

the friendly

city

magazine

Summer/Fall 2023



GREEN ROAD PARK SHINES

2023 SUMMER FESTIVAL



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The Mayor's Message



Our people make the difference

Warrensville Heights has had an incredible summer filled with exciting events and activities again in 2023. On May 27th, the city witnessed a spectacular Memorial Day Parade with a record 65 participating organizations marching, dancing, singing, and playing music. The parade route went down Warrensville Center Road, culminating at Old City Hall. Regional leaders delivered uplifting thoughts, and a flag-raising ceremony added to the reverence of the occasion.

Continuing the spirit of honoring service, on June 13th, the Warrensville Heights Senior Club held its annual Mother's & Father's Day Luncheon. Over 200 seniors attended.

The summer season reached its highpoint in August with the 2023 Summer Festival, the vibrant celebration that brings the best of this community together. This year in 2023 the weather held out with two beautiful days. There were 12 food vendors, 24 non-food vendor organizations, games, fun and music from nine talented acts.

This fall has brought an eagerly awaited milestone to Warrensville Heights—brand new schools, fulfilling a long-standing aspiration of the community. These state-of-the-art educational institutions boast modern classrooms, cutting-edge facilities, and much more. The opening of the High School and Middle School signifies a significant step forward in providing every student with the finest education and an enriched learning experience. With advanced resources and top-notch amenities, these new facilities are poised to empower and inspire the students of Warrensville Heights for years to come.

Looking ahead, Warrensville Heights aims to continue bringing the community together. Remember to stay connected through the city's website and social media channels (listed on the back of this magazine) to be updated on upcoming opportunities and happenings.

The city takes pride in hosting events that people genuinely enjoy. We also appreciate the chance to reconnect with community members who we may not have seen in a while.

I also want to remind you to vote this November 7th. Voting plays a vital role in making a tangible difference in our community. When our citizens actively participate in elections, they have the power to make important change. By choosing representatives who understand the challenges faced in our society, we can ensure that crucial issues such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, and environmental protection receive the attention deserved. Moreover, voting fosters accountability by encouraging responsiveness to constituents' concerns and leading to better policies that address community challenges. It is the cornerstone of an active and participatory democracy, and I encourage you all to vote November 7th.

Lastly, I would like to address an essential matter. Volunteering is of utmost importance in the City of Warrensville Heights, as it provides opportunities for individuals to actively participate in city groups and organizations. Without the dedicated efforts of volunteers, many initiatives and projects would not be realized. While we appreciate the longstanding commitment of those who have served in these crucial roles, we also encourage new individuals to join us in making our city even greater by contributing fresh ideas and alternative perspectives. Together, let us work towards the betterment of our community.

Best to you always.

Bradley D. Sellers



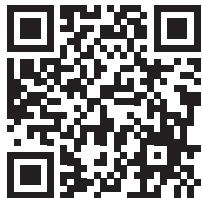
MEET THE SERVICE DIRECTOR



Ted Sims has dedicated himself to serving the community of Warrensville Heights. As the Director of Public Service, he plays a pivotal role in maintaining the city's infrastructure and ensuring the well-being of its residents. But Ted's journey towards this influential position is an inspiring tale of hard work, perseverance, and a genuine love for people.

Born and raised in the heart of Cleveland, Ted's early years were spent on 128th Street and Kinsman Road. He attended John Adams High School, where he laid the foundation for his future accomplishments. Even as a teenager, Ted exhibited an exceptional work ethic, taking on responsibilities in a local beverage store, managing inventory and stocking shelves. These early experiences molded him into the determined individual he is today.

Scan to view a companion video of Ted Sim's story.



Ted's commitment to serving others led him to join the United States Air Force, where he proudly served. After his honorable discharge, he embarked on a career at the White Motor Corporation, where he spent 11 years as a worker and in management. Seeking new challenges, Ted transitioned to the Cleveland Board of Education, where he developed a better way to handle

the Board's inventory. From this he started his own inventory management company. Later, he explored his passion for construction and inspections before finally finding his way to the City of Warrensville Heights.

Initially joining the city as a Building Inspector, Ted's exceptional dedication and strong work ethic quickly caught the attention of Mayor Sellers. He was soon entrusted with the responsibilities of the Service Department which performs essential tasks within the city. The department actively maintains roads, fills potholes, fixes sidewalks and provides

branch collection in the spring/summer and leaf collection in the fall. Ted's unwavering commitment to excellence is evident in the city's pristine appearance and functional infrastructure.

However, what truly sets Ted apart is his unwavering focus on people. A true "people person" at heart, he has a remarkable talent for forging connections and resolving problems with finesse. His genuine love for working at the city stems from the joy he derives from serving Warrensville Heights' residents and the camaraderie he shares with his colleagues. Ted's dedication and passion are evident as he enthusiastically shares, "Warrensville Heights is a great place to work. I genuinely enjoy what I do, and each morning, I look forward to the day ahead. I take pride in managing issues, while collaborating with residents to make our city an outstanding place to live. The residents often express their gratitude for the efforts of the Service Department, and that means the world to us."

Outside of his professional commitments, Ted maintains an active and fulfilling personal life. He enjoys playing cards, golfing, and cherishes the time spent with his loving wife. Staying active is a priority for Ted, as he believes in leading a balanced lifestyle. His children, whom he encouraged to strive for excellence, have accomplished great things themselves. His son is a lawyer, while his daughter works in the insurance industry. But perhaps the most cherished aspect of Ted's life is his six grandchildren, two of which played golf on the LPGA tour.

In the heart of Warrensville Heights, Ted Sims embodies the spirit of community service. With his boundless enthusiasm, dedication, and genuine care for the people he serves, Ted stands as a pillar of inspiration. His lifelong commitment to making a positive impact and his dedication to improving the lives of Warrensville Heights' residents make him an exceptional leader.

Council Spotlight



Dorise Thompson-Hagwood

WARD 1

At this time of choosing to continue my steadfast leadership, there's no greater foundation than the people of my community. Because of this, I would like to highlight a resident of Ward 1.

Mrs. Ann Hughes has been a cherished resident of our Friendly City for 48 years. Over the years, she has displayed exceptional leadership skills as a prominent figure in the Shakerwood homeowners association. After serving diligently for 15 years, she now actively contributes her expertise as a member of the Ward 1 advisory board, playing a vital role in fostering unity within our community through her passionate commitment to volunteering.



With a commendable 35-year career as an executive assistant at the Cuyahoga County Department of Human Services, Mrs. Hughes demonstrated unwavering dedication to her work and the betterment of the community. Her retirement marked the end of a remarkable era of service, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of many.

As a loving mother, Mrs. Hughes raised two daughters, Pamela and Hope. Pamela currently serves as a teacher in the Warrensville Heights City School District, enriching the lives of her students through education. Meanwhile, Hope, a former teacher in the same district, also contributed her talents to shaping young minds. In addition, Ms. Hughes' late husband was an avid supporter and volunteer, contributing not only to Ward 1 but also across the entire city.

Mrs. Ann Hughes' commitment to the well-being of others and her active involvement has left a significant and positive impression on our city. Her legacy as a caring individual continues to inspire others to give back and make a difference.

I applaud her efforts. Best, as always, Dorise.

dhagwood@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.587.6516



Andrea Mitchell

WARD 2

As school bells ring and fall arrives, please be vigilant for students traveling to and from school. Passing a school bus with activated notification signals (lights, stop sign) is considered a misdemeanor. This offense carries a minimum fine of \$165 along with a mandatory court appearance.

Furthermore, exercise caution regarding your driving speed, particularly in school zones. Violating the posted school speed limit, as stated in 333.03 A(1) is a misdemeanor of the first degree with fines to start at \$165.

Speed exceeding 20 miles or more than the posted limit will automatically incur a fee plus a mandatory court appearance. Always remember, if you observe anything unusual, don't hesitate to report it.

Speaking about schools and students, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who participated in the Ward 2 Community Meeting held at the new WHHS. I hope you found the information provided, along with the facility itself, enjoyable and valuable. Stay tuned for forthcoming event details and information about the upcoming Community Meeting in Ward 2.



If you use a smartphone, you have the ability to receive Ward 2 emails

While recognizing that not everyone has regular access to email, it remains the most efficient (and cost-effective) means of communicating "breaking" news or time-sensitive information. Consequently, I sometimes send anonymous messages to those with provided email addresses. These messages aim to encourage recipients to share the information with neighbors who lack email access. Your participation in this sharing process is greatly appreciated. Should you wish to be included in the Ward 2 email list, kindly send an email to: amitchell@cityofwarrensville.com. Please include the subject line "Add Me to The Email List."

Lastly, if you find yourself available at 7:00 pm on the first and third Tuesdays of each month (September-May), or the third Tuesdays (June-August), I invite you to mark your calendar and join us for the City Council meetings. It is always amazing to see and hear from residents at meetings. Be aware. Be informed. Be safe. Neighborly, Andrea

amitchell@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.339.1279



Elona C. White

WARD 3

Ward 3 Residents! Congratulations to our honored Senior of Ward 3, Mr. Ray Freeman. Ray is a member of the

Warrensville Board of Education. He has served as President, Vice President, and on numerous committees. Through his hard work and dedication, he has been recognized at the national level. This past July, Mr. Ray Freeman was inducted into The National High School Football Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Ray Freeman, and may you continue to have much success on your journey.



Council Spotlight

Here's a recap of some of the summer activities that took place in the community. We started out by recognizing Juneteenth and hanging the Juneteenth Flag at all of our city buildings. In July, Councilwoman Dorise Hagwood of Ward 1, along with Ward 3, had our annual Party in the Park. At this event, we like to recognize one of our community members, and this year we recognized Mrs. Wanda Dean. Mrs. Dean has lived in this community for more than 30 years. She's a dedicated employee of the Warrensville City School District. Mrs. Dean was joined by a host of family and friends. Thank you, Mrs. Dean, for your dedication and commitment to this community. A big thank you to all of our volunteers. We really appreciate all that you do.



The city hosted food trucks - once in July and once in August. I would like to thank the Warrensville Heights administration for putting on such a wonderful event. The food trucks were visited by many, and they provided another opportunity to bring the Friendly City together.

Please check out the city's website or Facebook for all updates, announcements, and community events.

As we head towards October and the beautiful autumn months, let's enjoy the bounty of fall with family, friends, and neighbors.

ewhite@cityofwarrensvilleheights.com | C: 216.244.4692



Walter Stewart

WARD 4

On June 17th, I attended a Human Trafficking Prevention Summit which is a collaborative effort between the Department of Homeland Security's

Center for Countering Human Trafficking intended to stop human trafficking and protect victims. This event was endorsed by Congresswoman Shontel Brown.

Numerous presenters shared critical insights and information regarding the identification and recognition of behaviors indicative of human trafficking. The event shed light on the fact that human trafficking transcends geographical boundaries; it permeates not only urban areas but also extends to



every corner of Ohio, encompassing neighborhoods of varying economic backgrounds, races, and education levels. This pervasive issue is on an alarming rise and data presented at the summit recognized human trafficking as the **fastest growing criminal activity globally**. The speakers emphasized the urgency of educating and raising awareness about this heinous crime which often occurs in plain sight.

The gravity of this devastating crime cannot be underestimated. It poses an increasingly dire threat to our families, community security, and institutional integrity. Addressing this challenge demands a united effort from a diverse array of stakeholders, including community activists, educators, politicians, residents, and law enforcement personnel.

We all need to be vigilant and educate ourselves.

Take immediate action if someone seems to be in peril by calling 911 or contacting local law enforcement immediately. Additionally, if you come across suspicious criminal activities related to human trafficking, you can report them to the 24-hour National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888, or simply text HELP to 233733.

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Matthew Howard

WARD 5

Greetings! I hope that you all have had a great summer. As fall has come upon us so fast, we look forward to the end of the year events to come. Trunk or treat/Halloween, Thanksgiving, holiday lighting, numerous Christmas parties, and the new year. Yes my good people, 2024 will be here before you know it.

Clarkwood/Ward 5 Christmas Party is scheduled for Friday, December 1st. To make this party a success, the Christmas party committee starts planning in September. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer in any capacity. Every year has been a very successful event. RSVP's start in mid November.

Thank you to all who came out to the Summer Festival and enjoyed our annual event. A very big thank you to the committee members, city staff, volunteers, police, fire, and vendors who participated in make this event extraordinary every year. Thank you to the Warrensville Alumni and the Tri-City Democrats for their hard work and dedication at the beer and wine garden.

Warrensville Heights is the city where I grew up and raised my children. It maintains a special place in my heart. So, a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to maintaining the greatness of this city throughout the years. I am so proud to serve you. Please call at any time!

mhoward@cityofwarrensville.com | C: 440.561.7990

Council Spotlight



Stanley Anderson

WARD 6

During the mid-1970s, Warrensville Heights served as the venue for a regional Olympics known as the Mini-Mac, attracting participants from the surrounding area to engage in competition. For two weeks prior to the Olympics there were practice rounds. During which, I noticed a young girl who was training alongside her father. Each time she participated in a practice heat, she consistently finished last.

Between races, she would approach her father with tears in her eyes, questioning, "Why can't I improve?" Her father consistently reassured her that incremental progress would emerge through persistent efforts, bolstered by inner strength and determination. Remarkably, she ultimately earned a bronze medal in the actual competition, a testament to her unwavering dedication to improvement.

This narrative draws parallels with Warrensville Heights in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s – a period of struggle. Residents were relocating, schools were grappling with problems and local newspapers often published disparaging content about the city. However, a tenacious collective of individuals persisted. Defined by their optimism and strong work ethic, they envisioned a resurgence of the city's former glory.

Gradually, new leadership emerged, initiating a positive transformation for the city. They enacted better property regulations, set higher standards, and sought residents' support in terms of funding. Today, we stand in a new era for our city. The imperative lies in maintaining our momentum, heeding the lessons of the past while pressing forward. I am proud of our city's accomplishments, much like that resolute young girl who, against the odds, achieved her goal.

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Tremco opens new building



On August 7th, Mayor Sellers, Building Commissioner Brown and Councilwoman White took a tour of the newly built Tremco manufacturing plant at 17610 Miles Rd, near the Cleveland border. This \$25 million building added over

120,000 square feet of manufacturing space. Tremco, a renowned leader in construction and waterproofing solutions, has established this state-of-the-art facility with advanced automated processes dedicated to producing High-Performance Sealant and Waterproofing Products. Tremco's commitment to innovation and excellence is evident in every aspect of the plant's design, from its cutting-edge technologies to its sustainable practices. Tremco is a subsidiary of RPM International, Inc.



Johnny L. Williams Jr.

WARD 7

The Senior Club: A Hidden Gem for Warrensville Heights Seniors.

The Senior Club stands as a hidden gem within Warrensville Heights, yet sadly, it remains underutilized by many senior citizens. Presently, a membership of 172 individuals is capitalizing on the benefits that the Senior Club brings. This club offers a wide array of activities designed to foster fellowship and engagement among seniors. These activities encompass card games, ceramics, crafts, painting, cornhole, aerobics, dancing, gardening, classes, field trips, concerts, luncheons, and theater outings, just to name a few! The advantages it provides are genuinely unmatched, and all this comes at a remarkably low cost of only \$12.00 per year, payable in January 2024.



If you're aged 60 or above and yearn to connect with like-minded, lively seniors for social interactions infused with fun, laughter, and intriguing conversations, then the Senior Club is tailor-made for you. The Senior Club convenes twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 1 PM, hosted at the Senior Center located at 4567 Green Rd. However, for the upcoming months due to ongoing construction, the meetings will be relocated to the Warrensville Heights Municipal Center at 4743 Richmond Rd. During these gatherings, you'll have the invaluable opportunity to engage with all city administration, Directors, the Chiefs of Police & Fire, as well as the Mayor. They will provide updates and insights into the 'who, what, why, and how' aspects of the city's operations, ensuring you're well-informed and actively involved.

As the autumnal leaves paint the landscape in vibrant hues, temperatures gradually cool, and the first snowflakes descend, the Senior Club unfolds a multitude of options for you to immerse yourself in, allowing you to relish all that Warrensville has in store for its senior residents. I can confidently assure you that disappointment won't find a place within these experiences.

Embrace the motto:

"Take Advantage of the Advantage."

jwilliams@cityofwarrensville.com | O: 216.834.9667



2023 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



City Offices

Building Department News

Benjamin Brown, Building Commissioner

This past spring and summer, the Building Department conducted our annual Exterior Property Maintenance inspections on both residential and commercial properties throughout the city to ensure properties are in compliance with our maintenance standards. If you own a residential property and have received a property maintenance violation, you will be eligible to apply for our city Exterior Maintenance Grant to offset some of the repair costs needed for your property. You can contact our Community/Economic Department for the program guidelines and application or visit our city website at cityofwarrensville.com.

The Building Department enacted two new code enforcement ordinances this past spring, which came into effect after the release of our Spring Newsletter.

- **Affidavit of Property Owner Form** is a form that is required to be notarized and submitted by the owner or representative of any property in the City to verify their identity when submitting a Non-Owner Occupied Residential Property Registration, Residential Point of Sale, Commercial Point of Sale, Vacant Building Registration, Violation Extension Form, Residential Occupancy Permit, Commercial Occupancy Permit, or Homeowners Affidavit Form.
- **Building and Housing Code Penalties**, was amended by the City to give the Building Department the authority to implement a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for the first offense, five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the second offense, and seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) for each subsequent offense thereafter. At the discretion of the Building Commissioner or his or her designee, a warning notice may be given for the first offense.

Fall offers an excellent opportunity to begin getting your property ready for the approaching winter, focusing on both its exterior and interior. Here are a few ideas to consider:

Clean and Repair Gutters

Check your gutters and downspouts to ensure they are properly secured, clean, and free of any debris. Improperly secured gutters can break loose from the house during heavy snowfall. Clogged gutters can cause water backup, leading to damage to your roof and interior walls.

Inspect the roof. Take a thorough walk around your property to identify any missing or damaged shingles that may allow moisture to seep in. Replace these damaged shingles promptly.

Driveway Repairs

Waterproofing your driveway is crucial to prevent future damage and expenses. Repair all cracks in your asphalt or concrete driveway. Cracks can trap rainwater or melted snow, and freezing temperatures can cause them to expand, leading to frost heave and further driveway damage.

Seal Doors and Windows

Gaps around doors and windows can result in higher winter heating bills. Seal all gaps using caulking or weatherstripping.

Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Ensure your property is equipped with functioning smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms. Smoke detectors should be installed on every level of the house, in hallways outside sleeping areas, and in each bedroom. Battery-operated smoke alarms are allowed in existing dwellings, but new constructions require hardwired installations in the same locations. Installing a carbon monoxide alarm near each separate sleeping area and in close proximity to bedrooms is strongly recommended. Carbon monoxide alarms are mandatory in new constructions.

Heating System

Schedule a service for your furnace or boiler with a licensed professional. Regularly check and replace any dirty furnace filters. If you have a fireplace, have a licensed professional inspect your chimney to ensure there's no creosote buildup. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Building Department at 216-587-1230.

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

Experience all that we have to offer at the Warrensville Heights Civic & Senior Center. We offer a diverse range of activities to suit all interests, including sports such as cornhole, card games like bid whist and spades, as well as creative pursuits like ceramics, crafts, and painting. Sharpen your mind with trivia, or get active with Tai Chi, aerobics, and gardening classes. Our Center also hosts special events like ladies' luncheons, field trips, and theatre outings to enhance your overall experience. So, come join us and discover the endless possibilities for fun and excitement at "The Center."

Upcoming attractions include the Mystery Dinner in April, where you can use clues to solve a thrilling murder mystery. In June, don't miss the R & B Revue featuring the Chosen Few Band, accompanied by delicious soul food. Then in July, the ladies will take a virtual trip to the race track during the luncheon. Join us for these fantastic events and more!

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

City Offices

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.

Please Note: The Civic Center may be undergoing construction from September to December 2023. During this period, room rentals, classes, meetings, and events may be affected.

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.

Special Note: The Senior Club will meet at the Warrensville Heights Municipal Center (New City Hall), 4743 Richmond Road during the construction of the Civic Center.

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** – Date TBD
- **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

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-week session)
- Jewelry Making - \$35.00 (8 weeks)
- Private Piano Lessons - \$125.00 (8 weeks)
- Quilting & Doll Making - \$30.00 per year
- Spades - \$25.00 per year
- Corn Hole - \$25.00 (12 weeks)

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
- **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 or contact the Civic & Senior Center.

Service Department News

Ted Sims, Director

Trash Pickup Changes Thanksgiving Week

During Thanksgiving week trash pickup will be paused for Thanksgiving Day. So Thursday's pickup will move to Friday. Signs will be placed to remind you of trash pickup changes.

Remember, all mattresses and cloth furniture must be wrapped in plastic before placing on tree lawn for disposal. (ONLY 2 BAGS ALLOWED per pickup) Carpet is to be cut in 3-foot sections and put in trash bags.

Trash Delays/Missed Pickup

In the event of a Kimble Trash/Recycle missed pickup, please call 216-587-6570.

The following items can be dropped off at the Service Garage for disposal/recycling Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 3 PM.

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

Streetlights

Please report street light outages and issues to First Energy at 888-544-4877 for 72-hour service.

Chipper Service

Chipper service will be available from April 1st till October 1st 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.

Leaf Service

Leaf pickup will take place October 1st to December 15th or the first snowfall. Leaves mixed with grass or branches will not be picked up. After December 15th, or a snowfall, leaves will need to be bagged as trash.

City Offices

Community and Economic Development News

Nicole Harris, Economic Development Director

Under the collaborative leadership of Mayor Sellers, Superintendent Donald Jolly and the Community and Economic Development Department, the city applied for and received a Planning Grant from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission. This grant aims to facilitate a comprehensive study and gather input to transform the soon-to-be former site of John Dewey Elementary School into a functional greenspace, seamlessly integrated with Green Road Park. Working closely with Nichole Laird and her planning team from the County, we successfully engaged residents and key stakeholders across the community to obtain valuable insights. This inclusive approach covered a broad spectrum of age groups, ranging from seniors to elementary school children. The online community survey concluded on July 7th, with 196 respondents: 125 participants online, 30 on paper, and 41 student worksheets. Survey responses were systematically collected and analyzed, allowing us to create graphs and concise summaries of the findings.

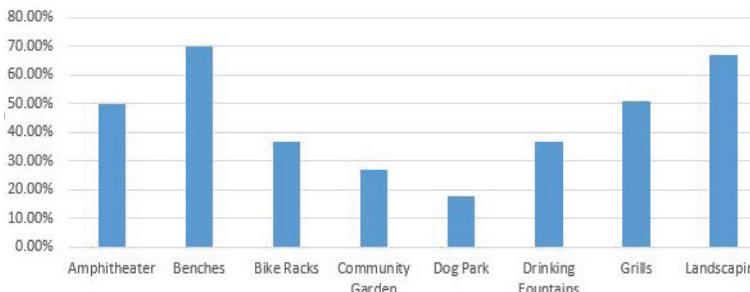
The first public meeting was held on July 12, 2023, at the former John Dewey Elementary School was a resounding success. There were over 80 residents in attendance. The



team from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission delivered a presentation, provided an overview and shared survey results. They also addressed any questions or concerns raised by residents along with Mayor Sellers and Superintendent Donald Jolly. Illustrated (left) is a Community Response Tree that showcases the community's feedback up to now regarding the proposed ideas for extending Green Road Park.

Common themes compiled from the community survey and public meeting include;

- Space/area for community gatherings
- Multigenerational space for families, children, and seniors
- New activities and programming such as concerts & performances, festivals, farmers markets, group walks, and nature-relation activities
- New and improved amenities such as lighting, restrooms, benches, landscaping, and picnic area
- Additional parking



New Development and Planned Construction

Additionally, Community and Economic Development continues to engage with developers interested in sites in the city for new development. This includes, but not limited to, new construction of senior housing, mixed-use development, and single-family housing. We are excited about the plans, vision and growing opportunities for the City of Warrensville Heights and we will release more information as it becomes available.

New Developments and Planned Construction

Furthermore, the Community and Economic Development department remains actively engaged with developers who are interested in various sites within the city for potential new developments. This encompasses a range of projects, including but not limited to the construction of senior housing, mixed-use developments, and single-family housing. We are excited about the plans, vision, and growing opportunities for the City of Warrensville Heights, and we will release more information as it becomes available.

Capital Improvement Projects

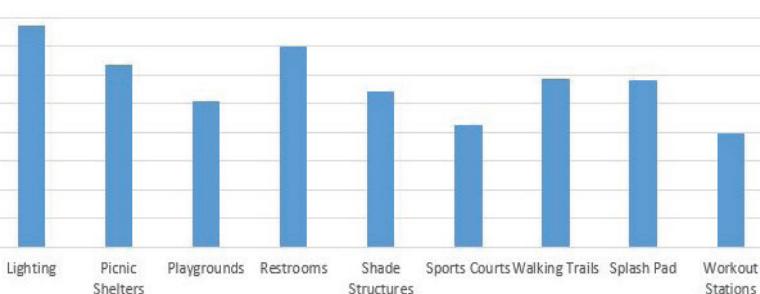
In the upcoming months, a capital project is set to repave Granada Boulevard. This project has been in progress over the last several years, aiming to reconstruct and restore both Clarkwood and Granada Boulevard. Phases I, II, and III of Clarkwood have already been completed. Similarly, Granada Boulevard will be revitalized in two phases—Phase 4 and 5—which will commence this fall.

Additionally, the city is actively working on plans to restore streetlights along Richmond and Harvard Road. This initiative aims to enhance safety, security, and visibility along these high-traffic corridors within the city. Both of these projects are made possible through Community Development Block Grant funding, secured through the city's successful application to and award from Cuyahoga County.

Exterior Maintenance Program

The 2023 Exterior Maintenance Program, administered by the Office of Community & Economic Development, continues to offer assistance to residents as a collaborative effort to address housing violations reported by the City Building Department. The program operates annually from April 1st to November 1st, or until the allocated program funds have been fully utilized.

At the bottom of this page, find a summary of what items were most important to survey respondents to be included in a new city park.



2023 SUMMER FESTIVAL



Fire Department News

Herbert Waugh, Fire Chief

On July 22nd, members of the Warrensville Heights Fire Department took part in the 15th Annual Matt Henk Softball Tournament, which is open to all first responders. The tournament was started to raise money for now deceased Mentor Firefighter Matt Henk who was diagnosed with occupational cancer.



This year had a special meaning for our Fire Department, as we played for childhood cancer awareness. We learned that one of our firefighter's son, Luke Sanvido, was diagnosed with Leukemia. Because of this, we took up the challenge to win two games against other regional fire departments for Luke, who is pictured front and center above. Also, in August, we had a golf tournament to raise funds and awareness for Luke who has shown remarkable strength and resilience throughout.

The Friendly City Magazine



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

Warrensville Connect

City Hall (216) 587-6500
Police Dept. (216) 581-1234
Fire Dept. (216) 587-6525

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Photos by Jeffrey Gates and Edward Hicks

First Partnership Home Completed

In an exciting update since the original article published in the spring of 2022, the new modular home on Longbrook Road has been completed. This achievement is a result of the successful collaboration between the city and the Cuyahoga Land Bank, an organization dedicated to acquiring and rehabilitating properties for community development. The Cuyahoga Land Bank has strategically acquired



properties that have exceeded their useful life and rehabilitated them, transforming them into valuable community assets. These properties can be re-purposed as green spaces, utilized for municipal or utility purposes, or sold to private owners who meet the necessary standards. In the case of Warrensville Heights, some of these assets have been transformed into beautiful new homes, enhancing the community and increasing property values.

The new homes on Longbrook Road mark the Cuyahoga Land Bank's first construction project in Warrensville Heights and the city's first venture utilizing scattered lots.



Mayor Brad Sellers expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "We are always striving to improve our community, and this partnership worked. This is a new model program that can now be replicated in other areas of Warrensville Heights."

