

Beachwood Buzz

May 2026

Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month.

MAGAZINE

New District Goals Shaping Student Success



Academic Achievement



Fostering Positive Relationships and Supportive Networks

Growth and Development



EVALUATION



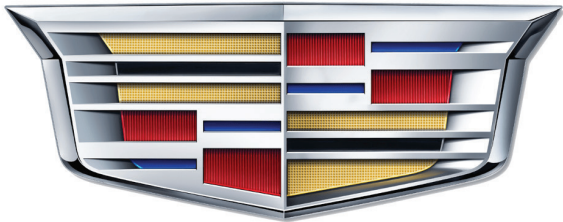
Communication

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Letter from THE EDITOR

By Debby Zelman Rapoport

There's something about looking up at the sky that puts everything into perspective.

We don't need to travel to space to experience moon joy. We each have the ability to choose love for humanity and awe – every day – right here in Beachwood.

On April 10, I read an article in the *New York Times* about NASA's Artemis II mission that made me pause and reflect. It wasn't just about space exploration – it was about something deeper. The astronauts, it said, have shown us many things during their journey: their love for one another and for humanity as a whole; their amazement at what they experienced; and their feeling of "moon joy" – the exhilaration and sense of wonder inspired by seeing the Moon up close.

That phrase stayed with me because now, more than ever, headlines pull us toward division instead of unity. This statement was a refreshing reminder of what's still possible when we choose collaboration over competition and connection over separation, supporting one another and moving forward together.

As the astronauts floated miles above the Earth looking back at our small planet, their personal differences faded into a sense of unity – a reminder that, from that vantage point, we are all simply part of the same story.

How refreshing!

I've always had what some might call a naïve sense of reality. I tend to believe the best in people – until they give me a reason to change my belief. It's

how I'm wired. Over the years, I've realized that there are two ways to move through the world: We can trust first and adjust if needed or we can hold back trust until it's earned.

Both approaches are understandable and both are shaped by experience.

This *NYT* article reinforced a simple truth: Kindness, trust, and collaboration create space for people to rise. It's not just something that is experienced miles above the Earth – it's something we can see and feel right here at home.

Last month I had the privilege of publishing two meaningful events centered on kindness:

- The Family Kindness Festival, held April 26 at Landerhaven, offered a joyful reminder that kindness can strengthen our whole community. By bringing together families, students, and nonprofit organizations, the event created meaningful opportunities to connect and make a real impact.
- The United States of Kindness, a nationwide call to action, reminded us that kindness as a daily practice has the power to shape our communities. Launched on April 24, the initiative invited individuals to take part in 250 acts of kindness over the remaining 250 days of the year. Visit www.usofkindness.org for details.

Whether reflecting on the Artemis II mission, the events recapped from last month's *Beachwood Buzz*, or any initiative rooted in kindness, collaboration, or love for humanity, the message is clear: We each have the power to shape a better world through the choices we make, the compassion we show, and the way we come together. We can:

- **Look at the bigger picture.** Pause, zoom out, and remember what truly matters.
- **Lead with kindness.** Even the smallest gesture can shift someone's day.
- **Assume the best.** Give others the benefit of the doubt – it often brings out their best.
- **Choose connection.** Reach out, check in, and take time to truly listen.
- **Celebrate others.** Lift people up – there's room for all of us to shine.
- **Choose awe.** Notice beauty, gratitude, and moments of wonder daily.
- **Move forward together.** Support one another – progress is stronger when it's shared.

We don't need space travel to experience "moon joy." We each have the ability to choose love for humanity and awe – every day – right here in Beachwood.



“Our mission is to ensure every individual and family we serve receives compassionate, high-quality mental health care that helps them move forward with confidence.”



**Deandra Evans,
M.Ed., LPCC-S
Founder &
Chief Clinical Officer**

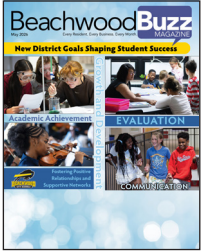
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Cover Story:

New District Goals Shaping Student Success



After an 18-month process that featured careful planning and community input, the Beachwood Schools Board of Education officially approved new district goals and objectives for the 2026-2027 school year at its April 13 meeting. The process brought together students, parents, staff, alumni, and community members to shape a shared vision for the district and promote student success.

Cover story, written by the Beachwood Board of Education, starts on page 7. Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo.

United States of Kindness

The United States of Kindness campaign encourages people to complete 250 acts of kindness in 250 days. Although this initiative began on April 24, with 250 days remaining in the year, it's not too late to start. From checking on a neighbor to writing a note of appreciation or holding the door open for someone, small gestures can have a lasting impact and help create a more compassionate, connected community. For more information, visit usofkindness.org.



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

Article Submissions

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

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General Information

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Community-Wide Tikkun Leil Shavuot 5786

Thursday, May 21 - Friday, May 22, 2026 (7:00 pm - 7:00 am)

B'nai Jeshurun Congregation - 27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike, OH 44124
(select sessions will be streamed)

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TIKKUN
LEILSHAVUOT



FREE and Open to the Community

Come for one session or the entire evening - Doors open at 6:45 pm

Pre-registration Required by Monday, May 18

For full schedule and pre-registration, scan the QR code to the right
or visit <https://www.bnaijeshurun.org/tikkun2026.html>



Highlights Include

Eight sessions with choices of premier teachers, festival services, dessert buffet, breakfast bar, Kabbalistic wedding ceremony, and sunrise services

Our Teachers

include 30+ from across Northeast Ohio, including the following Beachwood residents:

Rabbi Noah Bickart, Elise Braverman-Plotkin, Rabbi Josh Foster, Cheryl Gordon, Bob Jacob, Rabbi Joshua Jacobs, Rabbi Roger C. Klein, Rabbi Shalom Plotkin, Rabbi Scott B. Roland, Rabbi Alex Rosenbaum, Cantor Alyssa Rosenbaum, Rabbi Michael Ross, and Rabbi Dan Utley

Presented by B'nai Jeshurun Congregation

and sponsored by the Estelle & Dr. Milton Rosenberg⁷¹ Tikkun Leil Study Session Fund and 22 co-sponsors, including our Beachwood-based partners: Cleveland Jewish News, Congregation Mishkan Or, Congregation Shaarey Tikvah, Mandel Jewish Day School, Mandel Jewish Community Center, and Suburban Temple Kol Ami

Tikkun Leil Shavuot Committee: Harriet Rosenberg Mann, Richard Berkowitz, Senior Rabbi Hal Rudin-Luria, Rabbi Josh Foster, Zoe Bluffestone

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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.

Academic Achievement

Fostering Positive Relationships and Supportive Networks

EVALUATION

New District Goals Shaping Student Success

Written by the Beachwood Board of Education • Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo

After an 18-month process that featured careful planning and community input, the Beachwood Schools Board of Education officially approved new district goals and objectives for the 2026-2027 school year at its April 13 meeting. The process brought together students, parents, staff, alumni, and community members to shape a shared vision for the district and promote student success.

Through surveys, town halls, and discussions, stakeholders helped identify priorities and opportunities for growth. The final result is a set of goals designed to ensure all students are prepared for their pursuits after graduation. In the

sections below, Board members explain each goal and how it will impact students.

Please visit www.beachwoodschoools.org/our-district/goals for more information about district goals.

DR. JOSEPHINE CHAN

GOAL: Academic Achievement

Academic Achievement is focused on personalized learning that ensures each student receives what they need for a successful learning experience based on their interests and pace of learning. The goal is to help students reach their maximum potential not only in the classroom, but also by discovering their passions and developing a sense of purpose. Ultimately, success is defined not just by performance in school, but by how well students are prepared to achieve their goals and thrive after graduation.

As progress is made toward this goal, the district will continue delivering high-quality, personalized instruction that leads to strong and equitable outcomes for all learners. Students will demonstrate measurable growth, be prepared for life after graduation, and take greater ownership of their own learning through critical thinking and real-world application. In addition, all students will have access to rigorous opportunities that are aligned with their goals. We want excellence to be attainable for everyone.

A key factor in shaping this work was listening to input from different stakeholders. Throughout the process of gathering information, it became clear that we need to look beyond data to develop our goals. The experiences, voices, and values of students, families, staff, alumni, and community members played a vital role



Dr. Josephine Chan presents a diploma to a member of the Class of 2025 during Commencement at Severance Hall.

MEGAN WALSH

GOAL: Growth and Development

What began as the district's Whole Child Development goal has evolved into Growth and Development after incorporating feedback from stakeholders. While the terminology has changed, the ideology remains the same: to positively impact students by recognizing that they learn best when all aspects of their growth are supported and students have access to the support they need to thrive. When students feel supported socially and emotionally, they are able to focus better, stay engaged, and persist through challenges. Prioritizing well-being also helps students build resilience, manage stress, and develop healthy coping strategies.

As we look ahead, progress toward this goal will signal a shift toward a more responsive, student-centered system that supports the overall well-being and development of every child. Over time, this will be reflected in stronger student outcomes, including improved academic performance, increased student engagement, and fewer behavioral concerns. It also involves integrating supports such as social-emotional learning, mental health resources, and personalized instruction practices into daily school life. As a result, the district will be in a better position to meet the diverse needs of all learners, reduce opportunity gaps, and prepare students with the skills and resilience needed for success after graduation.

Throughout the process, I was extremely impressed with the willingness of students, parents, staff, alumni, and community members to engage so openly in surveys and town halls. It was clear that this work matters to our community. People were eager to be heard, but were also genuinely invested in shaping a shared vision for the future.

Our central office administrators played a key role in this process. They are ultimately responsible for translating these goals into action and ensuring they are realized for all students. The perspectives they provided grounded our work, ensuring that goals are not only aspirational, but also strategic, measurable, and achievable. I value the insight, professionalism, and care they consistently bring to student-centered decision making.

The objective that really stands out to me is experiential and service learning at all age levels. It was extremely popular with



Board President Megan Walsh addresses guests at the ribbon cutting for the new Hilltop School.

students, parents, and community members as it brings education to life by connecting classroom content to real-world experiences and community engagement. Opportunities like these will allow students to develop critical thinking, empathy, and a sense of responsibility. This cultivates compassionate, engaged citizens who see themselves as active contributors to their community, ultimately fulfilling the mission of Beachwood City Schools.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Every Beachwood student will benefit from an education that nurtures academic as well as social, emotional and intercultural growth. The district will provide opportunities for students to develop their intellectual curiosity, reasoning, and creativity, along with their mental and physical well-being through academics, the arts, athletics, and other extracurricular experiences. These opportunities will help students discover their potential, reach their goals, engage with and contribute to others, in order to lead fulfilling lives.

CHAN | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

in helping develop the goals and I value the time and knowledge various stakeholders provided.

The town halls we hosted were instrumental in strengthening development of the goals. They allowed all stakeholders to feel heard and included in the process, while also building trust and transparency within the community. Many parents expressed that while being successful in the classroom is important, they also want their children to be well-rounded and view the arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities to be as important as academics. Parents also expressed the desire for their children to be prepared for life after graduation with career exploration and internships.

One objective for this goal is to implement mentoring programs that connect students with older peers who can offer

guidance on navigating academic pressures and social dynamics. These relationships allow younger students to gain confidence, while older students develop leadership skills. Together, these connections help build a supporting, student-led community.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Every Beachwood student will benefit from personalized academic opportunities, strong staff support, and active family engagement. The district will provide a rigorous curriculum and effective instruction across its academic programs that develop students' core knowledge and skills, critical thinking, and long-lasting problem solving strategies. This will ensure every student is prepared to achieve their future goals.

KIM ALLAMBY

GOAL: Fostering Positive Relationships and Supportive Networks

Fostering Positive Relationships and Supportive Networks will help students develop a strong sense of belonging and enhance their social-emotional well-being. Students will have expanded opportunities to learn how to make meaningful connections with peers and staff. In addition, they will learn important life skills such as mentoring, conflict resolution, and respectful communication. These experiences are designed to help students appreciate the different perspectives that are around them.

I was extremely impressed with the input we received from all stakeholders during our entire process. The large numbers of responses we received helped identify trends and patterns, which defined our strengths and showed areas for growth. While opinions were varied on different topics, such as homework and technology, it was clear our community values educating the whole child. I also learned that community members would like more opportunities to interact and connect with each other.

Additional input from Parent Advisory and Collaboration Teams and union leadership was extremely important. In January of 2025, the Board created drafts of survey questions for each stakeholder group. Over the next two months, these groups played a critical role in determining which questions to include on the survey, and the best ways to reach each group to maximize response rate. Their collaboration helped us gather feedback that shaped the final goals.

As we prioritize relationships and connections, the district is reinforcing its commitment to developing well-rounded students who are academically, socially, and emotionally prepared for life after graduation. I am particularly excited to see the implementation of peer-to-peer mentoring. This was identified as a priority during discussions and emphasized by students and parents at several grade levels as something that is valued. Parents also expressed an interest in more leadership opportunities for students, which coincides with mentoring. We will teach our students how to engage in courageous



Board Vice President Kim Allamby greets students during their first day of school in the new Hilltop building.

conversations and civil discourse, to engage in restorative practices, and to respect themselves and others. It is important for our students to develop these skills in order to make a positive impact within our schools and community.

FOSTERING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS

Every Beachwood student will benefit from positive, trusting relationships within our school community and the wider world around them. The district will build supportive connections among our diverse students, families, staff, alumni, and community members. These relationships and connections will empower our students to be resilient, empathetic, and prepared for the future.



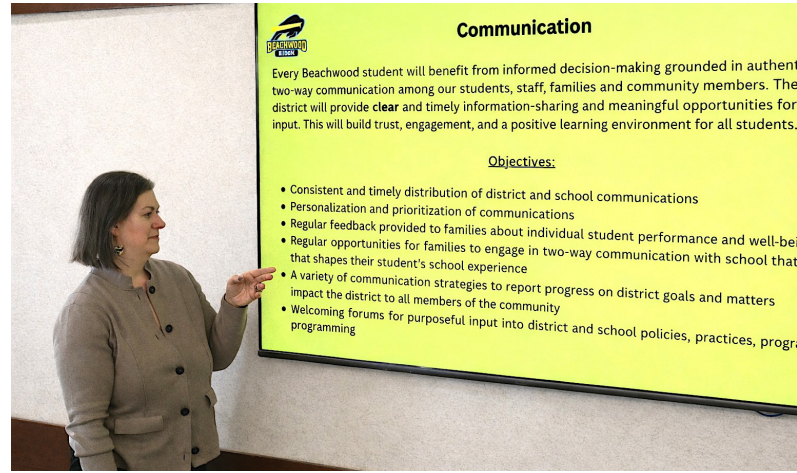
WENDY LEATHERBERRY

GOAL: Communication

The Communication goal is designed to strengthen connections between the schools and the community. The district will explore a variety of communications methods and expand opportunities for two-way communication efforts with families, meaning communication will be informative and responsive. Students benefit from this as families and community members are continually informed and we create more opportunities to celebrate student success. Through this goal, community members will be informed about student accomplishments in academics, athletics, extracurriculars, new district initiatives, and kept abreast of the impact of state policies and funding on the district.

We are extremely lucky to live in a community that is so invested in our schools and students. It was refreshing to once again hear how much our families and community members value our schools during conversations at the town halls. These discussions offered valuable insight into how families prefer to receive information and highlighted the importance of clear, consistent communication.

Board study sessions played a valuable role in giving us a chance to discuss and reflect on feedback. Because board members are not permitted to talk about board business outside of official meetings, these sessions were an important part of the process. They provided us with opportunities to thoroughly examine the feedback we received from stakeholders and help shape a clear vision for the future. As our district moves forward, it will provide a high-quality, well-rounded experience for students.



Wendy Leatherberry shares information about the communication goal during a Board study session.

Going through this process from start to finish highlighted that our community is committed to the schools and its students. Thank you to everyone who took time to participate and contribute to this important work.

COMMUNICATION

Every Beachwood student will benefit from informed decision-making grounded in authentic two-way communication among our students, staff, families and community members. The district will provide opportunities for clear and timely information-sharing and meaningful input. By fostering trust, engagement, and collaboration, a positive and supportive learning environment for all students will be created.



RINI GHOSH

GOAL: Evaluation

Evaluation conducted at a district level institutes a culture of self assessment for continuous improvement. Programs that work well will be strengthened. Those that are not as effective will be improved. As a result, students are more likely to have engaging classes, effective supports, and opportunities that will prepare them for the future. This will lead to a better overall experience for all students in our schools.

As we look ahead, progress toward this goal will lead to a stronger, more adaptive district that can respond to changing needs, new challenges, and emerging opportunities. It will also build trust with families and the community as they see that their feedback is not only sought, but also heard and responded to. We will have schools that are always learning and striving to provide a high-quality education and meaningful experiences for all students.

I was impressed by how invested students, parents, staff, and alumni were in helping to develop our district goals. Through surveys, town halls, and discussions, it was clear that everyone wanted to be heard and shared a commitment to help shape the future of the district. I noticed consistent themes shared by different groups: a desire for strong communication, meaningful engagement, and a school experience that prepares all students



Rini Ghosh joins in the joy and color of the Holi celebration.



for the real world. This collaboration reinforced the idea that our community is not only willing, but eager, to partner with the district in thoughtful, constructive ways.

The use of surveys played an important role in shaping the final goals. The open-ended questions provided added depth and context, helping us understand why people felt the way they did. Surveys also created an accessible way for all interested parties to participate, even if they could not attend in-person meetings. This made the process more inclusive and ensured that we heard from a diverse range of voices across the community.

I am especially excited to see the implementation of strong district-wide evaluation plans that incorporate data collection, analysis, reassessment, and intentional benchmark identification across the district. This approach ensures that decisions are grounded in evidence and programs continue to be refined based on what is working best for students.

I hope for a more responsive and supportive learning environment where students' needs, experiences, and outcomes are consistently reflected in the decisions the district makes. This will ensure that students not only achieve their goals in the classroom, but also grow into confident, capable individuals prepared to navigate an ever changing world. Our work is about more than improving programs – it is about building a school system that listens, adapts, and evolves so that every Beachwood student is equipped to thrive, contribute, and lead in the future.

EVALUATION

Every Beachwood student will benefit from informed decision-making shaped by purposeful evaluation of district programming. The district will collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative data to assess progress toward its intended goals. This will ensure we are focused on continuous improvement of the school experience for students, families, staff, and community.

The 5 Warning Signs Your Pain Is About to Get Worse



It usually doesn't start with an injury.

There's no dramatic moment. No fall.
No accident.

Instead, it begins quietly.

A little stiffness when you get out of bed in the morning. A mild ache in your knee going up the stairs. A shoulder that feels tight when you reach into a cabinet. Maybe your neck feels sore after a long day on your phone or computer.

You notice it ... but you brush it off.

"It's nothing."

"I probably just slept wrong."

"It'll go away."

And sometimes, it does—for a little while.

But then it comes back.

And slowly, without you realizing it, your body starts to change how it moves.

Quick Self-Check – Should You Be Evaluated?

If you answer YES to two or more of the following, it's time to take action:

- Pain lasting longer than two weeks
- Pain that keeps returning
- Stiffness or reduced flexibility
- Difficulty with stairs, bending, or reaching
- Avoiding activities you used to do easily

Early care leads to faster recovery—and better results!

Call Today! (440) 449-3400

The Problem Most People Don't See Coming

When something doesn't feel right, your body is incredibly good at adapting.

If your knee hurts, you shift your weight to the other side.

If your shoulder feels tight, you stop reaching as high.

If your back is sore, you move more cautiously—or avoid certain movements altogether.

At first, these adjustments feel helpful. Protective.

But over time, they create new problems.

Muscles that should be working become weak.

Other muscles begin to overwork and tighten.

Joints stop moving the way they were designed to.

This is how small, manageable issues quietly turn into larger, more persistent problems.

What could have been addressed early, often in just a few visits, can eventually require a much longer and more frustrating recovery.

The small aches you ignore today are often the injuries that slow you down tomorrow.

23175 Commerce Park - Beachwood

Five Warning Signs That Your Pain Is About to Get Worse (And What to Do Now)

Ignoring Pain Leads To...

- ✓ Pain Keeps Coming Back
- ✓ Movements Feel Stiff or Weak
- ✓ Modifying Daily Activities
- ✓ Avoiding What You Enjoy

Stay Active, Independent & Injury-Free

Schedule Now! | (440) 449-3400 | BalanceSolutions.com

DEEP TISSUE LASER

- ✓ FREE Laser Session
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- ✓ FREE 30-Minute Massage

Many people have tried therapy in the past and felt like:

- They were given the same exercises as everyone else
- They didn't receive enough one-on-one attention
- The treatment focused only on symptoms—not the cause

At Balance Solutions Physical Therapy, our approach is different.

We take the time to understand how your body moves, identify what's truly driving your pain, and build a plan specifically for you.

Your care is:

- One-on-one and individualized
- Focused on root cause, not just symptoms
- Designed to help you return to real-life activities—not just feel better temporarily

Whether it's your back, knee, shoulder, or neck, our goal is simple:

**Help you move better
so you can live better.**

Don't Wait Until It Becomes a Bigger Problem

If any of these signs sound familiar, this is your opportunity to take action before things progress further.

For a limited time, we are offering:

- A FREE 30-minute massage
- A complimentary deep tissue laser session
- A 15-minute dry needling session

after you're seen for your initial evaluation.

These are designed to help you get started, reduce discomfort, and experience the benefits of care right away.

Appointments are limited, and availability fills quickly.

Call (440) 449-3400

Visit BalanceSolutions.com

23175 Commerce Park

**The sooner you address the issue,
the easier it is to fix!**

1. It's Lasting Longer Than You Expected

Soreness after activity is normal.

Pain that lingers for more than one to two weeks is not.

Your body has an incredible ability to heal—but when something sticks around, it's usually a sign that the issue needs guidance, not just time.

2. It Keeps Coming Back

This is one of the most common patterns we see.

You rest. It feels better. You return to your normal routine ... and the pain returns.

This cycle often means the root cause hasn't been addressed—only temporarily relieved.

3. You're Modifying Your Movements (Even Subtly)

You may not even notice it at first.

You take the stairs a little slower.

You avoid kneeling down.

You reach with your other arm.

These small changes are your body compensating, and over time, they can lead to additional strain in other area.

4. You Feel Stiffer, Weaker, or Less Mobile

You might notice:

- You can't turn as far
- You feel tighter getting up from a chair
- Your strength isn't what it used to be

This isn't just "getting older." It's often a sign your body is not moving efficiently.

5. Everyday Activities Are Becoming More Difficult

This is the biggest red flag.

When simple tasks—walking, climbing stairs, lifting groceries, sleeping comfortably—start to feel challenging, your body is telling you something needs attention.

Why Waiting Often Makes Things Worse

One of the most common things we hear from patients is:

"I wish I had come in sooner."

By the time many people seek help, they've been dealing with the issue for months—or even years.

And while we absolutely can help at that stage, the process is often longer than it needs to be.

Addressing a problem early:

- Reduces recovery time
- Prevents compensation patterns
- Improves long-term outcomes
- Helps you stay active and independent

Think of it this way: It's much easier to correct a small imbalance than to undo months of altered movement patterns.

What Makes the Right Approach So Important

As many people may understand:

Not all physical therapy experiences are the same!

Best Lawyers ONES TO WATCH

DAN BARON

2026



The Essential Components of a Comprehensive Estate Plan

Estate planning is a critical process that ensures your assets, family, and personal wishes are protected and managed in the event of your incapacity or death. Despite its importance, many people delay creating an estate plan due to misconceptions, procrastination, or the belief that it's only for the wealthy. However, a comprehensive estate plan is vital for individuals of all ages and income levels, as it provides clarity, minimizes family disputes, and ensures your legacy is carried out according to your wishes. Below are the key components of a well-rounded estate plan that every family should consider.

1. Last Will

At the heart of any estate plan is a will. This legal document outlines how you want your assets distributed after your death. It allows you to name beneficiaries for your property, appoint guardians for minor children, and designate an executor to manage your estate. Without a will, state laws will dictate how your assets are divided, which may not align with your wishes. Drafting a clear, legally valid will ensures that your intentions are honored and that your loved ones are cared for. Note however, a last will does not avoid probate court.

2. Living Trust

While a will is important, a trust can provide additional benefits, particularly for those wanting to avoid probate or complex family situations. A trust allows you to transfer assets to a trustee, who manages them on behalf of your beneficiaries. Trusts can help protect assets, provide privacy, and offer control over how and when assets are distributed, unlike outright distributions through a will. Popular types of trusts include revocable living trusts, irrevocable asset protection trusts, and special needs trusts, each serving different purposes based on your goals.

3. **Powers of Attorney (POA)**

Powers of attorney are critical components of an estate plan that grant someone you trust the authority to make decisions on your behalf if you become incapacitated. Without a POA, your family may need to go through a lengthy and costly court process to gain control over your affairs.

- **Financial POA:** Grants a trusted individual the authority to manage your financial and legal affairs if you become incapacitated. This can include tasks such as paying bills, managing investments, or handling property transactions on your behalf.
- **Healthcare POA:** Designates either that same individual or another trusted person to make medical decisions on your behalf if you become unable to do so. This ensures that your healthcare preferences are respected and critical decisions are made by someone who understands your values and wishes.

4. **Additional Healthcare Directives**

These documents work in harmony with your Healthcare Power of Attorney to ensure that all aspects of your healthcare needs and wishes are covered:

- **Living Will:** Outlines your wishes regarding life-sustaining treatments, such as resuscitation or mechanical ventilation.
- **HIPAA Authorization:** Allows designated individuals to access your medical records and communicate with healthcare providers.

5. **Beneficiary Designations**

Certain assets, such as retirement accounts, life insurance policies, and payable-on-death accounts, allow you to name beneficiaries directly. These designations take precedence over your will, so it's important to review and update them regularly, especially after major life events like marriage, divorce, or the birth of a child. Ensure that your beneficiary designations align with the rest of your estate plan to avoid conflicts or unintended consequences. If you have a trust that cleanly lays out how you would like your funds distributed, you can also name your trust as a payable on death beneficiary for certain accounts which adds a layer of protection for the assets you are passing on to your loved ones.

6. **Letter of Intent**

A letter of intent is an informal document that provides guidance to your executor or loved ones about your final wishes. While not legally binding, it can include instructions for your funeral arrangements, personal messages to family members, or details about specific assets. This document adds a personal touch to your estate plan and ensures your intentions are clearly understood.

7. **Guardianship Designations**

If you have minor children, naming a guardian in your will is one of the most critical decisions you'll make. This ensures that your children are cared for by someone you trust if something happens to you. Without a guardianship designation, the court will decide who takes custody of your children, which may not align with your preferences and can cause conflict within

your family. It's important to choose someone who shares your values and is able and willing to provide a stable, loving environment.

8. **Tax Planning**

Estate taxes can significantly reduce the value of the assets you pass on to your heirs. A comprehensive estate plan should include strategies to minimize tax liabilities, such as utilizing trusts, gifting during your lifetime, or setting up charitable donations. Consulting with an estate planning attorney or tax professional can help you navigate the complexities of tax laws and preserve more of your wealth for future generations.

Conclusion

A comprehensive estate plan is a thoughtful gift to your loved ones, providing them with clarity and security during difficult times. It's more than just a will; it encompasses various tools and strategies to manage your assets, healthcare decisions, and personal wishes. By working with an experienced estate planning attorney and staying proactive about updates, you can create a plan that protects your legacy and provides peace of mind for you and your family. To get started on your estate plan, contact Baron Law at 216-573-3723 or dan@baronlawcleveland.com

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



Beachwood Library Update

New branch includes a new location, Innovation Center and auditorium

Cuyahoga County Public Library recently announced an important milestone in the development of its new Beachwood Branch, as a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the library, the City of Beachwood and Beachwood City Schools.

This newest step allows the project to move forward – building in a new location with a more spacious parcel near the recreational and civic center of the city. Anticipated for completion in 2028, the new Beachwood Branch will be built at 24601 Fairmount Blvd.

“Recent satisfaction survey results and current use statistics tell us that Beachwood residents consider the library an important asset in their community,” said Cuyahoga County Public Library CEO Jamar O. Rahming. “Through a new, modern branch, we will make even more impactful experiences possible. We are thrilled to have the

collaborative support of Mayor Justin Berns, City Council, Dr. Robert Hardis, Beachwood City Schools superintendent, and the Board of Education for this new building initiative.”

The new Beachwood Branch will be designed by CBLH Design, a Cleveland-based architecture, planning and interior design firm. Group 4 Architecture has joined the project as a library consultant for CBLH Design.

This new branch will be the home of CCPL’s 11th Innovation Center and an auditorium with approximately 300 seats. This will enable CCPL to bring large events to Cuyahoga County’s east side. The auditorium space

also will be made available for rent by the community.

Plans also incorporate feedback collected during a 2024 community listening project conducted at the Beachwood Branch. At that time, neighbors asked for a warm, welcoming space with a greater indoor-outdoor connection. Study and meeting rooms and areas for community events, as well as interests in exploring new opportunities for technology, gaming, creating, and making, were also high on the community’s list of requests.

“The City of Beachwood is proud to work with the Cuyahoga County Public Library

system and the Beachwood City School District on an agreement that reflects true collaboration in service of our residents.

This is a unique instance in which the city, the school district, the library system, and the community as a whole stand to benefit from a single cooperative effort,” said Mayor Berns. “When public partners come together with a shared vision, we can deliver projects that are more efficient, more accessible, and more impactful for everyone.”

A survey of the site was conducted by Neff Engineering on behalf of Cuyahoga County Public Library and CBLH Design.



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So, if you're tired of struggling with generic lawn care companies, use Ecolawn instead.

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2026 Beachwood Hometown Heroes

In 2021, the Beachwood Historical Society and the City of Beachwood launched the Hometown Heroes program to honor individuals who either live or work in Beachwood and embody the spirit of our community. These honorees make a positive impact on our city by helping others; demonstrating courage, care, and compassion; and contributing in meaningful ways that enhance life in Beachwood.

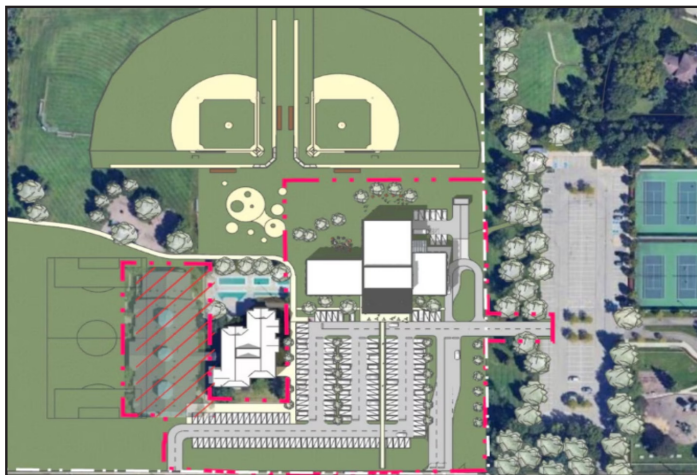
Join us in celebrating this year's Hometown Heroes on Monday, May 18, 5:30 p.m., at Beachwood City Park West. The entire community is invited to honor these remarkable individuals and recognize the meaningful impact of their contributions. Mayor Justin Berns will serve as emcee and light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

Be sure to read the July cover story, where we'll take a closer look at each of this year's heroes and the inspiring ways they make a difference.

Join us in celebrating this year's Hometown Heroes on Monday, May 18, 5:30 p.m., at Beachwood City Park West.

Congratulations to the 2026 Hometown Heroes

Matt Fieldman
Dr. Carl Allamby
Obediah Cooper
Timothy Holsted
Mary Deitrick
Karen Carter
Mike Holtzman
Tina Turick
Scott Morrison
Lt. Kevin Owens



Site plan of the new Beachwood Library that will be constructed on the Fairmount Early Childhood Center property.

"Beachwood Schools is pleased to join in this partnership, which will provide fantastic public resources on the district's Fairmount School property," Dr. Hardis said. "With our preschool relocating to its new home at Bryden School in August, the district took the opportunity to reimagine this site in collaboration with our community partners."

After the opening, ownership of the current library site will be transferred to the Beachwood City School District Board of Education.

This new library is part of CCPL's 2023-2032 Facilities Master Plan, a long-term improvement project that reflects CCPL's goal of creating a network of high-performing facilities that respond to community needs and support the library's initiatives.



ON VIEW
MAY 7 - AUGUST 23

ICONS IN INK

THE JEWISH COMICS EXPERIENCE

Discover the Local Creators Who Changed the World

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- Meet your favorite artists and enjoy autograph opportunities.
- An in-depth look at Cleveland's comic book legacy



Curiosity As Hope

By Jennifer Stern

We must resist the urge to “other” people. This was one of many thought-provoking statements made on April 12 at the Women of Mishkan Or Day of Action, which focused on gender equity.

It was an optimistic, empowering afternoon shared with Congresswoman Shontel Brown; Becca Kendis, staff attorney, Case Western Reserve University School of Law Reproductive Rights Law Initiative; Erica Wilson-Domer, president and CEO, Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio; Khalilah Worley, senior organizer, Greater Cleveland Congregations; Marge Koosed, who is the Aileen McMurray Trusler Professor Emerita, University of Akron School of Law; and Talia Raider-Roth, education and outreach specialist, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center.

We were encouraged to engage with those who think differently with civility, connecting to curiosity rather than judgement. To move beyond transactional exchanges, talking points, and partisan rhetoric, and instead try to better understand what truly matters to them and why.

We must humanize the people with whom we disagree in order to create space in our thinking and seek shared humanity, grounded in facts, accurate information, and the shared understanding – the knowing – that justice is something we must pursue together. Justice is

the ethical concept of fairness, impartiality, and the proper administration of the law so that people are treated reasonably.

Curiosity as hope for a better future was a wonderful perspective shared. Help me understand what matters most to you and why. What gives you hope?

In order to help heal our world, we must act in ways that are inclusive, where every voice has a seat at the table. We must stop using fear and misinformation to divide, and we must find a community voice that moves us forward with honesty, compassion, respect, and accountability for how our words, actions, and votes impact ourselves and future generations.

What kind of world do you want to leave for future generations? Do you want your children and grandchildren to have access, opportunity, and equality in the work place, in health care, and in education? Do you want clean air, clean water, and sustainable natural resources? Is it important to you that companies be held accountable for pollution and for dumping waste at the expense of your health and wellness? Do you want national parks and forests protected and preserved for all to enjoy? We must think beyond partisan politics and understand where candidates stand on what matters most so we – and future generations – can live with less regret and fear.

Ohio’s May 2026 primary election is May 5. Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on election day.

We must resist the urge to “other” people.

Questions or concerns?

Contact the Board of Elections at 216.443.8683 (VOTE), Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or visit <https://boe.cuyahogacounty.gov>

Election day problems?

- Call 1.866.our.vote (866.687.8683).

Do you have a voting plan?

- Know your voting location in advance.

Learn what’s on your ballot.

Research candidates. Don’t rely on commercials or social media for your information.

- **Vote411.org** is a non-partisan resource that will tell you where candidates running for office in your community stand on issues.

We must think beyond partisan politics and understand where candidates stand on what matters most so we – and future generations – can live with less regret and fear.

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

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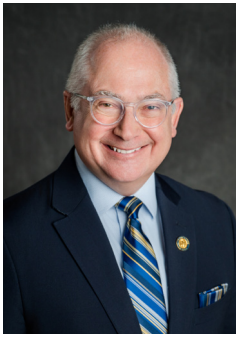
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Artemis II, Being a Crew, and the Overview Effect

By State Senator Kent Smith

Within 24 hours of splashing down in the Pacific, the crew of the Artemis II space mission was on stage in Houston making its first public remarks. Astronaut Christina Koch spoke about the attitude needed to make the mission a success. She described the necessity of a shared purpose and a common mindset within the four-person crew. She concluded her remarks with an observation about how those lessons could translate back to those of us on Earth.

She said, "A crew is a group that is in it all the time, no matter what, that is stroking together every minute with the same purpose, that is willing to sacrifice silently for each other, that gives grace, that holds accountable."

"A crew has the same cares and the same needs, and a crew is inescapably, beautifully, dutifully linked."

But then her thoughts shifted from what was inside the space capsule to what the astronauts could see through its windows.

Christina continued, "So, when we saw tiny Earth,

people asked our crew what impressions we had. And honestly, what struck me wasn't necessarily just Earth – it was all the blackness around it. Earth was just this lifeboat hanging undisturbingly in the universe."

She paused, then continued, "I know I haven't learned everything that this journey has yet to teach me. But there's one new thing I know, and that is, planet Earth: You are a crew."

Her observations were the latest example of what returning astronauts have described as the Overview Effect. First coined in 1987 by

space philosopher and author Frank White, the term refers to the cognitive shift that occurs when seeing Earth in its entirety from space. Borders disappear, languages blur, and the razor-thin layer surrounding the planet – the atmosphere – becomes visible.

I think astronaut Christina Koch was hoping to impart that while issues may divide us, our values should unite us. We should stay engaged in shaping the world we want to live in. Nothing is stopping us except ourselves and those we choose to lead us.

I think astronaut Christina Koch was hoping to impart that while issues may divide us, our values should unite us.

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



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A Lasting Tribute to a Treasured Son

by Claudia and Pete Marmaros



Establishing this scholarship in Greg's memory brings our family a sense of peace. Our grief is transformed into something positive. It ensures that Greg's impact will continue for generations to come and that his spirit will live on through Pedro's – and future scholarship recipients' – achievements.

Many of you have heard the poignant saying, "A person dies a second time when we stop talking about and remembering them." Anyone who has lost someone they loved deeply can relate to this expression.

As parents who lost our dear son, Greg, suddenly at the age of 33 in 2023, this sentiment resonates deeply within our hearts. We know that as long as Greg's name is spoken and his story is shared, his legacy and spirit will live on for years to come.

That is why we embraced the opportunity to establish a scholarship in Greg's beautiful memory when his Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity brothers approached us with the idea.

As is stated on the website, "the Gregory Marmaros Athletic Excellence Award has been established to honor the life and legacy of brother Gregory Marmaros (Connecticut, Iota Chi '08) – a brother, mentor, and friend whose belief in the power of sports and the strength of community inspired all who knew him."

The recipient of this scholarship is an undergraduate brother of Pi Kappa Alpha at the University of Connecticut who embodies the values that Greg demonstrated in his work and in his life.

Greg's passion for all things sports-related began early. By age 5, he could rattle off the Cleveland Indians lineup with the intensity of a seasoned sportscaster.

As a youngster, he took part in all sports, with a particular fondness for wrestling. He fulfilled a childhood dream when, as a Beachwood High School sophomore, he placed sixth in the 103-pound weight class at the 2006 OHSAA Wrestling State Tournament. The following year, he placed sixth again at the 112-pound weight class, feats of which he was particularly proud.

At the University of Connecticut, Greg served as a football student manager for three years while earning his degree in sport administration. This marked the beginning of a distinguished career in sport management, with professional stops at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and Fordham University, where he became director of football operations at the remarkably young age of 23. He later landed the job of a lifetime with the New England Patriots, serving as football operations coordinator and contributing to two Super Bowl runs.

Greg returned to Ohio in 2019, where he was hired as assistant athletic director at Hawken School. In 2022, he was named Northeast Ohio Middle School Athletic Director of the Year. Greg had a remarkable ability to encourage young Hawken athletes to believe in themselves – a truly special gift. He fostered a culture of self-respect and self-assurance, helping each athlete realize their potential. He was a champion of the underdog, standing up for those who might otherwise feel invisible. His signature catchphrase, "You win with good people," reflected his belief in prioritizing character over raw talent.

Greg's life, although brief, was very full. He cultivated beautiful, lasting friendships wherever he went. His strong work ethic contributed to his career accomplishments at an early age. Yet it was his kindness, empathetic nature, and ability to connect with people from all walks of life that

became his shining light – making him unforgettable, admired, and deeply loved.

With Greg's ideals, education, and career path in mind, Pedro Delgado Jr., a sophomore majoring in sport management at the University of Connecticut, was chosen this past March as the first recipient of the Gregory Marmaros Athletic Excellence Award. Pedro, a young man of outstanding character, exhibits interests and values remarkably similar to those Greg demonstrated. His journey thus far, as well as the ideals he lives by, closely reflect Greg's. Pedro aspires to a career in professional sports, hoping to "create a culture based on empathy, integrity, and respect."

He shared, "I can't wait to help raise awareness and funds to keep the scholarship going and to keep Greg's memory alive." Greg would be proud to know that an individual of such superb character was selected to carry forward his legacy.

Establishing this scholarship in Greg's memory brings our family a sense of peace. Our grief is transformed into something positive. It ensures that Greg's impact will continue for generations to come and that his spirit will live on through Pedro's – and future scholarship recipients' – achievements.

For more information or to make a donation, please scan this code or visit <https://marmaros.funraise.org>.



Cantor's Concert

Sunday, May 31st at 4 pm



Featuring Double Chai,
With Cantor Vladimir Lapin
and Cantor Alyssa Rosenbaum



Dessert reception to follow

The concert is generously underwritten by
The Daniel and Ethel Hamburger Fund

Invitations From Friends of the Beachwood Library

Free Mother's Day Concert • May 10 • 2-3 p.m.

Enjoy the joyful tones of Yiddishe Cup,
playing music from Klezmer to Motown.

Friends Annual Meeting • May 13 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Hear our 2025 highlights and learn about plans for the library's new building. The public is welcome! Please register so sufficient light refreshments will be available.

Free Father's Day Concert • June 21 • 2-3 p.m.

Enjoy entertainment by the Moss Stanley Trio,
with vocalist Jessica Horvath serenading us with jazz
and music from the Great American Song Book.

Registration is required for all three programs.
To register, please visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org
or call 216.831.6868.



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The Mayor's Message Maintaining the Foundations of Beachwood

Dear Beachwood Residents & Businesses,

I am proud to share updates on the important work we are doing to maintain and strengthen the infrastructure that supports our community every day.

While highly visible projects like the construction of our playground or improvements at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center often capture attention, there is another category of investment that is equally vital — though less noticeable. Maintaining municipal buildings and city properties may not attract public attention, but these efforts are essential to ensuring that city services remain safe, reliable, and efficient for our residents, employees, and businesses.

As a well-established community, much of Beachwood's infrastructure is aging. In partnership with City Council, my administration is carefully evaluating how to prioritize deferred maintenance across the city. These decisions are guided by both urgency and long-term value, and I want to provide transparency about these investments so that residents can better understand where and how resources are being allocated.

One key project is the City Hall window replacement. Originally planned for 2019 (during a previous administration), this project was deferred in favor of more urgent needs. By 2025, however, it became clear that the project's scope had changed, and many windows at the main entrance and in the rotunda had deteriorated significantly. Broken seals caused etching, fogging, and water intrusion, reducing both energy efficiency and the building's appearance. The total cost of this project is \$416,246. Replacing these windows will improve insulation, reduce long-term maintenance costs, and enhance the functionality of a building that serves as the hub of local government.

Another major investment is the Public Works Roof Replacement Project. After years of repeated repairs, it was

determined that a full roof replacement was the most responsible long-term solution. Initially budgeted at \$4 million, the project was competitively bid, and City Council approved a contract of \$3,139,755.

Work is expected to begin this spring. This facility is critical to deliver essential services — such as road maintenance, snow removal, and sanitation — and a sound roof ensures those operations can continue without disruption.

Finally, the city continues to prioritize the maintenance of aging roadways throughout Beachwood, with resurfacing projects approved for East Baintree, Groveland, and Silsby Roads, while additional work on North Woodland Road and Meadoway Drive is currently out for bid. In addition to these residential improvements, City Council has also approved roadway work on Richmond Road between Harvard Road and Auburn Drive. This project includes replacing concrete joints and slabs, as well as ADA-compliant handicap ramps. These improvements will enhance safety and accessibility along a key corridor in our city.

While some of these projects may not always be the most visible, they are foundational to maintaining the high quality of life that defines Beachwood. Thank you for your continued support and trust as we work to responsibly manage our city's resources.

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

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216.292.1901

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216.464.1234

Beachwood Advances Plans for New Library with Preliminary Agreement

Beachwood is moving forward with expanding community resources by collaborating on a new public library in the city.



Cuyahoga County Public Library

Both Beachwood City Council and the Beachwood Board of Education voted unanimously on March 30 to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Cuyahoga County Public Library and the Beachwood City School District. The agreement outlines a partnership to explore the development of a new Beachwood branch library.

The library system had previously approved the MOU at its March 24 meeting, clearing the way for the city to begin evaluating the project's potential costs. The proposed development would place a new library at the Fairmount Early Childhood Center site, 24601 Fairmount Blvd.

Mayor Justin Berns emphasized the broader vision behind the project, noting that it is designed to serve residents of all ages. Plans include expanded educational programming, improved recreational fields, workforce development resources, senior engagement opportunities, and flexible space for community events and cultural activities.



While the agreement is nonbinding and does not finalize construction plans, it allows Beachwood to begin negotiations and refine the proposal. Any municipal financial commitments related to the project would still require City Council approval.

If the project moves forward, the new branch would be located on a larger, more central parcel near the city's recreational and civic amenities, with a target completion date of early 2028.

For more details on the proposed agreement and project vision, see the full article in this edition of the *Beachwood Buzz* on page 16.

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 Connect” to Help Residents Engage

The City of Beachwood is launching Beachwood Connect, an initiative designed to help residents better understand and participate in the city's legislative process as outlined in its Charter and Codified Ordinances.

Beachwood Connect will provide clear, accessible information on how legislation is introduced, reviewed, and adopted by City Council, as well as the role of the Administration. By increasing transparency around these protocols, the initiative aims to empower residents to engage at key points throughout the legislative process.

“Beachwood Connect is about making local government more accessible and understandable,” said Communications Manager Ben Lombardi. “When residents understand how decisions are made, they're better equipped to participate, ask questions, and contribute to the future of our community.”

In addition to attending City Council meetings, residents can engage by serving on boards and commissions, providing public comments, or communicating directly with elected officials and city staff. These avenues ensure that community perspectives are considered throughout the legislative process.



The Beachwood Connect webpage will serve as a central resource for civic engagement, offering guidance on how items are added to a City Council agenda, how to contact Council members and the Administration, and how many votes are required to pass legislation. It will also include agendas, meeting schedules, and opportunities for public participation.

Watch for updates at BeachwoodOhio.com and in the *Beachwood Buzz*.

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
May 4 at 7:00 p.m.
May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
May 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
May 4 at 4:30 p.m.
May 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive



Gorden Gateway Park Dedication Set for May 19

Beachwood residents are invited to attend the dedication of Gorden Gateway Park on Tuesday, May 19, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers — a special event honoring the legacy of former Mayor Merle S. Gorden.

In September 2025, Mayor Berns introduced legislation to rename City Park West as Gorden Gateway Park in his honor. City Council unanimously approved the measure, reflecting the lasting impact of his leadership on the community.

As Beachwood's longest-serving mayor, Gorden led the city for 23 years, guiding a period of sustained growth and progress. His leadership helped shape the community Beachwood is today, and this dedication recognizes his service and legacy.

Residents are encouraged to join city officials, business leaders, and guests for this dedication ceremony. To RSVP, please contact City Hall at 216-464-1070 by May 13.



HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to Memorial Day, rubbish and recycling will not be collected by the city on Monday, May 25. Collections will be delayed one day for that week only. Questions? Call Public Works, 216.292.1922.

Beachwood Police Department Named Safe Kids/Safe Communities Organization of the Year



The Beachwood Police Department has been honored as the 2025 Safe Kids/Safe Communities Organization of the Year, an award presented annually to recognize an organization's outstanding commitment to injury prevention, community engagement, and collaborative partnerships. The department distinguished itself throughout the year with consistent, hands-on involvement in safety initiatives across the community.

A key component of their impact was their work with students. The department welcomed safety advocates into Beachwood High School to promote teen driver safety, delivering critical messages directly to young drivers. Their engagement extended beyond the classroom, as they played an integral role in community events such as the Annual Holiday Mocktail Party, which raises awareness about responsible hosting and the dangers of impaired driving during the holiday season.

Additionally, the department organizes an annual, highly successful Bike to School event featuring a police officer-led ride and partners with Walk to School Day, reinforcing its commitment to student safety.

This recognition is due in large part to the leadership of Officer Colton Pekarski, Head School Resource Officer for the Beachwood School District and Store it Safe Ambassador, as well as Community Services Program Manager Shannon Diamond. Their efforts have been instrumental in strengthening partnerships and advancing safety initiatives throughout the city.

In honor of this achievement, representatives from the department have been invited to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at a Cleveland Guardians game ahead of their Memorial Day matchup on May 25.



Officer Colton Pekarski and Community Services Program Manager Shannon Diamond

808 Shave Ice Announces New Location at BFAC & Playground



808 Shave Ice has found an eastside home, bringing a new location to Beachwood. The popular Northeast Ohio brand will take over the snack shack concession space serving both the aquatic center and playground. Expected to open in May, 808 Shave Ice will offer its signature gourmet frozen treats and specialty items, alongside the classic concession favorites Beachwood patrons of all ages love.

"We're looking forward to bringing our premium, polished, and memorable experience to the Beachwood community," said owner Nick Kudej. "Special thanks to Mayor Berns, Community Services Director Derek Schroeder, and the city administration for putting their trust in 808. We're honored and can't wait to announce our grand opening as soon as possible."



Originally founded in Fairview Park in 2017, 808 is locally owned and operated with multiple existing locations.

HOMETOWN HEROES CEREMONY:

Monday, May 18 | 5:30 p.m. | Gorden Gateway Park Hometown Heroes Garden (City Park West)
Join Beachwood Historical Society and the City of Beachwood in honor of our latest inductees.

Hydrant Flushing in Early May



The Beachwood Fire Department will begin its annual fire hydrant flushing program across the city in early May. This important maintenance effort is expected to take approximately two weeks.

Hydrant flushing plays a critical role in maintaining the reliability of Beachwood's water system. The process helps ensure hydrants are fully operational for firefighting,

verifies the integrity of the water system, and removes sediment that can accumulate in water main pipes over time.

During the flushing period, residents may notice temporary changes in their water service, including fluctuating water pressure and occasional discoloration (brown water) from taps. While this water remains safe to drink, it may stain laundry and light-colored fabrics. If residents experience discolored water, they are advised to run cold tap water for several minutes until it runs clear before using it for household purposes.

Community Shred Day

Join us Friday, May 8, from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Fairmount Temple property (23737 Fairmount Blvd.) parking lot, rain or shine.

Residents can bring personal documents, mail, and files to have them shredded on-site. This is a free service for Beachwood residents! Proof of residency (driver's license) is required. Please use paper bags and banker boxes only, no plastic grocery bags.

A Recycling Awareness Grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District supports this community service.



Results of the 2025–2026 Deer Management Program

The City of Beachwood has received the final reports for the 2025–2026 Deer Management Program, marking the fourth year of its collaborative effort with the City of Shaker Heights. During this season, a total of 80 deer were culled across both communities, with 65 deer, over 81%, harvested within Beachwood. The program also delivered a meaningful community benefit by providing approximately 2,850 pounds of venison to local organizations. This led to an estimated 11,400 meals distributed through the Cleveland Food Bank and the Geauga County Veterans Food Pantry.

This season also marked the city's first implementation of a deer sterilization program in partnership with Shaker Heights and South Euclid. In Beachwood, crews captured 23 female deer and successfully sterilized 21 of them. Efforts were primarily focused on the northern part of the city, particularly north of Shaker Boulevard, where deer densities were highest.



Planning for next year's program is already underway. The city will continue to collect and analyze data and will present findings to City Council to help guide future deer management decisions. In addition, a standardized, state-issued deer management survey developed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) will be distributed to residents in the coming months.

Review the full end-of-season reports at BeachwoodOhio.com/DeerManagement or scan the QR code.

May Recreation Guide



Free Community Evening

COOKOUT with COPS

Hot Dogs, DJ, Family Fun

Wednesday, May 13
4:30-6:30 pm

Beachwood Playground
25125 Fairmount Blvd.

HMC
CORNERSTONE CAREGIVING

T3
PERFORMANCE

BeachwoodOhio.com
Kosher food options available.



Bring a copy of your favorite recipe for our Beachwood community cookbook!

senior taste & cookbook

Local Bites • Live Music • Recipe Sharing

Thursday, May 21
12:00-2:00 PM
Beachwood Community Center

Presented by
Cornerstone CAREGIVING

Music by:
Hip to That

CITY OF
Beachwood

BeachwoodRec.com
Residents \$14, Non-Residents \$17
Registration required by May 15.

SOLON POINTE EMUNAH HOSPICE

BEACHWOOD BINGO NIGHT: Thursday, May 14, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Community Center (17 & Under - \$5, Adults - \$8, 60 & Better - \$5) Adding high-energy fun to a classic favorite. Perfect for all ages! Register today at BeachwoodRec.com.

Instructor Spotlight: Bill Tennant, Certified Pickleball Pro



Bill Tennant, a PPR-certified pickleball professional, is entering his fourth year leading classes, intensive clinics, small-group sessions, and private lessons in Beachwood. Originally a volleyball player, Bill became hooked on the game in 2015 when he arrived early to a Friday night volleyball session and was invited into a game, where an old-school wooden paddle was placed in his hand. He caught the "pickle-bug," and from then on, his volleyball time turned into pickleball.

"I can't put into words the emotion when I get a text or email saying 'thank you' with a smiling picture from a pickleball student on the podium with a tournament medal," Bill said.

Bill also organizes pickleball retreats, including a recent program in St. Lucia and an upcoming 2027 retreat in the Caribbean.

In addition to pickleball, Bill is a professional clarinetist and band director at St. Dominic School, and he holds a passion for downhill skiing, once having the chance to meet Shaun White during a trip to Park City, Utah.

To inquire about upcoming opportunities, email billtennant365@gmail.com. Summer lessons begin June 1; more information is available at BeachwoodOhio.com/pickleball.

Where Beachwood Comes Together: Sizzling Summer Events

Summer marks the return of some of Beachwood's most popular, cherished, and vibrant community events for all ages. Make plans to join us!

Teen Night at the Courts – June 16 & July 22, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Get ready for an action-packed evening designed just for teens! Meet by the Beachwood Pickleball Courts for volleyball, yard games, pickleball matches, a DJ, free snacks, and more. Sponsored by T3 Performance. Free for ages 12–17, but pre-registration is required at BeachwoodRec.com.

Juneteenth Community Celebration – June 19, 4:00–7:00 p.m.

Come together with fellow community members at the Beachwood High School football stadium for a fun, family-friendly evening, presented in partnership with Beachwood City Schools, the Beachwood Schools African American Affinity Group, and Crestmont Automotive. Take part in a wide variety of activities, including games, inflatables, a DJ, vendors, food trucks, and a screening of *Piece by Piece* at 5:00 p.m. on a giant movie truck. Free admission for all attendees.

BFAC Pool Party Nights – June 24, July 30, & August 12, 8:00–10:00 p.m.

Swim under the lights at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center, now with an additional date in August! Enjoy music, games, poolside snacks, and more. All ages are welcome. Themes include Sunset Fiesta, Smiles & Splashes, and Beach Bash. Registration opens May 4. Admission is \$3 for BFAC members, \$5 for residents, and \$8 for non-resident guests. Sponsored by Statement Nail & Wax Lounge.



Teen Night at the Courts



BFAC Pool Party Nights

JUNE 19
4-7 PM
BEACHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STADIUM

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

CRESTMONT AUTOMOTIVE
BEACHWOOD
African American Affinity Group
CITY OF BEACHWOOD

Beachwood
Beats
Summer Concert Series

TUESDAY NIGHT CONCERTS
JUNE 9 - JULY 28 | 6:30 PM
Beachwood Family Aquatic Center
Lineup at BeachwoodRec.com

Beachwood Seniors

- **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.
- **Stroke Awareness & Screening with UH**
Wednesday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Community Center
Free screening and education event! Includes a presentation at noon by Michael DeGeorgia, MD, Stroke Director at UH.

Are you a 50-year Beachwood resident?

The City of Beachwood is once again recognizing our latest group of 50-year residents at our Senior Picnic on Aug. 31. Call 216.292.1970 to be recognized at the event.

The Senior Game Show

Monday, June 1, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Community Center
Residents \$2, Non-Residents \$4

Get ready for lights, laughs, and friendly competition at our Senior Game Show Day! Step into the spotlight for *Deal or No Deal*-style suspense and *Family Feud*-inspired fast-paced fun, where you could win prizes, show off your smarts, and cheer on your friends in an afternoon full of energy and excitement.

Light refreshments will be provided. Presented by Cornerstone Caregiving. Register by May 24.

May's Meet & Eat is the Senior Taste & Cookbook shown on the prior page.



WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New Podcast Episodes: Powering Community Impact



The latest episodes of Beachwood Business Compass highlight two organizations strengthening Northeast Ohio in different but equally impactful ways.

In season 2, episode 4, Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) takes center stage. Aaron Marcovy, Chief Business Development Officer, explains how NOPEC uses collective buying power to secure competitive electricity and natural gas rates for residents and businesses. Beyond cost savings, the organization provides energy-efficiency resources, rebates, and planning tools—helping the community make smarter, more sustainable energy decisions.



Episode 5 features the Beachwood 100 Club, a longstanding organization dedicated to supporting Beachwood police, firefighters, and first responders. President Ivor Kiwi shares how the group continues to provide financial assistance, recognition, and community connection, reinforcing its mission of support to our city's safety services.

Top Photo: Cathy Biertman, Economic Development Director, with Aaron Marcovy of NOPEC

Bottom Photo: Cathy Biertman, Economic Development Director, with Ivor Kiwi of Beachwood 100



Beachwood Welcomes Nurtured Family Medicine

Nurtured Family Medicine, founded by Dr. Mary "Molly" Warren, recently celebrated the opening of its new location at 3619 Park East Dr. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Built on a direct primary care model, Nurtured Family Medicine offers a more personal and accessible approach to healthcare — eliminating insurance barriers and focusing on meaningful patient relationships. The membership-based practice emphasizes evidence-based integrative care, giving patients the time and attention often missing in traditional settings.

Advancing Site Development Strategies

Economic Development Director Catherine Biertman recently participated in a practitioner's roundtable hosted by the Ohio Economic Development Association and the Northeast Ohio Development Exchange. The session brought together representatives from the cities of Beachwood, Avon, Cleveland, and other regional partners to discuss key site development strategies and approaches to unlocking land opportunities.

Biertman's presentation, along with those from peer communities, offered valuable insights that led to a broader discussion of practical strategies and decision-making. These conversations closely align with the city's recent strategic investment in the Chagrin Highlands and reinforce its commitment to thoughtful, forward-looking development.

Building on this momentum, the Economic Development Department continues to actively target key industries and high-value companies. By positioning the community for regional expansion, inward investment, and business relocations from outside the region, the city is working to attract new opportunities that support long-term economic growth.

The department remains focused on ensuring that high-quality development sites, streamlined processes, and strong public-private partnerships make the community a premier destination for business investment and innovation.



Catherine Biertman presenting at the practitioner's roundtable meeting in April.

**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

BHS Student Selected for Study Abroad Program

Beachwood High School junior Charley Soroka has been accepted into the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program and will study Mandarin abroad this summer in Taiwan.

The NSLI-Y program is a merit-based scholarship program fully funded by the U.S. State Department for American high school students to study critical languages abroad or online. It offers students a unique chance to combine language, culture, and personal growth, preparing them for both academic and professional success on a global scale.

"I am very proud to be selected for this program," Charley said. "I began the application process last August and couldn't even imagine that I would be picked for such an amazing opportunity. Since I plan on continuing to study Chinese in college, being granted this opportunity to study in Taiwan will allow me to improve my conversational skills."

During the program, Charley is eager to immerse herself fully in the language and

culture. "I'm excited for Chinese to not just be something I learn, but something I live," she said. "By having discussions with classmates or casual conversations with locals and my host family, I look forward to improving my speaking skills so I can continue to make an impact in the world."

Charley credits her Chinese teachers, Mrs. Lin and Mrs. Tai, as her main inspirations and helping her realize that Chinese is more than a class, it's a way to share thoughts and perspectives across cultures and borders. "I hope to use my experiences in Taiwan to inspire this same love and passion for Chinese in other students," Charley said. "I hope to encourage my peers to continue learning Chinese and understand the value of learning a language."

The NSLI-Y summer program is seven weeks long and offers intensive language



instruction, a host family stay for all or part of the program, and a variety of cultural activities designed to enhance language skills. During the program, participants receive a minimum of 120 hours of classroom instruction in intensive language classes. Beyond the classroom, they engage with host families, complete assignments, and participate in cultural activities and peer language partner sessions.

PTA Connected: The Smart Talk

By Yin-Mei Lim

The Beachwood Community Special Education Parent Teacher Association (Beachwood Community SEPTA) was one of only 20 local PTAs nationwide to receive a \$1,500 grant from the National PTA and Norton to host its first ever educational event, PTA Connected: The Smart Talk, on Sunday, March 15, at the Beachwood Community Center.

This interactive program brought together 62 people from 25 families in Beachwood and surrounding communities to discuss digital privacy, responsible technology use, and healthy screen limits. E. Maxwell Davis, Ph.D., introduced Norton's The Smart Talk tool and led participants through lively discussions about collaborative approaches to setting family expectations and ground rules for technology use. Each family was guided through the process of creating a Smart Talk profile, the first step in using Norton's The Smart Talk app to initiate family dialogue about technology use.

Created by the National PTA and Norton, The Smart Talk is a free, dynamic, interactive tool that enables kids ages 5-17 and their parents and caregivers to collaborate in making household decisions and rules around device use, digital safety, privacy, communication and media use. It includes tools to help families have age appropriate conversations with children, as well as helpful hints and examples for creating good

passwords, telling fact from fiction online, talking about difficult topics like explicit content, and more. Guided by The Smart Talk tool, families can use these discussions to create personalized family technology agreements based on their individual needs.

To explore The Smart Talk, go to <https://thesmarttalk.org/>.

The Beachwood Community SEPTA was chartered as a community PTA unit in April 2025 and welcomes everyone in our community to get involved and take part in its programs and events: You do *not* need to be a parent, live in Beachwood, or know anything about special education to participate. To learn more about the Beachwood Community SEPTA, become a member (for only \$10), make a donation, or see slides from The Smart Talk program (<https://beachwoodsepta.givebacks.com>).

For more information on Ohio and National PTA and PTA programs, visit <https://www.ohiopta.org/>, <https://www.pta.org/> and <https://www.pta.org/home/programs>.

The Smart Talk

Why The Smart Talk

Children today use technology to learn, socialize, create, and more. Just like any other form of communication, an understanding of healthy and safe digital practices can help your family thrive. National PTA and Norton want to help families facilitate positive conversations and set smart boundaries that influence our habits around:

- Privacy and Security
- Communication
- Media Choices
- Health and Wellness
- Ongoing Conversations



BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Hilltop Celebrates Opening With Ribbon Cutting

Beachwood Schools proudly marked a major milestone with a ribbon cutting to officially open the doors to the new Hilltop School on March 17. The celebration, which took place in the new gymnasium, brought together students, staff, city officials, state representatives, project partners, and others for the grand opening of the new building.

The opening came one day after Hilltop welcomed close to 500 students, staff, families, and community members for one final walk-through of the old building and tours of the new building.

Superintendent Robert Hardis welcomed the crowd at the ribbon cutting, highlighting the dedication and collaboration that made the project possible. "For more than two years, many people worked hard to bring the hopes and dreams expressed by students, staff, and community members into existence," Hardis said. "This new building was made possible by the support of the generous Beachwood community, and we hope it becomes your home away from home. It took teamwork, attention to detail, and collaboration from our Board of Education, staff, city officials, architects, engineers, and construction partners to make this day possible."

Board of Education President Megan Walsh said, "Today is a significant moment for our district, but most importantly for our students who will learn, grow, and discover new things inside the building. This celebration is not only about a new building, but also about what's possible when a community comes together and invests in its future. We can't wait to see all the amazing things that will happen here."



Hilltop Principal Amy Pinney said the best part of the ceremony was seeing all of the students and staff together in the new building. "Walking through the classrooms and seeing the excitement on your faces was incredibly special," Pinney said. "It's clear how appreciative everyone is of the people who made this possible."

Additional remarks were shared by Ryan Schmit of ThenDesign Architecture and Bill Schurman of Hammond Construction.

"It has been an incredible journey to get to this point," Schmit said. "By engaging with students, teachers, staff, administrators, and community members, we came together and created this vision that became Hilltop School. I truly hope you have a wonderful experience in this building."

Schurman noted that Hilltop is one of the most exciting projects that his team has had a chance to work on. "It's an amazing facility and the building will come alive after Spring Break when students, teachers, and staff return and bring the excitement to learn. It's been a tremendous honor to work for Beachwood City Schools and this community," Schurman said.

The ceremony concluded with the ribbon cutting led by Principal Pinney who was joined by students from each grade level. The entire school participated in a spirited 10-second countdown, while staff members celebrated with a burst of confetti.



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

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New Hilltop Building Welcomes Students for First Day

A new chapter at Hilltop School began on the morning of April 1, as buses and cars lined up to drop off students for their very first day inside the new building. Greeted by teachers and staff, students entered with excitement and curiosity, eager to experience a space they watched take shape over the last 20 months.

From the moment students entered, the building was alive with energy. Smiles, laughter, and spirited conversations filled the hallways as students explored bright classrooms, new lockers, and common areas. Staff members helped guide students through the new building, ensuring everyone found their way, while sharing in the excitement of the day.



Teachers balanced new routines with a familiar sense of structure, helping students feel comfortable in their new surroundings. Throughout the day, students experienced many firsts, including their first lesson in a new classroom, a first lunch in the cafeteria, and first visits to spaces like the media center, art room, music room, and gymnasium.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, Dr. Hardis said, "This new school has cozy places to read good books and special places for students to work in teams. There are spaces to make music, draw, paint, and play. Right now this is just a beautiful building. Once our students and staff bring energy, enthusiasm, and imagination into this building, then and only then will it become Hilltop School. And I'm excited to watch that happen."

By the end of the first day, the new Hilltop School was no longer just a building. It started to become a community of learning and collaboration thanks to the energy of its students and staff.

Hilltop Staff Recognizes Custodians



In the final days at the old building, Hilltop staff came together to recognize custodians Mark Parker, Kevin Borders, and Chiquia McClaine who went above and beyond during the move to the new building. Working behind the scenes, the trio played a vital role in ensuring the transition went smoothly for staff. To show their appreciation, Hilltop staff members raised more than \$500 and assembled gift baskets filled with gift cards and other items.

On the final day inside the old building, Hilltop staff presented the gift baskets. On March 20, as facilities staff and administrators helped move into the new Hilltop building, they were greeted with breakfast courtesy of the Hilltop staff.

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES



Recent News

- Received report on move into new Hilltop building
- Heard report on Human Resources processes
- Approved MOU with Cuyahoga County Public Library and City of Beachwood for new library on Fairmount site
- Presentation of 5-Star Report Card Banner

Upcoming Board Actions

- Presentation from Technology Committee
- Hear Department of Operations update

Board Meeting Calendar

- Monday, May 11 @ 7 p.m.



VIEW AGENDAS & MINUTES

www.beachwoodschoools.org/BOE

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Destination Imagination Teams Qualify for Global Finals

Seven Beachwood Destination Imagination (DI) teams traveled to Cincinnati in late March to compete in the state tournament. Each team delivered outstanding performances with six of the seven teams earning top-three finishes and qualifying for the Destination Imagination Global Finals, scheduled for May 21-24 in Kansas City. The state tournament marked the culmination of months of creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving. Each team presented their central challenge which they have been developing since September, as well as competing in an instant challenge.

"We are extremely proud of our students' commitment to improvement and hard work," program advisor Tara Warner said. "Following the regional tournament in February, teams analyzed their scores and worked diligently to make revisions for the state tournament."

The following teams qualified for the Global Tournament:

1st place - Elementary Improv

The PUPPETeers - Jacob Hitt, Geoffrey Lane, Iris Liu, Ashvik Singh, Hansen Zhang, Johnny Zhai

1st place - Elementary Engineering

The Smartsters - George Vaughn, Melody Wang, Ella Zhu

1st place - Middle Level Improv

OATS - Oscar Liang, Tanishka Singh, Athena Yu, Sophia Wang

2nd place - Elementary Project Outreach

Party Penguins 2.0 - Niki Karimi, Mishika Kasliwal, Cailynn Loyd, Ronak Seth, Khushi Upadhyaya, Kedar Viswanath, Zeiv Wolach

3rd place - Elementary Project Outreach

The Golden Girls - Riley Banchek, Parker Lester, Emma Hancher, Abigail Elias, Maya Rossi, Raaya Chakraborty, Sally Jacobs



EVENTS CALENDAR



Holi Celebration

May 3, 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Beachwood High School, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Kindergarten Orientation for Families

May 14, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Bryden School, 25252 Letchworth Rd.

Class of 2026 Graduation

May 26, 7:00 p.m.

Severance Music Center, 11001 Euclid Ave.



**VIEW THE
FULL CALENDAR**

www.beachwoodschoools.org/calendar

MathCounts Team Concludes Strong Season

Beachwood's top Mathletes competed at the Ohio MathCounts state competition on March 7, joining more than 150 students from over 30 teams across the state who qualified by placing at the top of their regional competitions. Qualifying through strong performances at the regional competition, the Beachwood team of Kaiyi Gao, Sota Tsuda, Korou Salem, and Joanna Qu delivered an impressive showing with a fifth place finish. Leading the way was Gao who placed fifth overall in the state and was named an alternate for Nationals. Gao also advanced to the Countdown Round and finished third overall.

At the regional meet, Beachwood had seven of the top eight finishers in the Countdown Round. Gao placed first overall, while Tsuda finished in second place, and Christina Jun was fourth. In addition, Salam, Lexi Gao, Qu, and Ben Lanphear were among the top eight finishers. In the team round, Kaiyi Gao, Tsuda, Salam, and Qu earned first place overall.

"We are extremely proud of our students who competed at the regional and state levels," advisor Amy Hazelton said. "Their hard work, focus, and determination earned them well-deserved success and it was inspiring to watch them perform at such a high level."

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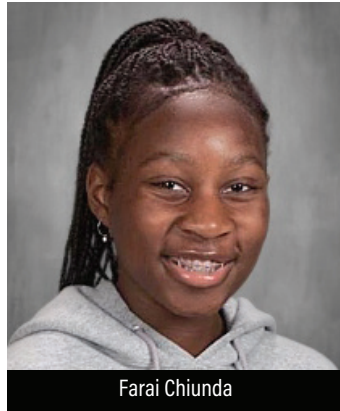


beachwoodschoools.org

Two BMS Students Finalists in Stop the Hate Contest



Maya Bourguignon



Farai Chiunda

Beachwood Middle Schools students Maya Bourguignon and Farai Chiunda have been selected as Finalists in the Poetry category of the 2026 Stop the Hate Youth Speak Out and Youth Sing Out contest. The Maltz Museum hosted the 16th Annual Stop the Hate Awards Ceremony on April 16 at the Tri-C Cuyahoga Community College Eastern Campus, Simon and Rose Mandel Theatre at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Humanities Center.

This year, more than 3,600 students from more than 150 Northeast Ohio schools participated in the Stop the Hate program, writing individual essays, poems, or group songs for a chance to win academic scholarships and educational grants for themselves and their schools. Bourguignon and Chiunda were among the five Finalists in the Poetry division at the middle school level. The 1st place winner will receive \$400, the 2nd place winner earns \$300, while the third place winner receives \$200, and two Honorable Mention selections win \$100.

Since Stop the Hate began, more than 50,000 students in 15 counties across Northeast Ohio have participated, and \$1.8 million has been awarded to students and schools.

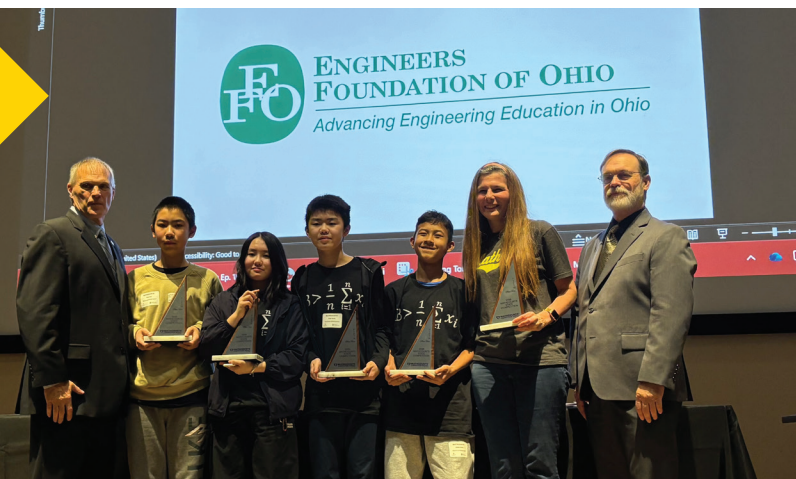
Board Approves 2027 Tax Rates

The Board of Education approved the 2027 tax rates at the March 9 meeting, keeping bond tax rates low for residents without an increase for the foreseeable future. The district will maintain current bond millage levels, ensuring that residents are not burdened with additional taxes. In order to achieve this, the district will use a portion of its settlement from the Warrensville Heights School District to cover bond obligations. This strategic use of one-time settlement funds allows Beachwood Schools to absorb costs that were previously supported through a temporary arrangement with the City of Beachwood. For the past three years, the City paused its 2.4-mill charter collection, helping support bond tax rates for the new Bryden and Hilltop Schools without increasing property taxes. As that pause ends, the district is stepping in to ensure continuity by directly funding those obligations. By applying settlement dollars to future bond payments, the district is able to maintain stable tax rates while continuing to responsibly manage the community's investment in new school facilities.



STEM Wars: Cardboard Boats Take Over Natatorium

Beachwood High School students in the design and engineering class put their problem-solving skills to the test by designing and racing cardboard boats in the natatorium as part of the annual STEM Wars competition. Working in teams, students were tasked with designing vessels using only cardboard and duct tape. The project pushed them to apply critical thinking, collaboration, and engineering principles as they tested their creations on the water with many of the boats sailing smoothly across the pool in front of cheering classmates and staff. This year's winning team was Asher Adler, Nao Okamoto, Adrian Cintron-Perez, and Sean Holdbrook-Smith.



Judson At Home Membership Program

Innovative senior support in the comfort of your home

For over a decade, Judson at Home has provided the practical resources and personal support seniors need to live life on their own terms at home and connected to a vibrant community.

Membership includes full access to Judson's campuses, cultural events, dining, and wellness amenities – along with a personalized care plan that evolves with your needs, offering a worry-free way to stay in the home you love.

Ready to join? Here's what awaits you:

- Membership unlocks a rich lifestyle across every Judson campus – from lifelong learning and art studios to live performances and recreational events. A weekly calendar keeps you connected.
- Members have regular access to dedicated nursing and social work professionals who help navigate health changes, connect you with the right resources, and

provide personalized wellness assessments.

- Members enjoy an annual \$600 allowance toward dining and transportation, plus monthly meetings to connect with peers and build a community that feels like home.
 - Every membership includes a financial planning review while onboarding to help you move forward with confidence.
 - When additional care is needed, members can access outpatient therapy (billable to insurance), short-term rehabilitation, and respite services.
- Judson at Home is an affordable, reliable path to independence, with a dedicated team by your side every step of the way.

Key Things to Consider When Shopping for a Membership Program

- Reputation** – Choose an organization with a strong community presence and positive reputation.
- Customer Satisfaction** – Talk with current members to learn how the program works in real-life situations.
- Flexibility** – Needs change over time, so look for services that can adapt and provide personalized support.
- Care Coordination** – A good program should partner with you, help coordinate care, and support your independence.
- Socialization** – Look for opportunities to stay engaged, connected, and active.
- Health and Wellness** – Strong wellness offerings can support both physical and mental health.
- Individualized Care** – The best programs have a team that knows you personally, not just medically.
- Personal Assistance** – Your program should be a trusted resource for guidance, support, and referrals.
- Planning Ahead** – Be sure you understand costs, cancellation policies, and what long-term care options are available should your needs change.



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



Membership is Music to Our Ears!

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

Become a Member Today!

(216) 791-2436
judsonsmartliving.org

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

Holi – The Festival of Colors

Sunday, May 3
12–3 p.m.
Beachwood High School



Spring has arrived – a season of renewal, fresh beginnings, and vibrant energy. Across India and around the world, this time of year is celebrated with Holi – The Festival of Colors, a joyful Hindu tradition that marks the triumph of good over evil and honors the spirit of unity and human connection.

Holi brings people of all faiths, cultures, ages, and backgrounds together in a shared celebration of life. The festival is known for its playful tossing of bright colors, symbolizing joy, positivity, and the beauty of diversity. It's also a time to appreciate nature, embrace community, and enjoy festive treats with family and friends.

The Beachwood Schools Indian American Family Affinity Group invites the community to experience this colorful celebration firsthand:

The afternoon will feature fun activities, vibrant color play, and a variety of delicious sweets. It's an opportunity to gather, connect, and celebrate the values of friendship, inclusion, and joy that define both Holi and our Beachwood community.

Come be part of this uplifting, family-friendly event – and help spread a little more color and kindness this spring.



From the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

BCC Women's Coffee Hour

Thursday, May 14
8:30-9:30 a.m.
Beachwood Community Center
Members: No charge
Nonmembers: \$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.



To register for these programs, visit www.beachwood.org.

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2026 Tikkun Leil Shavuot: A Night of Study and Celebration

The 2026 Community-wide Tikkun Leil Shavuot event, a night of study and celebration to mark the receiving of the Torah, will be held Thursday, May 21, 7 p.m., through Friday, May 22, 7 a.m., at B'nai Jeshurun Congregation, 27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike.

This premier, free event will feature eight study sessions, a grand dessert buffet, breakfast bar, Kabbalistic Shavuot wedding ceremony, and festival evening and sunrise services.

Participants can attend individual sessions or the entire event, choosing from multiple classes offered in each session. Attendees can join the expected 500 participants, either in-person or by streaming select classes online.

For a complete schedule, including teachers and topics, visit <https://www.bnaijeshurun.org/tikkun2026.html>. Registration includes all aspects of Tikkun and is required by Monday May 18.

The Tikkun is presented by B'nai Jeshurun Congregation and its Estelle and Dr. Milton Rosenberg Shavuot Study Fund.

The additional 22 co-sponsors include BJC's JWell and The Bridge projects, congregations, universities, schools, Hillels, and Jewish organizations from across Northeast Ohio.

Beachwood based co-sponsors are *Cleveland Jewish News*, Congregation Mishkan Or, Congregation Shaarey Tikvah, Mandel Jewish Day School, Mandel JCC, and Suburban Temple Kol Ami.

The 34 premier teachers are rabbis, cantors, Jewish community educators and cultural experts, and university professors from across Northeast Ohio. Eight presenters are new to the Tikkun event and a dozen are residents of Beachwood. Classes, from 7 p.m. until 4 a.m., are in English and no prior knowledge is needed.

Teaching formats, including interactive/participatory, presentation, discussion, and traditional Jewish study, vary. There will be a wide range of topics.

Cultural sessions include Israeli dancing, the history of dressing the Torah and its ceremonial finery, and beat-making music that explores the intersection of Yiddish culture and electronic club music.

Topics that inform contemporary lifestyles include Maimonides' approach to holistic health, Jewish wisdom on aging, safety in the Jewish body, Mussar – self-help for the sake of others, interfaith families and Jewish continuity, and what we have learned from Black-Jewish dialogue.

Traditional Shavuot topics include Talmudic discourse on revelation, an introduction to the Ten Commandments, the Book of Ruth and welcoming the convert, what took place at Mount Sinai, and who wrote the Torah. Additional sessions address the current situation in Israel, including coverage from a media perspective.

The teen program for grades 5-12, from 7-8:30 p.m., will be facilitated by B'nai Jeshurun's youth director Avigail Botnik. BJC librarian Dr. R. Raphael Simon will open the library until 1 a.m. for browsing or lending books.

The Kabbalistic Mystical Wedding (4:15 a.m.) involves a processional of two Torahs under a chuppah, symbolizing the union of Torah and the Jewish People, and is marked by joyous dancing. This is followed by a full Shacharit (morning) Festival service at 4:45 a.m., at sunrise.



Rabbi Scott Roland of Congregation Shaarey Tikvah, who lives and works in Beachwood, will be one of 34 presenters at this year's Community-wide Tikkun Leil Shavuot event.

The B'nai Jeshurun Congregation Tikkun Committee comprises Harriet Rosenberg Mann, chair; Richard Berkowitz, vice chair; Rabbi Josh Foster; Senior Rabbi Hal Rudin-Luria; and Zoe Bluffestone. The first three are Beachwood residents.

"Whether you stay for a single session or the entire night, this community-wide Tikkun offers an extraordinary range of experiences for every interest and level," Harriet emphasized.

For more information, contact Zoe Bluffestone, BJC program director, at 216.354.0742 or zoebluffestone@bnaijeshurun.org.

"Whether you stay for a single session or the entire night, this community-wide Tikkun offers an extraordinary range of experiences for every interest and level!"

~ Harriet Rosenberg Mann
Event Chair

Beachwood Arts Council

Beachwood K-12 Art Exhibit

Thursday, April 30 – Tuesday, May 26

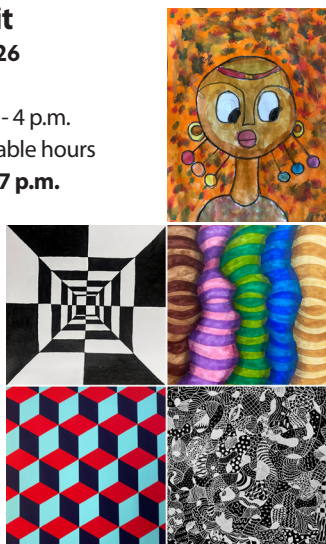
Beachwood Community Center

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

Cleveland Orchestra Bass Quartet

Mothers Day • Sunday, May 10 • 2-3 p.m.

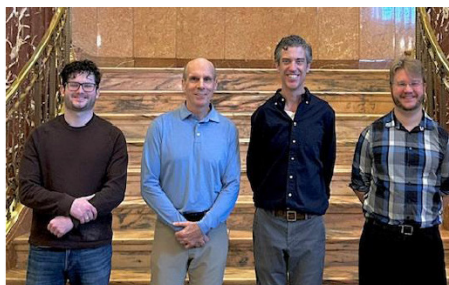
Beachwood Community Center

The Cleveland Orchestra 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.

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.

They explore a bass quartet repertoire that includes original works as well as arrangements of favorite classical pieces, giving these bassists the opportunity to



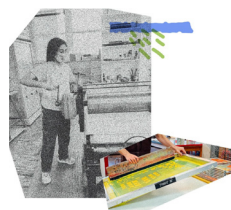
Zygote Press Tour

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

New Address: 3907 Perkins Ave., Cleveland

BAC will sponsor a program at Zygote 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 1, by calling 216.595.3400. The cost is \$20 for BAC members and \$25 for non-BAC members.



Ohio Collage Society Member Exhibit

Saturday, May 30 – Sunday, July 12

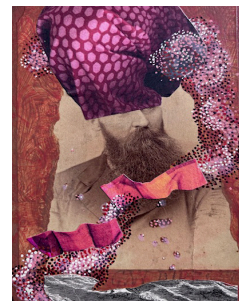
Gallery Hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Weekends: Call 216.292.1970 for available hours

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 30, 5-7 p.m.

Ohio Collage Society, an organization founded by Gretchen Bierbaum, seeks to educate the public about collage and to exhibit the work of collage artists in Ohio. The group's work demonstrates

the diversity in both concept and form that exemplifies contemporary approaches to the medium.



Beachwood Arts Council has enriched life through the arts for 60 years through exhibitions, concerts, tours, special events, and hands-on projects. Open to all northeast Ohio residents, BAC also supports young artists through its annual scholarship award. To learn more or join, visit beachwoodartscouncil.org or call 216.595.3400.



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Annie Roth Named Cleveland's Remarkable Woman of 2026

Annie Roth was stunned, then overjoyed, then a little intimidated. Above all, she was deeply honored to have been chosen as one of 125 women from more than 12,000 nominations nationwide to represent Nexstar Fox 8 Cleveland. When she was named Cleveland's Remarkable Woman of 2026, the recognition felt both surreal and profoundly meaningful – a reflection of her own journey, as well as the thousands of women whose lives have been touched by her work.

As co-founder of Find Your Voice Now, Annie has helped grow a global community of more than 2,700 women who are navigating, healing from, and rising beyond toxic, coercive, and abusive relationships. What began as a deeply personal mission has become a powerful movement—one now expanding

to include men, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and teens, so that support can reach those who need it at every stage of life.

Find Your Voice Now addresses the full spectrum of relationships – personal, professional, familial, and social – recognizing that toxicity and harm are not confined to one area of life. Through support groups, education, and connection to critical resources, the organization has become a lifeline for those who once felt alone.

“The amount of help we’ve been able to provide is incredible,” Annie shared. “What matters most is that people now know that they don’t have to suffer in silence.”

That message has grown stronger with increased visibility. Following her feature on *Fox 8 in Cleveland*, Annie has been



Annie Roth and Mary Ellen Bartlett, co-founders of Find Your Voice Now. Photo credit: Find Your Voice Now.

able to amplify her mission, reaching more individuals who need support, and expanding partnerships with mental health agencies and service providers. These collaborations have made it possible to connect people directly with the help they need – whether it’s counseling, crisis support, or safe housing.

At the core of Annie’s work is a simple but transformative belief: Healing does not happen in isolation. It happens in a community.

“No one heals alone,” she emphasizes. “When you have people around you who understand, who support you, who remind you of your strength – that’s when real change begins.”

Through workshops, curriculum development, and outreach, Annie and her team are helping individuals to reclaim their power. They encourage people to stop letting fear take control and, instead, to take ownership of their lives, their voices, and their futures. The work is only just beginning.

In October 2026, Annie will launch a new web application that will be powered by Experienceknows.com, a mental health and wellness platform that makes real-world expertise accessible through

personalized, one-on-one sessions with experienced guides. This application will make resources, support, and community even more accessible. In addition, an upcoming book, titled *We Hear You*, will feature real stories from women around the world – survivors who are healing and helping others do the same.

The book aims to serve as both a source of comfort and a call to action, proving that even in the darkest circumstances, transformation is possible.

Annie also told us that the organization recently received a \$10,000 matching grant from The Good People Fund and that community support through additional donations will help them continue moving toward their goals. To donate, visit <https://tinyurl.com/FYVNMATCH>.

Being named Cleveland's Remarkable Woman of 2026 is a milestone – and for Annie, it's also fuel: fuel to keep going, to reach more people, and to remind the world that every voice matters and every person deserves to be heard. Most importantly, this recognition fuels her commitment to building a future where no one has to walk through pain alone.

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

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Race for the Place 2026: Race Forward Together on National Cancer Survivors Day

On Sunday, June 7, 2026, The Gathering Place will host its annual Race for the Place at Beachwood Place in celebration of National Cancer Survivors Day and in honor of the thousands of individuals who show up for themselves and one another in the face of cancer.

More than a 5K run and 1-mile walk, Race for the Place is a powerful gathering of survivors, caregivers, families, and supporters, united by one truth: No one should face cancer alone. Among them are participants whose lives have been shaped not only by cancer, but by the support that helps them and their loved ones keep moving forward.

"Doctors treat my cancer," says participant Jill Shemory, who has been living with cancer since 2014. "But The Gathering Place helps me live my life."

For Alice Santurri, a wife, mother, and woman living with metastatic breast cancer, showing up looks different, but just as powerful.

"I have cancer, but it doesn't have me," Alice says. "The mental weight can be heavier than the physical. Having a place where I don't have to explain myself, where people understand, changes everything."

Proceeds from Race for the Place directly fund The Gathering Place's free programs and services, including support groups, educational resources, wellness offerings, and survivorship programming, ensuring that anyone impacted by cancer in Northeast Ohio has access to care, connection, and community at no cost.

"As we conclude our 25th year serving this community, Race for the Place reflects exactly who we are," said Michele Seyranian, CEO of The Gathering Place. "We're proud to be a place of compassion, information, and lifelong connection, and grateful to keep moving forward together with the support of our community."



Race Day Details:

- 7:30 a.m. Registration Opens
- 8:00 a.m. Celebration Village Opens
- 8:45 a.m. National Cancer Survivors Ceremony
- 9:00 a.m. 5K & 1-Mile Begin
- 10:30 a.m. Awards Ceremony

Participants can register, donate, or find sponsorship opportunities at racefortheplace.org.

About The Gathering Place

The Gathering Place is a community dedicated to supporting those affected by cancer – individuals, caregivers, families, and friends – through comprehensive services provided at no cost. By fostering connection, empowerment, and hope, The Gathering Place helps people navigate the physical, emotional, and social challenges of a cancer diagnosis.

Cantor Larry Josefovitz Presents Recital of Classical Songs and Arias

A Musical Reflection on the Upsurge in Antisemitism • Sunday, May 17, 4 p.m.

To reflect on the dramatic rise in antisemitism since Oct. 7, 2023, Cantor Larry Josefovitz will give a recital of classical songs and arias on Sunday, May 17, 4 p.m., at Temple Israel Ner Tamid. The concert will be centered on a cycle of poems by the 19th century German Jewish poet Heinrich Heine, whose poems were so essential to the German reading public that the Nazis – who erased, excluded, and destroyed all Jewish contributions to their culture – could not ban them.

Cantor Josefovitz will sing the musical settings of these poems

by Robert Schumann in a song cycle called *Dichterliebe* (*Poet's Love*). There will also be arias by Mendelssohn and Handel; songs by Debussy, Faure, and de Falla; as well as a Ladino song.

A special feature will be the narration of the entire cycle by former WCLV classical music host Eric Kisch. Adam Whiting will accompany Cantor Josefovitz on the piano.

The concert, free and open to the public, is being sponsored by the Rabbi Fred Eisenberg Music Fund. Temple Israel Ner Tamid is located at 1732 Lander Rd. in Mayfield Heights.

Cantor Josefovitz began his career as alto soloist with the Oscar Julius Choir in New York City. He attended New York's High School of Music and Art and received his B.A. in music from Yeshiva College. He also attended Teachers College (Columbia Graduate School), Boston University, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the Rubin Academy of Music & Dance in Jerusalem, and the Aspen Music Festival & School in Colorado. He has performed at Carnegie Hall and on Kol Yisrael Radio Israel, and has served at Park Synagogue and North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, in Highland Park, Illinois.



Cantor Larry Josefovitz
Photo by New Image Photography

Since retirement, he taught at Temple Israel Ner Tamid, has served as a High Holy Day cantor, and has offered courses through CWRU/Siegal Lifelong Learning.

Cantor Josefovitz, his wife, Diane, and children, Shira and Micah, reside in Beachwood and are affiliated with Green Road Synagogue in Beachwood.

From Couch to Finish Line: A Story of Strength, Grit, and Second Chances

Beachwood is home to many stories of resilience, reinvention, and quiet courage – and one of those stories takes center stage next month with the release of *Embracing My Inner Athlete*, a personal and uplifting memoir by Beachwood resident Hildee Weiss.

Hildee's journey didn't begin on a track or in a gym. At 46, she had mastered the art of prioritizing her roles as wife, mother, and volunteer, while placing self-care on the back burner.

At 46, Hildee Weiss wasn't setting out to become an athlete – she was responding to a quiet but powerful nudge to do something for herself. A conversation with her father-in-law, Morry Weiss, brought that realization into focus. He gently pointed out that she had spent so much time caring for everyone else, it was time to do something for herself.

Acting on that suggestion, she called the Mandel JCC and began working with Jeff Yannarell, a trainer. When asked about her goals, she admitted she would love to be able to run. Even though she didn't believe she could, she said it out loud. Lacking confidence and concerned about how she looked and felt physically, the idea seemed out of reach. She wasn't looking to become an athlete – she simply wanted to feel better and improve her overall health.

Months later, that small admission turned into action as Jeff gradually introduced jogging on the treadmill, eventually suggesting a 5K. Having never run a mile, Hildee was doubtful – until she did it. That moment became the starting point of a much larger journey, where each new milestone followed a familiar pattern: hesitation, resistance, and then a willingness to try.

Hildee learned to push past the voice that told her she *couldn't* by asking herself a simple, powerful question: "What if I try?"

Her willingness to contemplate that question shifted her mindset,

which then carried her across finish lines she once believed were impossible. After years of tying her self-worth to the number on the scale, Hildee developed strength, confidence, and a healthier perspective.

The path was far from linear, with setbacks, injuries, and periods of lost motivation, yet each return strengthened her resilience – her mindset shifted from *I have to run* to *I get to run*, bringing a deeper sense of gratitude and self-acceptance.

That evolution, along with encouragement from a friend during a period of recovery in 2023, ultimately inspired her to reflect on her journey and write her book, *Embracing My Inner Athlete*, which brings her journey to life with honesty, humor, and heart.

Hildee documented her journey from 2014 forward – reliving races and the emotions behind them. Within months, the manuscript was complete and, by July 2024, she had signed with Library Tales Publishing. Now, her story is ready to be shared.

More than a running memoir, *Embracing My Inner Athlete* speaks directly to anyone who has ever felt stuck, overlooked, or unsure where to begin. As Hildee shares, many women believe it's too late to start something new, but it's not. Her message is simple and powerful: We are never too late, never too old, and never too unfit to begin. With belief and a willingness to try, anything is possible. Sometimes, the biggest transformation starts with a single step.

While this is her first fitness-focused memoir, Hildee is no stranger to meaningful



storytelling. Writing under the pen name Hannah Stone, she previously authored *Forever Our Angels* and *Remembering Our Angels*, and contributed to *Recurrent Pregnancy Loss* (Springer, 2018). Across all her work, Hildee blends vulnerability with hope – an approach that continues in her latest book.

Hildee and her husband, Gary, split their time between Beachwood and Israel, where much of their family now lives. Together, they have five children and a growing number of grandchildren, with deep roots in both communities. Balancing family across continents has brought its own challenges and perspective – further shaping Hildee's appreciation for resilience, connection, and making the most of each chapter.

For Beachwood readers and beyond, this is a story worth cheering for – one step, one mile, and one finish line at a time.

For more information or to order a copy of *Embracing My Inner Athlete*, visit Mac's Backs Books on Coventry (macsbacks.com), Amazon, or Barnes & Noble. The book is currently available for pre-order and will be released on June 9.

Hildee Weiss proudly announces the release of her new book, *Embracing My Inner Athlete*.

Hildee learned to push past the voice that told her she *couldn't* by asking herself a simple, powerful question: "What if I try?"



Coloring the Community: Blaise Eitman's Art Leaves Its Mark

Blaise Eitman has long brought color, care, and creativity to the Beachwood community. Known for her intricate graph paper designs – carefully crafted with patience and precision – Blaise continues to find new ways to share her artistic voice.

Blaise takes pride in her ability to create detailed, colorful designs on graph paper – a skill that reflects both her confidence and her passion for art.

That passion is now visible in a new and meaningful way. Through Jewish Family Service Association's Horvitz YouthAbility program, Blaise's signature designs have been incorporated into both a community van and a permanent installation inside the building.

"Blaise is a talented artist with a ton of patience and a keen eye for creating patterns on graph paper," said YouthAbility coordinator Heidi Solomon. "We created the artwork for our van as a group and her designs fit beautifully. The colors complemented the illustrations in a way that brought everything together."

Blaise was "excited and eager" when the idea was first introduced – and even more so when she saw the finished product. "She was very proud, and still feels proud every time she sees the van driving through the community," Heidi said.

The back of the van reads: "This van is powered by respect, dignity, diversity, helpfulness, kindness, teamwork," a message that mirrors Blaise's artwork. Together, they represent YouthAbility's mission: empowering individuals to contribute meaningfully and spread positivity throughout the community.

Blaise's work continues to inspire. The word YOUTHABILITY, in large letters, is displayed at

the Kindness Center on Commerce Park Road, with each letter covered in Blaise's distinctive graph paper designs. Commissioned by Heidi and brought to life with the help of fellow program participants, the installation reflects both individual talent and collective effort.

"Let's all focus on our abilities," Heidi said. "That's what makes our world bright and joyful."

The Kindness Center is home to three JFSA programs: Adult Day Support, Horvitz YouthAbility, and PLAN. Each program is designed to cater to the unique needs of adults and youth with developmental, intellectual, cognitive, and mental health disabilities.

Blaise's journey as an artist has been years in the making. A 2012 graduate of Beachwood High School, she has spent more than a decade creating whimsical, colorful pieces using fine-point Sharpies – often gifting them to friends and family. Her work has appeared in local shops, and her creative spirit has remained constant.

Today, her art continues to evolve and to connect.

"Let's all focus on our abilities," Heidi said. "That's what makes our world bright and joyful."

With every line, pattern, and carefully chosen color, Blaise is doing just that.



Blaise Eitman proudly stands beside the YouthAbility van, where her vibrant designs reflect the creativity, confidence, and heart she brings to her creations.

Photos by Heidi Solomon.

Beachwood Historical Society Brings History to Life With Play Reading of *Heroes Who Shaped America*

In honor of our nation's upcoming 250th birthday, the Beachwood Historical Society invites the community to step back in time with a special evening of storytelling and reflection.

Heroes Who Shaped America, a live play reading, will highlight the lives and legacies of individuals who helped shape the

course of our country. Through powerful voices and historical perspective, the program explores the courage, conviction, and fight for freedom that defined these pivotal figures.

The event will take place on June 27, 7-8:30 p.m., at the Beachwood Community Center.

Community members are invited to attend – and

participate! Those interested in taking part in the performance are encouraged to contact the Beachwood Historical Society at 216.595.3400 and leave their name and phone number.

Whether you come to listen, learn, or lend your voice, this engaging evening offers a meaningful way to celebrate our shared history – and the people

who helped shape it.



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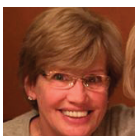
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Beachwood Library Programs

AI for Seniors

Tuesday, May 5 • 10-11 a.m.

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Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15288128>.

Author Alan Cohen

Tuesday, May 5 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us when author Dr. Alan Cohen visits to discuss his memoir, *Comfort Always*:

Healing in the Age of Technology. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15774759>.

The Music of Nat King Cole with Debbie Darling

Friday, May 8 • 2-3 p.m.

Debbie will take you on a musical journey through the life and works of Nat King Cole. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15166879>.

Tuesday Book Chat

Tuesday, May 12 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us for a discussion about *The Correspondent*, by Virginia Evans. Registration is not necessary.

Author Carter Keane

Thursday, May 14 • 7-8 p.m.

Join us when author Carter Keane visits to discuss their debut horror novel, *Morsel*. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15307161>.

Knit & Lit

Monday, May 18 • 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/14583001>.

Third Wednesday Book Discussion

Wednesday, May 20 • 2-3 p.m.

Join us for a discussion of *Culpability*, by Bruce Holsinger. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15291703>.



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7am-noon Saturday



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Harp Recital

Saturday, May 23 • 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Join us for a harp recital featuring the students of Jody Guinn. Register at <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15849439>.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Hebrew Language Storytime

Wednesday, May 13 • 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.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge begins on June 1. Stop by the Beachwood library to register now.



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 May 1 and June 5. Participants create varied projects, including hats, scarves, bunnies, bears, lapghans, soap sacks, and more. Yarn donations are always welcome, too.

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



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