

TODAY'S family

June/July 2020

Lake & Geauga

FREE!

The Holden Arboretum

Now open to
the public!

2020
Dream Car
Lake County
YMCA

Leadership
Lake County
Announces
scholarship
winners

Virtual arts
education

Camp Curiosity

Great Lakes
Science Center

Torchlight
Youth
Mentoring
Alliance



Mentor Farmers Market to open as scheduled on June 26

The amended Ohio Department of Health director's stay-at-home order signed on April 2, 2020, identified farmers markets, along with farm and produce stands, as essential businesses and as such may open when following required guidelines.

The Mentor Farmers Market will open as scheduled on Friday, June 26 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Garfield Park, 7967 Mentor Avenue.

"We are happy to be able to support our local farmers and to offer this service to Mentor residents," says Kenn Kaminski, director of Mentor Parks and Recreation. "The Mentor Farmers Market offers an opportunity for residents to purchase fresh-picked fruits and vegetables along with farm related items like honey, baked goods, flowers, and teas."

To ensure the safety of shoppers, vendors and city staff, modifications to the weekly farmers market will include:

- Designated six-foot distances between people
- Vendor stands spaced six feet apart



- Hand sanitizer stations
- Separate operating hours for seniors and at-risk individuals
- Requirement for vendors, city staff and volunteers to wear cloth face coverings as recommended by CDC guidelines
- Only whole, uncut produce and prepackaged items will be sold. No sampling of any food will be permitted.

The first hour (2:00–3:00 pm) will be designated for senior citizens and at-risk individuals only. All other shoppers are asked to please arrive after 3:00 pm to help protect our most vulnerable citizens.

For more information about the Mentor Farmers Market or to inquire about becoming a vendor, please visit www.mentorfarmersmarket.com or call Wildwood Cultural Center at (440) 974-5735.



Lake, Geauga & Cuyahoga Counties

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Crossroads Health offers walk-in assessments for mental health and recovery

Crossroads Health is offering face-to-face, walk-in assessments at their 9220 Mentor Avenue office in Mentor. Walk-in assessments are available Monday-Friday, 8 am-2 pm for adults seeking help related to their mental health or recovery. Clients are encouraged to please call ahead for availability at (440) 354-9924.

Crossroads Health continues to provide recovery and mental health services to everyone in the community—no matter where they are, and now offers:

- In partnership with Lake County ADAMHS Board, a coronavirus hotline for anyone struggling with COVID-related stress, anxiety, or uncertainty: Call (440) 754-3340, Monday-Friday, 8 am-8 pm.
- Virtual support groups via phone or Zoom video. These groups last one hour and you can access

at <https://crossroadshealth.zoom.us/j/6044743547> or by phone at 888-788-0099. Meeting ID: 604-474-3547.

Everyone's health and well-being is Crossroads Health's primary concern. Chief clinical officer of adult services, Shayna L. Jackson, states: "In these times of uncertainty, individuals may be struggling with their thoughts and feelings. Crossroads Health is here to help. Individuals can walk in for an assessment or be connected via telehealth. We want our community to know that they are not alone. We are here for you."

For questions, call (440) 255-1700 or (440) 354-9924. To learn more about Crossroads Health's services and updates, visit the website at crossroadshealth.org.

Follow Crossroads Health on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram @CrossroadsHealthOhio, and on Twitter @Crossroads_Ohio.

Partnership has never been so important

Cardinal Credit Union has served the banking needs of northeast Ohioans for more than 67 years. While the coronavirus epidemic has impacted every facet of our daily lives, the health and financial security of our employees, members, their families, and the communities we serve, remains our top priority.

The ways retail banking behavior has changed since March is significant. Cardinal responded early to the challenges in surprising ways including: hiring additional customer service representatives to handle increased call center volume, offering paycheck protection relief, providing small business loans, enhancing electronic banking security associated with remote and digital channels, and creating an online appointment setting tool enabling employees to work safely, and interact with customers efficiently.

We immediately assembled a cross-disciplinary team to evaluate consumer needs, and to put the following temporary hardship assistance programs in place:

- **Payment reduction** – Payment reduction for up to six months on auto, recreational vehicles or

unsecured loans.

- **Payment extension agreement** – Deferring loan payments for a time period and adding them to the end of the loan.
- **Home equity line of credit** – skip-a-payment assistance.
- **Mortgage forbearance** – Forbearance in mortgage loan payment.
- **VISA** – skip-a-payment option handled by our partner PSCU directly by calling: 1-866-820-5849 or a payment reduction handled personally by our Cardinal staff.

We're here to help. We would like to speak with you regarding the recently implemented measures to help minimize financial disruptions facing your family. Cardinal has more than 20 certified financial counselors available to offer guidance and discuss potential solutions.

You may reach us directly by emailing: creditsolutions@cardinalcu.com.

While our world is rapidly changing, our principle tenets remain constant: to protect your assets, provide seamless access to your money, and secure your financial future.

Summer fun at Rabbit Run!

If you are looking for a fine arts experience this summer, Rabbit Run Community Arts Association (RRCAA) truly has something for everyone! Best of all, our programming is free of charge to everyone because of Share The Arts Super Summer!



Thanks to our community partners Dworken & Bernstein, Co., LPA, and Lighthouse Advisers as well as an anonymous donor gift, we are able to provide instruction through the summer without cost to our campers and students.

In our themed youth art camps, campers ages 7-16 get elbow deep in paint and other mediums as they create original two- and three-dimensional works of art. Wizard Camp is June 22 through June 26, and Fairy Camp is June 29 through July 3.

Pop Star Camp, July 6 through July 10, gets youth ages 5-10 up and moving as they learn to sing and dance like their favorite pop star.

Explorer's Theater Camp, for youth ages 8-12, is for those who are new to theater and are looking for a great introduction to the world of drama. Just for Juniors Camp, for children

ages four through seven, introduces young children to the world of theater through song, dance and lots of imagination. Both camps run are June 15 through June 19.

RRCAA offers a complete array of dance classes for all ages including ballet tap, jazz, creative movement, modern dance and Zumba.

Music Play, running June 22 through July 27 is an interactive introduction to music for toddlers and their caregiver.

Want to learn to play a musical instrument? RRCAA offers private music lessons for piano, guitar, bass, brass, woodwinds, stringed instruments and voice.

All programming this summer is virtual. To register or for more information, call RRCAA at (440) 428-5913 or visit rabbitrunonline.org.

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An old-school summer

The pandemic may force kids and parents to experience a summer from yesteryear

By Stacy Turner

When I was young, summer seemed to stretch on for months and months. Maybe it's because organized activities were limited, so the majority of summer stretched out before us just waiting to be discovered. Of course, it wasn't all fun and games — there were chores we hated, like cleaning and weeding, and countless poison ivy rashes from the evil plant we could never erase from our suburban yard. There were countless bug bites and bee stings, or the fat lip I got while playing ball. Or the time one sibling learned the hard way not to stand up in a canoe.

But mostly, summers in our neighborhood full of kids meant roller skating, riding bikes, picking berries, or simply lying in the grass to watch cloud shapes pass overhead. When we could convince an adult to supervise, we made countless trips to the beach across the street from our houses. On rainy days, we made Shrinky Dinks, knotted macramé, or wove God's eyes using two sticks wrapped with colorful yarn. Every so often we'd have ice cream -- a real treat for our family of eight -- but regular summer days meant freezer pops or ice-cold Kool-Aid.

On particularly hot afternoons when we were

tired of playing cards, couldn't find a banker who didn't cheat in Monopoly, were too sticky for Twister and too bored for Sorry, we'd sprawl out on the cool floor of our shaded back porch to complain about how bored we were while taking turns nagging mom to take us swimming.

This was before central air was a thing, at least in our home, and one of the best ways to feel a breeze was on the backyard swing set, with legs pumping and hair blowing wildly. If you were lucky, you'd enjoy a cool evening breeze, courtesy of a box fan in a screened window or door. Or spend a dog day waiting listlessly for the oscillating fan to shoot a brief breeze back your way. We'd entertain ourselves by speaking through the fan, the spinning blades transforming our high-pitched voices to something low and robotic.

But once refreshed and renewed by the cool evening air, we'd head out at night to catch fireflies in glass jars, and keep them with holes punched through the lids, like living nightlights. We'd play hide and seek with our neighborhood gang, each trying to make it undetected to home base on the porch without being spotted by whoever was "it". Or we'd camp out in the back yard, laughing and telling spooky stories, staying up most of the night.



Backyard fireworks helped us celebrate the 4th of July, and we only ever had to walk a few houses away to gather enough players for a game of kick-ball or spud.

We were so bored one day that we made up a game using a three-inch thick catalog, selecting everything we'd need to furnish a house, adding up the cost down to the penny using a high-tech solar calculator. This was before Crate and Barrel, and long before online shopping, when JCPenney and Sears were the only catalogs around. On days like those, summer seemed to stretch on forever. When it finally did end, we were mostly ready to go back when the school year began. Childhood summers were spent mostly at home with little fanfare and lots of time to dream.

In 2020, it seems like we'll have the chance to share an old-school summer of sorts with our kids, too, but with the Internet, a vast array of frozen treats, and way better craft supplies. I bet when school starts, they'll be more than happy to return, just like we were.



KEEP KIDS SAFE! Your home can make a difference

Foster homes give children safety, security and supervision.

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**Lake County
Department of Job
and Family Services**

Bicycle safety for the whole family



Cycling can be fun for the whole family. There are so many great reasons to ride your bike. It offers fun, freedom and exercise and it is good for the environment. We want kids and families to ride their bikes as much as possible. Here are a few tips so that you will be safe while you do so.

Wear a helmet

Helmets are recommended for all bike riders (that means grown-ups too!) Did you know you can cut the risk of a serious head injury by up to 85 percent by wearing a helmet? More children ages 5 to 14 are seen in emergency rooms for injuries related to biking than any other sport. Make sure that you purchase a good quality helmet that fits properly. A helmet has a life of three to five years and should be replaced after every crash or collision (even a minor one).

Teach kids the rules of the road

Remember your children are watching you ride, so you want to model good habits. Tell your kids to ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, not against it. Stay as far to the right as possible. Use appropriate hand signals and respect traffic signals, stopping at all stop signs and stop lights. Teach them to pay attention and never wear headphones when cycling. In all 50

states, people on bikes are required to follow the same laws as other drivers. Drive your bike as you would any vehicle.

Adjust your bicycle to fit

Stand over your bicycle. There should be one to two inches between you and the top tube (bar) if using a road bike and three inches if using a mountain bike. The seat should be level front to back. The handlebar height should be at the same level with the seat.

Check your equipment

Before riding, inflate tires properly and check that your brakes work. When riding at dusk, dawn or in the evening, be bright and use lights and make sure your bike has reflectors as well. It's also smart to wear clothes and accessories that have retro-reflective materials to improve biker visibility to motorists.

Contact the Corsaro Insurance Group for all your insurance needs. We represent many top carriers so we can customize an insurance policy that will fit your needs and your wallet.

Matthew Corsaro is the president and owner of the Corsaro Insurance Group in Mentor, Ohio. His company and staff have been providing insurance solutions to families and business owners for over 50 years. Mr. Corsaro has obtained the Accredited Advisor in Insurance and Certified Insurance Counselor designations. Corsaro Insurance Group represents over 20 insurance companies. As well they have expertise in all areas of auto, home and business insurance. They can be reached at (440) 946-4950.

Fairport Harbor Public Library summer festival begins June 1

The Fairport Harbor Summer Library Festival will run from June 1 to July 31. The celebration will involve the entire community and all library users. Sign up at any time.

Adults, teens, and children will earn chances at prizes for visiting the library, borrowing materials (physical or electronic), reading daily, attending programs and events (online or in person), and more! All adults, teens, and children will receive a free

book just for registering. Participants in the library challenge will also receive a new book for their home library at the end of the summer.

Register at www.fairportlibrary.com, by phone, or in person. Please call (440) 354-8191 or email fh-main@fairport.lib.oh.us if you have any questions. The library is located at 335 Vine Street in Fairport Harbor.

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Arts education going fully virtual for the summer 2020 session at The Fine Arts Association

Since 1957, The Fine Arts Association (FAA) has traditionally held their summer arts camps, classes, and private lessons at 38660 Mentor Avenue. However, due to the current pandemic, based on the state guidelines and recommendations, it was decided that all summer 2020 camps, classes, and private music lessons will take place remotely.

“We’re committed to doing everything we can to continue to facilitate your growth through the fine arts, especially at this tumultuous time. For the past many weeks, our incredible faculty have been devising remarkable plans to deliver interactive, art-filled experiences this summer” says director of education, Michael Lund Ziegler.

The remote programming will feature multiple forms of interactive growth. A quick snapshot of what summer arts education from home with FAA looks like:

- Art supplies in a box picked up at Fine Arts or delivered to your

home.

- Interactive classes in dance and theatre facilitated via video conferencing software like Zoom.
- Culminating camp performances done via Zoom or on stage to an empty theatre.
- Live, one-on-one video music lessons.
- HIPAA compliant virtual platform for art and music therapy services.

“Summer is such a great time to be creative and explore. While we know that experiencing the arts through an online platform may not feel the same as attending a great summer camp in person,” shared CEO Paul Holm, “we fully believe that the programs we have designed will provide enriching, impactful opportunities for students of all ages.”

Summer 2020 registrations are open now. You can learn more and register by visiting them online at www.fineartsassociation.org or by calling (440) 951-7500 x100.



The Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library 2020 Summer Reading Program is going virtual!

From June 15 to August 1, readers of all ages will be able to track their reading online with a virtual reading program called Beanstack!

Patrons can create an account for all readers online through the library’s Beanstack site or through the Beanstack app.

We will still offer our traditional paper reading trackers for those that prefer it.

Children ages 0–12 earn digital raffle tickets and digital badges for every seven days they read or are read to.

Every child that completes at least 28 days of reading will earn a free

book!

Raffle prizes include passes to the African Wildlife Safari Adventure Park, tickets to the Greater Cleveland Aquarium, Kings Island, free books, and more!

Adult and teen readers will earn digital raffle tickets for awesome gift cards.

More information about Beanstack and additional prizes will be shared soon on social media and our website at WE247.org!

There are four convenient branches to serve your needs—in Eastlake, Willoughby, Willoughby and in Willoughby Hills.

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Leadership Lake County announces \$8,000 in college scholarship awards

Five Junior Leadership Program students from Lake County schools to receive scholarships

Leadership Lake County is pleased to announce five high school seniors participating in the Junior Leadership Program will receive a total of \$8,000 in college scholarships.

Receiving \$500 annually for four years for a total of \$2,000 each are Jess Slansky and Grace Klein of Riverside High School, and Matthew Perry of Mentor High School. Anna Cook and Riley Vilechka of Eastlake North High School will each receive \$250 scholarships annually for the next four years for a total of \$1,000 each.

Leadership Lake County received a record-high \$8,075 in scholarship donations from alumni this year. Since 2015, the organization has awarded a total of \$32,000 in scholarships to students.

Slansky has completed post-secondary courses through the College Credit Plus Program with Lakeland Community College.

She will begin her college studies this fall in a dual enrollment program through Lakeland Community College and Ursuline College to obtain her registered nurse and Bachelor of Science in nursing degrees. Slansky said the scholarship funds will help her to purchase books.

"I chose nursing as my course of study because I am very interested in the human body, learning how all the systems come together to allow function, but most importantly, I want to care for those who are sick," Slansky said.

She said her experience in the Junior Leadership Lake County

program has applied to her life in numerous ways, but especially in her 4-H career.

"As the 2019 Lake County Fair Queen, I have had the privilege to be introduced to the county commissioners and other officials of importance," Slansky said. "Leadership Lake County taught me how to be an effective communicator through personality and behavior styles. Knowing everyone has a different attitude has guided me to better my public speaking through the use of different words that can help convey my messages."

Perry has completed several College Credit Plus classes at Lakeland Community College during his junior and senior years of high school.

He plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University in the fall to pursue a degree in hospitality and tourism management.

"I believe that this course of study will help me pursue a job in the future where I am interacting with many different people and utilizing skillsets in guest relations, operations, marketing, and event management," Perry said.

Since graduating from the 2019 Junior Leadership Lake County Program, he has been able to implement many of the skills and techniques to become a better leader.

"Specifically, I have been able to use many of the 'Ten Tips to Becoming a Better Leader' and 'the Student Leadership Challenge' book in my roles as both a captain of the Mentor Cross Country team as well as the president of the National



Riley Vilechka Jess Slansky Grace Klein Anna Cook Matthew Perry

Honor Society at Mentor High School," Perry said.

Leadership Lake County board of director Ray Paganini, who chaired the organization's scholarship selection committee, said the number of applicants this year was the highest ever received.

"This was great and they were all very, very worthy of a scholarship and we had some tough decisions to make and made them based on their merit and consensus," Paganini said.

He said the committee is very happy to help as many as students as they did and he appreciates those who donate to Leadership Lake County's scholarship fund each year.

"It's very rewarding, when you read the applications and you hear the stories and some have varying circumstances that make education difficult post-high school," Paganini said. "You really feel you're doing some good and helping someone who benefits from it. You can tell they really appreciate any scholarship funding they are provided."

Leadership Lake County is a private educational nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1986 and has become a highly-respected partner in the community.

For more information about Leadership Lake County, visit them online at leadershiplakecounty.org.



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fine arts association

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Morley Library drive-through window now open

Morley Library is now offering curbside pick up at our drive-through window. Pick up is available for Morley patrons only, and is limited to Morley Library materials. Please call (440) 352-3383 to request up to six books and up to four audio-visual items (DVD, Blu-ray, audiobooks, or videogames). Patrons may have items placed at the window for pick up once per week.

Please return materials to our outdoor book drop.

Until further notice, fines will not be accruing on items, so we ask that you please limit returns to 10 items

per day. We cannot accept returns at the drive-thru window. Please hold on to board games and hotspots until further notice, also.

For your convenience, you may pick up your items during the following hours:

Monday – 9:15 am to 4:45 pm
 Tuesday – 11:15 am to 6:45 pm
 Wednesday – 9:15 am to 4:45 pm
 Thursday – 11:15 am to 6:45 pm
 Friday – 9:15 am to 4:45 pm
 Saturday – 10:15 am to 1:45 pm

Updates will be shared on the Library's website at www.morleylibrary.org, Facebook, and Twitter.

Morley Library summer reading program begins July 6

We couldn't have possibly imagined this would be our story in 2020, so we're rewriting this chapter! Introducing Morley Library Summer Reading 2.0 ~ Reimagine Your Story. We're adapting our traditional summer reading programs for kids, teens, and adults for easy online

registration and participation tracking, virtual programs, e-gift card prizes, and so much more!

Summer reading will run for four weeks from July 6 through July 31. For more information, visit <https://www.morleylibrary.org/programs/summer-reading-programs>.

MPL offering drive-thru pickup/online story time/summer reading

Mentor Public Library has begun the gradual process of reopening after closing its branches to slow the transmission of COVID-19. The library now offers drive-thru and curbside pickup, online story times and crafts, telephone reference help, and renewed delivery to homebound patrons.

Specifically, MPL offers drive-thru service at its Main Branch and curbside pickup of library items from its Lake and Headlands branches. Patrons need to place items on hold before they can be picked up. People can call the library to put items on hold or they can place holds online at www.mentorpl.org. (Patrons need their library card number and PIN to sign in.)

Curbside and drive-thru pickup is available during Mentor Public Library's regular hours on Monday through Sunday until 15 minutes before the branch closes. Additionally, the library asks that all items be returned in its dropoff boxes.

By the way, Mentor Public Library and its staff are still sharing programs, crafts, story times, and author interviews online.

Almost every day, Mentor Public Library shares original programming on its website (www.mentorpl.org), Facebook page (www.facebook.com/mentorpubliclibrary) and You-

Tube channel (www.youtube.com/mentorpubliclib).

For example:

- Families can enjoy online story times with MPL staff on its Facebook page and YouTube channel every day from Monday through Friday until the library's buildings reopen. (The story times are also archived there so you can watch them at your convenience.)
- At noon every Tuesday on MPL's website and social media, Josh Sebrasky shares different crafts that kids can make at home as part of the library's new series, Artpocalypse.
- The library is still hosting special programs and book club meetings online. For details, visit the library's event calendar: <https://mentorpl.libcal.com/calendar/>

Finally, kids, teens and adults can all participate in Mentor Public Library's Summer Reading Program, which runs from June 15 to July 31. The theme for summer reading is Imagine Your Story and it's all about fairy tales, folk tales and mythology. Families can enjoy themselves and possibly even win prizes by filling out the library's "Safe in your Castle" bingo card, which is stuffed with fun ideas for summer activities. Get your printable bingo card at www.mentorpl.org.

SUMMER OF ARTS 2020 *online*

For more info and to register:

- ★ (440) 338-3171
- ★ FairmountCenter.org

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2

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Watch for regular posts about local businesses and organizations offering virtual, in-home and on-site activities to keep the kids (and you) busy.



The Holden Arboretum now open to the public

Get close to nature with hundreds of acres of beautiful gardens and miles of woodland trails

The Holden Arboretum in Kirtland officially reopened to the public on May 28.

“We are excited to reopen our gardens and walking and hiking trails,” said Jill Koski, president and CEO of Holden Forests and Gardens. “We are all in need of rejuvenation and a respite, and there’s no better and safer way to do this than by surrounding yourself with the beauty and wonder of nature.”

The decision to reopen is being guided by Governor Mike DeWine and Dr. Amy Acton and Responsible Restart Ohio. As we welcome back visitors to the Arboretum, we will continue to adhere to the public health guidelines provided by federal, state, and local authorities.

New advance purchase, timed-entry tickets are required to visit the Holden Arboretum. To purchase a timed ticket to the Arboretum, visit holdenarb.org. Adult tickets are \$15 and children three and up \$10. Kids under 3 are free. Arboretum hours



are Tuesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Arboretum closes at 5 p.m. Tickets are on sale now.

Ohio public health guidelines

As we welcome the public to the arboretum grounds, we will continue to adhere to the public health guidelines provided by federal, state, and local authorities.

The following public health measures outlined by the state of Ohio Department of Public Health are in place for the foreseeable future for the safety and comfort of our members and staff.

- If you’d like to visit with others, please limit your guests to people you live with. The maximum group size when visiting the grounds is 10 people.
- Visitors are encouraged to wear a mask or facial covering when visiting the grounds.
- Please comply with the state mandated six-foot physical distancing rule.

The Arboretum needs visitors to help us to remain open. Please follow the Ohio Department of Public Health guidelines so that we can continue to provide access to the arboretum grounds for exercise, relaxation, and enjoyment of nature.

Please check holdenarb.org and cbgarden.org regularly as visitation guidelines may change.

United Way of Lake County’s fundraiser raises a record \$66,246 Despite cancellation of event

Despite the cancellation of their 17th Annual Celebrity Server Fundraiser, United Way of Lake County (UWLC) raised a record \$66,246 from their “non” event. The fundraiser was originally scheduled to be held March 12, 2020 but was postponed a day prior to this due to the pandemic. It was rescheduled for May 20, 2020, only to be canceled mid-April.

“When it became clear that our postponed event date was not going to happen, our campaign chair, Vanessa Tey Iosue, president of Burges & Burges Strategists, sprung into action leading a switch to an online raffle,” said UWLC director of marketing and communications Tami Lewis. “We also agreed that monies raised would benefit our Lake County Relief Fund, and our celebrity servers jumped in at the chance to help, transforming into ‘community servers’ and promoting the raffle and baskets each donated,” said Lewis.

The original event was expected to raise an estimated \$50,000, but the “non” event far surpassed this. The \$66,246 raised is an increase of 60% over the record \$40,000 raised at UWLC’s fundraiser last year.

A full 100% of proceeds raised from their Lake County Relief Fund are being put back into the community in support of critical needs that have been brought on by the coronavirus. UWLC is providing funds on a rolling basis, and details on how monies have been used thus far can be found on UWLC’s website at uwlc.org/lake-county-relief-fund.

Due to great need within the community, UWLC is continuing its efforts to raise funds for the Lake County Relief Fund. Donations can be made in one of three ways: online at uwlc.org/give; by texting LCRelief to 44321; or by mailing a check payable to United Way of Lake County to United Way of Lake County, Attn: Lake County Relief, 9285 Progress Pkwy, Mentor, OH 44060.

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Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance

Programs help local kids

By Deanna Adams

A year ago, the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization changed names and added more programs to their roster. Their mission has always been to foster the development of youth and help them reach their greatest potential as responsible, adaptable and caring adults. The agency expanded to meet the ever-growing needs within the community, which helps more than 500 children in Ashtabula, Lake and Geauga counties.

Many are familiar with Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance for its traditional one-on-one mentoring, but other programs include the Foster Care Transition Program, After-School program, and E-CITY (Entrepreneurship: Connecting, Inspiring and Teaching Youth).

Foster Care Transition Program

This is a mentoring opportunity in which adults volunteer every other week for two hours to provide consistency, guidance and hope to young people living in Lake County and Geauga County group foster homes. The initiative is to help youth who are approaching their transition to independence, or those who have recently aged out of foster care. Volunteers help the teens understand and build on life skills, or sometimes simply spend time with them. Activities include learning about science, math, and engineering, as well as exploring their creative side with a number of various projects.

As foster care program manager, Lauren Welch oversees the services, working with the volunteers and teens living in group homes in Painesville, Chardon and Bedford. “We try to bring in people who can relate to the special situations of foster kids and touch on their individual needs,” says Welch, who

has been with Torchlight for a year after working with children’s services prior. All Torchlight directors offer training, and the mentors span the gamut. “We have teachers, social workers, even lawyers and an insurance agent as mentors. These are people who want to make a difference, and in this program, they like the fact they can mentor in groups so they can touch more lives at a time.”

And even in the midst of a pandemic, these dedicated directors and volunteers found ways to stay connected.

“Normally, we have group meetings on Saturdays at Lakeland Community College, or sometimes off grounds,” Welch says. “Currently, with the pandemic, we are staying connected through Zoom, which is working out okay, although everyone is anxious to see each other in person again.

“And even now, we are actively seeking more mentors and continuing to reach out to more foster youth to grow the program.”

After-School Program

This popular program, now in its 14th year, is perfect for high school and college students. “This is especially good for those students who are thinking of a career along the lines of psychology or teaching. Or teens who don’t have a sibling and like children.”

Elementary students enjoy activities that are fun, but also educational, with the mentors interacting with them in their school environment. They provide one-on-one tutoring, work on crafts or coloring or games.

That’s how it usually goes.

“During the pandemic, the real challenge for me has been creating and converting activities we normally do and produce a virtual-friendly curriculum,” says coordinator Diane Marjenin. “We need to



Students in the E-City Program

give them options of things they can do at home. We’ve come up with things like the scientific study of bird-watching, and did something for Earth Day since it was the 50th anniversary.”

Marjenin has been with the Torchlight agency for 14 years, and with the after-school program the past five. She heads the program in three area schools: Jefferson Elementary in Eastlake, the Jordak Elementary in Middlefield, and the Superior Intermediate School in Ashtabula. She emphasizes that children do not have contact outside the program, that she is the vehicle to interact among them. “The kids really benefit from the special attention because their mentors listen to them,” Marjenin says. “The older students do get community service hours, but most clearly don’t do it for that reason. I’m always impressed by the dedication of these volunteers, and their willingness to stick to it throughout the school year.”

She encourages anyone interested in next year’s program to contact her now and fill out an application. “There’s a process involved before a mentor can begin. We need references, time to interview and train. So we encourage those interested to get on board now.”

E-CITY Program

The E-CITY (Entrepreneurship: Connecting, Inspiring, Teaching, Youth) program is a collaborative 70-hour, semester-long class that teaches entrepreneurial, business and life skills to high school students. It

is currently available to students at Harvey High School. The students work on a weekly basis for a semester, developing a product of their own inspiration.

“I liken it to the Shark Tank show,” says Tia Lawrence, who is Torchlight’s director of programs, and oversees E-CITY. “The students must come up with a business product, design it, and put together a marketing strategy along with a 60-second commercial.”

She adds that mentors provide guidance, feedback, and support to the students, and this year, one student, Jaylen Fourqurean, became one of 20 finalists for the national Video Pitch Competition. “He invented Jay’s Tray’s, which are removable trays you can stick in your car’s cup holder for long trips,” Lawrence explains.

However, again, the pandemic put a halt to this event, previously scheduled for April 1. The status of this competition is still uncertain.

“The best part of this program,” Lawrence adds, “is that, along with college credit, the students learn how to give presentations that can benefit them throughout their careers.

During the pandemic, Torchlight remains open to accepting mentors for all these programs. “There truly is a need for more mentors throughout the Lake/Geauga/Ashtabula areas,” says Torchlight community relations coordinator, Donna Bares.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming involved, see, www.torchlightyouthmentoring.org, or call (440) 352-2526.



Thank you!

Health Care Workers

Lake Erie College and The Fine Arts Association partner to enhance arts education

Lake Erie College and The Fine Arts Association have joined in partnership to increase engagement in arts education, expand opportunities for students to participate in music ensemble opportunities, bolster students in college readiness through the arts and strengthen each organization's shared commitment to the community.

"Lake Erie College is delighted to partner with The Fine Arts Association as we build our music ensembles. This partnership enhances Lake Erie College and The Fine Arts Association's respective strong traditions of attracting academically and musically gifted students. The Fine Arts Association's reputation for exceptional educational opportunities for students to learn, create, and perform mirrors the College's mission to help students engage in self-discovery, develop strong personal attributes, learn creative problem-solving skills and balance their personal and professional goals with the needs of others. We also believe this partnership is the perfect opportunity for us to collaborate to draw in members of the greater Lake County community who desire to explore a range of music, performance and educational opportunities," said Lake Erie College's dean of the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and associate professor of English, Jennifer Swartz-Levine, Ph.D.

Both organizations share a similar mission of providing opportunities to grow arts education along with the desire to strengthen pathways for K-16 students.

"The timing of the partnership is noteworthy. Due to COVID-19, resources for many organizations and businesses are dwindling while at the same time, the need for creative outlets has increased and means of artistic expression are more important than ever," said Michael Lund Ziegler, director of education, The Fine Arts Association.

As part of the collaboration, Lund Ziegler will assume the role of director of instrumental studies at Lake Erie College and lead the College's wind ensemble and instrumental mu-

sic activities beginning this August while working to establish long-term plans to grow the program.

According to Lake Erie College's senior vice president for Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness, Dr. Bryan DePoy, the partnership will drive possible college readiness activities as well as strategic expansion of College Credit Plus (CCP) opportunities to help reduce the costs of a college education.

DePoy also states that this partnership integrates perfectly with Lake Erie College's aim to build mutually beneficial partnerships with key organizations within the community.

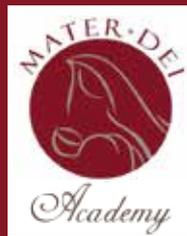
"We are building a stronger foundation for everything that we do at The Fine Arts Association, and this partnership aligns with our strategic planning process to expand our programming deeper within our community. I have confidence in Michael that he will not only contribute exceptional leadership in each role, but through the blending of roles, help us create synergies which will benefit students through greater access and quality of experience" said Paul Holm, chief executive officer, The Fine Arts Association.

About Lake Erie College

Lake Erie College, founded in 1856, provides an excellent, inclusive, and highly personalized education grounded in the liberal arts tradition. They offer 35 undergraduate majors and master's programs in business administration, education and physician assistant studies. Students compete in 19 NCAA Division II varsity sports and on three intercollegiate equestrian teams.

About The Fine Arts Association

The Fine Arts Association (FAA), founded in 1957, is a gathering place for individuals to learn, create, enjoy and appreciate the arts. From ballet and portrait painting classes to piano lessons and theatre classes, FAA educates thousands of students in the arts each year. In addition to instruction in these disciplines, FAA also presents a full season of live performances and concerts at reasonable prices.



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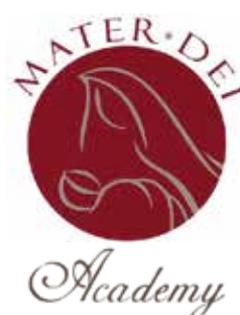
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Lake County YMCA offers a chance to win a new car

Although no Dream House this year you can win a Dream Car!

Due to COVID-19, the Lake County YMCA has canceled their largest fundraiser of the year. “The safety of our staff, volunteers, members and donors come first. Although we would have loved to open a Dream House in 2020, it’s in the best interest of all we come back in 2021 with our best Dream House yet,” says Kelly Penzenik, director of marketing and communications for the Lake County YMCA. “We have a dedicated team working hard to take every precaution during this pandemic. We are determined more than ever to support our community and are extremely grateful for our partners and donors who have supported our efforts through this time.”

Classic Chevrolet in Mentor along with the Chevy Network of Dealers have been longtime friends of the Lake County YMCA and for 2020 this is no different. The group has donated a 2020 Chevy Blazer to the Lake County YMCA to help raise critical dollars needed to support the community.

The 2020 Chevy Blazer is valued at \$39,000. The YMCA is hopeful to raise \$250,000 through online ticket sales. All proceeds will go right back into supporting Lake County’s most vulnerable residents. “The Lake County YMCA is one of the area’s largest nonprofits working to better our community and we value the support of Classic Chevy and the Chevy Network of Dealers during this time of crisis,” said YMCA CEO, Dick Bennett. “These two organizations have supported us for many years and truly understand



the impact we make together in the communities we serve. We are so appreciative.

Ticket sales will be predominantly online to encourage social distancing. Tickets for the 2020 Dream Car went on sale May 15, 2020. You will be able to purchase your tickets online and take a virtual tour of the car at lakecountnymca.org/dreamcar. Tickets can be purchased for as low as \$5.00. Tickets will be sold through July 5, 2020.

Important dates:

May 15, 2020 – Tickets go on sale
July 5, 2020 – Last day of ticket sales
July 8, 2020 – Semi-finalists drawing
July 12, 2020 – Finalist determined

Ticket packages are as follows:

- 1 Ticket = \$10
 - 3 Tickets = \$25
 - 7 Tickets = \$50
 - 15 Tickets = \$100
 - 40 Tickets = \$200
- (Super Deal – only \$5 each)

“The Y is so much more than fitness centers and gyms, pools and locker rooms; we are a cause! Dedicated to strengthening (and protecting) the spirits, minds, and bodies of our friends and communities,” said Bennett.

CSU to hold online summer film camp

Cleveland State University is happy to present its Odyssey Online Summer Film Camp. This is a four-week interactive program from July 13–August 7 dedicated to students ages 13–18 who have an interest in the art of filmmaking.

Students who attend this program can look forward to Zoom sessions held three times a week, which will allow them to learn, discuss and

workshop the fundamentals of filmmaking. Students can also look forward to special guest speakers, film screenings, and a myriad of activities planned by CSU film student camp counselors.

For more information and where to register visit www.campusce.net/csuohio/course/EventDetail.aspx?C=1591.



Looking for summer arts fun for your child and yourself?

Fairmount Center for the Arts is offering FREE online programs!

Fairmount Center for the Arts, a nonprofit community center for the arts, is excited to announce its summer programs. With generous support from the Figgie Foundation, Fairmount's All Access Summer of Arts is providing FREE online classes in all the arts – dance, music, theatre, visual arts and fitness – for all ages! Classes include ballet, jazz, hip hop, painting and drawing, theatre, yoga, group ukulele, Zumba and more! Classes begin the week of June 15 and will continue for six weeks. Though classes are free of charge, participants do need to register.

Additionally, Fairmount has created camp kits to provide camp fun via art kits and interactive online sessions. Camp experiences with kits will be offered for ages 3 to 15 years. Camps are thematic and include such fun themes as "Recyclemania," the "Big Build," and "Nature Arts."

Finally, Fairmount's ArtsyoU program is offering online private music instruction and other one-on-one

customized arts experiences. Music instruction is available for most instruments including piano, violin, guitar, flute, ukulele and voice.

Fairmount's innovative ArtsyoU program is also connecting professional artists with learners who are located anywhere in the world! You can dance with a professional ballerina in your living room, learn the art of photography, or paint the picture you always wanted under the guidance of an award-winning artist. Perfect for you or as a gift!

For nearly 50 years, Fairmount Center for the Arts has provided a space for individual expression and the opportunity for all to explore the arts through classes, workshops, community performances and cultural programs. Fairmount is proud to be recognized by Cleveland Magazine as "Best of the East for Dance/Theatre Instruction."

To register or for more information, visit www.fairmountcenter.org, call (440) 338-3171 or email info@fairmountcenter.org.



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Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park summer beach operations



Photo: Jeff Taipale

Summer beach operations and services are impacted by COVID-19 public health guidelines. We regret that we cannot offer paddle rentals, concessions or lifeguarding services at this time but we are working on how to make those services available.

Parking is limited to designated spots in the main paved lot; do not park in grass, along driveways or in the street approaching the park.

If the parking lot is full, please visit another park or come back another time.

Bring your own water; and note that drinking fountains and showers may be turned off.

Please help us keep the park clean; kindly dispose of trash properly.

Please help us keep the park open by practicing six-foot physical distancing from all people that do not reside with you in your household.

Restrooms open; swimming is permitted at your own risk.

Lake Metroparks will increase services at the beach if/when it can be done safely, visit goto.lakemetroparks.com/fairport-harbor-beach.

For general Lake Metroparks COVID-19 operation updates, visit goto.lakemetroparks.com/covid-19.

Beach rules and regulations:

- Smoking is prohibited on the sand, the boardwalk and in the concession area.
 - No alcohol is permitted.
 - Please put your litter in containers provided.
 - Please do not bring glass containers to the beach.
 - Umbrellas and small pop-up canopies (10' x 10') permitted behind lifeguard stands on sand and grass.
 - Fires must be contained within grills provided.
 - Supervise your children, both in the water and on land.
 - Swim only in the designated swim area.
 - For your safety, flotation devices are not permitted in the swim area.
 - Dogs must be on a leash and are allowed only on the paved parking lot. Due to recent shoreline erosion, access to the lake for dogs is closed for the safety of both pets and their owners.
 - Clean up pet waste immediately and properly.
- Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park is open 6 am to 11 pm year-round.



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Welcome to Camp Curiosity for summer 2020

The STEM HQ staff at Great Lakes Science Center is ready to welcome everyone back to Camp Curiosity this summer! New this year, for our K–8 campers we are offering both @Home and @GLSC camp experiences to best fit the needs of your family. Both options have been designed with your child's health and safety in mind. We have an individualized adventure available for your child that is also convenient for you, whether you're working from home, or back to commuting.

Every one of the previously scheduled summer day camps for kids in grades K–8 will have a corresponding home version.

Each camper will need access to an Internet-connected device (phone, tablet, or laptop), but the @Home camp is a two-way experience. The Science Center will not be parking your camper in front of a screen for an entire week. There will be breakout rooms so campers can collaborate safely and effectively, and

counselors will be online throughout the day.

Virtual campers will receive their own set of materials that is specifically designed for their camp. Materials can be picked up at the Science Center and loaded into your car by a staff member. Once camp ends, the nonconsumable materials provided can be dropped back off at the Science Center, or can be shipped to and from your house.

Summer camps on-site @GLSC will be adapted as well, with reduced class sizes for appropriate social distancing, daily sanitizing procedures and health screenings. And, all campers (both virtual and on site) will receive a washable Camp Curiosity face mask.

Both the @Home and @GLSC camp options begin June 1. Please email campsandclasses@glsc.org with any questions or for more information on how the Science Center is working to make your child's camp experience special and safe!

Just For Laughs!

A few jokes that we hope will bring a smile to your face.

"Mom, does God go to the bathroom?" a son asked. The mom replied, "No son, why?" The son said, "Well every morning Dad goes to the bathroom and pounds on the door and shouts, 'Oh God! Are you still in there?!?!'"

Teacher: "If you had one dollar and you asked your father for another, how many dollars would you have?"

Vincent: "One dollar."

Teacher: "You don't know your arithmetic."

Vincent: "You don't know my father."

Mother: "Are you talking back to me?!"

Son: "Well yeah, that's kinda how communication works."

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