

# the friendly magazine

# city



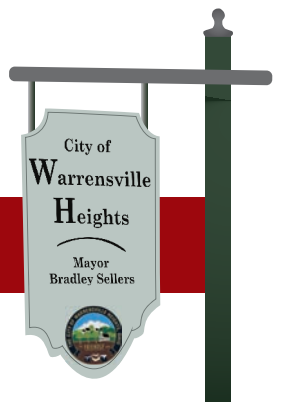
WINTER 2023

## Warrensville intertime

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## The Mayor's Message



### A new year, new beginnings

A new year is now upon us. It is a time to start new beginnings and remember the successes of the past. I am amazed at all we accomplished last year and look forward to building on our momentum in 2023. I want to thank the voters of this city who participated in the November election. Sometimes we have an uphill battle to achieve our goals, but your persistence is the key.

The last issue of the Friendly City Magazine showed the spirit of this community. We did so much. None of these accomplishments would be realized without the support of City Council. I want to thank each of you for your service. I additionally want to thank our volunteers, committee members, Senior Club members and the hard working staff of the city. The participation of this community in local government continues to inspire me.

Our City Hall Open House in October was a resounding success. Many of you came to tour the facilities and see what we built. We had this planned in 2020, but we had to wait to make sure it was a safe event. I am glad to see all who came.

As the snow falls, I want to remind our community to take it a little slower on the roads and take care walking on your walks and driveways. Our Service Department road crews are out and about on snowy days doing a fabulous job clearing roads and laying down salt for your safety. I ask you to please give them space on the road as they plow - for your safety and theirs.



Because the weather and lake-effect snow in particular is unpredictable, sometimes, we need to quickly get the word out to residents about a snow parking ban. But we need your help too. If new snowfall is starting to cover streets, check our website to see if a parking ban has been put in place at [cityofwarrensville.com](http://cityofwarrensville.com). You can also check our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram social media accounts. All social media addresses are listed on the back of this magazine. Remember, if the streets receive two or more inches of snow in a 24 hour period, a parking ban is in effect.

Winter is a tough time of year to stay active. I invite you to see what programs are available at the Warrensville Heights YMCA and the Civic and Senior Center. Both have numerous activities all year round and winter is a great time to take advantage of these resources, and stay active.

Each year, the Civic and Senior Center puts on the Black History Program during February's Black History Month. For the last two years, this program has needed to be a virtual event. But this year, we plan on bringing the community a "live" event again. The popularity of the Black History Program is extraordinary. It is a celebration of the achievements of all African Americans, including those who have made a difference through the struggles of the past. I cannot wait to see you there.

I want to congratulate our SUPER-intendent, Mr. Jolly. His team of administrators, teachers, and staff contributed to the outstanding news about WHCSD climbing over 300 spots in Ohio's School Rankings. It is hard to believe that just a few years back the state wanted to take over the district. Bravo WHCSD for the hard work and determination.

2023 should be a banner year in the City of Warrensville Heights, with the last graduating class from the old high school and the first class in a new high school. Our events will also be back, like Memorial Day Parade on May 29th and the Summer Festival on August 19th and 20th.

Happy New Year! I wish you and your family the best in 2023.

Bradley D. Sellers



Pictured right to left: Avery Johnson, Brayden Wishon, Eddie Johnson, David Moore

## WHHS Esports Tigers

This year, Warrensville Heights High School started their first Esports team. Named the Tigers, just like other teams, this team plays against other schools virtually throughout Northeast and Northwest Ohio. The term Esports refers to multiplayer video games played competitively by amateur and professional gamers alike.

For years, team gaming was thought of negatively and was not considered to be a productive activity. But more and more, the benefits of being on an Esports team are evident and changing minds. Educators have found that Esports can carry positives including being associated with higher math achievement. Students involved in Esports learn teamwork, discipline, accountability, improved focus and mental fortitude.

Many Ohio colleges including Ohio State, Miami University, Kent State and Baldwin Wallace, have Esports programs. Being a skilled player can get you a scholarship just like being a skilled quarterback. Players get to feel like they are a part of something bigger, just like those on a football or basketball team. Yet, Esports does not require physical prowess.

Playing games involves strategy, problem solving and critical thinking. It can also introduce students to computer hardware, computer programming and broadcasting. In the future, Warrensville Heights plans to stream their matches live on the internet so that anyone can watch them.

Many people don't understand just how popular Esports are. Data from Nielson and Rentrak shows that only the NFL Super Bowl had higher cumulative viewership than the League of Legends gaming championship. That means more people were watching the League of Legends championship than the NBA Finals, World Series or Stanley Cup Finals. Being the top player in Esports can also be financially beneficial, just as with other sports. The best players make millions of dollars per year.

All of the games are based purely on skill. James Stank, coach of the Warrensville Heights High School Esports Team stated "We actually have a few eighth graders that are on the varsity teams because they are that good. The high school league is for students thirteen and up, so middle school students are welcome to try out at the high school level."



Esports are here to stay and growing in popularity, the market size is projected to reach \$5.75 billion by 2030. According to Esports Ohio, the league that Warrensville Heights competes, "Every student has an equal playing field to compete and participate in Esports competitions. Esports doesn't care about physical characteristics. The playing field is level. Boys and girls can be on the same teams." For these reasons the popularity of Esports is growing by more than more than 21% per year worldwide. So, maybe one day the biggest event in sports will be an Esport championship.

# Council Spotlight



## Andrea Mitchell

WARD 2

Happy New Year Neighbors, it is my sincere hope that 2022 left you quietly with loving memories and 2023 welcomed you with warmth, great health, happiness, prosperity and safety. It's winter, stay warm.

The Fall 2022 Ward 2 Community Meeting took place on Zoom Saturday, October 29th. Chief Haynes shared great information. One of the items discussed was the request for two liquor licenses in Ward 2. Meeting attendees were vehemently against any more liquor licenses. If you would like to comment about additional liquor licenses or a link to the recording of the meeting, let me know.

We are slowly preparing for an in-person Ward 2 Community Meeting or activity this spring (stay tuned). It is still winter and if we have learned anything the last few years, cold weather and COVID is extremely unpredictable combination - please stay safe.

Remember, rubbish containers are set out after dusk the night before trash day and brought in by dusk on trash day. Additional trash should be set out next to the rubbish containers.

As always, be safe and keep being a helpful neighbor. If you see something, say something. If a street light is out, contact me. Pending your other issue(s): call Police, Fire, Service or Building Department upon witness of the concern. Then, follow up with a call to me and I will call too.

Neighborly, Andrea

amitchell@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.339.1279



## Elona C. White

WARD 3

Greetings Ward 3 Residents!

I am thankful that we made it through the holiday season! As we move forward, we can make plans to have a great year. For many of us, it is goal-setting time for 2023.

I wish you the best as you set goals around your health, finances, work, education and more! I am submitting this year's first newsletter to communicate about the events of Ward 3 in Warrensville Heights.

First, I want to thank everyone for coming out to enjoy fellowship and fun at the Wards 1,3,6 and 7 Appreciation Meeting in November. The residents of Warrensville Heights help to make us the truly Friendly City, and I am thankful for you. At this meeting we were joined by Mayor Bradley D.

Sellers, Congressional Representative Shontel Brown, and Judges Michael John Ryan and Debra Turner.



Johnny L. Williams Jr., Elona C. White, Police Chief Wesley Haynes

I want to thank everyone who came out to the "Trunk-or-Treat" event in October, done in partnership with the Ohio University Heritage School of Osteopathic Medicine. We always appreciate the work and community service done by Ohio University! "Trunk-or-Treat" was a safe, family-friendly event. The children enjoyed the Service Department's haunted house and there was plenty of candy to go around provided by a host of volunteers! We are looking forward to next year's event, to continue providing fun experiences for our youth.



Elona C. White having fun with Trunk-or-Treaters.

The winter months are here which means, we have to protect ourselves and each other from colds, flu, and COVID. Remember to increase hand washing and to wear your masks when in crowded spaces. Let's work together to keep Warrensville healthy.

Please join us at our council meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month so that you can stay informed.

ewhite@cityofwarrensvilleheights.com | C: 216.244.4692

# Council Spotlight



## Walter Stewart

WARD 4

Happy New Year Everyone,

I hope that everyone had a very safe and healthy holiday season. As we enter 2023, we must continue to think about others and remember that safety includes caring and sharing with our neighbors. Check in on your neighbors, especially those who live alone during the cold winter months. If you have not seen them in a while, ask them if they need help with anything.

We are living in very trying and challenging times in many aspects, but I still believe that when neighbors and communities communicate and support each other, we can overcome any obstacles and get through the worst situations.

I am optimistic about 2023. Realistically, we know that we all will face challenges old and new, including crime, homelessness or sickness. But if we all get together to make a difference, we can overcome these obstacles. A smile goes a long way to brighten someone's day. You never know what challenges your neighbor might be facing, but if we are good to each other, we can spread optimism.

I wish you hope, faith and joy in 2023. Walter.

wstewart@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.587.6516

I currently serve as the planning commission chairman, co-chair of economic development and am a member of numerous other committees. With these committees, I have the pleasure of vetting out new projects and businesses coming to our city. Many new relationships have formed within the city and our surrounding areas.

In 2021, I was appointed to the Northeast Ohio City Council Association. And I have been a proud member of the National Black Caucus for Local Elected Officials since 2015. Everywhere I go, I do my best to represent my city, bring back new perspectives and fresh, out-the-box ideas for consideration. Happy New Year to you all!

mhoward@cityofwarrensville.com | C: 440.561.7990

**Council Spotlight continues on the next page**

## SENIOR CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY

Held on December 6, 2022



## Matthew Howard

WARD 5

Greetings everyone,

I would first like to thank everyone who came out to the Ward 5 annual Christmas party. This was our first year back since 2019 due to the pandemic. Also, a special thank you to the committee members and volunteers who worked hard to make this event a success.



# Council Spotlight



## Stanley Anderson

WARD 6

About 400 fatal crashes happen each year as a direct result of texting and driving. That number increases to over 30,000 when you consider distracted driving as a whole, according to the NHTSA. Overall, fatal crashes due to distracted driving are on the rise.

Distracted driving is defined as any activity that diverts drivers' attention from driving. Distracted driving contributes to the worldwide toll of 1.3 million road fatalities annually. In America, about nine people die each day as a result of distracted driving, and 15% of all fatal crashes are caused by distracted driving. In 2022, 3,142 fatalities nationwide were due to distracted driving. Eighty percent of car collisions involve some form of distraction in the seconds before the crash.



Due to the use of cell phones while driving and the increasing injuries and fatalities due to such use, I am considering introducing legislation to limit the use of cell phones while driving. As your voice on City Council I will abide by your wishes. Please contact me and let's discuss my proposal.

To my Ward 6 residents, we did not have our Holiday Party due to the COVID-19 virus. I am now planning our party for mid-May or June. I'm sorry for the cancellation but my concern is keeping the residents of Ward 6 safe.

Be well. I am looking forward to seeing you, soon. **Thank you for the privilege and honor of representing you.** Love you all.

sanderson@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.587.6516



## Johnny L. Williams Jr.

WARD 7

Happy New Year!

For those community members who VOTED this past 2022 mid-term election and helped save our American democracy from election deniers – I SALUTE you and THANK YOU sincerely!

So, as we turn the calendar to 2023, I'd like to share my BIG HAIRY AUDACIOUS GOAL (B.H.A.G); and that is to get more young people involved and engaged in the community! This can range from something as small as voting consistently in each election, to volunteering their time to help the elderly, mentor youth or any other civic related endeavor.

In the six-and-a-half years that I've lived in Warrensville Heights, I've been incredibly impressed with the level of volunteerism within the community. One of those incredible neighbors is Renee Strong, who resides in Ward 3, and seems to be everywhere, donating her time and efforts to most everything I attend! I could name more like Ms. Strong, but what resonates most, unfortunately, is that most every volunteer I see appears to be over 55!

In order for the Friendly City to thrive and keep moving forward, it is critical that youth realize the importance of being a volunteer. One day, it will be time for them to carry the torch forward in this community. The payoff will be a force multiplier that will not only benefit the city, but the young person... through their own fulfillment, experiences, and exposure. So, let's encourage them, push them, or even take them to expose them to what will assuredly be time well worth it – to all!

**"Turn your rage into reason"**

- Michelle Obama

jwilliams@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.834.9667



## 2022 WHHSAA Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees



**William G. Herbert** graduated from Warrensville Heights High School in 1962. In high school, he was a member of the Key Club, Leaders Club, and Varsity Letterman's Club. As a senior, Herbert was co-captain of the football team and named to the All-East County Conference team. He also competed in varsity wrestling, receiving the outstanding individual performance award. In the fall of 1971, he accepted a position as an assistant professor at Virginia Tech (VT) after obtaining his Ph.D. During his first 15 years at VT, Herbert maintained his own research programs, ultimately becoming a Professor in 1985. He has lectured at conferences worldwide and published over 180 works.

**Lynnette Hodge** graduated in 1990 from Warrensville Heights High School. She credits Warrensville Heights as the foundation for significant personal growth. Lynnette was honored to be a part of the girls basketball team that contributed to the Warrensville Heights Lady Tigers 14-0 winning season, an accomplishment without equal. She was one of the first women athletes to receive a Division I basketball scholarship to attend Cleveland State University. Later, Lynnette worked for the United States Postal Service for 17 years and recently started her own business, an inflatable entertainment complex that employs 20 children between the ages of 14 & 16.



**LaRese Purnell** graduated from Warrensville Heights High School in 1997. He earned an MBA from the University of Toledo and now specializes in business management, tax, and finance. He is co-owner Black Box Fix and Managing Partner of CLE Consulting Firm an Accounting, Tax and Payroll company located in downtown Cleveland. He is a strong innovative financial and strategic leader and has served in executive positions in leading business and financial departments within multi-million dollar for-profit and non-profit corporations. Outside of work, LaRese stays busy spending time with his wife Rashaunda, son (Gaven) and daughter (Gabbi), playing sports and traveling.

**Joseph V. Regano** graduated from Warrensville Heights High School in June of 1966. Joe was an all-conference football and baseball player at Warrensville Heights High School. In 1975, he graduated with a Masters in Education Administration from Cleveland State. In 1987, he became Superintendent of Solon City Schools where he became the longest tenured superintendent in Ohio. He is also in the Solon Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame. Joe passed away in July 2020.



**Donald J. Jolly II** has served as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal within Cleveland Metropolitan School District before becoming Superintendent of Warrensville Heights City School District in 2015. His passion for students has been reflected in the thousands of lives he has influenced. His work at the school district has addressed many challenges and has increased enrollment by 22%. In a recent report, WHCSD moved up over 300+ places in the state rankings, the most of any school in Ohio. Additionally, he is coordinating the largest construction program in the history of Warrensville Heights City School District. The \$100 million project includes a newly completed elementary school, a new middle and high school. Outside of work, Donald and his wife, Larita, are the proud parents of three children — Brandon, Brittany and Donald III.



### S. Miles Construction Update

Last spring, a culvert over South Miles Road collapsed after an extreme rain event in Mill Creek. After obtaining funds and developing the correct plans for a permanent fix, the city engineers confirm the project is ready to move forward. This repair work will take about 90 days to complete and is scheduled to start in February or March of 2023, depending on weather conditions. Before work begins, signs will be posted in the area a few weeks in advance to warn of the upcoming closure. Stayed tuned to the city website for more information.



## Building Department News

Benjamin Brown, Building Commissioner

### Temporary Snow Fences

During the winter months, homeowners can install temporary snow fencing in blustery parts of their property to effectively trap and control blowing and drifting snow. Chapter 1169.03 of our City ordinance does allow for this installation as long as the following is met.

1. The fence is not installed prior to October 1st, and is removed by May 1st.
2. The fence is not in excess of four (4) feet.
3. The fence is maintained in good condition, structurally sound and attractively finished at all times.

### Snow and Ice Removal

Chapter 543.03 of our City ordinance specifies the following requirements for snow and ice removal on your property.

- It shall be the duty of the owner and tenant of each and every parcel of real estate in the Municipality abutting upon any sidewalk to keep such sidewalk abutting his premises free and clear of snow and ice and to remove therefrom all snow and ice accumulated thereon within a reasonable time, which will ordinarily not exceed twelve (12) hours after the abatement of any storm during which such snow and ice may have accumulated.
- No person removing snow from any driveway or sidewalk within the City shall deposit same on the pavement or sidewalk of any public street or on any tree lawn in any public street, except the tree lawn immediately in front of the premises from which the snow is removed.

### Heating Facilities

Chapter 1377.12 (Heating Facilities) of our City ordinance requires that:

- Every dwelling unit shall be provided with approved heating facilities capable of maintaining an average temperature of 68° - 70° degrees Fahrenheit in all habitable rooms, kitchens, bathrooms and water closet compartments when the outdoor temperature is minus five (5) degrees Fahrenheit, without forcing the facilities to operate in excess of their design capacity.
- No electrical or gas appliance shall be used to supply general heat in any dwelling unit unless specifically designed and approved for that purpose.

### Supply of Heat

Chapter 13377.13(Supply of Heat) of our City ordinance requires that:

The owner, operator or agent in charge of a dwelling structure, who rents or leases any dwelling unit therein under an agreement, express or implied, to supply or furnish heat to the occupants thereof, shall supply heat adequate to maintain

an inside temperature of not less than 68° - 70° degrees Fahrenheit in all habitable rooms, bathrooms, water closet compartments and kitchens whenever the outside temperature falls below sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit. Such inside temperature shall be measured in approximately the center of each room, approximately three (3) feet above the floor. The provisions of this section shall not apply where the failure to meet minimum standards is caused by a general shortage of fuel, negligent or malicious act of the occupant or any cause beyond the control of the owner or occupant.

### Winter Safety Tips and Winterization Reminder

- Have furnace and heating system serviced by a licensed technician.
- Have fireplace cleaned/swept by a licensed technician.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for proper operation.
- Store a fire extinguisher
- Check doors and windows for gaps and winterize with caulk and weather-stripping.
- Insulate walls and attic.
- Insulate water lines particularly the ones that run along outside walls.
- Drain and turn off outdoor faucets and irrigation systems. Cover all older faucets that is not the frost proof type with a Styrofoam faucet cover.
- Clean any debris off the roof and gutters, and make sure downspouts are clear. Make sure gutters are properly secured.
- Look at installing roof and gutter de-icing system to prevent ice-dams.

## 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

### NEW NEWS!

2023 is here with some exciting news from the Civic and Senior Center. The gardening class with Pat Herron is coming back in February, just in time for the upcoming growing season. Learn the ins and outs about gardening indoors and outdoors - identifying plants, how and when to plant. Classes will begin at 10 AM until noon on Thursdays, starting on February 9th.



### This just in!

We are setting up a special time for seniors who like to

## PLAY SPADES.

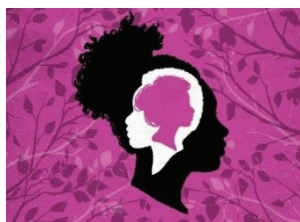
Games start on February 7, 2023 on Tuesdays from 4:30pm -7:00pm. Watch the Spade tournaments with prizes for big winners.

# City Offices

## The Theater, Oh, The Theater!

The Warrensville seniors like to attend plays! While, the trip to see "Hamilton" in January sold out, there are other plays lined up for 2023.

I hear this all the time **"I didn't know you were going to see that, I would have wanted to go"**. There is a procedure to follow for plays - you must sign up at the Center for the play and pay for the tickets by the designated date. Transportation is provided for all plays. It may be a little early, but the sign-up sheets for the upcoming plays for 2023, are on the sign-up table.



'I'm Back Now' will be at the Cleveland Playhouse. We attend on February 18, 2023 and tickets are \$23.00. A synopsis: At 19, Sara travels to Cleveland to meet her birth mother Elle. She strives to reconcile the legacy she thought she knew about her actual origins, Sara discovers that she is a descendant of Sara Lucy Bagby, the last woman ever prosecuted under the Fugitive Slave Act.



On Saturday, May 6th at 1:30pm we are scheduled to see "Tina: the Tina Turner musical." The play tells the story of her life through her music.



On February 22nd, we will present our annual Black History program: "The Black Experience: the Past, the Present, the Future." We will explore the experiences of African Americans from a variety of perspectives. The paintings and ceramics created by seniors in our classes will be exhibited.

Our brochure for January through June will arrive at your home at the very beginning of January. It will have all the details about the activities and events at the Center.

## Room Rentals

Rooms are available to rent at the Civic & Senior Center as well as the Chateaux of Emery Woods. Both locations are available for rent by Warrensville Heights residents, 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 Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for grocery shopping 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 giving the Center 48 hours advance notice.

## Senior Club

The Senior Club (for Warrensville Heights residents 60 years and older) normally meets twice a month, on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 1PM. 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
- **Gardening Class** – Thursday 10 AM
- **ABC's of Technology** – Thursdays at 11 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.

## Cost of Classes:

- Class price is \$14 – Residents
- \$16 Non-Residents (8 Week session)
- Line Dancing - \$5.00 per person per session
- Tai Chi - \$20.00 per month (4 weeks session)
- Jewelry Making - \$35.00 (8 weeks)
- Private Piano Lessons - \$100.00 (8 weeks)
- 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** - Wednesdays at 11 AM
- **Bid Whist** – Wednesdays 12:30 -4 PM - Residents ONLY
- **Spades** – Thursdays 4:30 PM – 7 PM

## Older Adults Resource Guide

Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging  
925 Euclid Avenue, Suite 600, Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216.621.0303, or visit their website at [www.psa10a.org](http://www.psa10a.org) or contact the Civic & Senior Center.

# City Offices

## Service Department News

Ted Sims, Director

### Snow Plows

With winter weather persisting in Warrensville Heights at this time of year, drivers should remember to always pay attention when approaching winter maintenance equipment on the roads.



When you pass snowplows be very attentive as plow blades can damage vehicles if you get too close. The plowed snow may also contain rocks and other debris, so the

safe choice is to stay a few hundred feet behind plowing operations. Rock salt can also be a hazard if you are too close. Do not pass in a snow cloud or until you can be sure the road ahead is clear.

### Trash Delays/Missed Pickup

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

Remember, all mattresses, cloth furniture must be wrapped in plastic before placing on tree lawn for disposal. (ONLY 2 BAGGED ITEMS ALLOWED per pickup)

The following items can be dropped off at the Service Garage for disposal/recycling

- Tires
- Paint
- Oil
- Computers
- Xmas Lights
- Electronic Equipment

### Chipper Service

Chipper service will commence again starting April 1st. 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.



## Community and Economic Development News

Nicole Harris, Economic Development Director

Our local economy in the City of Warrensville Heights continues to be vibrant, diverse and growing. Together with our residents and community partners, the Office of Community & Economic Development continues to identify short- and long-term opportunities for the city to thrive in the area of quality housing, new business, retention and expansion, along with a host of other community outreach and services that benefit our residents.

In the last year, approximately 20 new businesses opened their operations in the City of Warrensville Heights. This includes new retail, warehouse, childcare, medical technology, health and wellness, beauty, counseling services, and specialized contractors businesses. We are equally excited to announce, that a number of existing companies in the city have notified us of their interest to expand, which will also create additional jobs.

The 2022 Exterior Maintenance Program, a partial reimbursement grant administered through the Office of Community & Economic Development, ended on November 1, 2022. Even with residual effects from the pandemic with supply chain and challenges with contractors, a number of residents took advantage of the program. The city successfully reimbursed \$24,000 dollars to assist residents with exterior violations. Those who are still in need to bring their exterior violations up to code, and did not complete their project(s), may look to apply/re-apply when the program re-opens April 1, 2023(funds permitting).

Lastly, the two annual Shred Events hosted by the City in 2022 were a huge success. These events are a fan favorite of our residents and gives them the opportunity to safely dispose of sensitive documents that they feel uncomfortable with throwing away in with their trash. We have not been able to lock down dates for next year's Shred Events as of yet, so stay tuned.

### Emergency Alerts:

The City of Warrensville Heights utilizes "ReadyNotify" Powered by CodeRed. It is an emergency notification service by which public safety services can notify residents and businesses by telephone or cellular phone about emergency situations. The system is capable of sending messages only to specific neighborhoods/communities (Warrensville Heights) or the entire county. For more information, please visit the city's website, click on Services, then Emergency Alerts, or visit the Cuyahoga County's website for ReadyCuyahoga or ReadyNotify, via your computer or mobile device, click on the Fact Sheet to learn more or click directly on Register Now to set up your personalized settings to receive notifications from the specific communities in which you would want to receive notifications/alerts.

For additional information about community and economic development in the City of Warrensville Heights, please contact our offices at [development@cityofwarrensville.com](mailto:development@cityofwarrensville.com), or call 216-587-1136/1144.

# Safety

## Police Department News

Wesley Haynes, Police Chief



The City of Warrensville Heights Police Department is always looking for better ways to service and protect our residents. As part of this ongoing effort, I would like to introduce two new members to the Warrensville Heights Police Department.

Officer Kevin Price, who served with the Grand River Police Department for three years, and Officer Emily Roxbury, who served with the Sagamore Hills Police Department for eight years, are joining our department. Furthermore, the Warrensville Heights Police Department is currently conducting background checks on six potential candidates to become new members of this agency in 2023.



The Department has also recently added four new 2022 Ford Explorers to the fleet of police vehicles. I would like to thank Mayor Sellers, City Council and Finance Director Karen Howse for all their support in the process of obtaining the vehicles. Soon you will see the new vehicles around your neighborhood. I wish you the best this year!

## Fire Department News

Herbert Waugh, Fire Chief

Training is an important part of keeping firefighters engaged and ready with new skills and techniques to make their jobs safer. Most importantly, training enables firefighters to respond more efficiently, reducing possible property damage and injuries caused by fires. This can be essential skill in different situations where fire can be unpredictable.



Last June, Firefighters Jeff Frank and Dave Rancourt continued their training with the East Tech Technical Rescue Team. This training has included collapsed-trench rescue, high line rope operations, rappelling, structural collapse shoring/stabilization and confined space rescue. This team brings vast skills, knowledge and technical expertise to The Warrensville Heights Fire Department. Training also strengthens bonds with surrounding departments because training is done with firefighters from around the area.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

The October 28th Halloween Party at the Civic and Senior Center was a smashing success. There were great costumes, food, fun and live music by The Chosen Few. Congratulations to the winners of the costume contest. This is just one of the many events held at the "The Center."



# The Friendly City Magazine



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A publication of the Warrensville Heights Communications Department.

Photos by Jeff Gates and Ed Hicks.

Open House Photos courtesy of Warrensville Heights Area Chamber of Commerce.



On October 18th, The City of Warrensville Heights invited residents to tour the Municipal Center. Even though the Cleveland Guardians were playing at the same time because of a previous night rain out, the Open House was a resounding success with approximately 200 attendees. Everyone was treated to

scrumptious appetizers, tours of the entire facility including: Council Chambers, Police Department, Building Department, Mayor's office, Board of Education offices, administration offices and more.

The Open House was originally planned in 2020 when the building had just opened, but canceled due to the pandemic.

"We are happy to finally open the doors of the Municipal Center so our residents could see where their government happens." Mayor Sellers commented. "This is the people's house and home to all."

