

Beachwood Buzz

November 2025

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

MAGAZINE

REINVENT. REIMAGINE. REDESIGN.

Beachwood teacher
Greg Perry leaves a
legacy of creativity,
compassion, and change.



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Letter from THE EDITOR

By Debby Zelman Rapoport



Autumn, my favorite season, is often celebrated for its vibrant foliage and crisp air. While in a yoga class a few weeks ago, the instructor created her playlist around the fall season, sharing a lesson that fall is about shedding, which leads us to spring, which is about renewal. She said that while trees release their leaves to prepare for the renewal of spring, we are invited to examine our own lives and let go of what no longer serves us.

Shedding isn't about loss – it's about creating space. It's about releasing habits, thoughts, or commitments that drain our energy, which allows fresh possibilities, new connections, and personal growth to enter.

Take a moment to reflect: What in your life feels heavy or unfulfilling? Maybe it's clutter that accumulates in your home or mind, routines that leave you uninspired, or negative thought patterns that don't serve you.

Then, consider practical ways to release them: donate unused items, set healthy boundaries, or replace limiting beliefs with practices that nourish your mind, body, and spirit.

To take this a step further, you may want to write down everything that you'd like to release, take the list outside, burn it, and watch it go up in smoke.

Each intentional release, like a falling leaf drifting toward the ground, makes room for light and new energy to flow in, reminding us that letting go is not emptiness, it is preparation for growth.

Fall is not only about shedding. It also reminds us to be mindful and grateful for what we want to hold onto. Thanksgiving offers a chance to reflect on achievements, cherished relationships, meaningful traditions, and personal growth.

Thanksgiving and gratitude provide opportunities to acknowledge the people, experiences, and values that bring you joy and strengthen the roots of your well-being.

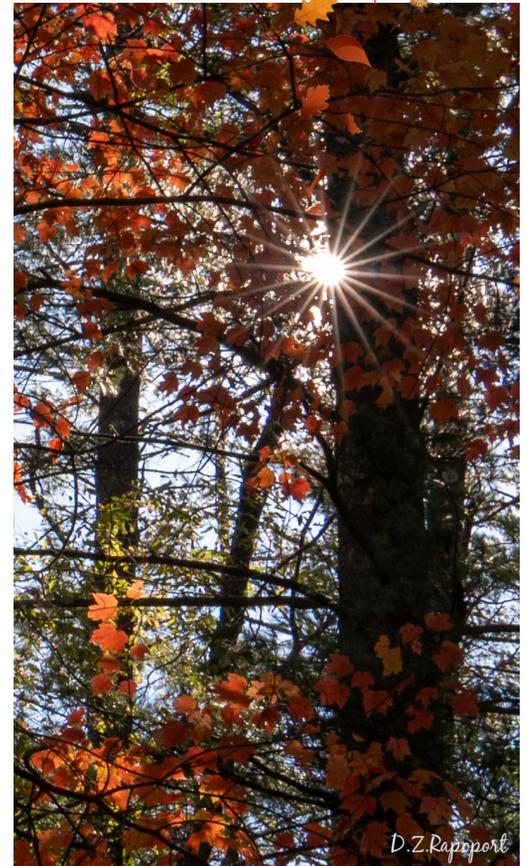
Consider creating your own gratitude harvest. Take a quiet moment to list the experiences, lessons, and people you are thankful for, alongside the habits, fears, or worries you are ready to release. This dual practice, shedding what no longer serves and embracing what nourishes, creates a sense of balance and clarity. It allows us to step into the holiday season with intention, a lighter heart, and a renewed sense of possibility.

Throughout the season, balance is key. Release to make space for new energy and embrace gratitude to

preserve what matters. By doing both, we can enter the season a little bit lighter, wiser, and more open to the opportunities and joys that lie ahead.

Take time to find the power of renewal, recognizing that each ending makes room for a new beginning.

Debby



Letting go makes room for light to shine through: "Fall is about releasing what no longer serves us – just like the trees let go of their leaves."

– Anne Lamott

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Buzz
MAGAZINE

Cover Story:

REINVENT. REIMAGINE. REDESIGN.

Beachwood teacher Greg Perry leaves a legacy of creativity, compassion, and change.



by Radha Pareek, Jing Lauengco, and Shane Winnyk • Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo

Radha Pareek, a 2025 graduate of Beachwood High School, was Greg Perry's student and a part of the Junior Achievement project *Hope Heroes*. She is now a first-year student and Stamps Eminence Scholar at The Ohio State University, studying public health and pursuing an integration of interests in medicine and public service.

Jing Lauengco, a brand story strategist and executive entrepreneur coach, helps people and companies design-map "what's next" through digital storytelling, brand-building, and human-first AI. Founder of NEXT THING NOW, her professional development coaching, and The Rally, a monthly female entrepreneur circle to reconnect, reset, and rise, Jing also hosts and produces her podcast, NEXT THING WITH JING. Jing was the entrepreneur-in-residence with Greg for *AQUA*, *Hope Heals*, and *Hope Heroes*. She and Greg met as high school sophomores at Teen Institute.

Shane Winnyk was invited by Greg Perry into the *Hope Heroes* class in 2024 to lend industry insights on the use of AI for nonprofit fund-seeking and innovative storytelling. He currently works in tech and started a company called For Granted, based on his experiences with Greg.



Pictured from left: Jing, Radha, and Shane.

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

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General Information

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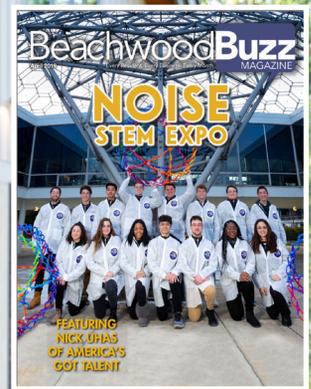
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REINVENT. REIMAGINE. REDESIGN.

Beachwood teacher Greg Perry leaves a legacy of creativity, compassion, and change.

By Radha Pareek, Jing Lauengco, Shane Winnyk

Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo

On June 6, 1993, sitting at graduation in The Ohio State University stadium, Greg Perry swore he'd never be a teacher. The irony wasn't lost on him – his degree was in marketing education.

Yet 32 years later, he retired as one of Beachwood's most beloved educators: a marketing teacher, mentor, and a force for good who transformed his classroom into a launchpad for possibility.

He lives a philosophy both simple and radical – that education is as powerful as

its application for societal betterment; that to be educated is to be inspired by independent thought, yet driven by a sense of what is owed to the collective. Greg's classroom was a masterclass in learning by doing, and in doing, young people discovered their role as citizens – practicing dialogue, civic engagement, and contribution toward the common good.

But how did someone who never imagined teaching go on to develop the world's most successful Junior Achievement program, raising, with

Above: Greg Perry tours Scott Morrison, *Beachwood Buzz* photography director, through an exquisite home in Silver Lake, Ohio, that his design company is completing.

- Four of 19 award-winning Junior Achievement Company Programs, led by Greg Perry:**
- **Hope Heals**, a teddy bear campaign, was created to raise funds for Medi Teddys, which camouflage IVs in pediatric hospital rooms. They were distributed to four hospital systems in Northeast Ohio and nationwide.
 - **NOISE STEM Expo** (Northeast Ohio Innovative STEM Expo) was a free, one-day event that showcased STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) through hands-on activities and a STEM marketplace.
 - **The ONE Campaign** focused on promoting unity, diversity, and acceptance in the global community, culminating in a public art installation and visible banner displays across the city.
 - **AQUA** raised awareness about clean water by installing traveling public art, educating on water conservation, and activating community participation in keeping Lake Erie and local beaches clean.

his students, a record-breaking \$1.9 million for causes as varied as clean water access locally and abroad, hunger relief in Cleveland, care for critically ill children, and environmental stewardship?

The story of Greg Perry – educator, entrepreneur, designer, survivor, mentor, and, in his own words, a positive deviant – can only be understood by meeting a younger version of him.

At the age of 6, Greg faced what many would call a life-shattering accident: an injury that left him a quadriplegic. At that age, he couldn't even grasp what it meant losing all movement below his neck.

Lying in a boys' ward at Toledo Medical College, surrounded by children with burns, missing limbs, and traumatic injuries, the only feeling he could name was gratitude. What could have shattered his life instead, as he saw it, altered it – setting in motion a perspective that would shape everything to come. Over the next 13 years, he relentlessly pushed against every limitation science placed on him, achieving what many consider a medical miracle.

"My design career probably would not have come about if not for that accident," Greg said. "I became artistic because I wasn't out playing ball. As part of occupational therapy, I was inside drawing. I poured my energy into academics because I could excel at it. Most importantly, though, the accident forced me, in every interaction, to empathize with others – to understand that there is much beneath the surface of what we see."

Growing up on Catawba Island, a close-knit community, everyone knew Greg's story. Then, at 15, when he attended a week-long Teen Leadership Summit at Kenyon College, he introduced himself to a world that didn't know him.

"They saw my soul, not my limp," Greg recalled. "That changed everything."

That's what gave him the courage to commit to a future of lifting up others through kindness. This kindness, throughout

his life, hasn't necessarily been about grand gestures. Instead, it's been about seizing small moments that may seem trivial in isolation yet ultimately accumulate to build character – his own and that of those around him.

After college, Greg took a sales job in Chicago.

"I was a rag man, selling luxury wear to resorts across five states," he said with a laugh.

Although teaching was the furthest thing from his mind, he came across a chance meeting that would forever change his life.

One day, he sold six sweaters to a man named Dr. Henry Hook. That transaction turned into a conversation, which turned into an invitation. And before Greg knew it, he was crewing Dr. Hook's yacht and working on private yachts across the country, rubbing shoulders with entrepreneurs who lived large – while also believing deeply in giving back.

"Each person I met made me better – as a sailor, a designer, an entrepreneur, a human being," Greg said.

Most importantly, Dr. Hook nudged him back toward teaching. "It takes time for the seeds nurtured by education to bloom," Dr. Hook told him. "Yet a single glimpse of the field you've sown will make it impossible to walk away."

Greg carried those words into the classroom and never left.

His approach in the classroom was quickly inspired by memories of his own marketing program at Port Clinton High School. Tom Maher, Greg's marketing teacher, modeled a "behind-the-curtain" approach, putting students in the spotlight to lead discussions, and developed large-scale community projects – a hallmark that would define Greg's own teaching. He led by creating leaders, and the experiences that had revealed life's transience inspired him to instill in his students a deep appreciation for the sanctity of individual responsibility to the community.

In addition to teaching students, he observed them, too.

"Every kid is a special needs student," Greg said.

He was as committed to identifying his students' strengths and channeling them toward social good as he was to knowing when a smile, a hug, or a conversation was needed. In every conversation, he listened loudly and, when appropriate, offered advice that wove empathy into expertise. Beyond his pedagogical skill, it was his care for students and a lived memory of the transformative effect his own marketing program had on his life that kept him present, invested, and ultimately unwilling to leave the classroom.

In 2006, Greg landed at Beachwood High School. Through the Excel TECC career program, his class united students from 10 Northeast Ohio schools, while Beachwood itself offered the ideal setting for the innovation he envisioned.

"The city of Beachwood was founded as 70% business and 30% residential. What an incredible opportunity to teach business in a community built on entrepreneurship," Greg said.

In 2008, he launched the Green Dream, Ohio's largest sustainability expo that created a national model for green classrooms. Bringing a classroom of the future to life was made possible by a partnership with Karen Carmen, the City of Beachwood's former Community Services director.

"Greg and I met in 2006, which began our 17-year friendship," Karen said. "Together, we established the Golden Triangle, a partnership between the schools, the city, and the business community. Working together, Greg and I created extraordinary opportunities for students to learn entrepreneurship by practicing it beyond the classroom walls. Greg was a visionary, and I had the practical skills to help bring his visions to life. Ours was a symbiotic relationship that showcased and benefitted the city, the schools, and the students, creating, in the process, the most successful company in the history of the Junior Achievement program."

“Education is as powerful as its application for the betterment of society.”

Greg Perry

Greg then explained how he sees the world: “When you fly out of Cleveland on a gray day and then break through the clouds, you realize how brightly the sun is shining above the clouds. This has been how I’ve lived my life – always seeking to find the silver lining”



Radha Pareek, former Junior Achievement marketing student (2024–2025), created this painting for Greg because of his explanation of how he sees the world.

This project quickly made headlines. Then, when Greg was diagnosed with cancer, the future of this vibrant, bustling classroom of Beachwood was put into question.

Even through treatment, however, Greg continued showing up because, for him, teaching was a quiet vow renewed, every time he walked through the door, to the hundreds of students who stepped into his classroom looking for someone to believe in them.

On days he couldn’t make it, Greg knew his community was carrying forward his vision of social entrepreneurship: students stepping up to the leadership asked of them, community organizers rallying behind a cause, and the administration willing to push against the orthodoxy of public education.

“I was still on oxygen in a rehab bed when Dr. Hardis (then Beachwood High School principal), Karen Carmen, and Dr. Markwardt (then superintendent) came to see me,” Greg recalled. “They said, ‘You’re supposed to be in New York in two weeks to receive The Heart of Green Award, and they need to know if you can make it.’ I circled the date and said, ‘Tell them I’ll be there.’”

From being unable to breathe and walk on his own, Greg committed himself to a rigorous regimen that would prepare him, in only two weeks, to attend the prestigious

ceremony with his students and share a beautiful, heartfelt speech on stage. Later, this project would be honored at the White House, representing the highest recognition.

Greg says what carried him through battling multiple forms of cancer – and allowed him to ultimately celebrate what it taught him – came from the foundational lessons his parents, Leo and Renee Perry, imparted to him after his accident.

“They forced me to work hard through therapy, day after day. They could have easily done everything for me – felt sorry for me. But they pushed and encouraged me, helping me develop grit and resiliency – lessons I carried through life and into the classroom,” Greg said.

Over the next decade, Greg and his students designed breathtaking, unforgettable projects – from national expos to summits – that advanced STEM education, supported small businesses, and showcased creativity’s power. Along the way, they collaborated with nationally renowned artists, scientists, philanthropists, alums, and visiting entrepreneurs-in-residence.

“Greg Perry’s leadership has been essential to shaping and strengthening the character of Beachwood because he showed students that business isn’t

just about profit – it’s about people,” Mayor Justin Berns said. “I watched my own three kids through his class take on responsibilities that surprised me. They became more confident, more collaborative, and more aware of the impact their work could have on others. His class helped make civic responsibility an important value for our family.”

A day in Greg’s classroom looked less like school and more like a dynamic startup – students weren’t just rehearsing business, they were becoming business people who were committed to philanthropy, all before the lunch bell rang.

However, when the pandemic abruptly halted large-scale events, Greg once again had to redesign meaningful learning.

A trip to New York, where towering inflatable flowers soared above the streets, sparked a bold idea: Amidst gloom, communities need vivid symbols of hope.

Partnering with David Sherba at Inflatable Images, his students launched a guerrilla marketing campaign against food insecurity in Cleveland. Giant blooms appeared in high-traffic spaces like Pinecrest, Legacy Village, and Crocker Park, drawing crowds and, through social media, rallying hundreds of thousands of supporters nationwide.

Greg brings a capacity for existential flexibility to the classroom. He is willing to change course and adapt to national and community needs and trends, recognizing that not changing can be just as risky, if not riskier, than change itself.

The next five years were marked by inflatable butterflies, raindrops, teddy bears, and balloon dogs – each raising awareness and funds for causes from clean water access to Medi-Teddy IV covers and service dogs in pediatric hospitals.

The campaigns' branding was elevated through partnerships with world-renowned artists, whose work shaped the visual identity and added cultural depth. At District Gallery, philanthropists were honored with exclusive artwork in a formal ceremony, offering a lesson in art's influence and, for the students, a glimpse into the world of high-end collecting.

District Gallery owner and art consultant Karen Chaikin discusses what made the District Gallery partnership – which set the tone for recent Junior Achievement projects – possible.

"What do you get when you combine art, design, community, relationships, connecting, and all while doing good? Greg Perry!" Karen said. "His students knew how lucky they were to be in the presence of such greatness and I truly believe that the lessons he taught them will change the way they lead their lives. As a business owner, I often go to him for guidance and direction. I cherish Greg's wisdom and friendship. He taught me the true definition of synergy and showed me how perseverance and positivity can take you on a great path."

In May 2025, Greg officially retired, but as he says, he doesn't see it as an end, rather as "resetting, relaunching, and redesigning."

That last word – Redesign – isn't just a philosophy. It's also the name of the interior design company he has quietly run for nearly three decades, serving clients from Fortune 500 executives to community leaders.

"I began my interior design career 28 years ago," Greg said. "Then, after being featured on two HGTV shows – opportunities that came along after my home was featured on the Stan Hywet holiday home tour – my career skyrocketed."

Today, Greg works alongside architects and builders to create luxury homes across Northern Ohio and vacation destinations throughout the United States.

Tim Smucker, international business leader and former chairman and CEO of The J.M. Smucker Company, first connected with Greg when he designed his home – a meeting that sparked a profound friendship. Over the past

"We may not be able to change the world, but we can change how one sees the world."

Greg Perry

few years, Tim has supported Greg's classroom not only through philanthropy but also by offering an example of leadership, service, and social entrepreneurship at the highest level.

"Greg is just very kind. A tremendous listener, but also a doer because of the eternal optimist in him. Most importantly, he understands the golden rule: it's about doing the right things, and doing things right," Tim said.

As the founder of the transformational Heartland Education Community in Orrville, Ohio – an initiative committed to character-building and integrating community into education – Tim said, "Two questions are always important to me and I see them in the way Greg approaches education: 'Did you know?' and 'How can I help?' 'Did you know?' is about awareness – what Heartland is doing, what schools are doing, what your neighbor is doing. 'How can I help?' is about applying that knowledge. Those two questions are very important in identifying where we can make a difference."

Greg's commitment to facilitating learning, helping young people ask those questions and teaching them how to listen remains steadfast.

"I wouldn't be where I am without my mentors, so mentoring others is an honor. We may not be able to change the world, but we can change how one sees the world," Greg said.

Greg then explained how he sees the world: "When you fly out of Cleveland on a gray day and then break through the clouds, you realize how brightly the sun is shining above the clouds. This has been how I've lived my life – always seeking to find the silver lining."

Many of Greg's students have embraced that mindset and continue to look up to him. One of them, Michael Archibale, a student in Greg's classroom nine years ago who is now an influential banker at J.P. Morgan Private Bank, recently named to *Crain's* 20 in Their 20s, and an active philanthropist for the Ronald McDonald House and Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation, reflected on Greg's influence.

"I try to let what I believe to be most important in life guide my career, rather than

letting my career dictate what is important to me – just as Greg does. Greg is someone who loves others, is humble, and is dedicated to excellence in all he does. What I learned from Greg – creativity, collaboration, fearlessness, and selflessness – have been the pillars of my success," Michael said.

As Greg reflects on his decades in education, he explains that there isn't a single accomplishment he values above the rest: "The successes of my students are my biggest success."

Yet his impact extends beyond individual students, into the very fabric of Beachwood itself, though the quiet beauty of his humility means few may ever recognize the extraordinary designer behind it. His legacy is not just personal, it is a story of a community transformed and the ripple effects of one life reimagined.

"It starts with one," Greg said. "What can each person do – one decision, one person, one day at a time?"

His life is proof that even when skies are gray, the sun waits above the clouds. His legacy – still unfolding – will continue to light the way for generations. And now, it is our turn to carry that light forward, one decision, one person, one day at a time.



A standout design in Silver Lake, Ohio, by Greg Perry.

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Arianna, age 2
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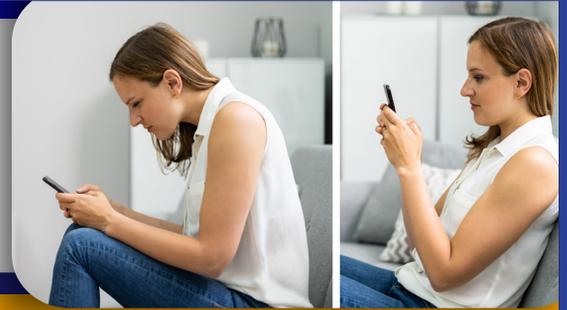
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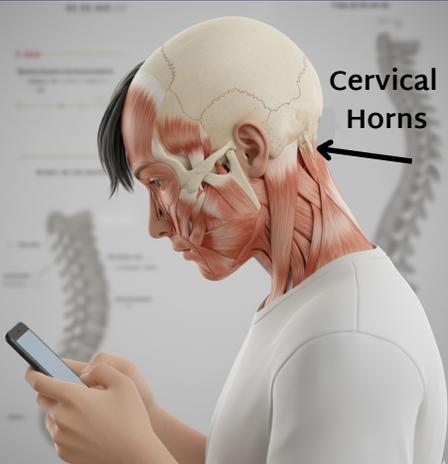




The Hidden Impact of Poor Posture in Today's Youth: What Every Parent Should Know



Technology Is Shaping More Than Minds – It's Reshaping Spines



Realistic anatomical illustration of occipital spur formation due to text neck posture. Created by Google's Gemini, October 2025.

Today's Posture, Tomorrow's Pain

Why Our Kids' Spines Need Attention Now.

While standing in line at Cedar Point during HalloWeekends last week, I couldn't help but notice how many teenagers around me displayed severe forward head posture, shoulders rounded, necks protruding, and heads tilted toward their phones. As a physical therapist, it was striking to see how early these postural changes are appearing. What used to be issues we'd expect in adults are now clearly visible in youth. This trend raises serious concerns about the long-term health of our children's spines and necks.

What Are Cervical Horns?

Recent studies have shown that prolonged forward head posture in adolescents may lead to the formation of cervical horns, small bony growths at the base of the

skull (aka bone spurs on the external occipital protuberance). These occur where neck muscles and ligaments attach, forming as a response to chronic mechanical stress. The body adapts to the loads placed upon it. When the head is constantly pitched forward, the muscles and tendons pull excessively on their attachment points, and the body reacts by building new bone.

Although these bony growths may not initially cause pain, they are a clear sign that the neck is under too much strain.

When backpacks exceed that safe range, it can lead to:

- Forward head posture and rounded shoulders (to compensate for the load)
- Muscle strain in the neck, shoulders, and lower back
- Spinal asymmetry when worn on one shoulder
- Fatigue and tension headaches

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The Hidden Impact of Poor Posture in Today's Youth: What Every Parent Should Know



Over time, this can contribute to neck stiffness, headaches, shoulder tension, and early spinal degeneration. Adolescents who develop cervical horns are at greater risk of chronic pain and poor posture as adults.

Technology and the Rise of “Text Neck”

Between smartphones, laptops, and gaming devices, today's teens spend countless hours with their heads tilted downward. This modern phenomenon, often called “text neck,” places extreme stress on the cervical spine. For every inch the head moves forward, the effective weight on the neck nearly doubles. When you consider that the human head weighs about 10 to 14 pounds, it's easy to see why neck muscles fatigue quickly and why we're seeing early signs of postural breakdown in kids. This posture doesn't just cause discomfort; it can reshape how the spine develops. When a young spine adapts to a forward position, muscles become imbalanced, some overstretched and weak, others shortened and tight, leading to long-term changes in alignment and movement.

Let's help this generation stand taller!

The Weight of Backpacks and Developing Spines

Heavy backpacks further compound the problem. When overloaded or worn on one shoulder, they pull the spine out of balance and encourage the same slouched posture associated with device use. Children should carry no more than 10–15% of their body weight in their backpack, and straps should always be adjusted snugly across both shoulders. We often see kids with shoulder and neck tension that's directly related to how they carry their backpacks.



On average, teenagers' backpacks weigh between 12 and 20 pounds, according to studies conducted by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

In some cases, overloaded backpacks can exceed 25–30 pounds, especially when students carry multiple textbooks, laptops, water bottles, and sports gear.

The AAP recommends that a backpack should not exceed 10–15% of a child's body weight.

For example, a 100-pound student should carry no more than 10–15 pounds.

Yet surveys show that nearly 60% of students regularly carry more than this recommendation.

Early Action Makes a Lasting Difference

The good news is that poor posture, and the problems that come with it, can be corrected with proper education and intervention. At Balance Solutions Physical Therapy in Beachwood, our team specializes in postural training, strengthening, and spinal alignment programs designed for growing adolescents. We help families understand how posture affects overall health and teach young patients how to move, stand, and sit in ways that protect their spines.

Posture is more than just appearance, it's the foundation of lifelong musculoskeletal health.



If you've noticed your teen slouching, complaining of neck pain, or leaning forward while using devices, it's time for a professional postural assessment.

*- By Kelly Beaudoin, CEO, MSPT
Balance Solutions Physical Therapy, Inc.*

**Visit
Balance Solutions
in Beachwood or call
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**Early awareness today can
prevent chronic pain
tomorrow**

Innovation in Motion: How the UH Haslam Sports Innovation Center Is Changing the Game

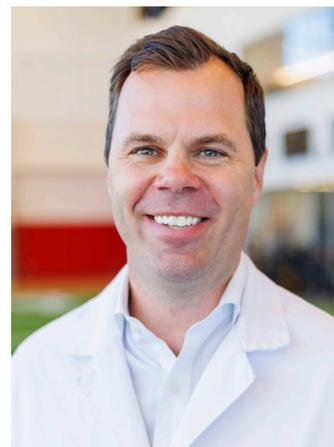
Dee and Jimmy Haslam have long been champions of athletic excellence. Now, they're investing in the science behind it. Their \$20 million gift established the UH Haslam Sports Innovation Center, led by James E. Voos, M.D., chair of the UH Department of Orthopedic Surgery, president of the NFL Physicians Society, and head team physician for the Cleveland Browns.

The new center strategically identifies, supports, and invests in the most promising advances in sports medicine – helping athletes improve performance, prevent injuries, and recover faster.

Located at UH Ahuja Medical Center in Beachwood, the Haslam Center expands the work of the UH Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute, a one-stop destination for orthopedic care, performance training, and rehabilitation for athletes of all ages.



The Haslam Center's Living Lab brings innovation to the field – where athletes, trainers, and technology come together to advance sports medicine. *Photos courtesy of the UH Haslam Sports Innovation Center.*



Dr. James E. Voos, M.D.

A Living Lab for Real-World Innovation

At the heart of the Haslam Center is the Living Lab, where new devices and treatments are tested in action – on the field, in clinics, and in operating rooms. This model accelerates progress and delivers direct feedback from athletes, coaches, and medical teams.

Specific products being used now are:

- Muscle oxygen (SmO2) sensors that track recovery after ACL reconstruction surgery.
- Insoles, created by Lubu, that measure foot pressure, stride, and how fast you walk – in real time.
- Wearable monitors (created by Notus) that read core body temperature to prevent overheating.

Wearable device technology is helping prevent injury and monitor patients' rehabilitation and readiness for return-to-play. Last spring, Dr. Voos was awarded the NFLPS's highest

research honor, the Arthur C. Rettig Award for Academic Excellence, for his development of the muscle oxygen (SmO2) sensor mentioned above.

"These aren't just gadgets for pros," Dr. Voos said. "We're testing them with youth athletes, too, which is why we trademarked the term 'Peewee to Pro.'"

Fueling Innovation, Reinforcing Community

Unlike typical investment funds, the Haslam Center operates under UH's nonprofit umbrella. "When one of our investments succeeds," Dr. Voos explained, "the money stays here. It goes right back into Northeast Ohio, fueling research and development for new projects."

Through its venture arm, the center provides funding, scientific validation, and business guidance to entrepreneurs developing the next generation of sports medicine technology.

"Sometimes a great idea just needs testing. Sometimes it

needs capital. We can provide both," said Dr. Voos. "And because we're partnered with Case Western Reserve and the broader UH system, we can validate these ideas scientifically. That's powerful."

"These aren't just gadgets for pros. We're testing them with youth athletes, too, which is why we trademarked the term 'Peewee to Pro.'"

– Dr. James Voos

Collaboration That Strengthens a Region

The Haslams' deep sports and business experience – as investors in the NFL's Cleveland Browns, NBA's Milwaukee Bucks, and MLS's Columbus Crew – amplifies the center's reach. Their vision is to make Northeast Ohio a national hub for sports and health innovation.

More than 70 schools and community organizations across Ohio partner with UH Sports Medicine, and Beachwood Schools was one of the first districts to sign on when the program launched in 2014.

"Beachwood has been a wonderful partner from the start," Dr. Voos said. "Their athletes have access to cutting-edge care, research trials, and trainers who are part of our integrated team."

School data feeds into UH's shared injury database, allowing real-time evaluation of new technologies. "If a new concussion tool works effectively for one school," Dr. Voos said, "we share it across our entire system."

Building the Future of Sports Medicine

The Haslam Center's long-term goal is to create a self-sustaining ecosystem.

"Five to 10 years from now, we want several successful companies spun out of this work,

with revenues coming back to fund the next generation of discoveries," Dr. Voos explained.

The Drusinsky Center and T3, a performance training company that offers athletic training programs for youth and adults to enhance strength, speed, resilience, and overall fitness, both originated in Beachwood – and that’s just the start. "This concept has great potential for expanding business in Beachwood," he added. "We’re growing Beachwood’s reputation as a technological incubator."

Dr. Voos, who also serves as the Jack and Mary Herrick distinguished chair, Orthopedics and Sports Medicine at University Hospitals, then added, "The Drusinskys are Beachwood residents and the Haslams are committed to generously giving back. Together, they continue to make a huge impact on our community."

National institutions are taking notice, with teams from across the country visiting to learn about the Haslam Center. "It’s exciting to see that Cleveland is recognized as a center for healthcare innovation as well as a sports town."

"This concept has great potential for expanding business in Beachwood. We’re growing Beachwood’s reputation as a technological incubator."

– Dr. James Voos

For Dr. Voos, the mission is personal. "I’m a surgeon, a scientist, and a dad," he said. "Every hat I wear comes back to the same goal – to keep athletes safe and healthy. Whether it’s the Browns or a middle school soccer team, we’re taking science out on the field and making a difference now."



Innovation meets recovery: Wearable tech from the Haslam Center’s Living Lab helps clinicians monitor healing and optimize return-to-play.

For Dr. Voos, the mission is personal. "I’m a surgeon, a scientist, and a dad," he said. "Every hat I wear comes back to the same goal – to keep athletes safe and healthy. Whether it’s the Browns or a middle school soccer team, we’re taking science out on the field and making a difference now."

For more information, visit www.uhhaslamsportsinnovation.org.

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From Beachwood Arts Council



Just Jazz Sunday Sounds Concert Sunday, Nov. 2 • 2-3 p.m. • Beachwood Community Center

Just Jazz will present smooth jazz and swinging pop sounds of today and yesterday, offering a collection of best-loved songs from the American Songbook.

Tributes to the great divas of our time and Rat Pack era classics will be offered, covering the Carpenters, Beatles, Broadway music, and much more to span the ages.

Free and open to the public, the concert is sponsored by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and Ohio Arts Council. Refreshments will follow the concert.



Around the World in Art Exhibit Saturday, Nov. 22 - Friday, Jan. 2 • Beachwood Community Center Opening Reception: Saturday, Nov. 22, 5-7 p.m. Enjoy refreshments and meet the artists.

Beachwood Arts Council is pleased to present *Around the World in Art*, an exhibit that will feature international images by

- three local artists:
- Sawsan Alhaddad (oil/acrylic)
 - Susan Lash (photography)
 - Richard Litwin (watercolor).



Pienza, by Richard Litwin



Venice in Motion, by Susan Lash



Scent of Roses, by Sawsan Alhaddad

Congratulations!

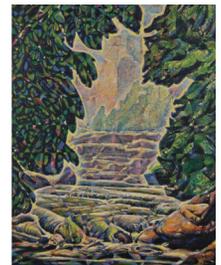
Congratulations to Julie Moss, the winner of the BAC Diamond Necklace Raffle in honor of BAC's 60th Anniversary.



A Special Event at WOLFS Gallery: Exhibit by August Frederick Biehle Jr.: Pillar of the Cleveland School 23645 Mercantile Rd. • Thursday, Dec. 11 • 5-7:30 p.m.

BAC invites you to a special event at WOLFS Gallery, which proudly presents the first major solo exhibition and sale of important American modernist painter August Frederick Biehle Jr.'s artwork. The evening will include drinks, hors d'oeuvres, a gallery talk, and tour of the exhibit. The cost is \$20 for BAC members and \$25 for nonmembers. Reservations can be made by Dec. 5 by calling 216.595.3400.

For more details about this Beachwood museum-quality gallery, refer to last month's cover story at www.beachwoodbuzz.com.



Berea Woods, by August Frederick Biehle Jr.

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Beachwood Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Success Awards Banquet



Celebrate your employees!
Wednesday, Dec. 10 • 5:30-9 p.m.
Tri-C College • 4250 Richmond Rd. • Simon and Rose Mandel Theatre

The Spirit of Success Awards honor outstanding employees from local companies who embody excellence, innovation, leadership, and dedication to community success. This signature event elevates workforce achievements while strengthening ties among businesses, employees, and community stakeholders.

Our goal is to recognize outstanding employees and outstanding companies within our community. Please email your nomination choices to David Lapierre, BCC executive director, at director@beachwood.org. **The nomination deadline is Friday, Nov. 7.** Winners must be present to receive an award.

August Frederick Biehle

American, 1885-1979

Reckoning with Modernism

WOLFS proudly presents the first major exhibition and sale of this important American Modernist's work.

On view through December 30

WOLFS

Abstract Floral, c. 1960,
Oil on masonite, 37.5 x 26 inches

www.wolfsgallery.com
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The Gentle Power of Dr. Jane Goodall

By Jennifer Stern

The wisdom of Dr. Jane Goodall is centering. Her words, and the way she walked so gently through life with profound purpose and integrity, will forever inspire me.

Her gentle compassion was her strength. She lived and led with curiosity, grace, and concern for the wellbeing of our world and all its inhabitants. She truly cared and taught others to have a deeper awareness and understanding of our interdependence.

She was a true influencer – she showed us in word and action how to live mindfully, compassionately, thoughtfully and with care. She authentically reflected the best in our humanity.

Here are just a few of her words that resonate so deeply and will stay with me forevermore.

- “You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”
- “The greatest danger to our future is apathy.”
- “We have the choice to use the gift of our life to make the world a better place – or not to bother.”
- “Only if we understand, can we care. Only if we care, will we help. Only if we help, we shall be saved.”
- “The least I can do is speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves.”
- “Change happens by listening and then starting a dialogue with the people who are doing something you don't believe is right.”
- “Every individual matters. Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference.”
- “Here we are, the most clever species ever to have lived. So how is it we can destroy the only planet we have?”
- “We have so far to go to realize our human potential for compassion, altruism, and love.”
- “Lasting change is a series of compromises. And compromise is all right, as long as your values don't change.”
- “Hope is often misunderstood. People tend to think that it is simply passive wishful thinking: I hope something will happen but I'm not going to do anything about it. This is indeed the opposite of real hope, which requires action and engagement.”

It is these undeniable qualities of human love, compassion, and self-sacrifice that give me hope for the future. We are, indeed, often cruel and evil. Nobody can deny this. We gang up on one another, we torture each other with words as well as deeds, we fight, we kill. But we are also capable of the most noble, generous, and heroic behavior.

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.

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Light in the Darkness:

A Journey of Resilience with Rachel Goldberg-Polin and Jon Polin



Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7:30 pm
B'nai Jeshurun Congregation
(27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike)
Cost: \$18 per person • Register at www.jewishcleveland.org.

Since Oct. 7, 2023, Rachel Goldberg-Polin and Jon Polin have tirelessly advocated for the release of their son, Hersh Goldberg-Polin, of blessed memory, and all the hostages. Hersh, a 23-year-old American-Israeli, was wounded and abducted by Hamas during the Nova music festival massacre. He was held hostage in Gaza for nearly 11 months, until his body

was recovered from a tunnel in August 2024.

Join the Jewish Federation of Cleveland for an inspiring conversation with Rachel and Jon, whose powerful voices represent the heart of our work – from standing in solidarity with our global Jewish community to advocating for those impacted by terrorism.

Holiday Mocktail Party

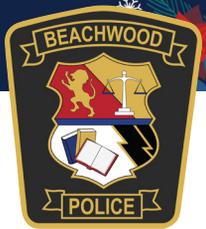
Mocktail
Save The Date
 Wednesday ★ November 19 ★ 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm
 The 26th Annual UH Rainbow Babies & Children's
 Holiday Mocktail Party and Safe Kids Benefit
 I-X Center: One I-X Center Drive, Cleveland, OH 44135

The Beachwood Police Department is pleased to participate in the 26th Annual Holiday Mocktail Party and Safe Kids Benefit, taking place on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the I-X Center – and the community is cordially invited to attend.

This event serves as the primary fundraiser for the Safe Kids Greater Cleveland Coalition, a network of community partners led by UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Injury

Prevention Center. The fundraiser highlights the importance of safe and responsible hosting during the holiday season, featuring an array of creative, non-alcoholic mocktails for guests to sample.

For additional details and registration information, visit the Beachwood Police and Beachwood Recreation Facebook pages.



From the Chamber



Upcoming Events
 For complete details and to register, visit www.beachwood.org

Women of the Beachwood Chamber Coffee Hour

Thursday, Nov. 13
 8:30-9:30 a.m.
 Cevista Bank
 3723 Park East Dr.
 Members: No charge
 Non-members: \$10

Join Jennifer Underwood, founder and CEO of Say Yes Mentor, for a presentation on applying a simple five-step process to generate inspired ideas and actionable steps to build your business in a way that is life giving. Jennifer, a life mastery consultant, specializes in helping professionals build their dreams, accelerate their results and create richer, more fulfilling lives.

Jennifer Underwood, founder and CEO of Say Yes Mentor.

Networking After Five

Wednesday, Nov. 19
 4:30-6:30 p.m.
 UH Ahuja Medical Center
 3999 Richmond Rd.
 Members: No charge
 Non-members: \$10

Join chamber members and guests for a networking event at the Cutler Center for Men.





 @Matthew.Hildebrand1

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Ohio Environmental Council
[Action Fund]



MATT HILDEBRAND

BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL

If elected, I will be an independent voice that advocates to:

- **Increase City Revenue**
 - Building the connector road between Mercantile and Harvard opens the land for business development.
 - Road provides developable land so Beachwood has more tax revenue.
- **Keep the city rate of your property taxes at 2024-2026 levels**
 - Beachwood has record revenues with lower taxes thanks to Ahuja expansion and other business development.
 - Why should tax rates rise?
- **Be environmental stewards**
 - Install solar panels on city-owned roofs.
 - Partner with businesses (mall, grocery stores, etc.) to install electric car chargers.
- **Focus on Resident Safety**
 - Prioritize the solar, side street lighting project without a tax increase.

Paid for by Friends of Matt Hildebrand

Skoda Gordon Dentistry Day: A Bright Smile for Beachwood

On Sept. 18, Dr. Britni Skoda and her team officially celebrated the opening of Skoda Gordon Dentistry with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at their brand-new office in Beachwood. For Dr. Skoda, this date marked the opening of a new dental office along with the culmination of a remarkable journey.

Dr. Skoda's path to becoming a dentist began years ago with a relationship she had built with Dr. Peter Gordon, a respected dentist who served Beachwood families for six decades. When the two first met at Canterbury Golf Club, Dr. Skoda, then in pharmaceutical sales, wanted to switch careers. That's when Dr. Gordon strongly suggested she go back to dental school – which she did, at Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, at age 29.

"Dr. Gordon had a lot to do with where I am now," Dr. Skoda said with gratitude.

Once she completed her education, Dr. Gordon hired her and the two worked side by side for three years.

Then, in February 2020, just six weeks before the world shut down, Dr. Skoda purchased the practice from Dr. Gordon. With a massive loan and unprecedented uncertainty, the two switched roles and she found herself faced with a daunting challenge.

"Looking back, resilience, support, and a steadfast belief in my vision carried me through," Dr. Skoda reflected.

After renting space in a tired-looking building for five years, Dr. Skoda made the bold decision to invest in something new – a building at 21515 Chagrin Blvd. that would be torn down to make way for a new, modern building that would house her practice, which welcomed its first patients in January 2025.

"We are proud of our brand-new office, which utilizes state-of-the-art equipment in order to offer our patients the

latest technology in the safest environment," Dr. Skoda said. "We blend advanced technology with individualized care, and our patients receive attention, comfort, and treatment tailored specifically to them."

She paused, then added, "Taking care of patients like family is at the heart of what we do."

Dr. Skoda works full time with Dr. Rachel Beckett and part time with Dr. Peter Gordon.

Dr. Gordon said, "Britni has done a magnificent job building an efficient, first-class dental practice. I first met her before she even started dental school – she shadowed me for a few days and then decided to go into dentistry. After graduating, she joined our team, and then purchased the practice.

"Britni is the kind of person who never takes no for an answer," he added. "She's determined, creative, and full of positive energy. I still work one day a week and it's a pleasure to see how beautifully she has carried the practice forward."

The grand opening celebration brought together family, friends, staff, and fellow area dentists. Also in attendance were Catherine Bieterman, the city's Economic Development director; David Lapierre, Beachwood Chamber of Commerce director; and Mayor Justin Berns, who read a proclamation on behalf of himself and City Council, proclaiming Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025, as Skoda Gordon Dentistry Day, extending sincere best wishes for continued growth, success, and positive impact in the years to come.



Top photo: Dr. Skoda, along with associates, family, friends, and city administrators, cut the ribbon at Skoda Gordon Dentistry's grand-opening celebration.

Bottom photo: Dr. Skoda, center, with her husband, Jacob Radsick; daughter, Lucille; and Mayor Justin Berns.

Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo.

Dr. Skoda is an active member of the Greater Cleveland Dental Society, the Ohio Dental Association, and the American Dental Association. She prides herself on working with other dental professionals to advance the field of dentistry while providing the best care possible to all patients. She is also a proud member of the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce.

She moved to Cleveland for her job in 2008 and fell in love – with her husband, Jacob Radsick, and the city. She and her husband then

moved to Beachwood in 2011, where they are raising their daughter, Lucille.

"We're grateful for everything Beachwood has to offer – from the supportive community and excellent schools to the city's new playground," she said. "There's not much not to love about Beachwood. The city really takes care of its businesses and residents."

Outside the office, Dr. Skoda enjoys working out, exploring the outdoors, traveling, discovering new restaurants, and enjoying live music.

To learn more, visit www.skodagordon.com.

JFSA Cleveland: Your Partner in Caring for Loved Ones with Dementia



Today, it is estimated that 7.2 million Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's Disease and/or dementia. JFSA is leading the way in dementia care – providing case management, geriatric assessments, referrals, education counseling, respite care and community connections that sustain both caregivers and the loved ones they serve. The following programs reflect JFSA's comprehensive approach to supporting individuals and families affected by dementia.

Brain Health & Wellness Speaker Series

Free online monthly live speaker series highlighting various aspects of brain health and what people need to know to keep their brain healthy at any age. CEUs available.

Upcoming speakers:

- Nov. 13: Dr. Dennis Grossman – Are There Drugs to Prevent Dementia?
- Dec. 18: Carole Klingler, BSN, RN, CDP – From Keys to Carpets: Addressing Everyday Safety Concerns in Dementia

Caregiving with Confidence

Six-week online workshop series for caregivers to understand the impact of dementia on you and the person for whom you are caring. Free and open to the community.

Dementia Caregiver Support Group

Free bimonthly support group is open to caregivers and anyone

who has a person with dementia in their life.

Respite Care (Guide Program)

Short-term, paid professional care for individuals with dementia, allowing caregivers to rest while their loved ones receive safe, compassionate support.

Care Navigation

JFSA care navigators connect you to the right resources, care options, and benefits that will help your loved one live with comfort and dignity. Free to participate.

Memory Café

Bimonthly session for clients and family members to enjoy a range of fun and engaging social activities.

Do you or a loved one need support? Contact Nata Mendlovic for more information: 216.292.3999.

**Every step you took,
he was there.**



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

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

WE CAN HELP.

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



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

BAKED by Abbie • Whoopie Pies

From www.capewhoopies.com, “the exact origins of the whoopie pie are shrouded in mystery, but it’s believed that they were first created by Amish or Pennsylvania Dutch bakers in the early 1900s.”

According to one popular legend, the whoopie pie got its name from the sound of delighted children when they discovered the treat in their lunch pails. Another theory is that the whoopie pie was

inspired by a similar dessert known as the “black moon,” which was a chocolate cake filled with a cream filling that was popular in Maine.

Regardless of its exact origins, the whoopie pie quickly became a popular dessert throughout the Northeast, especially in states like Maine, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts.

I hope you enjoy this recipe adapted from Melissa Clark, *New York Times*, Nov. 16, 2022.



Ingredients

Cookies

- ¾ C unsalted butter, softened
- 1 C dark brown sugar
- ½ C granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 T vanilla
- 1 ½ C all-purpose flour
- 1 t baking soda
- 1 t cinnamon
- ¾ t salt
- ¼ t either nutmeg, all-spice, or cardamom

- ¼ t ginger
- 3 C old fashioned rolled oats (not instant)
- 1 ½ C dried cranberries

Filling

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 2 C confectioner’s sugar
- 1 C unsalted butter, softened
- ¼ t salt
- ½ C whole-berry cranberry sauce (not jellied) or dried cranberries

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350°F and line 2-4 baking sheets with parchment paper.
- Make cookies: With a stand mixer fitted with a paddle, beat together butter and both sugars. Beat eggs in, one at a time. Add vanilla. Beat again.
- In a separate bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, spices, and salt. Beat into egg mixture until just combined. Fold in oats and cranberries.
- Scoop out heaping tablespoons of dough and place on a baking sheet at least 2 inches apart. Bake in 2 batches until edges are golden brown (14-15 minutes). Remove from oven. Transfer to a wire rack to cool. (About 40 cookies.)
- Make filling: Using a stand mixer fitted with a whisk, beat cream cheese until fluffy and smooth (3-6 minutes). Beat in sugar, butter, and salt, and beat until well combined (2-4 minutes). Fold cranberries into the filling mixture. Refrigerate until firm but not solid (20-30 minutes).
- Assemble sandwiches by topping half of the cookies with 1 heaping T of filling and fitting another cookie on top.

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.

“A party without cake is just a meeting.” ~ Julia Child



BEACHWOOD HOLIDAY POP-UP SHOP

December 7, 2025
11am - 4pm
Beachwood High School

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Candles, Personalized items, Jewelry,
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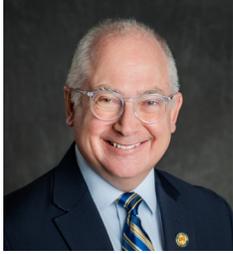
Supports the Class of 2026 Afterprom

Details and register for a space:
<https://tinyurl.com/zhwm4dkw>

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America's Four Adaptive Problems of the 21st Century

By State Senator Kent Smith



In my view, governmental bodies faces two fundamentally different types of problems: management problems and adaptive problems.

The key difference is that there's already an existing system in place to address management problems. You don't have to invent a fix, you just have to manage it. An example was the massive surge in unemployment claims at the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Government did not have to invent a process to help sustain people who had suddenly lost their paychecks, the newly jobless just needed it to work.

Adaptive problems have no playbook, map, or user guide. Leaders have to figure out a brand new solution while the disaster continues to unfold. For example, COVID needed an adaptive solution, whereas the unemployment system needed a management solution.

I have often emphasized the importance of adaptive challenges to illustrate why having thoughtful, capable elected leaders is so essential. They aren't needed simply to manage the routine functions of government, but to navigate the unpredictable and often daunting unknowns that come with adaptive problems.

Since 2000, our nation – and the world – has faced three major crises that demanded adaptive solutions: the Sept. 11 attacks, the collapse of the American housing market that triggered the Great Recession, and the COVID pandemic. In each of these moments, government leaders and experts had to chart a course to steady the ship and guide the nation through uncharted waters.

Yet sometimes, the government's own structures

or processes stand in the way of effective solutions. What happens when the system itself becomes the obstacle?

Friends, I believe we are facing a fourth major adaptive challenge – one that strikes at the heart of our democratic institutions. The political environment surrounding our current administration represents a style of governance unlike anything we've seen in modern history. They have limited dissent, pursued legal action against opponents, and rewarded loyal supporters, while taking steps to consolidate power for personal and political gain.

It's a test not only of our institutions but of our collective commitment to integrity, accountability, and the rule of law.

So where is the adaptive solution? How do we restore order? How do we ensure another 250 years of American democracy?

The solution starts here – with you, with me, and with every citizen in this state and across the nation. We must rise together to protect our democracy and safeguard the American way of life. Nobody can sit this out. The responsibility rests with all of us. We are the adaptive solution that we need. We are what is required and we can do it. Because together, we alone can fix this.

To learn more, visit <https://protectdemocracy.org>.

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.



Jewish Federation
OF CLEVELAND

HERE FOR GOOD

2026 CAMPAIGN



When you support the Campaign for Jewish Needs, you support Jews in Israel and around the world

When the war in Israel began, Orli's* father was called to serve, leaving her mother to care for the family alone in the Valley of Springs – Federation's partner community in Northern Israel. Money was tight and fear was constant.

Orli's Youth Futures mentor, Yael*, met with her weekly, helping her set goals and find her strengths. With Federation's support, Orli received a computer for remote learning and therapy sessions to manage her fears. Even in the hardest days, Yael never gave up on Orli—or her dreams. **Your donation to Campaign ensures Orli – and hundreds like her – continue to get the support they need.**

**Names have been withheld to protect client privacy.*



Donate today at
jewishcleveland.org
or scan the QR code

The Mayor's Message Meeting the Challenges of an Aging Infrastructure

Dear Beachwood Residents,

As we look around our city, it's easy to notice the busy parks, thriving neighborhoods, and active community spaces. What we don't always see, however, is the vital infrastructure beneath our feet — our roads, water lines, sewers, and utilities — that quietly support the safety, health, and function of our daily lives. Maintaining this aging infrastructure is one of the most important — and complex — challenges we face as a city. It requires careful planning, financial responsibility, and adaptability.

Over the past several months, we've made significant progress on several major infrastructure improvements across Beachwood. Enbridge Energy has completed the replacement of a gas main line on Greenlawn Avenue. The Cleveland Water Department successfully replaced lead service line connections on Greenlawn Avenue (Green Road to Beachwood Boulevard), East Groveland, East Silsby, East Baintree and North Woodland. Phase 2 of our Timberlane and Green Sanitary Relief Sewer Project has been completed. The sewer lateral lines on the north and south side of Greenlawn Avenue (Green Road to Beachwood Boulevard) have also been upgraded. These projects represent significant and long-term investments in the health and safety of our community.

From 2022 through 2026, the City of Beachwood has sourced \$4,953,000 in funding for sewer-related projects through the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's Member Community Infrastructure Program. This critical financial support helps us modernize essential systems while minimizing the financial burden on our residents.

That said, these projects are not without their challenges. After extensive evaluations of our sanitary and storm sewer systems and the discovery of a critical water main — originally installed in 1927 — that requires replacement, we decided to adjust the project timeline for improvements on East Groveland, East Silsby, and East Baintree Roads. Originally slated for summer and fall of 2025, these upgrades will now begin in spring 2026. While delays are never ideal, this additional time will ensure that both projects

are executed efficiently and meet the highest standards. The scope of this work includes resurfacing of streets and replacement of sidewalks, curbs, ADA curb ramps, and driveway aprons — vital upgrades that support the safety and livability of our neighborhoods.

Much of the credit for the execution and adaptability of these projects goes to our outstanding Public Works Department, led by Director Chris Arrietta. His team continues to show incredible agility, pivoting quickly when unexpected issues arise. They maintain strong lines of communication with residents and businesses, while working seamlessly with external agencies to acquire funding and deliver successful outcomes. I want to thank our residents for your patience and understanding as we work through these essential updates together.

In another proactive move to reduce costs and boost efficiency, the city has welcomed Joe Ciuni as our new staff engineer. Joe's expertise allows us to better oversee projects, lower inspection and construction administration costs, and ensure all proposed building and housing developments comply with Beachwood's city code.

While infrastructure improvements may not be as immediately visible — or exciting — as a new playground or pickleball courts, they are every bit as essential. They're the backbone of our city, quietly serving every home, business, and visitor. These investments ensure Beachwood remains a safe, modern, and thriving community for generations to come.

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

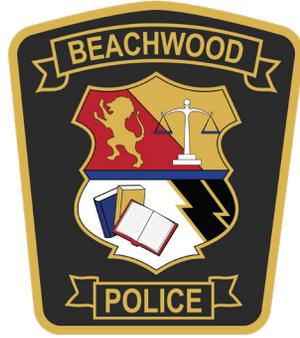
MAYOR'S OFFICE
216.292.1901

POLICE
216.464.2343

PUBLIC WORKS
216.292.1922

EMERGENCY
Dial 9-1-1 or
216.464.1234

Police Unveil New Vehicle Graphics



The Beachwood Police Department has introduced updated graphics for its patrol vehicles as part of a broader strategic initiative to enhance both internal and community-facing branding. Police Chief Dan Grispino, who developed the department's strategic plan shortly after his appointment, led the decision to refresh the decade-old vehicle graphics to reflect the evolving identity and vision of the department.

During Chief Grispino's meetings with officers, many expressed a shared interest in modernizing the fleet's appearance. A prominent theme in their feedback was the desire to incorporate the department's official patch into the vehicle design — an element that now features prominently on the new graphics.

The updated design also features an American flag on the rear of the vehicle, symbolizing the department's commitment to serving both the local community and the nation. It reflects the officers' responsibility, as outlined in the United States Constitution, to protect the civil rights of all individuals.

Additionally, the refreshed design retains key blue elements from the previous version. These elements align with the City of Beachwood's official colors, maintaining a subtle but important connection to the city's identity.

Residents will begin seeing the new graphics on police vehicles as they are gradually rolled out across the department's fleet.

A Beachwood Police Department cruiser featuring the new graphics at the Fall Festival on Sunday, Sept. 28.



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.



Unbranded fire engine photo courtesy of Pierce Manufacturing.

City Council Approves Purchase of New Fire Engine

The City of Beachwood is set to strengthen its public safety resources following the City Council's approval of a resolution to purchase a new fire engine.

On recommendation from the Fire Chief Steve Holtzman, City Council voted to move forward with the acquisition of one Pierce Fire Engine during the Sept. 15 meeting. The new engine is expected to cost approximately \$1.2 million.

This purchase comes at a crucial time, as current build times for fire engines are estimated at 51 to 53 months. By

acting now, the city positions itself to maintain a sustainable and proactive replacement schedule for emergency vehicles, ensuring long-term operational readiness.

Additionally, securing the purchase this year will allow Beachwood to avoid at least two scheduled price increases before the next budget cycle — a fiscally strategic move.



UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
Nov. 3 at 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
Nov. 3 at 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 17 at 4:30 p.m.

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

City of Beachwood Welcomes Staff Engineer Joe Ciuni



Joe Ciuni, Staff Engineer

The City of Beachwood is pleased to announce the hiring of Joe Ciuni as its new Staff Engineer. Joe brings over 44 years of experience in civil engineering, public infrastructure, and municipal operations, along with the technical expertise and leadership necessary to support the city's ongoing and future infrastructure initiatives.

A licensed Professional Engineer (PE) and Professional Surveyor (PS), Joe holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Notre Dame. Before joining Beachwood, he served as Principal and Director of Municipal Projects at Glaus, Pyle, DeHaven Group (GPD), where he oversaw work for 23 municipalities across Northeast Ohio — including several key Beachwood projects.

As Staff Engineer, Joe will play a vital role in planning, directing, and overseeing the construction and maintenance of the city's infrastructure. His expertise will help reduce construction administration and inspection costs, enhance project oversight, and improve the efficiency of Public Works. He will also review proposed building and housing projects for compliance with the Beachwood City Code, enabling the city to eliminate its current retainer with GPD while continuing to collaborate with the firm on major infrastructure projects.

Joe's first day was Oct. 6. Please join us in welcoming him to the Beachwood team!

HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, recycling/rubbish collections normally on Thursday, Nov. 27, will occur on Wednesday, Nov. 26. All other collections will remain unchanged.

Beachwood Police Department Appoints Two New Detectives



Det. Nolan Majewski

The Beachwood Police Department has officially announced the promotion of two new detectives, Officers Nolan Majewski and Jacob Bertone. Their selection follows a highly competitive process that involved an intensive, all-day assessment conducted by the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police.

Det. Nolan Majewski brings more than 14 years of law enforcement experience to his new role. Since joining the Beachwood Police Department in 2019, he has served the agency in multiple capacities. He is a certified crisis intervention specialist and has played a vital role in mentoring new officers as a field training officer. His technical expertise includes work as an evidence technician and as an FAA-certified drone pilot. In recognition of his outstanding service and dedication to the community, Majewski was recently named the 2024 Beachwood Hometown Hero.



Det. Jacob Bertone

Det. Jacob Bertone, who has served with BPD since 2017, brings nine years of law enforcement experience to the position. He is a former member of the department's specialized SPEAR Unit

and currently serves on the EDGE SWAT team. In addition to his tactical background, Bertone is a certified firearms instructor and is also assigned to the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force.

The Beachwood Police Department congratulates Detectives Majewski and Bertone on their well-earned promotions and looks forward to their continued contributions to the department and the community.

Visit Our Emergency Preparedness Webpage

Every second counts in an emergency. Make yours matter by planning ahead. Beachwood residents are reminded to visit the city's Emergency Preparedness webpage, located at BeachwoodOhio.com/EmergencyPreparedness or scan the QR code.

Disasters can happen without warning, potentially leaving you without essential resources or requiring evacuation. While first responders and local officials will respond swiftly, having your own emergency plan is critical.

The webpage offers practical guidance to help you prepare. For a printed Emergency Preparedness Guide, stop by the Beachwood Fire Department or City Hall.

Residents are also strongly encouraged to sign up for Cuyahoga County's ReadyNotify system for local emergency alerts online at cuyahogacounty.gov/ready.



A Love Story of Selflessness: The Journey of Don & Michele Noggy

A Childhood Bond

Don Noggy, a Public Works Mechanic for the City of Beachwood for the past eight years, shares a lifelong bond with his wife, Michele — a relationship built on decades of friendship, love, and sacrifice.

Their story began in early childhood. Don and Michele grew up side by side, raised by single mothers who were best friends. Nearly every childhood memory features the two families together, forming a foundation of connection and care that would endure.



Dan and Michele Noggy

Drifting Apart — and a Fateful Reunion

As they grew into teenagers, life naturally led Don and Michele in different directions. Though they drifted apart, they remained loosely in touch.

In 2015, fate brought them together again. When Michele's aunt passed away, Don and his entire family attended the funeral. That shared moment of grief reignited a spark between the two. Their first date, a motorcycle ride, marked the start of a new chapter. From that day on, they were inseparable.

"We are each other's best friend and do everything together," Michele says.

Love, Marriage, and a Delayed Celebration

The couple planned to marry on Aug. 1, 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they decided to postpone their wedding. They finally exchanged vows on June 12, 2021, celebrating their love with deep appreciation for their journey.

Love Put to the Test

In 2023, the couple faced their greatest challenge yet: Michele's kidneys began to fail, requiring her to undergo nightly dialysis. Daily life became physically and emotionally demanding — but Don remained a constant source of support.

At first, Michele's brother volunteered to be a kidney donor, given that siblings often have strong matches. Quietly, however, Don had already begun his own testing — just in case.

To everyone's amazement, Don turned out to be a perfect match.

The Ultimate Gift

On Sept. 10, 2025, Don made the ultimate sacrifice: He donated one of his kidneys to save his wife's life. It was a deeply selfless act of love — one that defined their relationship.

Don recovered quickly, and Michele's health continues to improve. While the donated kidney isn't functioning at full capacity yet, her lab results show encouraging progress. On Oct. 2, doctors removed Michele's dialysis ports: She no longer needs dialysis.

"I can never put into words the depth of my gratitude or how I'll ever repay my husband," Michele says. "But I will enjoy every minute of every day we have together like it's our last."

A Legacy of Love and Devotion

Don and Michele Noggy's journey is more than a love story — it is a powerful testament to the enduring bonds of friendship, commitment, and the rarest kind of selflessness. In a world where love is frequently tested by life's difficult moments, their story stands as a reminder that true devotion is not just spoken, but proven — in quiet sacrifices, acts of courage, and a willingness to give everything for someone you love.

Veterans Day Ceremony

The Beachwood Historical Society and the City of Beachwood partner to commemorate Veterans Day with an annual ceremony at the Beachwood Cemetery. The location is the final resting place for 40 soldiers from the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II.

The ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 9, featuring dignitaries, local veterans and the presentation of colors. Please join us for this special occasion.



CITY OF Beachwood
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Plows FOR HUNGER

Greater Cleveland Food Bank
MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

SECOND ANNUAL

DECEMBER 1-15
PUBLIC WORKS DOOR #11
23355 MERCANTILE ROAD

Plows for Hunger

Beachwood's Public Works Department is once again leading the **Plows for Hunger** food drive — and we're calling on all Beachwood residents and businesses to join in!

Last year, thanks to your kindness and the incredible generosity of our community, we collected over 500 pounds of food to benefit the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. Your contributions made a meaningful difference in the lives of neighbors in need.

This year, we're setting our sights even higher — with a **goal to collect over 1,000 pounds**.

Let's come together to support our Public Works team and help fight hunger. Every can, box, or bag of non-perishable food helps fill a plate and bring hope to a family in need.

Donations accepted Dec. 1-15 at Public Works door #11, Beachwood Community Center, and City Hall.

November Recreation Guide

A Record-Breaking Fall Festival Weekend

Beachwood's eighth annual Fall Festival, presented by Crestmont Automotive, brought the community together for an unforgettable weekend of family fun, music, and celebration. With picture-perfect weather and activities for all ages, the two-day event showcased the very best of Beachwood's community spirit.

The weekend kicked off on Saturday, Sept. 27, with Miss Americanas – A Tribute to Taylor Swift, a high-energy concert that had fans singing along to every hit. The evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks show sponsored by Akron Children's, lighting up the sky in dazzling color.

On Sunday, Sept. 28, more than 6,000 people gathered for the Fall Festival – the largest in Beachwood's history. The Community Center and surrounding grounds were transformed into a Treasure Island adventure, creating an immersive experience for festival-goers of all generations.

Inside the Beachwood Community Center, Velocity Clinical Research sponsored an elaborate Treasure Island display featuring more than 10 handcrafted installations and a visit from Spanky the Parrot, delighting families throughout the day. Outside, attendees were greeted by Captain Fairmount's Voyager, a 27-foot-long ship that welcomed visitors as they entered the festival grounds. The vessel was a collaborative creation by Beachwood Community Services and the Public Works Department, helping make this year's festival truly one-of-a-kind.

The event was made possible through the support of additional partners, including NOPEC, Wild Republic, Millennium Control Systems, Burns Pool Management, and GameDay Men's Health.

"Each year, our Fall Festival grows in size and excitement, and this year was truly one for the record books," said Mayor Justin Berns. "Seeing thousands of families come together to enjoy the weekend reminds us what makes Beachwood such a special place to work, live, learn, and thrive."

With live entertainment, activities, delicious food, and an atmosphere full of community pride, the festival was a shining example of what happens when creativity, collaboration, and hometown spirit come together. For upcoming events, visit BeachwoodRec.com or follow @BeachwoodOHRec on Facebook.



Event photography by Discovery Photo.



Arrr! No festival is complete without a pirate!



Nothing but smiles and fun for the Taylor Swift tribute band.

CRESTMONT
AUTOMOTIVE



Rick Smith Jr. bringing the magic to Fall Fest.



A captivating fireworks display on Sept. 27.



Captain Fairmount's 27-foot ship at the festival entrance.

Free Fitness Classes Through Renew Active

Beachwood Community Services is proud to announce the expansion of free fitness classes through UnitedHealthcare's Renew Active program. Participants with Renew Active coverage through their insurance can now enroll in SilverSneakers (SS) classes at the Beachwood Community Center at no cost.

Classes are offered every Tuesday and Thursday with instructor Julie Konrad. SS Classic begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by SS Yoga/Tai Chi at 11:00 a.m.

To check eligibility and enroll, contact Senior Adult Manager Jayme Jirousek at 216.292.1911. Those not covered by insurance are still welcome to participate — Beachwood Community Services offers a 10-class punch card for just \$41.



SilverSneakers Yoga/Tai-Chi offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Beachwood
BINGO
Nights

Family-Friendly,
All Ages!

"Leave your bingo dauber at the door;
this is **Beachwood Bingo!**"

More Thrills. More Prizes. More Excitement.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13
6-8 PM at Beachwood Community Center

Registration Required:
17 Years & Under - \$5/person
Adults (18-59 years) - \$8/person
60 Years & Better - \$5/person

Register: BeachwoodRec.com

Scan to register!

T-BIRDS BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY THEATER *Pink Ladies*

GREASE
The Kids Musical Version

Showing November 1 & 2!
2:00 PM, Beachwood Middle

Come see the fall youth production! Free admission.

Director: Julie Matthews

Beachwood Seniors

- Seniors Create - Napkin Folding Class**
 Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Community Center
 Learn how to make those memorable folds frequently found at Meet & Eat with Program Manager Shannon Diamond! All materials are provided. Residents are \$16 each and non-residents are \$19.
- AARP and Alzheimer's Association Lunch & Learn**
 Wednesday, Nov. 12, 11:30 a.m., Community Center
 Discover the six pillars of brain health and 10 warning signs for early Alzheimer's detection. The latest research, lifestyle suggestions, and more will be shared. Registration is free. Sign up by Nov. 5.

November Meet & Eat

A Tribute to Frank Sinatra
Thursday, Nov. 20, Noon, Community Center
 Residents \$14, Non-Residents \$17, Program Only \$6
Register by Nov. 14.

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of live music featuring Sinatra Selects, a talented quintet led by renowned vocalist Lou Armagno — hailed as one of the finest interpreters of Frank Sinatra's timeless style. Backed by four accomplished musicians, Lou brings the magic of Ol' Blue Eyes to life with classic arrangements.

Meal choices include Chicken Francese (lemon chicken) with rice and a baguette, or Tuna Niçoise Salad with a croissant. Each meal is served with vichyssoise, a beverage, and dessert. Gluten free available.

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Strengthening Our Community by Shopping Local this Holiday Season

The holiday season is more than just a time for giving gifts — it's a time for giving back to the people and places that make our community special. When you choose to shop locally, you're not just crossing items off your list. You're helping neighbors thrive, keeping dollars in your hometown, and fueling a stronger local economy.



Inside Beachwood Place



Antica Italian Kitchen & Bar



The Benefits of Shopping Local

Supporting small, independent businesses isn't just a "feel-good" choice; it's a powerful investment in your community's future. Local businesses hire local workers, source from nearby suppliers, and often reinvest profits right back into the neighborhood. That means every dollar you spend locally creates a ripple effect that supports jobs, schools, and other small businesses around you.

In fact, studies show that roughly 67 cents of every dollar spent at a local business stays in the community — compared to far less when shopping with large national chains. That's the "local multiplier effect" in action — your purchase at a boutique or café can indirectly benefit multiple businesses across Northeast Ohio.

Small Business Saturday

One of the best times to show your support is Small Business Saturday, which takes place the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Created by American Express in 2010, this nationwide event shines a spotlight on the small, independent shops that give each community its unique character. Whether you're shopping for handmade gifts, dining at a family-owned restaurant, or booking local services, every purchase makes a difference.



Your Holiday Shopping Can Boost the Local Economy

When you Shop Beachwood, Shop Local, you invest in more than products — you invest in people. You help local businesses thrive, entrepreneurship grow, and individuality flourish. You're saying yes to a thriving community that mirrors your values and connects neighbors in meaningful ways. This holiday season, let your spending make a lasting impact on Beachwood.

Beachwood's Co-Working Spaces: A Fresh Way to Work



COhatch Beachwood

Working from home offers flexibility and comfort, but it can also blur the line between personal and professional life. Distractions, isolation, and limited space for collaboration often make it difficult to stay productive. That's why more entrepreneurs and remote professionals are turning to Beachwood's local co-working spaces for an inspiring change of pace.

Modern options like COhatch, Regus, OC2, and Executive Centers provide the structure and community professionalism needed to thrive. With private offices, shared work areas, reliable Wi-Fi, and access to printers, conference rooms, and coffee bars, these spaces deliver all the essentials of a traditional office.

Beyond amenities, co-working in Beachwood is about connection. Members benefit from networking events, workshops, and daily interactions that often lead to mentorships, collaborations, and new opportunities. Whether you're launching a startup, freelancing, or working remotely, Beachwood's co-working spaces offer the perfect balance of productivity, flexibility, and community.

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

Maltz Museum's 18th Annual Stop the Hate® Scholarship Contest Now Open for Submissions

The Maltz Museum's 18th Annual Stop the Hate® Contest and Program has officially launched for the 2025/2026 school year. Each year, nearly 8,000 students take part in Stop the Hate® through workshops and tours, with about 3,000 students entering the contest. With the help of more than 400 volunteer readers, the program names 30 contest finalists, recognizes outstanding teachers, and awards \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes to students who raise their voices against hate.

Since its inception, Stop the Hate has reached more than 50,000 students across Northeast Ohio and awarded over \$1.7 million in scholarships, prizes, and educational grants, making it one of the largest opportunities of its kind in the nation. Rooted in the Jewish value of respect for all humanity, the Maltz Museum is proud to provide a platform where young people of all backgrounds can speak out against bullying and hate.

What's New This Year?

This year, the grand prize essay scholarship has been increased to \$30,000. In addition, responding to the growing interest in poetry, the program is expanding poem submission to include all students in grades six through 12 across our 15-county region.

Who Can Enter the Contest?

The contest is open to Northeast Ohio students in grades six through 12 who live in or attend public, private, or home school in one of the following counties: Ashland, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, and Wayne counties.

How to Participate

Students are invited to submit a personal essay (500 words or less) or a poem that reflects on real-life experiences they have experienced, witnessed, or learned about hate, exclusion, or injustice – and how it inspired them to take positive action and encourage others to do the same. Submissions should be made independently by students at maltzmuseum.org/sth/ contest. Schools and educators are encouraged to support participation, and while a visit to the Maltz Museum is encouraged, it not required.

School Group Opportunities

Teachers are invited to bring their students to the museum for *Past in Progress: A Maltz Museum Stop the Hate Tour*. Rooted in the Stop the Hate® program, this tour equips students with tools to engage with the past in meaningful ways and reflect on themes of agency, creativity, and storytelling – highlighting how these forces have inspired positive change throughout history.

Student groups receive discounted pricing and CMSD schools are admitted free with preregistration; free busing is available for CMSD and schools where 50% or more of the students participate in the National School Lunch Program.

Additional opportunities, prizes, and grants are available through this program. Visit www.maltzmuseum.org/sth/contest for details.

Submissions are due in the essay category on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026. The deadline for poetry submissions is Thursday, Jan. 22, 2026.

Maltz Museum Presents

STOP



THE

HATE



**Students speak out
for a chance to win a
\$30,000 scholarship**

The *Stop the Hate Youth Speak Out* Writing Contest is a chance for students to share their stories while competing for scholarships.

Students share their real-life experiences through personal narratives and poems showing how they are making a difference.

**Contest now open!
Deadlines in January 2026**

maltzmuseum.org/sth

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Beachwood Schools Achieves Five-Star Rating on Ohio State Report Card

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce released its 2024-2025 school report cards and Beachwood Schools once again earned the highest possible five-star overall rating. The district received five stars in both Achievement and Progress, with a Performance Index of 106.3, showcasing student growth far above state expectations.

Gifted students ranked in the top 1% of all districts in Ohio, while Beachwood High School posted a 96.9% graduation rate for the Class of 2025, earning another five-star mark. At the elementary level, schools showed significant gains and earned a 5 out of 5 in Early Literacy. In the new College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness measure, 70% of Beachwood seniors met the state's threshold.

"Congratulations to our talented students, their dedicated families, and the district's inspiring staff for their contributions to this impressive state report card," Superintendent Robert Hardissaid. "The annual state report card is just one of the multiple measures of the rigorous depth and breadth of a Beachwood education and we are proud of our students' results."



Beachwood Celebrates Record 24 National Merit Honorees

Beachwood High School is proud to celebrate a record 24 seniors who have been recognized in the National Merit Scholarship program. With 133 seniors in this year's senior class, this achievement places Beachwood High School among an elite group of high schools throughout the country, placing 18% of the Class of 2025 among National Merit honorees.

BHS seniors who were named National Merit Semifinalists include Dotan Dana, Charlotte Doughty, Karina Krishnan, Leo Kuenzler, Jiahe Liu, Shamith Murthy, Aliaksei Sharakou, Anna Tonyushkin, Junbo Wang, Leo Wang, and Tony Zheng. The 11 BHS seniors named Semifinalists will now advance to compete for National Merit Finalist status and nearly \$30 million in scholarships to be awarded this spring.

This year's Commended Scholars from BHS are Peter Adobamen, Ida Chang, Ethan Dong, Colin Elwell, Asher Gearity, Srishti Ithychanda, Siena James, Aaron Kahn, Oleksandr Rabochii, Ignatius Ream, Mirica Woodley, Shirley Zhang, and Lyndia Zheng.



EVENTS CALENDAR



Elderclass

Nov. 6, 12:00-2:15 p.m.
Beachwood High School Community Room
25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Special Board Meeting - District Goals Town Hall

Nov. 6, 7:00 p.m.
Beachwood High School Community Room
25100 Fairmount Blvd.

BHS Fall Play (*Freaky Friday*)

Nov. 14-15, 7:00 p.m.; Nov. 16, 2:00 p.m.
25100 Fairmount Blvd.



VIEW THE FULL CALENDAR

www.beachwoodschoools.org/calendar

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

Homecoming

Homecoming 2025 was one to remember! With perfect fall weather setting the stage, the Friday night football game on Sept. 26 brought the Beachwood community together under the lights. The evening featured the always-special performance by the Alumni Band and Drill Team at halftime as dozens of alums joined current students on the field.

This year's record 24 National Merit honorees were recognized during the evening, and the presentation of the Homecoming Royalty added to the excitement. The community cheered the top six nominees as they took the field with Morgan Jackson, Angelica Tall, and Mathilde Spallerl voted as the top three finishers.

Thank you to the students, staff, alumni, families, and community members who made Homecoming a special evening.



Mid-Autumn Festival Recap

The Chinese Family Affinity Group and Asian American Pacific Islander Student Affinity Club hosted the 2025 Mid-Autumn Festival on Oct. 4 in the Beachwood High School Community Room. The celebration drew more than 175 attendees and offered a family-friendly atmosphere where community members of all ages joined together for an evening of culture, delicious food, mooncake tastings, and meaningful traditions.

Guests were treated to a variety of performances, including music and a fashion show, while children also enjoyed face painting and other hands-on activities. Attendees also had the opportunity to learn about the history and customs of the Mid-Autumn Festival, from the significance of the harvest moon to the symbolism of mooncakes. This year's Mid-Autumn Festival was a joyful celebration that brought together Beachwood families for a memorable evening.

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Proposals for BHS Fitness & Design Engineering Facilities

During a Board of Education meeting in September, Board members heard a presentation about potential major enhancements of Beachwood High School's fitness and design/engineering spaces.

The fitness facility proposal would transform the current weight room and unused gym space into a modern, all-purpose fitness facility, while maintaining the full basketball and volleyball courts and spectator bleachers. Plans would also include a new concession area and family restrooms. This would be completed within the same footprint of the existing building. The design/engineering facility would create dedicated areas for computer-aided design, fabrication, prototyping, and a testing space. These upgrades aim to create a modern learning environment that supports the growing number of students who are interested in this curriculum path, as well as Bison Robotics Team.



The combined construction costs are estimated to be \$5 million. If approved, construction could begin after the 2025-2026 winter sports seasons, with completion targeted for August 2026 for the fitness facility and soon thereafter for the design/engineering facility. The auxiliary gym, locker rooms, and current spaces within the high school dedicated to our design/engineering program would remain open during construction. Potential funding sources for these projects include interest earned on bond proceeds from the 2023 bond issuance, contingency funds remaining from the Bryden and Hilltop projects, Permanent Improvement funds, and a fundraising campaign spearheaded by the Beachwood Athletic Boosters.

Hilltop Students Take Part in National Walk to School Day

Beachwood Schools joined the Beachwood Police Department and University Hospitals' Safe Kids Greater Cleveland Coalition to celebrate National Walk to School Day on Oct. 8. The annual event, which celebrates the benefits of active transportation to school, was organized by Beachwood Schools Director of Security Colton Pekarski and brought students, families, and community partners together to promote the health and environmental benefits of walking to school and to reinforce pedestrian safety.

As students began arriving at school, they were greeted with prizes, stickers, and posed for photos with pedestrian safety props. They also had the opportunity to interact with officers, who displayed their patrol vehicles, and other community partners.



BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



Recent Resolutions

- Presentation of Auditor's Award of Distinction
- Honored National Merit Semifinalists and Commended Scholars
- Presentation about Orchestra Trip

Upcoming Board Actions

- Special Meeting (Nov. 6) for District Goals
- Hear update about SPIRIT Squad

Board Meeting Calendar

- Monday, Nov. 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 24 @ 7:00 p.m.



**VIEW AGENDAS
& MINUTES**

www.beachwoodschoools.org/BOE

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Robert Hardis, Superintendent · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2201 · rph@beachwoodschoos.org
Matthew Brown, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2211 · mbrown@beachwoodschoos.org
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Dr. Linda LoGalbo, Director of Curriculum & Instruction · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2208 · lhl@beachwoodschoos.org



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Alumni Spotlight: Grant Aronson '08



From the classroom and tennis courts at Beachwood High School all the way to Times Square and the Super Bowl, Grant Aronson '08 has transformed his love of sports and storytelling into an award-winning career in media production.

Some of Aronson's favorite memories from his time at Beachwood Schools come from his time as a student-athlete. A lifelong tennis player, Aronson was part of a close-knit team that captured conference and sectional titles. He was also part of a doubles team that finished as state runner-up. Aronson and a few friends also produced a student sports show in the style of SportsCenter, which covered Beachwood athletics and Cleveland sports.

After graduating from Beachwood High School, Aronson attended Mount Union where he spent two years exploring several majors and playing tennis. He also hosted a radio show, *The Midnight Rant with Shyanne and Grant*. After two years, Aronson was still searching for the right fit and made the decision to transfer to The Ohio State University as a Film Studies major. This is where his passion for production took off.

"At Ohio State, I really set my focus on TV production and found opportunities to intern for ESPN Cleveland and the Tennis Channel," Aronson said. "The successful internships led to a job offer with the Tennis Channel and an opportunity to move to Los Angeles, which marked a big milestone for my dreams and ambitions."

Aronson worked at the Tennis Channel for two and a half years before moving on to a sports production agency that specialized in in-stadium graphics. Those experiences gave him the knowledge and framework to start his own business, Epic Arc Productions, LLC.

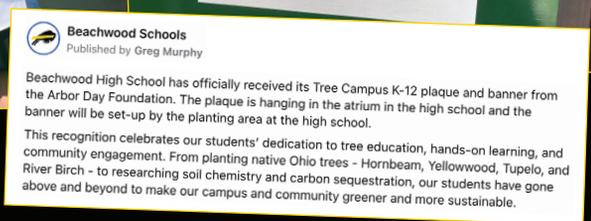
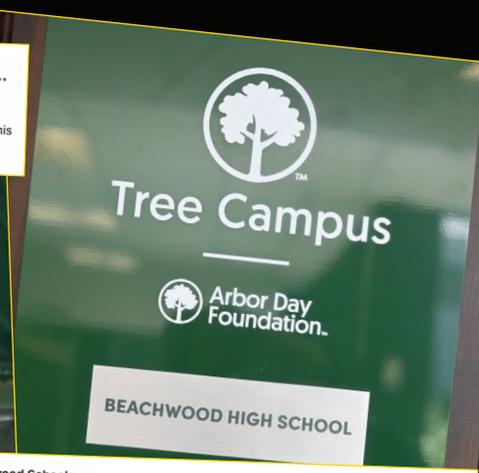
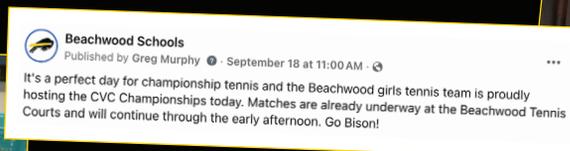
"I decided to take a chance and start my own business, which is based on the reputation that I have built over the years," Aronson said. "I pride myself on going the extra mile for clients, and starting my own business allows me to have full control in creative and business processes."

Since launching Epic Arc Productions, Aronson has produced content for major events including five Super Bowls, the NFL Draft, Final Fours, and the Las Vegas Raiders, earning a 2024 Emmy Award for Art Direction. He has also created content for Times Square, Madison Square Garden, AT&T Stadium, and Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

"For those looking to get into media or storytelling," he said, "don't shy away from being hands-on. Produce your own work, intern, study it. I learned the most in my career when I was a production assistant. The best lessons come from being on set and getting your hands dirty."

Social Scene

✕ f y @BeachwoodBison



Siegal Lifelong Learning Featured Programs

Case Western Reserve University's Siegal Lifelong Learning is proud to host the following programs among many others this fall. These programs, except the first one listed, which is remote, take place at the Landmark Centre Building, 25700 Science Park Dr., Beachwood. For more information and to register, please visit www.case.edu/lifelonglearning or call 216.368.2091.

Mahjong:

From China to the World

Monday, Nov. 10 • 7-8:30 p.m.

In a lecture, Gregg Swain, mahjong historian, author, and psychologist, will explore how the game has grown into one of the world's most popular pastimes.



Art and Words:

A Healing Odyssey

Fridays, Nov. 14 – Dec. 12

10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Shira Atik, poet and literary translator, and Julie Goldstein, poet, expressive arts therapist, and educator, will explore the transformative power of words and images through an engaging mix of visual art, poetry, and personal expression.

Translation and Trauma:

Poetry After Oct. 7

Tuesday, Dec. 9 • 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Explore poems with Barbara Mann, Ph.D., and Stephen H. Hoffman, professor of Hebrew Language and Literature, CWRU, written in the aftermath of Oct. 7.

Antarctica: A Scenic

and Scientific Expedition

Thursday, Dec. 11 • 1-2:30 p.m.

Journey through the Antarctic Peninsula with Tom Hare, geologist and executive director of HarvestNet, and Rachel Hare, M.A., an avid adventurer, to explore the ecosystem through photos and video.

Park Synagogue and Kol Halev present

Voting Rights: The Power of Civic Action

Thursday, Nov. 13 • 7:30-9 p.m.

Park Synagogue, 27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike

Park Synagogue's Social Action Committee and Kol Halev's Social Justice Committee invite the community to an engaging and timely program, Voting Rights: The Power of Civic Action, on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 7:30-9 p.m. at Park Synagogue, 27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike. Doors open at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to all.

A panel of community experts will explore how citizens can protect and strengthen democracy:

- Susan Dean Dyke, founder of Mobilize the Vote NEO
- Meredith Hellmer, president of NOVA
- Michael Halberstam, attorney at Chandra Law Firm

As voting laws continue to shift at both the state and federal levels, many citizens are finding it increasingly confusing to navigate their rights. This program will help attendees better understand current voting policies, the

challenges facing access to the ballot, and what each person can do to help preserve fair elections.

Panelists will discuss:

- Key updates in voting laws and rights
- Threats to voter access and participation
- How individuals can protect their votes through civic engagement

"Voting is the cornerstone of our democracy," said organizers from the Park Synagogue Social Action Committee. "We want to empower community members to understand their rights and take meaningful action to ensure that every voice is heard."

This collaborative event reflects the shared commitment of Park Synagogue and Kol Halev to promote civic engagement, education, and justice within the Greater Cleveland community.

For more information and to register, please contact Olivia Setnik at osetnik@parksyn.org or visit www.parksynagogue.org.

Park Synagogue presents

Shabbat Service and Talk on Antisemitism / Lunch and Discussion

Saturday, Nov. 22 • Service: 9:30 a.m. • Talk: 10:55 a.m.

Lunch and Discussion: 12 p.m.

Park Synagogue
27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike

Join Park Synagogue for its annual Women's Shabbat Service and Lunch/Talk on Saturday, Nov. 22, at Park Synagogue, featuring scholar-in-residence Gayle Horwitz, director of education policy at the American Jewish Committee's Center for Education Advocacy.

Gayle will speak at services on "Hope is Mandatory: Surprising Lessons from the Frontlines of Fighting Antisemitism." Shabbat services begin at 9:30 a.m., with the talk at approximately 10:45 a.m.

To continue the dialogue, please make reservations to attend the lunch and discussion, which will follow the service.

After Gayle's opening remarks, attendees will participate in interactive discussions about antisemitism at each table.



Guest Speaker Gayle Horwitz

The cost for lunch is \$20/ Park members and \$25/guests. Prepaid reservations at www.parksynagogue.org/events are required by Friday, Nov. 14. You may also send your name, email, phone number, and check (payable to Park Synagogue) to Women's Shabbat, Park Synagogue, 27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike, OH 44124.

For more information, contact Ellen Petler at 216.371.2244, ext. 122 or epetler@parksyn.org. This event is open to women, men, and teens in the community.

Holiday Pop-Up Shop

The Holiday Pop-Up Shop, organized by parents of the class of 2026, will take place on Sunday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at Beachwood High School. Funds raised will benefit this year's After Prom.

Also featured will be Young Entrepreneur Alley, where students in grades K-12 (up to age 18) can showcase and sell their handmade services and creations. Several Beachwood students have already registered and are eager to participate.

Shannon Diamond, the City of Beachwood's program manager, originally came up with the idea to create a platform on which to highlight young entrepreneurs.

"Shannon shared that several kids in the community had started their own small businesses," said Sherri Malek, class of 2026 After Prom chair. "Our committee loved the idea

of highlighting these young entrepreneurs and agreed that the holiday season would be the perfect time for them to showcase their products and services."

There are a limited number of vendor spaces available for both students and adults. The cost for young entrepreneurs is \$10, which includes one 8-foot table and 10 feet of space. To learn more, visit <https://tinyurl.com/YEHolidayPopUp>.

The cost for adult vendors is \$75, which includes the same amount of space. For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/HolidayPopUpVendor>.

Vendor registration is available through Sunday, Nov. 23.

"We ask the community to please support this event," Sherri said. "It's a great way to shop locally, cross some names off your holiday shopping list,



support local artists, and help us reach our 2026 After Prom goal."

For more information, contact Sherri at 30sherrim@gmail.com.



Beachwood Holiday Pop-Up Shop
Young Entrepreneur Alley
 Sunday, Dec. 7
 11-4 p.m.
 Beachwood High School

Please support the
 BHS 2026 After Prom!

Laya Viswanath, a Beachwood Middle School student, launched Fur U, with LoVe, making handmade lotion bars and lip balms. (Please see additional details below.) Be sure to visit Laya's booth – as well as the booths of other young entrepreneurs – at Beachwood High School on Sunday, Dec. 7.

Free Workshop Growing Students' Executive Functioning Skills

Executive Functioning (EF) isn't just about being organized. It's a broad set of brain-based skills that help us plan, focus, manage time, control impulses, remember information, and regulate emotions.

For many kids – especially those with ADHD, autism, learning disabilities, or mood disorders – these skills develop more slowly (often 3-5 years behind peers). Typically developing kids under stress can also struggle with EF skills. These challenges are developmental, not motivational, reflecting brain wiring, not willpower.

The good news? EF skills can grow with support, practice, and strategies. In fact, these skills are largely managed by the prefrontal cortex, which is one of the last

areas of the brain to fully mature – typically into people's mid-20s.

To learn more, please join us for a free community workshop:

Growing Students' Executive Functioning Skills

Sunday, Nov. 9 • 2-4 p.m.
 Beachwood Board of Education, 24601 Fairmount Blvd.
 Presented by Mike McLeod, author of *The Executive Function Playbook*.

This event is brought to you by the Beachwood Neurodiversity Family Network and Beachwood Schools. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/growEFskills>.



Beachwood Student Launches Business, Wins National Prize

Over the summer, Beachwood Middle School student Laya Viswanath turned her passion for animals and creativity into a thriving small business.

Her company, Fur U, with LoVe, offers handmade lotion bars and lip balms (see above). What began as a fun summer project quickly grew into a meaningful mission.

In just two months, Laya raised more than \$200, which she donated to local pet shelters – an effort inspired by the adoption of her dog, Ginger. Her first contribution went to the Euclid Pet Shelter, helping provide care and support for animals in need.

Through the experience, Laya gained valuable skills in product development, branding, marketing, and packaging. Her

entrepreneurial journey reached a milestone when she competed in the Young Entrepreneur Institute Pitch Challenge, where she earned the Grand Prize in the national competition for grades 5-8.



Laya Viswanath, center, proudly donates \$200 to Euclid Pet Shelter.

A Vision of Wonder: Jim Vendeland Chronicles Antique Kaleidoscopes



Beachwood resident Dr. Jim Vendeland has spent decades exploring the world through a lens – literally. A retired ophthalmologist, Jim has long been fascinated by the mechanics of sight and the artistry that colors our visual experiences. In recent years, his attention has turned from medicine to one of the most whimsical optical inventions of the 19th century: the kaleidoscope.

The result is *An Atlas of Antique Kaleidoscopic Treasures: From the Jim Vendeland Kaleidoscope Collection*, a beautiful coffee-table book released in April 2025. This artistic book is a one-of-a-kind tribute to the beauty, craftsmanship, and ingenuity of kaleidoscopes, most dating from before 1900.

“Although many artists today create remarkable kaleidoscopes, I’ve always been drawn to the originals,” Jim said. “They are mechanical marvels, works of art, and pieces of cultural history all at once.”

The book takes readers on a visual journey beginning with Sir David Brewster, who popularized kaleidoscopes in the early 1800s, and Charles Bush, whose intricate designs became treasured household items. Jim’s collection also includes rare anomalies, from kaleidoscopic spinning tops to Edwardian boxed designs and even kaleidoscopes merged with early projection devices – predecessors of the motion picture.

Early toy kaleidoscopes, though often fragile, receive their own spotlight, reminding readers that these instruments were once intended to entertain the masses in England, rather than merely serve as decorative objects. A trivia section rounds out the book, inviting readers to explore the kaleidoscope’s history further – and perhaps consider acquiring one for themselves.

Jim’s path to creating this book began over 15 years ago, soon after retiring from



Through kaleidoscopes and words, Dr. Jim Vendeland explores how light, color, and imagination shape our view of the world.

medicine. His interest in optical instruments extended naturally from his longtime study of the eye, and he began amassing a remarkable collection of antique kaleidoscopes.

“Kaleidoscopes remind us that beauty is not fixed. It changes with every turn – just like life.”

“No museums expressed interest, so the next best thing was to create a book,” he told us. “The project took roughly a year and a half and each page was created with love.”

Jim has shared his expertise with collectors, historians, and the general public through presentations at local libraries – including a talk just a few weeks ago at the Beachwood Library. He’s also presented at cultural clubs and exclusive societies like The Rowfant Club, The Brewster Kaleidoscope

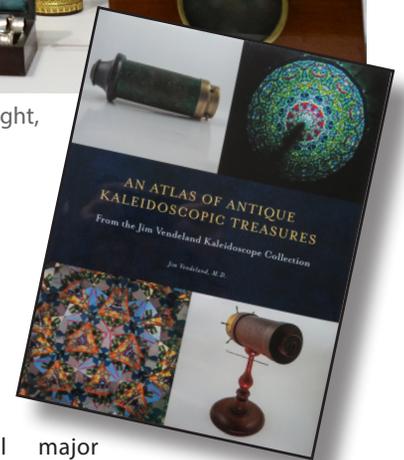
Society, and The Magic Lantern Society. Attendees are often invited to handle the kaleidoscopes themselves, experiencing the ever-changing patterns firsthand.

Jim has donated copies of his book to Cleveland libraries, cultural clubs, and international museums – specifically in Japan. He also submitted his book to the North Street Book Prize Competition in the art book category.

Although Jim has curated collections of ophthalmic instruments used to examine the interior of the eye and rare Russian opera librettos, it is the kaleidoscope, with its shifting patterns and vibrant colors, that continues to captivate him.

“Kaleidoscopes remind us that beauty is not fixed,” he reflects. “It changes with every turn – just like life.”

Copies of *An Atlas of Antique Kaleidoscopic Treasures* are available through www.BookBaby.com, Amazon, and



major booksellers.

For those curious about optical art, historical craftsmanship, or simply the delight of seeing the world through ever-changing patterns, Jim’s book offers a rare glimpse into the kaleidoscope’s enduring magic.

Jim lives with his wife, Marcia. They have three children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He enjoys playing classical music on the piano and has an extensive collection of classical music and opera on compact discs and DVDs. He also enjoys playing racketball, going out for ice cream, and spending time with his family.

InMotion® Holiday Market

InMotion® invites the community to attend its 2025 Crafted + Curated Holiday Market, featuring handcrafted items such as blankets, bracelets, necklaces, stuffed animals, key chains, home decor, photos, paintings, wooden puzzles, scarves, hats, shawls, baby blankets, handmade greeting cards, and much more. There's sure to be a perfect gift there for someone on your list.

Holiday market items will be offered as a "gift with donation," and suggested donation amounts will be provided for each item. Donations over the suggested amount are tax deductible. All proceeds from the holiday market will benefit programs at InMotion® for people with Parkinson's disease.

InMotion® is proud to partner again with Yarn Over Beachwood, which will be donating items to the holiday market. YOB is a dedicated group of knitters, crocheters, and loomers started by Beachwood resident Iris November, which generously

donates handmade items to several places and organizations throughout Northeast Ohio. InMotion® has been working with YOB since 2023.

To learn more, visit www.beinmotion.org/market.



Crafted + Curated Holiday Market

InMotion®
23905 Mercantile Rd.
Beachwood

Sip & Shop Preview Event
Monday, Nov. 17 • 4-7 p.m.

Holiday Market
Tuesday, Nov. 18 through
Friday, Nov. 21 • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Yarn Over Beachwood

Participants of Yarn Over Beachwood knit, crochet, and loom items for several places and organizations 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 Nov. 7 and Dec. 5.

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 lbertyclub@gmail.com.



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Legacy Memoirs: Preserving Stories, Values, and Laughter

Maverick Peters grew up in Beachwood, embraced by family, community, and tradition. He never met his grandmother, Vicki Peters, the remarkable woman whose name lives on in his own, Maverick Victor Peters. He grew up with secondhand stories and photographs that couldn't capture her laugh, her voice, or how she saw the world. He also lost both of his grandfathers, Alan Peters and Marc Loveman, before his business ever existed. If he could go back, he says, he'd sit with each of them, press record, and preserve their stories so his daughters could know them more personally.

That longing inspired Legacy Memoirs, a service dedicated to capturing the voices, wisdom, and presence of loved ones before those opportunities are gone. And it isn't just for people who are "old." Some of the most powerful memoirs come from those who are still vibrant and in their prime, with reflections and lessons worth preserving while they're fresh and vivid.

After nearly seven years in media production, Maverick chose to use his skills and resources to create something more meaningful.

"Legacy Memoirs was created to capture life, share wisdom, and preserve laughter, quirks, and personality before memories fade," he said.

Maverick sits down with parents, grandparents, or anyone meaningful in a family's life for a relaxed, professionally filmed conversation that tells their story. Each interview is beautifully edited and delivered as a lasting treasure – a living time capsule for future generations to watch, remember, and connect.

"I interview people in their homes, bringing just enough equipment to keep things comfortable," he said. "It's not a podcast – it's more like a documentary. If there's something specific from someone's life, I encourage family members to share it so I can capture their insight."

His approach is both personal and professional. "I ask people to view me as a great-great-grandson, curious to know all about them," he said. "I ask, 'What happened?' or 'What advice would you give me?'"

A list of guiding questions is used to help capture the most meaningful stories, memories, and reflections. "Although no preparation is needed, I provide this list to interviewees beforehand to review, which can help spark ideas or jog memories," he said.

The questions are designed to reveal values, humor, and life lessons – the essence of who they are. The final production can take the form of a professional interview or documentary, by incorporating photos and clips from the past.

Each session runs about 90 minutes to two hours, with the real magic happening during editing. "The final 30 to 60 minutes are the cream of the crop – personality, laughter, and sometimes teary-eyed moments," Maverick said. "Once you miss the opportunity, it's gone. These legacy videos allow families to listen to stories, lessons, and values directly from their loved ones – and pass them down to future generations – before it's too late."

Maverick paused, then added, "Although I didn't get to know



Maverick, with his wife, Tehila, and their two young daughters.

my grandmother, I did know that she was an amazing person with a lot of extraordinary qualities. If I become even half the person she was, I will consider my life to be successful and fulfilling.

"This new service is proving itself to be extremely meaningful for both my clients and myself."

Maverick lives with his wife, Tehila, and their two young daughters. Outside of work, he enjoys snowboarding, community involvement, and connecting with others. His podcasting background makes him a pro at putting people at ease, asking the right questions, and capturing authentic stories.

To learn more, visit www.maverickpodcasting.com.



Each interview is beautifully edited and delivered as a lasting treasure – a living time capsule for future generations to watch, remember, and connect.

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."
~ Maya Angelou

Max and Tony's Judson at Home Journey

One evening over dinner at Judson Manor, Max Bunker and Tony Bianchi discovered more than a good meal and pleasant company – they found peace of mind. Though not actively seeking membership, they were intrigued by Judson at Home's offerings: access to transportation, dining, fitness, and healthcare services without leaving their cherished home at Bratenahl Place.

After attending a performance at the Manor, they realized membership could unlock a vibrant community and offer support as their needs evolve. "We're not ready to move, but we like the security of knowing care is available if we need it," Max says.

Both are deeply rooted in Cleveland's cultural scene – Max, a professional musician and longtime organist; Tony, a retired WCLV radio voice. Their Bratenahl high-rise offers lake views and luxury, but left a few "what-ifs" unanswered: What if they needed rehab, help with meals, or extra support? Judson at Home provided the answers.

Five years later, Max and Tony are comfortable and connected. "We had dinner at Judson Manor last night, and four or five people came over – it's a real community," Max shares. During the pandemic, they appreciated home-delivered meals, but now prefer in-person dining and events.

They enjoy full access to all Judson campuses – dining at Radius Restaurant, relaxing massages at the wellness center, borrowing books, attending live music events, and socializing with fellow members. Living close to University Circle also allows them to frequent Cleveland Orchestra

concerts, often dining at the Manor beforehand.

Judson at Home offers 24/7 support tailored to members' needs, from housekeeping and meal help to physical therapy and memory care.

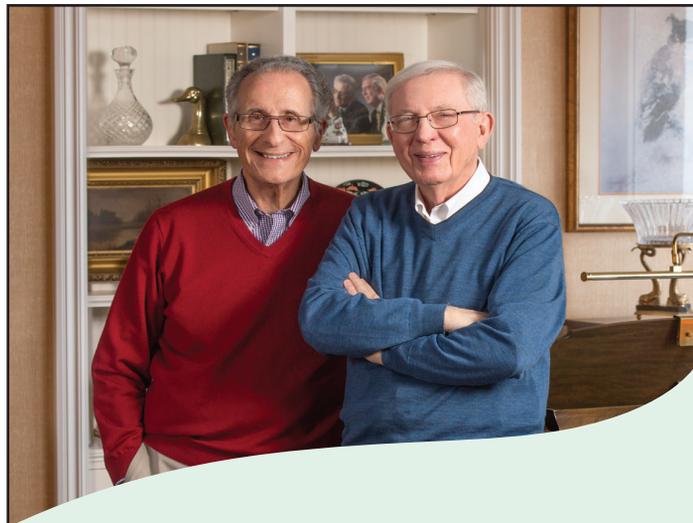
"It's a comfort to know someone is there if we need them," Max says. Concierge ride services like GoGo Grandparent even allow them to get around safely in any city.

Max and Tony are aging in place on their own terms. And



if the time comes to move? "They already know us," Max says. "That makes the transition easier – it will be turn-key."

Judson at Home offers 24/7 support tailored to members' needs, from housekeeping and meal help to physical therapy and memory care.



Membership is Music to Our Ears!

As a Judson at Home member, you'll have access to an engaging community, cultural programs, wellness activities and an array of dining venues. Most of all, you have all the services and amenities of a retirement community at your fingertips while living in your own home.

"We are paving a path for our next chapter by establishing connections now. We can keep enjoying our wonderful skyline views and musical activities knowing our plan is in place." Max Bunker and Tony Bianchi / Bratenahl



Become a Member Today!

(216) 791-2436
judsonsmartliving.org

Read more about Max and Tony's experience at judsonsmartliving.org/blog.

Two Beachwood Grads, One Bold Vision: Reimagining Education in Boston

Courtney Swartz, a Beachwood High School graduate, class of 2001, has spent her career in education, teaching in Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Boston, in various school settings. After years in classrooms, she realized something was missing: The schools she worked in were focused on compliance, not curiosity. Kids were expected to follow directions, complete standardized curriculum, and check boxes – often at the expense of their natural love of learning.

“I’ve always believed that students need and deserve high expectations, but in an environment that honors their curiosity and creativity,” Courtney said. She recounts a personal turning point: When her eldest daughter, Avery, was ready for kindergarten, she chose not to enroll her in the school at which she was teaching. “The school I once admired no longer aligned with the learning environment I envisioned for our child, so I am setting out to build a school – a place where kids are seen and heard, and where curiosity drives the learning. A place that equips children not just to succeed, but to shape a more just and connected world.

“I didn’t want her to be 5 years old and stressed out about achievement and test scores, sitting at a table for seven hours a day. She’s curious and excited about learning, she deserves a school that fosters that.”

That realization, combined with a broader concern about raising a generation of children who are merely compliant rather than empowered, pushed Courtney and Alexis Rosenblatt, also a Beachwood High School grad, class of 1998, to take on a formidable challenge: to start a school of their own.

The result is Douglass Ridley School, set to open in September 2026 in Boston. The school is named in honor of two trailblazers in educational equity: Frederick Douglass and Florida Ruffin Ridley.

Courtney and Alexis built the school around a Reggio Emilia-inspired model, which views children as capable, creative, and curious. Teachers observe students’ interests and questions, then design activities and experiences to cultivate exploration and learning. The approach emphasizes hands-on, project-based education rather than traditional numerical scores, though progress is carefully documented. The mission includes high-quality education integrated with creativity and curiosity.

The school will emphasize collaboration and collective growth, and students will learn how to succeed individually and thrive as part of a community. They will learn to be empathetic, open-minded individuals who can navigate and appreciate diverse perspectives.

The model’s class sizes will be small, with two teachers per classroom. Kindergarten through third grade will have 18–20 students per class, fourth and fifth grades will have 22, and sixth grade 24. Tuition is tiered based on family income, ensuring families from historically underserved communities have access, because every child deserves access to this kind of transformative education.

Douglass Ridley is being designed with intentional diversity in mind – racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic. “There are plenty of prestigious private schools in New



BHS graduates Alexis Rosenblatt and Courtney Swartz recently created Douglass Ridley School, set to open September 2026.

England,” Courtney said. “What we’re building is something different. It’s a place where every child, of all backgrounds, can belong.”

The enrollment process is simple: Families submit basic information and a short audio or video introduction, and there are no barriers to participation. The school is independent, funded through tuition and fundraising, not state funding. Through its early stages, classes will be held at Temple Israel, where Courtney, her wife, Katherine, and their two children are active members.

Looking ahead, Courtney and Alexis envision Douglass Ridley serving students through sixth grade in a permanent location in Dorchester, Massachusetts. Their goal is to create a different kind of education: one that is exploratory, hands-on, and community-focused, preparing students with academic skills and the confidence to ask questions, challenge assumptions, and make a positive impact in the world.

Courtney’s daughters are already involved. They help at community events and see their mother’s commitment to doing things differently. “It’s important to me that they see a model of leadership that is challenging the status quo and that they feel proud to be part of it,” Courtney said.

Reflecting on her Beachwood roots, Courtney credits experiences in Beachwood for shaping her values. From an engaging human rights class to meaningful relationships with teachers who understood her as an individual – specifically Ms. Hollingsworth – she learned the power of curiosity, empathy, and standing up for what’s right. Those lessons are now at the heart of the school she is building.

“I’ll never forget the graduation card that Ms. Hollingsworth wrote to me. It included lyrics from Lee Ann Womack’s song, *I Hope You Dance*: ‘Hope you dance when the world feels unsteady. Hope you step out, trust yourself,

and do your thing – with faith, belief, and an open heart.”

Courtney added, “Growing up at The Temple Tifereth-Israel instilled in me a deep understanding of what it means to be Jewish – to care about social justice and strive to repair the world. That’s why it feels especially meaningful to start off by holding classes in our local synagogue.”

“Our role as educators is to honor kids’ curiosity and help them grow into capable, empowered thinkers.”

– Courtney Swartz

Alexis shared, “We are at a turning point in education where we can continue with the status quo, educating

children as we have always educated them, where schools are asking students to learn in the same way students have always learned; or we can decide it is time for a different approach. Our approach is guided by children and their families – and their interests – rather than adults ideas of how children learn best.”

Courtney and Alexis both share their core beliefs about the world needing kids who ask questions, challenge ideas, and create solutions. “It’s not beneficial to anyone to raise children who are compliant. Our role as educators is to honor kids’ curiosity and help them grow into capable, empowered thinkers,” Courtney said.

The creation of Douglass Ridley School is a bold vision and the next step in a lifelong mission to make education meaningful, equitable, and transformative.



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Eating Well for Lifelong Health: Six Cancer-Supporting Foods to Add to Your Plate

Although there is no single “anti-cancer” miracle food, growing research suggests that including certain nutrient-dense foods in your diet can help reduce inflammation, support immune function, and aid the body’s natural repair systems (*Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*).

Stephanie Hopkins, MS, RDN, LD, of The Gathering Place, a Beachwood-based nonprofit providing free cancer support services for individuals and families across Northeast Ohio, highlights six science-backed foods worth adding to your grocery list.

“Food is one of the most empowering tools we have,” says Stephanie. “Every meal is an opportunity to nourish your body, protect your cells, and create the foundation for long-term health. You don’t have to change everything overnight, just start adding more of the good stuff.”

Here’s a closer look at six foods Hopkins and other experts recommend:

1. Cruciferous Vegetables

Broccoli, cauliflower, kale, and Brussels sprouts contain compounds called glucosinolates, which help the body detoxify harmful substances and repair damaged cells. Studies show that people who regularly eat cruciferous vegetables may have a lower risk of certain cancers, including lung and colon (*National Cancer Institute*).

Try this: Roast broccoli with olive oil and garlic, or toss shredded cabbage into salads or grain bowls.

2. Fatty Fish

Rich in omega-3 fatty acids, fish like salmon, sardines, and trout support heart, brain, and metabolic health. Omega-3s are known for their anti-inflammatory properties and may help reduce chronic inflammation linked to disease (*Mayo Clinic*).

Try this: Bake or grill fish two to three times a week, or add plant-based omega-3 sources like chia or flaxseeds.

3. Garlic

Garlic contains allicin, a sulfur compound with antioxidant and immune-boosting potential. Evidence suggests regular garlic consumption may help reduce oxidative stress and support immune defenses (*National Library of Medicine*).

Try this: Let chopped garlic rest for five minutes before cooking to maximize benefits.

4. Green Tea

Green tea is rich in polyphenols, especially catechins, which help protect cells from oxidative damage and inflammation (*Harvard Health*).

Try this: Enjoy 1–2 cups daily, or blend matcha into smoothies for an extra antioxidant boost.

5. Nuts

Nuts, especially Brazil nuts, provide healthy fats, fiber, and minerals. Brazil nuts are rich in selenium, an essential nutrient that support immune function (*National Institutes of Health*).

Try this: Add a small handful of mixed nuts to yogurt or oatmeal – just one or two Brazil nuts meet your daily selenium needs.

6. Ginger

Ginger’s active compound, gingerol, has anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties that may help reduce cellular stress and support digestion (*Mayo Clinic*).

Try this: Grate fresh ginger into dressings or stir-fries, or steep it in hot tea.

Bringing It Home

Start small – add one of these foods each week and pair your plate with other wellness habits: daily movement, stress management, quality sleep, and community connection.

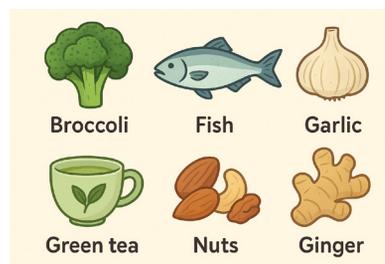
At The Gathering Place, healthy living goes hand in hand with healing. The organization offers free programs designed to help individuals and families affected by cancer strengthen body and mind, including:

- Nutrition and Cooking Classes
- Movement and Fitness Programs
- Mindfulness and Stress Relief
- Art and Creative Programs
- Support and Education Groups for all ages

Explore free resources and class schedules at www.touchedbycancer.org.

“Every meal is an opportunity to nourish your body, protect your cells, and create the foundation for long-term health. You don’t have to change everything overnight, just start adding more of the good stuff.”

– Stephanie Hopkins



Free Programs at The Gathering Place

Looking to eat healthier or explore anti-inflammatory cooking this season?

Join Stephanie Hopkins, MS, RDN, LD, for these free, hands-on nutrition programs designed to empower and inspire.



Cooking with Omega-3s

Discover how to add omega-3-rich foods to your everyday meals for anti-inflammatory benefits.

- Wednesday, Dec. 10
11-12:30 p.m. and 6-7:30 p.m.
TGP Beachwood
- Saturday, Dec. 13
11-12:30 p.m.
TGP Westlake

Chat with the Dietitian

Bring your nutrition questions and learn practical ways to eat well before, during, and after cancer treatment.

- Friday, Nov. 7
11 a.m.-noon
TGP Westlake and Virtual
- Friday, Dec. 5
11 a.m.-noon
TGP Beachwood and Virtual

All programs are free and open to anyone impacted by cancer. Register or learn more at www.touchedbycancer.org

The Hudson Players Announce Hilarious Musical Comedy *It Shoulda Been You*

Through Nov. 15 • Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. • Sundays, 2 p.m.
Performances take place at Barlow Community Center, 41 S. Oviatt St., Hudson.

The Hudson Players proudly present *It Shoulda Been You*, a musical comedy directed by Allen White, with music direction by Peter Clausen and choreography by Samantha Willman. Bursting with laughter, surprises, and unforgettable characters, this fast-paced romp about love, family, and embracing the unexpected comes to life at the Barlow Community Center in Hudson.

The bride is Jewish. The groom is Catholic. Her mother is a force of nature, his mother is a tempest in a cocktail shaker. And when the bride's ex-boyfriend shows up, the perfect wedding day unravels faster than you can whistle *Here Comes the Bride*.

It Shoulda Been You is a wildly funny, heartfelt celebration of modern families.

Beachwood resident Mort Goldman plays the role of Murray, the bride's father, who is the voice of reason and calming influence. He auditioned for this role because it was made for him.

"I look for community theater auditions all the time and this role was perfect," he said. "It's about a Jewish father and husband – which I have been rehearsing for the past 37 years!"

Mort has been doing theater since high school. His most recent role was Lazar Wolf, the butcher, in *Fiddler on the Roof*, at Porthouse Theatre. He's also performed at Cain Park, Mercury Theatre Company, and Chagrin Valley Little Theatre.

The Hudson Players, an inclusive all-volunteer community theater, have delighted audiences for decades with their award-winning productions and welcoming atmosphere. Produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International, *It Shoulda Been You* promises to deliver a night of music, laughter, and theatrical magic.

Additional shows this season include:
• *The Cottage* • Feb. 6-28: A witty British



Beachwood resident Mort Goldman, playing the role of Murray, the bride's father, rehearsing with Jordon Matthew, who plays the role of Brian, the groom.

farce, set in 1923, where a steamy affair triggers a chain of secrets, scandal, and possible murder.

• *Follies* • April 24-May 16: In this classic, former showgirls reunite in a crumbling theater, reflecting on lost dreams through iconic songs like *Broadway Baby* and *I'm Still Here*.

You may purchase tickets at www.hudsonplayers.com or by calling 330.655.8522. You can also find information on Facebook (HudsonPlayers) and Instagram (@hudsonplayers).

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Suburban Symphony Orchestra Spaces Out

Planetary Projections, Soaring Scores: A Cosmic Concert Experience

For more than 70 years, the Suburban Symphony Orchestra has brought free music performances to Greater Cleveland audiences. Comprised of dedicated volunteer musicians, the orchestra is known for its creative programming and commitment to making orchestral music accessible to all.

This month, the symphony invites you to planet hop through the cosmos at *Planetary Projections, Soaring Scores*, a free community concert on Saturday, Nov. 22, 4 p.m., at Beachwood High School.

Stunning artwork created by the talented student artists of St. Dominic School will be projected above the orchestra, bringing

the Sun and Gustav Holst's *The Planets* to life. The journey continues with thrilling scores from epic space movies that will send your imagination soaring.

Meanwhile back on earth, a post-concert instrument petting zoo awaits you. Don't miss your chance to meet such alien lifeforms as the bassoon and the viola.

This program is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.





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Select Library Programs in November

Rock and Roll Mercenary with Marky Ray

Wednesday, Nov. 5 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Author Marky Ray will visit to read from his book, *Rock and Roll Mercenary*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13899993>.

Online Investment Resources Through the Library

Thursday, Nov. 6 • 7-8 p.m.

Learn about the valuable free investment resources CCPL offers. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13809583>.

Tuesday Book Chat

Tuesday, Nov. 11 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us for a discussion of *So Far Gone*, by Jess Walters. Registration is not necessary.

Author Steven Ujifusa

Thursday, Nov. 13 • 7-8 p.m.

Steven Ujifusa visits to discuss his latest book, *The Last Ships from Hamburg: Business, Rivalry, and the Race to Save Russia's Jews on the Eve of World War I*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13508700>.

Knit & Lit

Monday, Nov. 17 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Join us for fiber arts and informal chats about what everyone is reading. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/12829393>.

Third Wednesday Book Discussion

Wednesday, Nov. 19 • 2-3 p.m.

Join us for a discussion of *Red Dog Farm*, by Nathaniel Ian Miller. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/13841309>.

Children's Programming:

Family Music & Movement Storytime

Mondays through Nov. 24 • 10-10:30 a.m.

All ages with caregiver

Baby & Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays through Nov. 26 • 10-10:30 a.m.

Birth-35 months with caregiver

Baby & Toddler Storytime

Thursdays through Nov. 20 • 11-11:30 a.m.

Birth-35 months with caregiver

Hebrew Language Storytime

Wednesday, Nov. 5 • 4-4:30 p.m.

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

StoryWalk®

The November and December StoryWalk® in Beachwood City Park East is *Hazel Is All That*, by Chad Otis. When Hazel judges every dog in the park by its first impression, a surprising encounter teaches her that dogs (and people!) are never just one thing.



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