

TODAY'S **family**

November 2021

Lake & Geauga

FREE!

Wildwood Cultural Center

Hosts classes
and events
year round

Adoption

Open your heart and your
home to a child in need

Santa Paws

Holiday photos with
Santa and your pet

Helping Lake County children

Local resident starts
community programs





Indoor Sports and Fun at LNSP East!

LIL KICKERS

Winter Session 1: Nov 30 – Feb 5

8 weeks • \$128 per child

Choose one day per week to attend consistently

- Innovative child development program based on soccer.
- Focus is on kids from 18 months–6 yrs.
- Classes run 50 minutes per session, once a week.

Contact: Sarah Bals, Sarah@LNSportspark.com



SOCCER 101

Winter Session 1: Oct 30 – Dec 18

(Not too late to join — prorated prices available!)

8 weeks • \$120 per child

Contact Ali Kazemini, director,
at Kaz@LNSportspark.com.

Boys and girls ages 6–11



LIL SLUGGERS

Winter Session 1: Dec 4 – Feb 5

- Introduction to baseball for kids 2–5 years old.
- 8-week program for \$120 • Saturdays 9 am or 10 am
- Nationally franchised child development program;
- Low student/instructor ratio (usually 4–6 kids per instructor).

For registration contact: EStrauss@LNSportsPark.com



NEW! JUNIOR HOOPERS ACADEMY

Junior Hoopers Academy is a NEW program for ages 2 through 5. These classes introduce toddlers to the game of basketball with fun activities that allow them to run, play as a group, shoot and dribble a basketball. They gain basic basketball skills while building fundamentals such as balance and coordination. Classes include activities that are focused on a child development with fun games incorporating parachutes, bubbles, noodles, cones, lots of basic dribbling and more.

Winter Session: Begins mid-January

Ages: 2–3 (with parents) and 4–5 (without parents)

For info/registration contact: Sarah@LNSportsPark.com



BATTING CAGES

M–F 3:30–9 pm; Sat/Sun 9 am–9 pm

Social distancing is required. Masks must be worn while entering and exiting. It is required to bring your own helmet and bat to use our cages.



38630 Jet Center Dr., Willoughby
North of Rt. 2 off Lost Nation Road

440-602-4000

www.LNSportsPark.com

TODAY'S family

Lake, Geauga & Cuyahoga Counties

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Helping the children of Lake County

Local resident's passion for community involvement is inspiring

By Donna L. Robinson

Michael Zuren has been a dedicated corporate trainer, senior loan officer, and currently Lake County's treasurer, but his passion for community involvement and helping Lake County children in need is what really drives him.

"I started community events and outreach for families and children when I was elected councilman in Eastlake in January 2016. We started the 'Best Christmas Ever' program where we bring Santa and a Christmas celebration to a local family. We usually have 25 to 35 residents go with us Christmas morning to surprise the family. The event is magical. Every person involved walks away filled with the spirit of the Christmas season," says Zuren.

When COVID-19 shut down schools in March 2020, hundreds of local children faced not having a daily nutritious lunch. Zuren immediately went into action and along with Willow Praise Church in Eastlake and the Eastlake Women's Club started the Free Kids Lunch Program where local families could drive thru and receive free lunches for the children.

"We were very concerned that the children on free and reduced lunches would not have anything

to eat because the schools shut down so abruptly. We partnered with over 80 local restaurants and businesses and to date have handed out over 23,100 lunches to children in Eastlake, Painesville and Willowick," he says.

During the summer months of both 2020 and 2021, the program partnered with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank where Zuren was the site supervisor and handled all reporting and food orders.

In January 2021, Zuren started the Lake County Special Needs Birthday Club so that children with special needs and/or medical issues could have a special birthday celebration.

"We have celebrated about 35 free birthdays so far and we have even held numerous birthday parades for veterans," adds Zuren. "Donations collected are used to help to pay for balloons, presents, cakes, etc. It's a small budget since most items are donated by residents and through restaurant fundraisers."

A memory Zuren says he will never forget was at a local event. "In Painesville last year we distributed about 100 pairs of tennis shoes to local children. I asked the kids their shoe sizes and most just took off their shoes to verify the size, but when three of the children took off their shoes they had huge holes in the bottom. It immediately



Mike Zuren, alongside Anne Falkenberg, volunteering for the free lunch program.

hit me that children in Lake County were walking to school when it was raining and snowing, and when they got to school they had wet socks from the holes in their shoes. I really felt bad about that."

Zuren learned that roughly 30 percent of Lake County students do not wear underwear or socks to school because their parents choose to save money and not buy these essentials. So, during

See ZUREN on page 6

Two great events, one grand venue!



THANKSGIVING

November 25, 2021 • 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Bring the entire family!



NEW YEAR'S EVE

December 31, 2021 • 6:30 pm - 1:00 am
21 years or older

WINGATE
BY WYNDHAM

LAMALFA

lamalfa.com

Open your heart and your home to a child in need



Become a foster parent!

Your home can make a difference!

Foster homes give children safety, security and supervision. You can help protect children from abuse or neglect by providing a caring environment for them until they can return to their parents or be adopted by a foster parent.

Contact the LCDJFS to learn more about becoming a foster parent.

Call the Foster Care line at:

(440) 350-4218

or email:

Eugene.Tetrick@jfs.ohio.gov

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



Adoption: An alternate path to parenthood

By Nina Polien Light

The perception of adoptive parents may be of a loving wife and husband who are unable to have children of their own. The couple go to a private adoption agency, shell out tens of thousands of dollars and, after what could be a years-long waiting period, bring home the newborn son or daughter they've always dreamed about raising.

Working with a private adoption agency with the goal of adopting an infant is an admirable approach to offering a home to a child in need. But some folks—married or not—find the process to be too costly and drawn out. Fortunately, there are other avenues for adoption, especially if prospective parents are open to providing forever homes for youngsters with special needs, older children, sibling groups or children of different races or ethnicities.

November is National Adoption Month, a 30-day platform for raising awareness and bringing attention to the need for permanent families for minors in foster care. It is an initiative of the Children's Bureau, which is part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

"National Adoption Month is a celebration of those members in our community who have taken a chance on children and made them a member of their family," says Eugene Tetrick, supervisor of the Substitute Care Unit (foster care/adoption) for the Lake County Department of Jobs and Family Services. "These people had the courage and determination to 'change their normal' by bringing a child in need into their home."

Beverly Torres, senior manager for permanency support (adoption) at the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services, says many children are in county custody because of abuse, neglect, a parent's mental health issues and other reasons. "When they can't be safely reunified with their caregivers and when parental rights are terminated, we owe these kids a family. November highlights foster care, and especially adoptive care, for our families and children."

In honor of National Adoption Month, Today's Family answers

questions about adopting youngsters currently in the foster care system.

What is the difference between fostering and adopting?

Foster parents are state-certified caregivers, who provide a temporary home for children while social service agencies attempt to reunify youngsters with their families. If reunification with birth parents does not happen, the public agency holding temporary custody of the child receives permanent custody of them, matches them with an adoptive family (most often in the dually licensed foster/adoptive home they are currently in) and works with the adoptive family to finalize an adoption through probate court.

Who is eligible to adopt children in foster care in Ohio?

Prospective adoptive parents must be at least 18 years old, have sufficient income to meet the child's basic needs and be in good physical, emotional and mental health. They may be single, married, part of a same-sex couple or the child's older sibling. If part of a couple, they must be in a stable relationship for at least one year. Education level, religion and home ownership are not factors.

How great is the need?

Every day, children throughout Ohio enter the custody of children services. This results in 2,000 to 3,000 children at any given moment waiting to be adopted in Ohio. The need for adoptive families is great and every child deserves a forever family.

According to Torres, Cuyahoga County has permanent custody of 800 children. The county has potential adoptive parents for about half (slightly more than 400) of them; the remainder are still in need of forever families.

Tetrick adds, "From 2017–2019 we finalized adoptions for 37 children. With those adoptions, our foster homes close as their families are now 'complete' when the adoption is finalized. Therefore we are continuously trying to recruit new families to replace the ones that left after they completed their families."

And the need is definitely very real as Lake County had 120 children in their custody in 2020.



Serenity (13) and Eric (8) are siblings with the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services. They are looking for their forever home. Call 216-881-5775 today to begin the process of making their lives, and yours, more fulfilled.

So many people wish to adopt. Why haven't these children found forever families?

It's important to match youngsters with families who are committed to meeting the children's specific needs for the long term. Many children in foster care deal with physical, psychological or behavioral concerns as they all have been exposed to abuse and/or neglect.

"Any time a child moves from one home to another, it's a traumatic experience," Torres explains. "Some adoptive families are looking for a specific type of child. When kids come in to our custody, they are experiencing a trauma in their life, a separation, a loss. That comes out in different ways for different children. Sometimes they've been removed from their home because of a relative's mental-health issue and they've inherited that mental-issue. The specific needs of our children dictate the kind of families we're looking for."

Placing older children, such as teenagers, can be challenging because some people prefer to adopt infants or toddlers. Keeping siblings together can also be difficult if families wish to adopt one child at a time.

What is the cost?

"Oftentimes, those who become licensed as foster and adoptive parents through the county are looking to grow their family through adoption as the costs of private adoptions are too expensive," Tetrick says. "Some costs involved in the adoption process are court costs for the

adoption and paying for updated birth certificates, which are minimal comparatively to private adoptions. Adoption of a child in the custody of Lake County costs less than \$200."

Cuyahoga County's Torres says a required fire inspection may run \$30–\$100. If the compulsory home study visit reveals the need for making home improvements to meet Ohio mandates, there may be costs associated with those upgrades.

By comparison, voluntary adoption of a newborn at a nonprofit organization in Ohio typically costs \$10,000–\$25,000, according to the Franklin County Law Library website.

I want to adopt a child currently in foster care. Now what?

Start with contacting the county agency. Cuyahoga residents may call 216-881-5775 or visit <https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/adoptable-kids>, those in Lake can dial 440-350-4218 and those in Geauga can call 440-285-9141.

According to Torres, prospective adoptive parents are required to attend pre-service training to become licensed as a foster or adoptive parent. Once licensed, they will complete an application and undergo a home study, which includes a fire inspection. Following approval, the county agency will work to match the adult and child. After a match is made, an adoption assessor and the child's social worker will present the prospective adoptive parent with the

See **ADOPTION** on page 6



Holiday Events For All Ages!



Home for the Holidays Group Day December 2

Bring your group to the most spectacular display of holiday trees and decorations in Lake County. Enjoy the sound of our "Magical Musical Machines." Find one-of-a-kind gifts and stocking stuffers from vendors & shop our Mistletoe Market. Have an early lunch in the Candy Cane Café. Call for times. **Groups of 7 or more - \$18 per person**

Home for the Holidays December 2-22

If you haven't decorated and love Christmas trees, you will be enamored with our displays. Enjoy the magical wonders of the holidays with a tour of the beautifully decorated Lake County History Center. **\$7 per person**

Breakfast or Lunch with Santa December 5, 11, 12, 18, 19

Have breakfast or lunch in your PJs with Santa in Heritage Hall. Visit the land of misfit toys in our event barn and make an ornament to take home!!!

Breakfast 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes & fresh fruit.

Lunch 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

Lemon chicken, redskin potatoes, mac & cheese, chicken fingers, pizza & green salad.

\$16 adults • \$13 for 4-12 yrs • \$4 for 3 & under

Limited seating! Book early & bring your camera!!

Holiday Tea December 11

Take time from your hectic holiday schedule to relax, enjoy friends and family and a delightful treat of tea and sandwiches, fruit and delicious sweets.

Special Presentation: "Twelve Days of Christmas"

\$18 member • \$20 nonmember • \$12.50 for 4-12yrs

New Years at Noon December 31

Elvis will be in the building! Come and bring in the new year at noon with heavy appetizers and entertainment with one of Ohio's leading Elvis impersonators.

Menu: Trio of canapes, bacon-wrapped chestnuts, Asian chicken skewers, artichoke & spinach bruschetta, bourbon meatballs & pizza. **\$35 member • \$40 nonmember**

Registration begins October 12, 2021 for members and October 26, 2021 for nonmembers.

Call 440-639-2945 or sign up on Eventbrite.com

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines, all programs and special events are subject to change or cancellation.

Lake County History Center

415 Riverside Drive, Painesville Township

(440) 639-2945

www.LakeHistory.org



Christmas Connection Returns to Cleveland's I-X Center Nov. 19-21

A northeast Ohio holiday tradition returns this year with the Christmas Connection taking place November 19-21 at Cleveland's I-X Center.



Visitors to the smaller-sized 2021 limited edition show will experience the magic of Christmas while finding great gift ideas from more than 250 exhibitors.

Favorite holiday songs will be performed on the stage while families stroll the aisles of exhibitors featuring everything from crafts, specialty foods and soaps to ornaments, wood creations, jewelry and more.

Features and attractions include:

- The spirit of Christmas will envelop guests as they walk down the decorated entrance way to the tallest Santa in Cleveland - 30 feet - waiting to greet them!
- The holiday spirit comes to life with live entertainment on the stage where guests can relax and kick up their feet and sing along to festive entertainment.
- Visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus and the Elves in SantaLand. Kids can also bring their letters to Santa to mail in the Santa Mailbox.
- Looking for a great personalized gift? Guests can paint their own

masterpiece with Vanessa Zoellner, artist and owner of Artfully Mine. (Extra fee applies.) Projects will be ready to paint and can be taken home that day!

- Kids can shop in the Sugar Plum Shoppe featuring over 3,000 pre-wrapped gifts under \$8.00 each, perfect for pint-sized wallets.
- Free gift wrapping. Donations to Prayers from Maria Foundation appreciated.

For the latest show info visit ClevelandChristmasConnection.com.

2021 Show Dates & Hours:

Friday, Nov. 19 • 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 20 • 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 21 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ticket Information:

- \$12 box office (adult admission)
- \$11 online at ClevelandChristmasConnection.com (adult)
- FREE for children 12 and under

Theme Day: Sunday, Nov. 21

- Heroes Days - Active and retired members of the military, as well as first responders, receive free admission to the show with valid ID.

Zuren from page 3

two of the free kids lunch distributions, packages of socks and underwear were handed out to all the children.

Zuren says he and his dedicated group of volunteers and partners have added other fun activities or supplied other necessities during the free lunch distributions. "We distribute Easter baskets just before Easter, backpacks just before school starts (partnership with Salvation Army), presents for kids during Christmas in July and in December (with Century 21 Asa Cox Homes), and Super Hero Day with Heroes United who are a group of about 12 adults that dress up like super

heroes."

Recently, Zuren was honored to receive the 2021 Community Engagement Award from the Ohio Ministry Association for recognition for the Free Kids Lunch Program, Lake County Special Needs Birthday Club and for the distribution of backpacks, coats, shoes and underwear.

Zuren commented, "Community support has been amazing, but we still need volunteers and donations. Most people want to help with our programs for the children, but don't know how to get involved. They can contact me through Facebook or call me at 440-251-5381."

Adoption from page 5

youngster's medical and educational records, photographs and other pertinent information. The adult and child will then have replacement visits in the adoptive home and the child's current home. After

the child moves in with the adult, a judge or magistrate can finalize the adoption. Classes, support groups and referrals to community agencies will then be available to the new family.



Step into the past at Wildwood

Historic site hosts events and classes all year long

By Ante Logarusic

The Wildwood Cultural Center is Mentor's finest cultural gem. The 34-acre estate, now owned and operated by the city, was once the summer home of noted Cleveland industrialist, John G. Oliver. The four-story, 25-room mansion was constructed in 1908 in the English Tudor Revival style of which Oliver had become fond of following his many trips to Europe. Its local ties run even deeper, having been designed and built by Abram Garfield, the youngest son of President James A. Garfield.

For over a century, the property has served as a haven for those looking to escape the hustle and bustle of the city.

This enchanting property hosted generations of family and friends until the city purchased the estate in 1980 in order to preserve the home and property for use by the community. Over the years, a number of improvements have been made to enhance accessibility and functionality while strictly retaining the historic character of the structure.

One step across the threshold

transports you to the turn of the 20th century. The home is replete with all of the details of the times including ornate woodwork, period fixtures, original leaded glass, and other fine features.

But the beauty doesn't stop there. The grounds are filled with stately trees and beautiful gardens and offer four seasons of splendor along the nearly two miles of beautifully winding paths that make their way throughout the estate offering the afternoon adventurer a tranquil journey that is (unbelievably) just around the corner from busy Mentor Avenue.

This idyllic backdrop serves as the focal point of the city's cultural arts programming with a variety of classes, camps, clubs, as well as public and private events, held throughout the year. In fact, an estimated 20,000 people visit Wildwood annually.

The popular Wildwood Holiday Craft Show on December 5, 2021 features unique holiday items for sale including ornaments, decorations, stained glass, jewelry, bird feeders, upcycled items, wood signs, greenery, teas, honey, baked goods,

soaps, trail mix, gourmet apples, custom knitted items, pet items, and more. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.00 - those 12 and under are free.

Throughout December, you can enjoy a guided historic tour of the festively decorated Manor House during a Wildwood Holiday Open House. Be sure to check out Miniature Santa's Workshop on the 2nd floor and the O-scale train display provided by the Community Arts Commission & Ohio Toy Train Society in the lower-level craft room. Guests can also enjoy hot chocolate, freshly baked cookies, and more. Tours are free but registration is required.

Santa's Wild Workshop gives kids 2-12 the opportunity to make a toy in Santa's workshop, decorate cookies with Mrs. Claus, play games, and visit with Old Saint Nick!

Each spring Wildwood's garden patio comes alive with the sound of music with the Music at the Manor free concert series featuring a wide variety of musical offerings.

Each June, the Wildwood Fine Arts & Wine Festival offers art lovers a great selection of original

works from local artisans as well as live music, great food, and fine wine from local and regional wineries.

In the fall, the popular Mysteries of the Manor Trail Haunted Hayride is a family-friendly program that leads guests down a just-scary-enough haunted trail. Kids of all ages can also enjoy a variety of games and activities.

There is always something to see or do at Wildwood with hundreds of classes offered each year ranging from cooking to falconry. Whatever your interest, you are sure to find something new to enjoy. And, the kids will love the wealth of activities that summer day camps have to offer.

Wildwood is home to a number of clubs as well including the Garden Club, Quilters Guild, and Basketry Guild.

If you're planning a wedding or other event, Wildwood is the perfect backdrop for your special day. Rentals are available year-round.

The Wildwood Cultural Center is located at 7645 Little Mountain Road. For additional information, visit cityofmentor.com or call (440) 974-5735.

**THE CRAFT FAIR
BEFORE CHRISTMAS!**

HOSTED BY THAT CRAFTY MAMA

40+ AMAZING VENDORS! ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE AFTER PROM CLASS OF 2023!



SCAN ME FOR THE EVENT PAGE!



JOIN US ON DECEMBER 4TH, 2021
EASTLAKE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL
34041 STEVENS BLVD, EASTLAKE, OH 44095
10 AM - 5 PM
FREE ADMISSION - MASKS REQUIRED

SANTA IS COMING! ONLY \$5 PER FAMILY FOR TAKE-YOUR-OWN-PHOTOS!

Shop Local!



HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2021

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Fine Arts Association
38660 Mentor Ave. Willoughby, Ohio 44094
fineartsassociation.org

space for your
lifestyle



New construction and/or remodels

- Kitchens
- Additions
- Decks
- In-Law Suites
- Bathrooms
- Garages
- Basements
- Tiny Homes

Home Offices | She Sheds | Art Studios | Music Rooms | In-Law Cottages



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LivingSpaceConstruction.net

The Craft Fair Before Christmas

The Craft Fair Before Christmas – hosted by That Crafty Mama – will be held at the new Eastlake North High School, 34041 Stevens Blvd, Eastlake. The fair will take place on Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Class of 2023 after prom.

After a hiatus from such an event last year, they're excited to have a free local craft fair for all ages! Over 40 vendors will be showcasing their hard work and talents at this show! They have everything from bakers, metal crafters, hot chocolate bomb creators – you name it! Even a crafter who makes Christmas trees! All of these vendors are excited to

see everyone and provide you with a wonderful holiday shopping experience! Concessions will also be available during the event.

The big man himself will be joining in for the day! He's making a special trip so your kiddos can greet him with their best smile! For only \$5 per family – you can take all your own photos of your kids with Santa! Be sure to mark your calendars! This event is going to be amazing!

If you have any questions, please contact That Crafty Mama at thatcraftymama05@gmail.com

Masks will be required for this event regardless of vaccination status, per school policy.



Santa Paws is coming to town

Holiday photos with Santa and your pet!

Join Lake Humane Society for their annual Santa Paws fundraiser and get an adorable picture of your pet(s) with Santa! Attendees will go home with a great keepsake and warm heart knowing they helped give the shelter's animals the best Christmas ever with their support! Santa Paws will be held on December 5 and December 12 at Ganley Subaru East in Wickliffe.

December 5 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Winter Wonderland

For photo sessions on this date, families will be offered the opportunity to take their photo sessions WITHOUT Santa. Pets will be set up on a lovely backdrop that is winter wonderland themed for the most perfect holiday photo. There will only be 30 sessions available on December 5 and families must book in advance. Each session will be offered in five-minute increments and the rooms will be sanitized and cleaned between sessions. Santa will

not be present on the 5th.

December 12 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Sessions with Santa

For photo sessions on this date, families will be offered the opportunity to take their photo sessions WITH Santa. Jolly old St. Nicholas will make for the perfect addition to your pet's holiday photo. There will only be 30 sessions available on December 12 and families must book in advance. Each session will be offered in five-minute increments and the rooms will be sanitized and cleaned between sessions.

Sessions are \$30 each and include: two electronic photos, holiday frame, treats and a festive pet stocking full of goodies (while supplies last).

Printed photos may be purchased day of for an additional \$5 each.

Booking opens November 1 and all attendees must book in advance as walk-ins will not be accepted.

For more information, please visit lakehumane.org.

Can women have it all? Yes we can!

By Pam Kurt

“Women, you can have it all — a loving man, devoted husband, loving children, a fabulous career.” ~Jada Pinkett Smith

As women we have an innate ability and desire to fix, solve, and nurture. We are also pretty good at it! But how do we blend those God-given gifts with work/life? How do we really say “no” when we need to do so? Is work/life balance a myth? Can you have it all?

In short, I say yes you can!

I believe it comes down to a few things to get work/life balance.

First — are you doing what you love? Where is your passion? If you are doing what you love, money follows and it doesn't feel like work. Take the time to find your passion. Is your current career something you can't wait to get out of bed in the morning and start working on? Or is it something that keeps you up at night worrying about the next step? If it's the latter, I would advise it's not your passion and it's not your purpose ... you need to find it!



Second — are you flexible? This doesn't mean get rid of boundaries, schedules and time frames but life happens. You must understand things can't always happen on your own time. This is a hard one for me and I believe that everything happens for a reason. But what is flexibility? It is literally the ability to move in motion without pain. If you are bending or trying to be flexible and it causes you “pain,” it's no longer being flexible and has breached a boundary. Just say “no!”

Third — identify your weaknesses. The one thing to keep in mind is that a “positive” trait can be a weakness for business and life. For me, I have learned over the years my biggest weakness is my belief in others. I always try to see the good in others. But I have invested more than that person will do for themselves. That's

the mistake. Don't waste resources (money and time) including emotion on people that don't want to move forward or be the best they can be. If we want it more for them, but they don't, it won't happen.

Fourth — It is your season? Is it time? Where are you in your life? What is your passion, desire, goals? This changes. Chapters in peoples' lives change. It's important to know your passion and career may change. There is a time and place for each season. Be open and find yours.

Fifth — self-care. Most days it may be hard to do. But what is self care? It's not the same for one as for another. Self care may be taking the time to spend with friends or family for another person it's a day at the spa! Find a few different ways that make you feel refreshed, relaxed, and content.

Once you are able to evaluate and put these steps in place; you will be well on your way to having it all!

Currently accepting new private coaching clients.

Contact her at www.BestVersionYou.com or YourCoachPam.com or call 440-721 8664 for a consultation.

Words of Wisdom

**Use your time wisely.
Lost time is never found again.**
~Benjamin Franklin

**In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life—
IT GOES ON.**
~Robert Frost

Don't take life too seriously — you will never get out alive.
~Elbert Hubbard

Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring and integrity they think of you.
~H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Please excuse the mess. Our children are making memories.
~Unknown

We offer virtual appointments!



KURT LAW LLC

Fairness • Justice • Solutions

Pamela D. Kurt, Esq

KURT LAW LLC

www.kurtlaw.com

Email: pkurt@kurtlaw.com



As an attorney and business owner, Pamela Kurt has found a new passion — to support and to empower women to be the best they can!

Ms. Kurt has also started a private professional life coaching practice: BE THE BEST YOU! This is an opportunity to empower women to be the best version of themselves.

Dream, Believe and Achieve is her signature coaching program. Her coaching program has provided her clients a powerful self discovery.

She offers:

- Private coaching sessions
- Online courses • Group classes
- E-books • Daily inspirations
- Inspirational mementos

She is currently accepting new private coaching clients. Please contact her at www.BestVersionYou.com or YourCoachPam.com or call 440-721 8664 for a consultation to begin becoming the **BEST YOU.**

Lake County Office
4770 Beidler Road
Willoughby
(T) 440-516-1010

Ashtabula Office
26 S. Chestnut Street
Jefferson
(T) 440-536-4530

Geauga County Office
401 South Street
Ste. 2B-5, Chardon
(T) 440-285-7750

PAINESVILLE HOLIDAY WEEKEND!

Support local!

holiday shop & stroll
Painesville

Shop, Eat, Drink

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18
5:00-9:00 PM
MAIN STREET AREA

For the kids!

spirit of the season
Painesville

Drive Thru Santa

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19
5:00-9:00 PM
PAINESVILLE SQUARE

MORE INFO AT WWW.PAINESVILLE.COM

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Current Science: Extinction
Exhibit on display through December 5 at Cleveland Museum of Natural History

The museum's Current Science gallery is a dynamic, ever-changing space that allows on-staff curators and researchers to highlight the latest "buzz" from the science world. Exhibits offer guests a way to see their place in the natural world while establishing links between the news of the day and the Museum's research and collections. This integrated visitor experience provides opportunities for interaction and one-on-one conversations with Museum researchers and educators.

With features designed to be flexible, such as new display cases and interactive screens, Current Science operates on a six-month thematic rotation. The space will serve as an incubator for testing new concepts that resonate the most with the community. These themes and concepts speak to the Museum's

cutting-edge work in many different STEM fields, including conservation, human health and evolution, and others. Portable work stations with integrated technology allow Museum scientists to demonstrate their work while sharing the impact of their research on the modern world.

Current Theme: Extinction

Now through December 5, visitors to Current Science can explore the topic of extinction and the importance of protecting biodiversity. The normal process of species loss—known as background extinction—occurs routinely over long periods of geologic time. But sometimes extinction takes place at a higher rate for a relatively short interval. Explore past mass-extinction events as well the current biodiversity crisis.

Holiday Marketplace Event
Returns to The Fine Arts Association

The Fine Arts Association in Willoughby is hosting their annual Holiday Marketplace event on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event features art, pottery, and handmade specialties created by local artists and artisans for everyone on your gift list. Kids ages 4+ can attend the "Elves Gift Making Shop" where they make a holiday gift to take home for just \$10. General admission is free to shop at the holiday event. The cost of booth space, Elves Gift Making Shop, and Bake Sale at FAA's Holiday Marketplace will benefit the Robert Wolf Scholarship for Visual Arts at The Fine Arts Association.

Melissa Sexstella, associate director of visual arts education says, "As we approach the holidays with supply chain shortages and a world that seems more complicated every



Holiday Marketplace shoppers during the 2019 event.

day, there has never been a better time to shop local and get back to real, homemade, and handcrafted."

The Fine Arts Association is located at 38660 Mentor Avenue in Willoughby.

COVID-19 statement: The health and safety of the community is a top priority at The Fine Arts Association. Masks will be required at this event.

Morley Library and partners host Hispanic Heritage Festival

On October 9, 2021, Morley Library teamed up with the Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hispanic Health and 23 other area organizations and businesses to present a free family festival celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, which is observed from Sept. 15-Oct. 15 each year.

Over 300 people attended the event, which was held outdoors in the Lake County Job & Family Services lot adjacent to the library. Attendees visited bilingual information booths staffed by area nonprofits. Students from local colleges and high schools provided volunteer assistance with face painting, bubbles, and arts and crafts activities for families.

A taco truck and ice cream cart offered delicious dining options, while attendees saw a fashion show of traditional dress of Latin America as well as traditional dances in colorful dress.

Morley Library bilingual children's services specialist Andi Valverde-Heras said, "It was wonderful to see how the festival brought families



Danza Azteca Guadalupeana dance troupe performs at the Hispanic Heritage Festival at Morley Library.

together to experience the exciting diversity of culture and people that exists in our community. It also gave local organizations a space to share information and resources they provide in both Spanish and English. Some of our local businesses and talents were also highlighted. Tacos were eaten, bubbles were chased, crafts were made, performances were enjoyed, and a good time was had by all."

Morley Library, located at 184 Phelps St. in Painesville, serves Concord Township, Grand River, Leroy, Painesville City, and Painesville Township. For more information visit www.morleylibrary.org.

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Deepwood Foundation awards grants to Lake County residents with developmental disabilities

Deepwood Foundation awarded over \$11,000 in grants during the 3rd quarter of 2021, which will benefit more than 389 individuals who have developmental disabilities.

Grants awarded include emergency moving expenses, music therapy, iPads/communication devices for nonverbal students, food for the annual Broadmoor School Preschool Picnic, social skills training, technology, therapeutic massage therapy, and gymnastics lessons.

"We were able to help provide lunch to more than 70 students and their families at the picnic that was held with members of our community and Chardon High School students due to the generosity of Deepwood Foundation donors," said Liz Miller, early education supervisor at LCBDD/Deepwood Broadmoor School.

The Deepwood Foundation continually receives diverse requests from families in Lake County.

"This past quarter, we were able to assist a family whose rental home was sold by the owner and only given 30 days-notice to move," said Tana Habat, program administrator for Deepwood Foundation. "Deepwood Foundation secured a rental



Broadmoor student Fabrecio with Broadmoor School speech therapist Pallavi Blyer

truck and storage unit for the family while they waited for permanent housing. As of today, they are settled into their permanent residence."

Deepwood Foundation relies strictly on grants, and private and corporate donations, as it receives no tax dollars.

Deepwood Foundation will hold its annual gala on November 12, 2021. This is one of their major fundraising events, which provides a dinner and a wealth of auction baskets. Tickets available for purchase and details are located at www.deepwoodfoundation.org.

Learn more at www.lakebdd.org or at www.deepwoodfoundation.org.

Taste of the Browns to benefit Greater Cleveland Food Bank

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank is taking Taste of the Browns to the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo this year for a family-friendly event on Sunday, Nov. 14, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Zoo's Amphitheater and Australian Adventure. The reimagined annual fundraiser to fight hunger will include favorites from the traditional event, as well as fun new elements available only at the Zoo.

Families will enjoy fabulous food from local restaurants, Cleveland Browns alumni mixing and mingling with guests, and a silent auction featuring Browns memorabilia, while also experiencing small animal encounters and admission to the Zoo. Now in its 23rd year, Taste of the Browns is the major annual fundraiser for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, the region's largest hunger relief organization, raising more

than \$2.8 million over the years. The 2019 event alone raised more than \$309,000, providing over 1.2 million meals for hungry men, women and children in six local counties. Normally scheduled in September each year, Taste of the Browns was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and moved to the Zoo to create a more family-friendly event.

Tickets are \$75 each for adults and \$25 for ages 3-17. Each ticket purchase includes entrance to the Taste of the Browns, including food and beverage as well as admission to the Zoo. Children 2 and under are free. The event will be held rain or shine. Every dollar donated provides \$10 worth of food.

For more event information or to order tickets, call 216-738-2139 or visit www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/Taste.



Save 10–20% on memberships to the Greater Cleveland Aquarium

Promotion runs November 26 – December 25, 2021

PLUS! Get a chance to win the Fantastic Finn golden ticket giveaway

Imagine a holiday gift with no shopping, no shipping and no waiting. Black Friday (November 26, 2021) through Cyber Monday (November 29, 2021) the Greater Cleveland Aquarium is offering 20% off annual passes purchased online. “This holiday season, you can support a local attraction while saving some money and hassle,” says Tyler Hobel, membership coordinator. Annual passes will remain on sale online through December 25, but the discount drops to 10% after the initial weekend.

Throughout the promotion, annual pass purchases will be accompanied by a coupon redeemable for a Fantastic Finn chocolate bar. “Every membership purchase includes a milk chocolate bar, but a select few will include either a golden or a silver ticket that unlocks a special prize package,” explains Hobel. Prizes range from VIP experiences and a bonus year of membership to credit in the Coral Cove Gift Shop. “It adds a little surprise oomph, or should I say ‘oompah’ to the gift,” jokes Hobel.

The membership discounts and accompanying Fantastic Finn golden ticket giveaway is available to anyone purchasing an annual pass for themselves or as a gift, as well as to those who are extending their current annual passes or rejoining after

having lapsed as members. The cost of an Aquarium annual pass ranges from \$45 – \$130 (\$36 – \$117 during the promotion) for 1–8 guests at the individual, senior, couple, senior couple, family or grandparent levels. While the chocolate bar coupon must be redeemed by January 21, 2022, all gift passes are valid for one year from activation by the gift recipient. “If you send a gift pass to your sister in December and she doesn’t activate it until February, she can access visitation, program and discount benefits until February of the following year,” explains Hobel.

During the Aquarium’s four-day cyber sale, general admission gift ticket vouchers also can be purchased for 20% off (limit six). Gift recipients must call and redeem their general admission vouchers for a visit on a specific date and time up to two years from date of purchase. Vouchers are not active until a guest calls to redeem as a reservation.

“The Greater Cleveland Aquarium’s year-end promotion is always a terrific opportunity to save on a gift that’s big enough to wow and small enough to wrap,” says Hobel.

Visit www.GreaterClevelandAquarium.com or call 216-862-8803 for more information.



Lake County's Emergency Rental Assistance Program

FOR HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED BY COVID-19



Eligibility Criteria:

1

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2

Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; AND

3

Has a household income at or below 80% area median income.



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Memories of Thanksgiving, grandparents and childhood

By Stacy Turner

As had often happened during visits with my mother-in-law, my husband brought up the farm in rural West Virginia where his mom had been raised. His mom left the farm behind for city life in Columbus as soon as she was able. She returned each year with her entire family, however, traveling the winding roads to spend Thanksgiving in West Virginia throughout my husband's childhood. All the while, his grandparents continued to raise sheep, hogs, dairy cows, and chickens well into their golden years. And like any working farm worth it's salt, those holiday visits didn't stop the daily chores. Each morning, Grandpa rose before dawn and attempted to step over grandkids, like sleeping speed bumps scattered across the floor, on his way out to the barn for the early morning milking. Rolling over to return to sleep, my husband remembered Grandpa pass by his sleeping bag like a ghost; tall

and lean, holding his trusty oil lamp as a beacon on his his way to the barn.

While my husband was in college, his grandfather passed away. Not long after, grandma's failing health moved her to an assisted living center, and the annual Thanksgiving pilgrimages ended. The farm sat idle for years, long after Grandma's passing, since none of her children continued to farm, and only one remained in the area. The last time my husband had set eyes on the farm was when he returned for his grandmother's funeral, early in our marriage. Since that time, the house had been demolished and all that remained of the outbuildings were a ramshackle single-story stable and an old shed filled with creepy dolls and forgotten ephemera.

The beauty of those rolling hills never left him, and often during visits with his mom, they'd reminisce, and talk about the old property. At one point, one of his aunts dreamed of building an A-frame cabin there,

but those plans never materialized. Since I had never visited, my husband often talked about some day packing a tent and taking a family road trip down those winding roads, but we had never found the time.

During one visit with his mom, we didn't realize that our kids had stopped whatever they were doing in order to hear what sounded like a juicy story to their young ears. We didn't find out until we had packed up and were on the highway heading home, a captive audience to their new game of 20 questions. "What's this 'secret farm' you were talking about with grandma?," our older daughter grilled us. "Are their horses there?," they asked hopefully. "Why haven't we ever heard of this place?," they continued accusingly. "And why haven't we ever seen it?" It took much of the return trip to assure them both that the farm was the place where their grandma was born, and where her parents — their great grandparents had lived. Eventually, they were convinced it wasn't some dark family secret we'd been hiding, but the name "secret farm" firmly stuck.

A few summers ago, during what turned out to be a record heat wave, we spent a week at the secret farm, so we could all experience this historically mysterious place firsthand. We pitched our tent near an ancient oak tree on a hilltop overlooking a grassy hollow where many a sheep would graze in days gone by. We shared the place with a small herd of cows owned by a neighbor that pastures them there. Following the cow paths, we hiked all over the property that week, through woods, up and



The lamp from the "secret farm" now enjoys a spot in Stacy Turner's home.

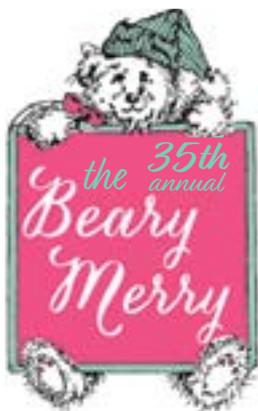
down hills, and to the small pond where, as a boy, my husband caught frogs with his cousins.

On our last night, relentless rain made us happy to pack up and head home, leaving the secret farm in the rear view mirror like my mother-in-law had done so many years before. And while it's no longer a family secret, my kids now have their own stories from the secret farm to mingle with their dad's childhood memories.

One Christmas after our visit, my mother-in-law gifted my husband with his grandpa's oil lamp that he remembered fondly from childhood visits. It hangs on our mantel, one of the few artifacts that remain from the now not-so-secret secret farm.

For past Mommy Chronicles articles, visit www.TodaysFamilyMagazine.com and type "Mommy Chronicles" in the search box.

Handmade Unique Holiday Gifts



35th Annual Beary Merry Christmas Show Handcrafted Market

Wednesday & Thursday
December 1 & 2
11 am – 9 pm

Normandy Party Center
30310 Palisades Parkway
(Off Euclid Avenue in Wickliffe)



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Painesville holiday weekend

It's the most wonderful time of the year and Painesville continues their tradition of a two day celebration to welcome in the holiday season. On Thursday, November 18 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. enjoy local holiday shopping in Downtown Painesville at the Painesville Holiday Shop & Stroll. This walk-around event features great store/restaurant specials, giveaways, special holiday guests and lots of treats. Support small and local businesses this holiday season! A complete list of participating businesses can be found at www.painesville.com.

Friday, November 19 is all about the kids because Santa comes to town! Due to COVID-19 precaution, this year's Painesville Spirit of the Season will feature a drive-thru Santa. Visit Painesville Square from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and enjoy holiday lights around the Square with Santa at the end giving each child a special goodie bag. This is a free event and open to the community! Painesville Recreation will also be hosting letters to Santa and Santa calls throughout the holiday season. Go to www.painesville.com/recreation for more information.

These are Holly Days

Prepare to fill gift boxes and bags with handmade nature items

Two Saturdays of premier holiday shopping return to The West Woods Nature Center this November 6 and 13 during Geauga Park District's ever-popular Holly Days Artisan Boutique & Mistletoe Market!

Mark your calendars to browse one or both Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. A list of regional artisans and their selection of handmade nature-themed items will be posted in advance of each event to www.geaugaparkdistrict.org/activity/special-events-art-shows.

In particular, the Mistletoe Market features handmade gifts created by young artisans and typically caters to lower price points.

"Holly Days is the perfect opportunity to find unique gifts for everyone on your list, stock your own home with new and improved holiday décor, or just treat yourself to something new," said Teresa Runion, special events coordinator. "Artisans



are diverse and price their items for various budgets, too, all but guaranteeing you will leave with something you love."

Gifts sold at these popular events traditionally include heirloom-quality ornaments and holiday décor, all-natural bath and beauty products, gourmet food and snacks, unique jewelry and accessories, beautiful and functional pottery and glass items, gifts hand-turned from wood, holiday wreaths and much more.

Due to building capacity, guests may experience a wait to enter the venue. The West Woods is wheelchair/stroller accessible. With questions, please contact Teresa at trunion@geaugaparkdistrict.org.

For more on Geauga Park District offerings, please call 440-286-9516 or visit Geauga Park District online via www.geaugaparkdistrict.org, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or YouTube.



Fairmount Center for the Arts youth theatre presents: Honk! Jr.

Fairmount Center for the Arts, a nonprofit center for the arts, is proud to present its youth theatre production of Honk! Jr. the Musical on Friday, November 19 through Sunday, November 21 at the Mayfield Village Civic Center. The November 19 performance will be held at 7 pm and the performances on the 20th and 21st will be held at 2 pm.

Honk! Jr. is a heart-warming celebration of being different that is sure to delight audiences of all ages, with its sparkling wit, unique charm, and memorable score. Honk! Jr. has winged its way around the world in over 8,000 productions and in many different languages, and has won

multiple awards including the 2000 Olivier Award for Best Musical. Join Ugly and a whole flock of unique characters as they find out that being different is not a bad thing to be.

This production features students, ages 7-14 years, from around the area. Come support the cast as they showcase their hard work!

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased online at www.fairmountcenter.org or by calling 440-338-3171.

The Mayfield Village Civic Center is located at 6622 Wilson Mills Road. The Fairmount Center for the Arts is located at 8400 Fairmount Road in Novelty in Geauga County.

Geauga Park District invites you to find holiday decor & gift items for everyone on your list...

Two Saturdays!

Holly Days
ARTISAN BOUTIQUE

A unique, Nature-themed juried craft show

November 6 & 13
10 AM - 4 PM

The West Woods Nature Center
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in Russell Township

Also shop handmade gifts and artwork made by youth artisans at the

MistletoeMarket

www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

The benefits of refinancing

During this period of economic uncertainty, refinancing a home may provide immediate relief to cash-strapped borrowers.

Should you take out a new loan on your property? Consider the benefits of refinancing: lower interest rate (APR), a shorter payoff term (to pay-off your home faster), consolidating high-interest credit card debt, or using equity to fund your home improvement projects. A refinance could also decrease your monthly payments, save on mortgage interest throughout your remaining term, and eliminate mortgage insurance.

Refinancing makes sense when homeowners plan on remaining in the home long enough to recoup closing costs. These fees generally add up to approximately 2% to 5% of the loan amount. In many cases, these costs can be rolled into your new loan amount, reducing out-of-pocket costs for the refinance.

While refinancing may sound like a viable solution, there are times when refinancing can be tricky, especially if your credit score is less than ideal. It is best to speak to a professional. At Cardinal, we can help you

weigh the pros and cons, explain the process, assess your personal situation, and set you on a path to a brighter financial future.

In most cases refinancing still makes sense even with the other costs associated with appraisals, title services, recording, taxes, and other variables. Here at Cardinal, we offer contactless or limited-contact closings, life-time loan servicing, and a simple, streamlined process.

You are more likely to garner a better rate on a mortgage if your credit score is in good shape. Ideally, a score in the mid-700's or above, will serve you well. Keeping existing debt to a minimum will also help you qualify for a great rate, as will a steady source of income.

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Wild Winter Lights returns to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is again transforming into a winter wonderland this holiday season with Wild Winter Lights presented by NOPEC. This year's show features over one million individual lights, a dynamic musical light show, and unique twists on holiday traditions beginning November 18.

Wild Winter Lights transforms the Zoo after dark with hundreds of dazzling displays across holiday-themed areas including Candyland, Enchanted Forest, Conservation Trail and Santa's Workshop, where guests can take photos with Santa Claus. This year, guests can again experience Wild Winter Lights on foot or in their personal vehicle.

Additional highlights of this year's event include carousel rides, costumed characters, model train displays, ice carvers, live music from festive choirs including the Singing Angels, and the return of the dynamic light show featuring an enchanting 50-foot tree.

Wild Winter Lights runs from



5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on select dates Thursdays through Sundays beginning November 18. Wild Winter Lights concludes Sunday, January 2.

Wild Winter Lights tickets are limited, and advance online reservations are strongly encouraged. The discounted cost for Zoo members is \$18 and \$20 for non-members, or a four-pack for \$54 for members and \$60 for non-members. Children under two are admitted for free. Tickets for the drive-through experience is \$54 per car for Zoo members and \$60 per car for non-members. Visit FutureForWildlife.org/lights to reserve your spot today.

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Fall color at Holden Arboretum

Experience fall color from a new perspective at the Holden Arboretum. The Murch Canopy Walk invites guests on a 500-foot-long elevated walkway that is built 65 feet above the forest floor. The Kalberer Emergent Tower is 120 feet or approximately 12 stories tall and provides a breathtaking view of the surrounding area all the way to Lake Erie. Visiting the structures are now included with membership and general admission.

Visit holdenfg.org for more information and to purchase tickets.

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Great Lakes Science Center opens new aerospace exhibition, 'Above and Beyond'

Get ready to explore the future of aerospace technology and air travel with Great Lakes Science Center's newest exhibition, Above and Beyond, an interactive experience presented by Parker Aerospace.

Guests will launch into the future at Above and Beyond with 5,000 square feet of unprecedented interactive demonstrations of the advances in aviation and aerospace from the first powered flights to the newest innovations.

"The Science Center is thrilled to offer this incredible, interactive exhibition that highlights the science and wonder of flight," said president & CEO Dr. Kirsten Ellenbogen. "From the moment guests enter through an immersive theater experience they will feel the excitement and inspiration that has accompanied humanity's quest for flight."

Within the exhibition, guests will be able to step into a simulated space elevator that takes them to the edge of the universe, design and

test a supersonic jet to face off in a virtual high speed flying competition, experience a flight simulation with motion-sensing technology to get a sense of what it's like to fly like a bird, and discover concepts for future aircraft.

"Parker is proud to help bring this fascinating exhibition to northeast Ohio, a land of world-class technology, innovation and education and home to Parker Aerospace. It is more meaningful because it is in Cleveland, the community we call home," said Parker Aerospace President Roger Sherrard.

Above and Beyond runs through Sunday, January 2, 2022 and is included with general admission to the Science Center.

Visit greatscience.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

Fall hours will be 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Wednesday–Saturday and noon–5 p.m. on Sundays. The Science Center will be closed Mondays and Tuesdays and for all home day Browns games.

35th annual Beary Merry Christmas Show Handcrafted Market

Wednesday, December 1 & Thursday, December 2
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

It's holiday shopping time at the 35th annual Beary Merry Christmas Show Handcrafted Market on Wednesday, December 1 and Thursday, December 2 at the Normandy Party Center, 30310 Palisades Parkway in Wickliffe.

This craft extravaganza showcases over 50 talented artisans from Ohio and Pennsylvania, displaying unique holiday gifts for your shopping pleasure. The event will again feature a deluxe Chinese raffle extravaganza to benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure Northeast Affiliate. This will include over 50 baskets for all members of the family including a spa package from John Roberts, variety of dinners, sports items, toys, family fun and more. Delicious lunch and dinners catered by Normandy Party Center will be available for purchase. Admission is \$3.00.

Asa Cox with Century 21, Asa Cox Homes is the sponsor again this year. Event coordinators are collab-

orating with Asa and Asa's Angels, a support program for families in need in the community during the holidays. She distributes over 15,000 toys, helping more than 3,000 families. Each family is personally interviewed and provides a wish list for their children. \$125 is generously spent on each child. During The Beary Merry event toys will be collected for her annual Christmas Outreach Drive for Kids. Her goal is "to make all children smile on Christmas morning" and Beary Merry is here to help! Bring a toy to the show and make a child happy this Christmas. Please support this "beary" worthwhile cause.

Mark your calendars! This is one holiday market you do not want to miss!

If you have questions, contact Denise McPherson at 216-481-9229 or bearymerry@roadrunner.com. Follow them at www.facebook.com/BearyMerryShow.

Just let me Shop & no one gets hurt.

**CRAFTS
Corks &
Christmas**

Holiday Craft Show
Sunday, December 5th Noon-7 pm
FREE ADMISSION DRINK SPECIALS

5750 Madison Road (Rt. 528) Madison, OH GrandRiverCellars.com

Cardinal Craft Show



Saturday, November 20th

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Mentor High School

6477 Center Street, Mentor OH 44060

Via the Gym and/or Paradigm entrances

Admission \$3.00 Adults; \$2.00 Students, Seniors and Military

Cardinal Parents' Club (CPC) is bringing you all your favorite crafters, artisans and vendors and Mentor H.S. gear. All admission proceeds will support CPC initiatives/purchases such as window signs, letter, trophies, plaques, meals for athletes, senior banners, and scholarships. Thanks for your support!

- All patrons, craft show vendors and volunteers are required to abide current COVID guidelines as set forth by Mentor High School and the Cardinal Parents Club to ensure the health and safety of all participants.
- For information on the event or to be a vendor contact Debbie at cpc.mentor@gmail.com

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON SHOP IN MENTOR

With over 325 stores to choose from, you'll find everything on your list.

You probably already know that Mentor is one of Northeast Ohio's leading shopping destinations. But, it may surprise you to learn that Mentor is also home to over 135 *independent* retailers and restaurants.

68¢ of every dollar spent local stays local.

Shop small. Shop local. Shop Mentor.

Learn more about what Mentor has to offer at

www.shopinmentor.com



CALENDAR

The Comedy Magic of Michael Mage

Tuesday, November 9 • 6 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Sponsored by

Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library

Registration is required.

www.we247.org

Known as a comedian stuck in a magician's shoes, national award-winning magician Michael Mage incorporates comedy and endless audience participation into this family friendly show.

International Games Week

Fairport Harbor Public Library

335 Vine Street

440-354-8191

www.fairportlibrary.com

Themed events on three nights!

Tue., Nov. 9 • 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Join us as we play the Sims and share our creations.

Wed., Nov. 10 • 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Play some of our favorite board games and card games such as Fluxx, Monopoly, and Family Friendly Cards Against Humanity.

Thu., Nov. 11 • 5:00–6:30 p.m.

Play classic video games on our Sega Genesis. We have over 50 games to choose from, so we're sure there will be one that catches your interest!

Teen Art Club

Thu., Nov. 18 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Eastlake Public Library

36706 Lakeshore Boulevard

440-942-7880

Do you love to create art but never get the chance? Join other art-loving teens for Art Club where we will focus on a different artist or style. Grades 6–12 (Ages 11–18). Registration is required.

Headlands Photography Club

Sat., November 20 • 1 p.m.

Mentor Public Library

Headlands Branch

4669 Corduroy Road

440-257-2000

www.mentorpl.org

Join the library's new photography club that's open to shutterbugs of all ages. Enjoy tips, photo walks to local locations, and opportunities to show off your work. Bring your own camera, and all camera types are welcome. Registration required.

Tiny Food Party

Mon., November 22 • 4:30 p.m.

Mentor Public Library Lake Branch

5642 Andrews Road

440-257-2512

Tweens (ages 9–13) can enjoy some bite-sized dishes for all the meals of the day. An ingredient list will be available for those concerned about food allergies. Registration required.

Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Lunch

Wed., November 24 • noon

Mentor Public Library Main Branch

8215 Mentor Avenue

440-255-8811

Enjoy a holiday classic while eating a special lunch that Chef Snoopy would approve of. Registration required and open to all ages. Lunch served to children only.

Lego Super Saturday

Sat., November 27 • 11 a.m.

Wickliffe Public Library

1713 Lincoln Road

440-944-6010

Children kindergarten–4th grade will explore building concepts and stories. Registration required.

CRAFT AND HANDMADE SHOWS

Holiday Marketplace

Sat., November 6 • 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Fine Arts Association

(See page 10 for more info.)

Holly Days Artisan Boutique

November 6 & 13 • 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

West Woods Nature Center

(See page 15 for more info.)

Cardinal Craft Show

Sat., November 20 • 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Mentor High School

(See ad on page 17 for more info.)

Beary Merry Christmas Show

December 1 & 2 • 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

Normandy Party Center

(See page 17 for more info.)

The Craft Fair Before Christmas

Sat., December 4 • 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Eastlake North High School

(See page 8 for more info.)

Crafts Corks & Christmas

Sun., December 5 • noon–7 p.m.

Grand Cellar Winery

(See ad on page 17 for more info.)



New baby at home?
We have the **answers**
and **support** you need for
your happy, healthy baby.



Learn more about Home Visiting

1-800-755-GROW (4769) • www.helpmegrow.org





Just For Laughs

There was a little boy named Johnny who used to hang out at the local corner market. The owner didn't know what Johnny's problem was, but the boys would constantly tease him. They would always comment that he was two bricks shy of a load, or two pickles short of a barrel. To prove it, sometimes they would offer Johnny his choice between a nickel (5 cents) and a dime (10 cents) and Johnny would always take the nickel -- they said, because it was bigger.

One day after Johnny grabbed the nickel, the store owner took him aside and said, "Johnny, those boys are making fun of you. They think you don't know the dime is worth more than the nickel. Are you grabbing the nickel because it's bigger, or what?"

Slowly, Johnny turned toward the store owner and a big grin appeared on his face and Johnny said, "Well, if I took the dime, they'd stop doing it, and so far I have saved \$20!"

Summer vacation was over and Little Johnny returned back to school.

Only two days later his teacher phoned his mother to tell her that he was misbehaving.

"Wait a minute," she said. "I had Johnny with me for three months and I never called you once when he misbehaved!"



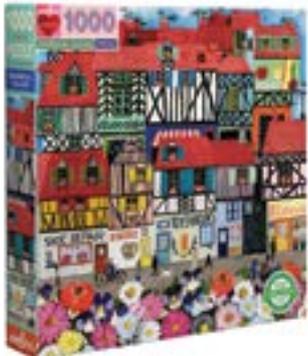
eeBoo jigsaw puzzles

Start your holiday shopping early or just treat yourself!

eeBoo has a wide selection of puzzles and other games for the whole family and is committed to responsible sourcing and manufacturing. They use 90% recycled board and vegetable inks to make the vast majority of their products.

Produced in a factory recognized for the integrity of its sustainable manufacturing, their products never include unnecessary packaging or plastic components, and are so well made that they can be handed down and used again and again. Everything eeBoo makes is tested to the most stringent safety standards.

Visit www.eeboo.com to see all their great products!



WE PAY CASH

For children's clothing, shoes, toys, books & baby gear!

No appointment necessary!



Get ready for the holidays!

Bring your gently used items to one of our convenient locations and we will pay you cash on the spot.

You can also trade them in for things you need now!

We buy up to one hour before closing.



Kid's Stuff With Previous Experience®

MENTOR COLONIAL PLAZA

7537 Mentor Avenue

440-951-7222

Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm • Closed Sun.



WESTLAKE

25028 Center Ridge Road

440-899-1100

Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm • Closed Sun.

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 25

SAVE 10-20% ON ANY ANNUAL PASS!

Give a 1-year membership and get a chance to win other aquatic adventures!

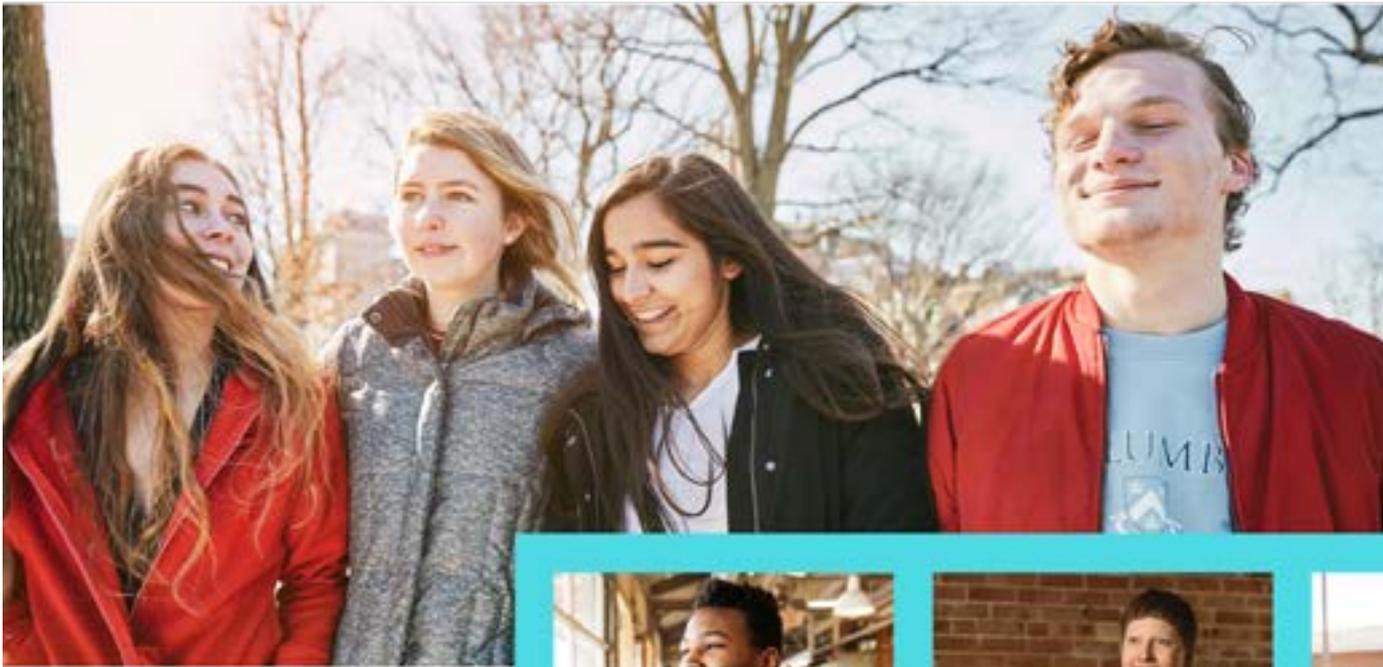


Discount and chocolate bar giveaway details at greaterclevelandaquarium.com/event/fantastic-finn

f t i @deaquarium



Real talk: It's OK to not feel OK.



Stress affects many of us on a regular basis. Join the conversation about mental wellness and find advice, help and support.

Visit heyimhere.org

 [heyimhereohio](https://www.instagram.com/heyimhereohio)