

the friendly magazine

city



Spring 2025

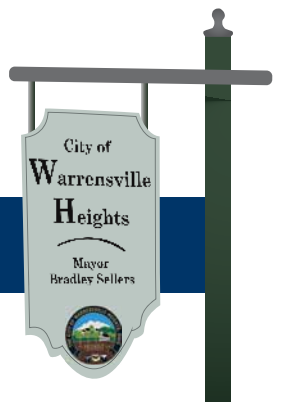
Marching into Spring



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The Mayor's Message



Building a Bright Future

As spring breathes new life into the city, Warrensville Heights is embracing a season of transformation and progress. Just as nature prepares for renewal, we are laying the groundwork for growth through key housing and development initiatives that will shape the future of our community.

This year promises to be a pivotal one as we advance efforts to expand housing opportunities. A major, 186-unit multi-family development is in the works near the intersection of Emery and Northfield, bringing large-scale, residential growth to the area, alongside the future expansion of a new business district. Additionally, we are partnering with developers to introduce new, single-family homes in the Shakerwood Estates Community. Warrensville Heights is committed to meeting community needs, fostering growth, and laying the foundation for continued success.

Looking ahead, the city is also exploring the feasibility of consolidating the two fire stations into a larger, more capable facility. This consolidation would position emergency response equipment to better serve the community in the future.

On February 4, City Council passed an ordinance allowing the city to enter into an agreement with NOACA to bring Level 3 electric car chargers to the Municipal Center, furthering our commitment to sustainability and innovation. As part of the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Project, NOACA allocated \$3 million for the installation of EV charging stations across the region. NOACA has identified 120 public locations within its five-county service area, including Warrensville Heights, to support the growing demand for EV infrastructure.

On February 26, the Warrensville Heights Civic & Senior Center hosted the 2025 Black History Program, an undeniably inspirational event. This year's program, themed "Gems of Black Culture in Cleveland," highlighted the rich diversity and significance of Black culture in our area.

A heartfelt "thank you" goes to Director Jennifer Lastery, Sandra Noble, and the team at the Civic Center for their dedication and hard work.

Our economic development initiatives are yielding positive results, and I'm excited to welcome the new businesses joining our city. Their presence marks a significant step forward in Warrensville Heights' continued growth and prosperity. Thanks to the efforts of our Economic Development team, we are attracting opportunities that strengthen our community.

Thanks to the hard work of our Finance Department, I'm proud to say that Warrensville Heights remains financially strong. While challenges lie ahead with Sherwin-Williams closing its operations this year, we have proactively planned for this transition and remain optimistic that the property will generate even greater revenue opportunities in the future. Our financial reports are available on our website at cityofwarrensville.com.

More than ever, this city and its residents inspire me, fueling my dedication to serve as a steadfast advocate for our community. My ultimate goal has always been to plant the seeds of progress and improvement, aiming to enrich our collective lives. We must continue our dedication to making this community something truly special. I believe our efforts are already paying off.

Best to you always,

Bradley D. Sellers



WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Fraternity Tees Off, Virtually

On Monday evenings this winter and spring, Golf Galaxy welcomed members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. - Zeta Kappa Kappa Chapter to experience simulated golf as part of its community outreach initiatives. The event provided fraternity members with the opportunity to practice their swings, engage in friendly competition, and enjoy camaraderie in a high-tech golfing environment.



Golf Galaxy's location in Warrensville Heights features top-of-the-line golf simulators, allowing groups to sharpen their skills, play virtual rounds, and receive instant feedback through industry-leading

Trackman technology. Whether focusing on fundamental techniques or playing a full virtual course, participants can benefit from precise data analysis to improve their game throughout the season.

Reflecting on the experience, Steven H. Robertson, Past President of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. - Zeta Kappa Kappa Chapter, shared, "We enjoyed playing a few practice rounds together. The simulators are state-of-the-art. Golf Galaxy is a great addition to the community, and everyone should have an opportunity to experience the facilities."



Fraternity members Travis Dent, John Crawford, Bryan Forte, Eddie Roberts, and Curtis Bloxson joined Robertson in the simulator sessions, making the most of the advanced technology to refine their golf skills.

For other like-minded groups interested in scheduling simulator sessions, Golf Galaxy in Harvard Park offers additional availability. For more information, contact (216) 342-1018.

Learning to Swim Early

For families Goldfish Swim School, a business in Warrensville Heights, provides more than just swim lessons—it offers a fun, engaging, and life-saving skill set for children as young as four months old. Located in a welcoming, tropical-themed facility, Goldfish Swim School creates an environment where kids can feel safe while learning an essential skill that will benefit them for life. Their unique approach blends guided play with swim instruction to ensure that children develop water confidence, safety skills, and strong swimming techniques while having fun.



Learning to swim at an early age is not just about recreation—it's a crucial safety measure. Drowning remains one of the leading causes of accidental death in children, and early swim lessons significantly reduce the risk.

At Goldfish Swim School, experienced instructors provide small class sizes with a 4:1 student-to-teacher ratio, ensuring each child receives the attention they need. The school's 90-degree, shiver-free pool makes lessons comfortable year-round, encouraging children to build their skills consistently. Programs cater to different age groups, from infant water acclimation to more advanced swim team training.



Beyond safety, early swim lessons support a child's overall development. Studies have shown that swimming can enhance cognitive skills such as memory, problem-solving, and language development. It also helps improve motor skills, coordination, and muscle strength. Additionally, swim classes provide a social experience where children learn teamwork, patience, and perseverance—valuable traits that carry over into other aspects of life. To learn more call 216-364-9090. The school will also be having an open house event on May 17th from 4-6 PM.



Council Spotlight



Dorise Thompson-Hagwood

WARD 1

Greetings! It is always my honor to represent my ward and serve our community. Every day, the people I meet inspire me to be a better leader.

I am grateful that God has appointed me to be a public servant in our community. While I don't consider myself the best, I promise to always do my best—serving fearlessly as your representative in city government.

I encourage you to stay informed: read our directors' reports, attend city council meetings, and support our school district.



VETERANS APPRECIATION COOKOUT

I'm excited to announce that I will be hosting the City's Veterans Appreciation Cookout on May 17, 2025, at the Civic Center. Veterans, their spouses, and spouses of deceased veterans are invited. Residency is not required—everyone is welcome! Please RSVP by emailing me or calling the council office at 216-587-6516 (leave a message).

A special shout-out to my Advisory Board Members—the wind beneath my wings on this political journey! Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable summer! As always, Dorise.

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Andrea Mitchell

WARD 2

Greetings Neighbors and Friends,

As we embrace spring and continue to thaw from one of the snowiest winters we've had in a while, let's be mindful of our surroundings. Appreciate the warm days and spring blossoms, but also take care and stay safe.

Ensure that there are clear exits in your residence. Check that furnaces are properly cleaned. Inspect all fire alarms, fire extinguishers, and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are in working order.

Great neighbors make great neighborhoods—stay connected with each other.

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

Everyone contributes to making our community great. If you see or hear anything troubling or unlawful, say something and call the police at (216) 581-1234.

Excessive noise can be disruptive. Loud conversations, vehicles, and yard or household equipment (such as lawnmowers and outdoor maintenance tools) should be used considerately. Violating Section 511 of our Municipal Ordinance (which prohibits excessive noise, especially between 9:00 PM and 7:00 AM) may result in fines or possible detainment.

Not everyone enjoys the same conversations, car and motorcycle engine sounds, or music. Please be mindful of speaking volume (avoid shouting), and ensure vehicle noise—such as engine and muffler sounds—does not disturb the neighborhood. Be considerate of music volume—please refrain from acting as the neighborhood DJ.

Great neighborhoods make great cities, like ours: "The Friendly City!" PS: Plan to Celebrate Juneteenth in Ward 2... Stay tuned!

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

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Elona C. White

WARD 3

Greetings and Happy Spring!

Spring is a time of new beginnings, and for many, that means freshening up their yards, planting flowers, and enjoying outdoor activities. Enjoy these beautiful days and keep sharing your love for the Friendly City. Your work is appreciated.

Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. The Caucus meets at 6 p.m., and the Council meeting follows at 7 p.m. Remember, during the summer months of June, July, and August, Council meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month. We hope to see community members in attendance.

I want to invite you to a summer activity, "The Ward 3 Family Game Night," on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, from 6 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Warrensville Senior and Civic Center. All are welcome! Join me for an evening of fun and laughter with friends and family. The Center is located at 4567 Green Road.



Council Spotlight

Samuel "Zo" White, Jr.



I want to thank everyone for the love, compassion, texts, calls, and for attending the funeral services for my son, Samuel "Zo" White, Jr. He was a longtime employee of the City of Warrensville Heights Service Department and also worked in the Warrensville Heights City Schools. He loved his hometown, and I pray that we all have the same fondness for Warrensville Heights. Samuel passed peacefully, at home in his sleep, on March 12, 2025.

Thank you!

"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be built on people's love and concern for one another." – Millard Fuller

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Walter Stewart

WARD 4

As we approach the summer of 2025, safety continues to be a major concern in Warrensville Heights and cities nationwide. In Ward 4, with school summer break on the horizon, it's important to prioritize safety in all our plans—whether as families, individuals, or community groups.

We must take steps to enjoy our summer while being aware of potential risks and avoiding unsafe areas.

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One of the most effective ways to improve neighborhood safety is through vigilance. If you see something suspicious, don't hesitate to report it. "If you see something, say something" can help prevent crime or assist in catching criminals in the act. Neighbors working together to communicate and report suspicious activities creates a safer environment for everyone. Many law enforcement agencies allow for anonymous reporting, so you can help without revealing your identity.

Neighborhood safety is a collective effort. By talking with neighbors, we can look out for one another and keep our communities more secure. Whether it's watching a neighbor's house while they're away or looking out for kids playing in the street, teamwork strengthens neighborhood safety. Another critical point is protecting our children. Times have changed, and it's no longer safe for children to be outside after dark without adult supervision. Parents must ensure that kids are always supervised, especially in the evenings, and teach them to recognize dangerous situations. Limiting outdoor play to well-lit, populated areas can reduce risks.

Ultimately, improving neighborhood safety is up to all of us. Let's work together to keep Warrensville Heights a place where families can enjoy the summer months without fear. By staying alert, communicating with neighbors, and prioritizing safety, we can ensure a more secure and enjoyable summer for everyone.

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Matthew Howard

WARD 5

As we move forward into warmer weather, please exercise caution—watch out for motorcycles and stay alert for distracted drivers. I suffered a bad accident in January as a result, so I know firsthand how important this is. Thank you to everyone who reached out with cards and text messages—we truly appreciated it.

Please watch out for your neighbors. If you haven't seen or heard from them in a while, take a moment to check in, especially with our senior citizens. Say hello to a new neighbor or introduce yourself to someone you haven't met yet. Small gestures like these help strengthen our neighborhoods.

For all my fellow outdoor plant lovers, don't forget to spray your plants with deer repellent! Whenever possible, plant deer- and rabbit-resistant flowers to protect your garden.

Upcoming Warm Weather Events: Memorial Day Parade, WHHS All-Class Reunion, Juneteenth Celebration, Summer Festival

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable spring and summer!

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Johnny L. Williams Jr.

WARD 7

Warrensville has had a lot to offer over the past few months, which has brought several “moving moments” for me and, I’m sure, many others! The first was through the Greater Cleveland Urban Film Festival (GCUFF), in which Warrensville resident Donna Dabbs, GCUFF Executive Director, brought the Luther Vandross documentary premiere to the Warrensville High School auditorium prior to its national launch. Warrensville was one of only two locations in Ohio to show Luther’s incredible story, and the sold-out audience of 400 residents and visitors—27 of whom were my own family and friends—were, well, moved!

Then came the “Soup for the Soul” fundraiser for aspiring students, held for the second consecutive year at the Warrensville Marriott. Led by recently inducted Greater Cleveland Association of Black Journalists Hall of Famer Richard ‘Zoom’ Scott, this highly attended event has raised “over” \$65K in 12 years! A sold-out crowd of nearly 500 supporters participated, with local TV anchors, reporters, and celebrities serving guests many delicious soups from local restaurants while listeners enjoyed local jazz bands, dancing, and shopping with local vendors. Importantly, the dynamic Warrensville High Band also participated, and the Warrensville Culinary Arts Program students, affectionately known as “The Tiger Cafe”, showcased their skills as well. To see so many people enjoying themselves in a warm, inviting environment on a wintry Saturday afternoon in Warrensville was, well, moving!

The Black History Month Program is always a fantastic hit! Led by the “dynamic duo” of Senior Civic Center Director Jennifer Lastery and Program Coordinator Sandy Noble, this year’s event was, for me, the best I’ve seen! Each of the performances, whether it was the storytelling of Ward 7 resident Jackki Boyd, or her husband Steve’s band and his incredible voice, or the beautiful, detailed quilts on display, created a very emotional and memorable experience. Then, the Karamu dance and singing group closed the evening with, yes, a moving display of dance moves and voices that rocked the crowd of approximately 100 neighbors, who left the program on a spiritual and moving high!

And then there are the Warrensville High School boys’ and girls’ basketball teams, which each made it to the state regional finals. Although they didn’t achieve their ultimate goals of a state championship, there is a lot to be proud of in finishing in the top eight in Ohio within their respective divisions. I was able to attend a handful of games this past year, and it was truly heartwarming and moving to see the unity, teamwork, skill, passion, and effort of these young people as they build a strong foundation of behaviors and discipline that will serve them well into adulthood.

Some of the best is yet to come for Warrensville residents as the weather breaks. The annual Senior Luncheon is always top-tier, the Memorial Day Parade is always joyful, and the Warrensville Summer Festival and all that it includes is memorable. And dare I say it again, the myriad of events throughout the year allow for so many moving moments! Please be sure to get out and enjoy all that the Friendly City has to offer!

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Building Department News

Benjamin Brown, Building Commissioner

Spring is finally here, and with the warmer weather homeowners will start to do a lot of repairs on their properties and will usually have questions for the Building Department regarding finding a contractor and what projects require a permit. 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 correctly, safely 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, Board of Zoning Appeals, or Council approval first prior to submitting for permitting. Permits are required for the following including 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.
- Sidewalks (outside of city replacements) and service walk replacements.
- Window replacement.
- 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 insurer 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, 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 contractor's insurance must also name 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.)

Some Friendly Common Ordinance Reminders

Below are some of our most common code enforcement ordinance for the upcoming seasons.

Ord. #945 Height Limit on Weeds, Grass or Plants

It shall be unlawful for the owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of any lot or land to permit any weeds, grass, or plants, other than trees, bushes, flowers or other ornamental plants, to grow to a height exceeding six (6) inches. Any such weeds, grass, or plants exceeding such height will be declared to be a nuisance. The owner, lessee, agent or tenant will have three (3) days after written notice to remedy or the City will abate the nuisance.

Ord. #917 Garbage and Rubbish Collection and Disposal

1. Trash, rubbish, garbage, refuse and recyclables may be placed for collection not sooner than 7:00pm the day before the scheduled collection and all empty receptacles, trash, rubbish, garbage, refuse or recyclable, and items not picked up must be removed from the tree lawn or curb on the same day.

2. The storage of trash, rubbish, garbage, refuse and recyclables must be stored in the following locations;

- In the rear of the house out of public view (being seen from any public street or sidewalk). Corner houses with storage in the rear must be screened behind landscaping, enclosure, or fence.

- On the side of the house, but must be screened behind landscaping, enclosure, or fence.
 - Inside of the garage.
3. All upholstered furniture, chairs, and mattresses must be placed in plastic for collection. Plastic is available free of charge at our Service Department 19700 Miles Rd. (216) 587-6570.

Ord. #1355 Temporary storage and dumpster units

Temporary outdoor dumpster or storage units including flexible dumpsters, construction dumpsters, and PODS are permitted to be installed on the private property in the driveway or other paved surface with the issuance of a Building Permit.

SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Inspections

Each year from April-November, the City of Warrensville Heights Building Department conducts its residential exterior property maintenance inspections on designated streets throughout the City. Specific streets will be inspected on a triannual basis. During the course of these inspections, we will identify public sidewalk blocks that are defective or a safety hazard and are in need of replacement.

Sidewalk Replacement

Sidewalk blocks that have been identified as being defective or a safety hazard will be marked by inspectors, and then the Service Department will begin the process of removing the panels and installing new concrete blocks. The City will incur the cost of the replacement, and there will be no assessments issued to homeowners.

Sidewalks Affected by Tree Roots

Sidewalks deemed to be a safety hazard for natural causes like tree roots will be replaced by the Service Department at no cost to the homeowner. If you receive a violation notice outside of the annual inspections for sidewalk blocks affected by tree roots, please contact the Service Department at (216) 587-6570.

Commercial, Condominium, Apartment Sidewalks

Defective and hazardous sidewalk blocks that need repair or replacement at commercial, condominium, and apartment complexes will be the responsibility of the property owner.

EXTERIOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS

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, the City will conduct our annual Exterior Property Maintenance Inspections on the following streets for 2025 from April 14th –October 31st. These inspections are conducted from the public-right-of way.

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

Warrensville Heights 2025 Black History Program

The Warrensville Heights 2025 Black History Program, titled "Gems of Black Culture in Cleveland," took place at the Civic and Senior Center on February 26th, celebrating Black heritage through music, dance, film, and storytelling. Speeches were given by Mayor Bradley D. Sellers, Council President Johnny L. Williams Jr., Jennifer Lastery, with an invocation by Rev. Eugene Griggs, and narration by Sandra Noble. Performances showcased a variety of artistic expressions, including Hue People (Steven Boyd, Ceco Selinas, & Anita Rose Banks), the Urban Film Festival (Donna Dabbs), Duffy Liturgical Dance Ensemble (Edna Duffy), and the African American Quilt and Doll Guild, which displayed their quilts. Other highlights included storyteller (Jackki Boyd), the MyHome Life Skill Praise Dancers (Karizma Owens, Michaela Battee, Evianna Person & Heaven Wilks), and the Karamu House Ensemble.

A vital part of the city's annual events, the program continues to celebrate and honor the contributions of Black artists, leaders, and community members. It will return in February 2026 to continue its tradition of recognizing Black culture and achievement.





2025

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

★★★
REMEMBER AND HONOR
★★★

MAY 26, 2025 AT 10 AM

The parade runs down Warrensville Center Road
from Wickfield Avenue to Ellacott Parkway

A ceremony follows on the lawn of Old City Hall

LEARN & EARN

WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS SUMMER INTERNSHIPS






The 2025 City of Warrensville Heights Summer Program is seeking enthusiastic, motivated, and dynamic students to gain valuable experience. A variety of job opportunities are available.

Applications will be accepted until May 2, 2025



Open to Warrensville Heights residents, applicants must be at least 14 years old and either a high school student, a recent graduate, or currently enrolled in college. Availability to work Monday through Friday, with shifts from either 9 AM to 3 PM or 3 PM to 5 PM, is required.





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

Classes and Activities at the Center

The classes and activities at the Center are designed to support seniors' well-being—mentally, physically, and emotionally. The physical benefits of activities like aerobics, tai chi, yoga, and line dancing are evident—seniors need to keep moving. However, the mental benefits are just as important. Regular physical activity increases blood flow to the brain, promoting the growth of new brain cells and the release of endorphins, which help boost mood and relieve pain.

Our art classes—such as jewelry making, crafts, painting, ceramics, and photography—are not just for talented or creative individuals but also offer significant therapeutic value. For instance, molding and squeezing clay in ceramics helps improve flexibility and strength in arthritic hands. Photography enhances cognitive skills such as focus, memory, and problem-solving—abilities that many seniors may struggle with after retirement.

All of the Center's classes and activities help reduce stress and combat feelings of isolation and loneliness. They promote social interaction, especially for those who live alone, by encouraging new friendships and collaboration. These activities also provide a sense of purpose and achievement.

We invite you to join us at the Center!

What the Center Provides and Offers

The Civic & Senior Center is a municipal facility dedicated to serving the adult community of Warrensville Heights. We offer a diverse range of activities and classes, including Aerobics, Ceramics, Crocheting/Knitting, and more. **Rooms rentals** are available for rent at both the Civic & Senior Center and the Chateaux of Emery Woods. These spaces are available exclusively for Warrensville Heights residents and can be rented for community gatherings or adult events.

Transportation Services

We provide transportation for seniors (aged 60+) who do not have access to other means of travel. Our services include:

Medical Appointments – Available on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays

Grocery Shopping – Available on Wednesdays
Transportation operates between 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM. Please call the Center at least 48 hours in advance to schedule a ride.

Senior Club

The Senior Club meets twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesday at 1:00 PM. It provides Warrensville Heights residents (60+) with an opportunity to socialize and connect with their neighbors. The club hosts informative and enjoyable activities, including an annual picnic and monthly updates from the Mayor, City Council, Board of Education, and other city departments.

Mark your calendars! On May 5th, the city will host the Annual Senior Luncheon at the Cleveland Marriott East to honor our senior citizens. Entertainment will be provided by Hubbs Groove.

Classes

Painting Studio – Mondays at 11 AM
Genealogy – 3rd Tuesdays 1 PM
Photography Class – Tuesdays at 2:30 PM
Bid Whist/Spades – Wednesdays at 12:30 PM
Gardening Class – Thursdays 10 AM
Knitting and Crocheting – Thursdays at 12 PM
Ceramics – Fridays at 10 AM
Jewelry – Fridays at 12:30 PM
Quilting and Doll Guild – 1st and 3rd Saturday 10 AM

Cost of Classes

Class prices: \$15 (residents), \$18 (non-residents)
Line Dancing - \$5.00 per person per session
Tai Chi - \$20.00 per month (4 weeks)
Jewelry Making - \$35.00 (8 weeks)
Private Piano Lessons - \$125.00 (8 weeks)
Quilting & Doll Making - \$30.00 per year
Bid Whist/Spades - \$25.00 per year
Corn Hole - \$30.00 (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 & Wednesday at 2:30 PM
Corn Hole – Mondays and Wednesdays 5 PM
Tai Chi - Wednesdays at 11:00 AM

FOOD TRUCK THURSDAYS
AT THE MUNICIPAL CENTER

SAVE THE DATES - ALL ARE WELCOME

IN 2025
THURSDAYS
11 AM to 2 PM

May 8
June 12
July 10
August 14



Community and Economic Development News

Nicole Harris, Economic Development Director

Mayor Sellers and the Department of Community & Economic Development recognize the growing importance of strategic planning, especially as current policies disproportionately impact hardworking Americans, particularly People of Color. Affordable housing, enhanced public services, and the overall well-being of our residents and community are at the top of the Mayor's agenda.

Progress Through Development

Housing Developments

With warmer weather comes a renewed focus on community development. Over the past two years, we've secured grants to reduce city costs for key projects and collaborated with local businesses and developers to drive progress. After a year of discussions, we're excited to announce that the city has entered into a development agreement with GLH, LLC, to build homes on targeted city-owned vacant lots. While several builders expressed interest, GLH stood out for its ability to deliver the scale, quality, and affordability needed to attract new homeowners.



Additionally, we've partnered with LDG Development, LLC—one of the nation's largest developers of high-quality affordable housing—to construct 186 multi-family units behind the Warrensville Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library and Warrensville Family YMCA. LDG will develop, own, and manage the project, enhancing living conditions for residents and revitalizing the city.

Infrastructure Improvements

Warrensville Heights continues to advance community development and infrastructure projects. A major initiative, funded by grants, is the long-awaited repair of the Old Emery Road culvert. Delayed for years due to high costs, this critical repair is finally moving forward, with construction set to begin in Fall 2025. This project will help unlock the potential of the nearby Sherwin-Williams site for future business development.

Another key project is the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, funded by the Ohio Department of Transportation. Construction will commence in Spring 2025, improving infrastructure—including sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, and signage—to ensure a safer journey for children.

Green Road Park Playground Enhancements

Our department secured two grants—one from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and another from NOPEC, funded by the Cleveland Foundation—to improve Green Road Park. We're also pursuing a third grant in June. Plans include replacing outdated equipment with ADA-accessible playground structures, creating a more inclusive play environment for all residents.

Community Assistance Programs

Important Information about your electric bill

Starting June 2025, Ohio electricity bills will rise by 10-15% due to increased capacity prices from a PJM Interconnection auction. These charges, which ensure power plant availability during peak demand, will affect customers across PJM's 13-state service area. Higher rates may persist for three to five years until additional power generation capacity is developed in the region. If you have NOPEC/NextEra Energy, call 1-855-667-3201 for more information.



Exterior Maintenance Program

Residents with a code violation requiring exterior property improvements can apply for a partial reimbursement grant from April 1 – November 1, 2025. Those who received funding in the past two years are ineligible. For details or to apply, contact Raymon Turner at (216) 587-1144 or scan code.

Tax Assistance Program (TAP)

Administered by the Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office, TAP offers one-time financial assistance of up to \$10,000 to qualifying residents struggling with delinquent property taxes. For more information, contact the Treasurer's Office at (216) 443-7400 (option 1) or scan code.



Shred Events:

The city is excited to host our two annual shredding events, designed to offer residents a secure and efficient way to dispose of unwanted papers and documents that they may not wish to discard with their regular curbside trash pick-up. Both events will take place at our Municipal Center, located at 4743 Richmond Road. The dates and times are as follows:

- Saturday, June 7 from 11 AM – 2 PM
- Saturday, September 13 from 11 AM - 2 PM

Food Truck Days:

A final note: the city is excited to announce the return of Food Truck Thursdays at the Municipal Center. The dates and times are as follows:

- Thursday, May 8 from 11 AM to 2 PM
- Thursday, June 12 from 11 AM to 2 PM
- Thursday, July 10 from 11 AM to 2 PM
- Thursday, August 14 from 11 AM to 2 PM



City Offices



Fire Department News

Michael Petti, Fire Chief

The City of Warrensville Heights Fire Department proudly congratulates Firefighter Kyle Witczak and Lieutenant Pete Patrick for earning the distinguished titles of Firefighter of the Year and Fire Officer of the Year, respectively. Their dedication, bravery, and exemplary service are invaluable to our community.



Pictured (from left): Peter Patrick, Fire Chief Michael Petti and Kyle Witczak

Firefighter Kyle Witczak consistently demonstrates courage, professionalism and leadership. Whether responding to emergencies, assisting at the station, or mentoring young firefighters, he sets a high standard. With 15 years in fire service, including five with Warrensville Heights, Kyle has played a vital role in securing equipment grants, maintaining apparatus longevity, and serving with distinction. In 2024, he received a Letter of Commendation from Mayor Sellers for his bravery during an apartment fire. Inspired by his father, a retired firefighter/paramedic, Kyle's passion for service runs deep. He cherishes time with his wife, Brittany, and their three sons.

Lieutenant Pete Patrick has been a pillar of leadership and dedication. His strategic approach to firefighting and emergency response, combined with a passion for training, has left a lasting impact. Growing up in Garfield Heights, Lt. Patrick served in the U.S. Marines before joining the Warrensville Heights Fire Department in 1995. Known for his integrity and reliability, he has led by example throughout his career. Promoted to lieutenant in 2007, he is now the department's Senior Lieutenant. In 2024, he served as Acting Fire Chief, guiding the department through a transitional period. A devoted family man, he enjoys time with his wife, Krissy, and their adult children, Megan and Kyle.

Firefighter Witczak and Lieutenant Patrick embody the core values of bravery, integrity, and commitment. Their contributions enhance the Fire Department's reputation and inspire others to strive for excellence. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



Police Department News

Wesley Haynes, Police Chief

This winter and spring, the Warrensville Heights Police Department has introduced several new patrol cars featuring a sleek, modern design. The updated look showcases a black and gray color scheme, bold gray lettering, and a striking slash across the hood, complemented by the department's logo. We think they look sharp! Keep an eye out for them on the streets of the city.



Service Department News

Ted Sims, Director

Chipper Service Dates

In 2025, chipper service will be available from April 1 until October 1. Branches must not exceed two inches in diameter and must be stacked with the cut end toward street. Branches mixed with grass or leaves will not be picked up.

IMPORTANT: All mattresses and cloth furniture **MUST** be wrapped in plastic before placing on tree lawn for disposal. Plastic covers are available at the Warrensville Heights Service Department on 19700 Miles Rd

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 at 216-587-6570. If you see a street light not working report it to First Energy at 888-LIGHTSS.

Finance Department News

Karen Howse, Director

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Warrensville Heights for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. An impartial panel judged the report to meet high standards, including a "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the city's financial story. This certificate is the highest recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, marking a significant achievement for the city and its management. Congratulations to the Finance Department for earning this prestigious award for more than 13 consecutive years!

The Friendly City Magazine



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Fire Dept. (216) 587-6525

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Apartment rendering - Bernardi + Columbus

*Business profiles do not constitute an endorsement.



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SAT. AUGUST 9 & SUN. AUGUST 10

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