



CITY OF CUYAHOGA FALLS

DON WALTERS, MAYOR



An artist's rendering of the Front Street redevelopment project.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PLAN

COMMUNITY REPORT & CITIZEN UPDATE

May 2016



CUYAHOGA FALLS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

- 2** • Residential Sanitation Customer Spring Cleanup Begins
• Natatorium Summer Pass Sale Begins
- 3** • Mayor's First Tuesday
• Adult Ballet Sessions Begin This Week @Quirk
- 5** • Falls Travel Club @Quirk, 1 pm
- 6** • Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
• Mom Prom @Quirk, 7 pm
- 7** • Girls Slo-pitch Softball Registration @Quirk, 10 am - 1 pm
• Mom Prom @Quirk, 7 pm
• Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 9** • Residential Sanitation Customer Spring Cleanup Continues
• Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
• Bellydancing Session Begins @Quirk, 7 pm
- 10** • Summer Youth Employment Opportunities Job Fair @ Natatorium, 4 - 7 pm
- 11** • Girls Slo-pitch Softball Registration @Quirk, 6 - 8 pm
- 13-15** • Antic Theatre Show: Almost Maine @Quirk
- 15** • Sunday Funday Dance @Quirk, 5 pm
- 16** • Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 18** • Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony @City Hall, 10 am
• Jewelry Making Class @Quirk, 6 pm
- 20-22** • Antic Theatre Show: Almost Maine @Quirk
- 20** • Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
- 21** • Great American River Day Cleanup @WW Park, 10 am
• Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 23** • Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 27** • IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
• Ballroom Nights @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 28** • Water Works Family Aquatic Center Opening Day
• Wading Pools Open
- 30** • City Offices Closed
• Refuse & Recycle Collection Delayed One Day This Week
- 31** • Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm

JUNE

- 1** • Summer Fire Hydrant Flushing Begins This Month
- 2** • Adult Ballet Session Begins @Quirk
• Falls Travel Club @Quirk, 1 pm
• Ballroom Dance Session Begins @Quirk, 6:30 pm
• Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 3** • Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
• IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
- 4** • Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 6** • Playground & Tot Time Programs Begin
• Safety Town Program Next Two Weeks @Natatorium
• Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
• Community Band Concert @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 7** • Mayor's First Tuesday
- 8** • 10 O'clock Health Talk @Natatorium, 10 am
- 10** • Riverfront Irish Festival @FRS, 5 - 11:15 pm
- 11** • Riverfront Irish Festival @FRS, 12 - 11:15 pm
- 12** • Riverfront Irish Festival @FRS, 12 - 7 pm
• Sunday Funday Dance @Quirk, 5 pm
• Food Truck Frenzy & Concert Series @Keyser, 6 pm
- 13** • Youth Tennis Lessons Begin
• Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
• Bellydancing Session Begins @Quirk, 7 pm
• Community Band Concert @Linden, 7:30 pm
- 15** • Natatorium Summer Pass Sale Ends
- 16** • Akron Pops Orchestra Concert @Lions, 7:30 pm
• Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 17** • Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
• IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
- 18** • Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
• Summit County Fatherhood Initiative Community Meeting @SC Educational Service Center, 10 am
- 20** • Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
• Community Band Concert @Newberry, 7:30 pm
- 23** • Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 24** • Senior Adult Casino Day @Quirk, 12:30 pm
• Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
• IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
• Ballroom Nights @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 27** • Community Band Concert @Oak, 7:30 pm
• Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 30** • Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk

SUMMER YOUTH JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Summer jobs for youth, ages 16 - 24, are available to qualifying Cuyahoga Falls residents. Call (330) 374-9477 or visit summitomj.org/SYE to learn more.

Note: FRS = Falls River Square
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JULY

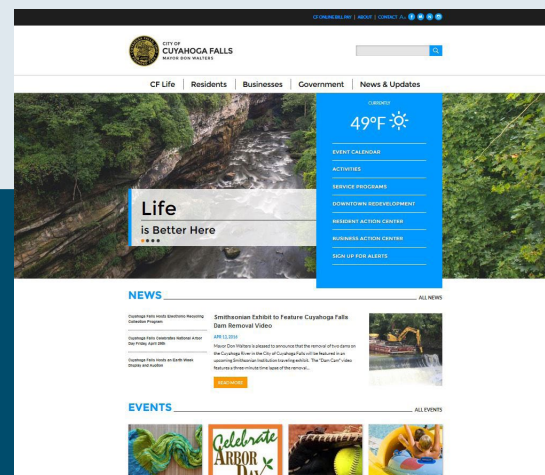
- 1**
 - Fire Hydrant Flushing Continues
 - Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
- 2**
 - Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 4**
 - Independence Day, City Offices Closed
 - Refuse & Recycle Collections Delayed One Day This Week
- 5**
 - Mayor's First Tuesday
 - Adult Ballet Sessions Begin This Week @Quirk
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 7**
 - Adult Ballet Session Begins @Quirk
 - Falls Travel Club @Quirk, 1 pm
 - Goldfish Catch @Wading Pools, 6 pm
 - Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 8**
 - Touch-a-Truck @Quirk, 11 am - 1 pm
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
- 10**
 - Food Truck Frenzy & Concert Series @Keyser, 6 pm
- 11**
 - Youth Tennis Lessons Begin
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
 - Community Band Concert @Keyser, 7:30 pm
- 14**
 - Ballroom Dance Session Begins @Quirk, 6:30 pm
- 15**
 - Senior Adult Bingo @ Quirk 1 pm
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - Festa Italiana @FRS, 5 - 11:15 pm
- 16**
 - Festa Italiana @FRS, 12 - 11:15 pm
 - Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 17**
 - Festa Italiana @FRS, 11 am - 9 pm
- 18**
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
 - Community Band Concert @Lions, 7:30 pm
- 21**
 - All Kids Carnival @Bolich, 3 - 8 pm
 - Akron Pops Orchestra Concert @Oak, 7:30 pm
 - Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 22**
 - Summertime Fun Card Party @Quirk, 12 pm
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
 - Ballroom Nights @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 23**
 - Stop Bullying! Fundraising Festival & Walk @FRS
- 25**
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
 - Community Band Concert @Valley Vista, 7:30 pm
- 28**
 - Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 29**
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm

AUGUST

- 1**
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
 - Community Band Concert @WW Peninsula Shelter, 7:30 pm
- 2**
 - Mayor's First Tuesday
 - Adult Ballet Sessions Begin This Week @Quirk
- 4**
 - Falls Travel Club @Quirk, 1 pm
 - Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 5**
 - Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
 - Antic Theatre Summer Show @Quirk, 8 pm
- 6**
 - Improv @Quirk, 7:30 pm
 - Antic Theatre Summer Show @Quirk, 8 pm
- 8**
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 10**
 - 10 O'clock Health Talk @Natatorium, 10 am
 - Smart Driver Class @Quirk, 12 - 4 pm
- 11**
 - Flicks on the Falls @FRS, Dusk
- 12**
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
 - Antic Theatre Summer Show @Quirk, 8 pm
- 13**
 - Antic Theatre Summer Show @Quirk, 8 pm
- 14**
 - Food Truck Frenzy & Concert Series @Keyser, 6 pm
- 15**
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 16**
 - Water Works Family Aquatic Center Closing Day
- 19**
 - Senior Adult Bingo @Quirk, 1 pm
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
 - Antic Theatre Summer Show @Quirk, 8 pm
- 20**
 - Antic Theatre Summer Show @Quirk, 8 pm
- 22**
 - Quirk Fall/Winter Class Registration Begins
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm
- 26**
 - Farmers' Market in the Falls @Quirk, 3 - 6 pm
 - IROK Riverfront Concert Series @FRS, 5 pm
 - CF Better Block @FRS, 6 - 11 pm
 - Ballroom Nights @Quirk, 7:30 pm
- 27**
 - CF Better Block @FRS, 10 am - 3 pm
- 29**
 - Riverfront Cruise In @FRS, 5 pm

CHECK OUT OUR REDESIGNED WEBSITE AT CITYOFCF.COM!

Visit cityofcf.com/calendar to view a full list of the exciting programs and events the city has to offer.



A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DON WALTERS

Feedback from numerous public meetings has revealed a broad consensus among citizens, businesses, and professional planning experts:

The revitalization of Downtown Cuyahoga Falls is long overdue, and now is the time to start breathing new life into this vital core of our community.

A thriving downtown area will serve as a catalyst for economic development, bringing critical new jobs to town, attracting legions of additional customers for local businesses, expanding opportunities for downtown living, and providing an abundance of fresh entertainment and shopping options for Cuyahoga Falls families.

The redevelopment of the Front Street pedestrian mall will kick-off this exciting transformation for the heart of our community. By opening up Front Street to limited vehicular traffic, we will be reshaping this key corridor into a bustling, safe, and appealing environment for modern-day consumers, while also enhancing the venue for the many festivals, concerts, and events we already enjoy. South Front Street is already open to vehicles and is exploding with vibrancy, and we must continue to build on that momentum.

Although the project will take years to complete, planning is already well underway. Please see the feature story for more details and stay tuned for updates as we enter the dawn of a thrilling new era for our city's center.

Respectfully,



CONTACT INFORMATION:

cityofcf.com

City Hall: (330) 971-8000

City Council: (330) 971-8190

info@cityofcf.com



CHAMBER CELEBRATES 90 YEARS IN CUYAHOGA FALLS

Congratulations to the Cuyahoga Falls Chamber of Commerce on celebrating 90 years!

In 1926, a small committee was appointed to help foster the development of commerce in Cuyahoga Falls. Across nine decades, the chamber has expanded its reach and effectiveness, partnering with local organizations, small businesses, and City Hall to make our community stronger.

Chamber CEO Laura Petrella notes, "We work closely with your business to develop continuity of community and prosperity like no other chamber you have ever been a part of."

Now bolstered by 300 supportive business members, the chamber continues to further its mission with vigor by creating networks, developing tomorrow's leaders, and helping to market our city. The Chamber is helping to ensure that business is booming in Cuyahoga Falls for another 90 years. Learn more at cfchamber.com.



SPOTLIGHT: APPLAUDING 56-YEAR PROSPECT MOLD EMPLOYEE BILL NULL

Bill Null joined Prospect Mold in 1960 under the founding leadership of William Wright and spent the next 56 years manufacturing parts for the automotive, aerospace, and construction fields. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Null served as a mentor to his co-workers, earning him the respect of both his peers and employer.

Bruce Wright, son of William and retired owner of Prospect Mold, recalls, "Bill Null is a beacon of hard work and dedication." Bill is a lifelong resident of Cuyahoga Falls, and with his wife, Joyce, raised two children, Tommy and Susan. He is proud of his grandson, Ben, and loves to spend time at the Natatorium, running, and riding his bike.

"This is an outstanding achievement that Bill and his family can be proud of," applauded Mayor Walters, continuing, "we are fortunate to have such remarkable businesses and residents in our city."

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION



PLANS FOR FRONT STREET REDEVELOPMENT TAKE SHAPE

Citizens, Businesses, & Planning Experts Conclude: Redevelopment is Essential

Since the announcement by Mayor Don Walters that the planning phase would commence for revitalization efforts in our city's downtown area, the collaborative public planning process has confirmed that major change is needed to ensure an emerging business district on the riverfront.

Input from public meetings and open planning sessions has cemented that citizens, current and prospective downtown businesses, and outside experts recognize the same reality: the redevelopment of Front Street is essential to downtown renewal and the long-term health of our community.

The Pedestrian Mall Concept is Not Viable for Businesses

The pedestrian mall concept is neither providing a sustainable atmosphere for robust commercial activity, nor living up to its potential value for both businesses and citizens.

The decision was made approximately 40 years ago to close it off to traffic. A national trend toward pedestrian malls was in vogue at the time, but of the 200 cities that blocked off traffic in downtown districts during the height of the movement, roughly 90% of the efforts have failed. Cuyahoga Falls' own experiment has left the city with an underutilized riverfront.

Expert market analysis confirms that by opening up Front Street to limited vehicular traffic, we will reshape our city's center, offer a mix of modern

uses, and present a pleasing landscape which is accommodating for automobiles, pedestrians, and bicycles alike.

Riverfront Revitalization Aides Job Growth & Economic Development

Unlocking the dormant potential within our historic downtown area will help open the door to job creation opportunities that benefit Cuyahoga Falls.

Roughly, 85,000 cars pass by our pedestrian mall every day on Route 8. The Front Street redevelopment will capitalize on this prime riverfront location, with 215,000 square feet of space for retail, restaurants, and more.

Ultimately, the rejuvenation of our city core can serve as an engine for economic development and job growth that promotes stability for the area.

Public / Private Partnerships Work to Make this Project a Financial Winner

The city is laying the groundwork to turn our collective vision for downtown into a reality by forging effective partnerships between the public sector and private investors.

The city will utilize a broad range of development tools to forge these alliances, and has begun the process of seeking all available grants to assist with funding.

By working to secure funding sources and opportunities for private investment, the city is

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maximizing every possible opportunity to create a financial advantage for Cuyahoga Falls with the intent to increase income tax revenues from new jobs that can be reinvested in our neighborhoods.



Upgraded Accommodations for Festivals

The city is working with the festival committees to create solutions for successful events throughout the construction period of this vibrant riverfront development.

The new development will better meet event and festival needs while the pavilion, stage, and interactive water fountain will remain in place for continued public enjoyment.

Residents to Benefit from Housing, Dining, Shopping, & Entertainment Options

While many details remain to be worked out, residents can expect to benefit from exciting downtown living options, new shopping and dining choices, and improved entertainment and cultural amenities.

Plans are underway to renovate the historic Falls Theater into a mixed-use space with a restaurant, microbrewery, retail, and apartments. Plans also continue for the development a boutique hotel.

The city, residents, and businesses are coming together to host Better Block, a community event set to demonstrate what an open Front Street can be. The city invites you to attend Better Block on August 26 and 27. Learn more at fallsbetterblock.com.

For more details or to provide input that helps shape this exciting riverfront revitalization, please visit cityofcf.com.

WELLNESS 411

By Johanna Tanno, PTA, CWC, INHC, Wellness Coordinator, Western Reserve Hospital

Doctor's Order: Eating Healthy When Dining Out

If you've ever been on a diet or tried to watch what you eat, you know just how hard eating healthy can be when dining out. So, how can you be sure that what you're ordering is healthy?

In Cuyahoga Falls and the surrounding area, the answer can be found in the form of a Doctor's Order logo right on the menu. It's a simple idea: Our physicians and nutritionists meet with the restaurant owner or chef, choose or develop a delicious item that is also good for your heart, then place our brand next to that item on the menu. We're also launching our own line of Doctor's Order products at the hospital, beginning with a delicious Super Food Protein Bar that is available now in the cafeteria.

Now featured at more than 25 locations, the Doctor's Order entrees have become quite popular. Look for the Doctor's Order at any of the following restaurants: Aladdin's Eatery, Beef O'Brady's, the Blue Door Café and Bakery, Burntwood Tavern, Chick-fil-A, Craft Beer Bar, Hudson's Restaurant & Catering, Leonardo's Pizza, Metropolis Popcorn, Moe's Restaurant, The Office Bistro & Lounge, Papa Joe's, PIZZAFIRE, Planet Sub, Sarah's Vineyard, The Tavern of Stow, Village Gardens, Wing Warehouse and Wise Guys Lounge & Grill. You can also learn more about the program on our website, WesternReserveHospital.org.

Johanna

