

Beachwood

April 2026

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

Buzz

MAGAZINE



Momentum in Motion

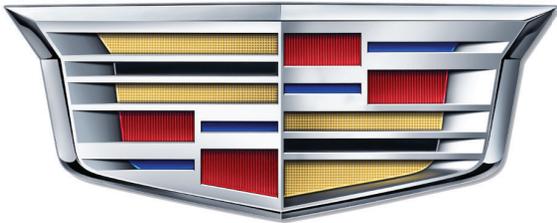
Beachwood's Year of Growth

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- Family Kindness Festival Returns
- United States of Kindness
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- Beachwood Arts Council Events and Programs
- Elderclass Program: Sing Along with NCJW
- SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME FOR SPRING** (starts on page 37)
- ... and so much more!

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Letter from THE EDITOR

By Debby Zelman Rapoport

This year, for the first time, I ventured south for a month to escape the gray skies of winter. Hilton Head proved to be the perfect choice, offering time to embrace nature, hone photography skills, become immersed in birding, and truly pause – which is my word of the year.

On my last day there, I picked up the guest journal to leave a message for our VRBO hosts. When I opened the cover, I read: "Life is an adventure. It's not the destination we reach that's most rewarding, it's the journey along the way. So write it down and treasure the memory forever."

– Barbara Morina (president and founder of Journals Unlimited).

These words resonated completely. From inside the condo, with the steady rhythm of waves in the background, I gratefully acknowledged the gift of daily sunrise walks – the colors, sounds, and quiet awakenings as night turned to day. There's something deeply grounding about the magic hour of dawn, a reminder that each day begins softly, whether we notice it or not.

Barbara's emphasis on *write it down* spoke to me as a reminder of how important it is to document the moments and experiences that shape our lives.

We often think about recording memories when we travel, yet the truth is that the most meaningful moments are happening every day, whether we are far from home or simply stepping outside our own front door.

Here are a few reasons why a writing practice matters:

• **Memories fade more quickly than we think.** Recording what moved us – a sunrise, a walk, a conversation – allows us to relive moments and appreciate them more fully.

• **Writing sharpens awareness.** When we know we'll write about something, we naturally notice more – the colors of the sky, the behavior of birds, the rhythm of waves.

• **Everyday moments deserve attention.** A quiet morning walk, a beautiful cloud formation, or a shared meal can be just as meaningful as a faraway adventure.

• **Journals become personal time capsules.** Years later, a few paragraphs can bring an entire day rushing back.

• **Memories become legacy.** Written reflections can one day become treasured pieces of family history.

Although journaling on a regular basis has never been my forte, I regularly preserve experiences through photography. After every adventure, I create a photo book that captures its story – the people, landscapes, wildlife, and unexpected moments of beauty along the way. Lined up on a shelf in my living room, these books can be opened at any time – an invitation to pause, savor the memories, and relive the journeys.

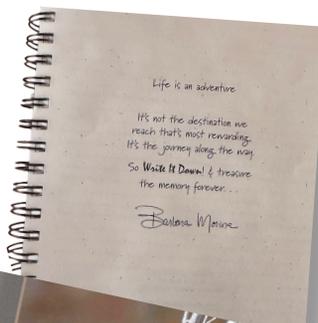
Reflecting on my month in Hilton Head, I'm filled with gratitude and reminded of the importance of embracing experiences while we are able because life's twists and turns

are never predictable. The real takeaway is simple: create lasting memories – and savor them through words, photographs, or quiet gratitude.

Barbara Morina's message offered the perfect reminder as we packed the car to drive back home:

Life is an adventure.
Enjoy the journey.
Write it down.
Treasure the memory forever.

There's something deeply grounding about the magic hour of dawn, a reminder that each day begins softly, whether we notice it or not.



Hand to Heart: Beachwood Art Gallery's Newest Exhibition

By Zoey Nahmmacher-Baum

On April 2, a new exhibition opens in the Beachwood Art Gallery. The gallery, located inside the Beachwood Community Center, is proud to display local artists in shows curated by both the City of Beachwood and the Beachwood Arts Council. *Hand to Heart* is an exploration of the threads that connect life and art, demonstrating the complex emotions of humanity through artistic expression.

The exhibition features five artists, each with their own unique approach to their practice. Their varied mediums include collage, embroidery, painting, and sculpture – among other types of artwork.

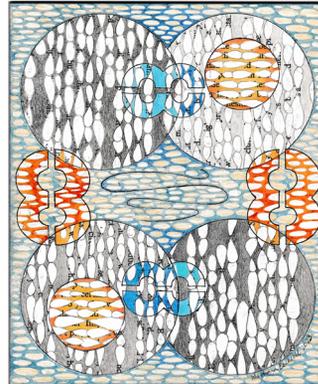
Two of the featured artists, Janus Small and Juli Edberg, displayed their work in the gallery in April 2025. Jayme Jirousek, Beachwood Community Services' senior adult manager and curator for the city's exhibits, reflects on how *Hand to Heart* came to be:

"Janus must have been reading my mind when she reached out about her interest in organizing another exhibition with Juli. She

explained that she had a great group of artists in mind for the show. Having worked with Janus and Juli previously, it was exciting to hear they wanted to return and bring several other talented artists with them."

The other artists in the exhibition include Barbara Bachtell, David Buttram, and Antwoine Washington, each of whom has exhibited their work at the Cleveland Institute of Art and/or the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland.

From lively drawings to large-scale paper sculptures, this exhibit unites distinct artistic voices to create a show that feels both intimate and visually dynamic for our community.



From left: Artwork by Barbara Bachtell and Juli Edberg.

Hand to Heart

April 2 – April 27 • Artist's Reception: April 12, 1-3 p.m.
Gallery Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
with limited weekend hours.
Call 216.292.1970 for weekend availability.

From the Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Good Deeds Day **Sunday, April 12**

Join Jewish Federation of Cleveland's Jewish Volunteer Network to make a difference in our community as part of Good Deeds Day, a global day of volunteerism.

Spend the day doing good deeds and helping others throughout Jewish Cleveland and Greater Cleveland communities by selecting one of 16 volunteer opportunities that will help feed the hungry, comfort the elderly, support populations at risk, and more.

Times vary based on the volunteer opportunity you choose.

Volunteer at 16 different social service organizations across Jewish Cleveland and Greater Cleveland.

For more information or to register, visit www.jewishcleveland.org.

Yom Hashoah V'Hagvurah **Monday, April 13** **6:30 - 8 p.m.** **Congregation Mishkan Or**

Join the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and Kol Israel Foundation to commemorate the Holocaust. This year's theme, *From Trauma to Transformation: The Enduring Impact of the Holocaust Across Generations*, explores the Holocaust's far-reaching effects across four interconnected spheres – individual, family, community, and global.

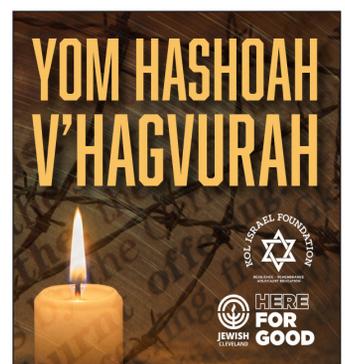
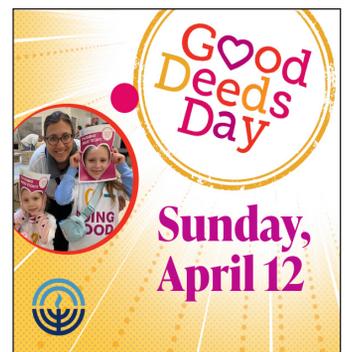
While the Shoah was a rupture that inflicted

unimaginable trauma and loss, its legacy also includes powerful stories of resistance, resilience, and rebuilding.

This year's commemoration includes:

- March of Generations and Procession of Holocaust Torahs, symbolizing continuity and the enduring strength of our people.
- A moving candle lighting ceremony, honoring the contributions of individuals, families, and programs that have created impact.
- Special musical performances by Hazamir, lifting our collective memory through song.

For more information or to register, visit www.jewishcleveland.org.



Beachwood Buzz

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

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MAGAZINE

Cover Story:

Momentum in Motion Beachwood's Year of Growth



Nearly 150 business leaders, community partners, and residents gathered March 11 at the University Hospitals Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute for Beachwood's annual Mayor's Business Reception and State of the City Address – an evening that celebrated the city's momentum and offered a glimpse at what lies ahead.

Story, written by Debby Zelman Rapoport, starts on page 7.

Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo.

Cover photo, from left: Christopher Superior, Director of Operations, UH Ahuja Medical Center
Lisa Piazza, Operations Manager, UH Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute
Justin Berns, Mayor, City of Beachwood
Dr. Michael Salata, Director UH Sports Medicine

Who We Are

Debby Zelman Rapoport
Editor/Publisher

Adam Jacob
Director of Sales

Scott Morrison
Photography Director

Elaine Cicora
Proofreader

Stephen Valentine
Art Director

Kent Smith
Jennifer Stern
Contributing Writers

Calendar Section

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

Article Submissions

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

Subscriptions

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

General Information

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

Editorial Information

beachwoodbuzz@gmail.com

Advertising Information

beachwoodbuzzsales@gmail.com

P.O. Box 22194
Beachwood, Ohio 44122
216.315.1827

SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME
THIS SPRING!

Special advertising section starts on page 37

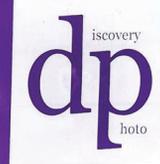


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Congregation Bethaynu Reunion and Time Capsule Opening Weekend at B'nai Jeshurun

Scheduled voices in words and song include Rabbi Rona Shapiro & David Franklin, Rabbi Eddie Sukol and Cantor Kathy Sebo, joined by B'nai Jeshurun clergy.

Friday, April 10 Romemu Musical Service & Dinner	Saturday, April 11 Torah Study, Shabbat Service & Lunch	Sunday, April 12 Time Capsule Opening, Breakfast & Reflection
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To register, scan the QR code or click here:
<https://www.bnajeshurun.org/event/bethaynu-reunion-weekend.html>



Family Kindness Festival Returns April 26, at New Location: Landerhaven

Thirty inspiring non-profits, 35 innovative students, and 30 area schools are joining together to celebrate the healing power of kindness at this **FREE** community festival.

Family Kindness Festival returns for another inspiring afternoon celebrating compassion, community, and connection. This year's festival will take place on Sunday, April 26, 1-4 p.m., at a new location – Landerhaven

Families from across Northeast Ohio are invited to gather for a joyful event designed to help children, parents and grandparents explore the healing power of kindness. The free festival will feature interactive activities, inspiring youth activists and entrepreneurs, hands-on projects, and opportunities for families to connect with nonprofit organizations that promote service and community well-being.

"Family Kindness Festival is about reminding children – and adults – that kindness is powerful," said Dr. Shelly Senders, founder and CEO of Senders Pediatrics. "By bringing families together for a fun and meaningful afternoon, we hope to inspire acts of kindness that make an impact in our schools, homes, and communities. And, by moving the festival to Landerhaven, it allows us to welcome even more families and community partners while providing a beautiful and spacious setting for all attendees."

Festival highlights will include:

- Inspiring, entrepreneurial students focused on giving back to their communities
- Community nonprofits and organizations dedicated to those they serve
- Mobile blood drive
- Wigs for Kids Cut-a-Thon
- Hands-on give-back projects
- Interactive family experiences
- Entertainment – including stilt walking, juggling and music
- Fun for all ages, featuring a video game arcade, henna tattoos, crafts galore, martial arts and face painting
- Ice cream and cotton candy for all

Families are encouraged to register in advance to secure their spot and receive event updates.

Family Kindness Festival is a project of the Senders Pediatrics Health Initiative, a federal 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Support for the Festival has been provided by a number of generous sponsors, including Premier Sponsor, Sherry & Neil Cohen Fund; Lead Sponsor,



Beachwood's Ryan Levine and Arica Jacobsen, and their children, enjoying ice cold treats at last year's Family Kindness Festival.

Akron Children's; and Host Sponsor, Driftwood Catering. Other sponsors include The Floor King, NEOMED, University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's, Brunswick Companies, Cleveland Clinic Children's, Crestmont Automotive, Five C Foundation, Magis Advisory Group, Pease Bell CPAs, SEIA, and TXI. Media sponsors include *Cleveland Jewish News*, *Macaroni Kid*, and *Northeast Ohio Parent Magazine*. School partners include nearly all eastside public, private, Jewish, and Catholic parochial schools.

Event Details

Sunday, April 26 • 1-4 p.m.
Landerhaven
6111 Landerhaven Dr.
Mayfield Heights
Ideal for kids 6 and up –
all ages welcome
Free to all!

For more information
and to register, scan
this code or visit
senderspediatrics.com/kindness





Momentum in Motion

Beachwood's Year of Growth

By Debby Zelman Rapoport • Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo

Police Chief Dan Grispingo, Mayor Justin Berns, and Fire Chief Stephen Holtzman at the Mayor's Business Reception and State of the City Address on March 11, at the UH Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute.

Nearly 150 business leaders, community partners, and residents gathered March 11 at the University Hospitals Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute for Beachwood's annual Mayor's Business Reception and State of the City Address – an evening that celebrated the city's momentum and offered a glimpse at what lies ahead.

Hosted in a facility designed to train and rehabilitate athletes – from youth competitors to professionals with the Cleveland Browns and Cleveland Monsters – the setting inspired Mayor Justin Berns to draw a comparison between athletics and city leadership.

"Serving as mayor is a lot like being the general manager of a professional sports team," Mayor Berns told the crowd. "Success happens when everyone buys into the same philosophy and works toward the same goal."

In Beachwood, that philosophy centers on collaboration. When civic leadership, the business community, and residents move forward together, Mayor Berns said, the results speak for themselves.

And in 2025, they did.

Beachwood welcomed new businesses, strengthened public safety programs, invested in infrastructure, expanded community programming, and continued to position itself as one of Northeast Ohio's most dynamic and well-managed cities.

The city also extended appreciation to the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce for supporting the annual event and to the team at the

UH Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute for hosting the evening.

Mayor Berns also noted a meaningful connection between Beachwood and the evening's host. Just as Drusinsky is known for innovation in training, performance, and rehabilitation – helping athletes recover stronger and perform at their highest level – Beachwood is building a reputation as a city that attracts forward-thinking businesses and fosters innovation across industries. Berns said the alignment reflects shared values: investing in cutting-edge ideas, supporting growth, and creating environments where people and organizations can reach their full potential.

A CITY BUILT ON PROMISE

Beachwood's guiding vision remains simple: create a community where people can work, live, learn, and thrive.

"It's not just an idea," Mayor Berns said. "It's a daily reality."

That philosophy guided the city's priorities throughout 2025 – from responsible budgeting and neighborhood safety to long-term planning and economic growth.



David Leb, vice president at Cushman & Wakefield | CRESCO Real Estate and head of the Investment Sales Division, tests his pitching speed at the T3 Performance training area inside the UH Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute.

Behind those efforts is a partnership among city leadership, dedicated employees, engaged residents, and an active business community.

Together, they form the foundation of Beachwood's resilience.

ECONOMIC MOMENTUM

Beachwood's economic progress last year was both significant and intentional. In 2025, the city welcomed 32 new businesses and 11 commercial grand openings. Plus, more than 200 new jobs were created. Together, those companies invested more than \$10 million in commercial building improvements.

"These numbers represent real people," Mayor Berns said. "Entrepreneurs launching ideas, employers expanding operations, and workers building careers right here in Beachwood."

The city's growing reputation for innovation also received statewide recognition when Ohio Life Sciences named Beachwood one of only four Premier Life Sciences Communities in Ohio –

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

- 32 new businesses opened
- 11 grand openings
- 200+ jobs created
- \$10 million in building improvements
- 5,000+ emergency calls handled
- 8,100 Public Works service orders
- 21,000 community program participants
- 10,000 senior transportation rides

highlighting the city's strength in biotechnology, research, and advanced industry.

Major employers have taken notice.

Companies such as Austin Powder Company expanded operations locally, while innovators including Trailhead Biosystems and 9-1-1 Cellular continue to grow their presence in the city. A new GEICO corporate office at Landmark Centre further reinforced confidence in Beachwood's workforce and business environment.

Behind these successes is careful planning and relationship-building.

LEADERSHIP THAT BUILDS OPPORTUNITY

At the center of Beachwood's economic strategy is a relationship-driven approach led by Economic Development director Cathy Bieterman. Much of her work happens quietly behind the scenes, but its impact can be seen across the community – from new storefronts to expanding corporate campuses.

Mayor Berns likened her role to a sports team strategist. "She's our offensive coordinator," he said. "She uses every resource available to ensure businesses of all sizes have the opportunity to succeed."

Beachwood's strategy supports the entire business ecosystem – from startups navigating early challenges to global corporations bringing investment to Northeast Ohio.

Programs such as the city's \$1 million revolving loan fund help companies expand, while partnerships with the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce and regional development organizations strengthen connections and opportunity.

The goal: Create an environment where businesses succeed – and want to stay.

PUBLIC SAFETY: THE FOUNDATION OF TRUST

Economic growth is only possible when people feel safe. Beachwood's police, fire, and public works departments form the backbone of that security. Under Police Chief Dan Grispingo, the department pursued national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) – a designation recognizing the highest standards in law enforcement practices.

"For a police department, that's the equivalent of raising the Lombardi Trophy after winning the Super Bowl," Mayor Berns said.

The department also maintains a business liaison officer who works directly with employers, providing security assessments, training, and ongoing support.

Meanwhile, the Beachwood Fire Department, led by Chief Steven Holtzman, responded to more than 5,000 emergency calls in 2025 while completing record hours of training.

Safety initiatives also include innovative programs such as the Blue Envelope Program, which helps drivers on the autism spectrum



Mayor Justin Berns delivered the State of the City Address before nearly 150 attendees at the University Hospitals Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute, highlighting Beachwood's growth, collaboration, and future initiatives.

communicate more comfortably during traffic stops. Community programs like Cookout with Cops further strengthen relationships between officers and residents.

"Policing is about trust," said Dan Grispingo. "When people feel comfortable reaching out, that's when a community truly feels safe."

FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND SMART INVESTMENT

While many communities struggle with financial pressures, Beachwood continues to operate with notable fiscal discipline. The city collects just 1.6 mills in property taxes, with 2.4 mills suspended through 2026 – helping keep taxes stable while still delivering a high level of service.

Beachwood ended 2025 with a general fund balance of \$23.5 million, an increase of \$4.3 million from the previous year. That stability allows the city to continue investing in infrastructure and services that support residents and businesses alike.

INFRASTRUCTURE THAT KEEPS THE CITY MOVING

Behind every thriving city is a strong infrastructure network. In Beachwood, that work is led by Public Works director Chris Arrietta and his team.

In 2025 alone, Public Works completed more than 8,100 work orders, managed thousands of recycling and rubbish collections, and planted more than 100 trees throughout the city.

2026 PRIORITIES

- Chagrin Highlands development
- Mercantile–Harvard connector road
- Continued infrastructure investment
- Expanded public safety partnerships
- Growth in community programming
- Senior housing redevelopment at Fairmount Temple

Major capital projects also moved forward, including the Green/Timberlane Sanitary Relief Sewer Project, a \$3 million investment supported by grant funding.

Other improvements included the full reconstruction of Greenlawn Avenue, water main replacements, and citywide sidewalk upgrades.

"These are the projects residents may not always see," Mayor Berns said. "But they're essential to the long-term health of the city."

SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION

Beachwood is also embracing sustainability. In 2025 the city launched Ohio's first solar-powered streetlight pilot program, installing 27 solar lights along Ranch Road and Beachwood Boulevard.

The city expanded its composting program through a partnership with Rust Belt Riders, with more than 310 households participating and diverting over 32 tons of food waste from landfills.

Meanwhile, technology upgrades across city departments – from cashless payments to online permitting – are making services easier and more efficient for residents and businesses.

Innovation, city leaders say, isn't limited to technology companies. Cities can innovate too.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Beyond economics and infrastructure, Beachwood's leaders emphasize that the city's greatest strength is its people. Programs offered through the Community Services Department, under the leadership of Derek Schroeder, director, reached nearly 21,000 participants in 2025, a 38% increase from the previous year.

Events such as Fall Fest concerts, Playground Pop-Ups, Teen Nights at the Courts, and Senior Picnic celebrations continue to bring generations of residents together.

The city also provided more than 10,000 senior transportation rides, ensuring older residents remain connected and engaged.

"Our goal is simple," Mayor Berns said. "We want people to feel like they belong."

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Even with strong momentum, Beachwood is planning its next chapter. One of the city's most significant initiatives involves 43 acres in the Chagrin Highlands corridor, positioning Beachwood for continued economic expansion.

The city has secured a seat on the Chagrin Highlands Board of Directors and is pursuing funding for a connector road linking Mercantile Road and Harvard Road – a project expected to unlock



DeAndrea Evans-Springer reviews the 2026 State of the City brochure during the Mayor's Business Reception and State of the City Address.

future development in advanced industries such as aerospace, cybersecurity, medical technology, and financial services.

Engineering design is expected to begin later this year. The city is also moving forward with plans to redevelop the Fairmount Temple property into a senior-focused residential community, providing new housing options and supporting residents' ability to age in place.

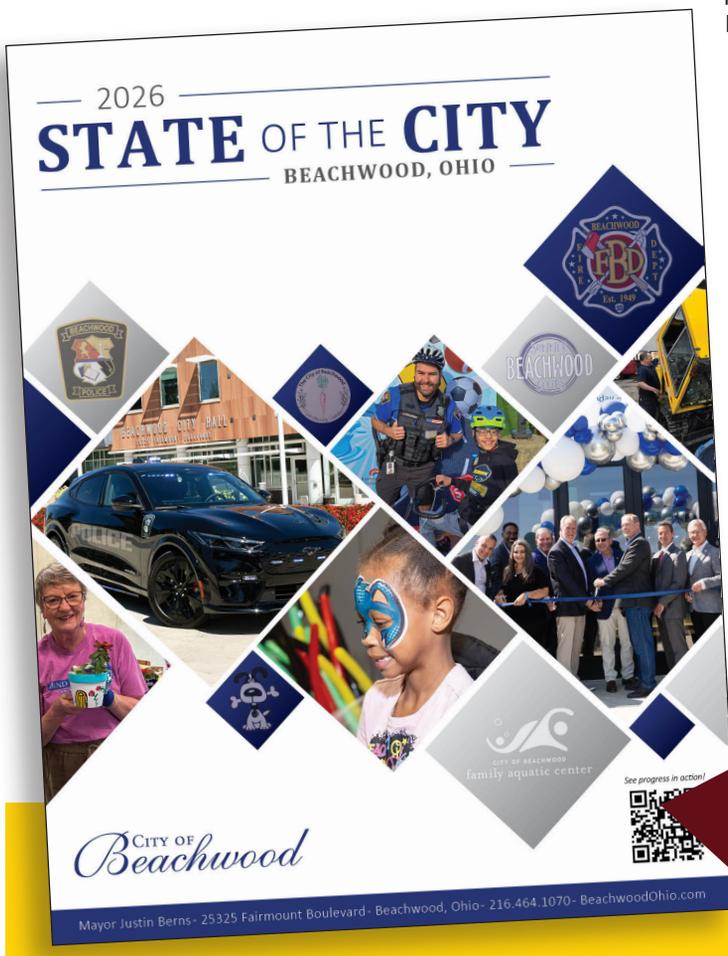
A CITY BUILT TOGETHER

Mayor Berns emphasized that none of Beachwood's progress happens in isolation.

City Council, department leaders, employees, business owners, and residents all play a role in the city's success. Partnerships with organizations such as the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce and Beachwood City Schools further strengthen that foundation.

"Beachwood's best days are ahead of us," Mayor Berns said. "And we're building them together."

The Mayor's Business Reception and State of the City Address was sponsored by City of Beachwood, University Hospitals, Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, Crestmont Automotive Civista Bank, Dollar Bank, and Executive Computer Management Solutions Inc. (ECMSI). To view the 2026 State of the City booklet or watch the five-minute video presentation that was shared during the March 11 event, scan the QR code or visit www.beachwoodohio.com.



Scan here for the full booklet and more info on the State of the City

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Balance Solutions

Physical Therapy



Spring Is Finally Here: But Is YOUR Body Ready?



Every spring, people jump back into walking, gardening, and outdoor sports, but their muscles and joints may not be ready as quickly as their enthusiasm.

The first warm Saturday of spring arrives and suddenly everyone has the same idea - get outside and get moving!

In beautiful communities like Beachwood, spring often means returning to our favorite routines - morning walks through the neighborhood, gardening in the backyard, or meeting friends for a fun round of golf or game of pickleball (personally my favorite)!

Many of us look around the house or yard and think the same thing:

"Today is the day I finally get outside moving again."

And that's usually when it happens.

A few hours of yard work later, the back feels tight. The knees ache after a long walk. Or the shoulder reminds you that you may have been a little less active over the winter than you realized.

Every spring brings what health professionals often call the **"weekend warrior effect."** During the winter months, activity levels naturally decrease. Then when warmer weather returns, people jump back into sports, gardening, biking, and outdoor projects - sometimes all in the same weekend.

While the enthusiasm is fantastic, muscles and joints sometimes need a little time to catch up.

Periods of lower activity can lead to reduced flexibility, weaker stabilizing muscles, and subtle changes in balance and coordination. These changes are rarely noticeable during everyday routines, but they can show up quickly when someone suddenly increases their activity level.

That's why many experts recommend **gradually building activity back into your routine** as spring begins.

Spring Is Finally Here But Is YOUR Body Ready?



For example, someone eager to resume walking outdoors may benefit from starting with shorter distances and slowly increasing their time each week. Gardening projects can be broken into smaller sessions rather than several hours at once. Even recreational sports such as golf or tennis often feel better when the body has a chance to ease back into movement.

Strength and balance also play a bigger role than many people realize.

The muscles around the hips, core, and shoulders act as stabilizers for the body. When they are working well together, everyday activities - from lifting bags of mulch to reaching overhead while trimming branches - place far less strain on the joints.

Balance is equally important, particularly when returning to outdoor environments. Uneven sidewalks, grassy yards, and garden beds can challenge stability in ways that smooth indoor floors do not.



It happens every year.

The first warm Saturday arrives and suddenly the yard, park, and pickleball courts are calling.

A few hours of trimming branches, raking leaves, planting flowers, hiking, or dinking later, many people discover that their enthusiasm returned much faster than their muscles and joints did!

This is one reason many people choose to check in with a physical therapist when they notice recurring stiffness, lingering aches, or a sense that their body simply isn't moving as smoothly as it used to.

Physical therapists focus on evaluating how the body moves and identifying small limitations that can lead to discomfort over time.



Often, a few targeted exercises or simple adjustments in movement patterns can make everyday activities feel significantly easier.

Spring naturally inspires fresh starts. For many people, it becomes the season to spend more time outdoors, reconnect with favorite activities, and enjoy longer days of movement.

Taking a thoughtful approach when returning to activity can help ensure those plans last well beyond the first warm weekend.

After all, spring isn't just about getting moving again - **it's about staying active long enough to enjoy everything** the season brings.



Spring Activity Starter Checklist

Before jumping into full spring mode, consider these simple strategies:

- Start gradually when increasing activity levels
- Stretch major muscle groups before yard work or sports
- Break up longer activities into shorter sessions
- Stay hydrated during outdoor activities
- Wear supportive footwear for walking or yard work
- Pay attention to persistent aches, pains, or stiffness
- **If pain or balance concerns continue, consider consulting a physical therapy professional at Balance Solutions in Beachwood!**

**Call
(440) 449-3400
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or visit
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Best Lawyers® ONES TO WATCH

DAN BARON

2026



Tips to Avoid Probate Court

Perhaps you're tempted to skip this article thinking that probate court doesn't affect you. But whether you have a comprehensive family trust or are just getting started with a basic estate plan, understanding and avoiding probate is paramount for each person considering the future of their loved ones. Probate is the court-administered process of settling the estate of a loved one with or without a will. If you don't have a will, or "last will and testament," you may think there is no plan for your family. But the reality is, the State of Ohio would then have a plan for you! In addition, **even if you have a will, your estate will still go through probate court.** Therefore, it's essential that you understand what probate is and what your options are.

Why Should I Avoid Probate?

1. **Inefficient** - Probate is extremely time-consuming and inefficient. The minimum time to administer a full probate administration is six (6) months. This is because Ohio law grants unsecured creditors a six-month period to assert claims against the decedent's assets. In fact, one of the very reasons probate exists in the first place is that creditors have a means of getting paid out of the estate. Moreover, the **average** time to administer an estate in the state of Ohio is about fourteen (14) months.
2. **Costly** - Probate is expensive. The many fees of probate (court, attorney, filing, etc.) add up to **5-10%** of the value of your estate. These expenses add up partly because they could have been avoided had the assets transferred to beneficiaries more quickly, outside of court. Nonetheless, the cost of probate is usually thousands and can easily be avoided.
3. **Public** - Since probate proceedings are part of a government court system, the entire

process is public. In less time than it takes you to read this article, someone could view the public docket and determine the value of assets in an estate, beneficiaries, executors, property listed, debt, and more. Once they have this information, your loved ones are vulnerable to scams and hassles from creditors.

4. **Preventable Disasters** – It typically takes months for an executor to be approved from the court. The executor has no legal authority to act until approved which can lead to major unexpected expenses. For example, recently we have a probate case with 32 cousins as beneficiaries, and the only asset is a house. The pipes froze on the house because the gas bill was not paid. This resulted in a house that once would have sold for \$250,000 will now sell for \$70,000 to a flipper because of the damage to the house. Worst of all, there are several liens against the house which could have been avoided with an asset protection trust.
5. **No Asset Protection** – Probate does not protect assets for family members because after paying debts and fees, the remaining assets are distributed outright. Regardless if the recipient has issues such as divorce, student loans, litigation, creditor issues, and/or spending issues, the probate court is not concerned with the personal situation of the beneficiary.

So, what can you do?
What are some solutions to avoid probate? Is having a will a good form of estate planning, or is

there a better option? The reality is that a last will is your one-way ticket to probate court. With the inefficiency, cost, publicity, and weaknesses of probate, the following options are vital to protecting your loved ones.

Joint Ownership

Joint ownership is a common method of probate avoidance. Assets owned by more than one person result in the survivor taking ownership. Joint ownership examples might include a joint bank account or marital home. This is significantly beneficial when avoiding probate for married couples because the transfer of assets is immediate and does not require a court-approved transfer. In lieu of a trust, the downside of joint ownership is that it does not offer asset protection. Creditors may still attach their claim in a residence, most commonly a nursing home (i.e., Medicaid Estate Recovery), if the real estate is only joint.

Beneficiary Designations

If you've ever purchased life insurance or engaged with a financial planner, you've probably filled out a beneficiary designation. These forms are very common with retirement accounts (such as a 401(k), 403(b), IRA, etc.), life insurance, annuities, and other assets. Beneficiary designations are a great way to avoid probate and keep your estate private. Once again, however, the downside to beneficiary designations is that your assets are not protected against divorce, creditors, or litigation. For example, if your children inherit an IRA, but then get divorced, the ex-spouse's attorney is going to fight for the IRA if the account is comingled in a joint account, which it often is.

Transfer-on-Death

A transfer-on-death affidavit works just like a beneficiary designation. Here the "TOD" allows you to designate the person or entity to receive your assets upon your death. TODs avoid probate

while transferring assets swiftly and without court approval. This method saves time and cost for commonly titled assets like an automobile, boat, and other assets that hold title. CAUTION: We do not recommend using TODs for real estate when there is more than one beneficiary. In this instance, not only do the beneficiaries have to agree on a sale price, but so do their spouses (dower rights).

Family Trusts

The single best way to avoid probate while also providing asset protection is by creating a family trust. A properly drafted family trust is completely private, avoids probate, provides asset protection, and has tax advantages. In addition to avoiding probate, if you are worried about a child getting divorced, spending issues, or simply want to provide asset protection for your family, a trust will accomplish all of the above. Here you can appoint one person in charge, create a bloodline relationship with the assets, with no dower concerns, and the assets are swiftly transferred without court involvement while being protected from creditors.

Which Method is Best?

This brief article makes obvious the importance of avoiding probate; however, you should never rely on only one method to accomplish the goal. A comprehensive plan analyzing every asset and scenario is best to achieve the most efficient plan for your family. For more information, contact Dan A. Baron or Baron Law LLC by phone at 216-573-3723, or by emailing dan@baronlawcleveland.com.

**3401 Enterprise Parkway,
Suite 340
Beachwood, OH 44122**



United States of Kindness – 250 Acts of Kindness in 250 Days

In 1992, Stuart Muszynski's life took an unexpected turn. A prescription drug reaction triggered chronic fatigue, memory loss, and deep depression, leaving him bedridden and questioning everything. What ultimately changed his trajectory wasn't another medication – it was mindset.

Through cognitive therapy, visualization, and the mind-body work of physicians like Dr. Bernie Siegel, author of *Love, Medicine and Miracles*, Stuart began retraining his thoughts. He practiced daily affirmations of kindness and positivity and visualized healing in his body. Within six months his immune system began stabilizing, and within a year his health had significantly improved.

During that recovery, Stuart and his wife, Dr. Susan Muszynski, a clinical psychologist, envisioned teaching students how to overcome negativity through kindness, love, and personal responsibility. In 1994, that vision became reality with the creation of Project Love.

The first all-day Project Love seminar took place in May 1994 at Berkshire High School. The program transformed the junior class. Students asked for more training, other schools followed, and Project Love organically became a movement.

Today, under the umbrella of the Values-in-Action Foundation – co-founded by Stuart and Susan – the program has reached more than 9,000 schools and classrooms in all 50 states, impacting nearly 2.8 million students, including 680,000 students last year alone, through digital curriculum and training modules.

"Our programs are not a lecture about being nice," Stuart said. "They're cognitive science in action, teaching students how thoughts shape emotions, emotions influence behavior, and behavior transforms culture.

Kindness isn't sentimental – it's neurological."

The Science Is Clear: Kindness Works

Research shows that acts of kindness release dopamine, increase serotonin, boost oxytocin, reduce stress hormones, strengthen immune response, and improve overall well-being.

"In a time of rising anxiety and polarization, kindness is a necessity," Stuart said.

Creation of Kindland

In 2020, amid rising national negativity, Stuart and Susan created Kindland – an initiative designed to unite communities, businesses, organizations, and schools around acts of kindness.

"Kindland relies on the power of people to recognize, report, and share kindness every day," Stuart explained. "When you see kindness, you want to do kindness. Our goal is to create communities that sustain empathy, compassion, and understanding."

The United States of Kindness

The United States of Kindness is a nationwide call to action encouraging Americans to complete 250 acts of kindness in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary.

The initiative launches April 24 – with 250 days remaining in the calendar year – encouraging participants to complete one act of kindness each day.

The Ohio launch will take place in the Statehouse, with educators and legislators including Reps. Phil Plummer, Hearcel Craig and Eric Synenberg, and Sens. Casey Weinstein, George Lang and Jerry Cirino, supporting resolutions to encourage statewide participation.

The initiative is nonpartisan, nonreligious, and not a fundraising campaign.

"It's just a call to action," Stuart said. "It's simple, because if it's not simple, people won't do it."



Dr. Susan and Stuart Muszynski

Acts of kindness can be small but meaningful – holding a door, letting someone merge in traffic, writing a thank-you note, supporting a local business, mentoring a student, or checking on a neighbor.

Participants are encouraged to share acts of kindness on social media using #USofKindness or tagging @USofKindness.

Schools across Ohio will receive challenge boards with starter ideas, while businesses, nonprofits, and cities can participate internally or publicly.

"Kindness spreads when it's visible," Stuart said. "When we amplify it, people want to be part of it."

City of Beachwood's Participation

The City of Beachwood, under the leadership of Mayor Justin Berns, has committed to participating in the United States of Kindness campaign, joining other Northeast Ohio communities including Cleveland, Lyndhurst, South Euclid, Westlake, Elyria, Maple Heights, Wickliffe, Worthington, and Bexley.

Beachwood has long modeled civic pride and community engagement, and this initiative provides another opportunity to highlight that spirit. Residents can watch for updates on the city's social media pages.

Leadership Through Kindness

Leadership through kindness is simple – and simplicity works. Behavioral research shows that when actions are clear and achievable, habits can form within three weeks.

Gen. David Petraeus, a member of the initiative's National Council, shared, "I've seen kindness in the most challenging environments imaginable – during war, crisis, and uncertainty. Kindness builds bridges, strengthens teams, and reminds us of our shared humanity."

NFL player Damar Hamlin added, "I will always lead with kindness, love, and welcoming presence. Organizations like Values in Action and the Kindland movement are giving kids the tools to build strong character early."

Kindness builds bridges, strengthens communities, and restores humanity.

Join the United States of Kindness Challenge by scanning this QR code or visiting www.usofkindness.org. Commit to 250 acts of kindness – and encourage your workplace, school, and family to join.



William Sommer – Retrospective

Celebrating one of America's finest modernists • Opening May 8

William Sommer, one of America's leading modernists, will be the focus of a long-overdue retrospective at WOLFS this spring. A master lithographer, Sommer was among Cleveland's most respected artists at the turn of the last century.

In 1913, he attended the groundbreaking Armory Show in New York, where he encountered the work of Paul Cézanne, Vincent van Gogh, and Henri Matisse. Matisse's bold use of color, which critics famously derided as fauve ("wild beast") painting, deeply influenced Sommer. Inspired by these European innovators, he

developed his own vivid palette, creating modern compositions often drawn from rural life.

The exhibition centers on a 60-year collection assembled by art historian Martin Lerner, former senior curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Lerner first encountered Sommer's work while at the Cleveland Museum of Art and continued collecting it throughout his life.

Sommer's work is represented in major institutions including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, the

Cleveland Museum of Art, the Nelson-Atkins Museum, the Akron Art Museum, and the Butler Institute of American Art.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated publication with essays by William H. Robinson, former curator of modern European art at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Public programming will include guided tours and lectures.

WOLFS is proud to present the work of this influential artist whose legacy remains an important part of Cleveland's cultural heritage.



Train on High Bridge, c. 1916-1919
William Sommer
(American, 1867-1949)

William Sommer Retrospective

Opening Friday, May 8, 5:30-8 p.m.

On view through August 15
at WOLFS

Tuesday-Saturday 11-5 p.m.

23645 Mercantile Rd., Beachwood

www.wolfsgallery.com

216.721.6945

info@wolfsgallery.com

Jewish Education Center Launches New *A Gift of Israel* Grant to Expand Access to Educational Experiences in Israel

The Jewish Education Center, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, is proud to announce the launch of the newly redesigned *A Gift of Israel* grant, a one-time \$1,800 incentive grant that helps Cleveland students participate in meaningful Jewish educational experiences in Israel.

The grant replaces the previous long-term savings model with a simpler, more accessible structure designed to reach more families across Greater Cleveland. The new grant is open to both affiliated and unaffiliated families and supports a wide range of approved Israel programs that strengthen Jewish identity through immersive educational experiences.

Eligible programs include:

- Day school eighth grade Israel trips
- Camp and teen summer programs in Israel
- Post high-school programs, including gap year and semester-abroad experiences

Students may apply for the grant once they have been accepted to an approved qualifying program in Israel.

Participant Eligibility

Requirements:

- From a Jewish household currently residing in Greater Cleveland
- In eighth grade up to 25th birthday
- Accepted to an approved Jewish educational program in Israel lasting at least 10 days
- Educational program meets the program cost requirement of \$2,250 or more
- Has not previously received an *A Gift of Israel* grant (or matching funds)

Applications are now being accepted online.

Background

For many years, *A Gift of Israel* operated as a seven-year savings and matching-funds program that helped families prepare financially for an educational Israel experience. Families deposited annual funds into a

dedicated account, with matching contributions from the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and, in some cases, additional synagogue matches. While successful for many participants, the structure required long-term enrollment and consistent savings, which limited access for some families.

Earlier this year, the partnering bank informed program partners that it could no longer support the savings-based structure due to compliance concerns. This development prompted a comprehensive redesign process. A dedicated task force was convened to evaluate the program and develop a new model that would broaden participation and reduce barriers to entry.

Key improvements include:

- **Broader access:** Open to all eligible Jewish students in Greater Cleveland from

eighth grade up to their 25th birthday.

- **Inclusive eligibility:** Available to affiliated and unaffiliated families
- **Simplified structure:** No long-term savings requirement
- **User-friendly process:** Easier for families to understand and navigate

The JEC will continue to encourage synagogues and congregations to provide matching funds for their participating members, further increasing the impact of the grant.

Through this redesigned program, the JEC and the Jewish Federation of Cleveland reaffirm their commitment to making transformative Israel educational experiences more accessible for the next generation.

To learn more about eligibility, the grant, and to apply, visit www.jecc.org/israel.



Be a Helper

By Jennifer Stern

Dolly Parton wrote a song called *The Grass is Blue*. The lyrics resonate as they float in and out of my mind as I try to compartmentalize and practice positive reframe and mindfulness while living intentionally in this current world.

Her song is about coping with heartbreak due to the loss of a relationship by pretending opposites are true.

My heartbreak is the current state of humanity. Not to be overly dramatic or cynical, but I am grieving for the loss of humanity, civility, integrity, and accountability as my assumed baseline.

Opposites are not true.

How we treat others. How we protect children. How we stand up for those who cannot protect themselves matters.

Mr. Rogers said that when we see scary things we must look for the helpers. He believed, and was taught by his mother, that you

can always find people who are willing to help. We must continue to seek out calm in this chaos, to find the good in others, to trust that there are people working to make it better, for everyone, and we must be helpers.

Dr. Martin Luther King stated that silence on important issues is a form of moral decay. That we must act on principle even when it is hard, unpopular, scary. In varied speeches and writings, he said:

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

“There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular ... But he must take it because conscience tells him it is right.”

- The number to report child abuse and neglect in Ohio is 855.642.4453 (855.OH.CHILD).
- Information on childcare services is available at www.childcare.gov.
- To find a hot meal or food pantry, call the Greater Cleveland Food Bank at 216.738.2067.
- The number to text or call when experiencing suicidal ideation, mental health struggles, emotional distress, alcohol or drug concerns, or the need to talk with a caring counselor in confidence is 988.
- The CRIS (Community Refugee and Immigration Services) Hotline number is 614.874.1189. They help with understanding rights, making a family plan, and providing resources for food and other needs.
- For help with voter registration, making voting plans, and understanding ballots, visit www.vote.org.
- There is a midterm election this year. The online and in-person registration deadlines are 30 days before Election Day and mail-in registration must be postmarked 30 days before Election Day. April 6 is the last day to register to vote or to update your voter registration.
- Early in-person voting starts on April 7.
- Absentee voting by mail begins April 7.
- Election Day is Tuesday, May 5, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Call 614.469.1505 for voter information.

Register and VOTE. You do not have to be political. You must be informed. The quality of life for future generations depends on the choices we make – or allow – today. Be a helper.

The musical *SUFFS* was just in Cleveland. This musical is about the American women’s suffrage movement, focusing on the activists who fought for a woman’s right to vote. This musical was so well done. Intended as a historical piece and reminder of the hard-fought passing of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution – which guarantees the right for women to vote – it felt eerily relevant.

It wasn’t until 1965 that the Voting Rights Act finally granted the right to vote to women of color, including those who are Black, Native American, and Asian American.

Now more than ever – 61 years later – we still must pay close and diligent attention to ensure that our rights remain equal and intact.

Register and VOTE. You do not have to be political. You must be informed. The quality of life for future generations depends on the choices we make – or allow – today. Be a helper.

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

NIGHT AT THE Races

Join us for the Beachwood Athletic Boosters Night at the Races Fundraiser! Get ready for a thrilling evening at Porsche Beachwood as we come together to support our local athletes. Get ready for heart-pounding races, delicious food, and exciting prizes. This in-person event promises to be a night to remember, so grab your friends and family and come and support a great cause. Don't miss out on the fun!

Saturday, May 2
5pm - 8pm

Porsche Beachwood
3750 Orange Place
Beachwood, OH

Tickets: \$40 Early Bird & Alumni

Tickets after January - \$50
Purchase tickets, horses, and sponsorships by scanning the QR code.

21+

EBONY SPANO

for Cuyahoga County Council

Veteran. Mom. Business Owner. Ready to Serve District 11.

District 11 deserves disciplined budgeting, protection of vital services, and leadership that respects taxpayers. As families feel the pressure of rising costs, county budget decisions must protect essential services like mental health, addiction recovery, and homelessness support – while recognizing taxpayers cannot afford to pay much more.

Ebony Spano is a veteran, mother, business owner, and nonprofit founder committed to thoughtful leadership and responsible decision-making. Learn more, ask a question, or join the campaign at SpanoforCouncil.com.



 **EBONY SPANO**



“I’m proud to support Ebony Spano for County Council. Her experience and commitment make her ideally suited to represent Beachwood in this important position.”

– Alec Isaacson, Beachwood City Council Member

“Ebony Spano is exactly the person we need in this role. She understands that the biggest priority and responsibility of county government is health and human services. I’m thrilled to support her!”

– Wendy Leatherberry, Beachwood Board of Education Member

 **Vote EBONY SPANO on or before Tuesday, May 5!**

Paid for by Friends of Ebony Spano, 1069 Barkston Drive, Highland Heights, OH 44143.

HAVE FUN • DO GOOD • BE KIND

FAMILY KINDNESS FESTIVAL 2026

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 • 1-4 PM • LANDERHAVEN

The Healing Power of Kindness

Enjoy Give-Back Projects, Strolling Entertainment, Games for all Ages, Ice Cream and so much more!

Inspiring Students

- Connect with inspiring local youth

Nonprofits & Organizations

- Learn about ways to get involved

Wigs for Kids Hair Cut-a-Thon

- Donate or cheer on those donating hair for kids experiencing hair loss

Crafts for a Cause

- Create crafts that support local charities

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Ideal for children ages 6 and up, but all ages are welcome!
(All children must be accompanied by an adult.)

Family Kindness Festival is a project of the Senders Pediatrics Health Initiative, a federal 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

CIFF50 Unveils Cleveland-Curated Lineup and Expanded Festival Experiences

Use the code BUZZ26 for \$1 off every ticket!

More than 320 Films from 57 Countries • April 9–18, 2026 • Playhouse Square, Cedar Lee Theatre, CSU School of Film & Media Arts

The Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF) presents programming highlights and expanded festival experiences for its 50th anniversary celebration, CIFF50, running April 9-18, at Playhouse Square, Cedar Lee Theatre, and the CSU School of Film & Media Arts. The full program is available at www.clevelandfilm.org.

Curated for Clevelanders, by Clevelanders

In a milestone year, a local group of longtime CIFF Features Selection Team members stepped forward to serve as this year's Feature Film Programming Team, placing Cleveland audiences at the center of the curatorial process.

The result is a globally focused lineup, thoughtfully selected with a nod to Cleveland's unique sensibilities as an independent film fan base.

CIFF50 currently features 90 feature films (34 documentaries and 56 narratives) and 236 short films, including FilmSlam

programs, totaling 326 films from 57 countries. Additional late additions may be announced.

Marquee Presentations

Opening Night
Thursday, April 9 • 7 p.m.

A Man With Sole:

The Impact of Kenneth Cole

Directed by Dori Berinstein

An inspiring portrait of the fashion entrepreneur and activist who fused commerce with conscience. Director Dori Berinstein and Kenneth Cole will attend.

Flashback Presentation

Monday, April 13 • 7:30 p.m.

Believeland

Believeland (ESPN) returns in its updated version – screened together at CIFF for the first time since the Cavaliers' 2016 NBA Championship. A post-film conversation will be tentatively moderated by WKNR-ESPN's Emmett Golden and include director Andy Billman and former Cleveland Brown Earnest Byner, with additional sports guests to be announced.

Centerpiece

Thursday, April 16 • 7:30 p.m.

If I Go Will They Miss Me

Directed by Walter Thompson-Hernández

Fresh from its World Premiere at Sundance, this powerful, magical-realist tribute to a young artist's resilience evolved from the 2022 Sundance-winning short of the same name. The director will be present.

Closing Night

Saturday, April 18 • 7:30 p.m.

Power Ballad

Directed by John Carney

Courtesy of Lionsgate, this Ireland/U.S. musical, starring Paul Rudd and Nick Jonas, comes from the filmmaker behind *Once*, *Begin Again*, *Sing Street*, and *Flora and Son*, a heartfelt finale to CIFF50.

Daily Spotlight Screenings

Daily Spotlight screenings will include *Carolina Caroline*, *Normal*, *Transplant*, *Run Amok*, *Union County*, and the Midwest Premiere of *Buddy*, a Sundance hit produced by Cleveland

Tyler Davidson and directed by Casper Kelly, screening as an "After Hours" Spotlight on April 10 at Playhouse Square.

CIFF also brings back Members-Only screenings at the Cedar Lee Theatre, CIFF's original home.

Introducing Films+ Events

Curated by CIFF head of public programs Shakira Refos, Films+ expands the festival beyond screenings with immersive experiences, including:

- A cheese tasting following *The Big Cheese* at Cedar Lee
- Creative workshops and panels, including how to compete for a \$50,000 film prize
- A special conversation between Sen. Nina Turner and filmmaker Catherine Gund, following *Paint Me*
- A Road Out of Here (April 10 • Playhouse Square)

Innovation & Accessibility

CIFF50 continues to broaden access with:

- CIFF50 Streams: Best of Fest, a post-festival streaming program featuring award winners and audience favorites
- Relaxed Screenings of *Magic Light Pictures* animated show-cases, screening Saturdays at 10 a.m. at Playhouse Square and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at Cedar Lee
- The return of FilmSlam, serving students across Greater Cleveland, Akron, and Canton with daytime programs April 13–17 at Cedar Lee

Tickets, schedules, and membership information are available at www.clevelandfilm.org. Use the code BUZZ26 for discount!



Beachwood Arts Council



Debbie Darling Music Quartet

Sunday, April 12 • 2-3 p.m.

Beachwood Community Center

Debbie Darling, a singer-songwriter who has performed a wide range of musical styles, from opera to jazz to blues and everything in between, has provided her vocal talents for small bands, large orchestras, and commercial voice-overs. Having performed through Northeast Ohio and beyond, she has sung with Stanley Turrentine, The Peter Duchin Band, and The Tommy Dorsey Band. A motivational speaker and international best-selling author, Debbie was the president of The Presentation Pros, a soft-skills training company teaching all aspects of presenting,



and has been on numerous radio and television shows, including *Hard Copy*, *The Richard Simmons Show* and the *Oprah Winfrey Show*. 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.

Cleveland Orchestra Bass Quartet

Sunday, May 10 • 2-3 p.m.

Beachwood Community Center

The Cleveland Bass Quartet, made up of (from left) Scott Dixon, Derek Zadinsky, Charles Paul, and Mark Atherton – members of The Cleveland Orchestra's double bass section – has performed numerous programs at concert venues, schools, and community events.

They explore a bass quartet repertoire that includes original works as well as

arrangements of favorite classical pieces, giving these bassists the opportunity to step out from the orchestra's foundational role and into the melodic spotlight.

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



Beachwood K-12 Art Exhibit

Thursday, April 30 – Tuesday, May 26

Beachwood Community Center

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

Weekends: Call 216.292.1970 for available hours

Open House: Thursday, April 30 • 5-7 p.m.

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



Artwork, from top:

Stella Jeong, grade 1;

Middle School students Jane Hu,

Kian Adams, Jack Burkons,

and Sage Jurka

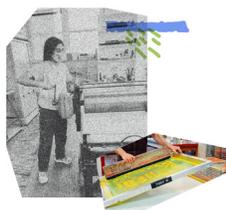
Zygot Press Tour

Saturday, May 16 • 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

1410 East 30th St., Cleveland

BAC will sponsor a program at Zygot Press, where program manager Chandler Mack will lead a tour of the printmaking studio, reviewing the history and modern uses of each process represented in the shop. Following the tour, participants will have the opportunity to screenprint a take-home poster of the Beachwood Arts Council logo and will then have time to

view the gallery exhibition and ask questions. RSVP by Friday, May 8, by calling 216.595.3400. The cost is \$20 for BAC members and \$25 for non-BAC members.



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Jewish Federation of Cleveland Leads Civil Rights Mission Through Historic Southern Sites

The Jewish Federation of Cleveland's 2026 Civil Rights Mission, in partnership with the Maltz Museum, brought together Jewish and Black community leaders for a powerful four-day journey through some of the most significant sites of the American Civil Rights Movement. Traveling through Atlanta, Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham, participants deepened their understanding of the struggle for racial justice while reflecting on the movement's lasting impact today.

The mission began in Atlanta at Historic Auburn Avenue, where participants explored the neighborhood where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was born, raised, and ultimately laid to rest. The group visited the King Center, the King family's Ebenezer Baptist Church, and attended Sunday services at the historic sanctuary that served as a spiritual home for generations of civil rights leadership.

From Atlanta, the mission continued to Montgomery, Alabama, where participants confronted the painful history of racial violence at the Equal



Justice Initiative's National Memorial for Peace and Justice. These sites traced the legacy of slavery, lynching, segregation,

and mass incarceration in America. Participants also visited the Rosa Parks Museum, standing at the location where the Montgomery Bus Boycott began and where a pivotal moment in the Civil Rights Movement unfolded.

In Selma, the group learned about the historic voting rights marches and walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, retracing the path of the 1965 marchers who faced brutal violence on "Bloody Sunday." Participants also heard firsthand testimony from someone who took part in the march as a child and learned about the interfaith solidarity that shaped the movement, including the role of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel.

In Birmingham, participants visited Kelly Ingram Park, the 16th Street Baptist Church, and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Guided by individuals who experienced the movement firsthand, the journey offered opportunities for reflection, dialogue, and learning.

The Civil Rights Mission deepened participants'

Mission delegates visit the tomb of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his wife, Coretta Scott King.

understanding of history while inspiring continued commitment to justice and community leadership.

The Civil Rights Mission deepened participants' understanding of history while inspiring continued commitment to justice and community leadership.

The mission concluded with a half-day program at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta that aimed to translate participants' shared experiences into collective post-mission partnership, strategy, and concrete next steps for Black-Jewish collaboration in Cleveland.

To learn more about the Federation's community relations work, visit jewishcleveland.org.

SPONSOR THE
HEALTH & WELLNESS OF BUSINESS SUMMIT
April 22, 2026 • 8am - 12noon

Align your brand with small business success, wellness, and resilience.

Presented by
Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

Scan code to register:

The Health & Wellness of Business Summit brings together business owners, executives, and decision-makers for a focused day on health, mental wellness, financial strength, technology, and human resources—the pillars of a thriving business.

Why Sponsor

- Visibility with engaged small business leaders
- Alignment with wellness, growth & business resilience
- Credibility within the Beachwood business community

Summit Highlights

- Five expert-led breakout tracks
- Practical, actionable business insights
- Closing panel discussion

- ◆ **Presenting Sponsor - \$2,000**
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 - Promotional materials inclusion
- ◆ **Community Sponsor - \$250**
 - Name listed in program
 - Community sponsor recognition
- ◆ **Vendor Tables - \$200/\$250**
 - Chamber members: \$200, Non-members: \$250

Contact David Lapiere, Executive Director, to secure your sponsorship.
email: director@beachwood.org • phone: 216-831-0003

From the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

BCC Women's Coffee Hour

Thursday, April 9

8:30-9:30 a.m.

Homewood Suites • Beachwood

Members: No charge

Non-members: \$10

Guest Speaker Dorinda Byers, business development consultant at the Ohio Auditor of State, will speak on the topic of Time Management.

BCC Women's Coffee Hour

Thursday, May 14

8:30-9:30 a.m.

Beachwood Community Center

Members: No charge

Non members: \$10

Guest speaker Manny Hall, brand strategist, marketing consultant, and CEO of Manny Hall & Associates, will explain how to clarify brand messaging; the difference between being busy and being positioned; simple strategies to turn networking and visibility into real revenue; and how to build trust and authority without relying on ads.

BCC Luncheon

Wednesday, May 20

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Aloft Cleveland Beachwood

Note: Individual lunches will be provided by Harvest Owl. A link to choose your lunch will be sent to you on May 11.

Guest speaker Matt Dolan, CEO of Team NEO, will discuss Team NEO's role of seeing the big picture by aligning and amplifying the economic development work happening locally toward a shared goal of creating jobs and building prosperity.

Team NEO provides big metropolitan areas, small towns, and economic development organizations data-driven insights, marketing assets, and more to make them more competitive in attracting and growing business.

Plus, as the designated JobsOhio Network Partner for Northeast Ohio, Team NEO provides open communication and a connection to state-level resources.

BCC Health & Wellness of Business Summit

Wednesday, April 22

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

This half-day summit is focused on strengthening both you and your business in today's evolving marketplace. It will bring together respected local experts, a featured keynote speaker, and an engaging panel discussion centered on the issues that matter most to modern business leaders.

Topics will include business health and sustainability, medical wellness, mental health and stress management, financial wellness, technology and AI integration, and cultivating a strong, resilient workplace culture.

This summit is designed to deliver practical, actionable insights that you can implement immediately – whether you are leading a small business, managing a growing team, or guiding long-term strategic planning.

Attendees will gain valuable perspectives, connect with fellow professionals, and walk away with tools to support sustainable growth and organizational strength.

To register, visit www.beachwood.org/events or scan the code on the opposite page.

Strong minds build strong businesses. And strong businesses build strong communities.



She's always been your anchor.



Together, let's navigate her care.

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

WE CAN HELP.

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



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

The Mayor's Message Moving Beachwood Forward

Dear Beachwood Residents & Businesses,

It was a pleasure to welcome nearly 150 business leaders, community partners, and residents to this year's Mayor's Business Reception and State of the City Address, on Wednesday, March 11. The evening provided an opportunity not only to reflect on Beachwood's accomplishments in 2025 but also to reaffirm the partnerships that continue to move our community forward.



Held at UH Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute

My sincere thanks to the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce for supporting this annual event and to the outstanding team at University Hospitals Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute for hosting us. I also want to thank Debby Rapoport for writing this month's cover story, capturing the spirit of the evening and the shared commitment that defines Beachwood.

As I shared during the address, Beachwood's success is the result of collaboration — among civic leadership, city departments, engaged residents, and a strong local business community. Together, we are ensuring that Beachwood remains a premier community where people can work, live, learn, and thrive.

In 2025, the city made meaningful progress across several areas that directly impact residents' daily lives. Public safety remained a top priority, with continued investments in training, technology, and community-based initiatives that strengthen trust and responsiveness. Our Police and Fire Departments responded to thousands of calls while expanding programs that enhance safety, preparedness, and accessibility.

Infrastructure improvements also continued throughout the city, including major sewer and water projects, road reconstruction, sidewalk replacement, and innovative sustainability efforts such

as Ohio's first municipal solar streetlight pilot program. These projects improve mobility, reliability, and quality of life while preparing Beachwood for long-term resilience.



Economically, Beachwood continued to attract new companies, support local businesses, and invest strategically in future growth. The acquisition of nearly 43 acres in the Chagrin Highlands business district represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to strengthen our economic base, create jobs, and expand amenities for residents.

Equally important are the programs and events that bring our community together. In 2025, Community Services offerings welcomed nearly 21,000 participants — a 38% increase over the previous year, demonstrating the strong sense of connection that defines Beachwood.

If you were unable to attend the Business Reception, I encourage you to review the State of the City materials available online, including the digital flipbook and the video presentation shown during the event. These resources provide a comprehensive overview of where we are today and where we are headed.



Scan the code or visit BeachwoodOhio.com.

Beachwood's future is bright because of you — our residents, volunteers, business owners, and community partners. Thank you for your continued engagement and for helping make Beachwood such an exceptional place to call home.

Sincerely,

Mayor Justin Berns
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com

Beachwood City Council



How To Email A Council Member: 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
216.292.1965

LAW
216.595.5462

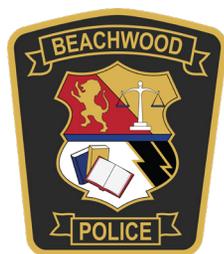
MAYOR'S OFFICE
216.292.1901

POLICE
216.464.2343

PUBLIC WORKS
216.292.1922

EMERGENCY
Dial 9-1-1 or
216.464.1234

Beachwood Police Department Earns National CALEA Accreditation



The Beachwood Police Department has achieved national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), marking a significant milestone that reflects the department's commitment to professional excellence, accountability, and community trust.

Established in 1979, CALEA is a nationally recognized credentialing authority for public safety agencies. Accreditation signifies that a department has met hundreds of professional standards designed to strengthen operations, improve accountability, and promote best practices in policing.

Becoming CALEA-accredited is a voluntary and rigorous process that typically spans four years and includes extensive policy development, comprehensive self-assessment, independent evaluations, and ongoing compliance reporting.

"Earning CALEA accreditation represents a tremendous accomplishment for our department," said Beachwood Police Chief Dan Grispino. "Our officers and staff worked diligently to review policies, strengthen procedures, and ensure we meet the highest national standards. This accreditation reinforces our commitment to providing the safest and most professional service possible to the residents and businesses of Beachwood."

Mayor Justin Berns praised the department's achievement and the dedication required to complete the process.

"This accreditation is a powerful reflection of the professionalism and integrity of the Beachwood Police Department," Berns said. "Our residents expect and deserve the highest standards of public safety, and CALEA accreditation demonstrates that our department meets and exceeds nationally recognized benchmarks for policing."

Accreditation strengthens accountability, reduces liability risks, and enhances community partnerships. To mark the achievement, the City of Beachwood will add official CALEA accreditation decals to each Beachwood Police Department vehicle.



Left to right: Craig Hartley Jr., CALEA Executive Director; Kenneth Zbiegien, Accreditation Manager; Dan Grispino, Police Chief; Matthew Packard, CALEA Commissioner

STAY ENGAGED IN YOUR COMMUNITY:



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

Beachwood Police Welcomes Officer Michael Idov



Left to right: Chief Grispino, Officer Idov, Mayor Berns

The Beachwood Police Department is pleased to welcome Michael Idov as its newest officer.

Officer Idov joins us after serving four years with the City of Akron Police Department. During his time there, he was an active member of both the department's Peer Support Team and Mobile Field Force, demonstrating his commitment to supporting fellow officers and serving the community.

Michael brings valuable experience and dedication to the Beachwood Police Department. He resides in Mayfield Heights with his fiancée, Lauren, and his three children.

COOKOUT with COPS

Wednesday, May 13

Beachwood Playground

FREE: 4:30-6:30 pm

*Kosher options available.

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
April 6 at 7:00 p.m.
April 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
April 30 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

Beachwood Fire Department Partners with American Red Cross to Provide Free Smoke Detectors



The Beachwood Fire Department is partnering with the American Red Cross to help improve home safety by providing and installing free smoke detectors for residents in need.

According to a survey conducted for the Red Cross, many people overestimate how much time they have to escape a burning home. Fire experts say residents may have as little as two minutes to safely escape once a fire starts.

However, the survey found that 62% of Americans mistakenly believe they have at least five minutes, more than twice the time they may have.

Working smoke alarms provide an early warning that can make a life-saving difference. In fact, homes with functioning smoke detectors can cut the risk of death from a home fire in half.

Through this partnership, the Beachwood Fire Department and the American Red Cross aim to ensure that every home has working smoke detectors, helping residents be better prepared to respond quickly in the event of a fire.

Residents who need smoke detectors installed are encouraged to contact the American Red Cross at 216-361-5535 or scan the QR code for more information about the program.



American Red Cross **SOUND THE ALARM**
Save a Life

Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death from home fires in half.

That's why the American Red Cross is partnering with fire departments and other partners to install **FREE** smoke alarms in your community.

To request a smoke alarm, scan the QR code below and fill out the form



You can also call **216-361-5535** to request a smoke alarm installation. Leave a message and clearly state your first and last name, full address and phone number. We will follow-up as quickly as we can, based on availability.

Please note the Red Cross does not provide carbon monoxide (CO) detectors.

Learn more at
SoundTheAlarm.org/noh

FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY:

Friday, May 8 | 3:00-6:00 p.m. | Fairmount Temple Property (23737 Fairmount Blvd.)

Free for residents, ID required. Please use paper bags and banker boxes only, no blue grocery bags.

Celebrate Trails Day & Bike-With-a-Mayor on April 25



Beachwood residents are invited to celebrate the region's growing trail network at Celebrate Trails Day and the Bike-With-a-Mayor kick-off on Saturday, April 25, from 1–3 p.m. at Pepper Pike City Hall, located at 28000 Shaker Blvd.

This year's event is co-hosted by the cities of Beachwood, Pepper Pike, and Shaker Heights in partnership with Bike Cleveland and the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners. The celebration will highlight the opening of the new Gates Mills Boulevard Trail

and the history of Beachwood's City Parks East and West and Shaker Median Trails, three key connections in the region's growing greenway network.

Participants can choose from a longer guided bike ride, a shorter ride, or a relaxed walk along the trails, making it a great opportunity for residents of all ages and abilities to get outside and explore. Mayor Berns and Beachwood leaders will join fellow mayors and community members for the Bike-With-a-Mayor ride to kick off the afternoon.

All activities begin and end at Pepper Pike City Hall. After the ride or walk, participants are invited to stay for light refreshments and time to socialize with neighbors and trail supporters.



Throwing a block party, building connection with your neighbors, and enhancing community safety has never been easier or more fun!

The City of Beachwood makes block parties easy with a free supply trailer delivered right to your street. The trailer includes pop-up tents, tables, chairs, coolers, lawn games, a selfie frame, and more. The city will even assist with the closure of your street for the event. Reservations are free and can be booked online at BeachwoodRec.com beginning April 13. Only two supply trailers available per weekend.

Keeping Your Tree Healthy

The birds are chirping, the days are getting longer and many will be starting landscape projects. Mulch can either be your tree's best friend or a slow death.

Volcano mulching leads to a multitude of issues including root rot, decay of the trunk, pest infestation, weakened roots, nutrient deficiencies and tree death. Proper mulching should be 2 - 4 inches deep, keeping it away from the tree trunk. It should resemble a donut with little to no mulch in the middle near the tree trunk and a thicker layer along the perimeter of the mulch bed. Not only do trees keep Beachwood attractive, but they also play a vital role in the ecosystem.

SAY NO TO THE VOLCANO!

Volcano mulching leads to death of the tree.

Proper mulching will keep your tree happy and healthy.

NO

YES

Questions? 216.292.1922

CITY OF *Beachwood*

The Do on Dog Doo

With spring here, comes lots of rainfall. Dog waste is a contributor to many water-quality problems. When it rains, the runoff takes just about everything off the ground with it, including but not limited to lawn chemicals, litter, road salt, debris, cigarette butts and bacteria from dog waste.

It's Your Doo-ty

Please carry a bag and pick up after your pets.

POOP POLLUTES!

Do something paw-sitive for our streams and rivers!

Cleaning up after your pet is a simple way to help keep our neighborhoods, local waterways and Lake Erie clean. An average pile of dog waste produces 3 billion fecal coliform bacteria. Dog waste can also contain other bacteria such as

E. coli, salmonella and giardia. Dog waste is not a fertilizer; doggies eat a high protein diet that results in highly acidic waste. Please do not drop your dog's waste into the storm drain. Storm drains flow directly to local streams, not a wastewater treatment plant.

Always take a bag with you, biodegradable preferred, on your walks and scoop that waste! Just scoop it, bag it, and throw it in the trash. That is the right do on the doo!



Spring Loose Leaf Removal

Loose leaf removal will officially begin the first week of April, weather permitting, and will run throughout the entire month of April. Prior to placing loose leaves out for collection on or after April 27, please call and verify loose leaf removal is still operating.

Questions? Call Beachwood Public Works at 216.292.1922.



Help Save Our Pollinators

As temperatures begin to warm, people are getting their gardens ready for early spring planting.

While the removal of leaf and brush debris may not seem detrimental, it could have a huge impact on the pollinator population for the upcoming year.

Experts advise waiting a couple of extra weeks to help boost the pollinator population, postpone clean-up until a solid week of daytime highs at least in the 50s. Pollinators such as butterflies and bees overwinter in leaves and dead plant stems. Being patient permits new little bugs to hatch naturally.



Beachwood Earns Prestigious Finance Award

The City of Beachwood has earned the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), for 2024.

This is the highest honor in governmental accounting and financial reporting. Established in 1945, the program recognizes state and local governments that go beyond standard accounting requirements to produce annual comprehensive financial reports demonstrating transparency and full disclosure. This is the 27th time the city has earned this GFOA award.



April Recreation Guide

Time to Dive In: Your BFAC Summer Rundown

After a long winter, we're ready to trade in snowflakes for sunshine at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center. Whether you're a morning lap swimmer, planning your after-work relaxation, or looking forward to fun family weekends, here is everything you need to know in preparation for our May 23 opening day.



BFAC Resident Memberships

Resident memberships go on sale beginning Monday, April 6, in person at Beachwood City Hall, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Early bird rates offer 20% savings through May 22. Select evening and weekend membership sales will also be offered for your convenience. Those dates and times will be announced at BeachwoodRec.com.

Please remember to bring two forms of resident identification to purchase membership. A current driver's license and utility bill are preferred. As a reminder, only two adults 26 and over per residential address are permitted on a membership. Additional adults 26 and over living at home must purchase their own membership with valid ID.

Membership	Early Bird (4/6-5/22)	Summer Rate
Individual	\$60	\$72
Family of 2	\$115	\$138
Family of 3	\$165	\$198
Family of 4	\$175	\$210
Senior (60+)	\$35	\$42
Care Provider	\$160	\$200

Children 3 and under are free. Additional family members beyond four are \$25/each during the early bird period and \$30/each during summer.

Care Provider Pass

Formerly the Governess membership, the Care Provider Pass allows access to BFAC only when caring for the designated BFAC member, with or without the parent(s) present. Early bird discounts apply to this membership.

Same-Gender Swimming

Due to the popularity and success in 2025, same-gender swimming will return on the same schedule. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m., and Sundays, 9:00-10:30 a.m., on an alternating schedule. Same-gender swimming is included with membership. Daily drop-in rates and the non-resident policy apply.

BFAC Splash Parties

Splash parties are available to BFAC members only with booking beginning on April 6. For \$100, splash parties include 10 admission wristbands and use of the pavilion with eight picnic tables. Additional wristbands are \$6 each. Splash parties are offered on Saturdays and Sundays only, in two time slots: 12:00-3:00 p.m. or 4:00-7:00 p.m.



Aqua Aerobics Cardio Stretch

Instructor Paula Flauto returns for our popular aqua aerobics class! Enjoy a fun mix of cardio moves followed by big stretches ideal for the mind and body. Classes will be held on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. beginning June 10. Registration for each class will open seven days prior at 8:00 a.m. Classes are free for members, \$5 for residents, and \$10 for non-residents. Capacity is limited.

BFAC Pool Party Nights

Not one, not two, but three BFAC Pool Party Nights are coming your way this summer! Mark your calendar for June 24 (Sunset Fiesta), July 30 (Smiles & Splashes), and Aug. 12 (Beach Bash). More details coming soon.

Instructor Spotlight: Julie Matthews



Spring 2026 marks Julie Matthews' fifth year and 12th production as Director of Beachwood Community Theater, with this May's *Bubblebaloo* performance.

For Julie, the reward goes beyond the stage. "What I enjoy the most is seeing how acting has influenced their development. Watching these kids shine in the spotlight, grow into themselves, becoming confident and talented people has been an extremely rewarding experience."

The program also connects students to real industry opportunities. Recently, a group of Beachwood students recorded voices for a children's audiobook at a professional studio.

Julie's credentials are extensive including studying at the Actors Studio under Lee Strasberg, with credits including *A Christmas Story* and *Major League* among many others. She is the founder of the American Performing Arts Network (est. 1993) and a professional vocalist with The PopTarts, a popular 60s girls group.

Niagara-on-the-Lake; Aug. 24-26



Prince of Wales Hotel

Experience the charm, culture, and beauty of Niagara-on-the-Lake on this unforgettable summer getaway. From August 24-26, enjoy world-class theater at the Shaw Festival, a Grand Lady Cruise in Buffalo, a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House, elegant accommodations at the historic Prince of Wales Hotel, and deluxe motor coach transport. This three-day escape blends relaxation, entertainment, and exploration into one extraordinary trip.

The rate for a single traveler is \$1,360 or \$1,110 per person for double occupancy. Full payment and registration due July 10 at BeachwoodRec.com or call 216.292.1970.

6.09 DEVN7 BAND
Rock, Blues, Funk, & Soul

6.16 THE 4 KINGS & THE QUEEN
Motown, Soul, & Classic R&B

6.23 CHAGRIN RIVER BAND
The Best of Classic Rock

6.30 BLUE LUNCH
Soul, Blues, Jazz, & Swing

7.07 CHEESEBURGER LITE
Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band

7.14 BACKTRAXX BAND
Soul, Motown, Dance Rock (60s-80s)

7.21 ASHLEY WINELAND
Nationally Touring Country Artist

7.28 NITEBRIDGE
Upbeat Blues & Rock

FREE: Tuesdays, 6:30-8 PM
Beachwood Family Aquatic Center

*Bring chairs or blankets. Concessions available.
Inclement Weather Location: Community Center*

Beachwood Seniors

- **Bingo Bonanza**
Monday, April 13, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Community Center
A fun and friendly game to connect with friends. Sponsored by King David Center. Residents are \$6, non-residents are \$7.
- **Stay Scam Smart**
Wednesday, April 22, 1:00-2:00 p.m., Community Center
Valuable tips to spot scams and fraud with Deanna from Kemper House and Lt. Owens of Beachwood Police.
- **Spring Mahj Tournament**
Monday, May 11, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Community Center
Back by popular request! Registration includes snacks and prizes. Just \$19 for residents and \$22 for non-residents.

April Meet & Eat

Debbie Darling Quartet
Thursday, April 16, Noon, Community Center

Residents \$14, Non-Residents \$17, Program Only \$6
Register by April 10.

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of live music featuring Debbie Darling and her jazz quartet. They deliver an elegant blend of timeless jazz standards and smooth contemporary favorites. The group captivates audiences with rich vocals and a sophisticated sound.

Meal choice includes chicken fresco salad (grilled chicken breast, arugula, tomato and red onion, with pesto aioli and balsamic glaze) or pierogi stuffed with potato and cheddar, sour cream and a cucumber salad. Served with a roll, beverage, and dessert. Gluten-free option available. Sponsored by Cornerstone Caregiving.

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New Podcast Episodes Showcase Acts of Community Care



Catherine Bieterman (left) with Stuart and Susan Muszynski from Kindland.



Catherine Bieterman (left) with Sawyer Borland and Ela Sasmaz from Hop in my Spot.

The Beachwood Business Compass Podcast has released two new episodes showcasing how compassion and innovation are making a difference in our community.

The first episode highlights Kindland: Celebrating Everyday Acts of Kindness, a growing movement encouraging people to recognize and share stories of everyday compassion. As the nation approaches its 250th anniversary in July, Kindland's mission is to strengthen communities by making kindness visible — from neighbors helping neighbors to businesses and volunteers giving back.

The second episode features Beachwood High School's Junior Achievement and marketing students who turned a class project into a mission-driven startup supporting children in local hospitals. Their student-run initiative, Hop in my Spot, provides care packages filled with comforting items and an original, self-published children's book designed to inspire hope and bravery. The project demonstrates how young entrepreneurs can use business as a force for good. Hear them on the podcast and attend their family fun fest on April 11, 1:00-3:00 p.m., at the Beachwood Community Center.

Both episodes are available now and offer powerful examples of how small actions and big ideas can create meaningful impact.



Celebrating a New Healing Space in Beachwood

We're proud to welcome Circle of Pink Sistership, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, to the City of Beachwood with the grand opening of their new location at 23980 Chagrin Blvd. Founded five years ago by Archelle Bloodworth, the organization provides a supportive healing circle for individuals fighting or overcoming breast and other cancers through emotional support, prayer, and community resources. The organization's message is clear and inspiring: This journey requires strength, hope, and community — be brave, be bold, and never give up. Congratulations on this meaningful milestone.

OhioX Dinner Drives Innovation



The City of Beachwood recently partnered with OhioX, a nonprofit organization that connects, promotes, and advocates for Ohio's tech growth. Together with their coalition of leading tech companies and Beachwood's

tech-based organizations, we launched a vibrant technology dinner club, filling local restaurants and creating an energizing space for connection and collaboration throughout the city.

Leaders from Ohio's rapidly growing technology companies gathered for meaningful networking conversations, sparking dynamic discussions about industry growth, innovation, and the future opportunities shaping our region's tech ecosystem. It was an inspiring evening that showcased the strength of Ohio and Beachwood's technology community and the power of bringing great minds together around the table.



A group of attendees enjoying the OhioX Dinner Club.

*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

Sing Along with NCJW

Enjoy an afternoon of song and fun at the Elderclass Luncheon at noon, on May 7, at Beachwood High School

A joyful new chapter in community entertainment has begun. Two beloved performing groups of National Council of Jewish Women/CLE – EntertainMobile and The High Notes– have officially combined forces to create one vibrant inclusive program: Sing Along with NCJW.

Directors Rhona Jacobson and Lynn Kleinman envisioned a musical experience that would welcome everyone, not just seasoned performers. Their idea was simple yet inspired – a sing-along group where participation is easy, pressure-free, and above all, fun.

Unlike traditional performance ensembles, Sing Along with NCJW requires no rehearsals. Every participant – both performers and audience members – receives a songbook containing the lyrics to every selection. The result is an interactive musical gathering where everyone becomes a part of the show from the very first note.

At noon, on May 7, the community is invited to experience Sing Along with NCJW at Beachwood's Elderclass luncheon at Beachwood High School (additional details boxed in).

"We realized that many people love to sing but don't want the commitment of weekly rehearsals," said the directors. "Everyone's spirits are lifted by sharing music, trivia, and fun stories regarding the music that we love. By putting the words in everyone's hands, we remove the barriers and keep the joy."

The repertoire features familiar favorites spanning Broadway hits, classic standards,

popular tunes, and seasonal songs that people already know and love. This shared musical experience creates an immediate sense of connection, nostalgia, and pure enjoyment.

The new combined group continues the long tradition of NCJW/CLE's entertainment outreach while expanding its accessibility. Whether someone considers themselves a strong singer or simply enjoys humming along, all are welcome.

Sing Along with NCJW is more than a performance, it's a community celebration that brings together voices, laughter, memories, and friendship in a format designed to lift spirits and bring people together through music.

Programs are ideal for community centers, senior residences, nursing homes, memory facilities, social groups, and special events, offering lively entertainment that invites everyone to participate.

For those who believe that singing should be fun, inclusive, and shared, Sing Along With NCJW hits exactly the right note!

Come for the music. Stay for the camaraderie. Leave with a song in your heart.

If you're interested in joining Sing Along with NCJW or booking a sing-along event, email Rhona at rhona4books@gmail.com.



Rhona Jacobson and Lynn Kleinman (front) perform with members of Sing Along with NCJW in December at Eton. There are currently 59 members in the group.

About ElderClass

ElderClass is a community program designed especially for senior adults, offering monthly "lunch and learn" events at Beachwood High School. Guests enjoy a three-course lunch prepared and served by Culinary Arts students in the Beachwood Bistro, followed by musical or educational entertainment.

Lunch begins at noon, with the program starting at 1:15 p.m. Cost is \$7 for Beachwood residents and \$10 for non-residents, with advance reservations required. The entertainment portion is free and open to the public.

ElderClass provides a welcoming opportunity for seniors to gather for great food, engaging programs, and meaningful community connection.

For more information or to make a reservation, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ElderClass> or call Julie Felder at 216.464.2600, ext. 2203.



SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME THIS SPRING!

Special advertising section starts on page 37



BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Record 11 Seniors Named National Merit Finalists



Front Row (L-R): Dotan Dana, Charlotte Doughty, Karina Krishnan, Anna Tonyushkin
Middle Row (L-R): Jiahe Liu, Tony Zheng, Junbo Wang
Back Row (L-R): Leo Wang, Aliaksei Sharakou, Shamith Murthy, Leo Kuenzler

Beachwood High School seniors Dotan Dana, Charlotte Doughty, Karina Krishnan, Leo Kuenzler, Jiahe Liu, Shamith Murthy, Aliaksei Sharakou, Anna Tonyushkin, Junbo Wang, Leo Wang, and Tony Zheng have been named National Merit Finalists. It is the highest number National Merit Finalists in school history and they are among the approximately 15,000 high school students nationwide who have been named Finalists in the 2026 program. As Finalists, these students now advance in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, with approximately 7,500 students nationwide expected to be named National Merit Scholars this spring.

"We are proud of our 11 seniors who have been selected as National Merit Finalists," BHS principal Paul Chase said. "This distinction reflects not only their exceptional academic accomplishment, but also their dedication and commitment to excellence. We wish them continued success as they move forward in the program."



Lunar New Year Celebration

The Beachwood Schools Chinese Family Affinity Group and AAPI student club hosted a Lunar New Year Celebration on March 1. The event brought together students, families, and community members for an evening filled with culture, tradition, and joy.

Held at Beachwood High School, the evening opened with an impressive lineup of performances, beginning with dynamic presentations of the Lion Dance and the Dragon Dance. Those were followed by a mother-daughter performance of "Blue and White Porcelain," and a traditional dance "Dearest One." The show concluded with a variety of musical performances, including selections from the orchestra, a high-energy dance performance by SuperChill, and the Youth Choir which closed the show with four songs.

The performance portion of the night was hosted by BHS students Leo Wang, Srishti Ithycanda, Joseph Mo, and Sarah Zhou, who guided the audience through the program. Following the performances, guests enjoyed dinner together and participated in a street fair that created opportunities to learn, share traditions, and build community.

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES



Recent News

- Reviewed results from Climate Survey
- Received update on Nutrition Standards
- Heard presentation from Junior Achievement Program about *Hop In My Spot*
- Set 2027 tax rates

Upcoming Board Actions

- Report on move-in to new Hilltop building
- Update from Technology Committee

Board Meeting Calendar

- Monday, April 13 @ 7 p.m.
- Monday, April 27 @ 7 p.m.



**VIEW AGENDAS
& MINUTES**

www.beachwoodschoools.org/BOE

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Dr. Josephine Chan · (216) 235-1129 · jchan@beachwoodschoo ls.org
Rini Ghosh · (631) 629-9441 · rghosh@beachwoodschoo ls.org
Wendy Leatherberry · (216) 409-2211 · wleatherberry@beachwoodschoo ls.org



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Student Artwork on Display at Beachwood Schools K-12 Art Show



The annual Beachwood Schools K-12 Art Show, sponsored by Beachwood Arts Council, is once again set to transform the Beachwood Community Center into a vibrant and colorful gallery, celebrating the talents and creativity of Beachwood students. Opening night takes place on April 30 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Family, friends, and community members are invited to experience the exhibit, which will remain on display through May 26, offering multiple opportunities for visitors to attend.

This year's art show features works from students in every grade level across the district. A wide variety of pieces will be on display, including colorful collages, sculptures, paintings, and advanced portfolio pieces. Organized by the district's four art teachers – Heather Grano, Chunny Hahn, Rachel Hartwig, and Sarah Krieger – the show represents months of planning, instruction, and collaboration. Whether you stop by on opening night, or visit another time during the exhibition, the K-12 Art Show will provide a firsthand look at how the arts continue to enrich learning around the district.

Neurodiversity Festival on April 12

Beachwood families and community members are invited to come together for the Neurodiversity Festival: Celebrating Minds of All Kinds on Sunday, April 12, from 2:00–5:00 p.m. at Beachwood High School. Hosted by the Beachwood Schools Neurodiversity Family Network, this free, family-friendly event celebrates the many ways people think, learn, and experience the world. The event includes a student talent showcase, cardio drumming mini-classes, art and music therapy sessions, face painting, games, raffles, and a mobile sensory space. Visitors can also meet a therapy dog, connect with the Beachwood Police Department to learn about their Blue Envelope Program and K-9 Unit, and enjoy performances by the Bison theater program and the Chamber Strings Orchestra.

CVC Empower Sports Day

Beachwood High School welcomed students from across the Chagrin Valley Conference for an inspiring day of inclusion, teamwork, and community at the Empower Sports Day on Feb. 11 in the BHS gymnasium. Empower Sports is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of athletes with diverse challenges through sports and exercise while promoting kindness, character, and meaningful relationships.

Throughout the morning, students rotated through a variety of activity stations, including basketball, football, kickball, and track. The rotations allowed participants to experience multiple sports in a supportive environment filled with encouragement from peers, volunteers, and staff. After each group had a chance to rotate through each station, participants gathered for a pizza lunch where they shared highlights from the day.



EVENTS CALENDAR



Elderclass

April 9, 12:00-2:30 p.m.
Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Neurodiversity Family Network Event

April 12, 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

BHS Spring Musical

April 17-18, 7:00 p.m.; April 19, 2:00 p.m.
Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.



VIEW THE FULL CALENDAR

www.beachwoodschoo ls.org/calendar

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

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Winter Sports Recap

Swimming & Diving

The Bison swimming and diving team completed the best season in program history with a record 10 student-athletes qualifying to compete in 13 events at the OHSAA Division II State Championships. The boys team finished fourth in the state for the second consecutive year after winning its seventh straight conference crown and placing second at districts. The girls team won its first conference title in program history.



State Championship Results

100 Breast: Derek Fan, State Runner-Up

100 Fly: Derek Fan, third place

200 Medley Relay: Derek Fan, Max Rose, Ben Keyerleber, Colin Elwell, third place

200 Free Relay: Derek Fan, Ben Keyerleber, Colin Elwell, Samuel Park, fourth place

200 Free: Colin Elwell, sixth place

100 Free: Colin Elwell, eighth place

200 IM: Ben Keyerleber, 12th place

400 Free Relay: Samuel Park, Ethan Dong, Nicholas Cheng, Sam Kuenzler, 15th place

100 Breaststroke: Ben Keyerleber, 18th place

200 IM: Flora Fan, 20th place

Diving: Alma Saltzman, 21st place

100 Fly: Max Rose, 26th place

200 IM: Ethan Dong, 31st place

OHSAA Boys Division II Coach of the Year: Brad Burget

Photo by Tim Phillis



Wrestling

Senior Caleb Greenwood made history at the OHSAA State Wrestling Championships, winning the state title at 157 pounds, marking his second consecutive state championship. Greenwood, who won the 150-pound bracket last year, won his first match with a 20-3 technical fall and advanced to the semifinals with a pin. He claimed a 4-2 win in the semifinals before clinching the state title with a 20-4 technical fall. Freshman Phoenix Peters (106 pounds) and sophomore Justin Elwell (150 pounds) also advanced to the state meet. All three student-athletes won CVC and sectional titles.

On the girls side, senior Brooklyn Pryor (135 pounds) and sophomore Mya Webb (105 pounds) were both district qualifiers and CVC champions.



Cheerleading

The Bisonette cheerleaders celebrated the most successful season in program history, earning a spot at the state meet for the first time ever. The team qualified for the state meet after an impressive performance at the Northeast regional competition where they stood out among more than 50 schools. At the state meet, the Bisonettes placed 11th overall, just eight points shy of third place, solidifying their place among Ohio's top programs.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Robert Hardis, Superintendent · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2201 · rph@beachwoodschoools.org
Matthew Brown, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2211 · mbrown@beachwoodschoools.org
Diana Maher, Assistant Treasurer · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2210 · dmaher@beachwoodschoools.org
Dr. Ken Veon, Assistant Superintendent · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2202 · kev@beachwoodschoools.org
Dr. Jennifer Polak, Director of Pupil Services · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2215 · jpolak@beachwoodschoools.org
Kevin Houchins, Director of Equity & Community Engagement · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2207 · kth@beachwoodschoools.org
Dr. Linda LoGalbo, Director of Curriculum & Instruction · (216) 464-2600 ext. 2208 · lhl@beachwoodschoools.org



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Girls Track & Field Wins Indoor State Title; Boys Place Sixth

The Beachwood High School girls track and field team captured the 2026 Ohio Association of Track & Cross Country Coaches Indoor Track & Field State Championship with 52 points, bettering the runner-up by 23 points. It marks the fifth indoor state title for the girls team in program history. In addition, the BHS boys team placed sixth at the state meet with 20 points.

The girls team crowned four state champions at the meet, including K'Dyn Harris-Tate who won the 60-meters, Kyrsten Ginn who won the 200-meters, Meena Abdul-Basser who claimed the 400-meter title, and the 4x200-meter relay team of Harris-Tate, Marley Readance, Abdul-Basser, and Ginn who won the event for the second straight season. Harris-Tate was also fourth in the 200-meters, while Sasha Kheyfets finished fourth in the 1,600-meters, and Redance was seventh in the 60-meters.

On the boys side, the 4x200-meter relay team of Tristan Brown, Highley Devine, Peter Adobamen, and Luke Warner finished as the state runner-up, while Brown, Adobamen, and Braylon Moultrie placed third in the 4x400-meter relay. Adobamen had a third place finish in the 800-meters for a podium finish, while Warner was 10th in the 200-meters, Diez Williams placed 11th in the 60-meter hurdles, and Brown finished 11th in the 400-meters. The team of Colin Tew, Nolan Walsh, Asher Hardis, and Artiom Tkachenko were 14th in the 4x800-meter relay.

Boys Basketball

The Bison were led by four-year letter-winner CJ Payton, along with fellow senior Ethan Malek who earned team MVP honors. Junior Eriq Walker was named to the all-conference second team. In the final game of the regular season, the Bison knocked off CVC Lake Division champion Geneva.



At the middle school level, the 7th grade boys basketball team finished the year with a 15-2 record and a runner-up finish in the Chagrin Valley Conference.



Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team finished the year with an 11-12 mark. The team, which did not have any seniors, was led by sophomore Zoe Walters who earned First Team All-Chagrin Valley Conference and First Team All-Northeast Lakes District honors after averaging 20.0 points per game. Junior Amaya Brown and sophomore Alison Stephens were both named to the all-league honorable mention team. Ten student-athletes were recognized as scholar-athletes for maintaining a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Women of Mishkan Or to Host First-Ever Area Day of Action

On Sunday, April 12, Women of Mishkan Or will host its first-ever Day of Action, with U.S. Rep. Shontel Brown serving as the keynote speaker, focusing on gender equity. This event is free and open to the public.

"Several featured speakers will address topics including voting rights and suppression, women's health and reproductive rights, violence against women, and gender inequities within the justice system," said event co-chair Paula Dreyfuss. "We are honored to have U.S. Rep. Brown, a lifelong champion of women's rights, as the keynote speaker."

WMO co-president Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger added, "The event is part of the first national Coordinated Day of Community Action and Advocacy organized by Women of Reform Judaism

(WRJ), involving more than 110 sisterhoods across North America, all taking place on April 12."

Education, advocacy, and action on critical issues are key goals of the program. The initiative reflects the Jewish ideal of Tikkun Olam – repairing the world.

"In today's atmosphere of overwhelm and unrest, we hope our attendees will become aware of new resources and discover concrete next steps," WMO co-president Ronna Kaplan added.

WMO aims to inform individuals about pertinent issues through this community forum and help them leave with opportunities and paths to move forward in the social action arena.

Social justice is one of the three pillars of WRJ and therefore one of WMO's guiding principles.

Ronna added, "We feel passionate about providing education, creating meaningful conversations about social justice, and addressing systemic issues, along with social action activities that directly benefit those who are marginalized and/or in need."

The WMO Day of Action will take place from 1-4:30 p.m., on April 12, at Congregation Mishkan Or, 26000 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. The event is free, but pre-registration is required by April 7.

Participants are asked to bring a donation of feminine hygiene products, which will be given to Pride Among Daughters & Sisters, a Cleveland Heights nonprofit dedicated to helping unhoused women and girls.



U.S. Rep. Shontel Brown

For more information or to register, scan the code below or visit <https://mishkanor.shulcloud.com/form/dayofaction>. Women, men, and teens are welcome to attend.



Great Institutions of Cleveland Programs

Presented by CWRU-Siegal Lifelong Learning, Landmark Centre Building, 25700 Science Park Dr., Suite 100, Beachwood

Although Northeast Ohio's preforming arts institutions consistently rank among the world's finest, it's rare to have their directors collectively discuss their organization's mission, vision, challenges, and new programs.

Audiences will now have that opportunity to learn more through the first two series of *Great Institutions of Cleveland: Performing Arts*, presented by Siegal Lifelong Learning at Case Western Reserve University.

The first series will host leadership from many of the region's foremost performing arts organizations.

Friday, April 10 • 10 a.m.

André Gremillet, President and CEO, The Cleveland Orchestra
Rachel Fink, Managing Director, Cleveland Play House
Larry Goodman, Ph.D., President and CEO, Cleveland Ballet

Friday, April 17 • 10 a.m.

Raymond Bobgan, Executive Artistic Director, Cleveland Public Theatre
Brian Barasch, Executive Director, Great Lakes Theater
Aulbrie Kitson, Executive Director, Maltz Performing Arts Center

Friday, April 24 • 10 a.m.

Craig Hassall, President and CEO, Playhouse Square
Tony F. Sias, President and CEO, Karamu House

Great Institutions of Cleveland: Performing Arts will be presented on Fridays, from April 10-24, as a three-session series. The panel discussions will be moderated by John Grabowski, Case Western Reserve University professor of history and editor of *The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*. He is also historian and senior vice president for research and

publications at the Western Reserve Historical Society.

The second series, *Great Institutions of Cleveland: Jewish Organizations*, held on June 9, will be moderated by Sean Martin, Ph.D., associate curator for Jewish History at the Western Reserve Historical Society. This special session will highlight the contributions and contemporary visions of leading Jewish cultural and community institutions in Northeast Ohio, including the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, and Mandel Jewish Community Center.

The new sessions build on the strong community response to the program's inaugural season. "Programs like *Great Institutions of Cleveland* exemplify Siegal Lifelong Learning's mission to

foster dialogue that connects scholarship to community," said Siegal's executive director Ted Evans. "By spotlighting the leaders who shape this region's cultural fabric, we are proud to offer experiences that are both intellectually rich and deeply rooted in place."

Both sessions offer options for in-person and remote participation, continuing Siegal Lifelong Learning's commitment to accessible, community-engaged programming.

For more information, visit case.edu/lifelonglearning or contact Siegal Lifelong Learning at 216.368.2091 or lifelonglearning@case.edu.



SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME THIS SPRING!



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

Declutter and Organize

- A tidy home creates a peaceful environment. Discard, donate, repurpose, or store items to clear space and reduce stress.

Design for Relaxation

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

Bring the Outdoors In

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

Lawn Care

- A vibrant lawn is one of the most noticeable ways to enhance a home's appearance. Expert lawn care services promote thicker, greener grass while controlling weeds and pests, helping homeowners maintain beautiful, healthy outdoor spaces all season long.

Home Comfort and Efficiency

- HVAC maintenance and upgrades will ensure your heating and cooling system is in top shape. Schedule maintenance, replace filters, or upgrade to an energy-efficient unit.

Interior Upgrades and Shopping

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



Selling Your Home?

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



Benefits of Enhancing Your Living Environment

- **Reduces Stress and Anxiety** – A clutter-free, serene environment promotes relaxation and mental clarity.
- **Boosts Productivity** – An organized space minimizes distractions, helping you focus and stay efficient.
- **Encourages Restful Sleep** – A calming bedroom environment improves sleep quality and relaxation.
- **Supports Healthy Living** – Clean, clutter-free spaces reduce allergens and promote better physical health.
- **Creates a Welcoming Atmosphere** – A beautifully designed home invites comfort and connection with family and friends.
- **Reflects Personal Style** – Thoughtful décor and organization make your space uniquely yours.
- **Promotes Mindfulness** – Living in a harmonious space encourages presence and appreciation of your surroundings.
- **Provides a Sanctuary From the Outside World** – Your home becomes a true retreat where you can recharge and feel at peace.

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Buying or Selling This Spring?

Get Your Home Ready to Sell In This Busy Market

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

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

Clothing is usually the first to go. If you have not worn it in a year or two, let it go. There are many organizations in need of gently-worn clothing, and there are resale and consignment stores as an alternative when getting rid of things.

If you're getting rid of books, local libraries are a great resource for disposal. They regularly have book sales and would love to include them in their inventory.

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



Recent Sale - 25219 Duffield Rd.

home is sold; and, if you have difficulties sorting through items, you may want to hire a professional organizer to help you. I can advise you on who to consider.

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

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

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

~ Sharon Friedman

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Sharon's Recent Beachwood Sales & Listings

- JUST SOLD 3/26: 2660 Ramsay Road list \$499,000
- JUST SOLD 2/26: 25805 Fairmount #107 Fairmount list \$399,900
- JUST SOLD IN 7 DAYS 12/25: 25219 Duffield Road list \$665,000
- JUST SOLD 12/25: 2172 Lyndway Road list \$450,000
- JUST SOLD 12/25: 27500 Cedar #305 in Point East list \$349,900
- JUST SOLD 11/25: 23420 Wendover Drive list \$650,000
- LISTED/SOLD IN 3 DAYS 11/25: 2500 Deborah Dr list \$550,000
- JUST SOLD 11/25: 23105 E Groveland Road list \$418,000
- JUST SOLD 11/25: 24335 Fairmount Blvd list \$367,500
- JUST SOLD 11/25: 3194 Richmond Rd Wedgewood list \$325,000
- JUST SOLD 10/25: 26701 Bernwood Road list \$799,000
- JUST SOLD 9/25: 25106 Duffield Road list \$745,000
- JUST SOLD 9/25: 27500 Cedar #T8 in Point East list \$475,000
- JUST SOLD 9/25: 2152 Campus Road list \$406,500
- JUST SOLD 9/25: 3152 Richmond in Wedgewood list \$299,000
- JUST SOLD 8/25: 2834 Meldon Road list \$479,900
- JUST SOLD 7/25: 2449 Beachwood Boulevard list \$975,000

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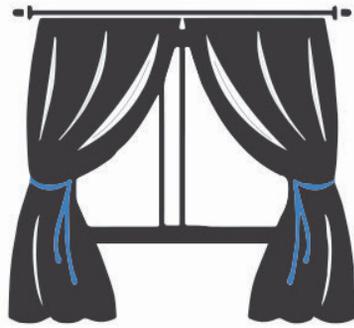
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Beachwood Library Adult Programs

Author Joanna Hardis
Wednesday, April 8 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us when author Joanna Hardis visits to discuss her latest book, *Just Do Nothing* (for parents). Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15307301>.

**The Music of Tony Bennett,
with Debbie Darling**
Friday, April 10 • 2-3 p.m.

Debbie Darling will take you on a musical journey through the life and works of Tony Bennett. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15166738>.

Tuesday Book Chat
Tuesday, April 14 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us for a discussion of *My Name is Emilia del Valle*, by Isabel Allende. Registration is not necessary.

**Beyond the Screen:
Protecting Your Eyes in a Digital World**
Wednesday, April 15 • 10-11 a.m.

Kevin Walker, licensed optician and workstation ergonomist, will address how to protect your eyes from blue light exposure, night strain, and eye fatigue. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15288042>.

Knit & Lit
Monday, April 20 • 6:30-8 p.m.

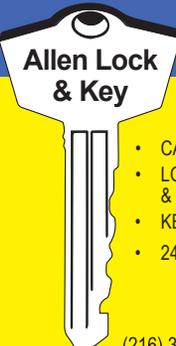
Join us for fiber arts and informal chats about what everyone is reading. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/14583000>.

Author Michelle Park Lazette
Wednesday, April 29 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us when local author Michelle Park Lazette visits to discuss writing and publishing her novel, *The Descended*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15167395>.



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Beachwood Library Children's Programs

- 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
- Play, Learn & Grow**
Thursdays April 2-30 • 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Ages 1-3 with caregiver
A 5-week series where you'll connect with community experts and other families, plus get information about your growing child.
Registration required.
- Hebrew Language Storytime**
Wednesday, April 15 • 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.

- Lil Artists**
Friday, April 17 • 11-11:30 a.m.
Join us for Toddler Art Time, where lil hands explore big creativity! For children ages 2-5. Registration required.
- Alien Invasion! Escape Room**
Tuesday, April 7 • 4-5 p.m.
Grades 4-8
Follow clues and solve hands-on puzzles in this outer space themed escape room.
Registration required.
- Yes Chef!**
Tuesday, April 28 • 4-5 p.m.
For children grades 3-5
Roll up your sleeves, tie up your aprons and try out some fun and super simple recipes! Supplies provided. Registration required.
- To register for these programs, call 216.831.6868 or visit <https://tinyurl.com/BeachwoodLibraryPrograms>.

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 April 3 and May 1. 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 lbtrtyclub@gmail.com or 216.375.9111.





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