

# Beachwood Buzz

February 2026

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

MAGAZINE



## FROM VISION TO REALITY: THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPENING OF BRYDEN AND HILLTOP SCHOOLS

### Also Inside:

City Insider

Beachwood City Schools

Romance Scams

City Council Reappointments  
and Leadership Announced

Beachwood Arts Council Events and Programs

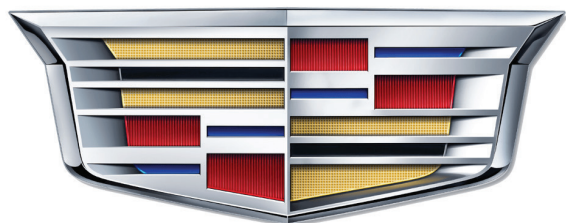
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## Letter from THE EDITOR

By Debby Zelman Rapoport

**M**y February intention is to move at a quieter pace. The holiday season and the grounding experiences of January – co-hosting a wellness retreat and then traveling to Costa Rica – have now settled into meaningful memories, leaving me deeply rooted in gratitude.

January was magical. It began by launching, with Heidi DuBois, our first *Happy Healthy Everything* wellness retreat, a weekend grounded in information, reflection, creativity, connection, and gratitude. Alongside 14 additional like-minded women, we slowed down enough to truly listen: to ourselves, to one another, and to what this new year was quietly asking of us. Through journaling, movement, art, laughter, vision boarding, meditation, and meaningful conversation, we created space to pause, exhale, and honor exactly where we are, rather than where we think we *should* be.

Then, almost seamlessly, that same sense of trust and surrender carried me into a very different – but deeply aligned – experience: a Dreamcatchers birding trip to Costa Rica, where our guides, Phil and Ignacio, invited us to slow our pace, breathe deeply, and find peace through connection with nature.

From the moment Bill and I arrived, every detail was thoughtfully taken care of. There was no itinerary to study – only the gentle unfolding of each day as it came. By receiving plans one moment at a time, we stayed grounded in the present, fully engaged without the need to anticipate what was next.

The retreat and the Costa Rica trip felt intentionally connected, as if one naturally flowed into the other. During the retreat, we

explored the principles of the Blue Zones – and unexpectedly, in Costa Rica, we found ourselves visiting one. Both experiences included art and sound baths; the retreat offered a walking labyrinth, while the trip invited us into guided nature bathing. At their core, each was rooted in the same practices: mindfulness, presence, and gratitude.

With Valentine's Day just a couple of weeks away, let's take time to recognize love for ourselves: to gently release what no longer serves us – old expectations, outdated versions of ourselves, or stories that have run their course – and to give ourselves the gift of awareness and self care, which may look like rest, reflection, movement, creativity, or simply allowing space for what's next to reveal itself. Self care is necessary for our overall well-being and does not have to be indulgent.

Author and teacher Jay Shetty reminds us that when people feel stuck, it's rarely because they don't know what to do next, it's because they're holding on to what was. When we loosen that grip and release the past, we create space for what's ready to come next.

A big takeaway from the past few weeks is that we don't always need to control the plan to experience something extraordinary. Sometimes, the most meaningful moments happen when we trust, release,

and allow ourselves to be guided – by intention, by intuition, or by the wisdom of others.

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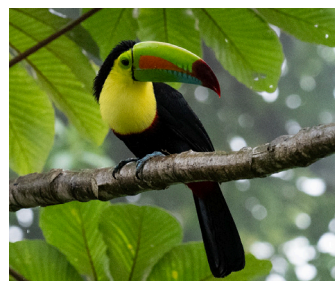
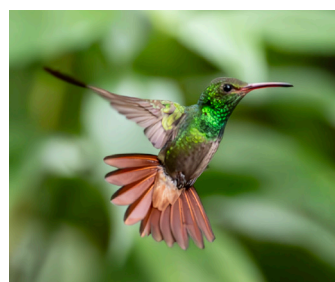
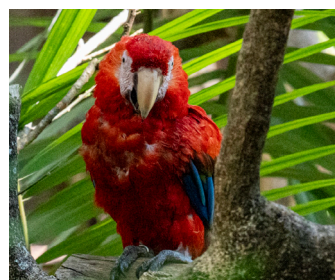
We don't always need  
to control the plan to  
experience something  
extraordinary.

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That's why my word for 2026 is *pause*. In today's society, many of us live fast-paced lives with little downtime. In Costa Rica, people live by *Pura Vida*, which literally means "pure life" and is often understood as "the good life." In everyday use, it goes far beyond the literal translation – serving as hello, goodbye, thank you, everything's good, or life is good. More than a phrase, *Pura Vida* reflects an easygoing, appreciative way of living that values presence, simplicity, and gratitude.

When we slow down and observe the beauty that surrounds us, we make time to reflect and thrive.

As we move through February, take a moment to pause – and intentionally choose a word of your own. Let it shape your days, reminding you to lead with self-love, practice gratitude, and offer compassion – especially to yourself.



"Adopt the pace of nature:  
her secret is patience."  
– Ralph Waldo Emerson





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# Beachwood Buzz

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

**Buzz**  
MAGAZINE

Cover Story:

## From Vision to Reality

### The Design, Construction, and Opening of Bryden and Hilltop Schools



**T**he Beachwood community's vision for the future of elementary education officially became a reality in late December, when the district hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new Bryden School. After a two-week winter break, the 62,500-square-foot building's doors opened to students for the first time on Jan. 8, 2026.

Complete story, written by Gregory Murphy, starts on page 7.  
Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo.

**Recreation and Camp  
Opportunities  
Start on  
Page 35!**



## Who We Are

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### Calendar Section

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

### Article Submissions

If you have a story idea or photos you would like to share, email [beachwoodbuzz@gmail.com](mailto:beachwoodbuzz@gmail.com).

### Subscriptions

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### General Information

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

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# Thank You Beachwood

We sincerely thank *Beachwood Buzz* for continued support of our nonprofit, *Sweet Dreams for Kids*. You always help us get our story out so we can continue to grow. For that, we are appreciative and grateful.

Although we unfortunately fell short of reaching our December goal of \$1,700 in honor of our 17-year anniversary, we are grateful for the support we received from the community and the City of Beachwood, with both monetary and new pajama donations.

It is beyond special that the city we live in has such caring and wonderful people who go out of their way to help us.

A special thank you to Mayor Berns and Shannon Diamond, Beachwood Community

Services program manager, for showing their huge hearts and love for what we do.

We've extended the deadline to meet our goal because this is very important to us. We are a family who understands how difficult it is to see a child go through a medical situation so it is our passion to bring a little sunshine to other kids who are in hospitals all over the world.

Please visit <https://sweetdreamsforkids.org> to learn more or to make a donation.

It should be a healthy, happy new year for everyone.

With love,  
Wendy and Chaya Dalya Berezovsky, founder and president, *Sweet Dreams for Kids*

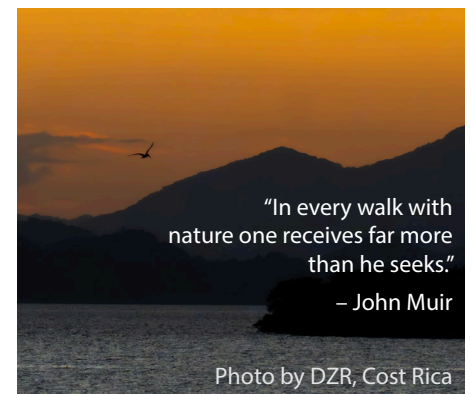


Shannon Diamond and Mayor Justin Berns present a donation on behalf of the City of Beachwood to Chaya Dalya, president of *Sweet Dreams for Kids*.

## A Message from Cuyahoga County Public Library

We appreciate the patience – and the enthusiasm – of the Beachwood community as we work to build a new Beachwood Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library. The new branch will be a modern space that will better meet the needs of the community – current plans include an auditorium, an innovation

center, and enhanced meeting and study rooms – while allowing CCPL to remain a trusted steward of taxpayer funds. At this time, we are working with the City of Beachwood and Beachwood City Schools regarding the next steps in this process. Once we finalize the details, we will be able to share more information.



## Beachwood Community Special Education PTA to Host a Digital Safety Event

On Sunday, March 15, 4 - 6 p.m., the Beachwood Community Special Education PTA (Beachwood SEPTA) will host a Smart Talk event for area families, sponsored by Norton. Participants will be guided through digital safety conversations about privacy, appropriate apps and content, interacting with others respectfully online, and screen time. Families will also learn how to complete *The Smart Talk*, a free, fun, interactive tool created by National PTA and Norton that helps families set tech ground rules together.

Beachwood SEPTA was selected by National PTA from among PTAs nationwide to receive a \$1,500 grant to conduct the event.

The *Smart Talk* is part of National PTA's PTA Connected initiative. PTA Connected is designed to educate and engage families in digital wellness, security, access, equity,

and literacy. PTAs have held over 500 PTA Connected events across the country, reaching over 25,000 families. Norton is the presenting and founding sponsor of PTA Connected.

Participants will be guided through digital safety conversations about privacy, appropriate apps and content, interacting with others respectfully online, and screen time.

The event is free to attend and dinner will be provided; however, registration is required. Register by scanning the QR code. For more information, email [beachwoodsepta@gmail.com](mailto:beachwoodsepta@gmail.com) or visit [www.beachwoodsepta.givebacks.com](http://www.beachwoodsepta.givebacks.com).

- **Sunday, March 15 • 4 - 6 p.m.**  
**Beachwood Community Center**
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From left: Mustafa Tufail, Jacob Srithai, Mira Iyer, Amon Sutton, Lola Creer-Bibbs, Principal Michelle Nizen, Jade Hemphill, Logan Cracraft, Layna Braman, and Isabella Letsky cut the ribbon to celebrate the opening of the new Bryden School.

# FROM VISION TO REALITY

## The Design, Construction, and Opening of Bryden and Hilltop Schools

by Gregory Murphy

**T**he Beachwood community's vision for the future of elementary education officially became a reality in late December, when the district hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new Bryden School. After a two-week winter break, the 62,500-square-foot building's doors opened to students for the first time on Jan. 8, 2026.

Board of Education President Megan Walsh noted, "Our community believes deeply in this school district and in the promise of public education. From the levy committee, to the ballot box, to community input sessions, the Beachwood community sent a clear message that our youngest learners matter, and they

deserve learning spaces that support their growth, safety, and success. We are not just opening a building. We are continuing a promise to create places where students feel supported, valued, and excited to learn."

Michelle Nizen, principal of Bryden and the Fairmount Early Childhood Center, told the

crowd at the ribbon cutting, "This building is so much more than walls and classrooms. It is a place where our students will read amazing stories, ask big questions, try new things, build friendships, and discover what they love to learn. It will be a place where students are welcomed, challenged, and supported everyday."

### The First Day at Bryden

On the morning of Jan. 8, school buses and family vehicles pulled up to the new Bryden building to drop off students who were anticipating their first day in the new school. Staff members greeted eager students at the doors, helping them navigate their new hallways, classrooms,





*From left: Dr. Josephine Chan, School Board member; Ohio Rep. Eric Synenberg; Wendy Leatherberry, School Board member; Dr. Ken Veon, assistant superintendent; Megan Walsh, School Board president; Matt Brown, treasurer; Michelle Nizen, Bryden principal; Rini Ghosh, School Board member; Dr. Robert Hardis, superintendent; Kim Allamby, School Board vice president; and Ohio Sen. Kent Smith celebrate the opening of Bryden School.*

and shared spaces. Smiles, wide eyes, and excited chatter filled the building as students explored the bright classrooms and learning spaces.

Teachers spent the day helping students settle into the new building while also celebrating the moment. Classrooms buzzed with students' energy as they settled into new routines and began to make the school their own. For many students, the day included memorable firsts, including the first lesson in a brand-new classroom, their first lunch in the cafeteria, their first PE class, their first visit to the media center, music or art room, and their first time gathering with classmates in their new home away from home.

At the Bryden ribbon-cutting ceremony, Bill Schurman, owner of Hammond Construction, challenged the students to bring the heart into the new building.

"Every school building needs a heart and that only comes from you as students," he said. "When you come back from winter break, you need to be the first heart for this building. You need to come back with excitement, ready to learn and treat each other with respect. That will give this building the heart that it needs."

By the end of the first day, it was clear that the students had answered that challenge. The excitement in the hallways, the engagement in classrooms, and the kindness among classmates, teachers, and staff brought the building the heart that it needed. What had once been a construction site was now a school filled with learning, caring, and connection. Bryden's heart was beating in its students, and in the staff who worked so hard to create its welcoming environment.

#### **Looking Ahead to Hilltop**

With students now learning daily at Bryden, attention turns to the north side of town as construction of the new 66,300-square-foot Hilltop School nears completion with its ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for March. The first day for grades three, four, and five is scheduled for just after spring break.

Together, the new Bryden and Hilltop Schools represent the Beachwood community's continued investment in education. These schools and their grounds will serve the public for years to come.

#### **Collaborating on a Vision**

The journey toward new elementary schools began in November of 2022, when the Beachwood Board of Education approved a comprehensive master facilities plan during a public study session. This plan called for the construction of two new elementary buildings on the existing Bryden and Hilltop sites. Under the plan, Bryden would serve Pre-K, kindergarten, first, and second grade students, while Hilltop would house third, fourth, and fifth graders.

The path from start to finish was a highly collaborative one, involving many years of planning, thoughtful decision-making, and consistent communication between many partners. Together, these efforts resulted in two state-of-the-art elementary school buildings designed to meet the needs of today's learners, while also keeping an eye on the future.

"It took teamwork, collaboration, attention to detail, and lots of communication to construct these buildings," Beachwood Schools Superintendent Robert Hardis said. "The Beachwood Board of Education and Beachwood Schools staff members worked with officials from the City of Beachwood and with our team of architects, engineers, and construction managers to make these buildings a reality."





Michelle Nizen, Bryden School principal and Dr. Robert Hardis, superintendent, speaking at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Bill Schurman, owner of Hammond Construction; Ryan Schmit, ThenDesign Architecture; and Megan Walsh, Beachwood School Board president add heartfelt comments about the opening of the new Bryden School.



What had once been a construction site was now a school filled with learning, caring, and connection.

### Community Support and Working Together

Momentum for the projects continued in May of 2023 when Beachwood residents passed a 3.95-mill bond issue to fund the construction of the new buildings. With community support secured, the district moved forward with ThenDesign Architecture as the design team and Hammond Construction as the builder. Together with district administrators, teachers, staff, and community members, the teams worked through months of gathering input at engagement sessions, design meetings, and construction planning to ensure both buildings would meet current and future needs.

A key example of the collaborative efforts came after the bond issue when Beachwood City Council voted to approve a temporary halt on collecting the city's 2.4-mill property tax. As a result, property owners did not experience any increase

in their effective tax rate over a three-year period. In addition, Dr. Hardis noted that the Board of Education was committed to using a portion of funds from the Chagrin Highlands legal settlement with the Warrensville Heights City School District to continue to offset any increased tax collections associated with the new school buildings moving forward.

"We're very proud that the partnership with the City of Beachwood, as well as our Board's use of funds, will result in our community enjoying much needed new elementary school facilities without the taxpayers, both residential and commercial, seeing an increased tax burden," Dr. Hardis said.

This collaborative approach reflects the unique and positive relationship that has been forged among Beachwood's schools, city government, and its residents and businesses.

### Groundbreaking to Grand Opening

Groundbreaking ceremonies at both sites took place on May 7, 2024, setting in motion the process to construct new buildings and replace a pair of schools that dated back to the mid-1950s.

"Your principal, your teachers, and all of your staff members, many, many times over the past two years, have been providing us with ideas, insight, and feedback into how this building should be designed and built," Dr. Hardis said at the groundbreaking ceremonies. "I want you to know they have done an amazing job of helping us get to a building that is going to be incredible for all of us."

Over the next 18 months, the community watched as the modern structures rose from their foundations. Throughout the construction process, the district provided updates through videos, photos, articles, newsletters, social media posts,





Bryden students were welcomed to their new school on Jan. 8 as teachers, staff, and administrators helped them navigate the new hallways.

presentations at Board meetings, and a page on the district website dedicated to facility updates. These updates allowed the community to follow the transformation step-by-step and remain engaged in the process.

### Modern Buildings Designed for the Present and Future

The new buildings are equipped with modern learning spaces, flexible furniture, bright classrooms with natural light, spaces to read books and study, and shared common areas to

work in teams, make music, draw, paint, and play together. The new buildings will quickly become places of pride for students and staff.

"We have been truly fortunate to work with a design team and construction group that listens to us and listens to our community members," Dr. Hardis said. "They are super talented at designing and constructing schools and they are dedicated to delivering two wonderful new buildings for our community."

### Learning, Thriving and Making Memories

While students are already learning and thriving inside Bryden, work continues outside the building. Final site improvements, including a playground, parking areas, driveways, landscaping, fields, and green spaces are scheduled for completion by the end of 2026. Once finished, these amenities will further enhance the area and serve the community for generations to come.

"You have to enjoy education, and that's what these buildings are all about," Ryan Schmit of ThenDesign Architecture told

students at the Bryden ribbon cutting. "It's about your first A+, your first basket in a brand new gymnasium, your first lunch in the cafeteria, and your best friends that you will meet. It's all of those things that lead to a lifelong experience."

As Hilltop prepares to open and Bryden settles into daily routines, the two buildings stand as a testament to what is possible when a community comes together around a shared belief in education. These buildings will serve as a place where students learn, form friendships, and make long-lasting memories for many years to come.



Choir teacher Shelley McKenzie led Bryden's winter sing-along after the ribbon cutting on Dec. 17.





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**Most adults in Beachwood would never ignore a strange noise coming from their car.** A squealing brake, a warning light, or an overdue oil change usually sends us straight to a trusted mechanic. Yet when our own bodies send similar warning signs—morning stiffness, nagging aches, balance issues, or pain that just will not go away—we often push through and hope it resolves on its own. At Balance Solutions Physical Therapy, we believe that your body deserves the same routine expert care and maintenance as your vehicle.

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*- By Kelly Beaudoin, CEO, MSPT*

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# King David Staffer Gives the Royal Treatment

By Arlene Fine

To Barry Henkin, there is no such thing as a stranger – just someone he has not met before.

“I’m a people person,” said Barry. “Ever since I started working at Menorah Park (now King David Health Care Center) 45 years ago, I’ve made a lot of great friends. I’m a real down-to-earth person who likes people.”

Barry began his career at the Beachwood long-term care facility as a sheltered workshop assistant and eventually became manager. When the workshop closed, Barry was recruited by the home’s rehabilitation department to work as a transporter and has been transporting residents to appointments, meals, and activities ever since.

“Barry has been a dedicated, reliable member of the

rehabilitation department for decades,” said Kelly McNeal, PT, DPT, director of rehabilitation. “His ability to remember people and names, and to connect with our residents and clients, helps them feel at home. Barry has worn many hats throughout his tenure here, and is welcoming to every person he encounters. He is truly part of the fabric of this community.”

Watching Barry interact with King David residents, family members, and staff makes it clear that every single person is important to him. “I treat everyone like family,” he said.

A sense of family is important to Barry, who at age 64 does not have any close relatives left. A few years ago, he moved into King David’s Independent Living facility (formerly Myers



Barry Henkin greets every resident with a smile as he transports them around the King David campus.

Apartments) and is happy to be so close to work, and to the strong, supportive community he has developed over the years.

“I’ve never met someone as sweet as Barry,” said Sheri Pundole, admissions director of King David Independent Living. “He is consistently upbeat and loves to spread joy. I’m always excited to run into him as I know he will leave a smile on my face. I couldn’t ask for a better co-worker and friend.”

It is not just work that fills Barry’s life. The Beachwood resident, who has autism spectrum disorder, has spoken at conferences focused on people with special needs, including Best Buddies International, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disorders. He said public speaking has given him a confidence boost. “I try to look my best, do my best, and not worry if people look at me differently – it is not my problem, it is theirs,” he said.

In 2013 Barry wrote and published the book, “Why Am I So Special,” and that same year was inducted into the Cleveland Heights High School

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“I treat everyone  
like family.”  
– Barry Henkin

---

Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. “All the kindness I give to people seems to come back to me,” he said.

Along with his busy work and volunteer schedule, Barry makes time to enjoy Reba McEntire music (he has 32 of her CDs), eat sushi, and meet friends for lunch and dinner. His dream is to get married someday to someone who will appreciate “what I have to offer,” he said. He would also like to meet Reba in person when she comes to town on her farewell tour and have their picture taken together.

In the meantime, the Mayor of Menorah Park, as he was called for years, wants to rub elbows with another dignitary – Justin Berns, the mayor of Beachwood. “I know once I meet him, the two of us will have a lot to talk about,” he said.

*Editor’s note:* We reached out to Mayor Berns’ office and he looks forward to meeting with Barry. Arrangements are being made to for that to happen!

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# Romance Scams

by Jon Miller Steiger

**V**alentine's Day is coming up. This always leaves me with thoughts of candy, roses and, of course, relationship scams. (Yes, my family regularly reminds me what a joy I am to live with!)

But that's only because decades of working at the Federal Trade Commission taught me that these scams are devastating to the friendly, trusting people who have the bad luck of connecting with a scammer instead of a real friend or romantic partner.

What do I mean by devastating? Last year, the Federal Trade Commission received reports of consumers nationwide losing over \$1.1 billion to romance scams. That's an average loss of almost \$21,000 per person. People lose more money to this scam than to any other single category of reported fraud. And these numbers are just the tip of the iceberg because they don't include people who are embarrassed or don't know to report at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://reportfraud.ftc.gov).

Although these are called "romance" scams, scammers also take advantage of fake friendships or connections based on similar interests.

Either way, these scammers take the same basic approach. First, they connect on social media, a website, or an app like a dating app, using real-seeming names, pictures, and profiles that are actually fake. Then, they ask to move to a personal conversation out of anyone else's view. The scammers develop a strong connection with you, often over months of conversations – after all, this is their full-time job so they have the time. Everything seems normal so far.

Then, they make **the ask**: They ask for your money,

usually right away. They want to visit you and need travel money; they have emergency surgery; they were offered a life-changing job, but they need some up-front money; or they have an investment opportunity to share because they care about you.

---

The cons are pros at what they're doing so it all seems natural and sincere. So when someone you meet online asks for money – even if you feel you know them well – have your guard up!

---

The cons are pros at what they're doing so it all seems natural and sincere. So when someone you meet online asks for money – even if you feel you know them well – have your guard up!

And if someone you meet online asks you to send them a gift card or gift card numbers, a wire transfer, or cryptocurrency, that's a scam! End of story. If you don't bail out, your scammer Valentine will leave you with nothing but a bouquet of thorns.

And if you want to show your friends and family that you care about them this Valentine's Day, make sure to share this warning so they can protect themselves. And you might as well throw in some candy, too!

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# From the Federation

**Jewish Federation of Cleveland's CIAC Presents:**  
**From Concept to Creation, The Story Behind Moshe Gershuni's Work**

**Sunday, Feb. 15 • 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Roe Green Gallery at the Jewish Federation of Cleveland**

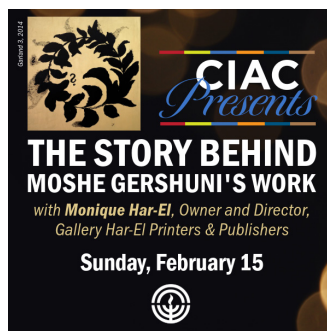
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building  
25701 Science Park Dr., Beachwood

Join Monique Har-El, owner and director of Gallery Har-El Printers & Publishers, and co-curators Matthew Garson and Katya Oicherman for the story of how Gershuni's artist book of Allan Ginsberg's *Kaddish* was conceived and created.

Monique and Jacob Har-El, printmakers; Moshe Gershuni, artist; and Natan Zach, translator, were discussing a way to celebrate the 70th

birthday of beat poet Allan Ginsberg. Their idea was to create an art book based on Allan's poem, *Kaddish*, in honor of his late mother, Naomi. Sadly, Allan passed away before he could receive the book.

CIAC Presents is an initiative that will support Israeli artists during this time of limited opportunities. It will allow artists to discuss and share their work, strengthening the connection between



Israeli artists and the Cleveland community during times of crisis.

The final open house for *MEMORY* follows from 1-3 p.m. Zygot Press will be on hand to help you create your own special edition screenprint.

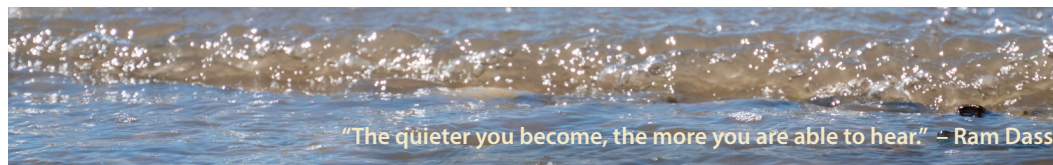
Learn more and register at [jewishcleveland.org](http://jewishcleveland.org).

## 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 Feb. 6 and March 6. Participants create varied projects, including hats, scarves, bunnies, bears, lapghans, soap sacks, and more. Yarn donations are always welcome, too.

For more information or to donate yarn, contact Iris November at [lbtyclub@gmail.com](mailto:lbtyclub@gmail.com) or 216.375.9111.



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# City Council Reappointments and Leadership Announced

At its January meeting, Beachwood City Council marked the start of the new year by reaffirming leadership across City Hall, reappointing several city staff members, department directors, and safety services leaders.

In addition to the reappointments, City Council voted unanimously on its leadership for the year, selecting Danielle Shoykhet as Council president and Jillian DeLong as vice president.

Danielle then administered the oath of office to City Council appointees, including Audit Director Harvey Rose, City

Prosecutor Nathalie Supler, Assistant Law Director Matt Kurz, Clerk of Council Whitney Crook, and Law Director R. Todd Hunt.

Mayor Justin Berns then presided over the swearing-in of department directors, whose appointments were approved by City Council. Those reappointed include Public Works Director

Chris Arrietta, Economic Development Director Catherine Biertman, Finance Director Larry Heiser, Building Commissioner Brian Roenigk, and Community Services Director Derek Schroeder.

Mayor Berns also swore in Police Chief Dan Grispino and Fire Chief Steve Holtzman, whose positions are directly

appointed by the mayor under Beachwood's City Charter.

The meeting concluded with a photo of the 2026 Beachwood City Council, featuring June Taylor, Alec Isaacson, Council President Danielle Shoykhet, Mayor Justin Berns, Council Vice President Jillian DeLong, Alex Jacobs, Ali B. Stern, and Pete Smith.



City Council Vice President Jillian DeLong and President Danielle Shoykhet.



City Council President Danielle Shoykhet swearing in Audit Director Harvey Rose, City Prosecutor Nathalie Supler, Assistant Law Director Matt Kurz, Clerk of Council Whitney Crook, and Law Director R. Todd Hunt.



Mayor Justin Berns swearing in Public Works Director Chris Arrietta, Economic Development Director Catherine Biertman, Finance Director Larry Heiser, Building Commissioner Brian Roenigk, and Community Services Director Derek Schroeder.



Mayor Justin Berns swearing in Police Chief Dan Grispino and Fire Chief Steve Holtzman.



Beachwood City Council, 2026, featuring June Taylor, Alec Isaacson, Danielle Shoykhet, Mayor Justin Berns, Jillian DeLong, Alex Jacobs, Ali B. Stern, and Pete Smith.

CITY OF  
*Beachwood*





## From Chaos to Calm

By Jennifer Stern

Imagine our world today if we were taught self-regulation from an early age. We'd learn strategies to manage extreme emotions by pausing, breathing, and grounding.

Instead of reacting, we'd respond with accountability and awareness of ourselves and others. Rather than acting on every impulse, we'd be mindful and intentional. This positive impact would affect the quality of our interactions, our ability to collaborate, problem solve, and grow through difficult times. Life and relationships would be more productive, respectful, and compassionate.

Stephanie Rosen has written a beautiful book for young children about the practice of being in the moment and learning to engage their five senses in self-soothing. Reading

this book was a beautiful, centering experience giving me hope for future generations and their ability to be more intentional, accountable, and better able to self-regulate.

*Be Where Your Paws Are* tells the story of Chloe, who sometimes feels worried, so her mom teaches her the practice of being where her paws are. Yes, the main character is a dog. Yes, this is a children's story. And yet, the strategies described are equally as effective for adults. Learning to engage your five senses to bring calm to the present moment is a super power. To

focus on what we can control and to manage anxiety, anger, and vulnerability in productive ways, as a practice, is a gift that we give to ourselves, others, and our world.

Share this special book with those you love, starting with yourself.

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



## Beachwood Library StoryWalk®

The February StoryWalk® in Beachwood City Park East is *Snow Is... Is...*, which is a sparkling, lyrical picture book about the magic of an early snow, written by Laura Gehl and illustrated by Sonia Sanchez. It's dawn and there is snow all around. The wonder of winter's first snowfall brings the magic of changing seasons and sees a family sharing the perfect snow day with coziness and togetherness from dawn to dusk.



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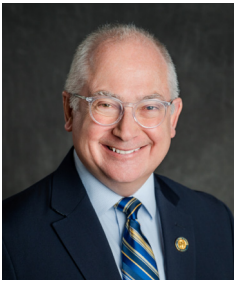
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# It's Been a Year and What a Year It's Been

By State Senator Kent Smith

**W**e have just passed the one-year mark of the Trump presidency version 2.0. His return to the White House is unlike all the prior 46 who have lived at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Thanks to a Supreme Court decision granting him immunity, his claim to want to be a 'day one dictator' seems far more likely in early 2026 than it did in early 2025.

Following an extensive interview in the Oval Office, *The New York Times* described Trump's first year like this, "Since taking office again almost a year ago, Mr. Trump has sought to expand the scope of his powers and has wielded federal authority to exact retribution on political enemies and push his domestic agenda."

Those comments reminded me of the warning shared by then Vice President Kamala Harris in the final week of the 2024 campaign. In her final major campaign speech, Harris said that Trump was consumed with grievance and out for unchecked power.

But she also asked us to remember American history and to not give away what others fought for. She spoke of this nation's fight for independence 250 years ago when she said, "They did not struggle, sacrifice and lay down their lives, only to see us cede our fundamental freedoms, only to see us submit to the will of another petty tyrant. The United States of America is not a vessel for the schemes of wannabe dictators."

But then, Vice President Harris pivoted to remind us of what our nation should seek to become, saying, "The United States of America is the greatest idea

humanity ever devised. A nation big enough to encompass all our dreams. Strong enough to withstand any fracture or fissure between us. And fearless enough to imagine a future of possibilities."

So while our challenges over the next three years will be substantial, the future of this nation remains our responsibility – just like it was 250 years ago. The good news is truth can outlast lies and love can outlast hate.

Civil rights activist John Lewis said, "Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. echoed this sentiment by saying, "Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy."

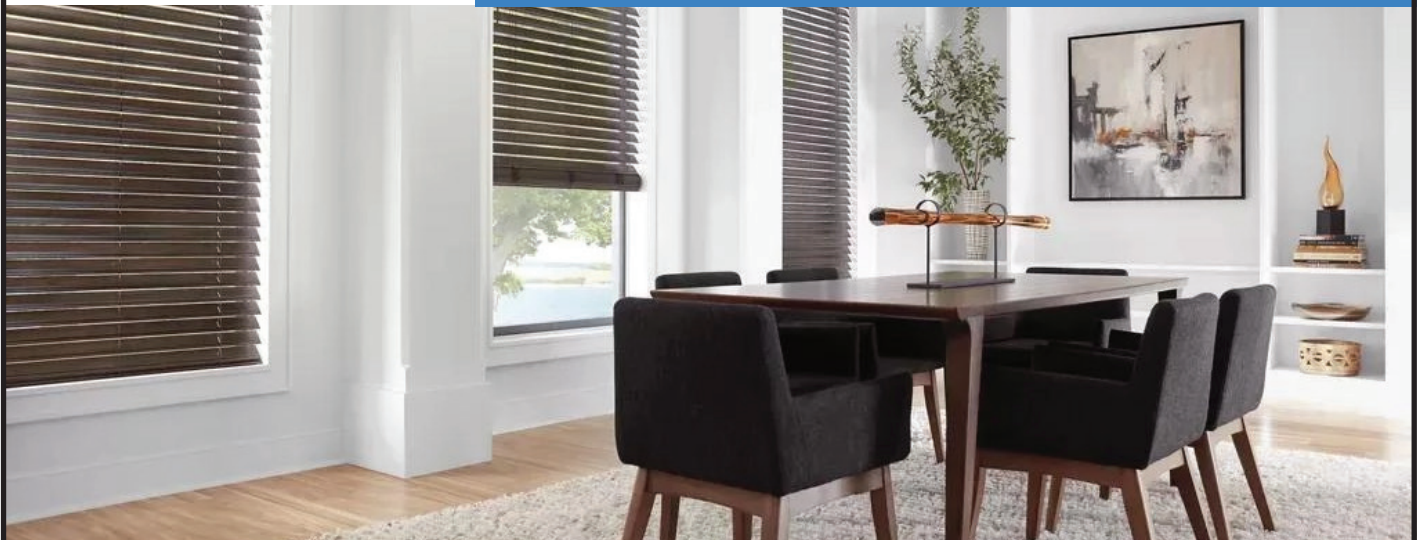
*The good news is truth  
can outlast lies and love  
can outlast hate.*

Sources: <https://tinyurl.com/NYTRreference1> and <https://tinyurl.com/NYTRreference2>.

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



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## The Mayor's Message A Message of Gratitude

Dear Beachwood Residents & Businesses,

As we begin a new year in the City of Beachwood, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to the many individuals who make our community such a special place to work, live, learn, and thrive.



Mayor Berns with Judge Goldberg following the swearing in ceremony on Jan. 5 in Council Chambers.

On Jan. 5, I was honored to be sworn in for a second term as Mayor of the City of Beachwood. Thank you to Judge Goldberg for her thoughtful remarks and for administering the oath. I am grateful for her kindness and for being part of such a meaningful moment as I begin this next chapter of service.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my family — my wife, Lisa, and our children, Caleb, Allie, and Sarah. Public service is never an individual effort. Their love, support, and patience make this work possible, and I am deeply appreciative of the sacrifices they make in sharing their husband and father with the responsibilities of this office.

I am also grateful to Beachwood City Council. During my first term, we built a strong, respectful, and collaborative relationship focused on doing what is best for our residents and businesses. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and look forward to continuing that partnership in the years ahead.

To our department directors and city staff: Thank you for your professionalism, diligence, and commitment to excellence. Beachwood is a well-run city because of your leadership and dedication. You continually challenge the status quo, seek

improvement, and set a high standard for municipal service — one that motivates me every day.

I also want to extend my thanks to the voters for placing their trust in me for another term. While the race was uncontested, I value every vote and remain humbled by the opportunity to lead this exceptional community. The progress we've made over the past four years is a direct result of collaboration across city leadership.

Looking ahead, our momentum continues. Major initiatives — from the Richmond and Chagrin I-271 Corridor Project to new economic development opportunities, redevelopment projects, and a new county library branch — will further strengthen our city.

There is still much work to be done, and I am excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work. I look forward to sharing our vision for Beachwood's future at the Mayor's Business Reception on March 11, with an updated State of the City presentation available online the following day.

Thank you for your trust, support, and pride that you place in our city. It is truly an honor to serve as your mayor.

Sincerely,

Mayor Justin Berns

MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com



### Beachwood City Council

✉ How To Email A Council Member: [FirstName.LastName@BeachwoodOhio.com](mailto:FirstName.LastName@BeachwoodOhio.com)



Danielle Shoykhet  
Council President  
216.212.9212



Jillian DeLong  
Council V.P.  
216.509.3514



Alec Isaacson  
216.291.2797



Alex Jacobs  
216.903.9911



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**  
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## Swearing-In Ceremonies Mark Jan. 5 Meeting

The City of Beachwood celebrated a series of swearing-in ceremonies during the Jan. 5 City Council meeting, marking the start of a new term of service and leadership for the community.

Mayor Justin Berns was officially sworn in for his second term, with the oath administered by the Honorable Francine B. Goldberg. The city congratulates Mayor Berns and looks forward to his continued leadership and dedication to Beachwood.

Three City Council members were also sworn in. Council member Alec Isaacson was sworn in following his successful reelection, with the oath administered by Noah Isaacson. Newly elected Council member Alex Jacobs took the oath of office administered by her husband, Paul Jacobs, and Council member Pete Smith, elected in his first campaign, was sworn in by Hedy Rapaport.

In addition, City Council elected its leadership for the new term. Danielle Shoykhet was elected Council President, and Jillian DeLong was elected Council Vice President. Their leadership and commitment are expected to continue to strengthen the city and advance Beachwood's goals.

The City of Beachwood congratulates all those sworn in and looks forward to a productive and successful term ahead.

*Photography provided by Discovery Photo.*



*Alex Jacobs being sworn in by husband Paul Jacobs.*



*Alec Isaacson (left) sworn in by his son Noah Isaacson.*



*Jillian DeLong (left), Council V.P. with Danielle Shoykhet, Council President*



*Pete Smith being sworn in by Hedy Rapaport.*

### STAY ENGAGED IN YOUR COMMUNITY:



Meeting agendas, minutes including legislation, live and recorded meetings are available on our website at [BeachwoodOhio.com](http://BeachwoodOhio.com) or please attend an upcoming meeting.

## City Council Updates Committee Structure for 2026

To improve efficiency and better align city services with community needs, City Council has updated its committee structure for 2026. Several committees have been consolidated to streamline decision-making and reduce duplication, while ensuring all core services are represented.

The Finance & Insurance and Economic Development committees are now the Finance & Development Committee. Public Works and Building & Grounds have merged into the Infrastructure & Public Facilities Committee, which will also take on stormwater oversight following the elimination of the Stormwater Commission. In addition, Recreation and Communications have been combined to form the Recreation & Community Engagement Committee. Intergovernmental Relations matters will generally be handled by the Committee of the Whole, while all other Council committees remain unchanged.

In the coming weeks, the updated committees will meet to develop mission statements and align their priorities for 2026 and 2027, ensuring city efforts remain focused, coordinated, and responsive to residents.

### 2026-27 Committee Assignments

- **Audit Committee:** Chair - June E. Taylor  
*Pete Smith, Jillian DeLong, Ali B. Stern*
- **Finance & Development:** Chair - Jillian DeLong  
*June E. Taylor, Danielle Shoykhet, Ali B. Stern*
- **Infrastructure & Public Facilities:**  
Chair - Danielle Shoykhet  
*Ali B. Stern, Pete Smith, June E. Taylor*
- **Legal & Personnel:** Chair - Alec Isaacson  
*Alex Jacobs, June E. Taylor, Danielle Shoykhet*
- **Planning & Zoning:** Chair - Alex Jacobs  
*Jillian DeLong, Ali B. Stern, Pete Smith*
- **Recreation & Community Engagement:**  
Chair - Ali B. Stern  
*Alec Isaacson, Alex Jacobs, June E. Taylor*
- **Safety & Public Health:** Chair - Pete Smith  
*Danielle Shoykhet, Alec Isaacson, Alex Jacobs*

### UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

**City Council:**  
Feb. 2 at 7:00 p.m.  
Feb. 17 at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning:**  
Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m.

**Architectural Board of Review:**  
Feb. 2 at 4:30 p.m.  
Feb. 17 at 4:30 p.m.

# Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

## Meet Beachwood's Newest Council Member: Alex Jacobs



Alex Jacobs, City Council

The City of Beachwood welcomes Alex Jacobs to City Council, who brings 18 years of community roots, professional leadership, and civic involvement to the role.

Alex has lived in Beachwood since 2005 and values the city's strong sense of community, where neighbors look out for one another. She also believes Beachwood offers exceptional value, with high-quality services supported by residents' tax dollars. In her view, the city's greatest strength is its diverse population of engaged and invested residents.

Motivated by a desire to make a meaningful impact close to home, Alex decided to run for City Council to apply her skills to the local community.

Alex graduated from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 2012 and later helped build and run her family's condominium management company, overseeing nearly 100 condo and HOA communities in the Akron-Canton area. Her work included budgeting, project management, resident communication, and governance — experience she likens to managing “smaller versions of cities.” The company was sold in September 2024, and Alex is currently exploring her next career step.

On Council, Alex is especially excited to continue the pilot street lighting program, advance the Richmond-Chagrin corridor project, and improve Beachwood's overall walkability.

Family and community are central to Alex's life. She and her husband have been married for 19 years and were married at Beachwood City Hall shortly after moving to the city. He serves as a Director of R&D at GE Healthcare in Beachwood. Together they have four children, ranging from a college student to a preschooler.

In addition to her new role on City Council, Alex is deeply involved in Beachwood schools and youth programs. She serves as Treasurer of the Beachwood Schools PTO, President of the Beachwood Schools Support Organization, leads a Girl Scout troop, and coaches a Destination Imagination team. In her free time, she enjoys reading science fiction, board games, and cross-stitching.



Alex Jacobs pictured with her husband Paul and their four children.

### HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to Presidents Day, rubbish and recycling will not be collected on Monday, Feb. 16. All collections will be delayed one day for that week only.

## Honoring Rochelle Hecht for Decades of Service

The City of Beachwood proudly recognizes Rochelle Hecht for her exceptional service on the Planning and Zoning Commission, where she has served with distinction since January 1999. For more than two decades, she exemplified professionalism, dedication, and a genuine love for the Beachwood community.

During her impactful tenure, Beachwood experienced significant growth and transformation. Major projects such as the Eaton Corporation Headquarters, Ahuja Medical Center, and the new Porsche dealership were completed during this period, helping shape the city's economic and civic landscape.

Rochelle was also a strong advocate for enhancements that improved residents' quality of life, including tournament-sized tennis courts, the Community Garden, the Public Safety and Dispatch Center on Richmond Road, and ongoing improvements throughout Beachwood's parks.

On behalf of the City of Beachwood, we extend our sincere thanks to Rochelle Hecht for her extraordinary service and dedication to our community.

Mayor Justin Berns recognizing Rochelle Hecht for her service at the Dec. 15 City Council meeting.





# Council Member Josh Mintz Concludes a Legacy of Service



Left to right: Alec Isaacson, Josh Mintz, and Mayor Justin Berns

Beachwood marked Council member Josh Mintz's final meeting on Dec. 15. The Council member retired effective Dec. 31, 2025, closing a significant chapter of public service.

Council member Mintz's commitment to Beachwood reflects a deep family legacy of civic engagement. He followed in the footsteps of his father, Mark Mintz, who devoted decades to the community through service on both the Beachwood School Board and City Council. City leaders noted that the same values of integrity, dedication, and community-first leadership evident in Mark Mintz's service were clearly carried on by his son.

Josh Mintz brought that sense of purpose to every role he held, from his early service on the School Board to his tenure on City Council. As Chair of Public Works and Recreation, he played a key role in guiding infrastructure investments and ensuring residents continued to enjoy excellent city amenities and services. He also demonstrated thoughtful leadership on important issues, including gun violence prevention, through his work on the Fairmount Temple property selection committee.

On behalf of the City of Beachwood, the Mayor and City Council members expressed sincere appreciation for Council member Mintz's years of service and leadership, and extended best wishes to him and his family in the years ahead.

## POWER OUTAGE REMINDER:

To report power outages, call First Energy at 888.544.4877 or visit [outages-oh.firstenergycorp.com](https://outages-oh.firstenergycorp.com). You can also text REG to 544487. For electrical wires on the ground or dangerously low hanging, dial 911.

## New Permitting System Goes Live

The City of Beachwood's Building Department officially launched its new online permit portal, powered by Clariti, on Jan. 2. The Clariti system streamlines the process of applying for and managing permits for residents, contractors, and businesses.

"We truly appreciate everyone's cooperation as we transitioned to this exciting upgrade," said Brian Roenigk, Building Commissioner.

"Clariti will greatly improve efficiency for both customers and staff, from initial application through project completion."

Residents are reminded to use the online permit portal before beginning work on common projects such as decks, fences, electrical alterations, swimming pools, generator installations, re-roofing, and window or door replacements. Garage sales and rain barrels also require permits.

The new permit portal is available at [BeachwoodOhio.com/permit](https://BeachwoodOhio.com/permit) or by scanning the QR code above.



## Snow Ordinance Reminder

Beachwood ordinances state when snow falls to a depth of 2 inches (or more) over a 24-hour period, an emergency is declared and parking may be prohibited on all city streets. The city will make a reasonable attempt to notify the public by using local press and social media. Vehicle owners are responsible for complying with emergency parking regulations; vehicles parked in violation may be towed at the owners' expense.



## Hometown Heroes

The Beachwood Historical Society and the City of Beachwood are proud to honor those making a difference through the Hometown Heroes program. Nominate your hero today by visiting [BeachwoodOhio.com/HeroNominations](https://BeachwoodOhio.com/HeroNominations). Submissions are open through Feb. 28.

A successful nominee actively displays the following characteristics:

- Must be a resident or individual who works in the city
- Makes a positive impact on the city
- Helps improve the city and society
- Shows dedication to helping others
- Displays courage, care and concern
- Contributions and accomplishments have enhanced Beachwood

Heroes will be celebrated in May with a special ceremony at the Hometown Heroes garden display in Beachwood's Gorden Gateway Park (formerly City Park West).



Scan to nominate! ➡



# February Recreation Guide

*Teen Night* GOOD BEATS, NEON LIGHTS  
**GLOW DANCE Party**

 **STATEMENT**  
NAIL & WAX LOUNGE

CITY OF  
*Beachwood*

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12**  
**6:00-8:00 PM**  
BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER



**REGISTER:**  
Pre-Registration Required, Ages 13-17  
Residents - \$2/person  
Non-Residents - \$8/person  
**BeachwoodRec.com**  
Register by Feb. 9.



BEACHWOOD SENIOR EVENT

*Meditation and Mocktails*

**March 17, 11 AM**  
Beachwood Community Center

Unwind and reset with a guided meditation designed specifically for seniors followed by refreshing St. Patrick's Day-inspired mocktails.

**Register: BeachwoodRec.com**  
Residents \$2, Non-Residents \$4



Meditation by:  
*Julie Konrad*

*Beachwood*  
**BINGO**  
*Nights*

Family-Friendly,  
All Ages Welcome!

**MARCH 5**  
6:00-8:00 PM  
Community Center

17 & Under - \$5, Adults - \$8  
60 Years & Better - \$5

**Register: BeachwoodRec.com**



## BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY:

Ileen Kelner Juried High School Art Show | February 22 - March 29

Inspiring work from students representing over 20 local high schools, presented by Beachwood Arts Council.

## Last Call; Beachwood Summer Camp Discount Ends Feb. 27

Beachwood Summer Camp is all about fun, laughter, friendship, and memories! Don't miss your opportunity to secure the early bird resident rate for this summer, ending Friday, Feb. 27, at 4:30 p.m. Register at BeachwoodRec.com.

Non-residents may register for any remaining spots beginning Monday, March 2, at 9:00 a.m.

Please note: A waitlist is currently available for the resident-only Summer Sendoff Camp (Aug. 3–Aug. 7). Residents are encouraged to add their camper to the waitlist, and we will do our best to accommodate interest once staff has been hired.

**Questions?** Try our new 24/7 camp information line at 866.864.1153.

*Now Hiring!*



Hear why you should  
become a Beachwood  
Camp Counselor!

Scan to play video.





# Instructor Spotlight: Beth Parnin, 50 Years of Fitness

With 50 years of fitness instructor experience, Beth Parnin has dedicated her career to helping people stay active and healthy. Since 2004, she has been teaching Fun with Fitness in Beachwood, tailoring her classes to meet the unique needs of seniors.

As a senior herself, Beth understands the physical and mental changes, from arthritis and balance to mobility and strength. Her classes encourage everyone to work at their own level — sitting when needed, skipping weights if preferred, and moving in a way that feels right. The oldest participant is an impressive 99 years young.

“When I walk into the room,” Beth says, “I can feel the bonds of friendship and support we’ve developed together.”

Fun with Fitness is offered every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:15 a.m. at the Beachwood Community Center. To learn more or sign up, call Community Services at 216.292.1970.



Beth Parnin (middle with wreath) pictured with her class participants during the holidays.

## MAD SCIENCE

### READY, STEM, GO!

Wednesday,  
February 4-  
March 18

(No class Feb. 18)

**Kids, grades K-5, will discover how science is at work in the world around them!**

Bryden Elementary: Grades K-2  
6 Weeks, 3:15-4:15 PM

Hilltop Elementary: Grades 3-5  
6 Weeks, 2:40-3:40 PM

**Residents \$142, Non-Residents \$170**

Register: [BeachwoodRec.com](http://BeachwoodRec.com)

Animals of the  
Land & Sea

Motion & Energy

Mixture Making

Technology

## Upcoming Programs

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Power Cardio Kickboxing</b><br/>Ages: Adult Class (No class 2/12 &amp; 2/16)<br/>M/Th., 2/9-3/12, 6-7 p.m.<br/>Beachwood Community Center<br/>Residents \$129, Non-Res. \$155</li> <li>• <b>No-School Winter Treat Baking</b><br/>Ages: 6-12 years<br/>Wed., 2/18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.<br/>Beachwood Community Center<br/>Residents \$94, Non-Res. \$113</li> <li>• <b>Tiny Movers Tap &amp; Ballet</b><br/>Ages: 3-4.5 years<br/>Tues., 2/24-3/24, 5:30-6:25 p.m.<br/>Beachwood Community Center<br/>Residents \$94, Non-Res. \$113</li> <li>• <b>Future Fashion Stars</b><br/>Grades: K-2<br/>Wed., 2/25-3/18, 3:15-4:15 p.m.<br/>Bryden Elementary<br/>Residents \$136, Non-Res. \$163</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Future Fashion Stars</b><br/>Grades: 3-5<br/>Wed., 2/25-3/18, 2:40-3:40 p.m.<br/>Hilltop Elementary<br/>Residents \$136, Non-Res. \$163</li> <li>• <b>Pottery for Teens</b><br/>Ages: 12-18 years<br/>Sat., 2/28-3/28, 3:30-5:30 p.m.<br/>Beachwood Ceramic Guild<br/>Residents \$212, Non-Res. \$254</li> <li>• <b>Smarty Paws Dog Training</b><br/>Ages: Adult Class<br/>Mon., 3/9-4/13, 7-8 p.m.<br/>Beachwood Community Center<br/>Residents \$124, Non-Res. \$148</li> <li>• <b>Barre FX</b><br/>Ages: Adult Class<br/>Tu./Th., 3/10-4/9, 9:30-10:30 a.m.<br/>Beachwood Community Center<br/>Residents \$57, Non-Res. \$68</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

## Beachwood Seniors

- **The Mind Challenge**  
Team Formation Deadline: Monday, March 2  
The Mind Challenge is a tournament-style trivia competition where cities compete against fellow communities from across Northeast Ohio. Interested in joining Team Beachwood? Call 216.292.1911 by March 2.
- **Drawing Class with Marlene Weinstein**  
Tuesdays, March 3-April 7, 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.  
Explore still life drawing with instructor Marlene Weinstein! Demos, examples, handouts, and individual attention are provided. New students should enroll in the morning session. Just \$81 for residents and \$92 for non-residents.

## February Meet & Eat

**Vocalist & Recording Artist Von James**  
**Thursday, Feb. 19, Noon, Community Center**

Residents \$14, Non-Residents \$17, Program Only \$6

*Register by Feb. 13*

Von James is a powerhouse vocalist and recording artist with roots in opera, jazz, and gospel. She has graced stages at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Multi-Music Jazz Festival at Cain Park, and now she's bringing her dynamic voice to Beachwood.

Meal choices include Cajun chicken with pasta and a side salad or tuna salad on a hoagie roll with a cup of tomato soup. All entrees served with a beverage and dessert. Gluten free option available.

# WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Beachwood Business Compass: Two New Podcast Episodes

The Beachwood Business Compass Podcast delivers a double feature of insights to start your year on the right foot. Tune in on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.

**Global Pathways:** The City of Beachwood's Economic Development Department recently sat down with Nate Ward, Director of the Global Business Center and the SBDC Export Assistance Network, for an insightful conversation on international business growth. Drawing on his extensive experience in manufacturing and banking, Nate shares perspectives on today's export challenges, emerging global opportunities, and how local companies are leveraging the Small Business Export Assistance Network to expand into new markets.

**Fueling Small Business Growth:** Financing is a key part of any small business strategy. This episode highlights two local organizations making a big impact: the Economic & Community Development Institute (ECDI), a top SBA microlender creating lasting social and economic change, and HFLA of Northeast Ohio, providing interest-free loans since 1904 to help students, businesses, and residents achieve financial stability.



## Renewed Vision for Beachwood Place



Trademark Property Company is taking the lead on operations and leasing at Beachwood Place with plans to enhance its retail, dining, and overall guest experience. Drawing on its national expertise in retail repositioning, Trademark will implement placemaking and remerchandising initiatives to refresh the center.

"Beachwood Place is an icon among the Cleveland market's retail offerings, with a nearly 50-year history as a top shopping destination in the community," said Kevin Kessinger, President and Chief Operating Officer at Trademark and part-time Cleveland resident. "Our team could not be more excited to apply a thoughtful remerchandising strategy that reflects our shared vision with ownership to bring fresh perspectives to the center.

Under Trademark's leadership, Beachwood Place will continue evolving into a community-focused destination, with thoughtfully curated offerings and enhanced guest experiences.

## Funshi Offers Fun, Fresh Experience

Beachwood welcomes Funshi Sushi, adding a dynamic new flavor to the local culinary scene at La Place. The location features a unique conveyor-belt service system, where plates of fresh sushi glide past diners for an interactive grab-and-go experience.



## 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



# ElderClass Programs

ElderClass offers senior members of the community “lunch and learn” opportunities

**E**lderclass, a community-oriented program designed especially for senior adults, offers a series of “lunch and learn” events where community members are invited to Beachwood High School for a three-course lunch, followed by entertainment or educational programming.

The lunch, served in the Beachwood Bistro and prepared by Culinary Arts students, under the leadership of Chef Kortez Wilson, starts at 12 p.m. An hour-long musical or educational program follows at 1:15 p.m. Lunch is offered at a modest cost – \$7 for Beachwood residents and \$10 for non-residents – with advance reservations required. The entertainment portion of each program is free.

“ElderClass brings people together,” said Betty Jo Mooney, ElderClass attendee. “The meals are really good and the performances are fabulous. I love music and I can’t even begin to tell you how marvelous it is that ElderClass offers this to us. We really have a lot of fun here.”

Gabby Greer Jones, Culinary Arts assistant then told us what a great experience this is for the students. “Each student is assigned to a different station, whether they’re front of the house serving and hosting or back of the house preparing salads, sautéed vegetables, or desserts.

“I love seeing our patrons come back,” she added. They remember the students, ask about them, and are always so welcoming. It’s really special to see the same familiar faces supporting us month after month. It’s also meaningful to see people who may no longer live in the district still come back to support us. ElderClass gives them a chance to experience the restaurant in a different light and stay connected.”

ElderClass provides social engagement, cultural enrichment, and community connection for seniors, right at Beachwood High School. To learn more or to make a reservation, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/ElderClass> or call Julie Felder at 216.464.2600, ext. 2203.

## Upcoming events include:

**Thursday, Feb. 12**  
**Musical Performance**  
Beachwood Band, Choir, and Orchestra

**Thursday, March 12**  
**Harpists**  
Salzedo Harp Duo

**Thursday, April 9**  
**Klezmer Band**  
The Tischler Klezmer Orchestra

**Thursday, May 7**  
**Oldies, Broadway, and More!**  
Sing Along with NCJW



ElderClass attendees enjoying lunch at the Beachwood Bistro before last month’s performance of the Moss Stanley Trio.



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800.464.4642 | [www.fcsla.com](http://www.fcsla.com)



January’s performance of The Moss Stanley Trio.

# BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

## Extracurriculars Help Shape BHS Experiences

At Beachwood High School, learning continues even after the final bell rings at the end of the day. As classrooms empty for the day, the building shifts to a place where students are able to explore interests, showcase talents, and make connections through one of the more than 30 extracurricular activities that are offered. Three clubs are gearing up for major events in the coming weeks, and students are once again showcasing the energy and commitment that define the Beachwood experience.

### Model UN

Model United Nations offers students a dynamic opportunity to build confidence and sharpen essential skills in public speaking, collaboration, and problem-solving. Through the program, students engage directly with current global issues, stepping into the roles of international delegates to debate, negotiate, and work toward resolving real-world conflicts. Participants also research and represent the positions of various countries, developing a deeper understanding of global perspectives and diplomacy.

Students meet twice a week for practices led by the club's Executive Board, where they focus on public speaking, resolution writing, and collaborative problem-solving. This year's Board is made up of Lyndia Zheng, Sasha Kheyfets, Harlan Flake, Ida Chang, and Ritika Iyer. Their leadership helps foster an engaging and collaborative experience for all members.

"Model UN gives students a space to challenge themselves while learning how to think critically and communicate effectively," said advisor Evan Luzar. "By the end of the year, they've gained meaningful experiences with skills that will benefit them well beyond high school and they have a lot of fun along the way."

This year, the team will participate in three major conferences at Columbia University, The Ohio State University, and Northwestern University.

### Robotics

Robotics offers students a hands-on, team-driven experience that brings together engineering, problem-solving, and leadership through participation in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Preparation for the season begins at the start of the school year when students attend weekly preseason meetings to practice skills such as design, fabrication, coding, and strategy. In October, the team won an off-season competition at Warren High School.

"Our preseason meetings provide training sessions for our team members to practice their robotics skills without the pressures of regular season deadlines," advisor John Keyerleber said. "Much of this training is led by our veteran members, which creates opportunities to improve skills and also pass knowledge to younger members."

The team will attempt to build on last year's success when it competed at Globals and ranked 103rd out of 3,690 teams worldwide.

This spring, the team will compete in three regional events, including a trip to Minnesota and the Buckeye Regional at Cleveland State University, which Keyerleber labels as a "home" event for his squad.

"My favorite part of coaching is watching the team and individual students grow," Keyerleber said. "I get to watch students evolve over their high school careers from freshmen who are just learning what it takes to compete as a robotics team to seniors who have ascended to team leadership roles in which they are making decisions that drive the team's success."

### Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad continues to be one of the most rigorous and collaborative extracurricular activities at BHS. The club brings together students who share a passion for science, engineering, and problem-solving as students work in teams to prepare for both written and hands-on challenges throughout the season. The team begins the year with several invitationals, leading to regional and state competitions in March and April with the state meet at The Ohio State University. Team members attend biweekly practices where they collect information, build binders, and construct their building events.

"I enjoy educating students giving them an opportunity to learn more about science," said Rakhee Banerjee, team advisor. "We have a well-prepared team. It's a lot of work, but every student is committed to improving their performance."

This year's focus extends beyond preparation alone, as the team is emphasizing collaboration and cohesion. By building a unified group, Science Olympiad aims to achieve strong competitive results while providing a meaningful and rewarding experience for every student involved.

## Information About Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration opens on Feb. 2, 2026. Families with a child entering kindergarten in the 2026-2027 school year should visit [www.beachwoodschoools.org/registration](http://www.beachwoodschoools.org/registration) to complete the enrollment form. State law requires students to be 5 years old by the first day of school (August 26, 2026) in order to enroll.

A kindergarten parent orientation is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Bryden School. Please contact district registrar Grace Perryman at [gperryman@beachwoodschoools.org](mailto:gperryman@beachwoodschoools.org) or (216) 464-2600, ext. 2107 if you have questions.





## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

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

## Paul Chase Named Next Director of Curriculum & Instruction



Paul Chase

Beachwood City Schools is proud to announce that Paul Chase, a longtime principal for Beachwood City Schools, has been approved by the Board of Education to serve as our next Director of Curriculum & Instruction. He will begin his appointment on Aug. 1, replacing Dr. Linda LoGalbo who retires effective July 31, after 20 years of service to Beachwood Schools.

"I want to extend a special thank-you to Dr. LoGalbo for her mentorship and the important role she has played in my growth as a principal for many years," Chase said. "I also want to offer my heartfelt thanks to the Beachwood community. I have had the privilege of working with generations of students and families, and I remain committed to supporting them in this new role."

Chase began his time with Beachwood Schools in 2006 as an assistant principal at the high school. In 2013, he was named principal at Beachwood Middle School, a role he held for six years before being named principal at Beachwood High School in 2019. "Beachwood has become a family to me," Chase said.

"Mr. Chase has an excellent track record for working tirelessly to meet the needs of all students," said Beachwood Superintendent Robert Hardis. "During his 20-year service to this community, he has earned the trust of students, families, and staff with his caring, honest, collaborative, and hard-working approach."

As he transitions into this new role, the district has started the process to select the next Beachwood High School principal.

Parents, students, and community members are invited to meet the finalists for the BHS Principal position at Beachwood High School on Tuesday, Feb. 3, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

## Trio Excels at AMC Math Competition

A trio of Beachwood High School students is being recognized for outstanding achievement in this year's prestigious AMC Math Competition, earning top scores among thousands of students nationwide.

Jiahe Liu delivered an exceptional performance, placing in the top 1-percent of all participants. With this achievement, he has once again qualified for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME), an honor reserved for the highest-performing students in the competition. Antoni Hinczewski and Nathan Mu both earned scores placing them in the top 25-percent of all contestants.

The AMC Math Competition is widely regarded as one of the most challenging and respected mathematics contests for middle and high school students in the United States. Success at this level requires deep conceptual understanding, creative thinking, and countless hours of preparation.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



### Recent Resolutions

- Appointed President and Vice President
- Adopted Tax Budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027
- Update on SPIRIT Squad Program

### Upcoming Board Actions

- Audit Committee Report
- Presentation on Nutrition Standards Report
- Financial Forecast Update

### Board Meeting Calendar

- Monday, Feb. 9 @ 7:00 pm
- Monday, Feb. 23 @ 7:00 pm



## VIEW AGENDAS & MINUTES

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

# BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

## Choir Students Shine at Cabaret Night

Beachwood Schools showcased the musical talents of choir students throughout the district at its annual Choir Cabaret Night on Dec. 4. This year's theme, "Songs of the New Millennium", featured students singing songs from the past 25 years.

Organized by choir directors Carolyn Farley and Shelley McKenzie, the evening opened with a combined performance by all of the choirs, which took the stage together to sing Katy Perry's "Firework." The BMS Choir performed a set of Bruno Mars hits, while a small group of BHS students sang Randy Newman's "Almost There" from *The Princess and the Frog*, and "For Good" from the Broadway musical *Wicked*. The Bryden Choir delighted the audience with "Life's a Happy Song" from *The Muppets* and

the BHS choir closed the show with several hits, including "Sisi Ni Moja" (We are One).

"This concert is always a special opportunity for students to come together and celebrate their musical talents," McKenzie said. "We thank all of the students, staff, parents, and families who always come together to make this event so successful."



## Pre-Med Club Packages for The Gathering Place

The Beachwood High School Pre-Med Club conducted a Care Packages for Cancer project during the holiday season. The service initiative focused on supporting individuals and families impacted by cancer. After a three-week donation drive, students assembled 40 care packages that were donated to The Gathering Place, a local organization that provides free programs and support to those coping with cancer and their families. Each care package was filled with items designed to offer comfort and encouragement.

The Pre-Med Club provides students with exposure to the various medical professional fields, and also engages in service learning opportunities.

The club extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to the community members who generously donated supplies to help make the care packages.



## EVENTS CALENDAR



### Elderclass

Feb. 12, 12:00-2:30 pm

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Musical performances by BHS band, choir, and orchestra

### BHS Band & Orchestra Collaboration Concert

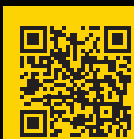
Feb. 24, 7:30 pm

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

### Lunar New Year Celebration

March 1, 5:00 pm

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.



**VIEW THE  
FULL CALENDAR**

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



## ADMINISTRATION

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Dr. Linda LoGalbo, Director of Curriculum & Instruction • (216) 464-2600 ext. 2208 • lhl@beachwoodschoools.org



beachwoodschoools.org

## Alumni Spotlight: Carly Wohlfeiler, Class of 2012



For Carly Wohlfeiler, Beachwood Schools were more than a place to learn: They were a home. She began as a student at Fairmount and was enrolled in Beachwood Schools through high school, culminating with her graduation in 2012. She credits her Beachwood Schools education for helping lay the foundation for her career and lifelong connection to the community.

Upon graduating from BHS, Wohlfeiler attended Indiana University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Hearing with a concentration in Audiology. She then earned a Doctorate of Audiology at the Northeast Ohio AuD Consortium.

Wohlfeiler began her career in the Mayfield Heights Costco Hearing Aid Center in May of 2020, just months after the COVID-19 pandemic began. "It was definitely an interesting way to start my career, but I felt very fortunate to land a job in Northeast Ohio," Wohlfeiler said. Today, she works as a clinical audiologist for AudioNova, a Sonova group company in Lyndhurst.

"I am passionate about helping people with hearing loss achieve better hearing health," Wohlfeiler said. "I love helping my patients enjoy their lives more than they ever thought they could and connecting with the Northeast Ohio community."

Wohlfeiler's interest in audiology began during her time at Beachwood Schools, when she had classmates with hearing aids and cochlear implants who were part of the Deaf Education program. She recalled learning American

Sign Language (ASL) finger spelling in first grade to better communicate with her peers.

"Flash forward to high school, where I took ASL for a few years as my foreign language credit," Wohlfeiler said. "Mrs. Weisman helped me connect with the deaf community in Cleveland and the experiences in her class were an integral part in ultimately making the career choice that I did. At Indiana University I learned more about audiology and realized that I was meant to go into this field. I can thank Beachwood Schools for that."

Outside the classroom, Wohlfeiler was involved in school and community activities, playing softball, soccer, and basketball, beginning with Beachwood Rec teams at a young age. Music was another interest, as she played the cello from fourth through 12th grade and traveled to Spain with the high school orchestra during her junior year.

"Athletics have remained a constant in my life and I enjoy playing on adult rec softball, sand volleyball, and pickleball leagues," she said. "I also enjoy exploring Cleveland, cheering on the Guardians, attending concerts, and seeing shows at Playhouse Square."

Wohlfeiler noted that Beachwood will always be home for her. Between Carly and her siblings, Michelle and Ross, a Wohlfeiler sibling attended Beachwood Schools for 30 consecutive years. "My parents still live in Beachwood and I also have a lot of patients that either worked for Beachwood Schools or are still connected in the Beachwood community," Wohlfeiler said.

When asked what advice she would give current students, she said, "It's okay to be unsure and take your time finding your passion. The experiences you have now will help you land in the right spot."

## Social Scene

✕ f y @BeachwoodBison

Beachwood Schools

Published by Greg Murphy • December 16 at 4:00 PM

There was so much excitement at Bryden today as students received their first look at the new building. From exploring classrooms, seeing the common areas, gymnasium, cafeteria, media center, and other spaces, it was a memorable day for our youngest learners. We can't wait to celebrate with tomorrow's ribbon cutting and officially welcome students into the new building after winter break.



Beachwood Schools

Published by Greg Murphy • December 23 at 10:00 AM

Beachwood City Schools was honored to have the Ohio House of Representatives officially commend the district during last week's ribbon cutting at the new Bryden School. This recognition celebrates years of planning, collaboration, and community support that made this milestone possible.

Beachwood Schools

Published by Julie Markowitz Felder • December 14 at 7:00 PM

What an unforgettable night at Beachwood High School's White & Gold! Our students lit up the stage with incredible performances—from show-stopping vocals and energetic dance numbers to live bands, K-Pop crews, and beautiful instrumentals. Swipe through the photos to see the magic from the night ✨



# Mitzvah Workshops: Bringing Jewish Tradition to Life, One Hands-On Experience at a Time

What if Jewish learning wasn't just taught, but experienced?

That's the idea behind Mitzvah Workshops, a Cleveland-based program with a national reach that brings Jewish tradition to life through immersive, hands-on experiences for children, teens, and adults alike.

Instead of lectures or crafts, participants use real tools, real materials, and real processes to bring mitzvot – good deeds – to life. The result is powerful, memorable, and deeply engaging Jewish experiences that resonate long after the workshop ends.

## Passover Is Coming and This Year, It's Hands-On

With Passover approaching, Mitzvah Workshops is gearing up for one of its most

impactful experiences: the Matzah Baking Workshop.

Participants begin with actual wheat stalks, separating kernels, grinding flour, mixing dough, rolling, shaping, and baking their own matzah – all within the halachic time frame. Along the way, they see the natural process unfold and explore how tradition, science, chemistry, and technology intersect.

It's Passover the way it was experienced for generations – tangible, meaningful, and unforgettable.

These workshops are open to everyone: Jews and non-Jews, private and public schools, libraries, synagogues, community centers, and organizations looking to offer a positive, educational Jewish experience.

## More Than Passover - A Full Year of Living Jewish Experiences

While Passover is the next big focus, Mitzvah Workshops runs engaging programs year-round, including:

- Shofar-making workshops (transforming a raw horn into a playable shofar)
- Olive oil pressing for Chanukah
- Challah baking and wood-burned challah boards
- Mezuzah and Torah-scribe workshops
- Tzitzit-tying experiences
- Havdalah candle making, and more

Recently, Mitzvah Workshops expanded into major public venues, including a large-scale Chanukah olive-oil pressing experience at the Maltz Museum, reaching new audiences and broadening the program's impact.

Currently reaching approximately 2,500 participants annually, the program is actively expanding to bring positive Jewish experiences to even more schools and communities.

## Why It Works

- Fully hands-on – not demonstrations
- Educational, experiential, and fun
- Inclusive and welcoming
- Unique – there is nothing else like it anywhere
- Proven to spark curiosity, pride, and connection

Seeing children confidently using tools, creating real Jewish objects, and understanding tradition through action is powerful.

## Learn More or Book a Workshop

Seeing is believing, and these workshops speak for themselves. To view videos from past events, learn more, or book a workshop for Passover or the year ahead, visit [MitzvahWorkshops.com](http://MitzvahWorkshops.com). You can also reach out to [mitzvahworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:mitzvahworkshops@gmail.com) or call 203.887.6044. Organizations are encouraged to book early for Passover programming.



## Who It's For

- Mitzvah Workshops serves
- Public and private schools
  - Jewish day schools
  - Libraries
  - Community centers
  - Synagogues
  - Youth programs
  - Family and Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations
  - Workplace and organizational programs



In a recent Mitzvah Workshop, Hands-on Chanukah, JCC students pressed olives, make wicks, and lit their own menorah. They didn't just light the menorah – they made the miracle.

**Cleveland Jewish News and  
Lauren Rich Fine/Beatrice Advisors Present**

AN EVENING WITH

*Regina Brett*

Join us for an evening of inspiring conversation with award-winning columnist and author Regina Brett

**February 10, 2026**

7:00 p.m. | Congregation Mishkan Or | Beachwood

\$18 tickets can be purchased at [cjn.org/reginabrett](http://cjn.org/reginabrett) and include An Evening with Regina Brett, meet-and-greet and dessert reception.



**7 p.m. to 8 p.m.:**

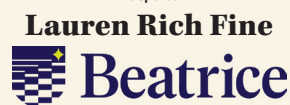
A conversation with Regina Brett

**Followed by** a meet-and-greet, book signing and dessert reception in Mishkan Or's lobby



*Books are sold separately and will be available for purchase.*

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Contact Gina Lloyd for details | 216-342-5196 • [glloyd@cjn.org](mailto:glloyd@cjn.org)



# Beachwood Arts Council

## Ileen Kelner Juried High School Art Show

Sunday, Feb. 22 –

Sunday, March 29

Beachwood Community Center

Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

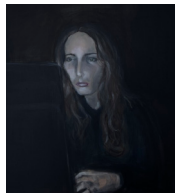
Weekends: Call 216.292.1970

for available hours

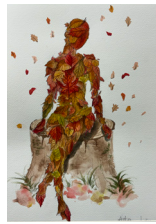
This special exhibit will feature inspiring artwork from students representing 23 high schools in Northeast Ohio. Judges will be professional local artists Stuart Pearl, Susan Cone Porges, and Judy Takacs.



Nina Hirano  
*Cat Near Fish Bowl*



Anna Belle Shapiro  
*Late Nights*



Ada Liu  
*Figure with Leaves*



Liubiv Vinnick  
*I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream!*

From left: Beachwood High School artists Ada Liu, Liubiv Vinnick, Anna Belle Shapiro, and Nina Hirano. The BHS art teacher is Heather Grano.

## Spirit of Clay Art Program

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.

828 SOM Center Rd., Mayfield Village

Beachwood Arts Council invites you to spend a few hours creating beautiful fused glass and/or painted pottery at Spirit of Clay. Not that creative? It's Okay! Kathy and her team will provide lots of guidance and all the help you need – so let's start creating.

The event is free, but you will need to pay for your project. Costs are reasonable and are varied, depending on what you choose to create. Please register by calling 216.595.3400 no later than March 13.



## Twice as Nice Concert

Sunday, March 22 • 2-3 p.m.

Beachwood Community Center

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

Rick Matousek is recognized as one of the top keyboard players in the Northeast Ohio

area. The duo will play a mix of jazz, classic, easy listening, pop/rock, R&B, and Motown. Free and open to the public, the concert is sponsored by a grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and Ohio Arts Council. Refreshments will follow the concert.



Paul Christensen



Rick Matousek

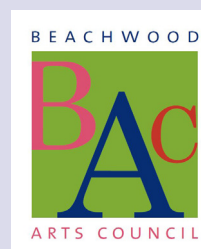


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The O'Brien Law Firm, LLC (now part of the Brennan, Manna and Diamond Family)



## CWRU's Siegal Lifelong Learning

Case Western Reserve University's Siegal Lifelong Learning offers remote and in-person courses and lectures, many of which are held right here in Beachwood. Some upcoming programs include:

### Beyond Words: Understanding Symbols Across Cultures

Tony Palermo, MA, Retired Professor, Humanities and Philosophy, Lakeland Community College  
Thursdays, Feb. 19 - March 5  
1:30-3 p.m. • Remote

### Cleveland: The Renaissance City

Instructor: Lauren Pacini, Architectural Photographer  
Tuesdays, March 17 - April 21  
1:30-3:30 p.m.  
Landmark Centre Building  
25700 Science Park Dr.

### St. Carlo Acutis: What the Millennial Saint Teaches Us About Youth, Religion, and Culture

Brian Clites, Ph.D., Archbishop Hallinan Professor of Catholic Studies II Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, CWRU  
Friday, Feb. 13 • 1-2:30 p.m.  
Landmark Centre Building  
25700 Science Park Dr.

### How Cultures Grieve: A Conversation on Mourning Practices Across Faiths and Traditions

Moderated by Peter Haas, Ph.D.  
Panelists:  
Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams  
Rabbi Joshua Caruso,  
Prof. Zeki Saritoprak, Ph.D.,  
Tuesday, Feb. 17  
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Landmark Centre Building  
25700 Science Park Dr.

For more information, visit [case.edu/lifelonglearning](http://case.edu/lifelonglearning) or call 216.368.2091.

# Celebrate Valentine's Day With Dazzling Chamber Music

Saturday, Feb. 14 • 4 p.m.

Church of the Western Reserve, 30500 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike

This Valentine's Day, Musical Upcoming Stars in the Classics (M.U.S.i.C.) invites audiences to experience *Love Is in the Air*, a captivating and romantic concert that brings the passion, intimacy, and emotional depth of chamber music to life. Featuring extraordinary young musicians from top conservatories, this thoughtfully curated program highlights the enduring power of love as expressed through the works of some of the most celebrated composers in the classical canon.

Audiences will be swept away by a vibrant and expressive program featuring music by legendary composers including Frédéric Chopin, Claude Debussy, Georges Bizet, Manuel de Falla, Kurt Weill, and Leonard Bernstein – each offering a unique and compelling musical voice. Following the performance, guests are invited to enjoy a warm and welcoming reception with light refreshments, offering a chance to meet the musicians and celebrate the music together. Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of passion, virtuosity, and musical brilliance.

"This concert will be a true feast for the ears – lush, expressive, and brimming with stunning virtuosity," says Jodi Kanter, artistic director of Musical Upcoming Stars in the Classics, the nonprofit organization presenting the event. "We are thrilled to showcase some of the most exceptional young musicians in Northeast Ohio in a program that celebrates the international spirit and global roots of classical music."

"Stars in the Classics helps identify and support the great performers of tomorrow," added Mark Kosower, cellist with the Cleveland Orchestra. "This series is one of the gems of Northeast Ohio."

This year's program boasts an impressive roster of international prize winners, accomplished soloists, and rising chamber musicians from Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

You may purchase tickets at [starsintheclassics.org](http://starsintheclassics.org).

"Since we encourage students to attend, we're offering complimentary tickets for Beachwood students through 12th grade," Jodi said. To take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Jodi in advance to reserve tickets.

General admission is \$35, students are \$15, and patrons are \$60. For more details, call Jodi at 216.702.7047 or email [stars@intheclassics.org](mailto:stars@intheclassics.org).

## About M.U.S.i.C.

For almost 20 years, M.U.S.i.C. has been dedicated to providing paid performance opportunities to outstanding young musicians while introducing new audiences to the joy of chamber music. The organization curates intimate, world-class concerts throughout Northeast Ohio, helping launch the next generation of musical talent. M.U.S.i.C. is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization and is proudly supported by grants from The William O. and Gertrude Lewis Frohring Foundation, the William Bingham Foundation, Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and many generous private donors.

## Cuffing Season 2026 Arrives Feb. 13

### One Story. Three Formats.

Javon Bates The Legacy Films announces *Cuffing Season 2026*, a bold winter release told across three connected formats: a feature film, a grown-and-sexy R&B album, and a book that expands the story deeper than the screen can.

It's a triple-threat project led by Javon – author, filmmaker, songwriter, and music producer – bringing one vision to life across screen, sound, and page.

"This isn't just content. It's the season people live through every year – the tension, the craving, the vulnerability, the moment options stop feeling like power and start feeling like noise," said Javon. "The



film delivers the visuals. The album delivers the emotion. The book delivers the truth."

Javon invites the community to attend the premiere on Friday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m., at Silverspot Cinema at Pinecrest. Tickets are now on sale at [jblegacyfilms.com](http://jblegacyfilms.com).

"The film delivers the visuals. The album delivers the emotion. The book delivers the truth."  
– Javon Bates

## Beachwood History Book Club Turns 17!

The Beachwood History Book Club, started at the Beachwood Library in 2009, continues its strength virtually with people joining from across the country.

- Tuesday, Feb. 24 • 7 p.m.  
*Mark Twain*, by Ron Chernow
- Tuesday, March 31 • 7 p.m.  
*Gales of November: The Untold Story of the Edmund Fitzgerald*, by John U. Bacon

There are no reading or participation requirements and all are welcome. Contact Margaret Reardon at [margaret@margaretreardon.net](mailto:margaret@margaretreardon.net) or 216.272.4277 to be put on the group's mailing list and for event login information.



# Recreation and Camps



There are many recreation and camp options in and around Beachwood. Whether your child is eager to explore the outdoors, dive into the arts, sharpen athletic skills, or discover new passions, there's something for every interest and age. Take a moment to explore the offerings on the following pages and find the programs that will make this season memorable.

When you connect with a program, please say you saw it in *Beachwood Buzz*!

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\$125 PER PLAYER**

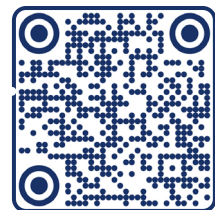
REGISTER TODAY AT  
[BEACHWOODSOCCERACADEMY.ORG](http://BEACHWOODSOCCERACADEMY.ORG)



- **Winter & Summer Camps**
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# Flips for Kids Summer Gymnastics Camp 2026



**June 8-Aug 14, 2026**

**9:15 am-3:00 pm**

**Ages entering K-14yrs**

**23700 Mercantile Rd. | Beachwood, OH 44122**

## Get ready for a summer full of Flips! Fun! Fitness! Friends!

- JSG offers 9 weeks of themed gymnastics camps for boys & girls, no experience to competitive gymnasts
- Gymnastics is for everyone! It is a great base for coordination, confidence, seasonal sports participation & overall health.



## Weekly Camp Themes

### **Week 1 June 8-12:**

**Get the Summer Moving - Flip Style!**

### **Week 2 June 15-18 (Mon-Thu):**

**Gymkata: Train Like a Gym Warrior!**  
**No Camp June 19, 2026**

### **Week 3 June 22-26:**

**Dance Explosion! Ballet to Breakdancing**

**CLOSED JUNE 29-JULY 6, 2026**

### **Week 4 July 7-10 (Tue-Fri):**

**Pajama Party Week - Part 1!**

### **Week 5 July 13-17:**

**Pajama Party Week - Part 2!**

### **Week 6 July 20-24:**

**Best of the Olympic Events - Gymnastic Style**

### **Week 7 July 27-31:**

**Invention Convention for Thrills**

### **Week 8 Aug 3-7:**

**Team Spirit Week**

### **Week 9 Aug 10-14:**

**Flips, Twists, & More!**

## REGISTER TODAY AT

Website: [jsgymnastics.com](https://jsgymnastics.com) through the

Parent Portal: <https://portal.iclasspro.com/jumpstartgymnastics>

(216) 896-0295

Email: [jsgymnastics@jsgymnastics.com](mailto:jsgymnastics@jsgymnastics.com)

**Weekly or Daily Enrollment**  
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**\$300 per 5-day week or \$60 per day**

**AFTERCARE daily from 3:00-5:00 pm:**  
**\$10 per day. Pre-registration required.**





# Your Child's Confidence Will Blossom and Your Community Will Grow



**Summer Camp Dates: June 8-August 8.**

Chose one week or more

**Open House Free Classes May 23.**

**Student Ballet Company Audition: April 19**



Visit our website or call for program and enrollment dates

For a complete class schedule call **216-295-2222** or visit **Clevelandcitydance.com**



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- **June-August 2026**
- **Secure your child's spot now!**
- **Summer Packages include:** Academic Evaluation, 32 hours of tutoring and registration fee.
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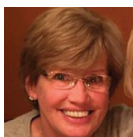
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Visit [seniorsolutions.site](http://seniorsolutions.site) to learn how we can help.

## Select Library Programs

### Rock 'n' Roll Is the Blood That Fuels Cleveland

Wednesday, Feb. 4 • 7-8 p.m.

Author David Spero tells stories from his memoir, *A Life in the Wings: My Sixty Year Love Affair With Rock and Roll*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14536095>.

### Tuesday Book Chat

Tuesday, Feb. 10 • 7-8 p.m.

A discussion of *Buckeye*, by Patrick Ryan. Registration is not necessary.

### Author Dr. Charles Modlin

Thursday, Feb. 12 • 7-8 p.m.

Renowned kidney transplant surgeon Dr. Charles Modlin visits to discuss his book, *Yes, You Can Succeed: It Isn't Difficult to Do it IF You Know How to Do it*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14713980>.

### Black Women of Jazz With Debbie Darling

Friday, Feb. 13 • 2-3 p.m.

Debbie Darling takes you on a musical journey through the lives and music of Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Lena Horne, and Sarah Vaughan. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14542290>.

### Knit & Lit

Monday, Feb. 16 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Join us for fiber arts & informal chats about what everyone is reading. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14582998>.

### Third Wednesday Book Discussion

Wednesday, Feb. 18

2:00pm-3:00pm

A discussion of *A Marriage At Sea* by Sophie Elmhirst. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14593090>.

### Blood Drive

Saturday, Feb. 21 • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Donate blood today.

For more information or to make an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call the American Red Cross at 800.733.2767.

### Let's Talk About Driving – Supporting Older Adults Through the Transition

Wednesday, Feb. 25 • 2-3 p.m.

Professionals with Home Instead explore strategies and alternative options for transitioning family members away from driving. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14536270>.

### Puzzle Exchange – Adults

Thursday, Feb. 26 • 7-7:30 p.m.

Bring as many puzzles as you like! Puzzles should be in good condition and not be missing any pieces. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14604673>.





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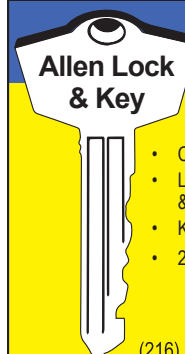


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phone: (216) 633-3604

## Library Storytimes

### Family Music & Movement Storytime

Mondays through April • 10-10:30 a.m.

All ages with caregiver

### Baby & Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays through April • 10-10:30 a.m.

Birth – 35 months with caregiver

### Baby & Toddler Storytime

Thursdays through March • 11-11:30 a.m.

Birth – 35 months with caregiver

### Hebrew Language Storytime

Wednesday, Feb. 11 • 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.



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