



medical care, turn off gas, etc. Mr. Berne stated that during the recent power outages in this area, Highland Heights activated a cooling center and activated CERT, who helped manage the people that came to the center.

Mr. Berne continued, “Fortunately, this part of the country is not having disasters as frequently as other areas. CERT responded to a broken gas line a few years ago that resulted in the need to evacuate people. You will see us at community events. We have worked at Cruise Night since its inception. We provide safety patrols and help with traffic and pedestrian control. We try to be at all community events.”

Mr. Berne described that CERT has 75 members on its roster, with 30 that are active members. Members’ ages range from 22 to 90. Members are provided with a backpack of emergency supplies and receive specialized training. Most recently, they received K-9 search and rescue training. Mr. Berne provided the committee with a brochure (copy attached) that describes CERT’s mission and training. He encouraged them to join or pass along the information to someone that might be interested as they like to get 4 to 5 new members each year.

Mr. Berne distributed a FEMA brochure and a magnet that is used to record personal medical information. He suggested that it can be completed and put on your refrigerator to make your medical information available to first responders.

Mr. Okrent described how CERT is funded. Each community in the Tri-Community CERT (Highland Heights, Mayfield Heights, Richmond Heights and Mayfield Village) contributes \$2,500 per year. Most training is done with the Fire Departments in each city. Mr. Okrent stated that Mayfield Village has a nice training facility and they work closely with Chief Carcioppolo and Jennifer Schultz. They do first aid training and stop the bleed training, and include equipment to pack a wound in their emergency backpacks. CERT members have been training for years for an emergency.

Mr. Okrent showed the committee a brief PPT presentation and discussed personal preparedness for emergencies. He asked, “In an emergency, can you unlock the door for first responders? Do you have a Knox Box? Is your medical information readily available? Who will take care of your pet if you are taken to the hospital?” Mr. Okrent spoke about the importance of signing up for Civic Ready emergency alerts. He described that CERT members go through many hours of training to be certified. They are also fingerprinted by the FBI and background checked—something that Chief Carcioppolo insisted upon. Mr. Okrent described participating in a simulation of an overturned truck on I-271 with hazardous vapors where CERT members learned who and how to evacuate. He described a recent training with SWAT and stated that joining CERT helps you become more resilient. Mr. Berne added that CERT has also helped law enforcement with simulations of active shooters at schools.

Mr. Berne stated that he would be happy to come back to talk more about emergency preparedness. He could talk about emergency three-day kits and how to put together enough supplies for three days.

Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein asked if there are any doctors involved on the team. Mr. Berne responded that MIPOD was around prior to CERT. Chief Carcioppolo wanted to bring MIPOD under the control of CERT and, during COVID, CERT was asked to provide personnel for vaccinating the public. There are medical people involved—several nurses and doctors.

Mr. Haycox asked if CERT works with the Red Cross. Mr. Berne said that CERT has trained with the Red Cross. If a disaster required the need to create a shelter, Red Cross would take over.

Mr. Berne described that the supplies provided to CERT members includes a product called “Qwik Clot” that helps stop bleeding. He described that the most important thing to do is to apply pressure to a wound. Mrs. McNally stated that she participated in a stop the bleed session at school and found it very valuable. She suggested that the Fire Chief consider offering that training to the public, along with CPR training.

Mr. Haycox thanked Mr. Berne and Mr. Okrent for attending and providing information to the committee about CERT.

### **Kindland Activities.**

Mr. Williams described that the Village has been sending out emails and putting information in the VOV about Kindland. He described that CAC member Maureen Washock picked up on it and came up with a plan to put Center School students in touch with veterans under the Kindland umbrella. “Maureen thought fifth graders should have more civic responsibility and awareness and came up with a plan to start learning more about the Village and provide community service. They are currently working on getting involved with the Veterans Day event on November 11. The students are going to be involved in the ceremony and make cards, etc. They are also working on plans for placing Memorial Day flags at gravesite and a Civic Day, where students learn about local government.” Mr. Williams stated that, during this process, he learned that Center School needs volunteers for a variety of things and volunteering is a great way to foster kindness.

Mrs. Washock explained that the fifth grade has a committee and is looking for ways to branch into the community. They want to do a spring event that involves using stencils to repaint the parking lot. The committee just had a fall festival. They are making cards and are working on a banner to display the names of veterans. Mrs. Washock reiterated that there are many things that volunteers could do to help at Center School as volunteers dwindled during and since COVID.

Mr. Williams concluded by stating that he hopes this discussion sparks ideas for other partnerships.

### **Council Report**

Mrs. Jucisek reported that Cruise Night this year had record attendance. Grove concerts have also been well attended and Recreation Director Shane McAviney reports that over \$10,000 was collected for the scholarship fund with one individual donating \$1,000.

Mrs. Jucisek advised that Assistant Fire Chief Mike Libens retired in July and was replaced by Firefighter Jeff Federico. Another Firefighter was also recently hired and sworn-in—Makyle Grant. She added that Frank Stupczy was also recently appointed as the Service Director.

Mrs. Jucisek stated that she has been getting questions from residents about Village Council supporting the School District’s levy. She described that it is a 5-mill levy and that it has been eight years since the last levy was passed. Given the recent increase in property taxes, many people have asked, “Why now?” She explained that the levy is based on 2023 property values, before the increase occurred. “Those values are locked in for the life of the levy, which is five years. If the District had waited, it would be based on new values.”

Mrs. Jucisek described some of the reasons that the levy is needed, including safety enhancements and career readiness programs. She added that college is not for everyone, so trades and EXCEL Tech have become much more

active. The District also started a new 'Learn and Earn' program that had 10 students last year and 80 this year. Mrs. Juncisek advised that, through this program, students are able to get licensed and intern with local companies, but help is needed to fund this program. Mrs. Juncisek passed around a fact sheet on the levy that shows that its cost is \$14.58 per month for every \$100,000 of home value. Ms. Wolgamuth advised that the fact sheet is also being printed in the upcoming *Voice of the Village*.

Mrs. Ferris asked if shop and home economics are being brought back. Mrs. Juncisek advised that construction and automotive courses are coming back. Mrs. Washock added that cooking is taught in Health class.

Mrs. McNally stated that everyone should keep in mind that the state funding structure is flawed. "Schools are forced by law to go to the community for funding."

### **Other Matters**

Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein mentioned that Howard Hanna recently closed its office. Mrs. Juncisek responded that she didn't know what had happened there and has heard nothing new about the vacant CVS space.

Ms. Wolgamuth distributed a flyer on pumpkin composting (copy attached) and explained that the Solid Waste District had selected the Village as a collection site for pumpkins. A receptacle for pumpkins and gourds would be located near the Service Department and Wiley Park.

Ms. Wolgamuth also provided an information sheet about Ohio Issue 1 (copy attached) that will be included in the upcoming *Voice of the Village*. She asked that the members review it and let her know if they thought any further clarification was needed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Diane Wolgamuth

Mayfield Village Director of Administration



### Tri Community CERT Mission Statement

The mission of the Tri Community CERT is to provide assistance to the Public Safety Departments in our communities and be prepared to deploy to other communities when needed.

We will work together as community-based volunteer teams that will train, inform and educate our volunteers on disaster preparedness.

We will be ready to support our emergency personnel in doing the "greatest good for the greatest number of people" while upholding the CERT protocol.



**For More Information**  
tricomcommunitycert.com  
or  
email: tricomcommunitycert@gmail.com



# You Can Help



**Tri Community  
Community Emergency Response Team**





## WHAT is a CERT?

CERT is a proud partner of Citizen Corps (part of FEMA) and the effort to have everyone in America prepare, train, and volunteer to help their communities.

CERT members provide:

- Key support to professional first responders
- Immediate assistance to victims
- Organizational skills to coordinate activities at an emergency site
- Assistance at non-emergency projects to improve community safety

## WHERE will my CERT training be utilized?

The communities of:

City of Highland Heights  
Mayfield Village  
City of Mayfield Heights  
City of Richmond Heights

## WHY does a CERT benefit me?

- Prepares you to respond to and help manage local emergency situations
- Helps you and other CERT members supplement the emergency response efforts of private organizations and public entities
- Makes you part of a trained team of neighborhood volunteers all working to improve your community

## WHO can apply to be a CERT Volunteer?

If you are a resident of Highland Hts., Mayfield Hts., Mayfield Village or Richmond Heights who is 18 years of age or older and is looking for a proven way of making a positive impact to the safety and well-being of your community, the CERT Program is for you. All applicants will be subject to a confidential criminal/background check.

## HOW do I get CERT training?

- Enroll in a 20-hour training course taught by certified instructors
- Course is usually scheduled over a 7-week period or 2 weekends
- Course topics include:
  - Disaster Medical Operations
  - Fire Safety
  - Light Search and Rescue Operations
  - CERT Organizational Skills Training
  - Disaster Psychology
  - Terrorism and CERT
- Disaster Response Simulation and Course Review

Members receive a free CERT Backpack with emergency response supplies including helmet, gloves, gas shut-off/pry tool, goggles, flashlight, first aid supplies and more.

## ACT TODAY!

Please email [tricomcommunitycert@gmail.com](mailto:tricomcommunitycert@gmail.com), or visit our website at [www.tricomcommunitycert.com](http://www.tricomcommunitycert.com) and complete the information form on the "Contact Us" page.



# PUMPKIN COMPOSTING COLLECTION

*Special, seasonal drop-off program for non-decorated pumpkins and gourds.*

**OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 8, 2024**

**Mayfield Village**

**Village Service Department, 610 SOM Center Road**

Find additional drop-off locations in Cuyahoga County.



SCAN ME

**CUYAHOGARECYCLES.ORG/PUMPKIN\_COLLECTION**

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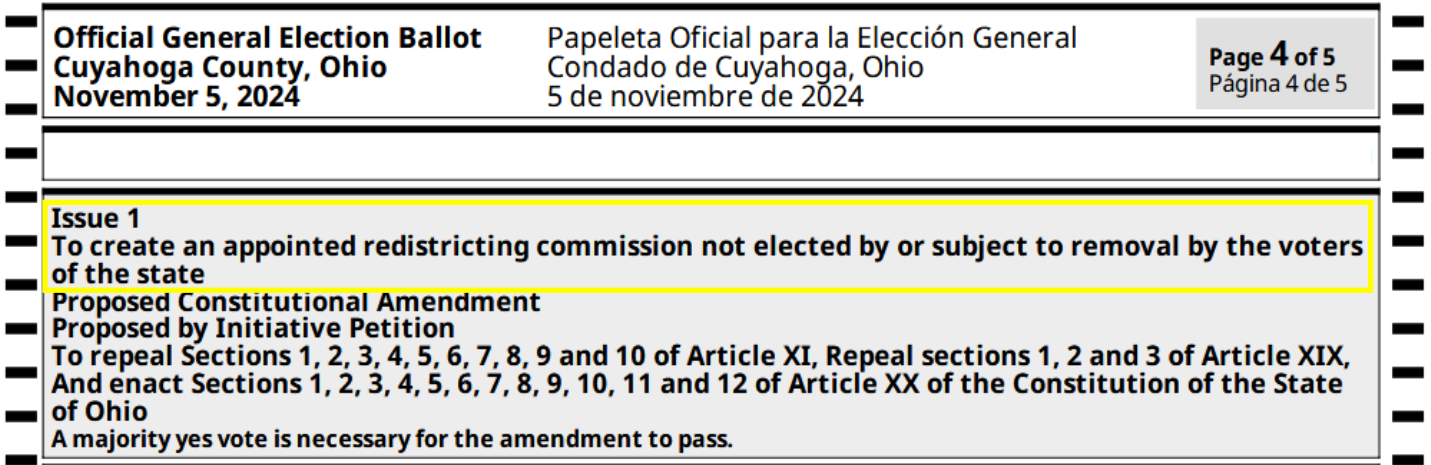


**Cuyahoga County**  
SOLID WASTE DISTRICT



# Ohio Issue 1 on November 5, 2024 Ballot

Ohio Issue 1 is the ballot initiative meant to address gerrymandering or the redistricting process in the State of Ohio. Below is a copy of the ballot language that you can expect to see as you cast your vote in the November 5, 2024 election. Regardless of your position on Issue 1, it is important to understand the impact of your vote. We hope this information is helpful.



## VOTE NO ON ISSUE 1 TO KEEP THE STATUS QUO

- If Issue 1 does not pass, Ohio would keep its current system in which the Ohio Redistricting Commission is made up of seven seats. Two seats go to Republican lawmakers and two seats to Democrat lawmakers in the Statehouse. The three remaining seats include the sitting Governor, Secretary of State and Auditor.

## VOTE YES ON ISSUE 1 TO CREATE A NEW CITIZEN REDISTRICTING PANEL

- Passing Issue 1 would establish a 15-member Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission, made up of Republican, Democratic and Independent citizens. It would ban current or former politicians, political party officials, lobbyists and large political donors from sitting on the commission. The new commission would be charged with ensuring each district has a reasonably equal population and that communities of interest are kept together.



Similar messaging on both sides of Issue 1 may be causing confusion among voters.