

FOCUS

SPRING/SUMMER 2025



CAIN PARK

SCAN HERE FOR
A LIST OF FREE EVENTS



NATALIE PORTMAN'S

JUN 12 PUNCH BROTHERS • JUN
21 OHIO CONTEMPORARY
BALLET • JUN 27 DISPATCH,
JOHN BUTLER, G LOVE,
DONAVON FRANKENREITER •
JUL 11-13 ARTS FEST JUL 17-20
BEETLEJUICE JR • JUL 25 ANNIE
JR • JUL 26 INLET DANCE +
ANNIE JR • JUL 27 ANNIE JR
• AUG 8-10, 14-17, 21-24
CAROLINE, OR CHANGE • AUG
13 STRING CHEESE INCIDENT +
LOS LOBOS • AUG 19 ANDY
GRAMMER • SEP 25 BEAT TRIO
• SEP 26-28, OCT 2-5 ALL THE



SCAN HERE FOR
A LIST OF EVENTS

THE CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS
& DJAPO CULTURAL ARTS INSTITUTE
INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE



JUNE 14
SCAN HERE FOR DETAILS

PRIDE

JUN 28
CAIN PARK

WE STAND STRONG • WE RESIST • WE RISE

SCAN HERE
FOR DETAILS



CONTENTS

Table of



- 08** **MLK EVENT GALLERY**
Cleveland Heights students reflect on Dr. King's message through art and writing.
- 10** **CLM FIRE: A NIGHT OF BRAVERY**
Images of Cleveland Heights firefighters working tirelessly to contain the Cedar Lee blaze
- 12** **A CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY**
Performers, vendors, and 350 attendees came together at the Rec Center to celebrate history and resilience.
- 16** **CLEVELAND HEIGHTS POWERS FORWARD**
Energy savings, worker safety and carbon reductions are at the forefront of a new City contract.
- 20** **FEDERAL FUNDS, LOCAL IMPACT: HOW CDBG TRANSFORMS CLEVELAND HEIGHTS**
2025 marks 50 years of partnership between the City and federal government to build community in low-to-moderate income and senior households.
- 24** **DENISON FIELD TO GET AN UPGRADE**
Re-turfing busy Denison Field is a go, thanks to a ARPA funds and one "big" Cleveland Heights sports guy.
- 28** **BUILDING A STRONGER CLEVELAND HEIGHTS**
Eric Elmi has ushered in [house] a more responsive City Building Department.
- 30** **GETTING TO KNOW THE NEW FACES OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS**
Meet the City's new team members in Finance, Parks and Recreation, Forestry, and Law.

39	COMMUNITY CENTER
41	ROOM RENTALS
42	THE FITNESS CENTER
44	TENNIS
46	CUMBERLAND POOL
50	THE NORTH RINK
54	YOUTH FITNESS
55	MARTIAL ARTS
57	SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER
64	#ICYMI

FOCUS

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Cover Photo: The Magnolia tree in front of City Hall starts to blossom.

Photo by Frances Eugenia Collazo

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS STUDENTS REFLECT ON DR. KING'S MESSAGE: "NO LIE CAN LIVE FOREVER"

Students from Cleveland Heights schools reflected on Dr. King's words: "No lie can live forever." Their essays, poems, and posters explored the relevance of truth, and integrity today.

Poetry

Declan Crowe - Canterbury Elementary - Fourth Grade
Emma Lu - Canterbury Elementary - Fourth Grade
Adrianna Miller - Canterbury Elementary - Fourth Grade
Angelique Momient - Monticello Middle School - Seventh Grade
Rosalind Roark - Ohio Virtual Academy - Eleventh Grade
Amelia Shiles - Canterbury Elementary - Second Grade
Lucy Shiles - Canterbury Elementary - Second Grade
Charlotte Sluzewski - Communion of Saints School - Sixth Grade
Maeva Urban - Canterbury Elementary - Third Grade
Camryn Williams - Monticello Middle School - Eighth Grade



Essays

Marshall Breedlove - Monticello Middle School - Sixth Grade
Karina Brown - Monticello Middle School - Seventh Grade
Naomi Maliza - Boulevard Elementary - Third Grade
Perry Nogi - Canterbury Elementary - Second Grade
Tess Richardson - Boulevard Elementary - Third Grade
Zoe Shiles - Canterbury Elementary - Fourth Grade
Ian Wendorf - Monticello Middle School - Eighth Grade

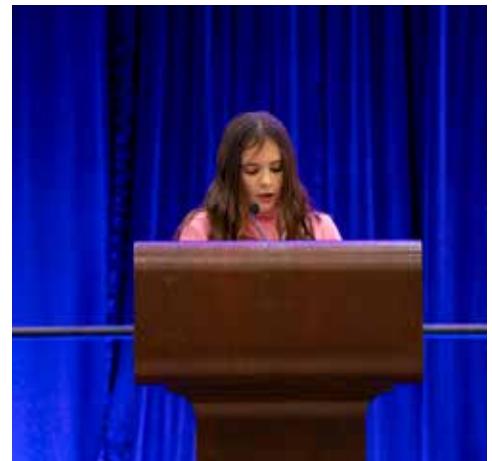


Posters

Gemma Andersen - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade
Anahita Bartlett - Boulevard Elementary - First Grade
Margot Berezovsky - Boulevard Elementary - First Grade
Laila Briggs - Monticello Middle School - Eighth Grade
Sylvia Campbell - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade
Charly Jackson - Canterbury Elementary - Kindergarten
James Santi Gonzalez Kelley - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade
Maya Lu - Canterbury Elementary - Kindergarten
Daisy Negus - Boulevard Elementary - Fourth Grade
Gwendolyn Negus - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade
Ronni Overby - Boulevard Elementary - First Grade
Elijah Peters - Boulevard Elementary - First Grade
Josie Rodney - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade
Larissa Rose - Monticello Middle School - Seventh Grade
Alexander Susan - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade
Ava Ward - Boulevard Elementary - Second Grade



At the event, the Mayor highlighted Dr. King's message on intrinsic human value and the need to challenge societal falsehoods. The City thanks all students, families, and schools for their inspiring contributions, as well as Council President Tony Cuda and Councilmember Anthony Mattox for their support.





CLM FIRE: A NIGHT OF BRAVERY

On the night of January 24, 2025, one part of the nearly complete mixed-use development The Marquee at Cedar Lee, situated on Cedar Road across from Heights High, was engulfed in flames. The massive fire tore through the structure, threatening the heart of the Cedar Lee District.

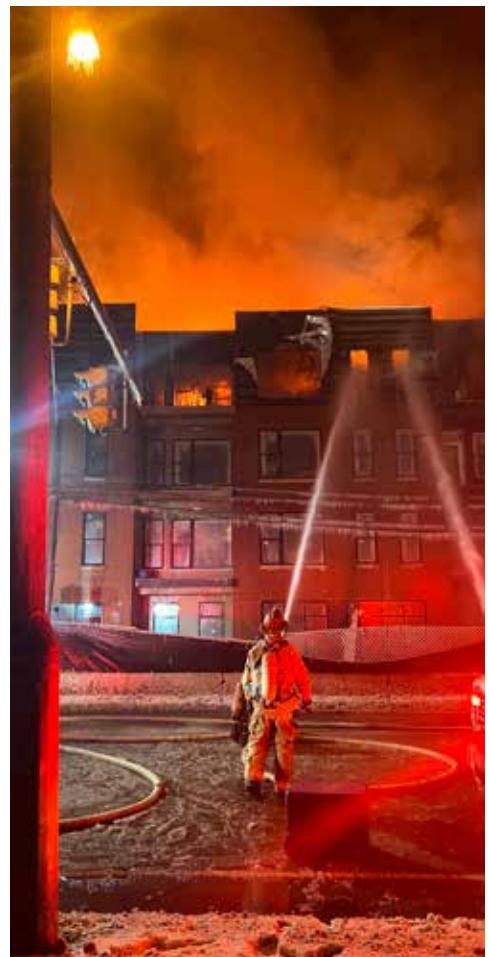
For over 20 hours, the Cleveland Heights Fire Division, with the on-the-ground assistance of 16 other municipal fire departments and county units, fought relentlessly, pounding the burning building with water from high-powered hoses. The battle against the flames was fierce, as towering smoke and heat created hazardous conditions.

As firefighters worked tirelessly, business owners, city staff, Cedar Lee patrons, potential tenants, and community members stood by, watching in shock and heartbreak as the development they had eagerly anticipated was consumed by fire.

This tragedy struck just as the Cedar Lee Meadowbrook project had cleared its final financial and real estate hurdles. Luckily, the fire did not harm any other structures, including the second of the two buildings comprising the development, this one at the corner of Lee Road and Meadowbrook Boulevard. That building already has tenants and will be ready for retail businesses soon.

Though this setback is significant, the City of Cleveland Heights remains committed to rebuilding the Cedar Road complex.

The official photo gallery from that night stands as a powerful tribute to the bravery of Cleveland Heights' firefighters and their mutual aid partners. These images capture not only the intensity of the fire but also the unwavering determination of those who fought to protect the community. While the road to recovery will take time, the resilience of the Cedar Lee District ensures that it will rise again—stronger than ever.





WELCOME TO
A CELEBRATION OF
BLACK
HISTORY.



The City of Cleveland Heights, in partnership with Djapo Cultural Arts Institute, hosted a Black History Month Celebration, drawing 350 attendees to the Community Center to showcase and honor African and African-American heritage. For five hours, the Center was brimming with artisans, vendors, educational and craft stations, performers, and delicious food.

The event featured dynamic drumming, dance, singing, and storytelling, highlighting the rich traditions of Black culture. Djapo's performers delivered a powerful showcase of movement and rhythm, engaging the audience in a celebration of history and resilience. City officials and community members gathered to recognize the profound contributions of Black leaders, artists, and changemakers.

This event reflected Cleveland Heights' commitment to diversity, education, and cultural appreciation, providing an opportunity for reflection and celebration. The evening's performances and shared experiences served as a reminder of the importance of honoring Black history and its lasting impact on the city.

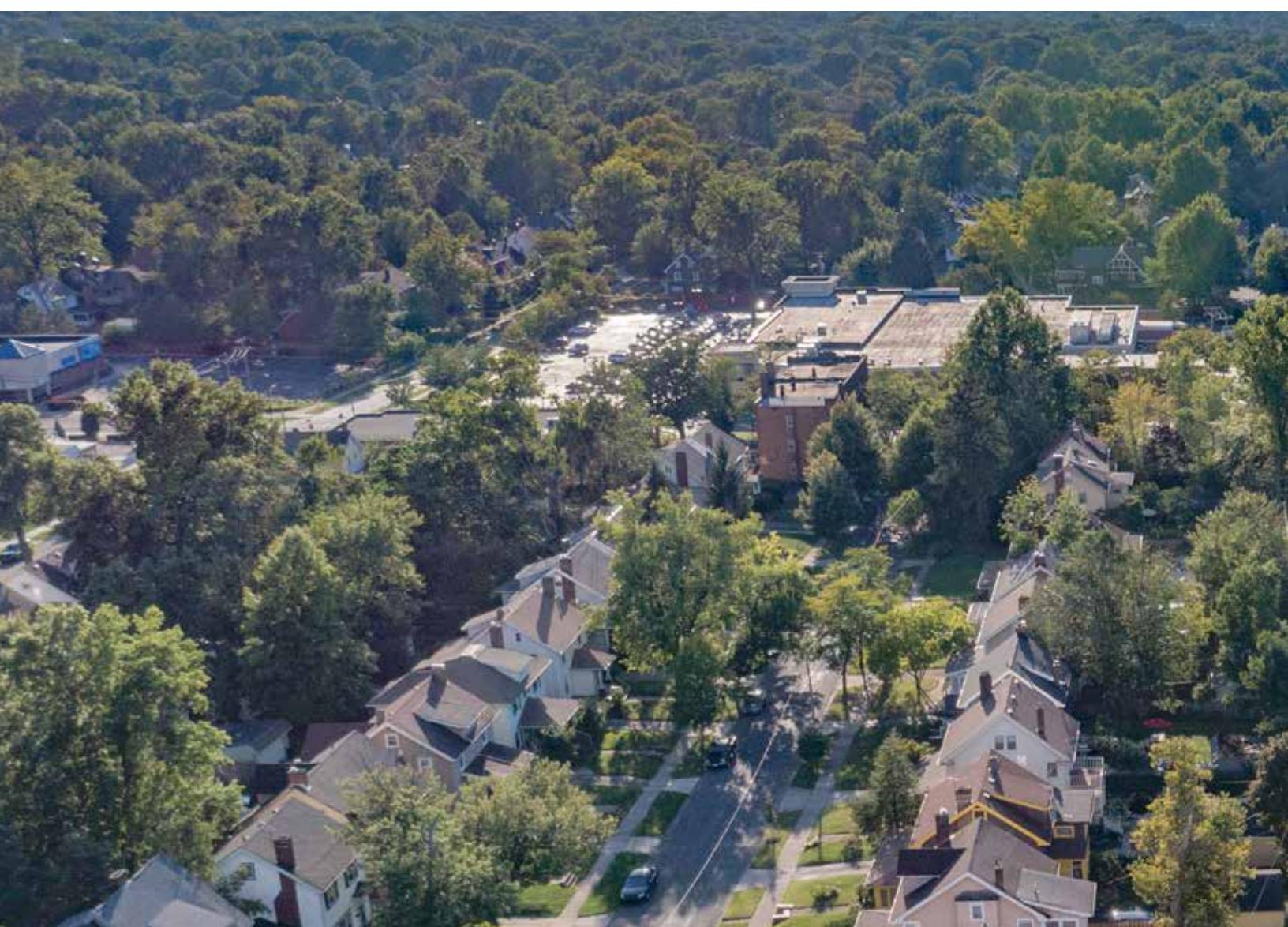




CLEVELAND HEIGHTS POWERS FORWARD

Smarter Upgrades, Bigger Savings with Leopardo

The City's new partnership with construction management firm Leopardo Energy means significant upgrades to City facilities will happen swiftly in 2025, resulting in significant energy and cost savings.



What if we told you that you could get your leaky roof replaced at no initial cost and with a contractual guarantee for the quality and longevity of the work?

What if we told you that the money borrowed would be deferred long enough that, by the time you saw the first payment due in the mail, the energy savings in your electric bill would cover the cost of the loan and then some, freeing up funds to make other upgrades to your home?

What if we told you that the company's projected energy savings could be used as leverage for negotiating the loan terms on your behalf?

Then what if we told you that in the unlikely scenario you didn't see a total return or surplus on your investment, the company doing the work would write you a check for the difference?

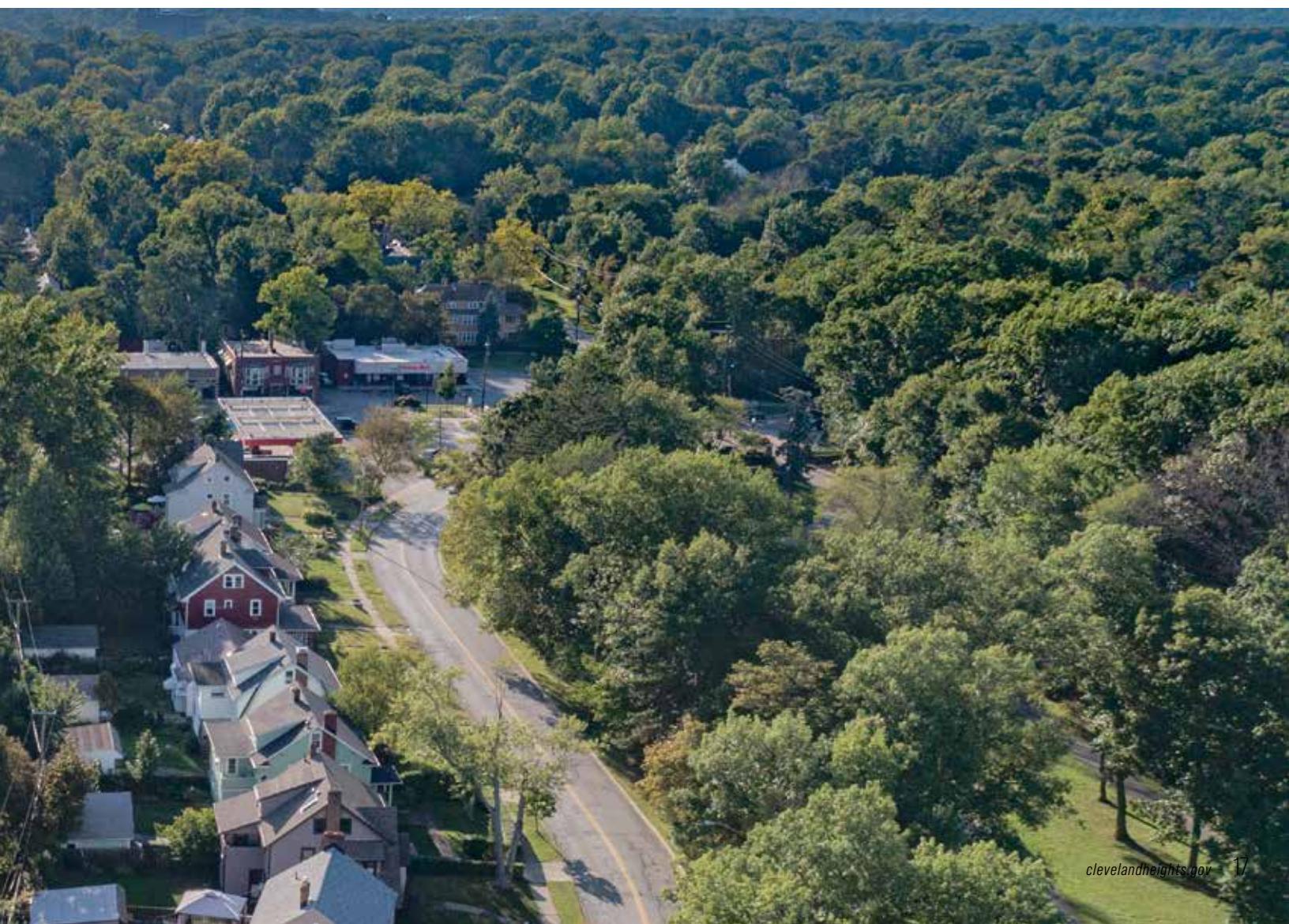
Finally, what if we could guarantee there was no catch—the company only hoped that the quality of its services would encourage you to rehire it in the future using your newly freed-up capital?

Skepticism would be a normal response.

But what if we introduced you to a company that had completed work for multiple homeowners in your neck of the woods using this model and boasted a 100% track record for above return on investment, and they were eager to work with you?

Now imagine being introduced to a company that does this for whole cities.

Meet Chicago-based construction management firm Leonardo Energy. Its decades-long mission to "collaborate with municipalities and other local government organizations to renew



facilities while simultaneously increasing energy efficiency and decreasing operational costs” has made it a leader in modernizing city assets nationwide.

Using its unique project management model, Leopardo acts as the lead contractor. If the City were to take on a large renovation project, it would have to manage all of the trades in-house, send out individual bids, and negotiate individual contracts. Instead, Leopardo packages one bid for the City to sign.

Because the company has its own engineering and electrical departments, it can guarantee a tight timetable; most of the work being done in Cleveland Heights, which includes upgrades to City Hall, Cain Park, the Service Garage, and its two Fire Stations, is slated to wrap up in September of this year. Later in the year, the City’s streetlights will all be replaced with energy-efficient LED fixtures.

At the center of the energy services contract is Leopardo’s projection that Cleveland Heights

will claim savings of \$1.9 million annually for the next 20 years. What’s more unusual is that Leopardo *guarantees* the projected savings, shifting the financial risk from the municipality to the partner. If upgrading facilities is higher than the loan cost, Leopardo writes a check to Cleveland Heights for the difference each month the discrepancy holds.

Ohio made collaborating with companies like Leopardo feasible through its passage of Ohio Revised Code 717.02 (ORC 717.02) in 2008 allowing local government entities to enter into a guaranteed energy savings performance contract (ESPC). ESPC is a paid-from-savings approach that diverts current spending to critical energy and operational upgrades to aging infrastructure. The savings pay for the project and are required to be guaranteed under Ohio Law.

As Leopardo President Rob Vollrath explained, “This procurement vehicle allows local governments to make these needed improvements in a budget-neutral manner.”



A Leopardo worker inspects the roof ahead of major improvements—exciting changes are on the way!



From left, City officials Andy Boateng, Mayor Seren, Assistant Law Director Chris Hetzel, and Law Director William Hanna sign the contract with Leopardo.

Why Cleveland Heights?

In early 2024, Vollrath was contacted by the company's Cleveland-area government relations liaison, who identified Cleveland Heights as a city on the front lines of improving government efficiency and modeling sustainability. Vollrath wasted no time reaching out to Mayor Seren to initiate a conversation.

Cleveland Heights' appeal was due, in large part, to the intensive Climate Action and Resiliency Plan (CARP) project led by the City's Sustainability Coordinator, Andy Boateng, throughout last year (see Focus, Winter 2024 for a profile on Boateng and a deep-dive into the CARP process).

CARP found that powering buildings is the city's single largest source of carbon emissions.

Mayor Seren sees the Leopardo project, which he formally signed in December 2024, as "the first, significant step toward lowering the City's carbon emissions and improving the environmental and safety conditions for hundreds of city employees."

The project is expected to reduce the City's footprint by 4,228,000 pounds of carbon dioxide, an invisible gas fueling the climate crisis, equivalent to removing 427 cars from the road. These environmental savings translate to immediate cost savings as well. Leopardo guarantees annual savings of \$165,457 in utility bills from swapping out equipment such as giant heating and cooling units. As part of its preliminary work for Cleveland Heights, Leopardo undertook a rigorous audit of City buildings and systems and found that 77% of the City's mechanicals are past their useful life.

In addition to the energy savings, building repairs such as roof and window replacements, tuckpointing, and fixing leaks, including the massive skylight in the Atrium at City Hall, will increase the safety and longevity of city facilities. Leopardo estimates the City will save \$597,506 in the first seven years.

"Cleveland Heights is a great candidate for our services because, like most communities, it has more capital needs than capital available to address aging building assets and energy infrastructure, such as HVAC, windows, roofs, building envelope, street lighting, etc.," Vollrath explained. "In addition, the City of Cleveland Heights has a strong emphasis on sustainability and improving the environment, and this project will support the City's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan, which is one of many reasons we are so excited as a company to partner with the City of Cleveland Heights on this project."

Also, as part of the audit, Leopardo evaluated and will, in the near future, re-negotiate contracts for the city (a process called reverse auctioneering), such as fuel contracts for its vehicles and salt (brine) for its roads, guaranteeing \$654,714 in annual savings. Replacing all of the City's street lights with LEDs will generate an annual savings of \$403,847, and replacing exterior lighting and inefficient window A/C units at Cain Park with a centralized system will save the City \$103,847 annually.

Cleveland Heights and Leopardo set a goal to use 100% local labor for this project; a contract will be signed with local labor unions, creating 387 jobs and \$902,420 in local and state taxes.

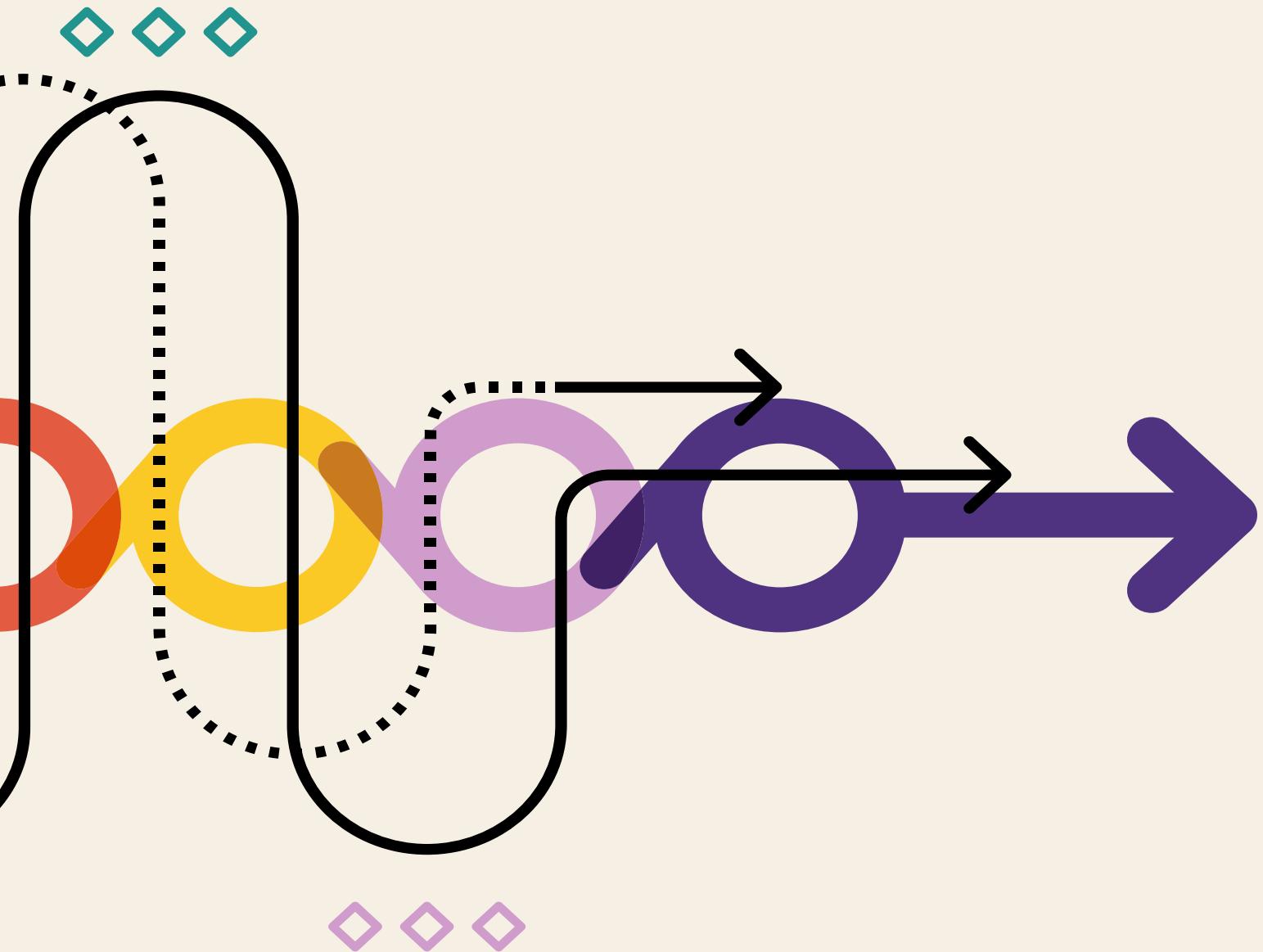
After additional review by the City's law department and the sustainability coordinator, Mayor Seren signed the contract on Dec. 13, 2024, and work began in February at Cain Park, the Service Garage, and City Hall. Improvements to the two fire stations will begin shortly after this FOCUS arrives at your doorstep.

Now, back to that hypothetical leaky roof. Knowing what you know now, wouldn't you sign the contract, too?

FEDERAL FUNDS, LOCAL IMPACT:

HOW CDBG TRANSFORMS CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

The City of Cleveland Heights and many neighboring communities receive federal funding every year to bolster community services, the majority of which goes toward programming that benefits low-to-moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods and persons. Here's how it works.



On most weekday mornings, tucked in a small office in Cleveland Heights' Disciples Christian Church, volunteers at the Heights Community Food Center sort perishables and non-perishables for distribution to residents who might need assistance filling their pantries and refrigerators that week.

A mile or so down the road at their new location on South Taylor, the staff at Lake Erie Ink ready creative writing prompts and organize art supplies for the students signed up for their afterschool programming at Noble and Oxford Elementaries and Monticello Middle schools, where students write plays, poems, cartoons, short stories, zines, podcasts and more.

A quick jaunt down Monticello and a left turn onto Noble lands you at the Home Repair Resource Center (HRRC), where a staff member helps a young family with modest income and savings navigate their dream of owning a home in Cleveland Heights. Someone else scans the shelves of the organization's tool library, looking for a tile cutter to help with their bathroom upgrade. Caring for a home is expensive, and having access to tools and classes puts DIY projects within reach.

What do these organizations and their diverse missions have in common? They all receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, a fifty-one-year-old program that puts federal tax dollars to work in communities nationwide, prioritizing residents and neighborhoods that would benefit most from anti-discrimination and revitalization initiatives. Organizations must apply for funding, and, on average, 10 to 15 non-profits serving Cleveland Heights residents receive CDBG funding each year. (See table 1 for the list of 2025 grantees).

CDBG'S ORIGIN STORY

In 1974, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) launched the Housing and Community Development Act. The program was designed to dispatch federal funding to local governments to address unmet community needs, specifically in affordable housing, anti-poverty initiatives, and revitalization and development

projects. CDBG, the act's funding arm, was formed from the belief that communities are more equipped to discern the unique needs of their residents and, therefore, should oversee the allocation of supportive funds. Per HUD's criteria, at least 70% of all CDBG dollars must be applied to benefit low-to-moderate income (LMI) persons or neighborhoods.

Cleveland Heights met the HUD criteria at the program's onset and was granted its first round of funding in 1975. On average, the City receives \$1.5 million in CDBG dollars for distribution each year.

Along with non-profits, City departments may also apply to receive a portion of the CDBG funding allocated to Cleveland Heights. Many of its housing and economic development initiatives are eligible because they fulfill HUD's criteria for combatting blight and poverty, supporting anti-discrimination initiatives, and spurring economic development. For example, the Planning Department's Nuisance Abatement Program uses CDBG funding to assist LMI homeowners with loan and grant dollars to repair violations to their homes that, if unfixed, could put them in legal jeopardy. For the last eight years, around \$200,000 in annual funding has been applied to update curb ramps across the City to make them ADA accessible. And each year the Economic Development Department receives funds to operate its storefront renovation program, which offers low-interest loans to businesses seeking to make repairs and improve their curb appeal. (See table 2 for the types of City programs typically funded).

According to City Planner Brian Iorio, who manages Cleveland Heights's CDBG program, between 20,000 and 30,000 residents are served by CDBG dollars every year in large and small ways.

HUD has strict criteria for funding distribution. For example, there is a 15% cap on allocations for public services, the category under which most non-profits fall. There is a 20% cap on the amount of money that can be applied to the administering and planning of programming. This last cap

necessarily restricts the amount of federal dollars that can be applied to salaries and overhead costs.

THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE VOLUNTEER ENTITY HELPING OVERSEE CDBG ALLOCATIONS

Many residents don't know that Cleveland Heights is one of a handful of communities that has a citizen-led oversight committee for CDBG dollars. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was formed in 1980 by residents to ensure transparency and equity in allocating monies by City Council.

CAC members meet monthly most months of the year to learn about the organizations that apply for CDBG dollars and interview applicants directly. They then enter into discussions and vote as a committee to recommend specific allocations for each applicant. Toward the end of each year, the CAC chair presents the committee's recommendations to City Council, the final arbitrator in the months-long process.

CAC members have a moral responsibility to recommend that CDBG dollars go to the residents and organizations in our community that need them most.

Current CAC Chair Patti Substelny has said of the benefits serving on the committee, "[Members] get a better understanding, and we are a tighter community, because of [our involvement with the CAC]. Cleveland Heights is a diverse population; [members] get an understanding of the diversity and the differences each part of the community has."

This diversity is evident in the different missions of the three non-profits and City initiatives highlighted earlier. From feeding families to feeding creative impulses; from improving the lives of differently abled persons to demystifying mortgages, as Substelny notes, "What connects the organizations we serve—regardless of goals or religion—is that they are similar in their desire to help people."

The committee allows for up to 22 resident members. Ten seats are reserved for representatives of the

City's 10 historic elementary school boundaries, and the additional 12 seats are open to residents at large. Because of its size, the committee is always seeking new members. Those interested may go to the Boards and Commissions section of the City's website and click on the link entitled Boards and Commissions Application (PDF). City Council reviews applications and appoints members, typically at the beginning of the calendar year.



The HRC also hosts classes for residents who want to take on DIY projects in their own homes. The classroom is filled with tools and supplies needed to practice a number of home carpentry, plumbing, and electrical projects.



Heights Community Food Center volunteer Debby Shewitz packs a bag of perishables for pickup. The organization, located at Disciples Christian Church, is run exclusively by volunteers. All CDBG dollars go to upkeeping the space and equipment to serve, on average, 300 families per month.



LEI Executive Director Amy Rosenbluth and Director of Programs Charisse Bailey are enjoying their new location at 2108 S. Taylor Road in Cleveland Heights, where they host a number of literacy and arts programs for kids, the products of which get included in their Ink Spot Anthology.

NON-PROFITS RECEIVING CDBG DOLLARS IN 2025 (TABLE 1)

Heights Emergency Food Center - Food and supply pantry for income-eligible residents

Family Connections - Serves families with children 0-5 with parental support, early literacy, and school readiness

Open Doors Academy - After-school program meant to support academic success and open pathways to graduation

Start Right Food Program - Food and supply pantry for income-eligible residents

Agudath Israel of Ohio (Gesher) - Referral organization for those in need of community resources, benefits, and government program assistance

Lake Erie Ink - After-school, weekend, and summer camp creative writing program for school-age kids

WAVE Mentoring Program - After-school and summer job-readiness and life-skills program for high school students

Naaleh Cleveland - Support group and mental health provider and referral organization

Chesed Center - Food and supply pantry for income-eligible individuals

Journey Center for Safety & Healing - Provides services that foster safety and healing to those affected by child abuse and domestic violence

Heights Suburban Collaborative Family Support - Provides services for the well-being of children and families

Creative Spaces Cultural Arts - After-school and camp programming

Home Repair Resource Center (HRRC) - Empowers residents with the knowledge and skills they need to purchase and maintain their homes for sustainable and diverse communities

FutureHeights - A community development organization serving Cleveland Heights and University Heights

CITY PROGRAMS IMPACTED BY CDBG DOLLARS

The Office on Aging - Community Resource Specialist position

Street improvements - Includes ADA ramps, sewer and road repair, and forestry projects in LMI neighborhoods

The Housing Preservation Office (HPO) - Offers various loan and grant programs to assist homeowners/residents with lead-based paint problems including City violation repairs.

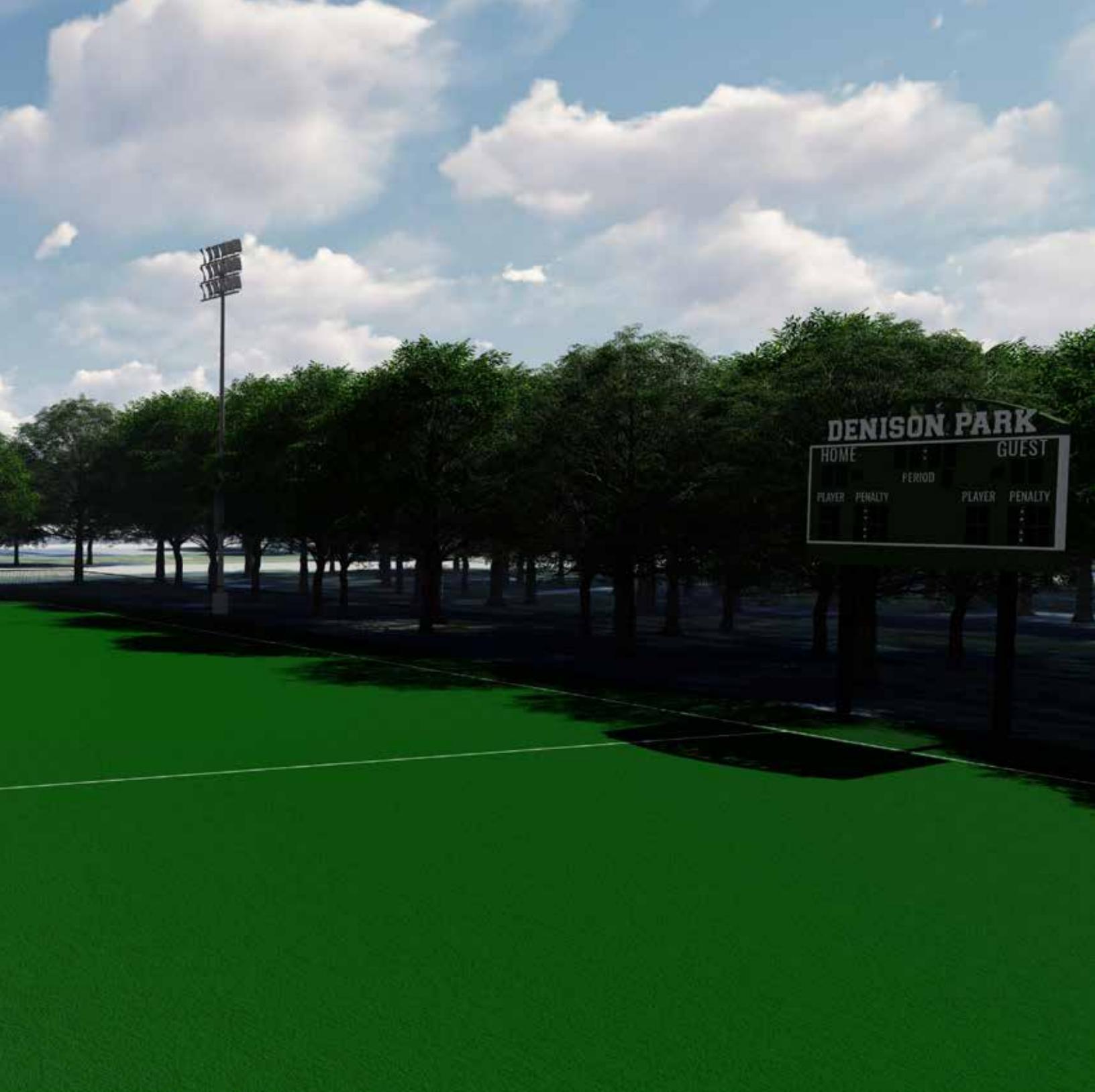
Home repair and nuisance-abatement programs - Exterior violation repair grants, and deferred and zero-interest loan options for those who qualify

Code enforcement - Helps fund City staff efforts to address blighted and out-of-code properties

Storefront renovation - An exterior rehabilitation program that combines financial incentives (rebate and/or loan) with free City design assistance.



DENISON FIELD TO GET A GAME-CHANGING UPGRADE



Thanks to ARPA funding, Cleveland Heights is transforming Denison Park's multi-sport field into a top-tier playing surface. With a cutting-edge turf system, safety improvements, and enhanced amenities, this high-demand field will soon be ready for athletes of all ages to train and compete at their best.

In September of 2024, City leadership reached out to longtime Parks & Recreation employee Mike Discenzo about the possibility of applying ARPA funds toward a larger parks project. This once-in-a-lifetime, COVID-driven infusion of funds to communities across the country meant that Cleveland Heights could consider tackling projects that otherwise would remain on the back burner.

Discenzo, lovingly known around these parts as “Big Mike,” had something in mind.

As the City’s Sports Programs Supervisor, overseeing all sports programs, facility rentals, and camps, Discenzo is acutely aware of the conditions of each City-owned sports facility and playing field around town.

One spot in particular rose to the top of his inventory: Denison Park.

First installed in 2011, the turf on Denison’s multi-sport, FIFA-sized playing field is past its life expectancy. While it’s lasted much longer than predicted, the top layer is visibly eroding. Coaches and parents know that injuries on any playing field are more likely if there’s not enough “give” when a player falls, plants their foot, or pivots.

Many Cleveland Heights organizations rely on this field for practices and matches, including the Heights United Soccer Academy, the Eastside Kickers, the Heights High JV and varsity soccer teams, Cleveland State’s soccer club, and the Ohio Premier Football Club. Beaumont High School plays nighttime matches at Denison because its campus field doesn’t have industrial lighting.

Jumpstart Sports t-ball and recreational baseball and softball teams also use the field when regular ball diamonds are not playable, and the independent Heights Tigers Youth Football League—a long-standing feeder program for the high school—regularly practices there.

It’s a high-demand space that, inevitably, gets

a lot of wear and tear. With ARPA funding, Discenzo saw an immense opportunity to remake Denison into a gold-standard playing field for our residents and partners, and attract new users and teams to Cleveland Heights.

With the guidance of Public Works Assistant Director Tony Ferrone, who oversees the bidding and contract negotiations for all major projects in his department, Discenzo and Parks and Recreation Director Andres Gonzalez (featured on page 33) landed on SCG Fields to do the work.

If you’re perseverating on those turf-related injuries mentioned earlier, fear not. SCG Fields is an award-winning “turnkey sports-specific general contractor” headquartered in Brecksville, Ohio, that specializes, among other things, in the construction of both high-performance natural grass and synthetic turf systems.

Their extensive portfolio includes the Cleveland Browns’ training facility, the Denver Broncos’ Empower Field, and the OhioHealth Performance Center where Columbus’ soccer team trains, among other professional fields. They’ve also resurfaced a variety of high school and college turfs for sports ranging from lacrosse to football (both the American and international versions).

In December 2024, the City encumbered \$1.1 million in ARPA funding to cover the project. Demolition of the current field is slated to begin in mid-May of this year, with the new turf installed and ready for use in time for what Discenzo calls the “ramp up” in August when many teams begin training for the season.

The new turf will also meet current codes for safety and efficacy. Its architecture includes three layers: a base pad, the turf itself, and a top layer made out of a product called BROCKfill, an organic infill comprised of fire-treated wood particles. Whereas the original turf used a rubber infill product, the wood-based infill is designed to deflect heat and provide players with a more grass-like or “natural” feel. The company that makes the product uses wood that’s grown and harvested in sustainable cycles. As part of the



SCG contract, the City will be provided with a backup supply of BROCKfill to replace areas of erosion.

ARPA funding extends beyond the turf project. SCG will tear down the out-of-service pool house on the premises, a major step in the plan to install a splash pad at the park. Funds will also cover the cost of a storage container for turf-management equipment, including a new, electric John Deere Gator Utility Vehicle for cleaning and conditioning the field; a new scoreboard; and auxiliary, regulation-sized goals for younger leagues.

Discenzo, and the rest of City staff, can't wait to see the first team break in the field.

JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING MIKE DISCENZO FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS



Mike Discenzo began working for the City's Parks & Recreation department on April 10, 2000. His first job was as the after-school and summer camp coordinator, and he eventually oversaw the facility's gym, fitness center, and staff.

When the after-school program was eliminated, he was asked to shadow longtime Recreation Commissioner Larry Shaw. When Shaw retired in 2014, Discenzo began running all sports programs and overseeing all City-owned sports venues in Cleveland Heights.

It's not unusual to see Discenzo at any given game, tournament, or sporting event across town seven days a week. He feels a profound responsibility to ensure that the programming he oversees goes off without a hitch, that community members and visitors feel welcome, and that kids have a fun, safe, and enriching experience.

Discenzo attributes his success to three things: 1.) An understanding and outstanding wife (Anna), 2.) The devoted staff he oversees, and 3.) Wisdom from his father: "They may outthink you, but they'll never outwork you."



BUILDING A STRONGER CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Eric Elmi, Chief Building Official for the City of Cleveland Heights, has a vision for the Building Department that is similar to the approach he takes in all of his endeavors, including playing lead guitar in a Flamenco band and, during his collegiate years, competing in the sport of fencing. Elmi is a firm believer in being equal parts prepared and adaptable to situations. Like when, in the first month on the job, a facade collapsed in the Cedar-Fairmount District; or, more recently, when a fire destroyed part of an under-construction building on Cedar and Lee roads.

Elmi was prepared, in part, because of years honing his craft alongside Cleveland's Chief Building Official, and serving on Cleveland's first unit to inspect buildings after it adopted a facade inspection ordinance in 2018.

On January 27, 2025 Elmi appeared calm and collected in the bank of camera lights at a Cleveland Heights City Hall post-fire press conference as he delivered the sad news that the building would likely require demolition.

"We learn every day," he reflects. "Prior to my position in Cleveland Heights, I was one of the

Cleveland Chief Building Official's right-hand people. Being in that position, I learned a lot. But doing the job is different; we learn through our experiences."

Simultaneous to managing the facade collapse — when he co-authored an ordinance that would require Cleveland Heights building owners to conduct routine inspections with structural engineers — Elmi managed the process of transitioning the Building Department from private-run company, Safe Built, back to the city managing its building inspections and permits.

"The City having its own building department means we can provide better and faster service," he

says. "People know who they're talking to, who their inspectors and building commissioner are, and that they are available and responsive to an emergency like the facade collapse and the fire."

In 2024, Elmi, himself a Certified Building Inspector, hired two inspectors, Michael Smith, a former fireman who worked as a framer in construction and whose expertise is building and mechanical systems, and Steve

The City having its own building department means we can provide better and faster service.

With a mix of experience, adaptability, and a passion for service, Eric Elmi, Cleveland Heights' new Chief Building Official, is leading the charge to improve safety, accountability, and customer service. From managing building inspections to overseeing major development projects, Elmi is committed to ensuring the city's structures stand strong and safe for years to come.

Hohman, an electrician who serves as the City's electrical inspector (Both work in residential and commercial buildings.), and three permit technicians, Jarmaine Yelder, Sally Heil, and A'Keila Benson. Elmi is in the process of hiring two more inspectors whose areas of expertise are plumbing and general building construction. The City's inspectors are required to have three to five years of construction trade experience and to have passed their certification exams with the state before they are on the job.

These building department staff additions follow the hiring of City Housing inspectors who have come on since Mayor Seren decided to move all inspection back in house as a City-run department. Elmi is overseeing the transition for Building, and says it is a move as much about quality and accountability as it is an investment in Cleveland Heights' built environment. Specifically, Elmi says he plans to recognize his staff for outstanding service.

"The customer service is already much better," he says. "[Inspectors] are spending more time and are more easily reachable. There's less time traveling and [service] is not driven by a profit motive. Having [Building] in-house means all eyes are on Cleveland Heights properties. They can and will see more. They are being recognized for identifying more."

Elmi's experience inspecting the facades of Cleveland high rises over the last six years helped prepare him to step into the role in Cleveland Heights. He was tested early. Elmi's credits his training, tracing it back to having made decisions in the wake of fires and building failures during his tenure in Cleveland and before that as an inspector for the City of Lorain. He was Cleveland's lead inspector after Cleveland wrote its first ordinance governing the inspection of facades, so he understood exactly how to respond when the Cedar-Fairmount building facade failed.

"Spending money on inspecting facades wasn't something building owners wanted to do until [Cleveland] passed a law that buildings 30 years or older have to be inspected and cited by engineers to ensure they're safe," he said referring to Cleveland's facade ordinance and, after the Cedar-Fairmount incident, the Cleveland Heights facade ordinance currently under review by the law department with final approval from City Council. "I knew how to react when the facade collapse happened. How to manage in troubling times."

Elmi's hire in 2024 came at a time when the city of Cleveland Heights was flexing its development muscle with the signing of The Marquee, the Taylor-Tudor redevelopment, and other projects calling for building permits.

Left to right: Permit Technicians Sally Heil, Jarmaine Yelder, and A'Keila Benson.





Elmi and Inspector Michael Smith talk shop.

“I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of permits that Cleveland Heights [was issuing] for new construction,” he said coming from Cleveland. “It is a fairly robust level of permits and construction. I was impressed and I think it’s only going to get better.”

Elmi advises homeowners and businesses to file the proper paperwork with the Building Department at City Hall and pull a permit when hiring a contractor. A permit is like a neutral third party for the contractor and the homeowner, he says, because an inspector can point to it and determine the work was completed to code. A homeowner, in turn, can ask a contractor to provide proof of insurance and bond, both of which the Building Department will have on file in cases where contractors said they would pull a permit but did not.

“By pulling a permit we are creating a better, safer environment for conducting business and inviting people to explore and shop here. It is peace of mind” that buildings are inspected to conform to the state of Ohio building code. For that reason, the City recently updated its permit fees, with

input from City Council, to be more in line with peer cities. Included in the new fee schedule is a market-rate fee for contractors who do not pull a permit.

The mainstay of most building departments is managing the inspections of the city’s stock of existing buildings. The Building Department conducts four to five inspections daily during the winter and nearly triple that amount in the summer, Elmi says.

“If it’s the same inspector assigned to a space, they have the ability to form relationships with the local [trades] and are more familiar with the sites,” he says “On the commercial side, I encourage Mike and Steve to stop by more often, and they notice more. It puts everyone on their toes, and it keeps the trades invested.”

After all, Cleveland Heights – with its abundance of historic buildings – recognizes the resources for upkeep are essential to maintaining value.

“Like mature trees, there is a history and heritage that we’re protecting.”

GETTING TO KNOW THE NEW FACES OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS



Our city continues to grow and evolve, and with that comes new leadership, fresh ideas, and passionate individuals dedicated to serving our community. Join us in welcoming the newest members of our team. As we work together to make Cleveland Heights an even better place to live, work, and thrive!

MEET CLEVELAND HEIGHTS' NEW DIRECTOR OF PARKS & REC: ANDRES GONZALEZ JR.

Cleveland Heights proudly welcomes Andres Gonzalez Jr. as the new Director of Parks & Recreation, starting October 28, 2024. With over 20 years of experience in the industry, Andres brings a wealth of knowledge and passion for community engagement. Previously, he served the City of Brook Park, where he played a key role in enhancing recreational programs.

Andres holds a Bachelor's in Sports Management from Cleveland State University and a Master's in Athletic Administration from Ohio University. His expertise in recreation administration and leadership will help expand and improve Cleveland Heights' programs. Excited to build on the city's strong foundation, Andres looks forward to the many projects planned for 2025.

Outside of work, Andres enjoys attending live sporting events and traveling with his wife, Lindsey, and their two daughters, Sofia (3) and Savannah (2). He is committed to ensuring Cleveland Heights' parks, facilities, and programs continue to thrive as spaces for recreation, wellness, and community connection. Andres oversees a huge staff and a full roster of seasonal programming, classes, and events. Visit page 39 for the 2025 Parks & Recreation Spring and Summer Schedule, including Cumberland Pool and splash pad schedules.





FORESTRY MANAGER ANDRE TRAPP: BRINGING EXPERTISE AND PASSION TO CLEVELAND HEIGHTS' GREEN SPACES

Cleveland Heights welcomed Forestry Manager Andre Trapp on August 5, 2024. With over 25 years of experience in tree care and vegetation management, Andre brings expertise and passion to the city's urban forestry efforts.

A 1995 Mayfield High graduate, he holds an ISA Certification for Arboriculture, is Tree Risk Assessment Qualified, and completed the Tree Commission Academy Certificate. His background includes a decade in utility vegetation management, 16 years beautifying trees in Euclid, and tree inventory work with Davey Tree.

Andre quickly made an impact, assisting with storm response on just his second day. Beyond work, he enjoys science, nature, museums, and travel. Fun fact—he's a distant relative of Hall of Fame running back Barry Sanders!

Under Andre's leadership, Cleveland Heights' urban canopy is in expert hands. To request a tree-lawn tree, call (216) 691-7300 or email pwd@clvhts.com.

MEET YAMINI K. ADKINS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW

Cleveland Heights welcomes Yamini K. Adkins as the new Assistant Director of Law, bringing her extensive legal expertise and passion for community engagement to the city. A licensed attorney in Ohio, Yamini holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the Rochester Institute of Technology and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Akron School of Law.

With a strong background in employment and labor relations, Yamini is excited to collaborate with the Human Resources team and department leaders to support city employees and strengthen workplace policies. She's already enjoying exploring Cleveland Heights, from the arts and culture of Cain Park to the diverse communities of Coventry Village and Mayfield Road's international markets.

Beyond her legal work, Yamini is a dedicated mother of three: Jaya, a corporate professional and soon-to-be bride; Malini, a graduate student at USC studying Media Arts, Games, and Health; and Lewis, a national security professional and astrophysics graduate student in D.C.

Before joining Cleveland Heights, Yamini served in leadership roles, including Executive Director of Human Capital for Akron Public Schools, Director of Human Resources for the City of Akron, and Deputy Law Director for the City of Akron's Department of Law. Her extensive experience in both legal and human resources fields makes her a valuable addition to the team.





RODNEY HAIRSTON JOINS CLEVELAND HEIGHTS AS FINANCE DIRECTOR

Cleveland Heights is pleased to welcome Rodney G. Hairston as its new Finance Director, beginning January 27, 2025. With extensive experience in financial management, Hairston has overseen budgets for Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, the Cuyahoga County Department of Disabilities, and Saint Martin de Porres High School.

A graduate of Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management, Hairston is eager to bring his expertise to Cleveland Heights. His top priority is ensuring strong fiscal oversight and streamlining financial processes to better serve the community.

Beyond his financial acumen, Hairston enjoys traveling, cycling the towpath, and spending time with his family. With a passion for public service and a deep understanding of government finance, he looks forward to working alongside City staff and residents to build a stable and efficient financial future for Cleveland Heights.



A FOND FAREWELL TO WILLIE FELTS

Cleveland Heights extends its deepest gratitude to Willie L. Felts, a contract professional who joined us in late 2024 and made an immediate impact with his financial expertise. With a career rooted in healthcare finance and strategic planning, Willie brought invaluable insight and expertise to our city.

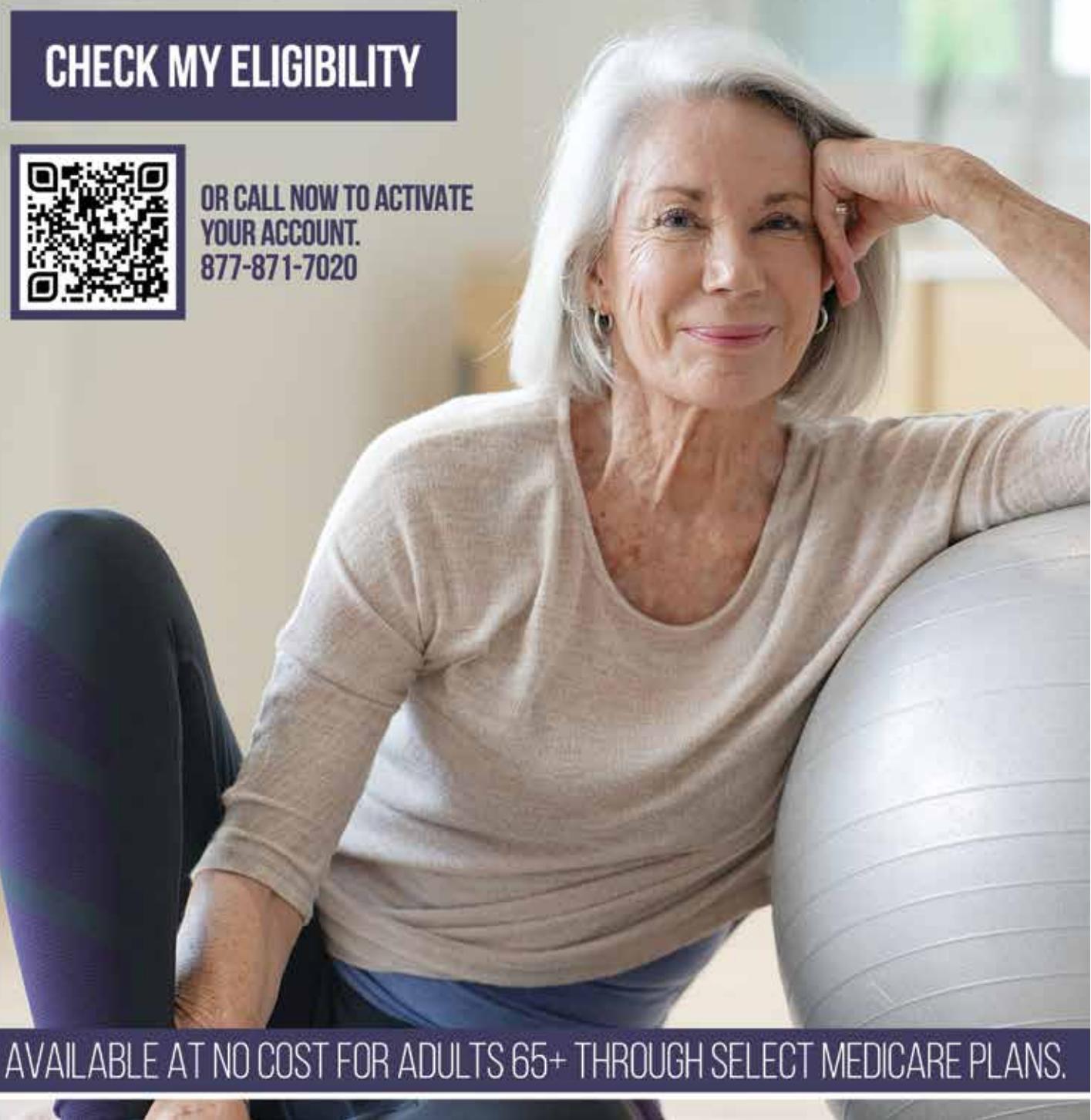
Though his time with us was brief, his contributions were significant. His ability to navigate complex financial landscapes and implement sustainable solutions has left a lasting mark. While we are sad to see him go, we are grateful for the knowledge he shared. Thank you, Willie—you will be missed!

TAKE ONLINE CLASSES FROM HOME OR VISIT US AT THE GYM WITH SILVERSNEAKERS, YOU'RE FREE TO MOVE.

CHECK MY ELIGIBILITY



OR CALL NOW TO ACTIVATE
YOUR ACCOUNT.
877-871-7020



AVAILABLE AT NO COST FOR ADULTS 65+ THROUGH SELECT MEDICARE PLANS.

YOUTH RECREATION FUND

The Youth Recreation Fund provides financial assistance to children living in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District who may otherwise be unable to participate in recreation programs and activities. The Youth Recreation Fund offers reduced rates for those residents who qualify. Applications are available at the Community Center.

DISABILITY POLICY

The Cleveland Heights Department of Parks and Recreation is sensitive to the needs of the physically challenged and encourages the participation of all individuals. All of our facilities meet ADA requirements.

PICNIC SHELTER RESERVATIONS

- Shelters at the locations listed below are available for general use by Cleveland Heights residents on a first come, first served basis and by pre-authorized reservations.
Barbara H. Boyd Park
Cumberland Park
Denison Park
Forest Hill Park 1
Forest Hill Park 2A and 2B
- Each shelter contains a specified number of grills and picnic tables.
- Only the shelter at Denison Park has electricity.
- Cleveland Heights residents may reserve shelters at any of these locations. East Cleveland residents may reserve the Barbara H. Boyd Park shelter since the Park includes land in both Cleveland Heights and East Cleveland.
- Eligible individuals May rent one (1) shelter annually. Proof

- of residency must be provided when making a reservation.
- Reserving a shelter costs \$25 plus a \$50 security deposit.
- Shelters may be reserved from May 1 through October 5, 2025. Reservations are now being accepted.
- After October 5, 2025 all Park Restrooms are closed until the weather permits in the Spring.

Contact the Community Center registration desk at 216-691-7373 for additional information.

Use of the shelters is subject to City Rules and Regulations, enforceable by the City of Cleveland Heights Parks and Recreation Department and the Cleveland Heights Police Department.

You can register in person for most programs at the Community Center during the hours listed below.

Monday-Friday 6:00 am-9:00 pm
Saturday-Sunday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

THE FIELD HOUSE

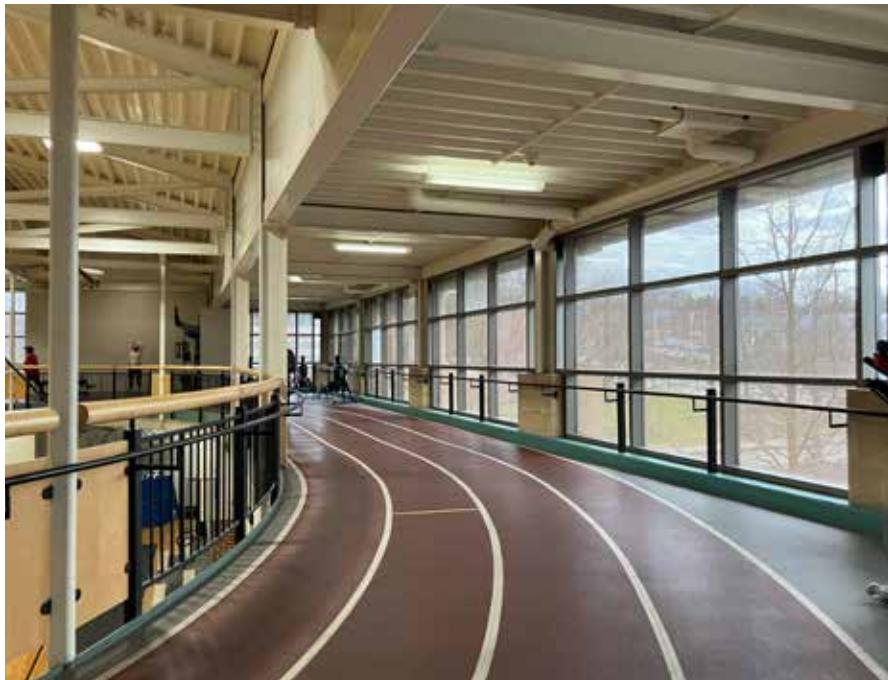
ANNUAL PASSES, 30-DAY PASSES, AND DAILY ADMISSION AVAILABLE

Residents of Cleveland Heights may use the Field House, which includes the Fitness Center, Track, and Gym, at the Cleveland Heights Community Center by:

1. Paying \$6 per day to use the Field House;
2. Purchasing an annual Field House/Fitness Center pass for unlimited usage of the Field House*; or,
3. Purchasing a 30-day unlimited Field House pass.*

**Resident & Non-resident Field House/Fitness Center pass rates vary by ages. See p.44.*

Fitness Center/Track Policy: You must be age 16 or older to use the Fitness Center and Track. Youths 12 to 15 years of age may use the Fitness Center or Track if accompanied by a paying adult/guardian. Fees apply. Youths under the age of 12 are not permitted in the Fitness Center or on the Track.



PERSONAL TRAINING SERVICES

We offer one free 30-minute personal training demo for new community center members. Ask about our NEW weight loss and wellness programs! Individualized personal training programs are adapted by certified experts to fit your goals and needs. All of our expert trainers design your individual program to make your goals a reality. All fitness levels are welcome, ages 13 and up. One-on-one, couples, and small group training sessions available for 60-minute and 30-minute sessions.

Together with your trainer, you will develop safe and effective workouts

to improve your muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Our trainers are able to accommodate many physical and cognitive limitations, such as rehabilitation from injuries or surgeries. All of our personal trainers are certified and insured fitness professionals with years of experience. Our facility has a large variety of training equipment, including a private training room with specialized equipment.

Call or text Ty Richardson, our head of personal training services, at 216-694-8414 for a quick phone consultation today!

ROOM RENTALS



The Community Center has several rooms to accommodate your next event no matter how big or small. Tables and chairs are available for your specific set-up style. Please feel free to visit the Community Center to view any of our indoor facilities. Should you be interested in reserving a room, please contact the front desk at 216-691-7373 and let the Community Center make your event one to remember!

All persons must reserve the room in person and submit an Indoor Facility Request Form no less than fourteen (14) days in advance of rental. Payment of half the rental fee, along with the security deposit, is due at the time the request is submitted. Final payment in full is due no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the scheduled event (credit card preferred). Failure to make final payment prior to the start of the event will lead to cancellation.

Please visit chparks.com for additional facility rental rules and requirements.

ACTIVITY ROOM 1A/1B

Maximum Capacity: 50

Cost: \$55/hr. CH RES

\$110/hr. NON-RES

Security Deposit: \$110

ACTIVITY ROOM 7 (kitchen available)

Maximum Capacity: 100

Cost: \$110/hr. CH RES

\$220/hr. NON-RES

Security Deposit: \$220

SOUTH ATRIUM

Maximum Capacity: 50

Cost: \$35/hr. CH RES

\$70/hr. NON-RES

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Maximum Capacity: 150

Cost: \$150/hr. CH RES

\$300/hr. NON-RES

Security Deposit: \$300

SOUTH FIELD HOUSE

Maximum Capacity: 600

Cost: Fee will be based on usage (*)

Long-term rental: \$50–\$70/hr.

Daily rental: \$150–\$250/hr.

Trade show: \$1,000/day

Security Deposit: \$500

GYM

Maximum Capacity: Depends on activity

Cost: \$50/hr. per court

*The South Field House and Gym may be rented through the Sports Manager. Please call 216-691-7383 for availability.

THE FITNESS CENTER

ANNUAL FITNESS CENTER MEMBERSHIP/30-DAY MEMBERSHIP/DAILY ADMISSION



NON-RESIDENTIAL FEES APPLY TO:

- Anyone between ages 12-18 living within the boundaries of the CH-UH school district but not in Cleveland Heights;
- Anyone employed within the boundaries of Cleveland Heights and their families (must present a recent pay stub)
- Families with children in the Community Center's ice programs.

CH residents may use the Fitness Center by:

- Paying \$6 per day to use the Fitness Center,
- Purchasing a 30-day or annual membership for unlimited use of the Field House. (See pricing guidelines below.)

CH Resident	1-Year Membership	30-Day Membership
Youth 12 - 18	\$110	\$18
Young Adult 19-24	\$180	\$27
Adult 25-59	\$220	\$33
Senior Adults 60+	\$115	\$17
Family*	\$345	\$55

Non-Residents must live within the boundaries of the CH-UH School District; have children in the Community Center Ice Programs; or be employed within the boundaries of Cleveland Heights (must bring a recent pay stub).

Non-Resident	1-Year Membership	30-Day Membership
Youth 12 - 18	\$165	\$27
Young Adult 19-24	\$248	\$39
Adult 25-59	\$299	\$45
Senior Adults 60+	\$165	\$25
Family*	\$499	\$79

**A family is defined as an adult head-of-household and their spouse or partner, and dependent children age 18 and under who occupy the same household.*

AGE REQUIREMENTS

- Infants, toddlers, and youth under the age of 12 are not permitted in the Fitness Center and Gym or on the Track
- The only exceptions are infants and toddlers, who are permitted on the Track in strollers or infant front/backpack carriers.
- Youth ages 12 to 15 years may use the Fitness Center and Track when accompanied by a paying parent or guardian.
- Eligible people 16 years old or older may pay to use the Fitness Center, Gym or Track.

FEES LEVELS

Users may purchase admission/membership to the Fitness Center at two fee levels: Resident and Non-Resident.

RESIDENT LEVEL FEES ARE AVAILABLE TO:

- Anyone living in Cleveland Heights.

ADULT FITNESS

ARGENTINE TANGO LESSONS & PRACTICA RETURNS!

This drop-in class teaches the fundamentals of the Tango, the dance of Buenos Aires. It focuses on the quality of movement, elegance, musicality, and connection. No partner is necessary.

Days: Sunday
Dates: Ongoing
Time: 1:30-4:30 pm
Cost: \$5 drop in fee (Covers both sessions)
Lessons 1:30 – 2:30 pm and Practica 2:30 – 4:30 pm.

YOGA FOR ANY AND EVERY BODY

This class covers the fundamentals of yoga for beginners, those returning to yoga or anyone looking for a gentler approach to yoga. There will be an emphasis on the basics of poses, along with breathing and relaxation of the mind and body.

Day: Thursdays
Time: 6:30-7:30 pm
Dates: *Spring 1: March 27-May 1*
Spring 2: May 8-June 12
Cost: \$38 CH RES
\$44 NON-RES

FIT IN 45 MINUTES

Fifteen minutes each of cardio, strength training, and abdominal work. Wear comfortable workout clothes and bring an exercise mat, towel, and spill-proof water bottle.

Day: Saturday
Time: 9:15-10 am
Dates: *Spring 1: February 22-April 5*
Spring 2: April 29-May 24
Cost: \$38 CH RES
\$44 NON-RES

EVENING BARRE WORKOUT

Barre combines dance with the Pilates principles of strength and safety. This is a barefoot workout. Wear comfortable workout clothes and bring an exercise mat, towel, and spill-proof water bottle. *Maximum class size is 18 participants.*

Day: Mondays
Time: 6-7 pm
Dates: *Spring 1: March 17-April 21*
Spring 2: May 5-June 16
Cost: \$38 CH RES
\$44 NON-RES

MAT PILATES

Pilates strengthens muscles while improving postural alignment and flexibility generated from the core. Wear comfortable clothing and bring your own exercise mat, towel, and water. *Maximum class size is 15 participants.*

Day: Wednesdays
Time: 6-7 pm
Dates: *Spring 1: February 26-April 2*
Spring 2: April 16-May 21
Cost: \$38 CH RES
\$44 NON-RES

JAZZERCISE

You're invited to a dance party that fuses cardio, strength, Pilates, hip hop, yoga, and kickboxing. Our average participant stays with us for 7 years!

Burn up to 800 calories in a 1-hour class.
Marchy Beth McCann (440)655-5394
Marchybethmccnn@gmail.com

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 pm
Saturdays and Sundays, 9:30 am
Additional days/times offered off-site.

NEW CUSTOMERS: Try 2 weeks for only \$22.

CARDIO DRUMMING

Cardio Drumming is a fun workout for all ages and fitness levels. With the help of music and positive vibes, you will get an all-body workout. Classes involve drumsticks, an exercise ball, a bucket, and a rocking playlist. All equipment provided.

Date: Ongoing from September 8
Days: Tuesdays 6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Sunday 9:30 am-10:30 am
Cost: Drop-in \$15
4 Pack \$44

Registration required: linktr.ee/themindfulmix

PERSONAL TRAINING

Personal Training availability:
Monday-Friday
6 am-7:30 pm

Call or Text Ty Richardson at 216-694-8414 for more information.

ADULT FITNESS

HULA HOOPING ALL OVER CHALLENGE

This class integrates dance with basic hooping skills that increase flexibility and energy and relieve stress with core moves to slim and tone your entire body. Learn how to hoop on your waist, hips, legs, arms and hands.

Day: Wednesdays
Dates: March 5 – April 9
Cost: \$38 CH RES
\$44 NON-RES

NEW STRENGTH TRAINING CLASS

This class helps build stronger muscles, improves bone density, enhances metabolism, and can improve overall health, including reducing the risk of chronic diseases and improving mental well-being.

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Time: 6:15-7 am
Dates: March 24-April 30
Cost: \$45 CH RES
\$51 NON-RES

LINE DANCING

Promotes physical fitness through dance exercise. All levels are welcome; no partner is required. This exercise is a fun way to get exercise and burn calories and improve cardiovascular health, flexibility, and strength.

Day: Mondays
Dates: Ongoing
Cost: Cash only, \$5 drop-in

PICKLEBALL

RECREATIONAL INDOOR PICKLEBALL

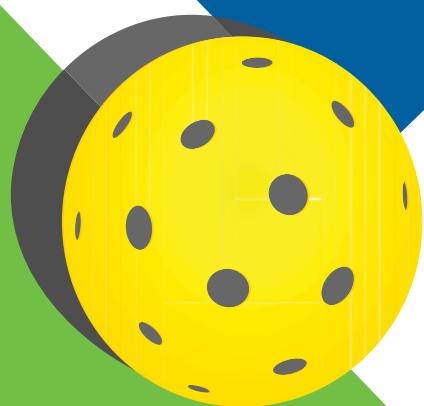
Pickleball is a combination of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong designed for all ages. This program is for ages 18+. Participants should wear clothing that allows movement and court shoes or athletic shoes. Water, locker rooms, and restrooms are available. There are six courts available for play. We have a few beginner Pickleball paddles for those who do not have their own paddles.

Day: Monday-Friday
Time: 9:15 am-12:30 pm
Dates: October-April (see below)
Location: Gym Courts 1 & 2
Cost: \$3 CH RES
\$6 NON-RES
\$25 CH RES for 10-admission punch pass
\$50 NON-RES for 10-admission punch pass

OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL

Played at Denison Park, which has six lined courts. The courts are open from 9 am to 9 pm and are lit for evening play.

Days: Monday-Friday
Time: 9 am-12pm
Dates: May-September
Location: Denison Park, 1015 Quarry Road
Cost: FREE



TENNIS

USTA GROUP TENNIS LESSONS

Lessons are held at Cain Park or Forest Hill Park Tennis Courts. Classes need a minimum of five participants to be held.

PRESCHOOL

Ages 4-6

Level: Beginner

Session 1

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Dates: June 2 – July 9
Times: 10-11 am or 11 am to Noon

Session 2

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: June 3 – July 10
Times: 10-11 am or 11 am to Noon

Cost: \$35 CH RES
\$50 NON-RES

YOUTH

Ages 7-17

Level: Beginner

Session 1

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Dates: June 2 – July 9
Times: 10-11 am or 11 am to Noon

Session 2

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: June 3 – July 10
Times: 10-11 am or 11 am to Noon

Session 3

Day: Tuesdays
Dates: June 3 – July 10
Times: 6-7:30 pm

YOUTH

Ages 7-17

Level: Intermediate

Session 1

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Dates: June 2 – July 9
Time: Noon to 1 pm

Session 2

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: June 3 – July 10
Time: Noon to 1 pm

Cost: \$45 CH RES
\$60 NON-RES

JUNIOR SKILLS CLINIC

The Junior Skills Tennis Clinic returns for 2025. The clinic offers high-level instruction and supervised match play to introduce and develop the skills to compete on a school team or in tournaments.

YOUTH

Ages: 12-18

Days: Mondays through Thursdays
Dates: June 2 – July 10
Time: 1-3 pm
Cost: \$80 CH RES
\$110 NON-RES

ADULT

Ages: 18-59

Level: Advanced Beginner

Session 1

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Dates: June 2 – July 9
Time: 9-10 am

Session 2

Days: Wednesdays
Dates: June 4 - July 9
Time: 7:30-9 pm

ADULT

Ages: 18-59

Level: Intermediate

Day: Tuesday
Dates: June 3 – July 8
Time: 7:30-9 pm

Cost: \$60 CH RES
\$80 NON-RES

SENIOR

Ages: 60 +

Level: Beginner

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: June 3 – July 10
Time: 9-10 am

Cost: \$35 CH RES
\$45 NON-RES

CUMBERLAND POOL

CELEBRATING 98 YEARS! • 2025 SEASON BEGINS MONDAY JUNE 2

Proper swimwear is required at Cumberland Pool. Management may adjust operating hours or close the pool due to inclement weather or if the air temperature drops below 65 degrees.



REGULAR HOURS

Monday – Friday

Adult Lap Swim: 6:45 am-8 pm
Wading Pool: 10 am-8 pm
Open Swim: 1-5 pm
Family Swim: 5-8 pm

Saturday

Adult Lap Swim: 9 am-6 pm
Wading Pool: 11 am-6 pm
Open Swim: 11 am-6 pm

Sunday

Adult Lap Swim: 11 am-6 pm
Wading Pool: 1-6 pm
Open Swim: 1-6 pm

HOLIDAY HOURS

Thursday, June 1—12-6 pm
Wednesday, June 25— 12-8 pm
Friday, July 4—12-6 pm
Saturday, August 30—12-6 pm
Sunday, August 31—12-6 pm
Monday, September 1—12-6 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

[Events are subject to change due to staffing or weather.]

Women-Only Swim Nights

Sunday, June 8 | 6:30-8 pm
Sunday, June 22 | 6:30-8 pm
Sunday, July 6 | 6:30-8 pm
Sunday, July 20 | 6:30-8 pm

Men-Only Swim Nights

Sunday, June 15 | 6:30-8 pm
Sunday, June 29 | 6:30-8 pm
Sunday, July 13 | 6:30-8 pm
Sunday, July 27 | 6:30-8 pm

Family Fun Nights (Fridays, 5-8pm)

June 6, 13, 20, 27
July 11, 18, 25
August 1, 8, 15

Carnival Night:

Friday, July 18 | 5-8 pm

Movie Night at the Pool:

Saturday, August 23 | 6-9 pm

Water Show: Saturday, August 2 | 8 pm Free Admission)

ADMISSION & PASSES

General Admission

(Proof of residency required to use Cumberland Pool.)

Preschoolers:	Free with an adult resident
Student (K-12):	\$3
Adult (18-59):	\$4
Senior (60+):	\$3
Guest:	\$7 (with an adult resident)
Guest Book (5 visits):	\$25 (purchased by an adult resident)

Season Passes

On Sale Starting Monday, April 28

Pass Type	Early Bird (Residents Only)	Early Bird (Residents Only)	Regular Price (Non- Residents)
Student (K-12)	\$35	\$45	\$52
Adult (18-59)	\$49	\$59	\$75
Senior (60+)	\$39	\$49	\$75
Family (house- hold head, spouse/part- ner & children under 18)	\$115	\$135	\$172

POOL RENTALS

Cumberland Pool is available for rental on select Saturday evenings throughout the summer for groups of 75 or more. At least 60% of the group members who rent the pool must be Cleveland Heights residents, and an adult Cleveland Heights resident with current proof of residency must sponsor the group. Reservations may be made online and must be made at least two weeks in advance. All pool rentals are tentative and subject to approval.

Rental applications will be available at the Cumberland Pool beginning Monday, June 3. Full payment is due with the completed application. A group may only rent Cumberland Pool once per season. Refunds will only be granted in the event of inclement weather.

Day: Saturdays
Dates: June 15, July 5, 19, and 26 & August 9
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm
Cost: \$350 for two hours
Group Size: 75+

SWIMMING LESSONS

Cumberland Pool American Red Cross certified lifeguards teach the Cumberland Pool learn-to-swim program. The pool staff reserves the right to test the swimming ability of any swimmer to ensure proper skill placement, limit class size, or combine classes when necessary. Participants must register for all group lessons at least one week before each session. **No classes on Thursday, June 19.**

Registration for session one begins Monday, April 28 at 9 am and can be online at chparks.com or in person at the Community Center.

PARENT/CHILD GROUP LESSONS

Ages 6-36 months. This class builds basic water safety skills for parents and helps children become more comfortable in the water. Adults are in the water with their children.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 5:30-6 pm
Cost: \$30

PRESCHOOL

Ages 3 – 5. Skills are appropriate and emphasize water safety, survival, and foundational swimming concepts.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 6-6:30 pm
Cost: \$30

Level 1 – Introduction to Water Skills

Ages 5+. Basic water skills, including blowing bubbles, bobbing, front and back glides, and water safety skills, are taught.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 5:30-6 pm or 6-6:30 pm
Cost: \$30

Level 2 – Fundamental Water Skills

Ages 5+. Children learn to float and swim independently, to roll over, change direction while swimming, and begin treading water with a continued emphasis on water safety.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)

Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 5:30- pm or 6-6:30 pm
Cost: \$30

Level 3 - Stroke Development

Ages 5+. Children learn front crawl with rotary breathing, elementary backstroke, dolphin and scissor kicks, along with diving and continued work on water safety.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 5:30-6 pm or 6-6:30 pm
Cost: \$30

Level 4 - Stroke Improvement

Ages 5+. Children learn front and back crawl, elementary backstroke, sidestroke, breaststroke, and butterfly. Diving and underwater swimming are taught. Treading water and water-safety skills continue.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 6:30-7 pm
Cost: \$30

Level 5 - Stroke Refinement

Ages 5+. Children learn shallow angle dives, tuck and pike surface dives and back flip turns are taught with an emphasis on water safety skills for the swimmer and others.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17
Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 6:30-7 pm
Cost: \$30

Level 6 - Stroke Proficiency

Ages 5+. Swimmers work on stroke refinement to increase endurance, culminating in a 500-yard swim. Focus is on preparing swimmers for a life of fitness and safety.

Day: Mon-Thurs (Friday used as a make-up day)
Dates: Session 1, June 9-June 20
Session 2, June 23-July 3
Session 3, July 7-July 17

Session 4, July 21-July 31
Time: 6:30-7 pm
Cost: \$30

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Prerequisite: Must successfully pass the deep-water test.

Diving Team

Levels will be combined and split up within the class. Participants will perform in the annual swim show at the end of the season.

Days: Monday-Friday
Dates: June 9-August 1 (No classes June 19 or July 4)
Times: 11-11:45 am
Cost: \$55 (includes T-Shirt)

Synchronized Swim Team

Levels will be combined and split up within the class. Participants will perform in the annual swim show at the end of the season.

Days: Monday-Friday
Dates: June 9-August 1 (No classes June 19 or July 4)
Times: 10-10:45 am
Cost: \$55 (includes T-Shirt)

Water Aerobics

Ages 18+ (Under 18 with permission of instructor). A vigorous 45-minute workout done in the water incorporating cardio along with calisthenics. Participants need to be comfortable in the water.

Session 1:

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: June 10 – July 29, 6:30-7:15 pm
Cost: \$59

Session 2:

Days: Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays
Dates: August 6 – August 21
Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:30-7:15pm
Saturdays 10 – 10:45 am
Cost: \$59

Deep-Water Aqua Running

Ages 18+ (Under 18 with permission of instructor). Aqua-jogging, also known as deep-water running, is a form of cardiovascular exercise that mimics the motion of jogging while in the water. In this 45-minute class, you will aqua jog by running laps in the 12-foot diving well as you continuously use your arms, legs, and hips. Participants must be comfortable in deep water. Wearing a water belt/floatation device is recommended, but not required.

This class provides an impact-free workout. Water is denser than air, so you work harder and burn more

calories. The pressure of the water helps your heart pump blood around your body. Participants get to go at their own pace. There is no pressure to "go fast" and put extra stress on your joints.

Session 1:

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Dates: June 10 – July 29, 5:30-6:15 pm
Cost: \$59

Session 2:

Days: Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays
Dates: August 5 – August 21
Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30-6:15 pm
Saturdays 11-11:45 am
Cost: \$59

Deep Water Aerobics

Ages 18+. For experienced swimmers. This program is challenging and intense—an alternative workout for lap swimmers. Participants need their own deep-water belts.

Days: Saturdays
Dates: June 7 – August 30
Times: 12:15-1:15 pm
Cost: \$39

Tigersharks Swim Team Summer 2025

Dates: June 2—July 27
Practices: Senior group, 8-9:45 am
Sharks group, 8:45-10am
Tigers group, 9:15-10 am

CAIN PARK SPLASH PAD

Open daily/seven days a week from 9 am-6 pm unless otherwise noted.

Holiday Hours

Thursday, June 19, 12 pm-6 pm
Friday, July 4, 12 pm-6 pm
Closed Friday, July 11-Sunday, July 13

Rules And Regulations

Preschoolers and children under 48 inches in height are permitted when accompanied by a parent/adult (18 and older).

Maximum of three children per adult.

Food and glass containers are not permitted. A child who is not toilet trained MUST wear a swim diaper/diaper with plastic pants under a swimsuit. For safety reasons, staff may limit those using the Splash Pad if too many children are present.

The Splash Pad shall be vacated at the first sound of thunder. The Splash Pad may be closed at any time due to inclement weather, maintenance, or staffing concerns.



URBAN SWIM

Learn To Swim

June 16th - August 1 2025.

Three 2-week sessions

Session 1: June 16 - June 26

Session 2: July 7 - July 17

Session 3: July 21 - July 31

Classes are held Monday thru Thursday, weather permitting.

Registration begins May 1 2025

www.gomotionapp.com/team/urbanswim/page/home

THE NORTH RINK

FOR INFO ON SCHEDULES AND PROGRAMMING

CHPARKS.COM • LEARN TO SKATE QUESTIONS: [LEARNTOSKATE@clevelandheights.gov](mailto:learntoskate@clevelandheights.gov)



ICE RINK SPECIAL EVENTS

June 1: Annual Ice Showcase

PUBLIC SKATE FEES

Preschoolers 5 and under accompanied by an adult are free and only charged for skate rental. (Limit two children per adult)

Students (ages 5-18) with proof of residency \$2
Adult with proof of residency \$3
General Admission, all others \$5
Skate rental \$2
Skate rental book (book of 10) \$16
Guest book (book of 10) \$45

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

For ages 7-12, you may reserve the North Atrium for a private group (maximum 20 children) to enjoy your birthday celebration while skating in one of our public sessions. Outside food and refreshments are permitted. Fee includes atrium rental, skating admission, and skate rental. Advance registration is required. Most Saturday and Sunday afternoons are available March-October.

Cost: \$140 CH RES
\$210 NON-RES

GROUP AND HOURLY RENTALS

For information about group admissions and hourly rental of the North Rink, please contact Heather Janor at 216-691-7395 or hjanor@clevelandheights.gov.

LEARN-TO-SKATE!

It's never too late—or too early—to take to the ice! The Cleveland Heights Community Center offers beginning hockey, figure skating, and speed skating lessons for all ages. For more information, visit chparks.com, call 216-691-7434, or email learntoskate@clevelandheights.gov

PRIVATE LESSONS

In addition to group lessons, the professional skating staff is available for private instruction. A list of professionals is available at the ice rink desk. Please contact individual instructors directly for availability and fee structure. Call 216-691-7434 for information.

LEARN-TO-SKATE USA

Our Learn-to-Skate program accommodates ages 3 to adult and is a collaboration among U.S. Figure Skating, USA Hockey, and U.S. Speedskating. It teaches basic skating concepts and helps figure skaters, hockey players, and speed skaters develop their skills.

Classes meet once a week for 30 minutes, and we offer a variety of times to meet your needs. Please visit chparks.com or the Community Center Registration Desk for a comprehensive schedule.

SESSION DATES

Spring 1: March 5 – April 6
Spring 2: April 9 – June 1

LEARN-TO-SKATE USA FEES

<i>5 weeks:</i>	\$50 CH RES \$60 NON-RES \$10 skate rental fee if needed
<i>6 weeks:</i>	\$60 CH RES \$72 NON-RES \$12 skate rental fee if needed
<i>7 weeks:</i>	\$70 CH RES \$84 NON-RES \$14 skate rental fee if needed

BABY BLADES

Get your little skaters excited about taking the ice. This class is specially designed for skaters ages 18 months to 3 years and includes off-ice play and an on-ice lesson with craft or story time. Offered in 4-week sessions.

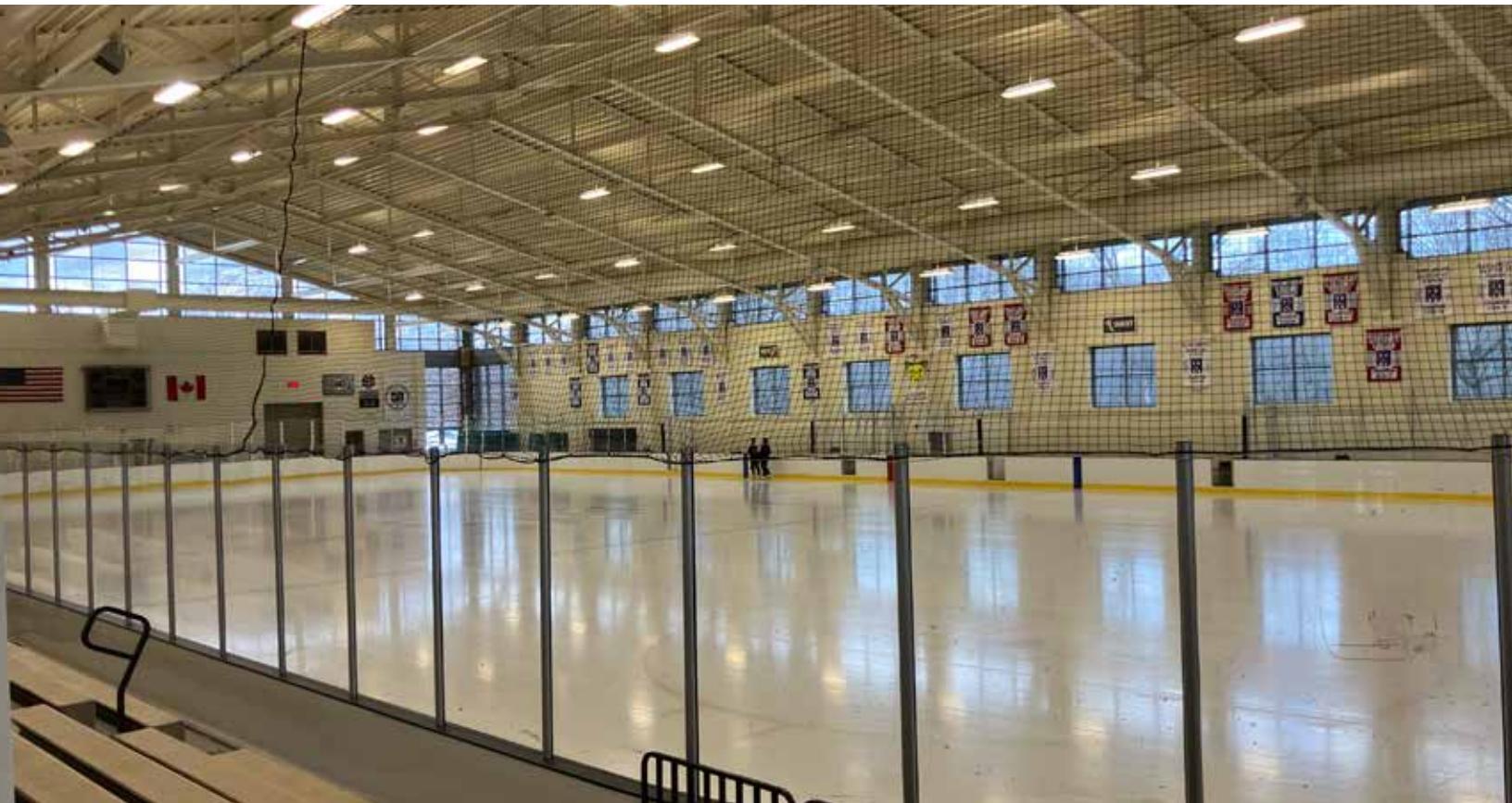
When: Fridays 11:30 am-12 pm
Spring 1: March 28 – April 18
Spring 2: May 1 - 23
Cost: \$40 CH RES
\$48 NON-RES

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

To register for group skating lessons in person come to the Community Center front desk Monday-Friday 9am-8pm, or Saturday and Sunday 9am-5pm. You may also register online at chparks.com.

REGISTRATION REMINDERS

You need to present proof of residency in order to receive reduced rates on lessons. Classes cancelled due to inclement weather cannot be rescheduled. Classes with insufficient enrollment may be cancelled or combined with other classes.



SKATING

EASTSIDE TIGERS

eastsidetigershockey@gmail.com

Eastside Tigers is a partnership between the Cleveland Heights Youth Hockey Association and the Cleveland Skating Club, founded in 2016. The Eastside Tigers community aims to create a fun, fair, and safe hockey environment that children will cherish forever. Programming is based on USA Hockey's American Development Model for girls and boys ages 5-14 with prior skating experience. Teams schedule games through the Cleveland Suburban Hockey League. The Eastside Tigers is open to both residents and non-residents of Cleveland Heights.

NEW TO TRAVEL HOCKEY?

Please contact Bob Jacobson at
robertejacobsonjrgmail.com or call the rink desk
at 216-691-7434

TOT HOCKEY

Boys and girls ages 4 - 8 continue to learn fundamental skating skills and get their first experience with a hockey stick. Helmet, elbow pads, gloves, and starter stick are lent to participants. Skates available for rental. Prerequisite: participants must have passed Snow Plow 3 or Basic 2 before registering. Classes meet once a week for a half hour. Choose between Monday evenings or Saturday Mornings.

Spring 1: Mondays March 3–April 7
6:30 – 7:00pm

Spring 1: Saturdays March 8–April 5
10:15 – 10:45am

Spring 2: Mondays April 14–May 19
6:30 – 7:30pm

Spring 2: Saturdays April 12–May 31
10:15 – 10:45am

Cost:		
<i>Spring 1:</i>	Saturdays	Mondays
	\$50 CH RES	\$6 CH RES
	\$60 NON-RES	\$72 NON-RES
	\$10 or \$12 skate rental fee if needed	
<i>Spring 2</i>	Saturdays	Mondays
	\$70 CH RES	\$60 CH RES
	\$84 NON-RES	\$72 NON-RES
	\$14 or \$12 skate rental fee if needed	

LEARN-TO-PLAY HOCKEY

This program provides girls and boys ages 6 and up who have passed tot hockey or Basic 2 with the fundamental skills necessary to progress to the Eastside Tigers without being competitive. Equipment is available for rental. For questions or to schedule an equipment fitting contact the rink desk at 216-691-7434 or Bob Jacobson at robertejacobsonjr@gmail.com. Classes meet twice a week for an hour on Monday evenings and Saturday Mornings. Monday classes share ice with Eastside Tiger Mites (8U) and Saturday lessons share ice with Learn-to-Skate lessons.

Dates: April 12 – May 31
(skip April 19 and May 26)
Days: Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm
Saturdays 10:15-1:15 am
Cost: \$104 CH RES
\$130 NON-RES

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

- Cleveland Heights High School shutout.com
- Benedictine High School cbhs.net
- University School us.edu

COLLEGE HOCKEY

Case Western Reserve University
cwruhockey@case.edu

ADULT HOCKEY

- Cleveland Heights Senior B Hockey
chshl.sportngin.com
- Cleveland Heights Coed Hockey League
funhockey@gmail.com
- Cleveland Heights 50+ League
ch50hl@outlook.com

ADULT LUNCH TIME PICK-UP HOCKEY

Ages: 18 +
Day: Tuesdays
Time: 11:30 am-1 pm
Cost: \$5

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING PICK-UP HOCKEY

AGES: 18+
DAY: Sundays
TIME: 8-10 am
COST: \$10

SKATING



Full equipment is required for adult pick-up hockey. For schedule or more information call 216-691-7434 or go online to chparks.com

ice time for private lessons. Call the rink at 216-691-7434 or go online at chparks.com for more information and the schedule.

OTHER SKATING OPPORTUNITIES

PAVILION SKATING CLUB

pavilionfsc.com

The Pavilion Skating Club was founded to provide skating opportunities for figure skaters and is a member of U.S. Figure Skating. Whether you're interested in achieving Olympic greatness or want to build your skills, the Pavilion Skating Club has a program for you! Please contact pscoffice@pavilionfsc.com for more information.

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS SPEED SKATING CLUB

Speed skating is a sport for all ages, and families are encouraged to skate together. Some equipment is required—a hard shell helmet, long sleeves, gloves, knee pads, and shin guards. However, many skaters have started using rental, hockey, or figure skates. If you are interested in learning how to speed skate, please contact Barb Rosenbaum at 216-401-9392 or bkrosenbaum97@gmail.com.

CITY FREESTYLE

The City of Cleveland Heights offers ice time for skaters interested in developing more advanced skating skills, including jumps and spins. Skaters may purchase a ten-hour session card and use the

YOUTH FITNESS

SOCER

Heights United Spring Soccer Academy

Spring & Summer 2025 Registration Now Open for Heights United Soccer Academy. For 32 years, Heights United has trained thousands of young soccer players in Cleveland Heights. Led by longtime resident and Hall of Fame coach Sean Sullivan, the academy offers top-tier training and a summer camp tradition recognized at city, state, and national levels.

Dates: April 12-May 10
Days: Saturdays

Levels & Times

Tiger Cubs:	10-11 am
Ages:	2.5-early 5
Grades K-1:	11:15 am-12:30 pm
Grades 2-4:	12:45-2 pm
Grades 5 & up:	2:15-3:30 pm
Cost:	\$65

Register at: www.HeightsUnitedSoccer.com

Heights United Summer Soccer & Day Camps

Heights United has offered engaging summer camps in Cleveland Heights for 32 years and proudly partners with the city. Campers can join our renowned soccer camp, day camp, or a hybrid of both. Register early—spots have sold out the last four summers!

Day camps include:

- Swimming twice each week at Cumberland Pool
- Ice skating once each week at the Community Center's North Rink
- Access to Forest Hill & Cumberland Parks' parks and playgrounds
- Access to the Community Center's air-conditioned Field House and Activity Rooms

Ages: 6-12
Dates: June 2-July 25
Days: Mondays-Fridays
Time: 9 am-3 pm
Cost: \$156-195 per week
\$1399 for all 8 weeks

Before Care: 8-9 am
After Care: 3-5 pm, available for a fee.

Register at: www.HeightsUnitedSoccer.com

BASKETBALL

Heights Basketball Academy Camp

Dates: June 9-13
Day: Monday-Friday
Times: 9 am-3 pm
Cost: \$200

Summer Basketball Skills Clinic

Dates: June 17-July 17
Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Grades K-2: 11am-Noon
Grades 3-8: 12:15-2 pm
Cost: \$200

Registration opens May 1

Registration will be handled through the National Basketball Academy (TNBA)

TENNIS

2025 Youth Development Tennis Camp

Led by Cleveland Heights' Tennis Coordinator, this camp builds foundational skills for all levels. Participants receive personalized instruction, set goals, and develop their game in a fun, supportive environment. Whether you're new to tennis or looking to improve, this camp offers a great way to grow and enjoy the sport for a lifetime.

Ages: 9-18
Dates: July 14-18
Days: Monday-Friday
Time: 9 am-4 pm
Cost: \$150 CH RES
\$180 NON-RES
(\$25 Multiple Child Discount)

BASEBALL

Jump Start Sports Cleveland Heights T-Birds T-Ball

Dates: June 11 – July 16
 Days: Wednesdays
 Time: 5:30-6:30 pm
 Cost: \$105
includes baseball cap and t-shirt

Jump Start Sports Cleveland Heights Rookie League Baseball

Dates: June 11 – July 16
 Days: Wednesdays
 Time: 6:30-7:30 pm
 Cost: \$105
includes baseball cap and t-shirt

Please visit www.JumpStartSports.com for complete details and registration for both programs.

KUK SOOL WON™ (WPKA)

The traditional martial art of Korea. The class includes Etiquette (Respectful Behavior), rolling and acrobatics, Safety Falls, Meditation Practice, hand/Foot Striking and blocking, Forms Training (Hyung), and self-defense techniques.

Instructor: Bob Williams, 6th Degree Master
 & School Owner

Black Belt

Mini-Kids

Ages: 5-6
 Days: Tuesday & Thursday
 Spring: February 27 to April 29
 Time: 6-6:30 pm
 Cost: \$61 CH RES
 \$68 NON-RES

Youth

Ages: 7-13
 Days: Tuesday & Thursday
 Spring: February 27 to April 29
 Time: 6:30-7:30 pm
 Cost: \$120 CH RES
 \$125 NON-RES

Adult

Ages: 14-75
 Days: Tuesday & Thursday
 Spring: February 27 to April 29
 Time: 7:30-8:30 pm
 Cost: \$120 CH RES
 \$125 NON-RES

TAI SHIN DOH

Note: Men's and Women's Self-Defense/Tai Shin Doh is now combined with the Youth Advanced Self-Defense/Tai Shin Doh class.

Youth Beginner Self-Defense/Tai Shin Doh
 Ages 6 & up. Children are taught control, discipline, awareness, responsibility, and consideration in a martial- arts environment. Beginners to yellow belts eligible.

Instructor: David Jones, 7th Degree Black Belt

Spring: Fridays, May 2 to June 27
 Time: 6:30-8 pm
 Cost: \$64 CH RES
 \$73 NON-RES

Men's, Women's & Youth-Advanced Self-Defense/Tai Shin Doh

For adults wishing to learn self-defense and students who have attained the level of green belt in Tai Shin Doh. Participants will learn to master the art of Tai Shin Doh.

Instructors: David Jones & Roan Adognravi

Spring: Saturdays, May 3 to June 28
 Time: 10:30 am-12 pm
 Cost: \$64 CH RES
 \$73 NON-RES

YOUTH FITNESS

HOME PROGRAMS FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

The City of Cleveland Heights' Housing Preservation Office (HPO) offers various loan and grant programs to assist income-eligible owner-occupant homeowners with home maintenance and repairs. Each program has specific eligibility criteria. Contact HPO to learn more about the available programs and their requirements.

HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Financial grant assistance for specific exterior home repairs or cited violations.

SENIOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Financial grant assistance for owner-occupants age 62 and older or permanently disabled, for specific exterior home repairs or cited violations.

FEDERALLY ESTABLISHED INCOME LIMITS BASED ON FAMILY SIZE

Family Size	Income Limits
1	\$50,650
2	\$57,850
3	\$65,100
4	\$72,300
5	\$78,100
6	\$83,900
7	\$89,700
8	\$95,450

LEAD SAFE OHIO

For those with children age five or younger. In-home daycares may qualify.

WHOLE HOUSE REHAB DEFERRED & NO INTEREST LOAN OPPORTUNITIES

The entire property must be assessed to address housing code violations and lead-based paint hazards.

INTERESTED? DO THIS FIRST

To request an application, please call the HPO Coordinator at 216-291-4869. Be prepared to provide your address and the total gross annual income of all household members aged 18 or older.



SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

BECOMING A MEMBER IN 2025 IS FREE AND EASY!



The Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center is open Monday–Friday from 9 am to 4 pm, offering a vibrant space for seniors to stay active, engaged, and connected.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Enjoy a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, line dancing, book discussions, card games, Zumba, Accessible Yoga, Senior Strength Training, wellness programs, lectures, and more.

For class schedules and registration, contact the Senior Activity Center at (216) 691-7377 or visit www.clevelandheights.gov.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership is open to Cleveland Heights residents and non-residents aged 60+ who live within the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District. A Senior ID is required and can be obtained at no cost from the Senior Activity Center or Community Center front desk with proof of residency.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Cleveland Heights senior residents can schedule transportation to and from the center by calling (216) 691-7194 in advance.

FREE ONGOING PROGRAMS

TABLE TENNIS

Join in the fun and get a workout!

Day: Mondays

Time: 10 am

BOOK DISCUSSION

Read preselected books and discuss them at the Senior Activity Center in a group setting.

Day: First Thursday of the month

Time: 11 am

GENEALOGY GROUP

Meet with other genealogy enthusiasts to learn, share information, and have fun.

Day: Second Wednesday of the month

Time: 2 pm

¡HABLEMANOS!

A Spanish conversation group that meets weekly to help participants better listen to, speak, and understand the language. Must be able to speak fluently.

Day: Thursdays

Time: 3 pm

MATINEE MOVIE

Join your Senior Center friends for a movie on the Center's big screen. Bring a snack, sit back, relax, and enjoy the show! The movie selection is subject to change based on availability.

Advance registration is required.

Day: Last Friday of each month

Time: 1 pm

MEET GREET AND EAT

Share lunch with old friends and meet new ones at an area restaurant.

Advance registration is required.

Day: Third Thursday of each month

Time: 11:30 am

Note: Participants are responsible for the cost of their meals.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

This group is for Parkinson's patients and their families to help them cope with the disease and share information and research findings.

Day: First Wednesday of each month

Time: 2:15 pm

FREE ONGOING PROGRAMS

SENIOR WALKING

Seniors who do not have a fitness center pass can walk the track. Participants must scan a current Senior ID at the Senior Activity Center desk.

Day: Monday-Friday
Time: 9 am-1 pm

TAI CHI + QIGONG

Tai Chi is a movement activity, while Qigong is an ancient form of breathing skills. Both bring better health and inner peace. All levels are welcome.

Day: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Time: 10 am (South Atrium)

STITCH TOGETHER

Join the Stitch Together group to learn about knitting, crocheting, other needle crafts, work on your own projects, and enjoy good conversation!

Day: Fridays
Time: 1 pm

CARD GAMES

Join your Senior Center friends in playing Bid Whist, Bridge, and Pinochle.

Day: Tuesdays
Time: 12:30 pm-3:30 pm



PAID PROGRAMS



QUILTING

Learn hand piecing and hand quilting techniques, beginning with a simple basic quilt block and moving on to more challenging designs. Beginners and experienced quilters are welcome to the quilt community for lessons and tips. We hold occasional lessons on machine piecing. We will provide new participants with a basic list of supplies.

Day: Tuesdays
Time: 1–3 pm
Cost: \$15 CH RES
\$20 UH RES

ACCESSIBLE YOGA

Modified for seniors, this style of yoga links movement and breath, increasing flexibility and balance. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat with you.

Day: Fridays
Time: 11:30 am–12:30 pm
Cost: \$20 CH RES
\$25 UH RES

LINE DANCE

Participants will learn some of the latest group dances—and some old ones, too—through step-by-step directions. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes, bring a water bottle, and get ready to have fun and get moving to good music. All levels are welcome.

Day: Fridays
Time: 1–2:30 pm
Cost: \$30 CH RES
\$35 UH RES

PAID PROGRAMS



STRENGTH TRAINING

Exercise with weights, increasing muscle mass/strength and bone density and improving balance and overall wellness.

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Time: 1–2 pm
Cost: \$40 CH RES
\$45 UH RES

ZUMBA® GOLD

Get ready to dance and have fun with instructor Sabrina Kogan in this Zumba class for seniors. Movements are modified to your ability.

Day: Tuesdays
Time: 11 am–12 pm
Cost: \$20 CH RES
\$25 UH RES

DRAWING

Participants will work from still lifes, photographs, and personal objects. Explore composition, color, and mark-making using charcoal, graphite, pastels, and colored pencils. A basic list of supplies will be provided upon registration for new participants.

Day: Thursdays
Time: 1–3 pm
Cost: \$50 CH RES
\$55 UH RES



OFFICE ON AGING SERVICES

The Office on Aging provides essential services for Cleveland Heights and University Heights residents aged 60 and older. Visit us at 1 Monticello Boulevard or call (216) 691-7377 for assistance, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm.

AVAILABLE SERVICES

Legal Consultations – Available by appointment

Medicare Counseling – Available by appointment

Benefit Assistance – Visit www.benefitscheckup.org

Forms & Applications – Living wills, power of attorney, HEAP, and homestead exemption forms available.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The Cleveland Heights Meals on Wheels program provides hot and cold meals four times a week to seniors (60+) and homebound adults. Friendly volunteers deliver meals between 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM every weekday except Tuesday.

Hot meals include a meat option, vegetable, and side dish.
Cold meals include a sandwich, salad, fruit, and dessert.

For more information or to request service, call the Senior Activity Center at (216) 691-7377.

CARE PROGRAM

CARE is a membership program that helps homeowners (60+) with home and property maintenance. The Cleveland Heights Office on Aging is a participating agency, and income-eligible residents can receive services at no cost.

For details, call (216) 970-0599 or visit careneo.org.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

This support group provides information and community for Parkinson's patients and their families.

Meets: First Wednesday of each month

Time: 2:15 PM – 3:30 PM

AARP

The AARP Cleveland Heights Chapter 5018 meets monthly at the Senior Activity Center and welcomes Cleveland Heights residents age 50+ that are current members of the National AARP organization. For more information, please contact President Deborah Willis at aarpchapter5018@gmail.com.

Day: Last Thursday of each month (no meetings Jul. & Aug.)

Time: 1 pm

Cost: AARP Chapter 5018 Dues—\$10 paid annually.



GET YOUR CITY NEWS

Get latest news from your Cleveland Heights City Government straight from the source.



#ICYMI

The City of Cleveland Heights is providing a wrap-up of recent news and significant events. For more information, please visit the City's website at ClevelandHeights.gov and scroll down to the News & Announcements section of the City's homepage.

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS EXPANDS LEAD ABATEMENT PROGRAM WITH FEDERAL ARPA FUNDS

Cleveland Heights is expanding its lead abatement program in 2025 with an investment of \$400,000 in grant funds the city received from ARPA, a federal government program.

Cleveland Heights is already a leader in the clean-up of lead in older homes and apartments, accounting for a quarter of all of Cuyahoga County's lead abatement cases closed in 2024.

"We're excited to expand on an already impactful lead abatement program and help more Cleveland Heights residents stay in their homes with the peace of mind that lead has been removed," said Mayor Seren. "Cleveland Heights is a model for how government works at all levels. We're directing resources from the federal government to provide a housing repair program that is helping residents achieve a piece of the American dream, in this case, without the scourge of lead. Kudos to our Housing Preservation Office for tripling its lead clearance rate in 2024."

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS UNVEILS \$22M AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT

Cleveland Heights is excited to announce it has entered into a purchase agreement with National Church Residences (NCR), a Columbus-based non-profit senior housing developer, who will acquire the former Universalist Unitarian Church building at 2728 Lancashire Road and two adjacent surface parking lots to construct a \$22 million, 71-unit apartment building that is both affordable and for people over the age of 55.

"A thriving Cleveland Heights means that our City government must continue to pursue opportunities to increase density and diversify housing options for all residents and the various phases of their lives," said Mayor Seren.

NCR is the largest non-profit senior, affordable housing developer in the country.

HAVE YOU TRIED OUT THE MAYOR'S ACTION CENTER (MAC) YET?

SEE A POTHOLE

CONTACT THE MAC!

YOUR TRASH WASN'T
PICKED UP?

CONTACT THE MAC!

CURIOS ABOUT A
VACANT PROPERTY?

YOU GUessed IT:
CONTACT THE MAC!

HERE'S HOW THE MAC WORKS:



CALL THE MAC AT (216) 291-2323



EMAIL THE MAC AT *MAC@CLEVELANDHEIGHTS.GOV*



SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

By working together in this way, City staff and residents
will ensure that our community remains safe, beautiful, and functional.



YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

THE CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Mayor Kahlil Seren
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Cuyahoga County Council
District 10
Michael J. Houser, Sr.
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The City of Cleveland Heights, in partnership with Cuyahoga County, uses ReadyNotify, a CodeRed software system, to alert residents to emergencies and send critical notifications. Participation is voluntary, and users may sign up to receive select messages, including weather warnings, air quality alerts, emergency road closures, safety concerns, and much more.

Users will receive emails but may also sign up for other notification options like text messaging, voice memos, and phone calls.

We at City Hall encourage all residents to sign up so that we can reach as many of you as possible in case of emergencies and other alert scenarios.

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