

# the friendly magazine

# city



Spring 2022

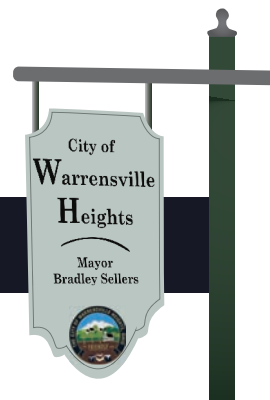
# Spring Blooms

## **Plus:**

**The Mayor's Message  
Council Spotlight  
Black History Program  
Our new Councilman  
New homes being built  
School design Q & A  
City service updates  
and more!**



## The Mayor's Message



### Spring. A time of rebirth.

Springtime. Warm weather is here, birds are hatching their young and flowers and trees are coming alive again. It is a time of rebirth, new possibilities, a time to step out of your homes, and say "hello" to the neighbors you haven't seen in several months. It is also a time to plant the seeds of the future.

Over my 11 years in office here at Warrensville Heights, my goal has always focused on how to improve and to renew this city. Warrensville Heights has been my home for most of my life and it is deep in my heart. This city is always on my mind and our residents are an inspiration to me. Being an advocate for this community has been my lifelong aim and I want nothing more than to plant the seeds that will grow here to help make our lives better.

I can report that Warrensville Heights is on the move. Even with the challenges of the last few years, our fiscal budgets are sound, our economic development objectives has been bearing fruit and our city is moving forward. I am excited about the latest developments with our schools and the building process. Our students will have a first-rate education, prepared to be future leaders.

We are very excited that new businesses including Lazurite Holdings, a medical device company and Floor and Decor, a specialty retailer have moved to the city in the last few months. In addition, Ulta Beauty and Home Goods will soon call Warrensville Heights home.

We are also working on new strategies to add more jobs to this community, giving our young better opportunities, creating a city core and continuing to help seniors. Sometimes, if you work harder, you end up doing more than you can imagine. I have your back. And I will always keep my eye on the ball.

Speaking of that, I want to applaud a very special team, our own Warrensville Heights Varsity Girls Basketball Team, who won the OHSAA Division III District Championship. Congratulations, Head Basketball Coach Ortney Bryant; Assistant Coaches, Brian Arth, Jermei Holmes Jr. and Samatha Hamilton and Manager, Jamarion Bradfield. Team Members: Bintou Traore, Jada Ward, Bri Ford, Tatum Johnson, Markilah Young, Lanya Thomas, Ahleeah Abdullah, Janyah Bohanan, Zennia Thomas, Aneesa Parker and Maraya Rucker. They came so close in the Regional Final. Bravo for showing all of us your grit and dedication.

This team has been an example of that "can-do" spirit. Each of us can learn something from the way they played. I encourage the residents of Warrensville Heights to embrace that spirit as well. Hard work and determination. That kind of motivation can take you far and prove to others, that we are a force, together.

All my best,

WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS

# MEMORIAL

## DAY PARADE

Monday, May 30th, 10 AM



# BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM



Our 2022 Black History program "Freedom Ain't Free" was taped in the third week of February and is available virtually to watch online. If you haven't yet seen this program, visit the city's website, [cityofwarrensville.com](http://cityofwarrensville.com).

This year's program featured music, dance and inspiring words. Speakers included: Mayor Bradley Sellers, Director of the Warrensville Heights Civic & Senior Center Jennifer Lastery, Program Coordinator Sandra Noble, Rev. Eugene Griggs from Grace Community Church and Council President Stanley Anderson who shared a personal story about his time in Saigon. The Hue People provided great music and Jacki Boyd was our storyteller. It was a celebration of freedom!



## Johnny L. Williams Jr.

NEW WARD 7 COUNCILMAN



I'd like to introduce myself as your new Ward 7 Councilman. I'm replacing Kim Hodge Edwards who served with great distinction for 22 years and has moved onward to become Congresswoman Shontel Brown's Deputy Chief of Staff. All the best to Kim in her new role!

Chariss, my wife of nearly 30 years, and I have lived in Warrensville since 2016 - we love it here! After living in Orange for 13 years, upon the graduation of our youngest son, we decided to move to Warrensville for three primary reasons: The People. The Community. The Proximity. We relocated from the New York City area to Cleveland in 2003. Through our young sons' sports activities, we developed close friendships with our kids' friends' parents who were raised in Warrensville. It was immediately clear to us that we shared the same values, but their memories and pride in Warrensville is something that stayed with us and is what ultimately led us to move here. Our

neighbors are friendly, caring, prideful, respectful, and fun! It will be a privilege to serve as your councilman and I will not disappoint!

I was born and raised in Akron and graduated from Buchtel High School in '77. I attended Kent State on a football scholarship and enrolled in Army ROTC. Upon graduating in '81, I was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant and began a 10-year Army career in Texas, Alabama, Germany, and Maryland.

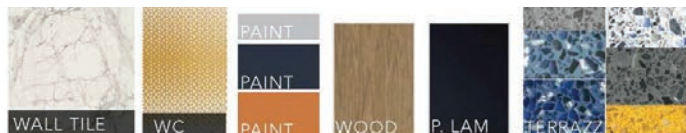
Upon leaving the Army in '91, I began a 27-year career in sales and leadership with Pfizer Inc. in Cincinnati, Chicago, New York, and Cleveland until my retirement in '18. I met my wife Chariss, born and raised in Brooklyn, NY while we were Captains in Germany. We have two sons, Trae (Maggie) 28, and Spencer 26, who recently bought a townhouse here in Warrensville, and gregarious grandson Braylen, 4.

My commitment to each of you is that I will be diligent, visible, transparent, and highly communicative in addressing your concerns and keeping you apprised of events and issues. To help me with this, **I am asking that you provide your email address (never to be shared) so that I can better serve you!** I will "Listen Until it Hurts" regarding your concerns and I will be your voice in following through on providing you with answers. To be clear, you may not like the answers, but you can be 100% confident in knowing that I did everything within my power to alleviate your concerns or issues.

Pridefully, Warrensville Heights is the city where we will take our last breath! Please send me your email (never to be shared) or call me as needed because I am here to serve you!

[jwilliams@cityofwarrensville.com](mailto:jwilliams@cityofwarrensville.com) | O: 216.834.9667

## Q & A with School Design Project Manager



Our new high school is on the way and construction progress can be seen daily. As the building goes up, you will notice unique elements of glass, brick and metal coming together. What is the inspiration behind some of these elements and how do they add to the student's everyday experience in and around the new high school? Steve Dzurainin, Project Manager from Moody Nolan architectural firm was asked about design elements in the new schools.

### **Q What were some of the most important design elements between the Middle and High School?**

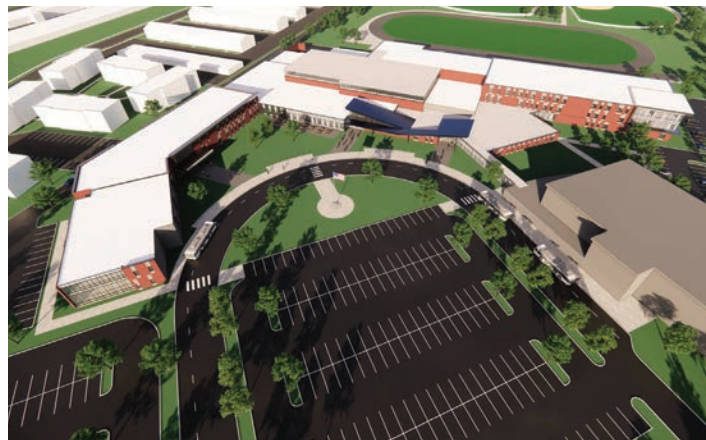
- The site acreage was limited, so the design of the new school had to be compact and efficient. Additionally, the existing science wing had to remain so we had to come up with an integrated design to connect the two parts seamlessly.
- It was important to create spaces that maintained separation between Middle School students and High School students. This way, each student body could create experiences within their own space. It was also important to make sure the facilities could accommodate community use, as well.



### **Q How do the different textural elements change the feel of the school?**

- The various textural elements were meant to create visual interest so that the school did not have the traditional institutional aesthetic.

- The palate of colors were selected to create different identities between the Middle School, High School and the spaces for community use. You will instantly know where you are in the facilities by the signals these palates provide.
- The cantilevered room elements were inspired by the completed design of the new elementary school. It was important that the design elements be complementary between schools.



### **Q How does the design of both school projects create a cohesive school campus?**

- Since the elementary school was first to be designed and built, a number of design elements, including materials that were shared between projects. The "community zone" is centrally located and flanked on either side by the Middle School Academic Core and the High School Academic Core.
- The main "loop" road will primarily serve as bus access. The Middle School and High School have separate entrances and the parent drop off/pick will occur in the central parking nearest to the building.
- The gym will incorporate the school colors and a graphic of the mascot. Moreover, there will be video boards on each end of the gym that will serve as scoreboards for athletic events.

### **Q What are aspects about the project design that the general public would not normally notice?**

- This project is pursuing LEED Certification, so there are many high performing, energy efficient items incorporated in the design. This includes elements such as roof insulation, exterior wall assembly, mechanical & plumbing equipment. These special items add to the environmental responsibility of the buildings by using resources efficiently.

\*Photos courtesy of Moody Nolan



# Sign up for Emergency Alerts

City Alerts instantly come to your mobile, email or landline.

## — readynotify.us —



## Vacant lots renewed with three new homes



Our city in partnership with the Cuyahoga Land Bank is making a difference in our community every day. This year, Warrensville Heights will see several new homes built on Longbrook Road. The Cuyahoga Land Bank strategically acquires properties beyond their useful life and rehabilitates them back to a useful state. As seen throughout Warrensville Heights, property assets can become green space, used for municipal or utility purposes or sold to private owners who meet acceptable standards. Some of these assets become beautiful new homes enhancing our community and increasing property values. The new homes will be the Cuyahoga Land Bank's first new construction project in Warrensville Heights and the city's first new construction project using scattered lots.



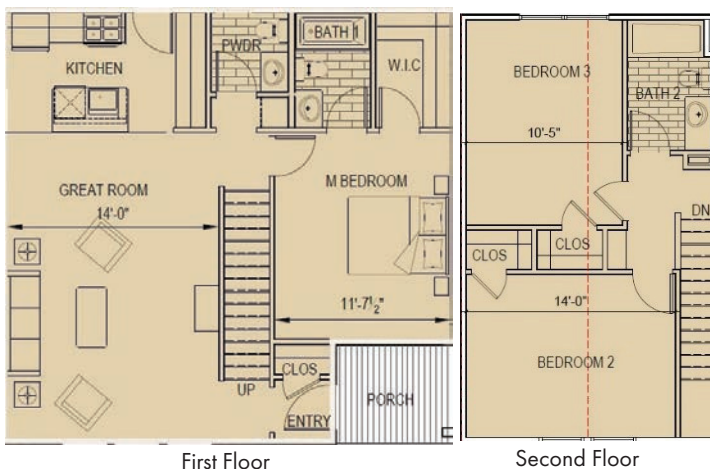
Artist rendering of one of three homes coming to Warrensville Heights

The two-story, 1,256 square foot colonial-style homes will have three bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms and each are designed with a first-floor master suite with an attached bathroom and walk-in closet, a separate first-floor half bathroom, and an open layout. Homes that incorporate first-floor living amenities are ideally suited for a variety of households, including those

that are multi-generational or have disabled family members. Each home will have a detached one-car garage.

"We are always striving to improve our community, and this partnership with the Cuyahoga Land Bank will provide a modern housing product in Warrensville Heights to meet the needs of today's buyers," said Mayor Brad Sellers. "The first three homes will provide the impetus for future projects throughout our city."

"Warrensville Heights is a hidden gem, it is a wonderful place to live and work," said Dennis Roberts, Esq., Director of the Cuyahoga Land Bank's residential development activities. "Our goal is to continue to stimulate investment in the city by building new homes in accordance with the city's master plan."



The Cuyahoga Land Bank will break ground on the project this spring, and it is estimated the homes will be completed and listed for sale in the fall.

Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell stated, "More than 70 homes have been razed in the city since I became a member of Council in 2011. Of that total, 20 were in Ward 2 and 16 were in Brentwood, these new homes are a foundation for continued future development."

## New Fire Truck is pushed-in station

Members of the Warrensville Heights Fire Department performed a traditional "push-in" on the city's new fire truck. Push-in ceremonies date back to the 1800s when departments used horse-drawn fire equipment. Horses had a hard time backing up, so equipment was pushed in by fire fighters. This is now tradition with new engines.



# Council Spotlight



## Dorise Hagwood

WARD 1

Greetings! Thank you for continuing to place your trust in me to represent you.

I appreciate your encouragement and support. Most of my civic engagement and political advocacy has been right here in Warrensville Heights. The work I do is purposely focused on producing positive results for this community and its people. **"More than ever before, we need leaders who are willing to serve the people, and rally for the common good, reject cynicism and 'winner-take-all' politics, and embrace the difficult work for the greater good."** - Cory Booker's United

**Hope is the final refusal to not give up!** - MLK. This year we are planning to bring back Veteran's Day Luncheon in June. We are looking forward to bringing back our Ward 1 meetings and events too. Please keep informed of all events by checking our website or Facebook page. If you are a veteran (retired or active) please email me or call the City Council office at 216.587.6516 and leave a message with your name and phone number. All are welcome. Not just Warrensville Heights residents. This event is for veterans and their spouses only, RSVP is required.

Reminder: As we welcome spring and summer **Feeding of Wildlife and Stray Animals is prohibited** in the city. Codified Ordinance 505.081. Sections (a) and (b). Ord. 2015-038. Passed 4/7/15.

Always remember, I am accessible, approachable and responsive. Continue to contact me with your questions, concerns and suggestions. Have a safe and enjoyable spring and summer! Yours in public service, Dorise.

dagwood@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.587.6516



## Andrea Mitchell

WARD 2

Greetings neighbors, snow is now a memory. COVID remains a reality. The radiant sun brings opportunities of a new day. A wave from a neighbor provides promise. Spring has sprung!

The last 24 months have changed the narrative and presented many unforeseen challenges. We are overcoming. As many of us venture out into our neighborhoods (and beyond), know that caution, compassion and courtesy serve simultaneously as personal armor and an extended hand.

Appreciate the warm days and spring blossoms, but please take care of yourself. Make sure you have clear exits in your residence. Also, check your fire extinguishers and carbon monoxide detectors and make sure they are in working order. Check in with each other. Great neighbors make great

neighborhoods. If you have rubbish and recycling bins, please set out and remove them at the appropriate times, then store in a concealed location.

Remember, everyone doesn't enjoy the same music or playlists. If there is no neighborhood block party, please be mindful of your music volume and refrain from serving as the neighborhood DJ. Whether car or house, we would not want our neighbors fined or detained for violating Section 511 (excessive noises, especially between 9 PM and 7 AM) of our municipal ordinance.

Congratulations to our scholars on an amazing academic year. Always know you have a community that supports your positive efforts.

**"I wondered why somebody didn't do something. Then I realized, I am somebody."** - Author Unknown

Great neighborhoods make great cities like: "The Friendly City!" Neighborly, Andrea

amitchell@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.339.1279



## Elona C. White

WARD 3

Greetings Ward 3! Happy Spring! As we work to get back to normal, remember the practices that kept us safe. Washing our hands thoroughly and often is a good habit to keep. We may also consider wearing our masks when we are out and about.

With springtime comes a variety of activities. If you are choosing fitness goals, consider membership at the YMCA or enjoy walking on the track at Tri-C. Whatever you choose to do, enjoy what the Friendly City has to offer. This year, I look forward to seeing you at our Senior Luncheon, Party in the Park, the Memorial Day Parade and at our annual Summer Festival. These events are wonderful times when we get to enjoy fellowship and our community. I hope to see you there. The dates are forth coming.

I want to take a moment to welcome Councilman Johnny Williams, our newest member to city council. I also want to send congratulations to Kimberly Hodge Edwards, as she moves on to a new position with Congresswoman Shontel Brown. I am wishing you the best of luck!

I want to leave you with a quote by Coretta Scott King as it always makes me think fondly of our great city: **"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."** As time goes on, let's continue to be kind and empathetic towards our neighbors.

ewhite@cityofwarrensvilleheights.com | C: 216.244.4692

# Council Spotlight (continued)



## Walter Stewart

WARD 4

Greetings, I pray that everyone is preparing to have a very happy, safe, and productive spring/summer season. I cannot stress the importance of safety enough. When you see something, please say something. I have recently been receiving a growing number of grievances about strangers entering apartment buildings. So, I am appealing to all residents to be on the lookout. If something does not seem right, do not hesitate to call the Warrensville Police Department, especially if you see strangers loitering in the lobby, hallways, standing or sitting on the stairs. We must do our own part to keep each other informed and safe. As a reminder, you can reach the Warrensville Heights Police Department 24/7 at 216.581.1234 or call 911 if you feel threatened.

There also have been many complaints from residents recently that leasing office staff are not responding or returning calls to residents who need help. If this is a constant ongoing issue, please don't hesitate to contact me, anytime. It is best if I know your concerns, so I can address them.

Remember, the Granada Gardens Tenant Association meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Warrensville Heights Civic & Senior Center located at 4567 Green Road from 4 to 6 PM. We previously held the meetings at the Granada Gardens Party Center but the party center has not been available for the Tenant Association Meetings or Youth Program meetings and activities since the first COVID-19 lock-down. We hope to return to the party center at some point soon.

I am also in the process of scheduling a Ward 4 Youth Program planning meeting for parents to discuss planning of summer activities for our children and youth. This meeting date is still to be determined.

That's all the Ward 4 news for now, I wish you the best.

wstewart@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.587.6516



## Matthew Howard

WARD 5

Greetings everyone. Happy spring and summer to you all. As we go into the warm months, I still encourage everyone to be safe in the midst of this pandemic. Although it seems to be coming to more tolerable levels, we still should be mindful of the spread of this terrible virus and practice cleanliness and be responsible. These steps not only help you, but others as well.

It is my plan that Ward 5 activities and events will be back in person this year. HOA meetings, our Christmas party, and Ward 5 meetings and more. I want to congratulate our Girls' Varsity Basketball Team on a very successful season and becoming district champions.

John Dewey School is still open for now, as a temporary home

for our middle school students, until construction is complete on the new middle school on Northfield Road.

In closing, I hope to see you all at the Memorial Day Parade and Summer Fest later this summer. As usual you can reach me on my phone anytime. I am always here for you.

mhoward@cityofwarrensville.com | C: 440.561.7990



## Stanley Anderson

WARD 6

For those of us who have fortunately survived the very long, turbulent and painful year of 2020, we are alive and joyful to view its exit in our rear view mirror.

As 2021 arrived on the scene, it greeted us with a sense of hope and expectation as the scientific community intensified their effort to develop a vaccine to combat the COVID-19 - a virus that was infecting and killing the world's population at an alarming rate. Working laboriously they succeeded in their efforts to create a vaccine to stem the tide of this out-of-control virus, and lead us to see a flicker of light at the end of the tunnel.

This diligent work of the scientific community and the courage of the test patients has helped the vaccinated get control of COVID-19. This year, 2022, opened with another variant, but those vaccines and new medicines helped to stem the tide. It has now become a year of optimism.

**For reliable COVID-19 answers** to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) contact The Center for Disease Control (CDC) at 800.232.4636 or visit their website, cdc.gov.

sanderson@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.587.6516

## Fireworks still "out" in Warrensville Heights

House Bill 172, which goes into effect July 1, will allow Ohioans to legally shoot off fireworks. It also allows municipalities to opt out of the new law and continue the bans on the use of fireworks. The City of Warrensville Heights is opting out of House Bill 172. That means the use of fireworks will continue to be banned in the City of Warrensville Heights. Therefore, no one will be allowed to set off fireworks in the city, including on private property. The only allowable use of fireworks within the city is for private or public displays of fireworks for events such as fairs, carnivals or other celebrations and requires written permission from the Fire Chief prior to the event. (Cod. Ords. 549.10, 549.11)

# City Offices

## Senior and Civic Center News

Jennifer Lastery, Director  
Sandra Noble, Program Coordinator

4567 Green Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128  
216-587-1250, Monday – Friday 9 AM – 5 PM

### Room Rentals

The Center has rooms in the Civic & Senior Center as well as the Chateaux of Emery Woods available for rental by residents on Friday evenings and all day on Saturdays for community or adult events.

### What the Center Provides and Offers

The Civic & Senior Center is a municipal facility whose primary mission is to provide services and activities for the adult community of Warrensville Heights. The Center currently offers a variety of activities and classes, which include: Aerobics, Ceramics, Crocheting/Knitting and more. We also provide social activities for our seniors such as an Annual Luncheon with the Mayor, trips to the Cleveland Playhouse, and programs based on the interest in the community.

### Transportation

Transportation Services are provided for medical appointments on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday and grocery shipping on Wednesdays. This service is provided for seniors 60+ years of age, who are without transportation. The hours for transportation are from 9 AM until 12:30 PM. Please call to schedule trips.

### Senior Club

The Senior Club (for Warrensville Heights residents 60 years and older) normally meets twice a month, on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 1 PM. The Senior Club allows an opportunity for neighbors to meet and socialize with each other. The club has an annual picnic and plans other activities that are informative and fun. Each month during their meetings, club members receive updates on the current affairs in the City from the Mayor, City Council, Board of Education and departmental directors.

### Classes

- Painting Studio – Mondays at 11 AM
- Genealogy – 3rd Tuesdays 1 PM
- Photography Studio – Tuesdays at 2:30 PM
- ABC's of Technology – Thursdays at 10 AM
- Knitting and Crocheting – Thursdays at 12 PM
- Ceramics – Fridays at 10 AM
- Jewelry – Fridays at 12:30 PM
- Piano Lessons – Private (Call for availability)
- Quilting and Doll Guild – 1st and 3rd Saturday 10 AM. Make a quilt unlike any that your grandma made or make a cloth doll that looks like an African Queen.

### Prices for classes (eight week sessions):

- Line Dancing - Residents - \$14.00, Non-Residents - \$16.00
- Tai Chi - \$20.00 per month
- Jewelry Making - \$35.00
- Private Piano Lessons - \$100.00
- Quilting & Doll Making - \$30.00 per year

### Activities

You can dance, exercise or walk to lead to a healthier life.

- Line Dancing - Mondays and Wednesdays at 12:30 PM or Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM
- Aerobics - Mondays & Thursdays at 2:30 PM
- Corn Hole – Mondays and Wednesdays 5 PM
- Tai Chi - Wednesday at 11:30 AM
- Walking Club - Indoors and Out - Friday at 10 AM

### 2022 Scheduled Events

- June 3 at 7 PM Greater Cleveland Urban Film Festival (GCUFF)
- June 10 at 7 PM Jazz at the Center \$20.00
- July 15 at 12 PM Ladies Luncheon: "Virtual Trip to West Africa" \$15.00
- July, 2022 (TBD) Play: "Ain't Too Proud" Story of the Temptations Cost: TBD

### Hotline for Seniors

Cuyahoga County has a hot-line to help seniors and disabled adults connect with services. Call 216.420.6700 or visit [dsas.cuyahogacounty.us](https://dsas.cuyahogacounty.us) to learn more:

- Available services for people 60 or older, or adults with disabilities between ages 18 and 59 who are living in private residences.
- Basic resources including benefits, income assistance, housing and medical care.
- Ways to report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation.

## Building Department News

Benjamin Brown, Building Commissioner

### Building Permit Reminder

With the warmer weather, homeowners will start to do a lot of repairs on their properties and usually have questions for the Building Department in regards to what requires a permit and finding a contractor. Just like remodeling your kitchen requires a comprehensive plan, so does hiring a quality contractor. You will need to do your homework to protect your home and your finances when selecting a contractor to make sure they are reputable.

### What is a Building Permit?

A building permit gives you legal permission to start the construction of a building project in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. Building Permits are very beneficial to you as the property owner. By working with our state certified building department, you will benefit from our knowledge of the state and local codes to insure it is built right, safe and will last. Safe construction practices help protect you, your family, your friends and your investment. Be sure to get our Building Department involved with your project, because we will be on your side to make sure all of the requirements are met.

### When do I need a Building Permit?

The best way to find out if you need a permit is to contact our Building Department. Our staff is here to serve the public and will answer any questions that you may have. Be sure to discuss your plans with us before you begin construction to determine whether you need a permit, or if your project requires Planning Commission Architectural Review Board of Zoning Appeals, or Council approval first prior to submitting for permitting.

# City Offices

Permits are required, but not limited to:

- New buildings
- Room additions
- Decks, garages, fences, storage sheds, roof replacement
- Renovations/ Alterations (garage conversions, basement remodeling, kitchen expansions, etc.)
- Driveway replacement, resurfacing
- Sidewalk and service walk replacement
- Windows
- New Electrical, Plumbing, and HVAC systems

## What are the benefits of having a permit?

**Increased value.** Your home or business is an investment. If your construction project does not comply with the codes, the value of our investment could be reduced. Property insurers may not cover work done without permits and inspections. The City may require work performed and concealed without permits to be exposed or removed, leading to costly expenses and time.

**Protection.** A property owner who can show that code requirements were strictly and consistently met, has a strong ally if something were to happen with the installation. Ensures

**Safety.** A permit also allows our department to protect the public's, safety and welfare by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction. By following the State and Local code guidelines, your completed project will meet minimum standards of construction and will be less likely to cause injury you and your family.

## How to I find a Licensed Contractor?

Our department maintains a list of licensed and bonded contractors who have registered with the city. Contractors who register with the city must provide a surety bond and certificate of insurance. The contractors insurance must also name the city as an additional insured in the event a claim has to be filed. It shall be at the discretion and the responsibility of the property owner to require a Performance Bond to be submitted by the contractor guaranteeing protection against possible losses in the event they fail to perform or is unable to deliver the project per the established private contract.

## Can I pull a Homeowners Permit?

Homeowners Permits can be pulled for general construction only (roofs, concrete, fences, siding, storage sheds etc.)

## Planning and Zoning

The City's new Zoning Code was passed by City Council November 4, 2020. This update was long overdue due to the fact that a lot of the previous codes went back as far as 1931. Our effort with the new update was to make it more user friendly and readable for our residents and businesses. Two areas of change we made to expedite the process of owners pulling permits, is Decks and Storage Tool Sheds. Under the previous code: a resident would have to appear before Planning Commission and City Council for approval prior to pulling the building permit. Under the new code;

1. Storage Tool Sheds, 100 square feet in area or less, can be approved internally in the Building Department with the permit application without meeting attendance.

2. Decks, 150 square feet or less, can be approved internally in the Building Department with the permit application without meeting attendance.

## Property Maintenance

The City of Warrensville Heights codified ordinances require that all exterior property areas be maintained in good repair and free from unsafe, unhealthy, blighting, and deteriorating conditions. This includes the home exterior, grass, shrubs, fences and accessory structures. With this in mind this city will conduct our annual Exterior Property Maintenance Inspection Program on the following streets for 2022. Our inspections will be conducted from the public right of way.

Parkton	Garden	Cherrywood
Butternut	Marvin	Aurora
Green	Miles	Annette
E. Sunset	W. Sunset	Vera
Richmond	Springvale	Berrimore
Joyce	Longleaf	Merrygold
Timberlane	Hathaway	Halifax
E. Ridgewood		W. Ridgewood

## Police Department News

Wesley Haynes, Chief of Police



I am pleased to welcome aboard four new members to the Warrensville Heights Police Department.

**Officer Eric Sands** served with the Cleveland Police Department before joining our Department. **Officer Selena Colon** served with the Case Western Reserve University Police Department for three years. **Officer Darrin Hunt** served with the Cleveland Police Department for three years. And also, **Officer Eric Cvanciger** who served with Highland Heights Police Department for seven years. Even with these new additions, we are still looking to add more officers to the Warrensville Heights Police Department. We will be conducting another round of emergency hires in hope of bringing on five new police officers this year.

Warrensville Heights is always looking for the best technology to keep our neighborhoods safe. In the Winter Magazine, I talked about a system that reads license plates in key areas around the city, to find those who may have perpetrated a crime. Now, we are installing another revolutionary system.

Shot Spotter is a proactive detection system to detect gunshots. The system can instantaneously identify a sound and determine if it is a gunshot, as opposed to a firecracker or car backfire. The system triangulates the sound with multiple monitors and tells police dispatchers in seconds where the shot took place, allowing law enforcement to be informed and respond immediately. Because most callers cannot determine a direction a gunshot was heard, many perpetrators are not found. This system is a game changer.

This is some of the new technology we have implemented in Warrensville Heights.

# City Offices (continued)

## Community and Economic Development News

Raymon Turner, Community Development Manager

### Shred Events

In collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Waste Management Program, the city will be conducting two Annual Shred events. Both events will be held on Saturdays, **July 16 and September 24** from 11 AM – 2 PM at the Warrensville Heights Municipal Center, located at 4743 Richmond Road.

### Exterior Maintenance Program

The Exterior Maintenance Program is back in full swing as of April 1st and will sunset on November 1, 2022. The program is a partial reimbursement grant administered through the city. It was put in place to assist residents who had received exterior maintenance violations via the Warrensville Heights Building Department and are mandated to perform certain repairs. Applications and details can be found on the city's website, <https://www.cityofwarrensville.com/286>, or obtained at the front desk of the Building Department located at 4743 Richmond Road.

### Current Development

Floor & Decor located on Richmond Road on the former Little Sisters of the Poor site. The store just recently opened their doors to the public. They are a national chain, providing upscale flooring and finishings. This will be their first store in the Cleveland market. A job fair was held in early March to fulfill roughly 50 job opportunities ranging from sale and stock positions to managers.

### Hub District

"The Hub District" the name given to land in and around the Warrensville Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library and the Warrensville Heights YMCA. It continues to be the vision for a neighborhood concept unique to the City of Warrensville Heights. Centrally located, it will offer a combination of apartments, townhouses, senior living, small unique retail venues, services and green space, including a park. It will be a place for intergenerational living, socializing, dining and entertainment.

## Kimberly Hodge Edwards



After 22 years on the Warrensville Heights City Council in Ward 7, Kimberly Hodge Edwards resigned her seat on January 14th. She accepted a position with U.S. Representative Shontel Brown as her Deputy Chief of Staff. Representative Brown noted "My leadership team will be instrumental in my efforts to deliver results for the people of Ohio's Eleventh Congressional District." "Ms. Edwards is a longtime local leader with deep ties to the Cleveland community."

Kimberly Hodge Edwards began serving as a Council

### Sherwin-Williams:

At this time, Sherwin-Williams and their potential buyer are doing their due diligence on the property. There are no further updates at this time.

## Service Department News

Ted Sims, Director

This year in 2022, there will be quite a few infrastructure projects going on in the city. Those include:

### 2022 Road Repair or Resurfacing Projects

Warrensville Center and Miles Road spot repairs  
Green Road resurfacing between Emery and Miles  
Harvard Road resurfacing  
YMCA and Civic and Senior Center parking lots resurfacing

### 2022 Sewer Projects

Emery Road Basin  
Angela/ Belfiore Culvert  
Gladstone Dye Testing  
Jennings Road Sewer  
Shakerwood MCIP Grant Area Study

We will also be looking to repair or replace sidewalks, crossings and crossing signals. We will provide updates about these projects via social media throughout the year.

### Rubbish Collection & Recycling

Signs will be placed to remind you of trash pickup changes.

In the event of a Kimble Trash/Recycle miss/pickup, please call (800) 201-0005 EXT. 9309. If trash issues continue, please call the Service Department.

### NEW Chipper Service Dates

**In 2022, chipper service will be available from April 1 till October 1 ONLY. Branches must not exceed 2 inches in diameter and must be stacked with the cut end toward street. Branches mixed with grass or leaves will not be picked up.**

Member in January, 2000. Throughout her tenure she has been a force of change. She has sat on most Council Committees including Building, Finance, Economic Development and more. She has been a lifelong resident of Warrensville Heights where she balanced her duties on Council, raised her three children and still endeavored to help others. For the last 25 years, she has assisted children and families who were victims of abuse and neglect, and helped to reunify families. She also aided with successful adoptions for those children needing families and helped individuals with disabilities find employment and independence, while ensuring their health and safety.

At the January 18th Council meeting, she was honored for her service and dedication. We wish her the best in her new endeavor.

# Past Summer Interns (Where are they now?)

## CRYSTAL (GAITER) MONFORD, LISW

Growing up in Warrensville Heights, Crystal started her schooling at John Dewey Kindergarten. She remembers fondly her younger years, hanging out at Randall Park Mall with friends and getting "all dressed up" to go to Word Church for Saturday night skating. Later in her high school years, she was part of activities such as cheerleading, softball, and track. She remarks "In my foundational years, there were so many influential people that poured into me. We had a good life growing up, and even though we didn't have a ton of money, my parents tried to encourage us to make the most of the life we had."

Like many students that join the Warrensville Heights Summer Internship Program, Crystal found out about the program at school. Crystal stated "My guidance counselor at school encouraged me to apply to see if it would help me explore my interests. Like most students, the summer internship was originally an opportunity to make some money during the summer." But she soon realized that the internship provided vital experiences that allowed her to understand the workings of local government. It also helped her to feel something more. "Throughout my time interning, I was able to cultivate a deeper love for my community. My motivation to show up every day went from a paycheck to a desire to learn as much as I could and be part of the positive changes occurring. Crystal realized something powerful as she worked with the city: that people would respect and listen to her thoughts. "I learned I have a voice. For me, the internship provided an awareness of governmental engagements that I utilize to this day. I learned

how to run a meeting, set an agenda, and keep people on task. I learned better organizational skills, and gained an overall professional identity I did not have before."



**"This program helped me understand how to lead, and what servant leadership looks like in an organization."**

Today, Crystal is responsible for facilitating meetings and managing a team of case managers, which involves supervision responsibilities. "I still use the skills and lessons learned in my current role."

Crystal got married in September 2021. She and her husband enjoy traveling, sports, music and participating in their church in Toledo, where she now lives. She works as a full-time therapist at the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center. She also enjoys volunteering in the Toledo area. "No matter where I live, Warrensville Heights will always be home. I especially enjoy coming back to watch the Warrensville Heights Tigers play!"

## JOSELYN S. HINES

Joselyn's parents instilled the importance of education and hard work to achieve her dreams. She was born and raised in Warrensville Heights and has always set her sights on being a physician.

**"I definitely feel like they helped prepare me for any job or leadership position."**



During summer break as an undergrad, she signed up for the Summer Internship Program. Joselyn states "I was excited to be exposed to the operation of City Hall. I didn't realize that I

would grow to be so close to the staff and other interns in my class.

This was my first experience in the professional world and I learned a lot about time management, professionalism, communication and community development." Joselyn was also surprised she was exposed to so much, like senior staff meetings, shadowing at the Municipal Court, as well as the County Examiner's Office. In her free time, Joselyn likes trying new restaurants, traveling and making a difference. She will graduate in May 2023 from Ohio University's Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in Warrensville Heights. She is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She plans to specialize in psychiatry with a special interest in women's health.

"I plan to be a physician activist and advocate committed to decreasing the stigma attached to mental illness in urban, under-resourced populations. I also plan to start a mentoring group after graduation to help increase the number of minority medical students. I believe that representation matters and I have no clue where I would be without successful mentorship in my own life."

## Upcoming City Events

\* Dates subject to change

May 9	Senior Luncheon
May 30	Memorial Day Parade
July 16	Residential Shred Day 1

August 20
August 21
September 5
September 24
November 17

Summer Fest Day 1
Summer Fest Day 2
Labor Day Parade
Residential Shred Day 2
Holiday Lighting

# The Friendly City Magazine



The City of Warrensville Heights  
4743 Richmond Road  
Warrensville Heights OH 44128

## Warrensville Connect

**City Hall** (216) 587-6500  
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[cityofwarrensville.com](http://cityofwarrensville.com)

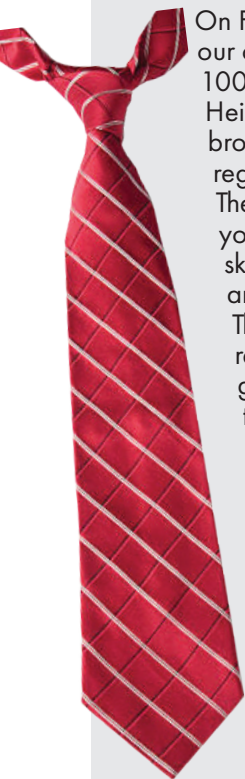
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## 1000 Ties Event



On February 12th, the young men of our community were involved in the 1000 Ties event at the Warrensville Heights High School. This event brought together top leaders in our region to mentor 10-19 year olds. The program's goal is to teach youth confidence, communication skills, sportsmanship, proper dress and the art of being a gentleman. This year's theme was conflict resolution and all speakers did a great job giving tips on best ways to handle conflict. Throughout the day, young men attended different motivational workshops that focused on etiquette and how to present themselves in a job interview. The event culminated in learning how to tie a tie, followed by a fashion show. Several speakers also talked about their own challenges and how they transitioned to adulthood.

