

## The Mayor's Message Investing In Our Future

Dear Beachwood Residents,

As we move into spring, Beachwood continues to take thoughtful steps to ensure a thriving future for our city. Investing in our community today ensures long-term success and sustainability. I want to share some significant updates that reflect our commitment to this vision.

### Strategic Investment in Chagrin Highlands

I am proud to announce the successful acquisition of 42.94 acres in Chagrin Highlands, a significant investment strengthening our city's long-term economic development strategy. This purchase, approved by Beachwood City Council on March 3, solidifies Beachwood's position as a premier business destination in Northeast Ohio.

Our city has pursued the opportunity to secure this key parcel of land for over two decades, and I am proud that our administration finalized this strategic purchase. The \$3,014,500 investment was funded through the City's Capital Projects Fund, ensuring taxpayers face no additional financial burden. This acquisition will provide valuable flexibility for future growth and economic opportunities that benefit our residents and business community.

### Fairmount Temple Property Development

Another key investment in our city's future is the redevelopment of the Fairmount Temple property. After an extensive review process of potential developer-builder teams, we have invited qualified teams to submit proposals for a high-quality residential development. Our review committee will assess these proposals in the coming months and recommend moving forward with a development agreement.

This project represents an exciting opportunity to enhance our residential offerings and strengthen Beachwood as a premier community.

### Breakfast Bites & Insights

I would also like to express my gratitude to the 30 residents who participated in our city's first Breakfast Bites & Insights event. This gathering provided a valuable opportunity to share key accomplishments from 2024 and preview upcoming projects that will shape Beachwood's future. Your thoughtful questions and engagement made for a meaningful and productive discussion. I am continually inspired by the passion and involvement of our residents, and I look forward to continuing these conversations as we work together to strengthen our community.



Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our great city. Together, we are investing in a bright future for Beachwood!

Sincerely,

**Mayor Justin Berns**  
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com

## Beachwood City Council



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



**Alec Isaacson**  
Council President  
216.291.2797



**Danielle Shoykhet**  
Council V.P.  
216.212.9212



**Jillian DeLong**  
216.509.3514



**Joshua Mintz**  
650.464.6788



**Pete Smith**  
216.299.3557



**Ali B. Stern**  
240.706.7478



**June E. Taylor**  
216.533.7640



**AUDITOR**  
216.595.3712

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**  
216.292.1914

**CLERK OF COUNCIL**  
216.595.5493

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
216.292.1970

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
216.292.1915

**FINANCE**  
216.292.1913

**FIRE & RESCUE**  
216.292.1965

**LAW**  
216.595.5462

**MAYOR'S OFFICE**  
216.292.1901

**POLICE**  
216.464.2343

**PUBLIC WORKS**  
216.292.1922

**EMERGENCY**  
Dial 9-1-1 or  
216.464.1234

# Beachwood Secures Long-Sought Land in Chagrin Highlands, Paving the Way for Economic Growth

After more than two decades of pursuit, the City of Beachwood has finalized the acquisition of 42.94 acres in the highly sought-after Chagrin Highlands business district. Approved by City Council on March 3, this landmark purchase strengthens Beachwood's position as a premier business destination in Northeast Ohio and represents a significant step forward in the city's long-term economic development strategy.

The \$3.01 million purchase was funded entirely through the city's Capital Projects Fund, ensuring that no additional tax burden is placed on residents. By leveraging existing resources, Beachwood's leadership has secured a prime development site to drive business attraction, job creation, and sustainable growth.

"This acquisition is a transformative investment for Beachwood," said Mayor Justin Berns. "Not only does it reinforce our commitment to thoughtful, strategic development, but it also ensures our continued success as a hub for business and innovation. This investment secures new opportunities for our community without putting a financial strain on our residents."

Situated in a high-demand commercial corridor, the newly acquired land enhances Beachwood's competitiveness on both a regional and national scale. The site's prime location offers excellent visibility, superior connectivity, and access to a highly skilled workforce, making it an attractive option for businesses looking to establish or expand operations.

The acquisition aligns with Beachwood's broader economic vision, supported by regional partners such as Jobs Ohio, Team NEO, and the Cuyahoga County Department of Development. With strategic financial planning, Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and economic development grants, the city can maximize the land's potential while ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability.

Looking ahead, Beachwood's leadership remains committed to unlocking new economic opportunities that will benefit both businesses and residents for generations to come. This acquisition is not just about securing land—it is about ensuring the future of Beachwood as a thriving, prosperous community.



An aerial view including a portion of the Chagrin Highlands property.

## STAY ENGAGED IN YOUR COMMUNITY:



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

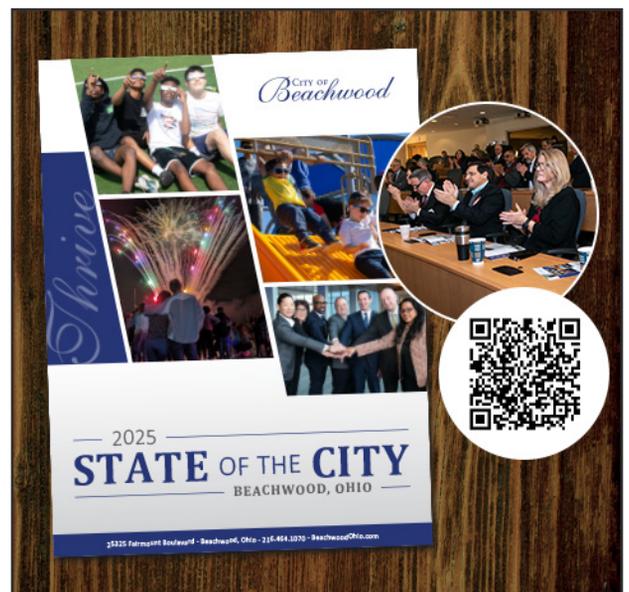
## Legislative Update

The city is focusing on six key areas essential for the city's advancement, which serve not only as a roadmap, but as a guiding light for our city's progress. Each update highlights these areas.

### March 3 City Council Meeting

**Fiscal Responsibility:** City Council approved an increase in the Mayoral salary. Starting Jan. 1, 2026, the Mayor's salary will be \$165,000. Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, it will increase each year by either 3% or the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), whichever is lower. Moving forward, City Council will review the mayoral salary every four years to determine if any changes are needed. In accordance with city ordinances, this salary adjustment will take effect with the next mayor elected into office, as changes to an elected official's salary cannot occur during their current term.

**Economic Development:** Council members voted 5-1 to approve the city's purchase of 42.94 acres of land in Chagrin Highlands for \$3.01 million. The site offers several business development opportunities, supporting the city's long-term economic development strategy.



Get an in-depth look at the State of the City in this month's cover story on page 6 or scan the QR code to view our booklet and video.

## UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

**City Council:**  
April 7 at 7:00 p.m.  
April 22 at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning:**  
April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

**Architectural Board of Review:**  
April 7 at 4:30 p.m.  
April 22 at 4:30 p.m.

# Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

## Beachwood Fire Honors 2024 Firefighter of the Year

Beachwood Fire Chief Steven Holtzman recently announced the department's 2024 Firefighter of the Year, Ben Welch. He was honored during the Feb. 18 City Council meeting with family and friends present. Welch has been with the department since 2014. The Beachwood Fire Department's Officer Corps votes to select the firefighter of the year.

Firefighter Welch is a dedicated department member, serving in many roles, including SWAT Medic, department mentor, social media committee member, union executive board member, and interview committee member.

Chief Holtzman praised firefighter Welch's commitment to the department: "Ben sets the standard for what it means to be a Beachwood Firefighter. He brings knowledge and a strong work ethic, always leading by example with a great attitude. Firefighter Welch constantly puts others ahead of himself and is a true asset to the department and community."

Beachwood Mayor Justin Berns also congratulated Firefighter Welch on his award, stating, "In the short time I have known Ben, he has already demonstrated the qualities of a strong leader. His dedication, professionalism, and commitment to the Beachwood Fire Department put him on track for a leadership position in the future." Congratulations on the award, Firefighter Welch. It is well deserved!



Firefighter of the Year, Ben Welch, with his wife and child alongside Chief Holtzman and Mayor Berns.

### FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY:

Friday, May 9, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fairmount Temple Property (23737 Fairmount Blvd.)  
Proof of residency required. Please use paper bags and banker boxes only; no plastic grocery bags.

## Beachwood Police Department Relaunches 'Coffee with a Cop'



The Beachwood Police Department successfully relaunched its "Coffee with a Cop" initiative under the leadership of Chief Dan Grispingo, drawing around 35 community members for an afternoon of conversation and connection.

The event took place on Friday afternoon, Feb. 21, at Nordstrom Ebar Artisan Coffee in Beachwood Place. Residents, business owners, and visitors had the opportunity to engage with officers in a casual, welcoming setting, reinforcing the department's commitment to creating strong relationships within the community.

With positive participant feedback, the Beachwood Police Department plans to continue "Coffee with a Cop" as a regular event, ensuring ongoing engagement with the community.



Left to right: Beachwood Place K-9 Security Officer Chris Ritondaro (K-9 Mandy), Chief Dan Grispingo, Captain Richard Lessick, Deputy Chief John Resek, Captain John Korinek, Officer LaCameron Workman



# Beachwood Firefighter Nick Ricco Conquers Key Tower

Beachwood Firefighter Nick Ricco recently took on the 2025 Fight for Air Climb - Cleveland, an annual stair-climbing event dedicated to supporting those battling lung disease. This year's climb returned to Key Tower in downtown Cleveland, the tallest stair climb challenge between Chicago and Philadelphia. The event provided a unique blend of fun and camaraderie as participants ascended 54 flights of stairs to raise awareness and funds for the American Lung Association.



Firefighters like Ricco face unhealthy air as an occupational hazard, making this cause personal. By participating in the climb, Ricco and his fellow first responders tested their endurance and showed support for more than 2.2 million Ohioans living with lung disease.

This year's event raised over \$160,000 for the American Lung Association, thanks to firefighter Ricco and other climbers.

*Beachwood Firefighter Nick Ricco*

## Save Our Pollinators

As spring approaches and temperatures rise, gardeners begin preparing for early planting. However, delaying leaf and brush removal can



positively impact pollinators like butterflies and bees, which overwinter in dead plant material. Experts recommend

waiting until daytime temperatures consistently reach the 50s to allow these beneficial insects to hatch naturally, supporting a thriving pollinator population for the season ahead. Thank you for doing your part for the local pollinators!

### PUBLIC WORKS

#### LOOSE LEAF REMOVAL:

Loose leaf removal officially began Monday, March 31, and will run through mid-May. Please call 216.292.1922 and verify loose leaf removal is still operating after Friday, May 16.

## Plan Your Next Party in Beachwood

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. Two trailers available per weekend. Reservations begin April 7 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 eight 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 Beachwood City Hall on April 7.

**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, corporate meetings and more. Each of the center's six rooms may be rented individually or combined to form a larger room. Learn more and view the rental rates online at BeachwoodRec.com.

## Tree Health Tip

As spring arrives and landscaping projects begin, proper mulching is key to tree health. Avoid volcano mulching, which can cause root rot, decay, pests, and even tree death. Instead, apply mulch 2-4 inches deep, keeping it away from the trunk to form a donut shape. Healthy trees enhance Beachwood's beauty and supports the ecosystem.



## It's Your Doo-ty

Please carry a bag and pick up after your pets.

**POOP POLLUTES!**



Do something paw-sitive for our streams and rivers!

Cleaning up after your pet is a simple way to help keep our neighborhoods, local waterways and Lake Erie clean. It's the right thing to do!



## Adult CPR Class

Tues, May 6, 8:30-11 a.m.  
Public Safety Center  
Register: BeachwoodRec.com  
Residents \$35, Non-Residents \$50



# April Recreation Guide

**Now Available!**



Programs & Events For All Ages!  
**Recreation Guide**  
 Spring & Summer 2025 - BeachwoodRec.com

Scan to view online!  
 BeachwoodRec.com



City of Beachwood  
 PLAY. EXPLORE. THRIVE.

► Spring Summer Pool Schedule  
 Juneteenth, Black-Pink Parties, and more!  
 ► New Adult & Ed Monthly Income  
 Monday experiences, magic, and more!

## Beachwood Beats Returns with Fresh Sounds

Get ready to groove all summer long! The Beachwood Beats Summer Concert Series is back, bringing a mix of new bands and expanded genres to entertain music lovers of all ages.

Join us every Tuesday in June and July from 6:30–8:00 p.m. at the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center for free live music under the summer sky. In case of inclement weather, concerts will be moved indoors to the Beachwood Community Center.

- **June 10 - The Nick Puin Band**  
Upbeat Jazz/Great American Songbook
- **June 17 - Revival Rock Band**  
Rock and Roll
- **June 24 - 3 Birds & The Wire**  
Three Voices. One Harmony.
- **July 1 - Subliners**  
Jazz-Rock Fusion Band
- **July 8 - The Elvis Wonder Show**  
An Authentic Elvis Experience
- **July 15 - Nitebridge**  
Jazz, Country, Blues & Everything in Between
- **July 22 - Taking Off Monday**  
The Ultimate Pop Punk Experience
- **July 29 - POP Machine**  
Chart Topping Hits 1970s to Today



Mark your calendars, bring your own chairs, and get ready for a summer of fantastic music and community fun.

## New Sand Volleyball League

Dig deep and bring the energy to the sand this summer with Beachwood's new Sand Volleyball League! Assemble your dream team and enjoy some friendly competition under the sun. All skill levels welcome. Leagues are seven weeks plus a playoff, referee fee due to the official at the time of the match. Register your team online at BeachwoodRec.com.



- **Adult Co-Ed 4s:** Mondays, May 12-July 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$240 per team (4 players)  
No matches on May 26.
- **Adult Co-Ed 6s:** Fridays, May 16-July 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$288 per team (6 players)  
No matches on July 4.
- **High School Boys 4s:** Mondays, June 9-July 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$192 per team (4 players)
- **High School Girls 4s:** Wednesdays, June 11-August 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$192 per team (4 players)  
No matches on July 9 and July 30.



**DIMENSIONAL DELIGHTS**  
 On Display April 4 - April 28  
 Artists' Reception: April 6, 2-4 PM

## Girls Capture Championship

Congrats to the Beachwood Recreation Girls Basketball team, led by Coach Alain Serels, on winning the Great Lakes Girls Recreation Basketball League Championship for grades 3–5!

Beachwood has partnered with neighboring cities and schools to help in the formation of this recreational league. The program gives our girls the chance to compete, grow, and play the game they love.



# An Oh-So Sweet Production

That's a wrap on *SugarTown Follies* by Beachwood Community Theater! The show was a full-on sugar rush — packed with talent, candy-coated charm, and performances that were oh-so sweet. Huge shoutout to our directors, Julie Matthews and Debi Lewin, for a sensational original production.



*SugarTown Follies* was held on March 1 and March 2 at Beachwood Middle School.

**PADDLE UP**  
PICKLEBALL CLUB  
**2025 Spring League**

**Beginner Division**  
Sunday Mornings  
May 4-June 22  
9:00 AM-Noon

**Intermediate**  
Tuesday Nights  
May 6-June 24  
6:00-9:00 PM

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

# Aquatic Center Memberships On Sale Beginning April 7



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 7, at City**

**Hall for residents only. Save 20% with early bird rates through May 23.**

Please bring a driver's license and current utility bill as proof of residency. For more information and an application, visit [BeachwoodRec.com](http://BeachwoodRec.com).

Membership	Early Bird (4/7-5/23)	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 & Better)	\$35	\$42

# Beachwood Seniors

## Upcoming Programs

- April Lunch Bunch & Supper Club**

Lunch Bunch - Mavis Winkle's Irish Pub in Twinsburg, April 9, 12:00 p.m.  
Supper Club - Kiln in Shaker Heights, April 22, 6:00 p.m.

New! We're venturing out further to some of the best spots in Northeast Ohio. To accommodate travel, van transportation is offered for up to nine people. Van registration is \$5 per resident and \$7 per non-resident.

- Drawing Class with Marlene Weinstein**

Tuesdays, April 29-June 3, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
Beachwood Community Center

Explore light, composition, color and more. All artistic levels welcome. The upcoming session will cover art history inspired drawing over six weeks. Register by April 22, \$79 for residents and \$89 for non-residents.

- Mahj Tournament**

Monday, May 5, 12:30-4:30 p.m.  
Beachwood Community Center

A crowd favorite! Regularly hosting over 70 players! Join in the fun. Registration includes snacks and prizes. Please bring a Mahj set if possible. Only \$17 for residents and \$20 for non-residents. Register by April 25.

## April Meet & Eat

**Elvis Is In Our House**  
Thursday, April 17, at Noon  
Beachwood Community Center

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

Elvis tribute artist, Frank Worley, is native to the greater Cleveland area's west side where his education excelled in theater and music performance. He created KINGtinued as a tribute to Elvis's live performances and his legacy. Take a trip back in time and visit with the KING of Rock & Roll. Blue suede shoes optional!

Meal choices include a BBQ chicken sandwich or egg salad sandwich. All entrees served with chips, beverage, and dessert.

**May Meet & Eat (5/15):** What's in your health and wellness toolbox? Join Tim Carney for a fun, inspiring journey to better health.

**Register for events at [BeachwoodRec.com](http://BeachwoodRec.com), City Hall or call 216.292.1970.**

# WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Beachwood Business Compass Podcast: The Business Growth Wheel

The latest episode of the Beachwood Business Compass Podcast features Katie Van Dyke, Director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), as she shares expert insights on strategic positioning for business growth.

The SBDC, with multiple locations throughout Northeast Ohio, is dedicated to helping businesses at every stage—from aspiring entrepreneurs to established companies—develop and execute tailored strategies for success. Katie Van Dyke, an advocate for Cleveland's entrepreneurial community, highlights how small businesses are a major contributor to the strength of local economies.



Catherine Bieterman (left), Economic Development Director and host, with Katie Van Dyke (right) of the Small Business Development Center.

In this episode, learn how the SBDC Growth Wheel and one-on-one consulting help businesses refine their strategic direction. The SBDC also connects local entrepreneurs with valuable resources such as APEX, JumpStart, Bounce, ECDI, and more, fostering a dynamic ecosystem of support.

To take the next step in growing your business, schedule an appointment with the SBDC through the City of Beachwood One Stop Business Resource Center or the Cleveland State SBDC. Let these complementary and customized resources be your guide to success.

Episode 3 of the Beachwood Business Compass is available now on Apple Podcasts.



## Primrose Schools Opens Beachwood Location

Primrose Schools help lay the foundation for a lifelong love of learning through purposeful play and nurturing guidance. Their new center has opened at 23825 Commerce Park. They are planning for a grand opening celebration this spring.

## Chamber Pancake Breakfast to Support Scholars

Mark your calendars and bring your appetite! The Beachwood Chamber of Commerce is serving up a morning of delicious pancakes, community spirit, and support for local students at its pancake breakfast. The event takes place on Sunday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Beachwood High School Cafeteria, 25100 Fairmount Blvd.

Enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast while contributing to a meaningful cause — supporting the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce High School Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. No advance tickets are necessary; simply pay at the door.



Officials from the City of Beachwood and the Beachwood School District will greet and serve community members, making this event a great opportunity to connect with local leaders. Partial proceeds from the breakfast will directly benefit the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce Scholarships, helping local students achieve their educational goals. For local businesses looking to gain visibility, there is an opportunity to set up a promotional table for \$125. Businesses that participate will also receive a business card-sized ad featured on the event placemats, ensuring exposure to attendees. Don't miss out — join us for a morning of food, fun, and philanthropy!

### 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