education from Cleveland State University in 2004.

Lader began his teaching career at Cleveland Heights High School in 1997 before being hired as a long-term substitute science teacher in Beachwood four years later. The position continued the following year and Lader has been a staple in the halls of the high school ever since, while also serving as a track and cross-country coach.

“I have always enjoyed teaching at Beachwood,” Lader said. “The students are fun to teach and the ability to coach has allowed me to build some fantastic relationships.”

Lader attributes much of his growth and success to the supportive environment he had as a student, and now as a teacher. He gets the most joy when he sees students doing well and being successful with AP Exams or at track and cross-country competitions.

His advice for today’s students is simple but meaningful: “Hard work matters. I believe that the harder you work at something you are interested in, the more likely you are to find success.”

When he is not in the classroom or coaching, Lader enjoys cycling, running and hiking with his dogs in the amazing park system.

“It is an honor to work in the Beachwood Schools,” Lader said. “I can’t believe that I have been employed here for 24 years. Time really does fly when you are having fun!”

Read more Alumni Spotlights at www.beachwoodschoools.org/alumni

Rabbi Rosie Appointed Chair of Israel Bonds Cleveland Campaign Advisory Council

Rabbi Rosette Barron Haim was appointed to a two-year term as chair of the Israel Bonds Cleveland Campaign Advisory Council. Rabbi Rosie is a longtime investor and supporter of Israel Bonds. She is the immediate past chair of the Israel Bonds National Rabbinic Advisory Council and is a member of the Israel Bonds National Campaign Advisory Council.



"I've always believed that the words 'Israel Bonds' tell us as much about our ancient heritage as it does about the present-day mandate. We have to keep Israel central in our lives," said Rabbi Rosie. "I'm honored to be part of the mission to draw people closer to Israel through Israel Bonds.

"Investing in Israel bonds is more than a financial tool, it's a reflection of our spiritual connection to the land and the people of Israel. Especially after the atrocities of October

7," she continued. "We need to strengthen Israel and be strengthened by our support of her through Israel bonds. Buying Israel bonds for our portfolio and for gifts and assigning bonds for our community donations is one of the most significant ways our family expresses our commitment to Israel."

Ordained from the Hebrew Union College in 1988, Rabbi Rosie has served the Cleveland community for more than 35 years. Passionate to revitalize each person's Jewish identity,

she created the subscription series Celebrating Jewish Life in 2019, which encourages participants to develop stronger Jewish commitments to each other, to the Jewish community, and to Israel.

A founding member of the Zionist Rabbinic Coalition and national board member of AIPAC, Rabbi Rosie advocates for greater engagement with Israel – the people and the land – to strengthen the Jewish community, Israel, and the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Rabbi Rosie, a Beachwood resident, is married to Marshall Barron. They are the parents of Shira Barron, married to Adam Seltzer, and have one grandchild.

Development Corporation for Israel (known as Israel Bonds) and its affiliates around the world have generated more than \$53 billion in worldwide investments since it was founded 73 years ago. With strong rates, Israel Bonds are a smart and meaningful investment serving as a symbolic connection with Israel and the people. To learn more, visit www.israelbonds.com.

Beachwood Gallery Art Exhibit: *Indirect Reality*

Saturday, June 7 – Monday, July 7 • Artists' Reception: Saturday, June 14 • 1-4 p.m. • Beachwood Community Center

The Rust Belt Photo Collective (RBPC) – a grassroots community driven group established in the fall of 2024 – introduces its current exhibition, *Indirect Reality*, which explores endless possibilities that artists capture through their images. Three themes that artists contemplated to prepare for this show are:

- **Pictures inside of picture:** A photo within a photo emitting a double of at least two instances in time.
- **Observations of meaningful shadows:** World of dream imagery is certainly open to personal perception creating depth and dimension.
- **Urban stories:** Capturing and expressing the essence of life in an urban setting. This

could encompass architecture, environmental landscapes, people, and more.

The collective began with a group of creative individuals who shared similar interests to address a gap in the local photography and visual arts scene. The RBPC boasts a diverse group of members, including both novice and experienced photographers from the Northeast Ohio area.

RBPC organizes monthly meetings, provides exhibition opportunities, delivers educational presentations, and fosters a network for sharing ongoing photography endeavors.

Laura D'Alessandro and June Hund founded the RBPC and currently serve as the curators for this inaugural exhibition.

Artists include Zachary C. Bako, Barbara Breen, Janet Century, Doug Cox, Laura D'Alessandro, Nicole D'Alessandro, Cara Gaetano, Brent Gemmill, Samantha Godfrey, Sue Holick-Bade, Richard K. Holmes, June Hund, Angie Mabin, Sean Mabin, Carmella Orban, Arlene Pachasa, Anastasia Pantsios, Cynthia Penter, David Perelman-Hall, Maria Perme, Denyce Renee, and Jamie Richey.



Pictured from top:
Barbara Breen
Dog and Car

Richard Holmes
Night Walker

Cynthia Penter
Shadow Puppets

New Maltz Museum Gallery Installation Exploring the 2018 Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting Now On Display

The Maltz Museum is pleased to announce the opening of a new traveling installation, *Lessons from the Tree of Life: Lighting the Path Forward*. This collection offers an intimate look at what happened during the synagogue shooting at the Tree of Life building on Oct. 27, 2018; the Pittsburgh community's response; and the hope for the future. The installation will be on view at the Maltz Museum through Aug. 3, 2025.

Lessons from The Tree of Life places the 2018 attack, which left 11 worshippers dead, in the context of American antisemitism. The installation features a selection of artifacts that highlight historic roots of antisemitism and a curated selection of objects from the more than 10,000 items that were left outside the Tree of Life building or mailed to Pittsburgh in the months after the attack.

Items on view as a part of the installation include gifts from the Cleveland area, such as a collage made by students of afterschool programs at Trinity United Church of Christ in Wooster, a commemorative quilt, and a watercolor painting created by a member of Kol Halev, a reconstructionist Jewish congregation in Cleveland. Among the objects on display from the Pittsburgh community are a prayer book with bullet holes from the attack and the now-viral drawing depicting the late Fred Rogers grieving the shooting.

"This is an essential story to share with our community, especially as antisemitism and intolerance are on the rise in America," said Aaron Petersal, executive director of the Maltz Museum. "This installation shares the 10/27 attack's impact, yet focuses on the incredible outpouring of support to the community.

It's an important reminder of the power of compassion and unity in promoting healing and rebuilding in the face of unimaginable tragedy. *Lessons from The Tree of Life* is truly a story of resilience and what humanity can do to support each other and rise above hate."

On October 27, 2018, 11 Jewish worshippers from three congregations were murdered during Shabbat (sabbath) services. The day is commonly called 10/27 within the community. It remains the deadliest antisemitic attack in the United States. The three congregations targeted in the attack were Congregation Dor Hadash, New Light Congregation, and the Tree of Life Congregation (known then as Tree of Life – Or L'Simcha Congregation).

Museum hours are Tuesday – Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; closed on Mondays and most major holidays.

For tickets, call 216.593.0575 or visit www.maltzmuseum.org.

About the Installation

Lessons from The Tree of Life: Lighting the Path Forward was created by The Tree of Life in partnership with the Rauh Jewish History Program & Archives at the Heinz History Center and with support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and the Ford Foundation.

About the Maltz Museum

Rooted in the Jewish value of respect for all humanity, the Maltz Museum explores diverse stories of courage from history and today to promote a more inclusive tomorrow. The Museum receives support from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, and the Ohio Arts Council.

On View at Maltz Museum May 21

Lessons From The Tree of Life: Lighting the Path Forward

An installation offering an intimate look at what happened during 2018 Pittsburgh synagogue shooting, the community's response, and the hope for the future.

Presented by



Produced by



Join us for programing
inspired by the installation



Conspiracy and Chaos: Antisemitic Lies and The Protocols of the Elders of Zion

Wednesday, June 4, 7:00 pm

A discussion with Daniel Greene
exploring the relationship between
conspiratorial thinking and antisemitism

Lessons From The Tree of Life: Lighting the Path Forward. The Tree of Life's traveling installation is presented in partnership with the Rauh Jewish History Program & Archives at the Heinz History Center and with support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and the Ford Foundation.

The Maltz Museum is supported by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, and Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

2929 Richmond Rd., Beachwood, OH 44122
216.593.0575 • maltzmuseum.org

TECH Day at NASA Glenn Research Center

Beachwood Middle School students recently attended a STEM event at NASA, since developing early and accessible entry points into STEM careers is essential to meeting the growing demand for a skilled technical workforce.

NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland recently invited local students to step into the shoes of real-world NASA professionals. Nearly 200 students participated in TECH Day at NASA Glenn, including science students from Beachwood Middle School, touring NASA Glenn facilities, participating in an interactive engineering challenge, and engaging with professionals to learn about the wide range of careers in STEM fields.

Tours included:

- Glenn International Space Station Payload Operations Center, where researchers remotely operate experiments aboard the International Space Station
- Graphics and Visualization Lab, where researchers create engaging projects using virtual and augmented reality
- Simulated Lunar Operations Laboratory, a unique indoor space designed to mimic the surface of the moon and Mars

These STEM events help students visualize future opportunities and better understand the technical experience needed for a career in the aerospace sector.

"It is important to host events like TECH Day at NASA Glenn so students can see how classroom concepts apply in real-world settings," said Jeresha Nixon, program manager, Office of STEM Engagement. "Students were welcomed by Astro the Robotic Dog. They were also engaged in STEM pre-event activities, explored exhibits from various Glenn organizations, toured three world-class research facilities, and participated in an engineering activity that challenged them to



design, construct, and test a tool prototype to collect 'items of interest' from a simulated lunar surface."

"The trip was an amazing opportunity for students to see how science, math, and technology are applied to solve real problems, not only for space travel, but for here on Earth too," said Robert Ristau, sixth grade science teacher. "My hope is that this experience will inspire students to realize all the different opportunities STEM careers can offer for them."

"The best part of the day was working together on an engineering project to make a prototype of a device to pick up samples on the moon," said student Beth Lee. "It was also awesome getting to go into the supersonic wind tunnel. Not many people get to go in there."

"The visit brought us face to face with past victories and innovations, and motivated us for future victories," added student Brooklyn Durham.

Opportunities like this equip students with the skills to further technological advancement and become the STEM professionals of tomorrow.



Top: Students from Mr. Ristau's sixth grade science class had the unique opportunity to go inside the supersonic wind tunnel located at NASA Glenn Research Center.

Below: Dr. Michael Oliver, 10x10 Supersonic Wind Tunnel facility manager, explained how the air intake inlet works for aircraft traveling at supersonic speeds. Photo credits: NASA/Jef Janis.

In addition to the STEM Career Exploration events, NASA offers paid internships that allow high school and college-level students to contribute to NASA's mission, gain practical work experience, and work side-by-side with STEM and business professionals.

For additional information, please visit <https://www.nasa.gov/k-12-student-stem-events-at-glenn/>.

"My hope is that this experience will inspire students to realize all the different opportunities STEM careers can offer for them."

— Robert Ristau,
Sixth Grade Science Teacher

Moments that Matter

By Ananya Rao

Pride in the CLE: Unity, Visibility, and Justice for All

The month of June, dedicated to the LGBTQIA+ community, is known as Pride Month, which was created to honor the Stonewall Uprising, which began on June 28, 1969, in New York City. This protest was a pivotal moment in LGBTQ+ rights movements, when members of the Stonewall Inn resisted a police raid. Many of those who resisted were transgender women and queer people of color who were standing up for their rights. This event became a catalyst for the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement.

Before diving deeper, LGBTQIA+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual, and includes other gender identities and sexual orientations, including pansexual and non-binary.

The historic and momentous event at Stonewall Inn prompted

President Bill Clinton to declare June as the "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month" in 2000. Later, on June 1, 2009, President Barack Obama issued the first official proclamation recognizing June as "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month."

Then, on June 1, 2021, President Joe Biden embraced a broader, more inclusive community by renaming the month "LGBTQIA+ Pride Month."

Today, it is commonly referred to as Pride Month, which is celebrated through parades, festivals, rallies, and memorials held around the world. The events often include drag performances, art exhibits,

and marches for equality and remembrance. Pride Month is seen both as a celebration of everything people in the Pride community have achieved and also a protest highlighting the ongoing fight for rights.

In Cleveland, there are meaningful ways to support the LGBTQIA+ community. You can join

the celebration at Progressive Field, on June 6, for Cleveland Guardians Pride Night or attend Suburban Temple-Kol Ami's Pride Shabbat, on June 9, which brings together members of our community from all backgrounds for a beautiful evening of worship and reflection. Services start at 6 p.m.



Pride in the CLE® 2025 will take place on Saturday, June 7, at Public Square and Mall B, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This signature event celebrates our city's LGBTQIA+ community and advocates for the equitable and just treatment of all in our community.

Pride month is about the visibility, rights, and remembrance of the LGBTQIA+ community. It's about raising awareness about discrimination, homelessness among LGBTQIA+ youth, and health disparities. Pride month is a time to honor those who fought (and still fight) for equal rights, including Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, two trans activists involved in the Stonewall Uprising.

From the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

Upcoming Events

Networking After Five

Wednesday, June 25
4:30-6:30 p.m.
The Clubhouse Cleveland
23800 Commerce Park Dr.

Come and join PGA golf professional Drew Pierson as he teaches a thing or two about

the crazy game of golf. Bring one of your clubs and perhaps Drew will analyze your golf swing, which may make for good entertainment!

BCC members are free. Non-members are \$10. To register, visit www.beachwood.org.

Save the Date!

Spirit of Success Awards
Wednesday, Dec. 3
Cleveland Marriott East
Details to follow!



Community Security Training: Stop The Bleed

Monday, June 9
7-8:40 p.m.
Jewish Federation of Cleveland
25701 Science Park Drive

Stop The Bleed is a nationwide program that will teach participants how to recognize and respond to life-threatening bleeding in emergency situations. Participants will learn three techniques to stop bleeding: direct pressure, packing wounds, and using tourniquets.

This program is organized by JFC Security, LLC. There is no cost to attend. Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.

Friday Food Trucks

Friday Food Trucks, sponsored by the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce and hosted by Buy Rite Office Products, are back!

23715 Mercantile Rd. • Fridays, 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Bring a folding chair to stay, enjoy lunch, and network. Food trucks vary weekly. For more information, call Michelle at 216.292.7112.



Reel Impact: Animating Change with Chengyu Li

Beachwood High School senior Chengyu Li is an emerging filmmaker whose passion for storytelling began in childhood, sparked by animated series like *Charlie and Lola* and *Minuscule*. But it wasn't until eighth grade, while quarantined during the pandemic, that she discovered her love for animation as a creative outlet.

"With so much time on my hands and nowhere to go, I gravitated toward creative outlets," Chengyu said. "Animation fascinated me – it let me build entire worlds from scratch. What started as a way to pass time quickly became a passion."

Quarantine was, as she put it, "really, really boring." Inspired by self-taught YouTube animator JaidenAnimations, Chengyu began teaching herself how to animate. She subscribed to Adobe Creative Cloud, watched online tutorials, and incorporated animation into school projects – including a Spanish assignment and a Harry Potter book report turned movie trailer.

After quarantine, her filmmaking took on a new urgency. "I came out hyper-aware of the world and still felt the need to create," she said.

In the first semester of sophomore year, Chengyu channeled her emotions into a short film about school gun violence. "My rage, grief, and fear merged into a nightmare that drove me to dust off my drawing tablet – after more than a year – and animate it.

"I wanted people to feel the pressure and fear high school students live with," she added. "I hoped the film would spark empathy and awareness, especially from those who might otherwise just scroll past another headline."

Looking back, Chengyu realizes that nearly every film she's made centers on issues that matter. "I got tired of waiting for the 'right' time or for someone to give me permission to express myself," she said. "So I stopped waiting."

To *The Lighthouse*, a short film, was about the mental and physical pressures of being a Gen Z high schooler. *Zyraex* and *Barbershop* focused on the climate crisis. These films have screened at the Boulder International Film Festival, Burbank International Film Festival, and CineYouth International Film Festival.

To *The Lighthouse* was also screened at the National Film Festival for Talented Youth and won the *New York Times* Learning Network Global Multimedia Challenge, significantly increasing the film's viewership.

"Every day, the news reminds me that it's up to my generation to fix the problems we've inherited – even while we're still in school," Chengyu said. "That's what drives me

to keep improving my films – to make them more impactful!"

Chengyu then created *Daily Reminders*, a 1-minute-and-35-second film about self-acceptance and healing, told through a character who rediscovers a long-forgotten video on her phone. Originally made for a Red Helicopter competition in partnership with the All-American High School Film Festival, the challenge invited students to reflect on what kindness means. Chengyu's film serves as a gentle reminder that childlike empathy and forgiveness can help solve even the most "adult" problems like self-hate and low self-esteem.

Daily Reminders was selected for screening at the Cleveland International Film Festival in the Local Heroes Student Shorts category – a remarkable achievement, as Chengyu was the only high school student chosen. All other filmmakers were upper-level college or graduate students.

The film also brought Chengyu national recognition as a 2025 YoungArts Winner with Distinction. Chosen from nearly 11,000 applicants across 10 artistic disciplines, she received the Gold Award – the highest honor in the film category – along with a scholarship. In January, she traveled to Miami for National YoungArts Week (January 5–12), where she showcased her work, took part in master classes, and received mentorship from renowned artists. As a result of her achievement, Chengyu is now eligible for nomination as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, one of the highest honors awarded to high school seniors in the nation.

Additionally, Chengyu was selected as a Semifinalist for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

Looking toward her future, Chengyu plans to collaborate with other artists and storytellers and continue to grow as a filmmaker. "Maybe I'll continue the indie route, build my own team, and create original content that will inspire my generation and future generations of people to take action toward building a healthier globe."

Ultimately, her goal is to keep pushing creative boundaries and connect with audiences in ways that evoke fundamental human emotions – empathy, passion, kindness, and understanding. "Oftentimes, I feel like we



Chengyu Li at the Chicago Film Festival

lose sight of these emotions in all the sobering complexities of the world, and I hope the messages of my films can push for change," she said. "My goal is to create films that deeply resonate with audiences and leave them with a sense of recognition and determination."

Ultimately, her goal is to keep pushing creative boundaries and connect with audiences in ways that evoke fundamental human emotions – empathy, passion, kindness, and understanding.

In addition to being a talented filmmaker, Chengyu plays cello in the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, and is involved in the Asian American and Pacific Islander affinity group, *The Beachcomber*, Art Club, BHS Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Marching Band.

After graduation, she plans to pursue a degree in Urban Science and Planning, with a focus on Computer Science, Comparative Media Studies (including filmmaking), and Music at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Family Kindness Festival

Kindness was on full display at the Family Kindness Festival on Sunday, May 4, at Beachwood High School with 2,500 kids, parents, and grandparents coming together to celebrate the importance of kindness. The Festival was presented by Senders Pediatrics and Beachwood Schools.

Thirty non-profits and organizations, 30 area schools, and 28 entrepreneurial students, ranging in age from 7-18, gathered together for this one-of-a-kind community festival. The

event was designed to inspire students (and their families) to recognize that no act of kindness is too small and that individual acts of kindness add up and can have a big impact on friends, classmates,



and communities. Attendees walked away full of optimism, inspiration, ice cream, and

motivation to continue to “Have Fun, Do Good, and Be Kind.”



Top: Julianna and Josephine Chan show how Juliana creates blankets for those staying at Hope Lodge; Beachwood Mayor Justin Berns with the Eskelsen family; Dr. Shelly Senders and State Rep. Eric Synenberg display a State of Ohio proclamation congratulating Dr. Senders, Senders Pediatrics, and Beachwood Schools for their efforts to promote kindness throughout our community.

Middle: Ryan Levine, Maya Levine, Arica Jacobson, and Bailey Levine enjoy ice cold treats; Northeast Ohio Medical University student Mehraeel Saleh helps Annie Gartenberg and her sister, Maya, check the Teddy Bear’s ears; Dr. Robert Hardis, Beachwood Schools Superintendent, and Dr. Shelly Senders, founder and

CEO of Senders Pediatrics. The Festival was presented by Senders Pediatrics and Beachwood Schools.

Bottom: Matt Fieldman with his son, Aryeh, holding a bouquet of flowers to give to someone special; Phoebe and Amanda Goldberg advocate for healthy snacks; Karina Krishnan, Elle Beck, and Max Jacobs showcase craftsmanship of BHS Artisanal Woodworking; Priyasha Ghosal displays candles she makes and sells to benefit St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.

Photos by Mariana Edelman Photography and Design.

Cle's Got It All

Allan Licht is an accomplished songwriter and producer who has composed more than 250 songs, many of which have been recorded and released nationally and internationally. He works at Voracity Studios in Beachwood, with producer/audio engineer Pete Tokar, to bring his creations to life.

Just a few months ago, we featured Allan for his 2025 remake of *We Are the World*, which has a new twist on the lyrics and features local artists. While working on that project, he met Brad Johnson, the talented lead singer in Rodgers & Company, a Bad Company tribute band.

In 1994, Allan wrote a song called *Cleveland's Got It All* and never released it. Then, in 2012, he released it with artist Frederick Davis, one of Cleveland's premier R&B vocalists. In 1985, Frederick had a No. 8 song on the charts in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio called *Gentle*.

"Back then, I tried like crazy to get the city to adopt this song

as its theme song, but my timing was off," Allan said. "Destination Cleveland had just introduced *This is Cleveland* as its new tag line and was rebranding the city as CLE."

Then, a few months ago, Allan changed the song's title to *CLE's Got It All*. He updated many of the landmarks that have changed since 2012 and worked with Brad, who brought in something entirely new.

While the song once competed with Destination Cleveland's *This is Cleveland* campaign, there's hope that this new version – with its energy, updated references, and musical punch – will finally find its place as the city's unofficial anthem.

"I'd love to hear this track

at Progressive Field, Browns and Cavs games, over the loudspeakers at the airport, and anywhere locals and visitors can feel the spirit of the city," Allan said. "It's got history, it's got rhythm, and now – with a little bit of mazel – it's got a chance."

"I'd love to hear this track at Progressive Field, Browns and Cavs games, over the loudspeakers at the airport, and anywhere locals and visitors can feel the spirit of the city," Allan said.

To learn more, visit www.allanlichtmusic.com.



Allan Licht



University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center to Host Five Star Sensation on June 28

Vinnie Cimino, Chef/Partner of Cordelia, returns to lead this year's lineup of internationally renowned chefs and vintners

University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center's Five Star Sensation, presented by Huntington, returns this summer to showcase the culinary arts while raising vital funds for cancer patients and their families. This exclusive evening of food and wine will be held on June 28, 7-11 p.m., at Cuyahoga Community College in Highland Hills.

Vinnie Cimino, chef/partner of Cordelia and James Beard Award nominee, will again lead the culinary talent as host chef of 50 acclaimed chefs and vintners from around the world.

An impressive roster of chefs and vintners have generously devoted their time to Five Star, showcasing their culinary talents biennially

since 1987 with the goal of making a meaningful impact on the quality of life and future of cancer patients. In that time, Five Star Sensation has raised more than \$23 million for UH Seidman Cancer Center.

"It's an incredible event," said Chef Cimino. "Cancer runs in my family, including my grandfather who passed when I was four. Anything we can do to further the science that cures cancers and makes life easier for patients, I want to be a part of."

This year's honorary chairs are Jane and Lee Seidman, and Theodoros Teknos, M.D., president, and scientific director, UH Seidman Cancer Center, and the Jane and Lee Seidman chair in Cancer Innovation.

"The importance of this event cannot be overstated," said Dr. Teknos. "Funds raised will directly support critical services for the care of our patients, including innovative therapies and clinical trials. Each ticket purchased and every dish enjoyed contributes to a brighter future for those facing the challenges of cancer."

Under the leadership of co-chairs Ida Haber, Lisa and Kevin Chernikoff, and Margaret Singerman, UH aims to raise \$1.5 million to support patient experience, nursing, research and technology, and immunotherapy. New this year, under French Quarter-themed tents, are pastry tasting stations

throughout the evening, in addition to a late-night tent that will feature a DJ and dancing, VIP cabanas for top sponsors, surprises, and more.

Individual tickets (\$350) and sponsorship opportunities are now available. To register or see a list of participating chefs and vintners – both local and national – visit www.FiveStarSensation.org.



Elle & Emme: Selling Everything Except the Memories

Just a few years ago, Linda Blumenthal and Michelle Reiner were asked to run a house sale. When they did so successfully, they recognized a unique opportunity to assist people when downsizing or liquidating a home.

Soon thereafter, they established Elle & Emme Home to continue doing what came so naturally to them at that first sale. "We're knowledgeable, decisive, and emotionally detached so it's easier for us to run a sale than it would be for homeowners or their children to do it themselves," Linda said.

"The value of how we price something is aligned with what we feel we can reasonably receive," Michelle said. "It has nothing to do with an item's original value, it has everything to do with what people are willing to pay for something today.

"Clients often feel the monetary value is higher than it is because of an item's history and the memories tied to it," she added. "We consistently remind clients that our goal is to sell as much as possible and that nobody can take away the memories. That's why our tagline is, 'From shabby to chic, we sell everything but the memories.'"

"If there's something meaningful that someone really wants to keep, we encourage them to do so if they'll use it," Linda emphasized. "But if grandma's dishes have been packed in boxes and will be moved to sit in a new basement, we encourage clients to sell them and let someone else build new memories."

One thing that sets Linda and Michelle apart from others in the business is the time they spend preparing and setting up. "We pre-sale unusual, hard-to-sell items and do what has to be



Beachwood residents Michelle Reiner and Linda Blumenthal, owners of Elle & Emme Home.

done to make each home look like a boutique," Michelle said.

Prices usually start at a fraction of retail but are set realistically, offering great value in the first few days. As the sale goes on, prices are typically reduced further to help ensure that most of the items sell by the end.

"We'd rather mark something \$30 and sell it than \$100 and donate it when the sale is done," Linda said.

"When customers ask about the people who lived in the home, the unfortunate reality is that they may have passed away, could no longer maintain the home, or are living in assisted living. Most people then say that it's so sad," she added. "I tell them that it's not a sad story. It's a story of success. The people who lived there spent time with their beautiful family, shared their home with friends, entertained, built memories, and traveled. This was a happy home filled with beautiful memories, and now their belongings live on for new owners to create memories of their own."

Michelle added, "Our goal is to always do the very best job possible for our clients and to ease the emotional challenge of letting go."

For more information, visit www.elleandemmeestates.com, or contact Linda at 216.849.2828 or Michelle at 216.410.1420.

What's Next?

A documentary film that celebrates the remarkable life of Dr. Howard Tucker.



What's Next?

Thursday, June 26

Park Synagogue

27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike

6:45-7:15 p.m. – Enjoy refreshments

7:15 pm – Screening begins

The community is invited to spend a special evening at the screening of *What's Next?*, which celebrates the remarkable life and career of 102-year-old Clevelander Dr. Howard Tucker, recognized by the Guinness World Records as the world's oldest practicing physician.

What's Next, filmed two years ago, chronicles one year in the life of Dr. Tucker, who at age 100 must grapple with aging for the first time, following a more than seven-decade career in medicine and the achievement of his law degree at age 60. Told through the eyes of

his grandson, Austin Tucker, the film follows their journey through a changing medical landscape as their relationship deepens and dynamics shift.

Following the film, Howard Tucker and Austin Tucker will discuss the film and answer questions.

The evening is free and open to the community. Pre-registration is required by June 20 by registering at www.parksynagogue.org/ events or by emailing Ellen Petler at epetler@parksyn.org. Questions can be directed to Ellen at 216.371.2244, ext. 122.



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A Calendar of Fun at Legacy Village

Weekly concerts, Art in the Village, Farmers Market, events for kids & more

Legacy Village is hosting a full calendar of summer events including Legacy Live weekly concerts, Village Trivia, Art in the Village, and North Union Farmers Market, as well as Meet the Machines for the little ones. Adding to the fun are exciting summer activities at Sweet & Sassy®, the premier children's salon, spa, and party destination, which opened the first Ohio location at Legacy Village this spring.

Art in the Village

Legacy Village will transform into an art lover's paradise during Art in the Village on Saturday, May 31, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday, June 1, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. An eclectic mix of over 100 top artists will participate in the juried outdoor art and craft showcase which will feature fine jewelry, exquisite works of art, and handcrafted apparel and décor.

Art in the Village also includes a full craft market with handmade organic soaps, live plants, delicious treats, affordable and practical artisan-created works and more. The weekend includes live music from Cats on Holiday, Justo Saborit and Havana Nights, Steve Radcliffe, and Back9 Par4. For more information, visit artfestival.com.

Legacy Live

Legacy Village's free summer concert series, Legacy Live, returns on Saturday, June 7, and continues every Saturday through August 30 from 5-8 p.m. Enjoy a mix of live music, from pop and Motown to rock and R&B. For a complete schedule, visit Legacy-Village.com.

The North Union Farmers Market

The North Union Farmers Market will kick off on Sunday, June 8, and will run through Sunday, October 5, from 9 a.m. to noon each week. Located in the parking lot across from The Capital Grille, local farmers will showcase their freshly grown produce, dairy and meat products, honey and maple syrup, breads, pastries, cheeses, jellies, flowers, and more.

Village Trivia

Test your knowledge this summer during Village Trivia, which starts at 6:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays: June 18; July 2, 16, 30; August 13, 27. Grab your friends and get comfy on The Lawn or on a restaurant patio and get ready to win some awesome prizes. Legacy Village's Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) will be available throughout the evening. Enjoy various food trucks on The Lawn throughout the summer at this event. Stay tuned to Legacy Village's social media for a full lineup (schedule subject to change).

Meet the Machines

Legacy Village partners with The City of Lyndhurst to present Meet the Machines on Sunday, Aug. 3, from noon to 3 p.m. This fun event will offer a unique opportunity for children to explore construction, emergency and service vehicles of all makes and sizes in a fun, family-friendly environment with games, safety demos, music, and vendors. Meet the Machines is free and open to the public. For more details, visit Legacy-Village.com.

Enjoy outdoor adult beverages while strolling, shopping

Legacy Village's DORA allows guests to enjoy outdoor dining and adult beverages within Legacy Village from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. every day.

As part of the DORA program, patrons age 21 and over may purchase alcohol from participating Legacy Village locations, including Brio Italian Grille, The Melting Pot, Chipotle, Hyatt Place and Wild Mango. Then, enjoy adult beverages outdoors

and at select Legacy Village retailers with DORA decals on their doors. Alcoholic beverages must be in the designated plastic cups and no cans, glass bottles, or drinks brought into Legacy Village are permitted. For more information visit www.legacy-village.com/dora.

New additions to Legacy Village

"In addition to all our favorite events, guests can look forward to other summer happenings at the new Sweet & Sassy which opened in the spring. Construction will also be underway this summer for Shinto Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar's first eastside location, which is set to open in early fall," said Legacy Village general manager Susan Windle.

Sweet & Sassy

Legacy Village's newest addition, Sweet & Sassy, is a one-stop destination for kids to feel fabulous and celebrated. From haircuts and spa treatments to unforgettable birthday parties, the exclusive Ohio location will offer all the

signature services that have made Sweet & Sassy a beloved brand for families.

Shinto Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar

Shinto Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar plans to open its first eastside location at Legacy Village in early fall. The restaurant will feature 18 state-of-the-art downdraft hibachi tables, three private dining rooms and an open kitchen with a stunning sushi bar. Twice-monthly, sushi classes will be offered, including sushi-making instruction and seasonal saki and wine pairings. Private team-building classes for organizations interested in team-building experiences will also be available. Stay tuned for more information on an opening date.

Stay connected

Stay in the loop with the latest events and promotional news. Follow Legacy Village on Facebook, Instagram, X and TikTok for updates and announcements.



Upcoming Programs at the Library

For a complete listing of programs or to register, visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org or call 216.831.6868.

Author Robert Edsel

Wednesday, June 4 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us when Rober Edsel, bestselling author of *The Monuments Men*, visits to discuss his latest book, *Remember Us*. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13164814>

Black History and Photographic Memories

Thursday, June 5 • 7-8 p.m.

Regennia N. Williams, Ph.D., will lead a visual exploration of African American history through the lens of influential photographers from 1968 to present. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13123613>

Tuesday Book Chat

Tuesday, June 11 • 7-8 p.m.

A discussion of *Isola*, by Allegra Goodman. Registration not necessary.

Author Yrsa Daley-Ward in Conversation with Rachel Cargle

Wednesday, June 11 • 7-8 p.m.

Authors Yrsa Daley-Ward and Rachel Cargle will discuss Daley-Ward's latest novel, *The Catch*. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13278573>

Father's Day Concert

Sunday, June 15 • 2-3 p.m.

Join us for a Father's Day concert featuring Nitebridge. All ages welcome. Sponsored by Friends of the Library. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13632087>

Knit & Lit

Monday, June 16 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Join us for fiber arts and informal chats about what everyone is reading. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/12829388>

Third Wednesday Book Discussion

Wednesday, June 18 • 2-3 p.m.

Join us for a discussion of *Martyr!*, by Kaveh Akbar. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13036743>

Through the Eyes of the Artist: Frederic Remington

Friday, June 20 • 10-11 a.m.

Art Historian Felicia Zavarella Stadelman will profile Frederic Remington, artist of the American West. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13178899>

Explore the World of Theater Costume Design

Tuesday, June 24 • 7-8 p.m.

Local costumer Jaclyn Renee Vogel will share the process costume designers use to go from idea to final product. <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13100646>

Children's Programming:

June Storywalk

June's Storywalk is *Woo Hoo! You're Doing Great!*, by Sandra Boynton. Whether you are learning to skate, baking a cake, or even making a mistake, this hilarious and heartfelt rhyming book reminds us that trying our best is reason to celebrate. From children trying to master new skills to adults who had a hard week at work, we all get overwhelmed sometimes and need reassurance. And who better to offer it than a chicken exclaiming, "Woo Hoo! You're Doing Great!"

Summer Reading Challenge

Cuyahoga County Public Library's Summer Reading Challenge, *Color Your World*, runs from June 2 through July 31. Register at your local branch or

online at ccplsummerreading.org, then track your reading goal progress for a chance to earn great prizes. Check out the full schedule at <https://cuyahogalibrary.org>.

Storytimes

Storytimes run from June 2 through July 31, then go on break during August.

Baby & Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays • 10 a.m.
Birth - 35 months with caregiver

Baby & Toddler Storytime

Thursdays • 11 a.m.
Birth - 35 months with caregiver

Family Music and Movement

Mondays, June 2 - July 28
10-10:30 a.m.
All ages with caregiver
Have a great time dancing

and moving to your favorite storytime music with beanbags, rhythm sticks, and more.

Summer Fun for Everyone

Mondays, June 2 - July 21, and
Thursdays, June 6 - July 25
3:30-5 p.m.

Grades 1-6
Drop in for reading, art, science, technology, engineering and math challenges. No registration required.

Kindergarten Countdown

Tuesday, June 24 • 4-5 p.m.
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. Monthly theme: *All About Me*. Registered event.

Yarn Over Beachwood

Participants of Yarn Over Beachwood knit, crochet, and loom items for different organizations and charities throughout Northeast Ohio. The group shares ideas, patterns, projects, websites, links to patterns, and more. Meetings are held the first Friday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Beachwood Library. Upcoming meetings are June 6 and August 1.

Participants create varied projects, including hats, scarves, bunnies, bears, lapghans, soap sacks, and more. Winter items are needed and yarn donations are always welcome.

For more information or to donate yarn, contact Iris November at 216.375.9111 or lbrtyclub@gmail.com.

Warm thanks to everyone who attends our meetings, donates items, and/or donates yarn and accessories. All of your efforts make a difference!



Soap Sacks

Soap sacks are requested for many diverse communities. They are easily made with cotton yarn. Once completed, add a bar of soap.

Whether you prefer to knit or crochet, various patterns are available online.

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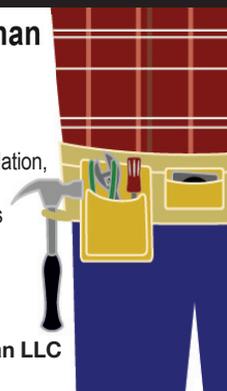
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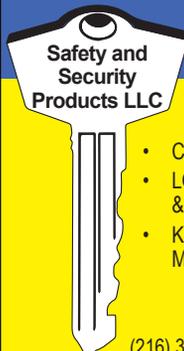
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