

Beachwood Buzz

April 2024

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MAGAZINE



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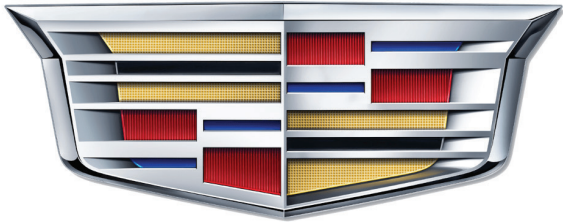
Spruce Up Your Home Ad Section

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Letter from THE EDITOR

By Debby Zelman Rapoport

Last month, my friend, Ginny Stocker, introduced me to Art2Life, a creative platform and community founded by Nicholas Wilton, an artist, author, and teacher who, among other things, created the cover of the illustrated edition of *The Four Agreements*, by don Miguel Ruiz. The Art2Life program focuses on helping artists develop their creative process and find their unique voice.

After participating in a weeklong workshop, I signed up for an intensive 12-week program that covers a range of topics, including painting techniques, composition, color theory, and creative mindset. I was drawn in because the program trains artists to explore their intuition and develop their personal expression, while creating a vision that will result in meaningful artwork.

The foundation of this program is based on digging deep to recognize our authentic self to become better aware of our thoughts, emotions, beliefs, wants, needs, wishes, and desires.

Although we're not all painters, we are all creative and are more than capable of succeeding in whatever it is we choose to do.

Sure, some of us have natural aptitude in a certain area and may pick up skills more

quickly or excel more naturally compared to others, but desire steers the ship.

Even without innate talent, individuals with strong desire compensate through dedication, persistence, and hard work.

Painting lights me up and I know it will light me up more when I embrace a state of flow to paint in a more abstract, impressionistic style.

What lights you up?

Creative options are virtually limitless. Whether we have an interest in art, music, film, design, technology, crafts, food, performing arts, photography, writing, innovation, education, entrepreneurship, DIY projects, community initiatives, environmental solutions, entertainment, or anything else, learning or perfecting something is about desire. It's about the process, rather than the outcome. It's about

embracing imperfection and recognizing that creativity is a journey of self-discovery and growth.

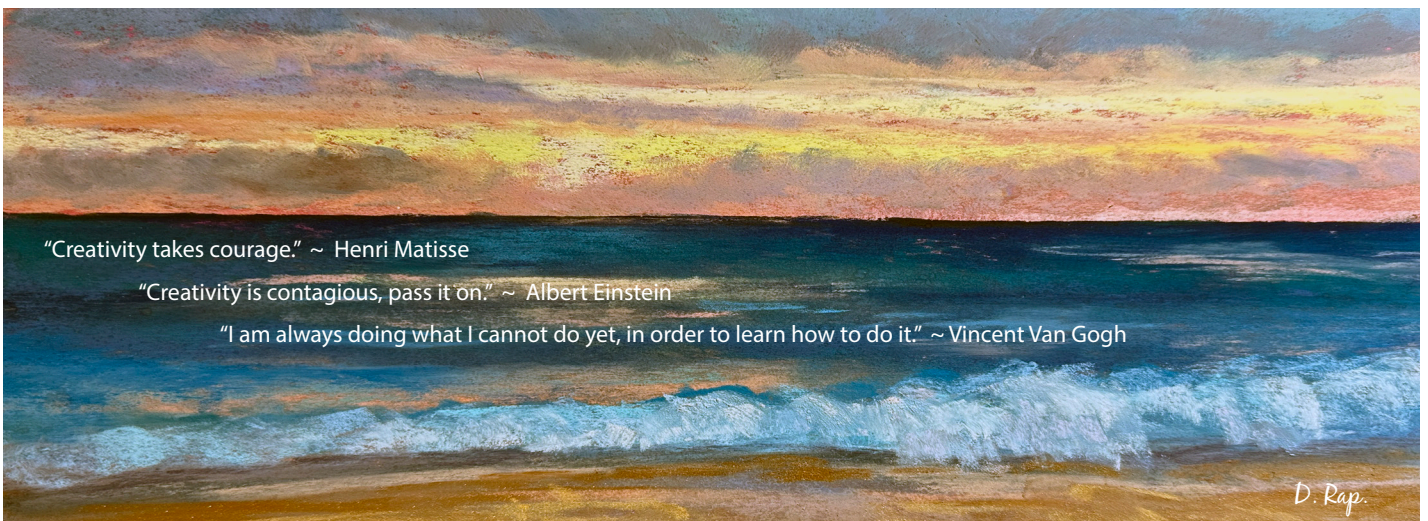
Unfortunately, many people don't take time to recognize that there's a discrepancy between who we truly are and who we present to the world. *We're all vulnerable!* We're afraid of failure, rejection, comparison, and being judged. Fear of success can also hold us back from trying something creative because success can bring its own set of challenges and responsibilities. *What if I succeed?*

Despite these barriers, many people eventually embrace their creative side because they're prompted by life events, personal growth experiences, or a deepening sense of dissatisfaction with their current circumstances. Why wait for something to happen that will trigger your *aha* moment to dive into your creativity?

Although we're not all painters, we are all creative and are more than capable of succeeding in whatever it is we choose to do.

Creative journeys unfold over time as we navigate joys, challenges, and discoveries. They're about establishing a practice that puts us in flow, where we want to experiment and persevere.

Think of how much more colorful society would be if we all found our creative niche and shared it with the world. There's nobody else like you and what you create will be beautiful. Let's create together to make the world a brighter place.



"Creativity takes courage." ~ Henri Matisse

"Creativity is contagious, pass it on." ~ Albert Einstein

"I am always doing what I cannot do yet, in order to learn how to do it." ~ Vincent Van Gogh

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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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Beachwood Buzz
Every Resident. Every Business. Every Month. MAGAZINE

Cover Story:

Mayor Justin Berns Delivers 2024 State of the City Address



Photo taken in the lobby of Eaton.

Mayor Justin Berns recently delivered the 2024 State of the City address, which included an overview of 2023 highlights and 2024 projections. The event took place at Eaton's U.S. headquarters, a 600,000-square-foot building on a 53-acre campus in Beachwood. Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, which hosted the event, and the City of Beachwood thank Eaton for allowing this event to be held on its property.

Written by Debby Zelman Rapoport • Photos by Scott Morrison, Discovery Photo Story begins on page 7.



It's Time to Spruce Up Your Home!

Whether you're looking to repair, remodel, update, schedule maintenance, landscape, sell your home, buy a new one, or treat yourself to something nice, we've got you covered! **Be sure to see the the special ad section, starting on page 41.**

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Local Leaders Travel to Israel, Bring Solidarity and Support from Cleveland

A delegation of 24 Jewish Cleveland leaders and activists recently visited Israel to show our community's unbreakable commitment to the people of Israel.

The group spent time getting updates from Federation's longstanding partners, including the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI). With the ongoing support of Jewish Cleveland, these organizations deliver a wide range of critical services and humanitarian aid for the people of Israel in times of peace and war – including programs that help the most vulnerable like seniors, at-risk youth, struggling families, people with disabilities, and Ethiopian immigrants.

During the five-day mission, participants traveled to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, the South (including Kibbutz Kissufim, Federation's new partnership community), and our sister community of Beit Shean/Valley of Springs, which is home to internally displaced families.

Jewish Cleveland's new partnership community, Kibbutz Kissufim, is one of the Kibbutzim (an intentional community in Israel that focuses on a communal lifestyle) in the Gaza envelope that was attacked on Oct. 7. Prior to that day, 407 residents lived on the Kibbutz; 18 were murdered by Hamas terrorists, and one man – Shlomo Mantzur – is currently being held as a hostage.

"The people of Kibbutz Kissufim – like so many in Israel – have suffered an unthinkable horror," said Jared Miller, chair of Federation's Kibbutz Kissufim partnership. "We are taught as Jews 'Kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh: All of Israel are responsible for each other.' It is an honor to be able to work with these strong and determined people at this time of need."

According to Beachwood resident Mark Holz, chair of Federation's Overseas Connections Committee, the partnership will work with the leaders of Kibbutz Kissufim as they begin the long process of addressing the various needs of the community. "There is no easy fix to what the people of Israel have had to endure since last Oct. 7," Mark said. "Through this partnership, we will be able to help Kibbutz Kissufim – a strong community in its own right – every step of the way as it moves forward."

Kibbutz Kissufim, which was established in 1951, is known for its dairy and poultry farming, and its avocado orchard.

The Jewish Federation of Cleveland has a long history of supporting the social

and humanitarian needs of the people of Israel. In 1995, it further deepened its connection to Israel by adopting Beit Shean and the Valley of Springs as its sister community, where it continues to invest significant time and resources to better the lives of those who live in these periphery cities in Israel.

The Federation is in the process of working through how it can specifically help, and we look forward to developing a rich relationship and helping the community move forward from the war that began on Oct. 7.

For more information on how to help the people of Israel and get involved, contact Jaclyn Szaruga at jszaruga@jewishcleveland.org 216.593.2900, 218. You can also

visit the Israel resources page at www.jewishcleveland.org/israel-resources/ to take action.

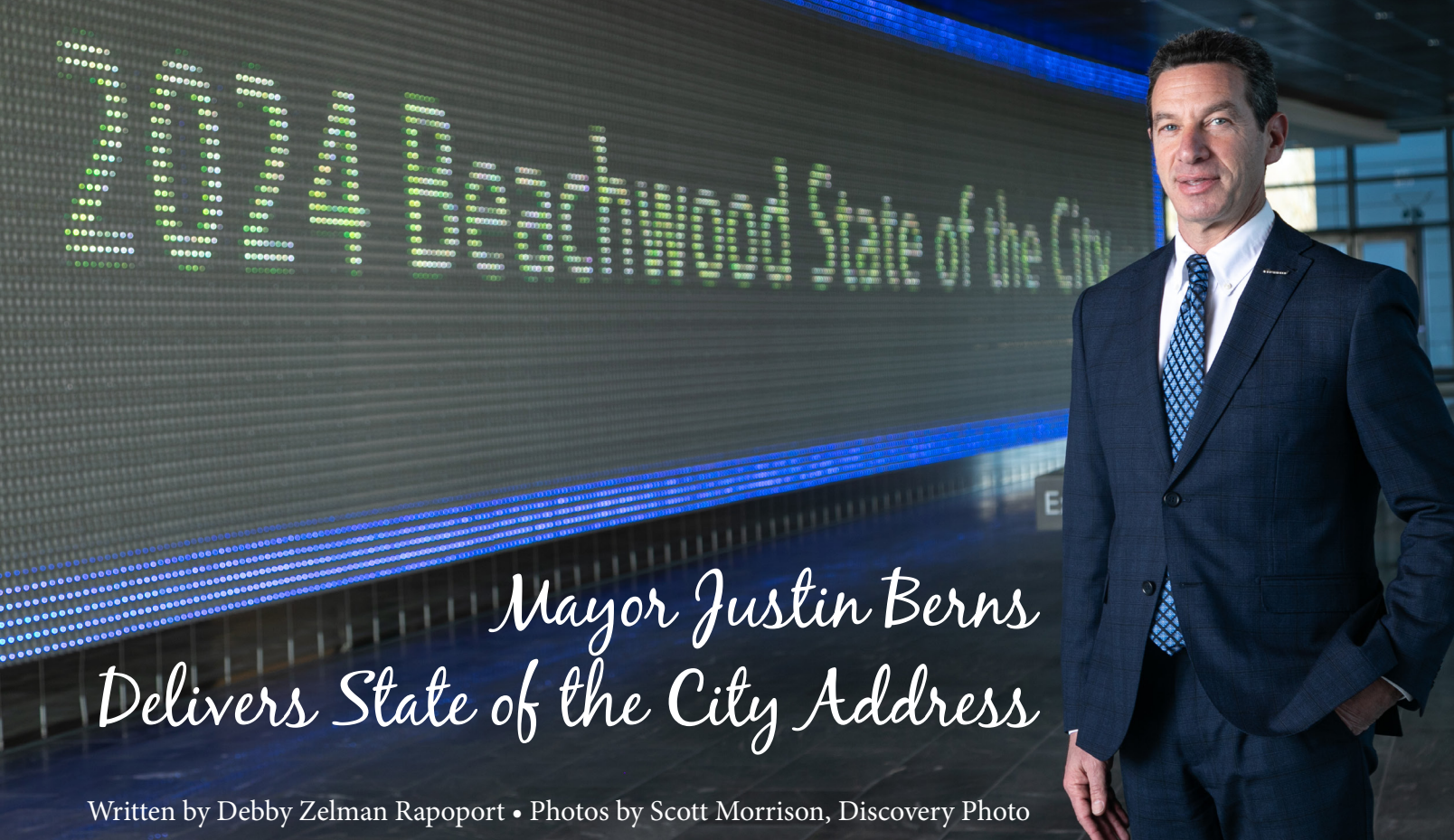


The Federation is in the process of working through how it can specifically help, and we look forward to continued development of a rich relationship and helping the community move forward from the war that began on Oct. 7.



Top: Kibbutz Kissufim before and after Oct. 7, 2023.

Bottom: Cleveland delegates meet with residents of Kibbutz Kissufim, Federation's new partnership community.



Mayor Justin Berns Delivers State of the City Address

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

Mayor Justin Berns at Eaton, in the lobby, prior to the State of the City address.

The Beachwood Chamber of Commerce (BCC) recently hosted an event where Mayor Justin Berns delivered the City of Beachwood’s 2024 State of the City address, which included an overview of 2023 highlights and 2024 projections. The event took place at Eaton’s U.S. headquarters, a 600,000-square-foot building on a 53-acre campus in Beachwood. The City of Beachwood and BCC thank Eaton for allowing this event to be held on its property.

Following an introduction by David Lapierre, BCC director, Mayor Berns said, “I am honored to stand before you in this distinguished venue. This setting exemplifies the standard of excellence that characterizes the businesses within our city. I also extend gratitude to the Chamber for this invitation, and for their unwavering support and collaboration.”

Mayor Berns then recognized city administrators, all of whom form the backbone of our community. He said, “Your tireless dedication and unwavering commitment to the City of Beachwood are the driving forces behind our achievements in 2023 and the plans we have set for 2024. It is through your leadership and the hard work of your teams that we deliver the programs and services that our residents and businesses rely on each and every day. I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your invaluable contributions to our city’s success.”

Special thanks were also extended to Brittany Rutkowski, executive assistant; June Scharf, communications consultant; and Ryan Kennedy, graphic designer, for their overall dedication and the time they spent creating this presentation.

Mayor Berns then introduced City Council members, saying, “Your presence underscores your dedication, not only to our city, but to the collaborative spirit that drives progress in Beachwood. Thank you for your service and dedication to our great city.”



David Lapierre, BCC director, introduces Mayor Justin Berns, who presented the City of Beachwood’s 2024 State of the City address.



“I am honored to stand before you in this distinguished venue. This setting exemplifies the standard of excellence that characterizes the businesses within our city. I also extend gratitude to the Chamber for this invitation, and for their unwavering support and collaboration.”

– Mayor Justin Berns

City Administrators

Standing: Craig Kaufman, IT Manager; Dana Canzone, Human Resources Manager; Steve Holtzman, Fire Chief; Brian Roenigk, Building Commissioner; Tina Turick, City Administrator; Harvey Rose, Audit Director; and Catherine Bieterman, Economic Development Director.

Sitting: Chris Arrietta, Public Works Director; Kate McLaughlin, Police Chief; Larry Heiser, Finance Director.

Not pictured: Todd Hunt, Law Director; and Derek Schroeder, Community Services Director.

Photo, by Scott Morrison, taken on the top floor at Eaton.



2023 Accomplishments

There are six key areas of focus that serve as the guiding principles for advancing the city and ensuring the delivery of the programs and services that our residents and businesses expect and deserve.

Fiscal Responsibility

The city's Finance and Audit Departments play pivotal roles in making sure financial objectives are met, while maintaining the integrity of processes and providing essential checks and balances.

Of special note is a recent independent audit. The city received a clean audit, the highest opinion a city can receive, which reflects Beachwood's exceptional record keeping. It also underscores the city's commitment to delivering services with efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency.

Infrastructure Improvements

Infrastructure improvements refer to the enhancement, maintenance, and expansion of buildings and systems that support the city. These improvements are essential for our safety, mobility, and quality of life.

This past year, the city completed the Green and Bryden Road storm sewer culvert project; resurfaced six streets, including Auburn Drive, Blossom Lane, Edgehill Drive, Bernwood Road, and parts of Halworth Road and East Groveland Road; and replaced sidewalk slabs, at no cost to

residents, on Fairmount Boulevard, Shaker Boulevard, Richmond Road, Greenwich Lane, and Deborah Drive.

The city also relocated and expanded the community gardens to include 86 individual plots that are ADA compliant, and added two sand volleyball courts and one grass court.

At the forefront of these recreational improvements was the addition of six dedicated pickleball courts to keep up with the growing popularity of this sport.

Economic Development

The city's economic development strategies enhance the local economy, increase employment opportunities, and improve the overall standard of living.

Several businesses invested in their properties, including UH Ahuja Medical Center's expansion and its new Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute, The Joseph and Florence Mandel Jewish Day School, Site Centers, Master Builders Solutions, MetroHealth, Trailhead BioSystems, Sika, Skoda Gordon Dentistry, and the new Porsche Dealership. Additionally, the city welcomed more than 65 companies to Beachwood.

The city also introduced several new programs, including NOPEC's PACE and STEP loan programs, offered to commercial property owners who finance energy efficiency projects; the Revolving Loan Fund Program; and the Link Deposit Program. These initiatives signify our commitment to fostering economic growth and providing vital support to businesses and property owners.

Community Engagement and Program Delivery

The Community Services Department offers programming and services that improve community well-being and quality of life for residents of all ages. Last year, there were 7,243 program participants, 48,116 Aquatic Center visits, 450 Senior Day Out attendees, and 488 Barkwood members.

Seniors are engaging more than ever. Many are taking advantage of the Senior Van service (2,698 transports) and Senior Rubbish Assistance program. Plus, the Mind Challenge Team placed fourth in a regional trivia competition where they competed against more than 40 other communities.

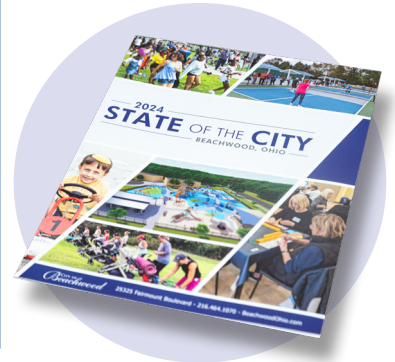


City Council

Standing: Ali Stern, June Taylor, Mayor Justin Berns, Eric Synenberg, Jillian DeLong, and Josh Mintz.

Sitting: President Alec Isaacson and Danielle Shoykhet.

Photo, by Scott Morrison, taken on the top floor at Eaton.



"I express my gratitude for this opportunity to share the achievements of 2023 and our plans for 2024. I, along with our administration and City Council, will continue to collaborate to further shape Beachwood into a city that we can all be proud of."

– Mayor Justin Berns

The city offers a diverse array of events that brings residents and businesses together in unique ways. A couple new events included Disco Night at the Aquatic Center and Barkin' Brunch at the Beachwood Food Truck Park.

Innovative Partnerships

The city continues to foster collaborative relationships with various stakeholders, including residents, businesses, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations. These partnerships provide innovative opportunities, enhance educational opportunities, and drive positive outcomes.

The city considers itself fortunate to have excellent partnerships with the Beachwood Board of Education and Beachwood Chamber of Commerce. Together, the synergy generated ensures a resilient and prosperous future.

In 2023, City Council passed legislation to temporarily reduce property taxes to help offset the increase from the recent school levy. The city chose to do this to keep the property taxes flat, while ensuring that Beachwood schools had funding for their facility improvements.

The city also hosted roundtable discussions with the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce to discuss workforce development, commercialization, innovation, technology, and research and development.

Additionally, the city organized and hosted a Minority and Women-Owned Business Open House. This event fostered connections, provided valuable insights into the goods and services offered by these businesses, and created opportunities for collaboration.

Prioritizing Public Safety

The final key focus area is public safety, with initiatives that prevent crime, help our safety forces respond effectively to emergencies, and create a secure environment where individuals can live, work, and thrive. Last year the city received 1,111 fire calls, 4,285 emergency medical calls, and 62,630 incoming dispatch center calls, 99% of which were answered within 10 seconds.

Investment initiatives included upgrading to battery-operated extrication

equipment and adding four new AED units that have been strategically placed at the tennis and pickleball courts, City Park East and West, and the new playground. The city now has 24 of these lifesaving devices in public spaces and emergency vehicles.

The city also updated its traffic signals to include preemption technology that automatically controls traffic signals when emergency vehicles approach. This ensures quicker response times.

Plus, an armored SWAT vehicle and a park rescue vehicle were added to the city's safety fleet.

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City of Beachwood

Looking Ahead

Building on last year's foundation, 2024 initiatives align with the same core-focus areas as previously mentioned.

Fiscal Responsibility

The city remains dedicated to the ongoing review of processes and oversight to promote operational efficiency. The city maintained its Aaa bond rating which signifies its strong financial health. This provides benefits that include lower borrowing costs, increased investor confidence, continued access to capital markets, and enhanced economic development opportunities.



Infrastructure Improvements

2024 key improvements include a new playground, basketball court, and City Park East pavilion. They also include a residential street light pilot program, the Green Road sanitary sewer project, and a signage and wayfinding initiative.

The city is also prioritizing maintenance of city buildings, parking lots, roofs, windows, and lighting to prevent deterioration and safety hazards, and to increase operational efficiency.

Economic Development

Economic development initiatives include reinvestment opportunities on Chagrin Boulevard, and throughout Commerce Park and Chagrin Highlands. The city's goals are to further enhance its business landscape and to continue collaborating with retail establishments to support new investments in and around shopping areas.

Community Engagement and Program Delivery

The Beachwood Community Services Department continues to bring back familiar programs and host new ones, including BFAC Luau Night and Beachwood Blackout Eclipse Watch Party, in collaboration with Beachwood Schools (*details on pages 13 and 31*).

The city will also host an event to educate residents about the Heritage Home Loan Program, which was designed to assist residents in restoring homes 50 years or older. It will be working with Shaker Heights to re-engage the community on deer management. Plus, the city is creating a community video that will highlight Beachwood's unique aspects.

As a new green initiative, Beachwood is teaming up with Rustbelt Riders, an organization that offers composting services to residents and businesses. Their mission aligns with the city's goals of promoting environmental sustainability and reducing waste. An event launch will take place on April 22 (*details on page 31*).

Innovative Partnerships

Collaborating with Beachwood Schools and the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce remain top priorities.

The city continues to work together with the schools to ensure ongoing security services and to support programs and construction of the two new elementary school buildings. Both entities have one common goal: To do what's best for Beachwood.

In partnership with the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, the city will create a new One-Stop Business

Resource Center, bring back the Business Show, and create and distribute a Community Guide and Business Directory.

The city is also working with the Cuyahoga County Public Library as they start construction on a two-story building with a 400-seat auditorium that will replace the existing library on Richmond Road.

Prioritizing Public Safety

The city continues to prioritize the safety and well-being of our community by consistently seeking out innovative solutions. The Fire Department recently added a 110-foot ladder truck to its fleet to enhance capabilities, especially in high-rise buildings. Both the Police and Fire Departments are working together to establish a drone team to enhance emergency response operations.

To bolster pedestrian safety, the city is installing rapid-flashing beacons at two key pedestrian crosswalks along Fairmount Boulevard and George Zeiger Drive. These cutting-edge devices offer real-time warnings to drivers as

pedestrians cross, significantly improving safety for all.

The city also acquired and will soon deploy a state-of-the-art video surveillance trailer that will assist the Police Department in maintaining public safety.

Finally, the administration is proud to commemorate the Fire Department's 75th Anniversary. In celebration of this milestone, the community is invited to attend a free family event, Sunday, May 19, 1-4 p.m., at Beachwood's Public Safety Center, 3777 Richmond Rd. Enjoy demos, tours, activities, music, food trucks, and more!



In celebration of this milestone, the community is invited to attend a free family event, Sunday, May 19, 1-4 p.m.

Signage



The city is in the process of receiving bids for a new digital sign that will be installed at the corner of Richmond Road and Fairmount Boulevard. This is the beginning of a larger project that will include new signage at pivotal locations throughout our community. These new signs will mark areas within our city, including municipal facilities, parks, business districts, and city entry points to showcase the vibrant essence of Beachwood.



Playground Renderings

The city's playground project is on track for completion this summer. With safety as a top priority, it will be fenced and will feature a safer rubber-like surface. Additionally, it will be ADA-compliant, ensuring inclusivity for all residents.



Mayor Berns, the administration, and City Council recognize the importance of maintaining open lines of communication and are committed to making sure everyone has access to the information they need.

To obtain city information, visit www.beachwoodohio.com, subscribe to email newsletters through the website, visit social media sites, or attend in-person meetings and events.

The administration welcomes input that will advance communication efforts to provide timely, relevant information.

The mayor concluded his presentation by saying, "I express gratitude for this

opportunity to share the achievements of 2023 and our plans for 2024. I, along with our administration and City Council, continue to collaborate to further shape Beachwood into a city that we can all continue to be proud of."

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Beachwood Students Ready for an Out-of-this-world Experience on April 8

By Arlene Fine

Beachwood Schools students won't be left in the dark on April 8 while experiencing the historic total solar eclipse. Teachers have prepared detailed, innovative curriculum to prepare students throughout the system for the big day.

"Our teachers are very excited to incorporate lessons revolving around the eclipse with a variety of unique, hands-on learning experiences," said Dr. Linda LoGalbo, Beachwood Schools director of curriculum and instruction. "It is thrilling to be in Northeast Ohio right now because we are in the path of totality. Cleveland is a premier destination for people from all over the world to view the eclipse. For the first time since 1806, Ohio will be the site of a total solar eclipse."

A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, completely blocking or "eclipsing" the sun's face. Those within the path of totality will have the rare opportunity to see a total solar eclipse as skies temporarily darken and an illuminated halo appears overhead.

To help staff prepare for the event, Dr. LoGalbo, Beachwood Middle School science teacher Jamie Lauer, and Beachwood Middle School principal Dr. Tony Srithai attended a special

educators' seminar offered by NASA. "We were given a lot of good material, including solar eclipse educational videos, and were told how students could make their own solar eclipse viewer by using a cereal box," she said. "They also gave us UV beads to make friendship bracelets that change color in different light. Children can make these bracelets at the Beachwood Community Services Department's Beachwood Blackout Watch Party."

Here are some highlights of the learning opportunities Beachwood educators provided their students:

Budding astronomers, from kindergarteners to second graders at Bryden Elementary School, became well-versed about the eclipse thanks to age-appropriate books about the event shared with them by teachers and librarians.

Third, fourth, and fifth graders at Hilltop Elementary School had lots of opportunities for eclipse enrichment. Third graders in

Sara Takavitz's room compiled a notebook full of solar eclipse vocabulary and studied a U.S. map to identify the states in the path of totality. Students also used colored chalk dust to emulate the colors of the eclipse and used this "solar dust" to represent the sun's corona during the eclipse.

Nerissa Taub's fourth and fifth graders participated in an eclipse video contest, sponsored by the Ohio Department of Education. Using editing and voice-over techniques, students created two-minute videos explaining the marvels and nuances of eclipse.

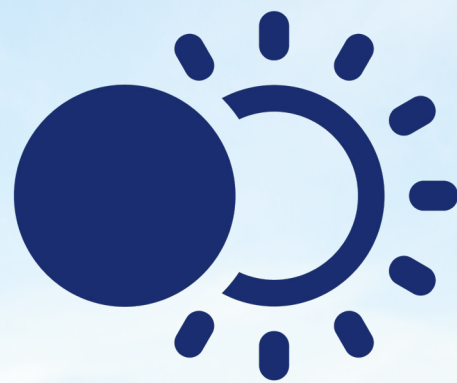
At Beachwood Middle School, sixth-grade science students in Robb Ristau's class made infographics (charts, diagrams) explaining aspects of the eclipse and why being able to view it in their own backyard was so remarkable. Lessons were taught about the Earth, moon, and sun positioning and how size, distance, and shadows factor into making this such a unique experience.

Alise Kulbago's Honors Science 7 students made videos, posters, and/or models to teach about eclipses and eclipse safety. Her Science 7 students made foam "moons" to model the revolution of the moon around the earth to better understand why people see moon phases, solar eclipses, and lunar eclipses.

The Beachwood Middle School library book clubs, under the direction of Julie Ungier, read *Every Soul A Star*, by Wendy Mass, and *Life As We Knew It*, by Susan Beth Pfeffer.

Our teachers are very excited to incorporate lessons revolving around the eclipse with a variety of unique, hands-on learning experiences.

– Dr. Linda LoGalbo,
Beachwood Schools
Director of Curriculum
and Instruction



Bryden Elementary second graders Aaron Nguyen, Sepinoud Daneshvar, and Aden Weinstein excitedly prepare for Eclipse Day. As part of the Beachwood Blackout celebration, Crestmont Cadillac is providing eclipse glasses available while supplies last.

At the Beachwood High School, physics teachers Michael Lerner and Lisa Bugenske prepared advanced solar eclipse curriculum. The AP Physics 1 class did a unit on circular motion and gravity, where students studied the physics behind the moon's orbit around the Earth. In AP Physics 2, students learned the proper and safe way to make an eclipse selfie.

Due to the eclipse, all Beachwood City Schools will

be closed on Monday, April 8. Dr. LoGalbo, along with the City of Beachwood, encourages residents to participate in the Beachwood Blackout Watch Party. "Crestmont Automotive donated 5,000 eclipse glasses to Blackout Watch Party participants," she said. "I hope everyone in the community comes to the Beachwood High School stadium to experience this rare solar eclipse together."

Beachwood Blackout Solar Eclipse Watch Party

Beachwood Community Services Department, in collaboration with Beachwood Schools, is offering free activities related to the solar eclipse for residents of all ages:

Monday, April 8 • 2-4:30 p.m.

Beachwood High School Stadium, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Parking will be available at Beachwood High School, Beachwood Middle School, Beachwood Family Aquatic Center, and the Beachwood Community Center. Participants are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs. Snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase. The event will include glasses, courtesy of Crestmont Automotive, while supply lasts. Enjoy games, crafts, DJ, and movie truck.

Safety Tips from the Ohio Department of Education



The only safe way to look directly at the sun during an eclipse is through special-purpose solar filters, like eclipse glasses or handheld solar viewers.



The only safe time to look at the sun without solar filters is during the 2-4 minutes of total eclipse. It is never safe to look at the sun without solar filters during any other phases of the eclipse.

- **During the eclipse, never look directly at the sun without proper eyewear.** Safe eclipse glasses should comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard.
- Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are unsafe. They transmit too much sunlight and could damage the eyes.
- Inspect your solar filter; discard if scratched or damaged. Follow any instructions for the filter.
- Always supervise children using solar filters.
- Stand still, cover your eyes with your eclipse glasses or solar viewer before looking at the sun. Afterward, turn away before removing your filter. Never remove it while looking at the sun.
- Do not look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device.

BHS Gallery of Success

The Beachwood Board of Education is pleased to introduce seven new inductees to Beachwood High School's 13th Gallery of Success. Through their leadership, service, humanitarianism, creativity, courage, or above-and-beyond career contributions, they have benefitted others and exemplify success. They are wonderful products of the Beachwood community and role models to our students. The BHS Gallery of Success celebration will be held on Friday, April 19, 9 a.m., in the Beachwood High School Auditorium. The community is welcome to attend the assembly, which will also be streamed on YouTube (Beachwood Schools, 2024 BHS Gallery of Success live stream). Watch for more detailed information in the June issue of *Beachwood Buzz*.

David A. Arnold (1986) (Posthumously)

In recognition of his outstanding creative talents and success as a comedian, television producer, writer, show creator, and teacher, as well as his steadfast commitment to sobriety, mentorship, and excellence in the entertainment landscape, and of his service in the United States Navy.

Marshall E. Barron (1974)

In recognition of his expertise in the fertility industry helping prospective parents build families, and serving as a resource to reproductive endocrinologists and pharmaceutical manufacturers on best practices and innovations fostering greater patient comfort and pregnancy success rates.

Monique Davis Gordon (1996)

In recognition of her leadership and achievements in the beauty industry, with expertise in marketing, as well as product and commercial innovation, and her dedication to ensure that the industry continues to expand its focus on inclusivity to better serve all consumers.

Gayle I. Horwitz (1998)

In recognition of her work as an attorney to end sex, race, and disability discrimination affecting students and educators across the United States, as well as her dedication and enthusiasm as a community volunteer, advocate for gun-violence prevention, and supporter of refugee families.



Rebecca Boroff Suhay (1995)

In recognition of her effective leadership to mainstream food allergy awareness and preparedness after losing her daughter Allison, and as a co-founder and executive director of the Allison Rose Foundation, where she has led state and national efforts to provide life-saving education and emergency supplies to schools and other organizations.

Dr. Brian Weiss (1976)

In recognition of his leadership on the Beachwood Board of Education for 17 years, service to the community, including as a bond levy chairperson, accomplishments in the field of podiatry, and as a board member of the Northeast Ohio Academy of Podiatric Medicine and the Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Ohio.

Alex Wyse (2005)

In recognition of his illustrious career in theater, film, and television as a multi-talented, multi-faceted actor, writer, director, and producer, as well as his efforts to broaden representation of the LGBTQ community on stage and screen.

A SafeShot™ to View the Total Eclipse

By Arlene Fine

Jordan Katz, president of Grafix Plastics in Maple Heights, can thank his lucky stars for the upcoming solar eclipse.

The Class of '83 Beachwood High School grad, whose company manufactures plastic film and sheet products, is the creator of SafeShot, a product that allows people to simultaneously view an eclipse and record it on their smartphone.

An ardent space enthusiast, Jordan first developed the concept for the viewer in 2019. Since Grafix was already producing massive quantities of eye safe solar filter film used to make eclipse glasses, Jordan and his sister and partner, Hayley Prendergast (BHS Class of '86), envisioned a way to take standard eclipse glasses to the next level. By 2023, SafeShot was ready for rollout, just in time for the upcoming extraordinary April 8 total eclipse.

SafeShot, advertised as a "solar observatory for a smartphone," works with a smartphone's camera software so it does not need another app. It works on any type of smartphone.

The user holds a cardboard plate complete with a reusable hook and loop adhesive to secure the smartphone. There are two solar filter film windows on the plate, one for the phone to record through and the other for the user to look through. Two handles enable the user to securely hold the system in place. SafeShot has been recognized as a safe and effective solar viewing system by the American Astronomical Society.

"SafeShot protects the user's phone, face, and eyes from powerful UV/IR and intense light from the sun," said Jordan. "Once SafeShot is attached to the smartphone, people hold their

phone at half arm's length. At that angle, their face is completely protected by the sun's shadow. There's a special filter film window to look through while all stages of the eclipse are being recorded on the phone."

To date, Grafix has filled hundreds of thousands of orders for SafeShot and the demand for the eclipse viewing card continues to soar.

As he anticipates the April 8 eclipse, Jordan said, "What's great about this eclipse is that it doesn't matter what's going on in American politics or anywhere else on this planet, nothing can prevent the solar eclipse from happening."

Jordan and his wife, artist Nancy Schwartz-Katz, are parents of Charna, who handles art and social media for Grafix, and Elisa, the "eclipse girl" in the SafeShot ad campaign.

To find out more, visit <https://safeshot-viewer.com>. To purchase SafeShot, visit Amazon, Walmart, and other online sites. Davis Bakery in Woodmere and Luster at VanAken District have them in stock.



Hayley Prendergast and Jordan Katz, owners of Grafix Plastics, with the unique SafeShot solar eclipse viewing system their company developed.

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Two Beachwood Reform Jewish Congregations Approve Historic Merger

Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple and The Temple-Tifereth Israel Will Unify to Become Congregation Mishkan Or in July 2024

The congregants from The Temple-Tifereth Israel and Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple, two prominent Reform Jewish congregations in Northeast Ohio, each with histories dating back to the mid-1800s, have voted overwhelmingly to approve a historic, first-of-its-kind merger agreement to create a new, unified Reform Jewish congregation – Congregation Mishkan Or – from the two storied congregations.

The vote to unify is the culmination of an 18-month exploration process that was initiated and guided by lay leaders from both temples. The congregations, which include approximately 2,000 families combined, will officially unite on July 1, 2024, as Congregation Mishkan Or, which translates to Dwelling Place of Light.

According to Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the North American Union for Reform Judaism, this unification is unprecedented for two congregations with the history, longevity, and stability of The Temple-Tifereth Israel and Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple. “We have two pillars of Reform Judaism in North America saying, let’s not just think about the Jewish future, let’s build that future, and let’s do it together,” Rabbi Jacobs said. “This is something we’ve never seen in Jewish life.”

“It has taken courage, vision, and patience for our congregants and clergy to partner in creating a new congregation,” said Robert Nosanchuk, senior rabbi at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple. “I am convinced it will be one of the most consequential Jewish actions of each of our lifetimes. We will not only bring meaning to our community. The world we share will become more just and whole because of the legacy of each of our temples and the

commitment we share to Tikkun Olam, repairing our world.”

Congregation Mishkan Or will be located in the Jack and Lilyan Mandel Building at 26000 Shaker Blvd., in Beachwood, the current home of The Temple-Tifereth Israel. The congregation will have a combined administrative staff and board of directors with equal representation from both temples, plus a unified education program.

All current clergy members for The Temple Tifereth Israel and Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple have signed on as leaders, with Rabbi Nosanchuk serving as founding senior rabbi.

“This merger is unique in that we have two legendary, healthy, similar-size institutions proactively coming together to make a bold change based on vision, rather than necessity,” said Michele Krantz, president, Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple. “This is not an acquisition of a small congregation by a large congregation or a decision based on financial instability. It’s a new model for the future.”

“The union of our congregations will help ensure a bright outlook for the Reform Jewish community in Cleveland, one that each of our temples could not achieve alone,” said Beth Dery, president, The Temple-Tifereth Israel. “Not only will we be able to share resources, but we have an opportunity to reimagine everything from the way we

come together in worship to the way we reach out to and support the community at large.”

Members from both current temples will continue to work for the next few months to finalize details of the merger, including administration, worship, religious school, early childhood programs, teen and adult education, legacy preservation, congregation programming, community outreach, and more. Clergy and congregants will continue to connect and expand relationships.



“I believe this will be a breakthrough,” Rabbi Jacobs added. “Other congregations will be able to follow suit, inspired by this example.”



The clergy team of Congregation Mishkan Or:
Front row: Cantor Kathy Sebo, Rabbi Robert Nosanchuk, Rabbi Elle Muhlbaum, Rabbi Yael Dadoun, and Rabbi Roger Klein.
Back row: Rabbi Joshua Caruso and Cantor Vladimir Lapin.



The Gathering Place Opens Its Doors to All with Cancer

A beacon of hope and abundance of care

The Gathering Place is a caring community that supports, educates, and empowers individuals and families currently coping with the impact of cancer through programs and services provided free of charge. Located on Commerce Park Road, it has been a gem of our community since 2000.

Michele Seyranian, CEO, took on her current role in December 2019 after founder Eileen Saffron retired. Michele first reached out to TGP in 2000, when it first opened, to obtain information and support when her 4-year-old daughter, Alique, received an Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) diagnosis.

People at TGP were extremely helpful and supportive, and Michele's connection to the organization continued to grow through the years. She obtained services, and then volunteered to help to develop a support group for parents of children with cancer. She then served on the Board of Directors and volunteered to help facilitate strategic plans.

Prior to Alique's diagnosis, Michele was a corporate executive with more than 20 years experience, working in marketing, strategic planning, development, and sales in diverse organizations, including nonprofits, financial services, consumer products, and utilities.

When Alique was going through treatment, Michele made a pact to dedicate her career to nonprofit work if she recovered. She kept that promise and, in 2012, accepted a role as chief marketing and business development officer for Hospice of the Western Reserve. Then, in 2019, when Eileen announced her retirement, Michele was the perfect candidate to take on this role.

"Anyone who has walked through the doors of The Gathering Place understands the critical role it plays in supporting people on their cancer journey, just as it did for my family," Michele said. "I am fortunate for the opportunity to have taken on this role and



Above: Michele Seyranian
The Gathering Place CEO

Left: Michele thanks attendees for their support, recalling her own experiences during her daughter's cancer journey.

am grateful for support of our compassionate, experienced staff and volunteers."

Michele, a Beachwood resident, invites the community to attend TGP's largest annual fundraiser, Race for the Place, a 5K and 1-mile walk/run, that will take place on Sunday, June 2, at Beachwood Place. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m., the Celebration Village opens at 8 a.m., the Cancer Survivor Ceremony is at 8:45 a.m., the walk/run begins at 9 a.m., and the Awards Ceremony will be at 10:30 a.m.

"Join us on National Cancer Survivor's Day as we run, celebrate, walk, and remember," Michele said. "Race for the Place is our largest annual fundraising event, and your support is critical in keeping our programs and services free to our community."

You may form your own team or join another. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To register or for more information, visit racefortheplace.org.

Fortunately, Alique has now survived AML twice and is

successfully working in the field of oncology to help advocate for the people who have not yet found their voice, to be a resource for others, and to help patients get the best care possible.

Michele looks back with amazement at the challenges in her career and life that have led her to where she is now. After 23 years, she could still count on The Gathering Place for support, and they now count on her to ensure everyone in the community has access to the free services and support that made such a difference for her and her family.

Michele and her family also started the Armenian Bone Marrow Donor Registry, a nonprofit that is headquartered in Los Angeles, while Alique was completing treatment. Today the nonprofit has been able to register over 33,500 potential donors and is part of the worldwide donor registry so that anyone in the world has access to those who have registered. Michele continues to serve on the board.

Additionally, Michele was named a 2023 Beachwood Hometown Hero.

For more information about The Gathering Place, visit www.touchedbycancer.org, email info@touchedbycancer.org, or call 216.595.9546.



Race for the Place
June 2, 2024
Beachwood Place

7:30 a.m.

Day of Registration Opens

8 a.m.

Celebration Village Opens
(fun for the entire family)

8:45 a.m.

Cancer Survivor Ceremony

9 a.m.

5K and 1-mile walk/run begin

10:30 a.m.

Awards Ceremony

Register at racefortheplace.org



Fixing the Manmade Problem of the Gender Wage Gap

By State Senator Kent Smith

Unfortunately, too many Ohio workers are earning less than their counterparts simply because of their gender or race. Make no mistake, the gender wage gap is an enduring moral failure of civil society. It is man-made (*pun intended*). The good news is, it is also 100% fixable. And it should be fixed. Because we, as Americans and Ohioans, believe in a system where you should get paid for the work you do.

According to a March 2017 *Institute for Women's Policy Research* (IWPR) report, if we do nothing, the wage gap will not fully close in Ohio until 2067. While that data was from seven years ago, the inescapable point is that we shouldn't have to wait 50 years to eliminate Ohio's gender wage gap.

Knowing this, we, as policy makers, have a duty to act. That's what led Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo) and me to introduce two pieces of legislation: one to launch an Equal Pay Hotline (Senate Bill 231) and another to create a Fair Paycheck Workplace certification

program (Senate Bill 232), both of which would help reduce the pay equity gap.

An Equal Pay Hotline in Ohio would strengthen our workforce and serve as a mechanism to close the gender wage gap by allowing for anonymous complaints of wage discrimination to be investigated by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission.

A Fair Paycheck Workplace designation would highlight Ohio businesses that achieve pay equity so consumers and prospective workers would know that this place of work cares about its workers and its community.

One proposal is stick, one proposal is carrot.

According to another IWPR study, if equal pay for equal work existed, half of all single working mothers would earn enough money to rise from poverty without a tax increase. Fairness never meant so much and cost so little.

This is not the first time we have highlighted these issues and introduced this legislation. It is shameful that the majority party has not joined Democratic efforts to fix an issue that impacts Republican women and Republican daughters too.

According to another IWPR study, if equal pay for equal work existed, half of all single working mothers would earn enough money to rise from poverty without a tax increase. Fairness never meant so much and cost so little.

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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Maximizing Plantar Fasciitis Relief: The Synergy of Deep Tissue Laser Therapy and Dry Needling



Plantar fasciitis, a common culprit behind foot and heel pain, can be a hindrance to daily life. Imagine waking up in the morning only to feel a stabbing sensation in your foot. That's the reality for many folks dealing with plantar fasciitis. If you're affected by this discomfort, you understand the frustration it brings.

So, what exactly is plantar fasciitis? Picture the bottom of your foot, where a thick band of tissue called the plantar fascia runs from your heel to your toes. Now, imagine this tissue becoming inflamed or irritated. That's plantar fasciitis - a condition where this tissue gets strained, leading to pain, especially when you stand or walk.

Here's finally a promising combination therapy that's revolutionizing treatment: deep tissue laser therapy coupled with dry needling!

Deep tissue laser therapy works wonders by utilizing concentrated light energy to penetrate deep into tissues. In simple terms, it's like a shine reaching deep into your tissue, promoting healing from within. This therapy stimulates cellular repair processes, reduces inflammation, and eases pain. When paired with dry needling, the benefits multiply.

Dry needling might sound intimidating, but it's a minimally invasive technique targeting trigger points in muscles. By inserting thin needles into specific points, it triggers a release of tension and encourages blood flow. Combining this with deep tissue laser therapy enhances the effects, offering a holistic approach to plantar fasciitis treatment.



So, why is this combo so effective?

Well, let me break it down for you. First, deep tissue laser therapy penetrates deep into the affected area, reaching places that other treatments struggle to access. It kick-starts your body's natural healing mechanisms, accelerating the repair process.

Meanwhile, dry needling targets tight muscles and trigger points, loosening them up and relieving tension. Together, they provide comprehensive relief, addressing both the cause and symptoms of plantar fasciitis.

Moreover, this combination therapy is noninvasive and virtually painless. Unlike surgery or invasive procedures, there's no need for incisions or downtime. You can walk

in, undergo treatment, and walk out feeling immediate relief. Plus, it's safe and suitable for long-term use, unlike painkillers that only offer temporary relief and come with potential side effects.

Another advantage is the personalized approach it offers. Each session can be tailored to your specific needs, targeting areas of concern and adjusting intensity as necessary. This personalized care ensures optimal results, maximizing the effectiveness of each treatment session.

Furthermore, this combination of therapy isn't just about alleviating pain; it's about restoring functionality and improving quality of life. By addressing both the symptoms and underlying issues, it empowers you to regain mobility and enjoy activities you once thought impossible.



In conclusion, the synergy of deep tissue laser therapy and dry needling presents a game-changing approach to treating plantar fasciitis. It's effective, noninvasive, personalized, and focused on long-term relief. So, if you're tired of being held back by heel & foot pain, it's time to explore this innovative treatment option and take the first step toward pain-free living by calling Balance Solutions Physical Therapy to schedule now!

- Kelly Beaudoin, CEO
Balance Solutions Physical Therapy, Inc

**Experience
Plantar Fasciitis Pain
Relief Today!**

Beachwood Arts Council Happenings



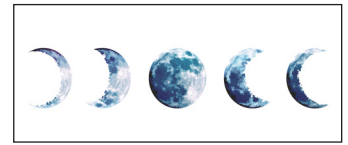
Free Little Art Gallery (FLAG)

Students in the Beachwood High School Art Club, led by teacher Heather Grano, will be creating mini solar eclipse artwork for the Free Little Art Gallery (FLAG), located at the

side entrance of the Beachwood Community Center.

Look for this artwork at the beginning of April and take a piece home to enjoy. It is free to take and keep permanently.

Also, please consider donating your own handmade art. FLAG is sponsored by Beachwood Arts Council. For details, visit beachwoodartscouncil.org or contact Leah at 216.752.0752.



Tour of the William E. Telling Mansion/Museum of American Porcelain Art

Saturday, April 13 • 1 p.m. • 4645 Mayfield Rd., South Euclid

This two-hour curator-led event will include a presentation, followed by a tour of the galleries and the mansion, formerly the home of the South Euclid Library. The mansion has been designated as an Ohio Landmark and is also on the National Register of Historic Places. The collection preserves and shares the porcelain art from studios that rose to prominence in the mid-20th century.

Hear the history behind it and learn about the porcelain objects now displayed in a museum setting.

The cost is \$10 per BAC member and \$15 per non-BAC member. Checks, payable to Beachwood Arts Council, must be sent to Marlene Benjamin, 25805 Fairmount Blvd., #310, Beachwood, OH 44122 by Monday, April 8. Questions? Call 216.595.3400.



Beachwood K-12 Art Show

Wed., May 1 – Tues., May 28 • Beachwood Community Center

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

Weekends: Call 216.292.1970 for available hours

Opening Reception with Music Program: Wed., May 1 • 5-7 p.m.

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

sculptures. Also, at the Opening Reception, enjoy music by talented Beachwood student musicians.

Beachwood Arts Council Sponsors

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Paul Wolf Christensen Duo Concert

Sunday, May 19 • Beachwood Community Center • 2-3 p.m.

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

Rick Matousek (pictured right) is recognized as one of the top keyboard players in the Northeast Ohio area. The duo will play a mix of jazz, classic, easy listening, pop/rock, R&B, and Motown.

This free concert, sponsored by a grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, will be followed by refreshments.



Support Beachwood Arts Council • For details, visit www.beachwood.org/membership

Bounce Back from Burnout



Dear JFSA:

After years working in a fast-paced career I love, I'm feeling burnt out and disconnected. I've realized that my work-life balance has seriously suffered. I want to be involved in my community, particularly in making a difference in the lives of those who often feel overlooked. What do you suggest?

Answer

You're right. Feeling burnt out and disconnected are potential symptoms of a work-life imbalance. It's good that you are aware of this and are seeking ways to re-balance your life for improved mental health and well-being.

One of the best ways to face this type of challenge is to find ways to get out into the community. Volunteering your time with a local organization that works with individuals, such as the elderly, who are often isolated with no family to whom they can turn, is one option you might consider.

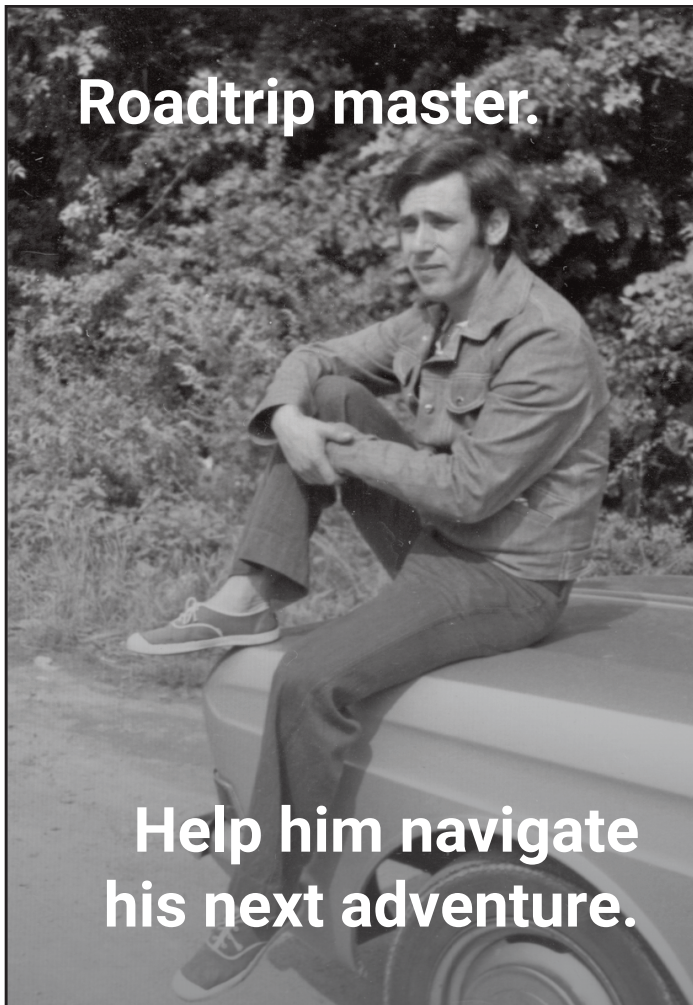
There are lots of different ways you can engage in activities with the elderly, such as being a digital "coach" who helps seniors learn how to use smartphones, tablets, or computers. Another popular activity is to work with seniors to share their life stories, which fosters a sense of legacy and connection. Cultural activities such as museums, music, and entertain events can help reduce their sense of social isolation and add to their quality of life. There are many seniors with vision impairments who would simply enjoy the shared experience of a good story, whether from newspapers, magazines, or books. At its most basic, simply spending time with elderly individuals, whether through regular visits, phone calls, or virtual chats, can significantly reduce their feelings of loneliness and isolation.

Volunteering with older adults is not only a mitzvah (a good deed), but a mutually beneficial activity that supports mental health and well-being for both parties.

Volunteering with older adults is not only a mitzvah (a good deed), but a mutually beneficial activity that supports mental health and well-being for both parties. The lives of seniors are enriched, while the volunteers reap the personal reward that comes with the act of giving back.



If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at JFSA, please contact Katie Fiala, Manager of Volunteer Services, at 216.378.3475 or kfiala@jfsa-cleveland.org. Ask about the Friendly Visitor program that matches seniors with compassionate volunteers who want to make a difference. If you would like to submit a question to "Ask JFSA," email it to info@jfsa-cleveland.org.



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

Home Away From Home

By Dahlia Fisher

Beachwood Resident Mirit Balkan Launches New Israeli Book Club

Mirit Balkan was born in Israel. She and her husband Yaron relocated to the United States more than a decade ago, eventually settling in Beachwood, where Mirit worked for the Jewish Federation of Cleveland. She helped young adults travel overseas on gap year programs to explore life in the Jewish homeland. It seemed like a perfect fit. She was able to raise her three children while immersing herself in the Jewish community and sharing her passion for Israeli life and culture.

Four years after arriving in the United States, and one year after the birth of her third child, Mirit was diagnosed with what doctors told her was an incurable blood disease. The prognosis was four to 11 months.

But, after treatment, she was offered newfound hope and committed herself to giving back to those who also struggled with their health. She became a chaplain. This year she'll celebrate 10 years since her original diagnosis.

"I've never had an issue with anyone because I am Israeli, and certainly not because I am Jewish," she said. That would change on Oct. 7, 2023.

The horrific attack on Israel by the terrorist organization Hamas was said to be the most murderous targeting of Jewish people since the Holocaust. In the weeks and months that followed, Mirit faced anti-Jewish and anti-Israeli hate in a way she could not have imagined.

"I felt that everything was broken. It was the worst pain. I wanted to do something positive for the people who felt helpless here. I asked myself, 'What can I build?'"

With support from the Jewish Federation of Cleveland's Israel at 75 microgrant program created to help individuals educate others about life and culture in contemporary Israel, Mirit started an Israeli Book Club.

"We meet monthly to discuss a book by an Israeli woman author. I buy books that are either written in English or have been translated into English for participants. They may be from Israel like me, or Jewish like me, or nothing like me but still want to come and learn about Israel from a source other than the news," she said.

Each month the book club meets at a different library in Northeast Ohio. The first was held at the Beachwood branch where a

"The smells, spices, and flavors of traditional foods bring the essence of a far-away home into your current home," said Mirit, who asked everyone to think about what foods reminded them of their homes.

group of approximately 20 women discussed *The Art of Leaving*, by Ayelet Tsabari.

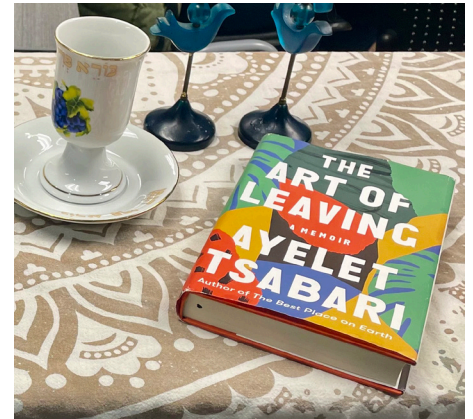
"Ayelet is a Yemenite Jew," Mirit said of the author who is also a friend. "The book features many traditional foods that her mother and grandmother made."

But as with many traditional dishes passed down from generation to generation within a family, there was no written recipe to follow. Ayelet immigrated to Canada and longed for the flavors of home.

"The smells, spices, and flavors of traditional foods bring the essence of a far-away home into your current home," said Mirit, who asked everyone to think about what foods reminded them of their homes. "Suddenly sisters, mothers, and grandmothers were in our circle at the Beachwood library. We were drooling, talking about recipes from Hungary, Italy, and Tel Aviv."

Mirit invited a local chef to prepare the soup Ayelet had written about in the book so that book club participants could experience a taste of the cultural flavors of a Yemenite Jewish kitchen. One of the participants began to cry when she smelled the special spices used in the soup.

"She said she had not eaten the soup since she was a girl and the reminder of home literally brought her to tears,"



Rebecca Bar-Shain and Kelly Rubanenko savor the flavors of Yemenite Beef Soup.

Mirit said. "We initially came to talk about the book, but we ended up talking about ourselves."

The books selected share a common theme: They all deal with what it means to have a home away from home.

Additional books on Mirit's reading list are:

- *The Hebrew Teacher*, by Maya Arad
- *How to Love Your Daughter*, by Hila Blum
- *Places We Left Behind: a memoir in miniature*, by Jennifer Lang

"Join me in reading and discussing some contemporary Israeli literature written by female authors," said Mirit. "We will talk about Israel, motherhood, longing and belonging. We'll enjoy a good story and the comfort of each other."

To learn more about the Israeli Book Club, contact miritbalkan@gmail.com.

The recipe for Yemenite Beef Soup is on page 50.



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Family Kindness Festival Returns Sunday, May 5, from 1-4 pm!

Thirty-five nonprofits, 25 innovative students, and 20 area schools are joining together to celebrate Kindness Rocks at this FREE community festival.



Mark your calendar for a special afternoon that brings kids and parents together to *Have Fun, Do Good, and Be Kind* – all under one roof. Family Kindness Festival, on Sunday, May 5, from 1-4 p.m., at Beachwood High School, is a free family event geared for children ages 5-13 years. All ages are welcome to attend; however, children must be accompanied by an adult. Now in its third year, this one-of-a-kind festival is presented by Senders Pediatrics in partnership with Beachwood City Schools.

This year's theme is *Be a Kindness Rockstar!* and to amplify the point, the festival features Cleveland Keys Dueling Pianos, Learn to be a DJ with DJ JT (JTemp 13), School of Rock House Band, Panorama Steel Drums, Sirkus Dayz Performers, and music-themed crafts. Thirty-five nonprofits, 25 innovative students and 20 area schools will join together to create a one-of-a-kind symphony where families can have fun while engaging in service projects, participating in crafts for a cause, meeting inspirational kids, and learning about volunteer opportunities within the community. The event also features rocking entertainment, a bounce house, ice cream trucks + sweet treats, and so much more, which will surely resonate with kids and parents alike.

Highlights of the Day

Guests will have the opportunity to enjoy the following **new** programs:

- Cleveland Keys Dueling Pianos
- Live musical performances
- Learning to be a DJ with DJ JT (JTemp 13)
- Music-themed crafts
- School of Rock House Band
- Sirkus Dayz Performers and hula hoops
- Inlet Dance Studio Performers
- Panorama Steel Drums

Repeated favorites include:

- Interacting with Cleveland

area nonprofit organizations and discovering ways to get involved and give back.

- Connecting with area children and teens who have developed awesome ideas to spread acts of kindness in their schools, neighborhoods, and communities.
- Participating in the Wigs for Kids Cut-a-Thon or cheering on volunteers who are donating hair to help make wigs for children suffering from hair loss.
- Engaging in crafts for a cause by participating in a variety of make-and-give-back projects that will benefit many local nonprofit organizations and those they serve.
- Savoring ice-cold treats from East Coast Custard, Kona Ice Trucks, and others.

"We are so pleased to partner with Beachwood City Schools for the third year in a row to present an extraordinary afternoon for families. Last year, more than 2,100 individuals representing 70 zip codes came together to celebrate the importance of kindness, and this year we expect that number to grow," said Dr. Shelly Senders of Senders Pediatrics.

"When our kids are encouraged to be kind and generous, they can see, first-hand, how their individual acts of kindness can have a meaningful impact on those



around them. Research shows that kids who learn to be kind have less stress, feel more happiness, have greater self-esteem, and also have better mental health as adults. That's why we're committed to making Family Kindness Festival an annual tradition," Dr. Senders continued.

Research shows that kids who learn to be kind have less stress, feel more happiness, have greater self-esteem, and also have better mental health as adults. That's why we're committed to making Family Kindness Festival an annual tradition."

– Dr. Shelly Senders

"Beachwood City Schools looks forward to hosting thousands of *Kindness Rockstars* in partnership with Senders Pediatrics at the annual Family Kindness Festival," stated Dr. Robert P. Hardis, superintendent.

"Our school district values respect for all and the power of kindness to forge connections among our diverse community."

Family Kindness Festival is a project of the Senders Pediatrics Health Initiative, a federal 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Support for the Festival has been provided by a number of generous sponsors, including The Floor King, Akron Children's Hospital, Cleveland Clinic, Pease Bell CPAs, Cedar Brook Group, Crestmont Cadillac, Brunswick Companies and TXI.

Media sponsors include 107.3 *Alternative Cleveland*, *The Answer AM 1420 FM 102.5*, *Cleveland Jewish News*, *Macaroni Kid*, and *Northeast Ohio Parent*.

While the event is free, advance registration is encouraged. For more information and to register, visit www.senderspeditrics.com/kindness or scan the QR code.



Student Finalists Named in Maltz Museum's Stop The Hate® Contest: Winners To Be Announced at Ceremony on April 3

The Maltz Museum is proud to announce the 2024 Stop the Hate® Youth Speak Out and Youth Sing Out Awards finalists. Winners will be named on Wednesday, April 3, at an awards ceremony to be held at the Cleveland Museum of Art. The community is invited to attend this free event. Seating is limited and advance registration is required. Register at www.maltzmuseum.org/sth24.

Over 4,100 students at more than 100 Northeast Ohio schools participated in the Stop the Hate contest and workshops this year, writing individual essays, poetry, or group songs for a chance to win prizes for themselves and their schools. To say the entries are inspirational understates their power. The voices of these young students shine a light on hate and intolerance – yet guide the way to a more accepting and inclusive society.

Through the generosity of Milton and Tamar Maltz, the Maltz Museum's Stop the Hate contest annually awards \$100,000 to Northeast Ohio middle and high school students, teachers, and schools, who stand up to bias and discrimination.

The Maltz Museum is also proud to acknowledge the unwavering support of the Stop the Hate program's generous supporters in its mission to combat hate and promote inclusivity within our communities. Since the contest started, over 50,000 students in 12 counties across Northeast Ohio have participated, and \$1.6 million has been awarded to students and schools.

Stop the Hate Youth Speak Out Essay Contest Finalists

Although every participating student will receive a congratulatory Upstander Certificate and all participating schools will share an award, the big awards go to the essay finalists who are vying for prizes and scholarships up to \$20,000.

Congratulations to Beachwood finalists Gal Naveh, grade 12; Radha Pareek, grade 11; and Heeba R. Sossey Alaoui, grade 8.

- Join us for the Stop the Hate awards ceremony, where we will announce this year's winners of our essay, poetry, and songwriting contests. Two Teachers of the Year award winners will also be named at the event.
- Meet our student essay and poetry finalists from sixth to 12th grade.
- Hear the winning Youth Sing Out songs performed by the winning schools.
- Find out who will take home \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes.

Get inspired by the next generation of voices, representing different cultures, backgrounds, and identities – all raising their voices to drive change in our communities.

Stop the Hate®
Cleveland Museum of Art
Gartner Auditorium
11150 East Blvd., Cleveland
Wednesday, April 3
6:30-9 p.m.

Advance registration is required for this free event. Complimentary parking is available in the Cleveland Museum of Art garage. Register at www.maltzmuseum.org/sth24.

Maltz Museum Presents

STOP



THE HATE

AWARDS CEREMONY



Wed. April 3, 6:30 pm
Free and open to the public

Cleveland Museum of Art
Gartner Auditorium
11150 East Blvd., Cleveland

MEET THE WINNING STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

Be inspired by young people of different cultures, backgrounds, and identities raising their voices to effect change in our communities.

REGISTER AT
MALTZMUSEUM.ORG/STH24



The Greatest Night in Pop

By Jen Stern

The *Greatest Night in Pop*, a documentary, is so moving, inspiring, and nostalgic. It is magic.

In January 1985, the best of the best in music came together for one night to record *We Are the World*. From Stevie Wonder to Willie Nelson, across all musical genres, stars came together with the shared purpose of raising money to bring humanitarian aid to Africa. They were successful: The song sold and raised millions.

Harry Belafonte was heartbroken and moved by the famine in Africa and decided to do something about it. He assembled his dream team of Michael Jackson, Lionel Richie, Quincy Jones, and Ken Kragen (Lionel's influential manager) to write a song that would unify

the world in compassion and empathy while raising money for humanitarian aid. This song would be performed by the icons of the music industry.

This was before the time of emails and texting. They had a monumental task to gather the cream of the crop to produce this song in one night, after the American Music Awards, which was hosted by Lionel Richie. It was intense, chaotic, and extraordinary!

Diana Ross telling Daryl Hall that she is his biggest fan. Stevie Wonder offering to show Ray Charles where the bathroom is (blind leading the blind was the joke that brought levity

to this intense night). Dionne Warwick's face when she hears Willie Nelson singing his line. Bob Dylan finding necessary confidence through the support of Stevie Wonder. Springsteen, Cyndi Lauper, Huey Lewis, and Sheila E showing true vulnerability and humility.

do good, the stars were patient, open, vulnerable, and supportive of one another. They were so very human as they made history.

It was a beautiful reminder of what can happen when the focus is on helping to make a difference through positive action. The authentic connection that develops when collaboration replaces alienation. The impact when humility is more powerful than ego. The power of compassion and empathy as a unifying force.

It was a beautiful reminder of what can happen when the focus is on helping to make a difference through positive action.

**There comes a time
When we heed a certain call
When the world must come
together as one**

Lionel Richie was extraordinary. Such leadership. He knew how to bring people together, to bring out individual strengths, to inspire collaboration, and to multi-task with apparent ease. He led with humor, grace, respectful confidence, and integrity.

They all found authentic joy, wonderment, and inspiration as they crossed musical boundaries in collaboration. Each voice and style unique, each approach different. With a shared vision to

A timeless message ...
The time is now.

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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It's Time to Spruce Up Your Home!

Whether you're looking to repair, remodel, update, schedule maintenance, landscape, sell your home, buy a new one, or treat yourself to something nice, we've got you covered!

Be sure to see the ads, starting on page 41.

Erika Gold to Receive NA'AMAT Cleveland Council's 2024 Golda Meir Award

Beachwood resident Erika Gold will be honored by NA'AMAT USA's Cleveland Council with its 2024 Golda Meir Award on Tuesday, May 7, at 7 p.m., at Temple Israel Ner Tamid. A dessert reception will follow.

This annual award is presented to a woman of distinction, a woman who gives of her heart, time, and commitment to the Cleveland Jewish community. The special guest speaker will be Hagit Pe'er, NA'AMAT Israel president.

NA'AMAT USA's Cleveland Council stated Erica is most deserving of this award because of her life of volunteerism, storytelling of her experience in the Holocaust, speaking and membership at Kol Israel Foundation, and active membership of NA'AMAT USA's Cleveland Council.

"We feel privileged to honor Erika with our 2024 Golda Meir Award," said Marci Curtis, regional director of NA'AMAT,

Ohio & Western Pennsylvania. "Her ongoing efforts to educate children about the Holocaust is priceless. Her life story is inspirational and she is a role model for us all."

Individual event tickets start at \$72 each. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/ErikaAward>.

There will be a tribute book for congratulatory messages; email GoldaMeir2024@outlook.com



Erika Gold, photo by Pollack Studio.

for information. The proceeds will support the building of a safe room at the Weitzman Day Care Center in Holon, Israel.

Beachwood Buzz Listed with American Iris Society

by Debby Zelman Rapoport

Last year we ran an article about the Willott Iris Garden, located at Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, because it was dedicated to Dorothy and Tony Willott, Beachwood residents. The garden, created in 2008 and dedicated to the Willotts in 2012, contains 600 Iris varieties.

The Willotts loved to hybridize irises to develop new colors, sizes, and features. Between 1968 and 2008, they hybridized 353 varieties, many of which are in the garden.

When I visited the garden last May, I learned from Sandra and Bob Pindell, who lead volunteer efforts to maintain the garden, that the Willotts had both passed.

I also learned that The Willott Garden is home to more than 600 varieties of irises; that 150 of the hybridized varieties, many of which are national and international award winners, are preserved in the garden; and that one of the hybridized varieties that is listed with the American Iris Society is named Beachwood Buzz.

He then showed me the listing: 'Beachwood Buzz' (Anthony and Dorothy Willott, R. 1998). Seedling #W91-117. MDB, 6" (15 cm). Midseason bloom. Ruffled butterscotch gold, falls with small red brown spot; style arms butterscotch; beards light blue at end, yellow in throat. 'Poet

Laureate' X 'Buzz Bee'. A. & D. Willott 1998.

To say the least, I was very surprised and honored! Bob and I then walked to where Beachwood Buzz was planted. Although it had already bloomed in mid May, Pepper Pike, located adjacent to Beachwood Buzz, stood tall.

Since the garden's creation, members of the North East Ohio Iris Society and the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland have spent countless volunteer hours doing whatever labor was necessary to maintain the garden. Other groups involved in the creation and early maintenance of the garden are the Friends of Greenhouse, the Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland Botanical Garden.

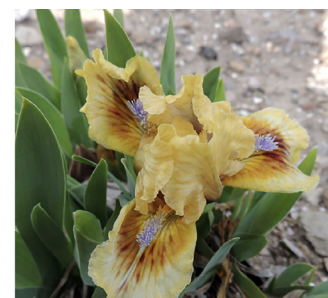
Perrin Verzi, manager of the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, originally designed the garden with Michael Loos, formerly The Ohio State University Cuyahoga County Extension agent.

I plan to go back later this month and in early May to see Beachwood Buzz and all of the other iris varieties in bloom, and I invite you to join me. Rockefeller Gardens is a local gem in our community, with the Willott Iris Garden shining bright while the flowers are in bloom.

I plan to go back later this month and in early May to see Beachwood Buzz and all of the other iris varieties in bloom, and I invite you to join me.

Rockefeller Gardens is a city-owned botanical garden and greenhouse that is open to the public 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., seven days a week, holidays included. Admission is free.

For more information about the Willott Iris Garden, visit <https://tinyurl.com/WillottIrisGarden>.



Top two images: Beachwood Buzz

Bottom two images: Pepper Pike

Photos by Bob Pindell.

**Friends of Greenhouse
Spring Plant Sale**

May 16-18 • 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

THE INSIDER

CITY OF
Beachwood
MAYOR JUSTIN BERNS

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED TO THE CITY OF BEACHWOOD!

APRIL 2024

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

LOCAL BUSINESSES KEEPING CITY SOLVENT & SUCCESSFUL

Businesses in Beachwood encompass a diverse array of industries and services, each playing a vital role in shaping the economic landscape and enriching the lives of our residents. From professional services to manufacturing, technology firms to hospitality establishments, these enterprises collectively form the backbone of our local economy.

Tax revenues generated by these businesses are instrumental in supporting essential services that directly impact the safety and well-being of our community. Funding from these revenues enables us to allocate resources to crucial services such as police, fire, emergency response, waste management, parks, and infrastructure improvements, enhancing the overall quality of life for residents.

Moreover, a robust business community stimulates economic growth and development, creating a ripple effect of prosperity throughout Beachwood. The success of local businesses attracts further investment and leads to a more vibrant economy.

The Beachwood Chamber of Commerce plays a pivotal role in fostering this environment of success and collaboration. Through its diverse programming and solid membership base, the Chamber provides invaluable resources and networking opportunities for local businesses. Events like the recent luncheon held at Hecks featuring William "Bill" Koehler, CEO of Team NEO, not only offer insights into regional business growth strategies but also facilitate connections that drive innovation and progress.

In tandem with the Chamber's effort, our Economic Development Department has formulated a range of innovative programs tailored to empower businesses at every stage of their journey. A new One-Stop Business Resource Center, a comprehensive hub equipped with myriad tools and services aimed at facilitating growth, is now engaging dialogue with area businesses. From research and financial assistance to educational programs and podcasting, this resource center serves as a cornerstone for supporting business growth for businesses of all sizes. For more information, call our Economic Development Director, Catherine

Bieterman, at 216-292-1915 or visit BeachwoodOhio.com where you can find a link to those resources.

Additionally, the city's Economic Development Office is spearheading initiatives including Job Fairs, bringing together companies in need of skilled candidates and professionals seeking employment opportunities. This collaborative effort, in conjunction with Tri-C's Eastern Campus and Ohio Means Jobs, underscores our commitment to fostering a robust job market and driving economic prosperity.

Evidence of Beachwood's continued commercial success is visible throughout the city, with new establishments adding to its vibrancy. Exciting additions include the forthcoming Porsche dealership, the recently opened Antica Italian Kitchen and Bar (next to Heck's restaurant), and Teela Bennett Design, a residential and commercial design studio. These new ventures contribute to the city's allure and further solidify its position as a thriving business hub.

In conclusion, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the businesses that tirelessly contribute to our community's solvency and success and to all stakeholders for their unwavering collaboration and partnership. Together, we can continue building a stronger, more resilient municipality for generations to come, ensuring that Beachwood remains not just a city, but a beacon of economic opportunity and community prosperity, where every resident thrives.



Tax revenues generated by these businesses are instrumental in supporting essential services that directly impact the safety and well-being of our community.

Mayor Justin Berns
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com

BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL



HOW TO EMAIL A COUNCIL MEMBER: FIRSTNAME.LASTNAME@BEACHWOODOHIO.COM



ALEC ISAACSON
COUNCIL PRESIDENT
216.291.2797



DANIELLE SHOYKHET
COUNCIL V.P.
216.212.9212



JILLIAN DELONG
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JOSHUA MINTZ
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216.533.7640

Beachwood City Hall
25325 Fairmount Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

FEBRUARY 5, 2024 - MARCH 4, 2024

The Administration has outlined six key focus areas essential for the city's advancement which include fiscal responsibility, infrastructure improvements, economic development, community engagement and program delivery, innovative partnerships and public safety. Each focus area stands as the cornerstone of our journey forward. These delineations serve not only as a roadmap but as a guiding light for our city's progress. Each legislative update will highlight these critical focus areas and underscore the measures we are undertaking within each.

Infrastructure Improvements: Refers to the enhancement, maintenance, and expansion of structures and systems that support the functioning of a municipality – essential for the community's safety, mobility, and quality of life.

- **Ordinance 2024-34** approved by City Council provides for resurfacing of the small kid slides and preventative maintenance of the tall slides at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center.

Economic Development: Involves initiatives that foster growth, prosperity, and job creation which in turn enhance the local economy, increase employment opportunities, and improve the overall standard of living.

- City Council has approved **Ordinance 2024-26** endorsing the initiation of a forgivable loan aimed at fostering the expansion of Innovative Medical Equipment LLC. The loan program will aid in acquiring equipment, undertaking renovation and building enhancements with an estimated cost of \$53,000. The city has extended a loan of \$20,000 to facilitate this endeavor.
- Council approved **Ordinance 2024-30** re-appointing the Law Firm of Squire Patton Boggs, LLP, and Attorney Russell Balthis and Attorney Catie Romanek as Special Counsel to provide legal services related to the drafting of Economic Development agreements.

Innovative Partnerships: Involves fostering collaborative relationships and partnerships that cultivate innovation, enhance educational opportunities, and drive positive socio-economic outcomes.

- **Ordinance 2024-31** authorized a lease agreement with the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce to occupy office space at the Public Works Building. This will provide a physical space for the Chamber of Commerce and allow the city to more closely collaborate on various initiatives aimed at promoting economic development and supporting local businesses.
- Council passed **Ordinance 2024-36** extending our existing agreement for sharing services with the Beachwood Board of Education for community benefit while we finalize the terms of a new agreement.

FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY: Friday, May 10 | 3:00-6:00 p.m. | Beachwood Community Center Parking Lot
Paper bags and banker boxes only, no blue grocery bags. ID required for residency verification.

Public Safety: Initiatives aimed at crime prevention, responding effectively to emergencies, and creating a secure environment.

- City Council approved **Ordinance 2024-35**, enabling the purchase of an additional Powerload cot system to outfit a fifth rescue squad. The city made the decision to maintain five rescue squads for increased service and maintenance flexibility. Securing a grant of over \$22,000, the city's expenditure for this acquisition was just over \$7,000.

For a complete list of all our ordinances, resolutions, or motions passed by City Council, or for more information regarding these agenda items and backup materials, please visit our website at BeachwoodOhio.com/AgendaCenter.

State of the City
Available online!

Video and digital publication at BeachwoodOhio.com.

2024 STATE OF THE CITY
BEACHWOOD, OHIO

Beachwood 2325 Fairmount Boulevard • 216.464.1234 • BeachwoodOH.com

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
April 1 at 7:00 p.m.
April 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
April 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
April 1 at 4:30 p.m.
April 15 at 4:30 p.m.

WORK - LIVE - LEARN - THRIVE

ECLIPSE INFORMATION

The City of Beachwood encourages residents to return home early and/or remain within the city when the solar eclipse day arrives on Monday, April 8. Heavy traffic and delays are expected, so please leave additional time if you have an appointment or somewhere to be. Many businesses may be closing early and medical facilities may be adjusting appointments. Beachwood City Hall offices will be closed after 2:00 p.m. on April 8.

The Beachwood Community Services Department is hosting a Beachwood Blackout Solar Eclipse Watch Party in collaboration with the school district at the Beachwood High School stadium with eclipse glasses available, sponsored by Crestmont, while supplies last.

Parking for the event will be available at Beachwood High School, Beachwood Middle School, Beachwood Family Aquatic Center and Beachwood Community Center. Participants are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs to sit on. Everything is free excluding refreshments which are available for purchase. Emergency personnel from both our Police and Fire Departments will be present. Restroom facilities will be available.

BEACHWOOD BLACKOUT²⁰²⁴ SOLAR ECLIPSE WATCH PARTY

Monday, April 8
2:00-4:30 p.m.
Beachwood High School Stadium

Games, Crafts, Movie Truck
DJ, Snacks, Refreshments

Free eclipse viewing glasses, courtesy of Crestmont, while supplies last!

CITY OF
Beachwood



CRESTMONT
AUTOMOTIVE

Free Family Event! City of Beachwood

75-Year Celebration

MAY 19, 1-4 PM, PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER
DEMOS, TOURS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

RUST BELT RIDERS PROGRAM

Introducing Beachwood's new Rust Belt Riders (RBR) food scrap composting program - how we are working to minimize waste and promote sustainability in the city - one food scrap at a time! Mark your calendar for Earth Day, April 22, at 10:00 a.m., when we'll be hosting an exciting event to unveil the city's new composting area. Learn more about the Rust Belt Riders program and witness firsthand how together, we're making a positive impact on the environment. Light refreshments will be provided.

Get ready for a sustainable Passover!

Beachwood is launching this program just in time for the holiday. Now, residents can easily dispose of food scraps!



Here's how it works:

1. Sign Up Online: Visit BeachwoodOhio.com.
2. Collect Food Scraps at Home: All food scraps accepted. For an exhaustive list, visit rustbeltriders.com/whatcanicompost.
3. Bring Food Scraps to the Drop-Off Bins: Simply bring food scraps to our city drop-off bins co-located with the recycling bins near the Beachwood Community Center.
4. Unlock Bin with Your Code: Use the unique code received during registration to unlock the drop-off bin.
5. Dump Food Scraps Into the Bin and Re-lock: Deposit your food scraps inside and securely lock the bin for the next participant to use.

CITY OF
Beachwood

CITY OF BEACHWOOD INSIDER - APRIL 2024

CITY HOSTS RESIDENTIAL SIDEWALK LIGHTING FOCUS GROUP

The city hosted a focus group to discuss a potential residential lighting program utilizing a carriage lighting concept on Thursday, Feb. 29, at the Beachwood Community Center. It was attended by approximately 50 households, comprising residents living on four streets, representing two in the north section and two streets in the south section of the city, under consideration for a pilot program: Beachwood Boulevard, Beacon Drive, Concord Road and Ranch Road.

The discussion was hosted by Mayor Justin Berns and members of city council, with presentations from City Administrator Tina Turick, Building Commissioner Brian Roenigk, along with special guests Marty Bursky from Cleveland Lighting and Mike Kachal from Hinkley Lighting. Councilwoman Ali B. Stern moderated the discussion. The meeting was designed to gather information from residents to understand what is important to them. The city is aiming to strike a balance between environmental impact and community preferences.



The Feb. 29 focus group in the Community Center.

Residential Carriage Lighting



- ✓ **FAST**
- ✓ **EASY**
- ✓ **NO TAX INCREASE**

Beachwood Residential Sidewalk Lighting Focus Group

A visual rendering illustrating a carriage light in front of a home.

Key Meeting Takeaways

- **Lighting Expert Advice:** Use low voltage and lower lumens with heads pointed close to the ground for less light trespass and safer transitions from bright to dark areas. Also, solar is not recommended - deemed not suitable economically and reliability-wise for the project.
- **Cost Estimate:** An average of \$1,000 to \$2,000 per home, but further evaluation is needed to provide a not-to-exceed amount.
- **Safety Priority:** Safety, particularly for children at bus stops during dark hours, was highlighted as a key concern.
- **Possible Tours of Other Cities:** To see similar lighting systems and/or determine an alternate solution.

After the focus group meeting, follow-up phone calls were made to all attendees. Efforts are currently underway to collect necessary information and data to refine program details. Our aim is to provide residents with more precise information before reconvening with the group following the Passover holiday, facilitating a productive discussion on the essential components required for a successful pilot program, including the level of participation necessary for its advancement. The PowerPoint presentation and full video of the focus group meeting are available online at BeachwoodOhio.com.

LOOSE LEAF REMOVAL: **Monday, April 1 - Friday, May 17 | Questions? Call Beachwood Public Works at 216.292.1922.**
 After May 17, all leaves must be bagged until the fall loose leaf removal commences in September.

2023 PUBLIC WORKS TOTALS

- | | |
|--|--|
| Tons of Rubbish Picked Up: 3,418.66 | Catch Basins Cleaned: 479 |
| Tons of Recycling Materials: 9,094.68 | Catch Basins Repaired: 4 |
| Tons of Leaves: 1,047.21 | Sewer Action Orders: 442 |
| Tons of Brush: 460.59 | Tons of Cold Patch Used: 23.10 |
| Tons of Computers: 6.67 | Tons of Asphalt: 34.62 |
| Tons of Tires: 4.43 | Sewer Lateral Televised: 396 |
| Tons of Household Hazardous Waste: 1.31 | Tons of Concrete Poured & Finished: 147.92 |
| Dead Animals Picked Up: 238 | Trees Planted: 96 |
| Tree Lawns Repaired: 42 | Total Tree Work Orders: 576 |
| Appliances Picked Up: 96 | |
| Skunks Caught: 15 | |
| Special Rubbish & Recycling Pickups: 4,063 | |
| Resident Requests Completed: 7,566 | |
| Signs Repaired/Replaced: 64 | |



DOMINION ENERGY IS NOW ENBRIDGE GAS OHIO

The sale of Dominion Energy Ohio to Enbridge Inc. has been finalized. It will now be known as Enbridge Gas Ohio. For now, just the name and logo will change. You'll start to see Dominion Energy phased out as Enbridge Gas comes in.

The following elements are staying the same: how or where you pay your bill, budget billing or payment arrangements, service appointments, the phone number and agreements with your natural gas supplier through Energy Choice.

An Enbridge webpage with more information, including a list of common questions, is available at dominionenergy.com/ohio.



APRIL RECREATION GUIDE



Now Available! Spring & Summer Rec Guide

Discover more ways to play with programs and events for all ages!



Scan the QR code or visit BeachwoodRec.com.

HOPE HEALS TEDDY BEAR PARTY, A HEARTWARMING SUCCESS

The City of Beachwood proudly partnered with Hope Heals Ohio to host their Teddy Bear Party kickoff event at the Beachwood Community Center on March 3. Over 500 attendees filled the room with smiles, particularly from the city's youngest residents, as they enjoyed teddy bear themed activities, crafts, and refreshments throughout the afternoon.

Hope Heals is the Beachwood High School Marketing and Junior Achievement company for the current school year. The proceeds from Hope Heals will be used to provide pediatric hospital rooms across Northeast Ohio with a Medi-Teddy. This heartwarming campaign aims to bring comfort and joy to children in need. Learn more about this inspiring initiative at HopeHealsOhio.com.



The teddy bear hospital station with UH.



A group of Hope Heals Ohio students.

NEW SPRING PROGRAMS

- Beachwood Lacrosse**
 Days/Times by Grade, April 3-May 22
 Grades 1-8, Beachwood High School
 Residents \$80-\$120, Non-Residents \$100-\$140
- Adult Foundational Strength & Weights**
 Tuesdays/Thursdays/Saturdays, April 9-June 8
 4:00-4:45 p.m. or 5:00-5:45 p.m. (Tues/Thurs)
 9:30-10:10 a.m. (Saturday)
 Beachwood Community Center
 Residents \$94, Non-Residents \$113
 (No class April 11-13, April 20-27 and May 30.)
- Foundational Strength for Teens**
 Mondays/Wednesdays, April 8-June 5
 3:15-4:00 p.m. or 4:15-5:00 p.m.
 Ages 13-17, Beachwood Community Center
 Residents \$81, Non-Residents \$97
 (No class April 22-24 and May 27-29.)
- Pre-School Adult & Me Baking Class**
 Tuesdays, April 9-May 21, 1:00-1:45 p.m.
 Ages 3-5, Beachwood Community Center
 Residents \$131, Non-Residents \$157
- Jr. GameBOT Club**
 Thursdays, April 11-May 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 Grades 2-5, Beachwood Community Center
 Residents \$175, Non-Residents \$210
- Photography for Parents**
 Thursday, April 11, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
 Beachwood Community Center
 Residents \$45, Non-Residents \$54
- FAST - Elite Speed & Agility**
 Thursdays, April 11-May 16, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
 Ages 8-12, Bryden Elementary
 Residents \$125, Non-Residents \$150
- Splashing into Great Mental Health**
 Monday, May 20, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
 Beachwood Community Center
 Residents \$38, Non-Residents \$46



FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER MEMBERSHIPS

From splash pads to water slides, you can find it all at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center! We're looking forward to another great summer as your go-to destination for fun in the sun. **Memberships go on sale Monday, April 8, at City Hall. Save 20% with early bird rates through Friday, May 24.** For more information and a membership application, visit BeachwoodRec.com.

Type	Early Bird (4/8-5/24)	Summer Rate
Children 3 & Under	Free	Free
Individual	\$60	\$72
Family of 2	\$115	\$138
Family of 3	\$165	\$198
Family of 4	\$175	\$210
Each additional member	\$25	\$30
Seniors 60+	\$35	\$42

PLAN YOUR NEXT PARTY

Not only are there more ways to play in Beachwood, but there are also more ways to party! Whether it's a block party, splash party or room rental, there's an option to suit your next celebration.

Block Parties: Build community pride, meet your neighbors and enjoy some family fun on your street with a Beachwood Block Party featuring complimentary supplies! That's right, a free trailer with tents, tables, chairs, coolers, street barricades, lawn games, cornhole boards and a selfie frame. The city will also assist with the road closure. Only two trailers available per weekend. Reservations begin April 8 at BeachwoodRec.com.

Splash Parties: Looking to host a party at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center? Splash parties are available to residents only for \$85 which includes 10 admission wristbands and use of the pavilion with 8 picnic tables. Additional wristbands are available for \$6 each with a maximum of 50. BFAC members do not need wristbands for admission. Splash parties are offered on Saturdays and Sundays from 12-3 p.m. or 4-7 p.m. only. Two forms of proof of residency required upon registration, limit two parties per household during the season. Registration begins in-person at City Hall on April 8.

Community Center Room Rentals: Beachwood residents, Beachwood businesses and community groups are eligible to rent rooms at the Community Center! The space is ideal for birthday parties, baby showers, meetings and more. Each of the center's six rooms may be rented individually or combined to form a larger room. Rooms can comfortably seat up to 150 with tables or up to 250 lecture style with chairs only. Appointments are required to tour rooms and complete paperwork. Learn more and view the rental rates online at BeachwoodRec.com.



CITY OF BEACHWOOD
family aquatic center
Pool Parties
LUAU PARTY NIGHT SWIM UNDER THE LIGHTS!
June 27, 8-10 pm
DISCO PARTY NIGHT
July 25, 8-10 pm
REGISTRATION COMING SOON!



ADULT LESSONS PICKLEBALL
Instructor: Bill Tennant, PPR Certified Professional
Spring & Summer Lessons Available!
Visit BeachwoodRec.com.

BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY:

Out of this World Exhibit | April 6 - April 27 | Artists' reception on April 14, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Take a journey through space in honor of the upcoming eclipse with stunning creations by local artists.

BEACHWOOD SENIORS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & TRIPS

• Mahj Tournament

Monday, May 6, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Community Center
Residents \$17, Non-Residents \$20

An annual crowd favorite! Last year, over 75 participants competed in this exciting event. Registration includes snacks and prizes. Sign up by April 26.

• Making A Connection In May with Mayor Berns

Monday, May 13, 10:15 a.m., Community Center
Free, RSVP required by May 10.

May is Older Americans Month and the 2024 theme is *Powered by Connection*, recognizing the impact of meaningful relationships. Join Mayor Berns to make connections and conversation over a morning milkshake.

CALL FOR 50-YEAR RESIDENTS

The City of Beachwood would like to invite residents who have lived here for 50 years to join us for a moment of special recognition at the upcoming May 20 City Council meeting. Newly minted 50-year residents will receive a commemorative gift. If you have not been previously recognized at a 50-year resident salute, please RSVP by calling Community Services at 216.292.1970 by Friday, May 10.

SENIOR DAY OUT

Only Happened in Ohio
Thursday, April 18, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

Residents \$13
Non-Residents \$16
Program Only \$5
Register by April 10.

This music program tells a unique story of Ohio history featuring songs and stories from *Walking to the Western Reserve to Take Me Out to the Ballgame* and even *Rock Around the Clock!*

Meal choices include pierogi stuffed with potato and cheddar or a chicken fresco salad (grilled chicken breast, arugula, tomato, and red onion, with pesto aioli and balsamic glaze). All entrees served with a beverage and dessert.

May SDO (5/16): Scandalous or ingenious? Learn about Cassie Chadwick, Queen of Con and the most dangerous woman in America in 1905!

Register for events at BeachwoodRec.com, City Hall or call 216.292.1970.

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BEACHWOOD GATHERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORS

The City of Beachwood has been organizing meetings for a dynamic group of economic development directors from around the Cleveland area over the past year. The directors have been sharing their knowledge with one another to support key economic development directives within their communities and the greater region. This month, Beachwood brought the group together with a tour of a newly opened Beachwood restaurant, Antica Italian Kitchen and Bar. The city also provided a presentation on a new Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) that is supporting Beachwood's Business Retention and Expansion Program (BRE) and learned about other systems being used in neighboring cities. We want to thank the cities that attended this tour including Independence, Mayfield Heights, Shaker Heights, Solon, Strongsville, Warrensville and Westlake.



Directors gathering for a group photo inside Antica Italian Kitchen and Bar.



NEW RETAIL VISUAL DISPLAY PROGRAM

In collaboration with a full-service design firm specializing in creating custom seasonal and holiday visual displays for retailers, restaurants and hotels, Beachwood is connecting local companies with complimentary storefront display consultations to gather inspiration and insights that will draw attention to their products and increase sales. Through this consultation, a company will learn some creative tricks to elevate their storefront aesthetics, captivate observers' attention, and draw in fresh clientele. Retail store owners who engage a retail consultant or make improvements to their retail storefront are eligible for the city's linked deposit program to support such investments.

COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL LIGHTING INCENTIVES

Business owners who are responsible for lighting equipment across their business or facility may be eligible for incentives for upgrading to energy-efficient LEDs.

FirstEnergy's Ohio Commercial Lighting Program provides incentives to encourage

participants to install high-efficiency lighting equipment and controls for retrofit/renovation or existing and new construction projects. The program runs through May 31, 2024. Interested? Call 888-798-2002 or visit energysaveOH-bizsolutions.com to learn more. To apply, access the website's secure portal and fill out a program application form.



CIC COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

The Office of Economic Development has established a Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) organized for the purposes of advancing, encouraging and promoting the industrial, commercial and civic development of the city. There are two committees that have been formed, the Loan Review Committee and the Innovation Committee.

The Loan Review Committee will review the city's loan applications from the city's revolving loan fund. The Innovation Committee will foster new ideas around supporting companies in the areas of commercialization, innovation, technology, research and development.

The Department of Economic Development is seeking resumes from interested business members. Business leaders wanting to be considered for one of these committee opportunities, please call Catherine Bieterman at 216.292.1915 or email Catherine. Bieterman@BeachwoodOhio.com by April 10. For more details on these committee opportunities, visit BeachwoodOhio.com/CIC.

**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

How You Can Reduce Your Risk of Having a Stroke

We all know of someone who has experienced a stroke. Nearly 800,000 people have a stroke each year in the United States. Many of those people were left with permanent disability to one degree or another, making stroke the leading cause of long-term disability in the United States.

In addition, nearly 140,000 people die every year from stroke, making it the fifth-leading cause of death. Strokes can occur at any age, but three-quarters of all strokes occur in people older than age 65.

A stroke is a brain attack. Somewhere in the blood vessels that feed our brains, blood flow is blocked and brain cells are starved of oxygen, sugar, and other factors they need to survive. Usually, the problem is a blood clot or buildup of plaque in the vessels. Women are slightly more prone to strokes than men, and people of African-American descent have almost double the risk compared to Caucasians.

Ways to Reduce Stroke Risk

There are ways to reduce the risk of having a stroke. Many conditions can damage blood vessels on the inside, leading to more of the plaques that can block blood flow in those vessels.

- High blood pressure is a main contributor to stroke

and is the most important risk factor. Is your blood pressure under control?

- High cholesterol and high blood sugar are also factors in an increased stroke risk. It's important to control your cholesterol and your blood sugar to keep your brain healthy.
- Smoking constricts all the blood vessels. A constricted blood vessel is more likely to form clots. Smoking also damages the lining of all blood vessels, leading to more plaques.
- Consuming too much alcohol contributes to risk. It's recommended that men drink no more than two alcoholic drinks per day, and women limit their alcohol consumption to one per day. A drink is 5 ounces of wine, 12 ounces of beer, or a 1½ ounce shot of hard liquor.
- Obesity also damages blood vessels. Often, losing even 10 pounds can make a big difference. One important note on being overweight, people often equate exercise with weight control. Along

with eating a healthy diet, exercise will almost certainly help you drop pounds. However, even if you do not lose a single ounce, exercise will make you healthier; it will help control your blood pressure and blood sugar. Even if you do not lose a single ounce, exercise will help you reduce your risk of heart attack – and stroke.

What to Do When Stroke Happens

When a stroke occurs, as many as two million brain cells can die every minute. The more time from stroke to treatment, the more brain cells are lost. This is why it is so important to recognize the symptoms of a stroke, call 911, and get emergency medical attention as FAST as possible.

Warning Signs of Stroke

The most effective stroke treatments are only available if the stroke is recognized and diagnosed early.

Use **B.E.F.A.S.T.** to recognize stroke symptoms:

- B**alance Is balance suddenly off?
- E**yes Experiencing blurry or double vision?
- F**ace Does one side of the face droop when smiling?
- A**rms Does one arm drift downward when arms are raised?
- S**peech Are words slurred? Can sentences be repeated correctly?
- T**ime If a person shows any of these symptoms, time is important.

Call 9-1-1 or get to the hospital fast.



UHhospitals.org/Stroke | 216-844-2724

Stroke Risk Screening

Find out your risk for having a stroke with a free stroke risk assessment:

May 13, 2024 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Ahuja Medical Center
Rosenberg AB Conference Room
3999 Richmond Road
Beachwood, OH 44122

Activities include:

- Stroke Risk Assessment
- Blood Pressure
- Blood Glucose
- Total Cholesterol (non-fasting)
- Balance & Grip
- Health Education
- Giveaways

Free Online Health Talk: Stroke 101

Join Cathy Sila, M.D., Chair of the Department of Neurology at University Hospitals, and learn the facts about stroke – signs and symptoms, along with lifestyle changes you can make to control the health conditions that raise your risk for stroke, followed by Q&A at the conclusion of the presentation. Scan to register.



BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Beachwood Schools Welcomes New Director of Human Resources



India Jackson

Beachwood Schools warmly welcomes India Jackson as the new director of human resources. She brings 20 years of human resources experience within education settings to the position. "I am honored and excited to join Beachwood Schools," she says. "Beachwood is known for its talented staff and strong sense of collaboration."

Ms. Jackson's exceptional human resources background and unique, personal approach to staff engagement distinguished her as the ideal fit for the role, according to Dr. Ken Veon, assistant superintendent. "India stressed the importance of her HR team knowing every employee personally," says Dr. Veon. "Reflecting on her past role as the Director of Human Resources in another district, India described how she implemented a practice where HR staff regularly visited school buildings, developing connections with both staff and students. Her commitment to building a culture of success resonated with us immediately."

This newly created position will play an important role in ensuring the district's compliance with evolving regulations and adapting recruitment and retention strategies to

navigate the increasingly competitive educational hiring landscape. "India will be highly involved in a comprehensive review of existing processes for recruiting, hiring, and retaining talented staff," says Dr. Veon. "As the educational environment transforms, with fewer people becoming teachers, so must our strategies for attracting and retaining the most capable and dedicated staff to support the success of Beachwood City Schools."

Ms. Jackson comes to Beachwood from Bedford City Schools, where she served as the Title IX compliance officer. In this role, she spearheaded Title IX compliance training for administrators and ensured fair investigations. Previously, Ms. Jackson held director of human resources positions at both East Cleveland City Schools and Euclid City Schools. In both districts, she was instrumental in increasing staff diversity and improving retention rates. Her strategies included fostering partnerships with higher education institutions and revamping the recruitment and onboarding processes.

Ms. Jackson holds a Master of Labor and Human Resources and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Human Resources from The Ohio State University. Her desire to make a difference inspired her decision to pursue a career in human resources. "As the first point of contact for hiring teachers and staff who work directly with students," she says, "I want to make sure we get the best people here to connect with students and enhance their learning."

EVENTS CALENDAR



ElderClass

April 11, 12 - 2:15 p.m.
Beachwood High School
25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Gallery of Success Induction Ceremony

April 19, 9 a.m.
Beachwood High School
25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Holocaust Remembrance Day Film Screening: *From the Holocaust to Freedom: A Journey to Cleveland*

May 2, 7 p.m.
Beachwood High School
25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Beachwood Schools Rescreens Holocaust Documentary for Yom HaShoah

Beachwood Schools invites the community to a special rescreening of the 2010 student-produced documentary *From the Holocaust to Freedom: A Journey to Cleveland*. Free and open to the public, the rescreening will be held Thursday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in the Beachwood High School auditorium (25100 Fairmount Blvd.)

The documentary, conceived by former superintendent Dr. Richard Markwardt, recounts the stories of Cleveland-area Holocaust survivors. The rescreening will take place in observance of Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, which begins at sundown on Sunday, May 5.

The district has extended invitations to the survivors, their families and friends, and all individuals involved in the documentary's production, emphasizing the importance of preserving these vital stories. "As the years pass, Holocaust awareness and education, most importantly survivors' stories, are more important than ever," says Dr. Robert Hardis, superintendent. "We want to honor everyone associated with creating this important film."



**VIEW THE
FULL CALENDAR**

beachwoodschoools.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Megan Walsh, President · (216) 287-4657 · mwash@beachwoodschoools.org
Wendy Leatherberry, Vice President · (216) 409-2211 · wleatherberry@beachwoodschoools.org
Kim Allamby · (216) 533-3358 · kimallamby@beachwoodschoools.org
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beachwoodschoools.org

AI in the Classroom: Teachers Explore Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Learning and Engagement

As artificial intelligence transforms careers and daily life, teachers have begun exploring innovative ways to prepare students for this technological shift. From creating AI-powered historical simulations to Afrofuturistic art, these forward-thinking educators are enhancing learning and equipping students with skills to use AI effectively and responsibly.

At Beachwood High School, Todd Butler is incorporating "AI blind dates" in his contemporary literature course. Students interview various AI-generated figures, from John Lennon to Abraham Lincoln, to hone research skills and choose suitable biography subjects. But while AI sparks students' creativity and critical thinking, Mr. Butler also highlights its limitations. When introducing a new writing assignment, Mr. Butler plugs the prompt into ChatGPT, which the class playfully calls "Gary Philip Thomas." "As we read Gary's writing," he says, "students learn very quickly that the only way to ensure accuracy is to keep the human elements intact."

Later this year, students in Dr. Casey Matthews' African American Literature course will create AI-generated art on chosen topics such as architecture, gaming, or fashion, viewed through an Afrofuturistic lens. Students will investigate historical icons within their chosen field, their contributions, and speculate on the future of the topic. The unit will culminate in a gallery walk for students to exhibit their artworks and research.

At Beachwood Middle School, social studies teacher Garth Holman is bringing history to life with AI. During a recent unit on the Middle Ages, students transformed themselves into medieval knights, duchesses, and peasants using Google's Art Selfie. "AI allows kids to see themselves as part of history," he says.

AP Computer Science Principles teacher Craig Alexander also sees AI as a valuable teaching tool. His class uses AI to research the foundations of different programming languages and explain why they were created. But for actual coding, Mr. Alexander emphasizes that human ingenuity is irreplaceable. "I see AI as being a digital assistant," he says. "It allows students to gather knowledge in a concise way, but it should never be used to replace their creativity."

So agrees high school librarian Angela Maxwell. "I tell my students that if you want to get better at something, you have to do it authentically," she says. "AI will not replace you. It should enhance your productivity, creativity, and overall well-being."

Professional development for educators is also a key focus in Beachwood Schools. Ms. Maxwell is collaborating with middle school librarian Julie Ungier and elementary

school librarian Shahnyn Moody-Benedict to provide staff training on ethical AI use, top tools, and strategies for classroom use. "Most teachers are still in the exploring stage," says Ms. Ungier. "I'm excited for when teachers and students realize the positive impact it can have and leverage AI to their advantage."



Stepping into the past with a touch of modern magic!
Parker Borland and Journei Casson explore the Middle Ages through the lens of technology with Google's Art Selfie app.

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



Recent Resolutions

- Approved the hiring of new director of educational technology
- Authorized shared services agreement with City of Beachwood
- Heard elementary facilities update

Upcoming Board Actions

- Hear K-12 math curriculum presentation
- Hear affinity groups update
- Approve early site package Guaranteed Maximum Price

Board Meeting Calendar

- April 15 @ 7 p.m.
- April 29 @ 7 p.m.



VIEW AGENDAS & MINUTES

beachwoodschoools.org

BEACHWOOD CITY SCHOOLS

Developing Intellectual Entrepreneurs with a Social Conscience

Winter Sports Recap

Beachwood's winter athletes showed grit, growth, and glory during a record-breaking season.

High School Wrestling

According to head coach James Greenwood, the defining theme of this season's team spirit was perseverance. This was exemplified by two seniors, Lynnia Doss and Eli Silver, who consistently demonstrated resilience and determination. "When I met Eli, he could not walk independently," says Coach Greenwood. "Now Eli can walk, bike, lift weights, wrestle, and swim. He's always at practice on time and excited to be here."

Meanwhile, Lynnia Doss has emerged as a significant role model for the team, making history as Beachwood's first female Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) pre-regional champion and regional qualifier. "Her willingness to compete as hard as she can has brought her success," says Coach Greenwood. "I believe that spirit rubbed off on her teammates."

Another memorable moment was 10th grader Caleb Greenwood's outstanding performance in the District Semifinals, where his victory secured his place in the state championships. Caleb finished eighth in the state at the Division III, 150-pound weight class. "There were so many amazing moments this season because we had such a young team," says Coach Greenwood. "Many of the kids got their first career wins or their first time placing high at a tournament."



Middle School Wrestling

Beachwood Middle School achieved a remarkable milestone by advancing three of its students — Talmage Bang, Mekai Lawniczak Hons, and Phoenix Peters — to the Ohio Athletic Committee Junior High State Wrestling Championships. This distinction is considered the peak of success in middle school wrestling. The state championships took place on March 16 and 17 at the Covelli Center in Youngstown, Ohio.

High School Swimming & Diving

The Beachwood Swimming and Diving Team, under the leadership of head coach Brad Burget, experienced a record-breaking season. Six team members — Colin Elwell, Derek Fan, Ben Keyerleber, Nina Mayers, Evan Wang, and Kevin Zhang — qualified for the 2024 Ohio High School Athletic Association's Swimming and Diving State Tournament.

The girls' team notably advanced to Districts and showed significant progress, while the boys' team maintained an undefeated streak, securing wins in three invitationals and capturing the Chagrin Valley Conference championship. The young team broke five school records and recorded the highest number of swims at the OHSAA State Championships. Named Chagrin Valley Conference Coach of the Year, Coach Burget attributes the team's success to its strong camaraderie. "This is a very close-knit group and their support of each other is evident at practices as well as the meets," says Coach Burget. "Our goal is to be a top-tier program every year. We still have work to do, but I feel we are well on our way."

INDIVIDUAL HONORS

Wrestling

All Ohio - Eighth Place at
OHSAA State Championships
Caleb Greenwood

OHSAA District Runner Up
Caleb Greenwood

OHSAA Pre-Regional Champion
Lynnia Doss

Indoor Track

OATCCC State Indoor Track & Field - State Qualifiers

Kayla Allamby, Sydney Anderson, Peter Adobamen, Alex Eisengart, Strahinja Dimitrijevic, Chris Houston, Dakota Houston, Siena James, Alexandra Kheyfets, Max Kuenzler, A.J. Myers, Osita Ogor, Ambyr Paul, Johnathan Perry, Marley Readance, Josh Rosenberg, Mattix Revells, Madison Torbert, Kylie Walters, Junbo Wang

OATCCC State Indoor Track & Field - Place Winners

Madison Torbert, Shot Put, Fourth Place
Dakota Houston, 60-Meter Dash, Seventh Place
Dakota Houston, 200-Meter Dash, Seventh Place
Alexandra Kheyfets, 3,200-Meter Run, Eighth Place
Kylie Walters, Long Jump, Seventh Place
Boys 4 x 200 Relay, Third Place
Girls 4 x 200 Relay, Seventh Place

ADMINISTRATION

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High School Basketball

This year, both the varsity boys and girls basketball teams have shown remarkable progress and resilience, under the leadership of head coaches David Krasnow and Don Readance, respectively. For the boys, the season was defined by significant growth and tenacity, particularly highlighted by a thrilling overtime win against rival Orange, which avenged an earlier 20-point loss. Despite the introduction of a completely new roster, Coach Krasnow observed, "While the record didn't show it, we improved tremendously over the season."

For the girls, the season was notable for its integration of new talent and team unity. The Lady Bison standout moment was their 46-40 victory over the previously undefeated Fairview Park, a win that showcased the team's exceptional cohesion. With seven freshmen stepping up, "we were still competitive throughout the season against some tough opponents," says Coach Readance. "The girls' overall team spirit stayed strong throughout it all."

Middle School Indoor Track

The girls' indoor track and field team finished second at the recent Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches (OATCCC) indoor middle school championships, marking the highest team finish in school history. The team, led by Meena Abdula-Basser, K'Dyn Harris-Tate, Marianela Sims, and Zoe Walters, won the 200-meter relay state title and secured second place in the 4 x 400-meter relay. K'Dyn was the runner-up in the 60-meter dash, while Meena won the 400-meter dash, setting a new state record. The boys' team also performed exceptionally at the OATCCC Junior High State Championships. Jose Agudelo placed third in both the 60-meter and 200-meter dashes. Sean Taylor finished third in the 400-meter dash.

Swimming & Diving

OHSAA All Ohio - Top 16 at OHSAA State Championships
Colin Elwell, Derek Fan, Ben Keyerleber, Kevin Zhang

OHSAA State Qualifiers
Nina Mayers, Evan Wang

All District

Ethan Dong, Colin Elwell, Derek Fan, Kendall Finley, Ben Keyerleber, Karina Krishnan, Nina Mayers, Jonathan Owens, Samuel Park, Alma Saltzman, Evan Wang, Maria Zarjetskiy, Kevin Zhang

First Team CVC

Colin Elwell, Derek Fan, Ben Keyerleber, Nina Mayers, Jonathan Owens, Samuel Park, Evan Wang, Kevin Zhang

Boys Team 2024 CVC Champions - Valley Division

High School Indoor Track

The Beachwood High School indoor track team, led by head coach Willie Smith, enjoyed an outstanding season, culminating in every senior qualifying for the Indoor State Track Championships on March 2, where most earned medals. The boys' 4 x 200-meter relay team—Osita Ogor, Mattix Revells, Strahinja Dimitrijevic, and Johnathan Perry—took home third place, while the girls' team, featuring Dakota Houston, Marley Readance, Ambyr Paul, and Kylie Walters, finished seventh.

Individually, Dakota demonstrated her versatility with seventh-place finishes in both the 60-meter and 200-meter dashes, while Kylie earned sixth in the long jump, and Madison Torbert claimed fourth in the shot put. Alexandra secured eighth place in the 3,200-meter run. Osita Ogor set a new school record in the 60-meter dash. Coach Smith expressed immense pride in the overall team's culture of achievement, excellence, and precise execution. He explains, "The spirit of our track program is one where we care for each other, encouraging one another to be the best version of ourselves and to be examples to the younger athletes in our program."

High School Cheerleading

The Beachwood Varsity Cheerleading team reached new heights in their stunting skills after attending a clinic led by the Cleveland State University cheerleading team. "Watching them quickly master new, collegiate-level stunting skills was a great experience as their coach," says head coach Jasmine Stevens.

Another highlight of the season was the senior recognition game, where the team's four seniors choreographed an exceptional routine. This performance showcased their creativity and ability to teach and integrate new members into complex stunts such as the basket toss. Off the court, the varsity cheerleaders gave back to the community by volunteering at youth cheerleading practices and games. "They are excellent role models for Beachwood's youngest cheerleaders," says Coach Stevens. "We are hopeful that Beachwood Cheerleading will continue to grow into one of the best programs in the Chagrin Valley Conference."

Boys Basketball

All-District Honorable Mention
Daniel Rub, Jayden Koonce

Girls Basketball

Third Team All District
Goldi Aschkenasy

All-District Honorable Mention
Marley Readance

Women of Fairmount Temple Plant Sale

Women of Fairmount Temple invite you to honor that special mom in your life with the gift of flowering plants – or to gift yourself, because you deserve it!

Choose from red bromeliads, perennial white daisies, assorted succulents, hibiscus trees, petunias, or begonias. **Orders are due by Friday, April 19**, with curbside pickup at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple on Friday, May 10, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

“All proceeds from the Plant Sale will be donated to the Ralph and Sheilah Orkin Touch and Tell Fund, in memory of our dear sister and past president, Sheilah Orkin,” said Claudia Marmaros, Plant Sale chair. “This fund supports the *Alphabet and Number Touch and Tell* books for preschool children who are visually impaired.”

For the past several years, a number of beautifully designed books have been produced

by volunteers from Women of Fairmount Temple and Women of Fairmount Presbyterian Church, and donated to the Cleveland Sight Center.

Sheilah, who passed away on Nov. 25, 2023, at the age of 92, left an indelible mark upon the WFT family through her incredible kindness, warm heart, and her unwavering enthusiasm for volunteerism.

“We plan to continue to fund this meaningful project to keep Sheilah’s beautiful legacy alive for years to come,” Claudia added. “Join us in paying tribute to her by supporting this meaningful fund through your Mother’s Day plant purchases.”

Everyone who orders will be entered in a raffle to win a braided hibiscus plant.



Sheilah Orkin’s named fund will receive proceeds from this sale.

To place your order or for additional details, visit <https://tinyurl.com/WFTPlantSale>, or contact Claudia at 216.470.0083 or jujen97@aol.com. All plants will be supplied by Plantscaping & Blooms.

“We plan to continue to fund this meaningful project to keep Sheilah’s beautiful legacy alive for years to come,” Claudia added. “Join us in paying tribute to her by supporting this meaningful fund through your Mother’s Day plant purchases.”



Hope Heals

Last month, large teddy bears adorned the lawns at Beachwood City Hall, Beachwood High School, and the Beachwood Library to raise awareness of the Hope Heals campaign created by Greg Perry’s Marketing/Junior Achievement class at Beachwood High School.

Hope Heals was created to inspire hope and brighten the lives of critically ill children across Northeast Ohio.

These larger-than-life balloons are being used to raise awareness of Medi Teddy, a nonprofit that was created to improve the infusion experience for patients. Medi Teddy® IV covers provide comfort and reduce anxiety for children by concealing IV drips of blood or medication products being infused. Medi Teddy’s goal is to provide every sick child comfort through their illness because,

in doing so, they improve their chances for healing.

The class’s goal is to raise \$115,000 to purchase Medi Teddy® IV covers for every pediatric hospital room in Northeast Ohio. When this magazine went to print, the class had raised \$170,000.

“We are now in all major hospital systems in Northeast Ohio and beyond,” Mr. Perry told us. “We’ve far exceeded our goal and are still soliciting donations to purchase additional Medi Teddys that will be distributed around the world.”

The campaign was kicked off with a teddy bear party that was attended by about 1,200 people. The event included a teddy bear picnic, snow globe, arts and crafts, a raffle, and a teddy bear clinic, hosted by University Hospitals.

To learn more or to make a donation, visit www.hopehealsohio.com.

“We’ve far exceeded our goal and are still soliciting donations to purchase additional Medi Teddys that will be distributed around the world.”

Additional Teddy Bear Installations

- Pinecrest
March 29-April 8
- Legacy Village
April 12-22
- Crocker Park
April 26-May 6
- Van Aken District
May 24-June 1



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and dependability of the entire operation of your cooling system. These, along with many other checks, are vital to keeping your cooling system working through the dog days of summer. You can have a Pro-Max tune-up at your home for only \$109, a \$20 savings. Call Smylie One at 440.449.4328 today. When booking your appointment, say you saw this in *Beachwood Buzz!*

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Buying or Selling This Spring?

Get Your Home Ready to Sell in This Busy Market

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

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

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

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

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



Recent Sale – 23700 Halburton Rd.

until your home is sold; and, if you have difficulties sorting through items, you may want to hire a professional organizer to help you.

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

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

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

~ Sharon Friedman

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Sharon's Recent Beachwood Listings & Sales

- SOLD 11/23** 25404 Bryden Road
listed at \$365,000
- SOLD 10/23** 24423 Bryden Road
listed at \$350,000
- SOLD 10/23** 19 Deerfield Lane in The Village
listed at \$409,900
- SOLD 10/23** 7 Deerfield Lane in The Village
listed at \$375,000
- SOLD 9/23** 24301 Bryden Road
listed at \$399,900
- SOLD 6/23** 24410 Greenwich Lane
listed at \$850,000
- SOLD 6/23** 3 Hyde Park in The Village
listed at \$549,900
- SOLD OVER LIST IN 3 DAYS 6/23** 24860 Bryden Road
listed at \$475,000
- SOLD OVER LIST IN 4 DAYS 5/23** 2745 Sulgrave Road
listed at \$574,900

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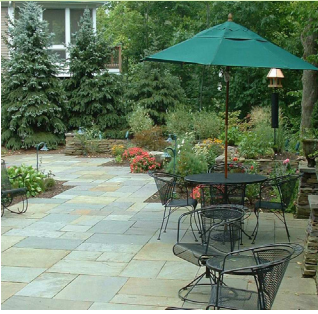
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At Eastside Landscaping, "Details Make the Difference"

Spring is here and it is time to start thinking about the outside of your home. When Eastside Landscaping sends a crew to your yard, they remove leaves and debris from the lawn and beds, trim groundcover, cut down remaining grasses and perennials, and establish bed edges.



Installing mulch in garden beds, seeding bare areas of the lawn, or replacing unhealthy or dead plants will add instant curb appeal. An addition of perennials will provide color and texture that will return year after year, while a planting of annual flowers will give you the opportunity to install a fun, splashy color theme that you can change according to next year's whim.



If you're seeking a new look for your outdoor living space, you might want to consider replacing a walk or patio, making drainage improvements, or installing landscape lighting. The addition of a custom screened porch, a handcrafted fence or pergola,

a custom outdoor fireplace or firepit, a water feature, or a state-of-the-art outdoor kitchen will enliven your yard and provide you with an entertainment space to enjoy with family and friends.

A thought-out plan will transform ideas into a functional and aesthetically pleasing yard. Allow the designers at Eastside Landscaping to discuss all of the details with you. Eastside is a full-service landscaping company that has been providing snowplowing, landscape maintenance, and design/build construction services for homeowners on Cleveland's east side for more than 36 years.

Whether you plan to install a new landscape or renovate your existing one, a well-thought-out plan will transform ideas into a functional and aesthetically pleasing yard.

This spring, allow us to spruce up your property. At Eastside Landscaping, "Details Make the Difference."

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For more information, call us at 216.381.0070 or visit www.eastside-landscaping.com.

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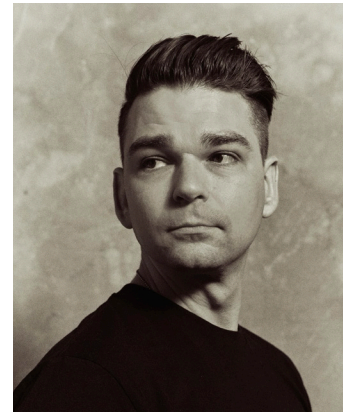
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See our portfolio at www.eastside-landscaping.com

The Everything Token

How NFTs and Web3 Will Transform the Way We Buy, Sell, and Create

Steve Kaczynski, Beachwood High School class of 2001, has always been tech savvy. When he was coding websites in sixth grade, people would tell him it was a great hobby but since the internet won't be a long-term thing, he'll need to grow up. Steve has always been quick to learn about technology and its possibilities, which is why he embraced crypto in 2018 and non-fungible tokens, NFTs, in 2021.



"This is the most excited I've been about a tech innovation since the mid 90s," Steve said about NFTs. "They effectively provide infallible proof of digital ownership, something that has never before been available."

To make an analogy to something most people are familiar with, the reason a work of art in a gallery has value is because it's the original, the museum owns it, and they can prove both of those things. This is why if you take picture of the art, or buy a print in the gift shop, it's not worth the same as the priceless painting on the wall. Until NFTs, you could not prove the ownership or origin of a digital item.

"To appreciate NFTs, we first have to understand what they actually are and the types of market opportunities they enable," Steve explained. "Then, we can understand how to build businesses around them."

Because of Steve's knowledge of how NFTs work, along with his enthusiasm for seeing their potential, he co-authored the book, *The Everything Token*, with Scott Kominers.

On LinkedIn, Steve describes himself as a Web3 storyteller. Marketing geek. Incurable optimist. Dreamer. He left his full-

time leadership position in the corporate world in January 2022 to pursue this passion.

Scott's profile reads: Professor, Harvard Business School, and Faculty Affiliate, Harvard Department of Economics.

Together, Steve and Scott wrote the book to explain NFTs to a mass audience.

"Each NFT is a unique, one-of-a-kind digital item that is stored on public-facing digital ledgers, called blockchains, which means it's possible to prove who owns a given NFT at any moment in time," Steve said. "It's easy to transfer NFTs from one person to another, much like you'd transfer money in the bank or in investment accounts.

"NFTs can function like membership cards or tickets; can offer discounts or exclusive merchandise; and so much more," Steve added. "That's why companies like Starbucks and Nike are pioneers when it comes to incorporating NFTs in their businesses.

"We wrote the book because we know how NFTs will shake up and change things in the world," Steve said. "We also want traditional businesses to understand that this software is good for companies in all industries. Tell me about your

"We wrote the book because we know how NFTs will shake up and change things in the world," Steve said.

"We also want traditional businesses to understand that this software is good for companies in all industries. Tell me about your industry and I'll tell you how NFTs can best be utilized. They will change healthcare, ticketing, loyalty programs, music, art, and so much more because of their incredible power."



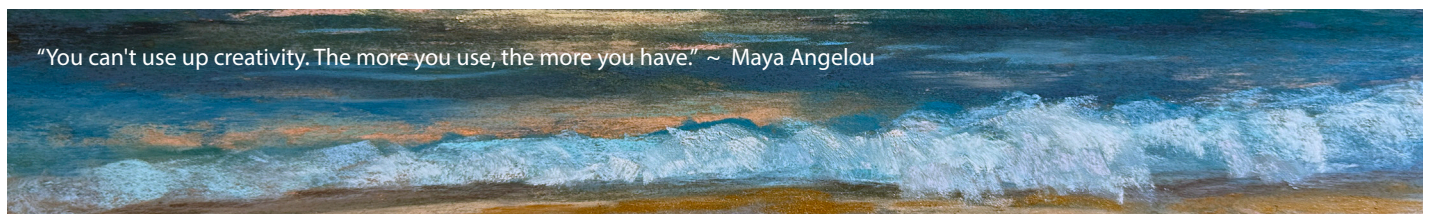
industry and I'll tell you how NFTs can best be utilized. They will change healthcare, ticketing, loyalty programs, music, art, and so much more because of their incredible power."

The Everything Token recently became a bestseller in multiple categories. When Steve found out, he said, "This has, without a doubt, been one of the best weeks of my life. I'm grateful to celebrate this achievement with my great friend, Scott."

He then added, "What a surreal day. I stopped by my local Barnes and Noble to see our book in the wild and to prove this wasn't all a wonderful dream. A store employee asked what drew me to the book. When I told her I was the author, she got very excited and asked me to sign it. That, along with countless messages, texts, and DMs from people who bought it made it a day that I'll remember for the rest of my life."

The Everything Token, published by Portfolio, an imprint of Penguin Random House, can be purchased on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or at your favorite place to buy or listen to books.

For more information, visit www.stevekaczynski.com.



"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." ~ Maya Angelou

Beachwood songbird, Dianne Palmer, is eager for her new performance group, 3 Birds and The Wire, to take flight. Her group, which has been honing its style and repertoire since last fall, is ready to hit the stage with an eclectic program that includes songs from the pop, rock, country, and jazz genres – and more – as they broaden their repertoire to widen their appeal.

"I'm so excited to bring 3 Birds and The Wire to Cleveland audiences," said Dianne. "I sing close harmony with two talented vocalists, Cindy Smith and Debra Rose."

The Birds are accompanied by The Wire: Mike Elkins, music director and arranger, on keys; Lovett Watson III on bass; Robert Hoffman on reeds; and Sonny Neal on drums.

"Mike's exclusive arrangements take into account our individual singing styles and song choices," Dianne added. "Our new and exciting show is full of synergy and energy. We can't wait for Cleveland to experience this type of performance in a concert setting."

Dianne, her husband, Robert Hoffman, and the rest of the tightly knit group have no doubt about their future success. "As the show's founder and general director, I, along with the group, have spent hours selecting the right type of music, sharpening harmonies, blocking each song, rehearsing, choosing wardrobe, and all the while meshing and bonding as a group to achieve the sound we want," Dianne said. "Our aim is to provide an amazing entertainment experience for our audiences. It's been a blast putting it all together."

3 Birds and The Wire plans to take their unique show to Northeast Ohio's most popular music venues, including intimate theaters, country clubs, and private homes for special occasion parties. "We present a polished, concert-setting performance so audience members can sit back and enjoy," said Dianne. "We hope to take our show on the road, too."

Working side by side with her husband of 20 years has been "a complete joy, there is nothing better," said Dianne. The couple run a small media agency, Palmer-Hoffman Productions, and have performed together musically in big bands and small groups for many years. Dianne also does voice-overs for TV and radio commercials, training videos, on-hold phone messages, web narrations, and audiobooks.

*"We present a polished, concert-setting performance so audience members can sit back and enjoy."
– Dianne Palmer*

"Robert and I built a soundproof studio in our Beachwood home where I sit in front of a mic and do my voice-over work," Dianne said. "It's wonderful working from home. My husband often says, 'You get paid to do the thing you love to do – talk.' It's a gift to have your vocation and avocation be the same."

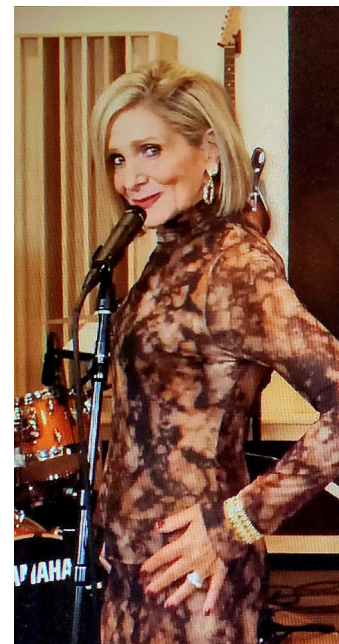
Performing for the Beachwood community, where Dianne has lived for over 30 years, is the best, she said. "I can't say enough good things about the Beachwood Community Center and the Beachwood Arts Council. They've given me many opportunities to entertain audiences of all ages."

Dianne also credits her parents, Jeanne and Arnold Palmer, for encouraging her to pursue her love of music and performing. "My dad sang at some of the biggest venues in Cleveland, like Cain Park, The Front Row,

and Music Carnival," she said. "I remember sitting in the audience watching him and hoping that one day I would be able to do that, too. I'm so thankful."



For more information about 3 Birds and The Wire, contact Dianne at 216.346.2877, or visit www.3birdandthewire.com or <http://www.facebook.com/3BirdsAndTheWire>



3 Birds and The Wire chanteuse, Dianne Palmer.

The Birds, from left, Cindy Smith, Dianne Palmer, and Debra Rose.

The Wire, from left, Lovett Watson III, bass; Mike Elkins, keys and music director; Sonny Neal, drums; and Robert Hoffman, saxophone and clarinet.



Yemenite Beef Soup

Recipe, from the *The Wall Street Journal*, adapted from *Zahav: A World of Israeli Cooking*, by Michael Solomonov and Steven Cook

TOTAL TIME: 3 hours 45 minutes (includes marinating)

Ingredients

- 6 tablespoons ground turmeric
- ¼ cup ground cumin
- 2 tablespoons freshly ground black pepper
- 1 pound boneless short ribs, cut into 2-inch chunks
- 4 tablespoons schmaltz or olive oil
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 4 garlic cloves, slivered
- 1 cup canned crushed tomatoes
- 2 quarts chicken stock
- 2 cilantro sprigs, plus cilantro leaves for serving
- 2 parsley sprigs, plus parsley leaves for serving
- 12 baby Yukon Gold potatoes,

peeled

Directions

- Make hawajj (a variety of Yemeni ground spice mixtures): Add turmeric, cumin, and pepper to a jar with a tight fitting lid and shake to thoroughly combine. (Hawajj will keep in pantry up to 3 months.)
- In a large bowl, combine short ribs, 2 tbsp. schmaltz, 2 tbsp. hawajj and salt, mixing well to evenly coat meat. Transfer to a plate and loosely cover with parchment paper. Refrigerate at least 1 hour or overnight.
- Heat remaining schmaltz in a lidded large pot over medium-high heat until shimmering but not smoking. Cook short ribs, turning occasionally, until browned all over, about 5 minutes. Transfer meat to a plate and set aside.
- Decrease heat to medium-low and add onions, garlic and 2 tbsp. hawajj. Cook, stirring frequently, until onions have softened but not browned, about 10 minutes. Add tomatoes and cook 5 minutes more. Add reserved short ribs, chicken stock, cilantro, and parsley sprigs. Bring to a simmer, then cook, covered, for 2 hours. Add potatoes and continue cooking until they are tender, about 20 minutes.
- Serve soup in bowls, topped with cilantro and parsley.



Photo by Michael Persic

Yemenite soup is a hearty mixture of tender beef, vegetables, and aromatic spices. The secret ingredient that sets this soup apart is the hawajj spice blend, which gives the soup its authentic, earthy flavor.

Rebel Readers Cleveland

Rebel Readers Cleveland, co-founded by Dahlia Fisher and Felicia Haney, lifts voices of diverse authors and explores stories of intersecting identities to build bridges between cultures and communities.

Monthly book-club selections include poetry, fiction, memoir, and more. "Reading across genres is an invitation to engage with writers and writing styles beyond our comfort zone, providing us with new perspectives and expanding our worldview," said Dahlia, a Beachwood resident. "Join us for something new every month at Loganberry Books where we are building bridges through books."

Each month, special guests join the conversation to provide deeper insight into the books and help readers unpack the stories being told. "We invite you to become part of the Rebel Reader family, Dahlia added. "Here, we all belong!"

Dahlia and Felicia understand people are busy and might not

have time to read the book before the book club meeting. Come anyway and read the book after, they suggest.

Upcoming events at Loganberry Books, 13015 Larchmere Rd., Shaker Heights:

Sunday, April 21 • 3-5 p.m.

***You Exist Too Much*, by Zaina Arafat**

In honor of Arab Heritage Month, the Rebel Readers will discuss this award-winning novel, by Palestinian American author Zaina Arafat.

"A provocative and seductive debut of desire and doubleness that follows the life of a young Palestinian American woman



Rebel Readers Founders Dahlia Fisher and Felicia Haney.

caught between cultural, religious, and sexual identities as she endeavors to lead an authentic life. — *O, The Oprah Magazine*

Sunday, May 19 • 3-5 p.m.

***Betty Friedan, Magnificent Disruptor*, by Rachel Shteir**

In honor of Jewish Heritage Month, the Rebel Readers

will discuss this award-winning biography, by Rachel Shteir, who considers how Judaism was essential to her feminism. She also presents a new Friedan for a new era.

"A lucid portrait of Friedan as a bold yet flawed advocate for women's equality." — *Publishers Weekly*

To learn more, visit www.RebelReadersCLE.com.



Suburban Temple-Kol Ami Celebrates Rabbi Allison Vann

Beachwood's Suburban Temple-Kol Ami is pleased to announce a celebration honoring Rabbi Allison Vann's "Bat Mitzvah" for 13 years of service. Among her many achievements, Rabbi Vann is part of the leadership team for the Religions Action Center of Reform Judaism Ohio and currently serves on the ethics committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Later this spring, she will also receive her Doctor of Divinity for 25 years in the rabbinate.

Celebratory events include a Shabbat dinner, Friday, April 12, and a community concert, Saturday, April 13, with renowned Jewish musician Dan Nichols.

Dan has toured Jewish summer camps for the past 22 years. A classically trained singer, he received his Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance at the University of North Carolina. In 1995, realizing the potential of music to make powerful connections with Jewish youth,

Dan established the Jewish rock band *Eighteen*. Since that time, he and *Eighteen* have released 13 albums.

The Shabbat service is open to the community. Tickets for the Shabbat dinner (\$75 each) and/or concert (\$36/adult, \$18/12 and under) are available at www.suburbantemple.org. Concert tickets will also be available at the door.

For more information, call 216.991.0700. Former campers are encouraged to attend.



Rabbi Allison Vann



Dan Nichols

Milestones Event to Chronicle Chabad's Impact

After a miraculous post-war escape from the Soviet Union, Rabbi Zalman and Shula Kazen finally arrived in Cleveland, in 1954. Seeking guidance from Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, known to adherents of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement as the Lubavitcher Rebbe or simply the Rebbe, they chose to stay here because of the work needed in our community.

In 1971, Rabbi Leibel and Devorah Alevsky arrived and were appointed the Shluchim (emissaries) to Northeast Ohio. Now, 70 years and 19 Chabad institutions and centers later, Chabad's impact is profoundly felt throughout NE Ohio.

Friendship Circle, the Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry, Living Legacy Workshops, and Jewish Learning Institute are a few of the Chabad organizations that touch lives in meaningful ways, and Chabad Centers have become homes for Jewish life and learning.

In honor of the Rebbe's birthday and in recognition of his amazing local influence, an event, Milestones: Chabad's Impact in Cleveland and NE Ohio, will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m., at Green Road Synagogue, 2437 S. Green Rd. in Beachwood.

Elisha Wiesel, son of the legendary educator and author Elie

Wiesel, will speak about his father's relationship with the Rebbe and his own personal journey with Chabad over the years.

Stories of families whose lives have been influenced by Chabad will be shared, and a dessert reception will follow.

General admission is \$36 per person. Sponsorships, VIP seating, and a pre-event cocktail reception are available. RSVP at chabadofcleveland.com/milestones. For more information, please contact chabadmilestones@gmail.com.

Do you have photos or a favorite Chabad memory? Please share them at <https://tinyurl.com/CleChabadMemories>.



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Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry Prepares for Passover

The Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry is busily preparing for Passover, which begins on Monday evening, April 22. In addition to the typical nutritious fruits, vegetables, proteins, staples, and eggs bagged every week, volunteers are adding important Passover items, such as grape juice, boxes of matzah, and matzah meal.

Charitable donations enable KFP to operate all year long, and are especially needed

now because of the extra expenses of providing kosher for Passover foods.

"At the Kosher Food Pantry, these are not luxuries we are providing but Passover basics," said Sarah Yaffe Alevsky, KFP executive director. "With the cost of kosher food at an all-time high, what we distribute makes a huge difference to our recipients."

KFP is one of the busiest food relief facilities in NE Ohio, serving nearly 6,000 people per month.

"We ask our friends not to miss this opportunity to help our neighbors," said Sarah. "We are truly grateful for everyone's partnership in our work. We also encourage anyone who may need help this holiday to contact our office at 216.382.7202. All calls are confidential."

Tax-deductible donations may be sent to 2004 S. Green Rd., South Euclid, Ohio, 44121. Donations are also accepted online at kosherfb.org.



Beachwood volunteers Priya Rajgopal and Rene Gordon.

22nd Annual Walk, Rock, Roll & Run

The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio is excited to celebrate its 22nd Annual Walk, Rock, Roll & Run at the Great Lakes Science Center on Saturday, May 4.

The Walk, Rock, Roll & Run is Northeast Ohio's largest diversity celebration that brings people together at Great Lakes Science Center, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and USS Cod to celebrate diversity in Northeast Ohio with a day of family fun and entertainment, along with a 1- and 3-mile walk and a 5K run.

Donations are encouraged and appreciated. Start a fundraising team today and raise funds that

allow us to teach acceptance and build community in our region!

It is free to walk. When you raise \$500 or more on your personal fundraising page, you become a Diversity Champion. This means you will be entered into our Walk, Rock, Roll & Run raffle, one entry for every \$500 you raise.

The cost per runner, through April 29, is \$38. Late registration from April 30 to May 4 is \$43. T-shirts are included for all runners. The race will be chip-timed and awards will be presented.

Funds raised from this event will help to empower more than 16,000 youth, educators, and youth-serving professionals



Join Us Saturday, May 4

1 & 3 Mile Walks • 5K Run

Great lakes Science Center

601 Erieside Ave., Cleveland

through the Diversity Center's justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion programming. Each year, its combined programs touch more than 16,000 people in 11 counties throughout Northeast Ohio.

The Diversity Center is a leading advocate for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion

in Northeast Ohio. When you support its work, you are helping a new generation of students and future leaders embrace their differences and become change agents for inclusion and diversity in our region.

To register or for more information, visit www.diversitycenterneo.org.

Antica Italian Restaurant + Bar Now Open in Beachwood

Antica Italian Restaurant + Bar, the sister restaurant of Hecks, is now open in Beachwood. The restaurant focuses on handmade pasta, pizzas, seafood and steaks, and a variety of vegetable dishes. Main courses are authentic to the diverse regions of Italy, with all ingredients imported or locally sourced for freshness.

This is the second location for the restaurant, owned by Fadi Daoud, the owner of Hecks Cafe and other restaurants in the Greater Cleveland area. The first location is in Avon, Ohio.

"We are delighted to bring the Antica experience to the vibrant community of Beachwood," said Fadi. "Our mission has always been to celebrate the rich

tapestry of Italian cuisine while providing our guests with an unforgettable dining experience. We are confident that our Beachwood location will become a beloved culinary destination for locals and visitors alike."

Located in the space that was previously Red, the Steakhouse, Antica is adjacent to Hecks Beachwood and will highlight

a similar elegant ambience with added modern design. Antica and Hecks in Beachwood have multiple private dining rooms to accommodate private dining options, along with a beautiful patio and outdoor bar. Reservations are now being accepted on Open Table or by calling 216.831.1004. The address is 3355 Richmond Rd.

Yarn Over Beachwood

Yarn Over Beachwood knits, crochets, and looms items for different organizations and charities throughout Northeast Ohio. The group shares ideas, patterns, projects, websites, links to patterns, and more.

Meetings are held the first Friday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Beachwood Library.

From December 2019 through December 2023, YOB members have made and donated 2,903 items. Since its inception in

2009, they



have donated more than 11,500 items.

Participants create varied projects that include hats, bird nests, lapghans, and more – and yarn donations are always welcome! Three new projects include soap sacks, in cotton yarn, filled with a wrapped bar of soap; a bunny, made from a knitted square; and a bear, which is knitted in one piece. Shawls and baby blankets in soft, washable yarns also are needed.

To participate or donate yarn, contact Iris November at lbertyclub@gmail.com or 216.375.9111.

Park Synagogue Presents

Virtual Tour of the Jeffrey D. Schwartz JCC of Taiwan
Sunday, May 5 • 7:30 p.m. on Zoom

Take a live-streamed tour on Zoom with Jeffrey Schwartz, who grew up in Beachwood, of the magnificent award-winning Jewish Community Center of Taiwan, which he and his wife, NaTang, founded in 2022.

The Jewish Taiwan Cultural Association, a non-profit which Jeffrey and NaTang also founded, serves to also build bridges between Taiwan and Israel and the global Jewish community.

We will tour the building, which includes a beautiful sanctuary with exceptional

biblical murals, a mikveh, Kosher Culinary Lab (kitchen and dining space), banquet rooms, a kindergarten, classrooms for adult education, a Jewish museum, and wonderful colorful mosaics. The community is invited to tour this magnificent building which has already won three prestigious architectural awards.

Pre-registration is required by May 2 to receive the Zoom link. Register at www.parksynagogue.org/events or by emailing Ellen Petler at epetler@parksyn.org.

Bison Buddies Unite for Hope in Second Annual St. Baldrick's Fundraiser

The Bison Buddies successfully conducted its second annual St. Baldrick's Day fundraiser. The initiative aimed to raise awareness and combat childhood cancer. The peer-to-peer learning/mentorship program supported this important cause by hosting a bake sale and donation drive, and organizing a social media campaign.

On March 8, several students participated in a "Shave It Off" event at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. High school students Nimisha Kasliwal, Eva Zheng, Amber Zhang, and Ana Schlachter donated their hair. Hilltop student Devang Pareek shaved his head in a show of solidarity with cancer patients.

Attendees had the opportunity to meet leading cancer researchers and pediatric oncologists, enhancing the educational and communal impact of the event.

Junior Radha Pareek, who organized the fundraiser, said, "Bison Buddies is honored to play a small role in the movement to ensure every child has the opportunity to fulfill their aspirations."

For more information about St. Baldrick's, visit www.stbaldricks.org.

Learn about Devang's inspiration to shave his head in next month issue of *Beachwood Buzz*.



Clockwise, from top right: Garth Holman, Devang Pareek, Radha Pareek, and Dr. John Letterio; Ana Sofia Shlachter, Radha Pareek, Nimisha Kasliwal, Eva Zheng, and Amber Zhang; Ana Sofia Shlachter; Devang Pareek; and Nimisha Kasliwal.

Aaron David Miller Headlines Park Synagogue's University Day

Park Synagogue invites adults of all ages to its 31st annual University Day on Wednesday, May 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Park Synagogue, 27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike.

After a light breakfast and opening remarks by Rabbi Joshua Skoff, Aaron David Miller, senior fellow at the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace, will give the keynote address, via livestream, on *25 Years of Traveling the Negotiator's*

Highway, taking a look back at his work as one of the chief U.S. Middle East negotiators. He will also discuss the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict and what he sees as a possible solution.

The remainder of University Day will feature workshops on a wide variety of topics, including Cantor Matt Austerklein on *The Judaism and Jewish Music of Leonard Bernstein*; Prof. Jessie Hill on *Legal Developments in Reproductive Rights*; Brandon

Chrostowski on *Cooking in War Zones: Global Humanitarianism*; Kelly Fishman and Rachel Felber on *Understanding & Combatting Anti-Semitism on Campus*; Barbara Greenberg on *The State of Voting Rights in America*; and Michelle Kraft on *Artificial Intelligence and the Everyday Person*.

The day will close with *From the Bima to Broadway*, a musical performance by Cantor Laurel Barr and Marshall Griffith.

University Day is open to all adults in the community. The cost is \$30 for Park members and \$36 for guests. The fee includes a kosher light breakfast and box lunch, the keynote lecture, a choice of workshops, and the musical performance. Prepaid reservations are required by April 26 at parksynagogue.org/events. For more information, contact Ellen Petler at epetler@parksyn.org or 216.371.2244, ext. 122.

Keeping Safe in Today's Unpredictable World

Wednesday, April 10 • 7:15 p.m. • Park Synagogue, 27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike
Featuring Jeff Robertson, Deputy Director, Jewish Federation of Cleveland's Community Security Team

We, unfortunately, seem to hear too often about mass shootings, anti-Semitic incidents, protests, and other situations that can put us in harm's way, so it's important to be prepared.

Join Jeff Robertson for a session that will teach us what to do and not do in an active shooter situation and other dangerous incidences, whether we are in a synagogue or in another location. Jeff will take

us through a simulated active shooter event and help us be better prepared in case we are caught in this kind of scenario. He will also talk about personal safety on the streets and other public venues.

This program is free and open to the community. Pre-registration is required by April 8. Register at www.parksynagogue.org, or by contacting Ellen Petler at epetler@parksyn.org or 216.371.2244, ext. 122.

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Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

Young Professionals 2024 Kick-off Event

Thursday, April 4 • 5-7 p.m.

COhatch Beachwood (In Beachwood Place)

The event, which will focus on networking, professional development, and volunteering, is open to all young professionals in the Beachwood area. Register on the Chamber website calendar at www.beachwood.org.

Please send an email to the director@beachwood.org if you or anyone in your company would like to learn more about the YP group.

Coming Soon:
Beachwood Chamber Luncheon
Wednesday, May 8 • 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Heck's Cafe

For details, visit www.beachwood.org.

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48th Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF) Lineup

CIFF48 will take place April 3-13, at Playhouse Square, followed by CIFF48 Streams, Presented by PNC, April 14-21, online. The in-person festival will showcase 137 feature films and 225 short films, representing 60 countries. CIFF48 Streams will present more than half of the festival's in-person feature films, along with nearly its full lineup of in-person short films.

Tickets for in-person screenings are \$16 for CIFF members and \$18 for non-members. Tickets for CIFF48 Streams screenings are \$12 for CIFF members and \$14 for non-members.

You may use the code **MEDIA48** to receive \$1 off each ticket price. Tickets are now on sale.

Tickets can be purchased online and by telephone (1.877.304.FILM). They can also be purchased in-person, beginning Monday, April 1, at the Film Festival Box Office, located in the KeyBank State Theatre Lobby at Playhouse Square. Be sure to check the Festival website for box office hours.

Visit www.clevelandfilm.org for details. Be sure to check the website regularly for updates between now and April 21.

at the 48th Cleveland International Film Festival

april 3-13

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A selection of films at CIFF48 STREAMS april 14-april 21, 2024
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