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Howard Hanna Realtors bring awareness of helpful programs for military veterans

By Deanna Adams

Te all know the sacrifices our military servicemen and women, and their families, make for America. Along with experiencing various deployments, there is the stress of having to relocate from one town to another, and finding the right place to live that suits their needs— before and after their service duties.

To help that mission along, real estate agents Traci Hissam, Wayne Gould, and Dave Fabig at Howard Hanna in Chardon are taking action by introducing all military personnel to a new benefit, designed to provide them and their family with a little extra help when it comes to those life transitions.

The Military on the Move (MOTM) program enables active duty, retired military, and wounded veterans to earn cash rewards and rebates when they buy or sell a home. This is whether they are undertaking a military move after being relocated to another base, or when it comes time to searching for a permanent home after a military discharge or retirement.

"We are blessed to offer this program for all the vets who qualify," says Dave Fabig. "It's such a great opportunity for them, and one that I feel is underpromoted. It's certainly something every vet should know about."

Hissam, Gould and Fabig recently earned the nationally recognized Military Relocation Professional Certification through the NAR (National Association of Realtors) so that they can guide, aid, and support military veterans and their families. Each of them have a personal motive to be a part of this program. Gould and Fabig are both military veterans themselves, and Hissam has worked for nonprofit organizations, such as the Lake County Council on Aging and other youth programs for the past 20 years.

"It's important to let veterans know what's available to them," says Gould. "I myself wasn't aware of this program at first so once I learned of it, I was anxious to get the word out to all those who can take advantage of it."

Under the MOTM program, Howard Hanna real estate agents and its brokerage give back 20% of commission dollars to the veteran who buys a home, or sells one. Vets receive the cash reward based on the actual sales price of the home being purchased or sold, which is paid after the settlement. There is no dollar limit on the amount of the cash reward. "All we ask is that they preregister with Howard Hanna," Hissam notes.

Dale Starcher, an Army veteran, and his wife, Norma, are just one couple who were able to take advantage of this benefit. "They came to us wanting to downsize, or 'right size' as we like to call it," Hissam says. "Wayne and I told them about the benefits they were eligible for and worked with them through the process. We were very happy to help them out."

There is no age limitation for this program. Dale is 90 years old and his wife, 88. "My husband and I met Traci at an open house," Norma Starcher recalls. "As we talked, she learned that Dale is a vet and told us about the program. She and Wayne were very helpful." The couple, who have children and grandchildren close by, found the perfect condo, sold their home, and in a few weeks received rebate checks for both the purchase and the sale of the residences. "That really helped with all the moving expenses," Norma adds. "We were very happy with the whole experience. The Howard Hanna real estate agents did everything they could to make things easier for us."

"We take this very seriously," Gould says. "It's not about selling homes and making money. We are proud to be able to give back [those earnings]. It gives us the opportunity to pay it forward."

The Chardon real estate agents have also recently earned the Senior Real Estate Specialist designation specializing in helping clients, 50 and over, with their transitional needs as well, offering knowledge and guidance for those moving in midlife, and for seniors who are often ready to move to a smaller home.

Howard Hanna is a family-owned, full-service real estate services company committed to profession-



Dale and Norma Starcher in the new home they purchased through Howard Hanna using the Military On The Move program.

alism for all colleagues, clients, and communities. Their mission is to help navigate the complex real estate transaction, as well as introduce clients to services and opportunities some might not be aware of, such as the MOTM program.

"We have all the tools in the tool box to help veterans and seniors use their hard-won benefits and navigate the next part of their lives," Hissam says. "All they have to do is give us a call with any questions, or meet with us to ensure everything is a good fit."

For more information on all benefits, contact Hissam, Gould or Fabig, at 440-286-4111.

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Tips for playdates with children with special needs

By Sarah Lyons

laydates are an important part of childhood. They offer time for kids to interact socially without the structure of school or extracurricular activities. They also help kids learn to share, socialize, and play freely while still having support from their parents as needed. Children with special needs are no exception and benefit from playdates as much as their peers. While they may take a little more planning and patience, it is well worth the efforts for everyone involved. Here are some tips for hosting a playdate with children with special needs.

Be open

Our natural reaction may be to avoid talking about any special needs a child may have but it is better to address any questions or concerns beforehand so everyone is more comfortable and knows what to expect. "I am upfront and honest about my daughter before we go to anyone's house for a playdate." says Barb Walker-Shapiro, mom of six. "Her brain doesn't work like other kids. She may have a seizure and is prone to major meltdowns. I find that when other parents know what's 'wrong' with my daughter, they are more tolerant and compassionate towards her." It is also a good idea to talk to your children openly about differences they may have with their friends. Explain that just because others may seem different or express their joy differently, it doesn't mean they don't enjoy playdates or making new friends as well. Prior to the playdate, it is also a good idea to check in with the other parents about whether there are any food allergies or restrictions and anything important you should know.

Be strategic

Prior to the playdate, discuss with the other parents about what would be the best location to have the playdate. For some, their own home is more comfortable and successful.



For others, staying at home may encourage the special needs child to say hello then retreat to their room while company visits. In this case, it may be better to go to a public place that everyone can enjoy, such as a park, museum, or zoo.

On the other hand, parents who have a child that is prone to running away or hiding may find a public place overwhelming. Discuss your plans with all the parents involved and come up with the best solution for everyone.

Another great strategy is to plan activities that unite the kids. Kids who struggle with talking to peers or sharing toys may find that a common interest helps them feel more at ease. Find out the interests of the kids you are hosting and offer an activity around one that excites all of those invited. Ideas could include a craft, a game, or visiting somewhere that fosters that interest. For example, if they are interested in nature, visit the Holden Arboretum, Cleveland Botanical Garden, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, or go on a backyard scavenger hunt. If they are interested in tractors and farm animals, visit the Lake Metroparks Farmpark.

Be patient

Whenever kids are involved, patience is important. Try to understand that kids may have different reactions to situations, things may not go exactly as expected, and that it may take some time for kids with special needs to warm up to the situation. Some children with special needs may prefer to participate in parallel play. Parallel play is when kids play beside each other, but do

not interact with one another. Children who play alone during parallel play still enjoy the time together and are usually interested in what the other children are doing. If things do not go as planned, it is okay to cut the playdate short and try again in the future.

Be inclusive

It is most important to note that kids with disabilities or special needs are just like anyone else — they want to interact with friends and be loved and appreciated. When hosting a playdate with children with special needs it's important to greet them and interact with them as you would anyone else you meet. "Please say 'hi' to my son. Smile at him, even if he doesn't smile back." says Marie Taylor, mother of two. Even if the child is nonverbal or doesn't seem to hear you, it is important to speak to them

Angela Leever, special education teacher and mother of three says, "Encourage the parents and children to speak to the child with special needs, not about them. If the child with special needs does something your child isn't happy with or that isn't appropriate, allow them to use words to tell them. Sometimes that is more powerful than the adults intervening."

Be understanding

Parenting is not easy and we all struggle with different challenges when it comes to our children. Ask the parent if they need help with anything prior to the playdate. "I almost always have a few extra things to carry so please don't be shy about

See PLAYDATES on page 8



Four great events at the Lake County History Center!

Women's History Luncheon*

Saturday, March 19 at noon

Tina D Stump interprets Ella Fitzgerald **\$38 members**, **\$42 nonmembers**

Brunch with the Bunny**

Saturday and Sunday, April 2 & 3 at 11 am and 1 pm

Eat brunch with the Easter Bunny followed by an Easter Egg Hunt in Pioneer Village (weather permitting). Adults \$17, youth (ages 12-4) \$13, child (3 and under) \$4

Ladies and Gents Who Lunch**

Thursday, April 21 at noon

Enjoy a light lunch meet the Lake County citizens who left small towns to make big differences. Follow their route from everyday citizens to well-known celebrities. **\$17 members**, **\$20 nonmembers**

Boys of Summer**

Sunday, April 24 at 4:30 pm

Ken Krsolovic presents the history of League Park \$40 includes a copy of the book *League Park: Historic Home of Cleveland Baseball, 1891-1946,* baseball-themed dinner (hot dog, nachos, popcorn and Cracker Jack) and the presentation.

*Heritage Hall at the History Center **History Center Event Barn

For menu details, more info or to make reservations, call 440-639-2945 or visit lakehistory.eventbrite.com.



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The ABCs of hospital delivery

By Christa Melnyk Hines

he hospital delivery process begins long before labor pains begin. Here's what to expect.

Admissions. At around 32 weeks gestation, schedule a preadmission appointment to complete most of your paperwork before labor, like the birth certificate and other forms.

"At that time, we do all of the preadmit work like consents you'll sign when you come to have the baby," says preadmission coordinator Clara Davis, RN.

Birth plan. Do you want an epidural or prefer natural childbirth? A birth plan communicates your desires for your labor and delivery experience. If you have a plan, bring it with you to the preadmission appointment and delivery.

Circumcision. At hospitals, circumcisions are usually performed within 48 hours of delivery. Talk to your doctor about the procedure's benefits and risks. Your preadmission coordinator will have the paperwork you need to complete when you're ready.

Delivering physician. Many doctors check in on their patients first thing in the morning and midday. "We page the delivering physician as soon as we think it's time. If a baby is having heart rate issues, we can always page them to come evaluate," says labor and delivery nurse Jenna O'Connor, RN.

Epidural. An epidural is a pain-relieving local anesthetic administered by an anesthesiologist that numbs pain in the lower half of the body.

"Allow 45 minutes from the time you ask for your epidural to getting it," O'Connor says. "We like to give IV fluids prior to that at a faster rate to help prevent blood pressure from dropping from the anesthesia."

Fetal heart monitor. Healthcare practitioners will either periodically monitor your baby's heartbeat during labor, or you will be hooked up to an electronic fetal heart monitor, especially if you are on medication to be induced.

Get ready. Pack your bag between

32 and 35 weeks of pregnancy. Bring toiletries and comfortable clothes, including warm socks and slip-on shoes. You'll also need a take-home outfit for your baby and a car seat.

Hepatitis B. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all healthy newborns receive their first dose of hepatitis B vaccine within 24 hours of delivery. Hepatitis B is a potentially fatal viral infection that attacks the liver.

Induction. Prior to an induction, your provider will examine your cervix and decide whether you should go into the hospital the day of the scheduled induction or the night before. If you go in the night before, you might receive a medication or a balloon catheter that thins or softens the cervix. When your cervix is ready, you'll be given a medication called Pitocin to induce contractions.

Jacuzzi® tubs. Many hospitals offer laboring moms full-size whirl-pool bath tubs for pain relief early in the delivery process. Check with your doctor to see if this an option for you.

Vitamin K. All babies are born vitamin K deficient. Upon birth, your baby will receive a vitamin K shot, which is essential to aid the body in forming clots to prevent severe and potentially life threatening bleeding.

Lactation consultant. Breast-feeding specialists visit new moms in the hospital to address any initial questions or concerns around breast-feeding.

Marking the moment. During preadmission, you'll have the opportunity to decide if you want your newborn photographed. "But, you're not obligated to buy anything," Davis says.

NICÚ. Premature infants, multiples and sick or low birth-weight babies are usually transferred to a neonatal intensive care unit, which provides specialized care.

Overnight stays. The typical hospital stay for a vaginal delivery is 24 to 48 hours, while a C-section is between three and four days.

Pediatrician. The hospital will notify your baby's physician when



you're admitted. He or she will provide a physical examination of your infant within 24 hours postpartum.

Questions. Throughout your pregnancy journey, you'll likely have many questions come up about what to expect when you get to the hospital to deliver your baby, like where to park, which entrance to go in (especially if you go into labor after hours), and what you should pack. Your physician, nurses, doula and/or midwife, your hospital's preadmission coordinator and your instructors at hospital labor and delivery classes are all excellent sources of information

Risks? Because hospitals are prepared for complications that can arise during labor and delivery, they are among the safest places to deliver babies, especially for women considered high risk. High-risk pregnancies include women who are expecting multiples, are under the age of 17 or over the age of 35, or have a health condition like diabetes, high blood pressure or depression.

Surgery. A Cesarean section requires an incision through the abdomen and uterus. You'll receive an epidural and will likely be awake for the procedure. Upon arrival for a planned C-section, you'll be hooked up to a monitor and an IV, receive a physical assessment and bloodwork.

Tours reduce uncertainty. Scheduling a firsthand look of a hospital's birthing center early in your pregnancy can familiarize you and your partner ahead of time with the hospital layout, parking and available classes and amenities. Some expectant parents tour as early as six to 12 weeks gestation.

"By meeting them early, we can help them feel as comfortable as possible throughout the entire process," says labor and delivery nurse Danae Young, RN, a hospital maternity navigator, who offers birthing center tours and guides expectant parents through preadmission paperwork.

Visitors. Decide who you want in the delivery room. "This can be doctor-directed a little bit. For example, if the patient is having trouble with their blood pressure, we're not going to want them to have a lot of visitors in their room at that time," Davis says.

When your baby arrives, your loved ones can access the locked unit during visiting hours by providing your first and last name.

Of course with COVID-19, visiting privileges may be restricted. Check with your hospital for updated protocols.

Wireless monitoring. Some hospitals wirelessly monitor the baby's heart rate and a laboring mom's contractions. The wireless monitor allows patients the freedom to move around, use the restroom, take a shower or sit on a birth ball.

X or Y? Still unsure if your newborn is a Xenia or a Yasmin? Try settling on a name before you check out of the hospital. Otherwise you'll get a call from the State Department of Health for not completing your birth certificate paperwork--and it can cost you extra.

Zen. Giving birth is rarely considered a "zen-like" experience, but many hospitals prioritize comfortable accommodations for expectant parents, like private suites, in-room music options, rocker-recliners, and "quiet time for moms" to allow for family bonding.



Yes, dogs DO get depressed

Here's why and what you can do

By Kimberly Blaker

s most dog owners will attest, dogs do feel a range of emotions. They may not experience sadness quite the same as humans because dogs lack self-consciousness. But they can experience anxiety and depression, says Dr. Carlo Siracusa at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, in "Do Dogs Feel Sadness?" by Kate Hughes.

The development of dogs' emotions is equivalent to that of a two or two-and-a-half-year-old child, according to researchers. So the sadness they experience is less complex than that in human adults. For example, human adults can feel sad or depressed as a result of ruminating about their failures, imperfections, or something they did or didn't do. Since dogs, like very young children, lack self-consciousness, they don't experience this type of sadness. Nonetheless, dogs can experience sadness or get depressed for a variety of other reasons.

Causes of depression in dogs

Because dogs are social animals, receiving a lack of attention, or being left alone for long periods can affect their mental health. When dogs are confined to a crate or bathroom for extended hours, it can lead to depression. So allow your dog to spend as much time with family as possible.

Similarly, a lack of exercise can also cause depression. This can be particularly problematic for pets that are crated or confined to small areas for many hours at a time. While crate training for puppies is beneficial for housebreaking, they should never be crated for more than four hours at a time without an extended break.

Once your puppy is housebroken, a crate can provide a cozy spot for your dog with the crate left open. But dogs need companionship, exercise, and stimulation, which they cannot experience in a crate. So as your dog grows, limit confinement and when it is necessary, preferably to a larger room.

Also, find out how much and what types of exercise are appropriate for your dog's breed and age, and make sure your dog regularly gets the exercise it needs.



When dogs are confined to a crate or bathroom for extended hours, it can lead to depression.



Another cause of depression in dogs is when a family member is depressed. Recent studies have found dogs recognize human emotions. In May 2012, a study was published in the Animal Cognition journal. The study found dogs responded more strongly when people were crying



as opposed to talking or humming. In this case, the best remedy may be to get treatment for yourself or the depressed family member, which should alleviate your dog's sadness.

Dogs also experience depression when they lose a family member, whether it's another pet or human companion. Sometimes dogs improve if a new pet is introduced, but not always. When a dog loses its owner, this can be particularly devastating.

An interesting 2013 study was reported by CBS News online, in "Study: Dogs bond with owners similar to babies with parents." Researchers observed that the "secure base effect" phenomenon that's experienced by babies also occurs in dogs. Like babies, dogs are more likely to interact with things and other people when they feel the secure presence of their caregivers. If your dog has lost a beloved family member or caregiver, those closest to your dog should intervene and give it extra love and attention.

Another cause of depression in dogs is punishment. Animal behaviorists say when dogs are repeatedly punished with shock collars or other physical means, dogs come to feel helpless. Not only can it cause aggression in dogs, but it can also cause dogs to withdraw. The best method for training dogs is with rewards for positive behavior. This is not only

better for their emotional health, but it's also more effective.

Finally, certain medical conditions, such as thyroid problems can cause depression. If your dog is depressed, and especially if there's no apparent reason for it, have your dog checked out by your veterinarian.

Signs your dog is depressed

The most common symptoms of dog depression are similar to those in humans. They include:

- Sleeping more than usual.
- Withdrawal or hiding.
- Loss of interest in food.
- Loss of interest in things it previously enjoyed, or inactivity.
- Excessive licking, particularly of their paws.
- Self-mutilation (in more severe cases, often related to separation) anxiety.

What to do if your dog is depressed

First, if you suspect any of the reasons above is causing your dog's depression, try to remedy the situation that's causing it. This will often resolve your dog's sadness. But if your dog doesn't improve, an antidepressant can help, particularly in anxious dogs. Dogs are prescribed many of the same antidepressants as humans. But always talk with your veterinarian before giving one to your dog.



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Take A Bow!

10 reasons to encourage kids to participate in theater

By Christina Katz

Parents know that some kids are more dramatic than others. So why not give emotionally expressive students an outlet by getting them involved in theater? You likely already know if your child has a flair for the theatrical, and educational programs can offer kids benefits that are life-changing.

Opportunities to participate in full-length theatrical productions are typically available starting in middle school. If your school district lacks funding for the arts, you won't have to look far in your community to find regional theatre companies with student programs. Opportunities outside of school include reputable community theater companies, theater education programs, and even training from seasoned professionals. Whichever paths your child decides to pursue, do your homework

to make sure programs provide a safe, structured environment for your budding thespian.

When kids invest in drama education, it will exponentially enrich their lives in return. Theater is an excellent creative outlet for multi-talented children as well as for kids who are unsure about their abilities. Here are ten reasons to encourage your child to participate in theater.

Make new friends. Any successful theatre production is fueled by a constellation of interpersonal connections. If you have a shy or socially reticent child, theater can be a great way to get them socially engaged. The all-hands-on-deck aspect of theater can quickly overcome a hesitant participant. Before kids can say "William Shakespeare," they will find themselves an appreciated part of the team.

Learn collaboration. Perhaps the greatest benefit of theater is expe-



Students performing at the Beck Center for the Arts.

riencing how each person's contributions are crucial to mounting a successful show. Whether children are acting, singing and dancing or bringing the show to life backstage, the show can only succeed with creative input from every member of the group. Collaboration is not only a helpful lesson for school; it's also a valuable lesson for life.

Inspire passion. Musicals are a cool part of culture, and theatre kids love learning as much as they can

about Broadway, emerging actors, and the latest shows available to perform. Dramatic kids may feel like they have finally found an outlet where their flair for the dramatic serves a purpose once they are acting, singing and dancing for an audience.

Gain confidence. There are often limited performing arts opportunities available in schools, which is why theater can be so helpful in a

See THEATER on page 8



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Theater from page 7

well-rounded education. Theater pulls kids out of themselves and gets them involved in something greater than themselves in ways that engage their minds, bodies, and emotions. The more kids perform, the bigger the confidence boost, which can carry over into the rest of their school experience.

Increase emotional intelligence.

My daughter's theater camp director always calls theater "empathy training." There is nothing like walking in another person's shoes, saying their words and imaging their thoughts and point of view to build thoughtfulness in kids. In a world where intolerance seems to be on the rise, empathy training seems like a crucial skill.

Appreciate culture. You might be surprised to learn how few high school students have been to a play or a musical. If you want your child to have a more cultured childhood than you did, attending shows is a great way to experience new worlds within driving distance. School theater groups often take field trips to see shows and may even participate in talk-backs with the actors

afterwards.

Build community. There are few school activities that engage the extended community the way theater does. Parent and family members attend school shows, and so do community members, business owners and school administrators. Having a flourishing theater program in local schools can be a pride point for parents, the school district and the community at large.

Experience contagious enthusiasm. If you have never witnessed the passion theater kids have for bonding with each other as they mount a show, you and your child are in for a treat. For kids experiencing challenges at home, the theater can become a secure home away from home. Ask any child who has just moved to a new school or who is trying to navigate a parents' divorce if they would like to join a community of immersive learners, and they might be willing to try it.

Improve communication skills.

At some point, most students need to impress a college admissions board or employer. Theater can increase a student's chances of scoring

a spot since it boosts both verbal and nonverbal communication skills, not to mention auditioning practice. Theater kids can even use imagination, observation and listening skills to determine the right choices for their future. Parents might want to consider ways theater skills like articulation, vocal projection, and emotional expression can help students ace future school and job interviews.

Enjoy school more. Theater peo-

ple are generally more diverse, tolerant and inclusive than most. Compelling acting requires gesturing and projecting the voice to bring words on the page to life. If your child is having trouble fitting in or struggling to keep grades up, encourage him to go see what's happening in the performing arts hall. Theater can become a great motivator for kids to increase school attendance, keep their grades up, and make memories that last a lifetime.

Not sure your child will enjoy theater?

There is only one way to find out. Let kids audition with reasonable expectations. Give theater administrators an opportunity to get to know kids and make decisions about where they fit best in the show. Parents may want to jump in and advocate for kids, but try to hang back. Encourage kids to identify and go after parts they want. If you stay out of the process as much as possible, kids can take ownership of their experience, which is ideal.

Ways to participate in theater beyond acting

If your child is not an actor, here are more ways kids can contribute to a theatrical production. Contact the show director to find out if any of these opportunities are available for your student.

- Be a dramaturge
- Run the light board
- Find the sound effects
- · Be a stagehand
- Build and paint sets
- Provide accompaniment during rehearsals
- Play an instrument in the orchestra
- Usher at the theater doors

Opportunities for parent volunteers

Don't let the kids have all the fun! Volunteering in school theater can be fun and rewarding. If you've got skills in these areas, your school's program can probably use them.

- Fundraising and sponsorships.
- Building and painting sets.
- Sewing costumes.
- Picking up costumes, props, lights, microphones, and makeup kits.
- Supplying snacks for the cast and crew.
- Selling tickets in the box office.

- Contributing to the playbill.
- Shuttling kids around to find gifts and cards.
- Hosting the post-production
- Filming and editing the show for memento DVDs.
- Helping tear down set, store items used, and clean dressing rooms.

Playdates from page 4

asking if I need help." says Taylor. "I also need a lot of grace."

Try to be patient and understanding. The other parent may be overwhelmed or tired. It may have been challenging to get there. All parents have great days where everything goes as planned and tough days where it seems nothing does. Listen and offer a hand when needed and they will most likely offer the same in return.

The most important tip for having a playdate with a child with special

needs is just to have them. It may take a little more planning and patience than the average playdate, but it is so worth it to both the parents and kids involved. Playdates offer a great chance for kids to interact with peers and make friends in a non stressful way, and they are also a great time for parents to connect and build each other up as well.

Sarah Lyons is a mom of six kids including seven-year-old triplets. She enjoys reading, writing, and spending time outdoors with her family.



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Little weedy sea dragons are a big deal

Greater Cleveland Aquarium announces rare births

Greater Cleveland Aquarium invites the public to join them in celebrating the arrival of newborn weedy sea dragons, a species that has proven to be exceedingly difficult to rear. Since the first successful weedy sea dragon hatching in 2001 at the Aquarium of the Pacific, fewer than 20 facilities worldwide have had any level of success with mating and only an estimated dozen of those, including The Aquarium of the Pacific, Georgia Aquarium, Monterey Bay Aquarium and Birch Aquarium, have had fry survive.

A delicate species whose survival has been tested by habitat degradation, weedy sea dragons are native to the cold coastal waters of south and west Australia.

"Weedy sea dragon births are exceedingly rare, and this would be a point of pride for any animal care facility, but it's a particularly exciting for an aquarium of our size and age," says General Manager Stephanie White, who has been with the downtown Cleveland destination since it opened a decade ago in January of 2012.

Greater Cleveland Aquarium is housed in a brick building dating back to 1892, and Curator Ray Popik believes the creativity required to reimagine the historic space contributed to his team's success breeding sea dragons. "We were able to home the sea dragons in a very deep exhibit built into a structure that likely served as

an air duct or a coal chute when this building was an operational powerhouse," says Popik, explaining, "Its depth provided an optimal habitat for the seahorse relatives who court with an elaborate vertical dance."

After a female weedy lays her eggs, they are transferred to the male who, similar to its pipefish cousins, is then responsible for fertilizing and carrying them until they hatch. "This was actually the second time one of the female sea dragons in our care deposited eggs on a male's tail," says Popik.

While the initial egg transfer in January of 2020 was likely too early in the Aquarium residents' development to result in viable offspring, the initial mating and successful deposit was an indication that the sea dragons—who came to the Aquarium in March 2018—were thriving. "Animals need to be healthy, have good nutrition and be acclimated to mate," explains Popik. "We felt the odds they would try again were good."

A second mating attempt in September of 2021 resulted in another clutch of eggs and fry popping out between late-October and the beginning of November. The hatchlings were moved behind-the-scenes. "There's no parental involvement after birth and it's incredible that any of these tiny offspring survive when they're left to fend for themselves in the ocean," says Mallory Haskell, the primary aquarist responsible for their moni-



toring and delicate care. Not particularly strong swimmers, weedy sea dragons' leaf-like appendages blend in with kelp and seagrass help hide them from predators.

Greater Cleveland Aquarium plans to put some of the young on public view soon in a temporary exhibit just down the corridor from the adult weedy sea dragons. "It's been amazing to watch these animals develop and we want to give that opportunity to others if we're able," says White.

Visit greaterclevelandaquarium.com or call (216) 862-8803 for more information.



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Railfest train show returns

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A dog walks into a job center. "Wow, a talking dog," says the clerk. "With your talent I'm sure we can find you a gig in the circus." "The circus?" says the dog. "What does a circus want with a plumber?"

My girlfriend has just dumped me because she thinks I'm obsessed with football. I'm gutted - we'd been going out for three seasons.

Someone stole my mood ring. I'm not sure how I feel about that.

My new hobby is eating clocks. It's rather time-consuming.

Q. What's the difference between mashed potatoes and pea soup? A. Anyone can mash potatoes....

Sometimes I tuck my knees into my chest and lean forward. That's just how I roll

I bought the world's worst thesaurus yesterday. Not only is it terrible, it's bad and lousy.

Q. Why do French people like to eat snails?

A. They can't stand fast food.

Two clairvoyants meet. One says to the other: "You are fine, and how am I?

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LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Mommy Chronicles

Child birthday parties

A gift for both child and parents

By Stacy Turner

arch is a big month in my house. Aside from bringing in the much-anticipated season of spring, early March is when both my husband and youngest child celebrate their birthdays. While my husband gave up having birthday parties long before I met him, we've always made a big effort to make both of our girls' birthdays special each year for as long as they'd let us. In the weeks and days leading up to the big day, once the birthday girl had chosen her theme, I planned the festivities and procured the supplies.

On the day of the event, my husband (AKA the fun guy) led the girls in games, frivolity, and general mayhem. That's when little girls would get dropped off in party dresses and colorful clothes, one by one, smiling and clutching birthday bags stuffed with colorful tissue paper. They left a

mountain of small shoes by the back door in a rush to coalesce around the birthday girl, giggling, laughing, and sliding across hardwood floors in sock-clad feet.

Over the years, our version of March Madness has featured a gaggle of squealing girls eating lots of sugar, playing games, dancing, and running around the house like banshees. The party themes changed from year to year based on their hobbies and interests. A few memorable events brought together a gathering of princesses to an indoor beach party, complete with a sandcastle cake. Another event was an epic adventure with Dora, where Explorers wore backpacks and used flashlights and a map to find clues throughout the house. One year gave would-be archaeologists the opportunity to escape a mummy's tomb.

As the years progressed, everyone in the family helped prepare for the big day. For the Egyptian adventure,



Dad worked together for days with the birthday girl to craft a sarcophagus out of a cardboard box, while big sis and I scoured the house for treasures worthy of the ancient king. We even found a mummy soundtrack to set the mood as teams of girls worked to beat the clock and escape the tomb first. Those events, while labor intensive, gave us something interesting to do during late winter; a time usually filled with mud and cold, gray weather. It also provided the opportunity to investigate some of our daughters' interests and get to know their friends better.

In subsequent years, we took the show on the road, heading to a roller rink birthday bash one year, and to see the latest kid flick at a movie theater during another. Once, we took the Minecraft-crazed group to an arcade so they could experience what video games looked and played like back in the day. They were less than impressed with the graphic quality of games like Frogger and Q*bert, but enjoyed the large monitors and loud game sounds, especially Pac-Man.

As is usually the case, as our daughters got older, our involvement in the festivities declined. The shoes

were still gathered at the back door, only in much larger sizes, and the young ladies still coalesced around the birthday girl full of giggles and excitement. But afternoon parties full of games and prizes were replaced with sleepovers, where we provided little fanfare, but plenty of food, time, and space to themselves. There's generally less running, and the squealing is much less frequent, too. These events also differed from earlier events in that they begin later, last longer, and end quietly the next afternoon when sleep-deprived preteens (and now teens) in hoodies and rumpled pajama pants slip on their Crocs and head home to recover from what we refer to as the sleepover hangover.

The older they get, the more they're branching out and doing more and more on their own, which is exactly how it's supposed to be. Now that our days of party planning are over, I'm glad we made the extra effort to share in their interests and make them feel special. I realize now that those birthdays were as much of a gift to us as they were to our girls. More than anything, I hope you and your family share in lots of happy birthdays, too.

WEEDIES ARE A BG

We are one of the few aquariums in the world to experience the births of weedy sea dragons.

See the hatchlings on your next visit!

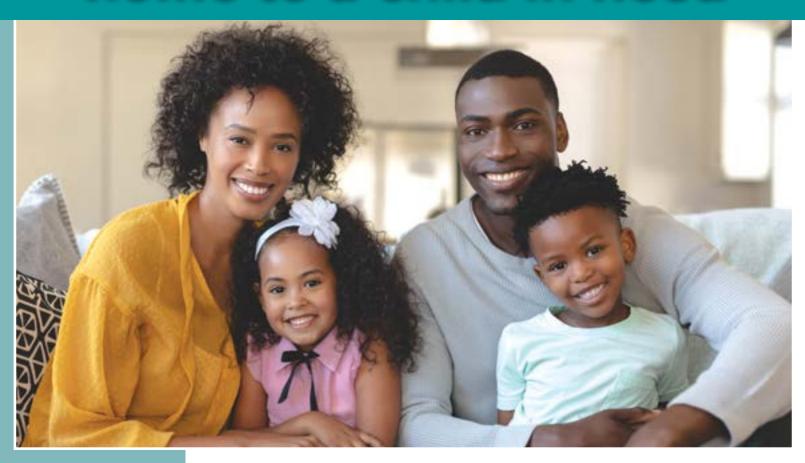


Open 10am – 5pm daily with advance tickets | greaterclevelandaquarium.com

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HOW TO APPLY

- · Applications available online at leadershiplakecounty.org.
- Applications and forms are due April 29, 2022. Representation from all Lake County schools is desired.
- Email: info@leadershiplc.org for more information.

Apply now for the **Junior Leadership Program** Class of 2023

OVERVIEW

Leadership Lake County Junior Leadership Program provides experiential and transformational full-day educational experiences for high school students to:

- · Learn and apply leadership skills.
- · Network with Lake County business and civic leaders
- · Engage in a youth-led community impact project.
- Engage in meaningful conversation with students from all Lake County schools.
- Develop 21st century workforce skills in effective communication, critical thinking, public speaking, collaboration and active listening.





Fairport Harbor Public Library to celebrate 100th anniversary throughout 2022!

The Fairport Harbor Public Library (FHPL) has been planning this party for a century and you're on the guest list! You are invited to join them as they celebrate 100 fabulous years of history — and look forward to 100 more — with a variety of special anniversary programs and events scheduled throughout the year.

FHPL history

The library was first organized in 1921 by Mr. M.C. Helm, superintendent of Fairport Harbor Public Schools. It was located in one supply room on the first floor of McKinley Grade School with 1,000 books supplied by the state library. The public as well as the students were invited to use the library.

The library was formally established in 1922 with the building of a high school in Fairport and a resolution by the school board to create a public library in the school. Most of the children's books remained at Garfield and McKinley school libraries with teachers serving as part-time librarians.

The building in which the library is now housed was built in the spring and summer of 1934 as a joint project by the board of education and the board of library trustees. The main floor served as a study hall and library for the schools during the day but was also open to the public. The basement housed the home economics department of the school. In the 1940s the basement was used for band rehearsals.

Over the decades the library has grown to become an integral part of the Fairport community with innovative programming, diverse collections, and red carpet customer service.

In honor of the centennial, the





Above: Fairport Harbor Public Library today. Below: The library in the 1950s.

library will mark this important milestone with special programs for both children and adults, many with themes linked to 1922. Look for special story times, contests, events, lectures and more. During this year-long celebration, the library hopes to reflect on the past as well as look to the future of the library, giving people a sense of nostalgia and sharing the ways that the library can still impact and improve their lives and the lives of their neighbors.

"Libraries grow with their towns," said Kara Cervelli, director of Fairport Harbor Public Library. "Many public libraries got their start in schools and FHPL is honored to maintain its close relationship with the Fairport Schools 100 years later. We're excited to celebrate our long history in the Fairport community, and we look forward to continuing to be a vital and vibrant asset for the people of the community. Here's to another 100 years of exceptional library service!"

Fairport Harbor Public Library is located at 335 Vine Street in Fairport Harbor. For more information call them at 440-354-8191 or visit them at www.fairportlibrary.com.

ICYMI In Case You Missed It!

Visit www.TodaysFamilyMagazine.com to access hundreds of family-related articles and events. Our site is keyword searchable and is mobile friendly. Whatever local family information you need, you will most likely find it at www.TodaysFamilyMagazine.com!

Cleveland Botanical Garden announces new immersive experience for the child in all of us

Just in time for spring! The Cleveland Botanical Garden announces a new permanent exhibit overlooking the towering plants and trees in the glasshouses that will engage young and old. The Ron and Lydia Harrington Perennial Playspace will open to the public on Saturday, March 19, 2022.

"We are excited to open this four-season learning and enrichment space that complements our glasshouse biomes," said Jill Koski, president, and CEO of Holden Forests & Gardens. "Children and families can use play, observation, creativity, and other hands-on opportunities to create personal and relevant links to their natural surroundings. Our hope is that this experience will plant the seeds for lifelong habits of environmental stewardship."

Using the plants and trees native to northeast Ohio and the Cleveland Botanical Garden glasshouses as a jumping-off point, the new gallery will celebrate the importance and variation of plants both locally and around the world. The gallery is hands-on, open-ended, multisensory, and multi-modal. While the target audience is families and groups with children, the whimsical yet organic aesthetics are inviting and sophisticated so that even adults can enjoy and appreciate the space.



PERENNIAL PLAYSPACE ACTIVITIES Sensory Studio

- Magnification Station View plants under magnifiers to reveal surprising and beautiful details of various plants.
- **Rubbing Table** Use crayons to reveal the textures of natural plant materials and plates with a leaf-rubbing craft.
- **Light Table** Observe colorful and translucent images and natural plant materials on a light table.
- Collaboration Tree Create your own plant-inspired craft using art materials. After finishing your creation hang it up to be on

- display on the collaborative tree sculpture.
- Sensory Play/Observation Station This changing activity will allow kids to get their hands into dirt or other plant materials, and learn about the natural world through touch.
- **Terrarium** Observe a Madagascar-native panther chameleon in his new permanent enclosure.

Sensory Play Area

- Sensory Activities Sensory Activities geared towards toddlers where they can explore panels with textures inspired by nature, and use pull-up bars to discover themselves in colored mirrors.
- Beehive Climber This larger-than-life honeycomb cluster encourages kids to buzz around the beehive and pretend to live like a bee.
- Botanical Build Kids are encouraged to build a sculpture using 2D plant shapes to learn about their importance in our ecosystem.
- Organic Orchestra Users can have fun making sounds and songs using bamboo, gourds, and more.
- **Sketching Frames** Pick up a digital frame to sketch the favorite animals, plants, and trees you saw in the glasshouse, gardens, or gallery. For more information, visit holdenfg.org.



Wingate Buffet At LaMalfa

With Seafood

Each Friday Starting March 4, 2022

The doors are open 4-9 PM with last serve at 8 PM

\$15.50 per person plus tax \$10 per child plus tax (under 12 years old)

Reservations Required
Visit lamalfa.com/events

Ask about seasonal rates and incentives on all hotel suites

Daily \$10 pool passes







Flexible, part-time hours for moms and dads

Universal Metal Products, headquartered in Wickliffe, Ohio, is a metal forming manufacturing celebrating its 75th anniversary!

We know the pandemic has caused uncertainty and struggles with families in Lake and Geauga counties, with many struggling to find work/life balance.

UMP has several part-time, light assembly/industrial positions available in our Eastlake manufacturing center. We work with moms and dads who need flexible, part-time hours.

Please visit our website at www.universalmetalproducts.com/careers today or email your resume to hr@ump-inc.com.



Cleveland Metroparks Zoo reveals name of first Cleveland-born gorilla

"Kayembe" (Kah-YEM-Bay), meaning "extraordinary," is the name of the baby gorilla born October 26, 2021 at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The Zoo and Cleveland-based CrossCountry Mortgage (CCM) revealed the name following a three-week naming campaign in support of gorilla conservation through the Zoo's longtime partnership with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund. "Kayembe" made history as the first gorilla born at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo in its 139 years.

The naming campaign received over 600 donations, raising nearly \$15,000 for the Fossey Fund in Rwanda. Named after conservation pioneer Dian Fossey, the Fossey Fund has been saving gorillas for more than 50 years.

"Kayembe has captured the hearts of so many with his extraordinary birth and story," said Dr. Chris Kuhar, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo executive director.

An exclusive social media video series created in partnership with CrossCountry Mortgage continues



to follow the baby's growth and development and has received more than 850,000 views. At nearly four months old, Kayembe continues to be in nearly constant contact with surrogate mom, Freddy. He recently reached a new developmental milestone when he began crawling and exploring his habitat within a few feet of mom.

Guests visiting Cleveland Metroparks Zoo can visit Kayembe and the gorilla troop at the Primate, Cat & Aquatics building daily between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Visit FutureForWildlife.org for more information.



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Community invited to help break most kites flown world record

Please plan to join Crossroads Health on May 21, 2022 at 2 p.m. at Headlands Beach State Park for a Guinness World RecordsTM attempt of most kites flown simultaneously. Over 12,350 kites in the air are

needed to break the record! If successful, participants will have an opportunity to receive an official certificate with their name as a world record holder directly from Guinness World Records (additional fee applies).

Three ticket options:

- 1) Free admission general admission with entrance bracelet.
- 2) \$20 VIP admission entrance bracelet & record-breaking T-shirt.
- 3) Pay what you can general admission with entrance bracelet (donation).

School groups, teams, social

groups, clubs, organizations, businesses, individuals, families & friends—all are welcome for an unforgettable moment of sheer amazement and wonder for all ages and stages of life.

> You are encouraged to bring your own kite. A limited amount of Crossroads Health kites will be available for purchase. Children 10 & under also get a free entrance bracelet (kites & shirts available for purchase while supplies last).

*Pets are prohibited on the beach.

Crossroads Health offers a continuum of

recovery and mental health programs and services for all people, at any age or stage of life. They have facilities in Mentor, Painesville and Wil-

Call 440-255-1700 or visit them at crossroadshealth.org/soaringhearts to reserve your tickets.

Connect with your local library!

Weird Science

Wednesday, March 9 • 6–7 p.m. Wickliffe Public Library 1713 Lincoln Road, Wickliffe 440-944-6010

Children kindergarten – 4th grade will explore unusual science concepts in hands-on environment as we learn about our changing March weather. Registration required.

Magic for Muggles

Wednesday, March 9 • 6:30 p.m. Mentor Library Headlands Branch 4669 Corduroy Road 440-257-2000

The library is transforming its Headlands Branch into Hogwarts this year! Each month, kids will enjoy a different class that covers an important magical topic. In March, kids will learn care of magical creatures. Registration required.

Creative Tiles Art Gallery

Tuesday, March 15 • 2 p.m. Mentor Main Library 8215 Mentor Avenue 440-255-8811

Kids ages 6 to 12 can help beautify the library! The children will decorate a ceiling tile that will be displayed on the ceiling of the children's media room. Please dress for a mess. Registration required.

Meet a Real Mascot Story Time

Tuesday, March 22 • 6 p.m. Mentor Main Library 8215 Mentor Avenue 440-255-8811

During this monthly story time, community members will stop by to talk about their jobs and share stories, songs and activities. This month, Skipper - mascot for the Lake County Captains - will be the special guest. Open to all kids up to sixth grade. Registration required.

Spirograph Art

Wednesdays, March 23, 30 • 5 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School 6477 Center Street 440-974-5300

Kids ages 5-8 will make Spirograph art and use The HUB's laser cutter to make a Spirograph that they can take home. Registration is required. The library is hosting two sessions of this craft. Only register for one. (Mentor Public Library)



Lake County's **Emergency Rental** Assistance Program

FOR HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED BY COVID- 19



Funded by:



Board of Lake County Commissioners John R. Hamercheck * John Plecnik * Ron Young

Directly or indirectly due to COVID 19, at least 1 adult in the household qualifies for unemployment or has reduced income, significant costs or financial hardships;

Eligibility Criteria:

Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; AND

3

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



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 2-1-1 OR VISIT WWW. FHRC.ORG

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We buy up to one hour before closing.



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Spruce up your home this spring with a Kichler light fixture

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Square shapes are often boxed into modern decorating schemes - but not with this threelight linear chandelier from the KaileyTM collection. They've given the cubist feel a transitional twist, with feminine organza shades that diffuse the light as well as soften the overall tone of the

Kichler's high-quality products are a result of high-quality testing. They have the only class 4 lab in the U.S.— ensuring verified specifications and safety for each and every

fixture they deliver. And, with geographically dispersed distribution centers, you can rest easy knowing you'll get what

you need when you need it. Their website offers tips and guides for selecting the perfect light fixture

along with style and space ideas. You are sure to be inspired after visiting their website.

www.kichler.com.



Lake Humane Society annual fundraising events for 2022

Join Lake Humane Society for their major events in 2022! Each year LHS puts on four signature events to help the homeless animals in their care. Save the dates for the events and get ready to have a doggone good time this summer!

Pup Crawl

Saturday, June 4 Downtown Willoughby

Rescue Rock Off

Saturday, July 23 Mentor Civic Amphitheater (Bring the whole family!)

Mutt Strut

Sunday, August 28 Lake Metroparks Farmpark (Bring your dog!)

Black Cat Ball

Thursday, October 27 Tall Oaks Event Complex, Kirtland

Proceeds from these events will go directly towards helping hundreds of homeless animals in Lake County.

For more information on any of these events, visit www.lakehumane. org or call the events office at (440) 951-6122 ext.110.

Lake Humane Society is a nonprofit organization that receives no state or county funding and relies on community donations to operate. Attending a fundraising event this summer is a great way to show your support. Can'tattend? You can help by donating towards their mission Visit www.lakehumane.org/ get-involved/make-a-donation.

www.TodaysFamilyMagazine.com





Choosing a Summer Camp

By Kimberly Blaker

hether you're looking for enrichment for your child, a way to keep your child occupied and supervised while you work, or a short reprieve from parenting, there's a summer camp out there that's just right for every family.

The benefits of summer camp.

Summer camp offers plenty of benefits, and many kids thrill at the idea of going away to summer camp. But for some kids, particularly those who are shy, introverted, or homebodies, the thought of going away for a night, let alone a week or more, can be cause for considerable anxiety. For kids who are adamantly opposed, forcing summer camp on them may not be in their best interest.

But for kids who are more than eager – or at the very least willing to give it a shot without too much fuss – summer camp offers lots of opportunities kids aren't likely to experience at home or anywhere else. If you're not familiar with the benefits, summer camp:

- Fosters independence
- Is a place to develop new and lasting friendships
- · Helps kids develop new skills
- Leads kids to discover new interests and hobbies
- Provides the opportunity for creative expression

- Gives kids a break from being plugged-in
- · Offers daily exercise
- Improves their self-esteem
- Teaches kids to work with others
- Makes kids feel part of a community
- Prevents or reduces summer learning loss

Getting started in your search.

Before you begin looking into summer camps, first create a list of the criteria you're looking for. Here are some initial things to consider.

- What is your budget for summer camp?
- What is the purpose of sending your child to summer camp?
- Do you want a resident (overnight) or a day camp?
- Are you looking for a shortterm (week or two) or summer-long program?
- Do you want a camp that's very structured or one that provides your child lots of freedom and choices?
- What are your child's interests, such as a particular sport, hobby, or other interest?

Once you've narrowed down some of the criteria, you can begin your search. An excellent place to start is right here in Today's Family and on www. TodaysFamilyMagazine.com! The American Camp Association (ACA) accredits summer camps. So this is another excellent place to look for a camp. The ACA educates camp owners and directors in health and safety for staff and campers as well as program quality. It then accredits camps that meet the organization's standards.

Next steps to finding the perfect summer camp.

Once you've selected a few summer camps that meet your primary criteria and that fit your child's interests, share the choices to see what excites your child. Let your child know up front that you still need to thoroughly investigate the camp(s) before making a final decision. But do keep your child's choices in mind to ensure your child gets the most out of summer camp.

Once you and your child have narrowed the list to a manageable selection, you'll want to investigate the camps further. Several things to consider:

What are the staff's qualifications?

Many summer camps use teens to staff the camps. Teens make excellent mentors and can bring liveliness to summer camp programs. However, the programs themselves should be developed by professionals and have professional oversight to ensure kids are getting the most from the camp programs.

How does the camp ensure your child's safety?

Find out what kind of safety training the camp provides its staffers. Also, is there staff on hand at all times that knows CPR? What are the camp's procedures in the event your child becomes ill, has an accident, or there's an emergency?

What is the daily schedule for campers?

Ask for a daily itinerary, so you know your child will be getting everything you and your child anticipate from the program.

What are the rules?

Each camp has its own set of rules. So, find out whether your child is allowed to call you. If it's a summer-long residential camp, can parents come and visit? Can your child bring along a cell phone or electronics? Also, how much money should your child bring, and how is your child's money managed?

Don't sweat it.

Keep in mind, although there are many great camps, no camp is likely to offer everything precisely the way you want it. Just choose the one that best fits your child and satisfies your most important criteria. Remember, your child will have many summers to come and plenty more opportunities to work in more exciting camp experiences.



LEARN TO RIDE

AT LAKE ERIE COLLEGE'S THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER

THE ONLY PATH INTL. PREMIER ACCREDITED CENTER IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO!

A unique opportunity for children 8-14 with special needs to experience the fun of learning to ride, groom, and care for horses in a safe, skilled, and supportive environment.

SUMMER LESSONS BEGIN IN JUNE AND RUN THROUGH AUGUST!

TO SIGN-UP OR FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE VISIT LEC.EDU/THERAPEUTICHORSEMANSHIP

GEORGE M. HUMPHREY EQUESTRIAN CENTER 8031 MORLEY ROAD | MENTOR, OHIO 44060 1.855.GO.STORM | LEC.EDU









ASBURY CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

10776 Asbury Road, Hiram (330) 569-3171 www.campasbury.org

For 65 years, Camp Asbury has been forming faith and connecting people to nature through small-group camping.

Go for a hike, canoe in the lake, enjoy an evening around the campfire, and so much more!

Resident camp is available for kids in 1st through 12th grade, June 19–July 29, 2022. This summer, they will explore how God speaks to them through creation, and through all the seasons of their lives.

They're following current COVID-19 protocols to keep campers and staff safe and healthy.

Register online for one-week sessions at www.eocsummer camps.org.

This ministry of the United Methodist Church welcomes all. To learn more about their summer camp programs, join them at Camp Asbury for an open house and summer preview on April 10, 2022, anytime from 2–5 p.m.

BUSY BEES POTTERY& ARTS STUDIO

Great Lakes Mall 7850 Mentor Avenue, Mentor (440) 571-5201 mentor.busybeesart.com/ kids-camp

Busy Bees Pottery & Arts Studio in Mentor offers Art Camp during the summer, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. You can enroll for five full days or five half days per week. Children must be between ages of 6-14 (your child must have completed kindergarten and know how to cut with scissors). Each day of camp revolves around a specific medium such as clay hand-building, pottery painting, glass fusing, canvas painting, candle making and more!

Your child will create one to three pieces of artwork each day using inspiration from their favorite hobbies and interests. Spaces are limited. Sign up now!

CAMP CARL

8054 Calvin Road, Ravenna (330) 315-5665 www.CampCarl.life

Kids need camp. Today, like never before, teens and preteens are under tremendous pressure. Self-doubt, peer pressure, substance abuse, self-injury and myriad harmful voices nag at kids every day. Even kids who have a strong support structure face obstacles.

Camp Carl provides opportunities for children and students to pull away and get a breather—to catch a vision for the bigger picture of their lives. Kids need experiences that will challenge them and give them worth, direction, belonging, perspective, significance, connection and love! They believe love matters most!

As one of Ohio's leading Christian camps, each summer Camp Carl provides 2,200+ children and students with the opportunity to discover their God-given purpose and potential, experience incredible adventures, foster relationships that could last a lifetime, and not just hear the Gospel but experience the Gospel through their staff. They hire over 110 thoroughly trained college students so that vour camper will be surrounded by the finest young Christian role models that colleges around the country have to offer.

CAMP FITCH YMCA

www.campfitchymca.org

Camp Fitch's century-old classic sleepaway summer camp provides kids, ages 6–17, with a holistically safe, values-driven community where they discover friendship and achievement. Kids feel like they belong among the camp's carefully vetted, highly committed, and caring staff, who create transformative experiences on the shore of Lake Erie.

A life-changing Fitch experience is among the most important a child can have to develop independence and self-confidence. Through partnering with the Erie Health Department and health-care professionals, they have designed a safe environment to make kids better, forever.



CAMP HO MITA KODA

14040 Auburn Road, Newbury www.camphomitakoda.org

Camp Ho Mita Koda is a coed summer camp for kids and teens with type 1 diabetes. Located in Newbury, Ohio, their overnight and day camp programs welcome boys and girls in grades K–11 for one-week sessions. Founded in 1929, Camp Ho Mita Koda is the very first and oldest operating summer camp in the country for kids with T1D!

Camp Ho Mita Koda's strong camp community, diabetes management curricula and traditions allow each camper the opportunity to gain independence within a healthy, active program. Each day offers a variety of programs supporting skills development and decision-making that builds self-confidence.

Surrounded by friends and a world-class staff, every camper learns to 'stretch'...spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially. Self-assured in these new skills, campers come away with a strong foundation for living their best life, increased capabilities and newfound independence in managing their own personal T1D journey.

CAMP INVENTION

www.invent.org/local

Spark your kid's creativity and build their confidence with their new Camp Invention® program, Explore! When this nationally acclaimed program comes to your area children in grades K–6 will collaborate with friends in handson, open-ended STEM adventures.

During this dynamic, high-energy program, young innovators will:

- Dive into cutting-edge ocean research as they adopt their own robotic fish, design and patent aquatic plants, and take their fish friend home in a mini tank.
- Discover real space exploration technology when they create Spacepacks and Astro Arm devices, mine an asteroid and observe erupting ice volcanoes.
- Combine science and art to build their own robotic artist,

engage in design thinking, make spin art and learn how inventions can change the way people create.

 Experiment with the fun of physics, engineering and gaming as they design, build and test their own mega marble arcades.

Availability is limited, so visit invent.org/local to secure your spot!

CHAGRIN VALLEY FARMS

9250 Washington Street Chagrin Falls (440) 543-7233 www.chagrinvalleyfarms.com

Does your child love horses? Have they experienced the joy of riding or spent a day playing horse games, making crafts, and grooming ponies as they learn how to care for these amazing animals?

Chagrin Valley Farms happily shares these experiences with children ages 6 and up during their camps that run weekly June 6 through August 19. Staffed by experienced instructors, their summer riding camp develops young riders with English riding and horsemanship instruction.

Campers may see a farrier shoe a horse or watch a veterinary visit. In addition to riding, campers will groom and care for the horses.

They offer half-day and full-day sessions, designed with fun and safety in mind. Chagrin Valley Farms is northeast Ohio's premier, full-service equestrian center, offering camp and lesson programs year-round, in addition to horse shows for all levels.

Visit them online, email info@ chagrinvalleyfarms.com, or like them on Facebook.

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY ODYSSEY PROGRAM

1375 Euclid Avenue, 6th floor Cleveland (216) 687-5087 www.csufilmodyssey.com

The Odyssey Program at Cleveland State University's School of Film & Media Arts offers a variety of immersive summer camps for high school students (aged 13–18) interested in filmmaking. →



Summer Camps and More

at LNSP East!

MIKE MORAN BASKETBALL CAMPS

Boys & girls ages 6-14

Two separate one-week sessions

Monday-Friday • 9:00 am-3:15 pm June 13-17 /June 20-24

Tuition is \$185.00 per camper per session. Early bird tuition is \$170.00 for campers registering by May 1!

Register at www.morancamps.com or call 440-338-8092 to request a brochure or for info.

CLEVELAND SOCCER ACADEMY SUMMER CAMP



Full- and half-day camps July 13–16 / July 25–28 Full-day: \$175, Half-day \$125 Boys and girls ages 6-13

Contact Ali Kazemaini, camp director, at Kaz@LNSportspark.com.

JUNIOR HOOPERS ACADEMY

Junior Hoopers Academy is a NEWER program for ages 2–5. 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, basic dribbling and more.

Spring session: March 22–May 14 / \$140 per child Ages: 2–3 (with parents) and 4–5 (without parents)
For info/registration contact: Sarah@LNSportsPark.com

LIL SLUGGERS

Spring session: April 16–June 18

- Introduction to baseball for kids 2–5 years old.
- 10-weeks, \$160 per child, Saturdays 9 am **or** 10 am.
- Low student/instructor ratio.

For info/registration contact: EStrauss@LNSportsPark.com

LIL KICKERS

Spring session: April 12-June 18

- Child development program based on soccer.
- 10 weeks, \$160 per child
- 50 minutes per session, once a week.

For info/registration contact: Sarah@LNSportsPark.com



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

440-602-4000 www.LNSportsPark.com



Cleveland State cont'd

Through interactive workshops, film screenings, focused activities, and visits from special quest speakers. Odvssev participants learn storytelling, screenwriting, acting, directing, cinematography, editing and more as they create their own original films and projects in a fun and collaborative environment.

With access to the film school's professional soundstages, Mac editing labs, and vast inventory of film production equipment, expert instructors aided by CSU film student camp counselors help students hone their skills during these activity-packed experienc-

The summer includes an experiential three-week camp from June 13-July 1, followed by three one-week intensive camps that focus on acting and directing (July 11–17), documentary production (July 18–24), and screenwriting (July 25-31). Day camp and residential options are available.

DOUBLE DEUCE FARM

11653 Girdled Road, Concord (440) 796-6532 www.doubledeucefarm.com

Does your child love horses and ponies? Double Deuce Farm has the camp for you! Sign up for one of their camps and your child will have fun while learning all about horses.

Boys and girls, ages 6 and up are encouraged to register. Camp dates are June 13-17, June 27-July 1, July 11-15, July 25-29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All levels of riders are welcome from the very beginner to experienced riders.

Camp includes two mounted riding lessons each day, along with ground lessons, crafts, and a visit from an equine professional. They conclude the week with a pizza party for the kids and a camp t-shirt is provided.

Visit their website for details about mini camps and info about weekly riding lessons or email Doubledeucefarm22@gmail.com.

FAIRMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

8400 Fairmount Road, Novelty (440) 338-3171 www.fairmountcenter.org

Fairmount Center for the Arts will offer camps June 1 – July 29 for preschoolers-grade 8.

Camps include half-day and full-day options exploring dance, music, theatre and visual arts. Additionally, multi-arts themed camps will provide a sampling of art forms designed to explore a variety of interests through handson activities offered in a supportive, caring and fun environment. Camps will take advantage of outdoor spaces as feasible, enjoying beautiful summer days.

Complete camp information will be released March 7 with an early registration discount of 5% on registrations completed by April 30.

For more information you can email info@fairmountcenter.org.

Located just minutes away from Mayfield, Chagrin Falls and Chardon.

FALCON CAMP

Carrollton, OH (800) 837-CAMP www.falconcamp.com

Recognized throughout the Midwest as Ohio's premier summer camp since 1959, Falcon Camp has been chosen as a "Top Ten Camp in USA" and selected as the "Coolest Camp in Ohio." Falcon offers a beautiful lakefront setting, talented staff and wide variety of activities. Boys and girls ages 6–16 choose their own schedule within a general framework and daily activities are separate with planned coed events.

Horseback riding, sailing, swimming, riflery, crafts, tennis, drama, archery and much more.

Falcon has a strong reputation for making sure a camper's first overnight experience is very positive. The noncompetitive environment is inviting to new campers while their awards system challenges more experienced campers. The 1:4 staff/camper ratio allows individual instruction



Summer Art Camp Registration is Open!

Includes:

- All materials/supplies for projects.
- Small class sizes.
- Introduction to various types of art.
- Sign up by the week.
- Full week, full day 9 am-4 pm; \$299.
- Full week, half day 9 am-noon OR 1 pm-4 pm; \$199.

For details and registration visit: https://bit.ly/21artcamp Promo Code CAMP35 to get \$35 off!

Great Lakes Mall, Mentor (440) 571-5201

www.mentor.busybeesart.com mentor@busybeesart.com







🔢 Like us for updates and specials!

Paint Your Own Canvas • Pottery **Glass Painting • Board Art**

Create Your Own Mosaics • Glass Fusing **Clay Hand Building**

Also Available

Workshops • Parties • Outings

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT \$35 off per week

When signed up by April 30, 2022. Call (440) 571-5201 to register. Or visit https://bit.ly/21artcamp **Promo Code: CAMP35**





Falcon Camp cont'd

and attention. Most of all it's great fun!

Falcon has a special intro program for campers ages 6–10. ACA accredited, many references available. Falcon is an outstanding opportunity for fun and learning.

THE FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION SUMMER CAMPS

38660 Mentor Ave., Willoughby (440) 951-7500 www.fineartsassociation.org

The Fine Arts Association (FAA) offers full- and half-day camps for the littlest campers at age three through high school grads! From the ever popular Theatre Arts Camp (TAC), to new classes in dance, you can recharge your batteries with FAA! Summer semester camp registration opened on February 7 and summer class registration will open on March 7. Arts camps, classes, work-

shops, and private lessons are offered in dance, music, theatre, visual arts, and creative arts therapies. From June 6 to August 5, FAA's six-week summer programming offers something for all.

FAA serves Lake County and drives arts programming to all in the surrounding northeast Ohio area. While the pandemic has created several challenges, it has highlighted the importance of making the time to have a creative outlet to express oneself. Whether you are pursuing the arts recreationally or professionally, FAA is the place to create and discover beauty.

Visit fineartsassociation.org to learn more.

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT SUMMER CAMPS

(440) 286-9516 www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

Geauga Park District's outdoor adventure camps – with a focus on connecting kiddos with nature

ATTENTION: Cross Country

Runners



XC Camp is offering a camp to boys and girls entering kindergarten through grade 12 who are interested in becoming a better cross country runner. Any skill level is welcome!



July 26-30, 2022 8-11:30 am

Shore Middle School 5670 Hopkins Road • Mentor



www.gcxcracing.com

LOVE HORSES? COME RIDE WITH US!





11 weeks available June 6 - August 19 at Northeast Ohio's premier equestrian center offering summer riding camps for riders of all skill levels!

Visit www.chagrinvalleyfarms.com for all the details!



COLLEGE CREDIT 1cr

WNOVATIVE CREATE JUNE 20-24

GRAPHIC DESIGN SUMMER BOOT CAMP INNOVATION

This five-day boot camp is for high school students, freshmen through seniors (up to 19 years old), who are interested in graphic design. You will be taught the basics of Adobe InDesign — the industry-leading software.

This class will be IN PERSON Class is limited to 13 students. The cost is only \$150.00. Class time is M-F from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER TODAY! or visit bit.ly/gd-bootcamp



Geauga Park District cont'd

enter their exciting 10th year in 2022.

Kayaking, hiking, geocaching, biking, fishing, building model rockets, launchin' 'em, and exploring stream life are just some of their anticipated outdoor adventures, depending on which week campers are enrolled.

Registration opens March 20 for the whole summer's worth of camps at geaugaparkdistrict.org.

Watch for offerings for youth entering grades 3–4 the week of July 11; youth entering grades 5–7 the weeks of June 13, 27, July 18, 25, and August 1; and teens entering grades 8–10 the weeks of June 20 and July 11.

Registration also opens March 20 for Junior Naturalist Day Camp the week of June 6 and "X-TREME" adventures for teens July 20 (high ropes) and July 27 (kayaks).

Find more details by following the link at http://bit.ly/gpdcamps.

GILMOUR DAY CAMPS

34001 Cedar Road, Gates Mills www.gilmour.org/summercamp (440) 473-8000 ext. 2267

The official camp of safe summer fun! With offerings that include outdoor adventure, drone, sports camps and the arts, Camp Gilmour has something for everyone! Camps offered June 6–August 5.

Preschool Camp (nine weeks available) delights children ages 3–5 as they explore an exciting theme each week.

Day Camp (nine weeks available) is for children ages 5–12. Full and half days offered (can combine with other half-day specialty camps). Daily math, reading and writing enrichment provided at no cost.

Hockey, volleyball and cross country camps, hosted by coaches from Gilmour's state-ranked programs, provide campers the opportunity to hone skills.

Before- and after-care options from 7:15 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Register at www.gilmour.org/ summercamp. Questions? Contact (440) 473-8000 ext. 2267 or email summercamp@gilmour.org.

Gilmour Academy is an independent, Catholic, coed school in the Holy Cross tradition. Grades K–12 and Montessori preschool (18 months–preschool).

GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTH EAST OHIO

gsneo.org/camplife (800) 852-4474

Summer is just around the corner, and it's time to start planning your girl's next big adventure.

The best part is, all girls are welcome — no Girl Scout experience necessary!

Girl Scouts are a force of nature. They were meant for outdoor adventures. Your girl is ready to rediscover the world – to disconnect from technology and embrace the freedom of the woods, the sky, and water.

If she loves to explore, Passport to Fun may be her perfect

resident camp, but if she loves science, maybe Top Chef is the perfect one-day program for the girl who's a master chef in the making!

Space Rockettes may be the week-long day camp for the astronomer in training in your life. Whichever camp themes she chooses, fun is sure to follow!

GREAT DAY CHILD CARE LEARNING CENTER

2471 Hubbard Road, Madison (440) 428-5993

14810 Madison Road (St. Rt. 528) Middlefield (440) 632-1832

4325 Manchester Road, Perry (440) 259-8125 www.greatdaychildcare.com

Great Day Child Care Learning Centers provide the highest quality child care services to families in Madison, Perry, Middlefield and surrounding communities.

Their staff is trained and certified in: CPR, first aid, communicable disease & child abuse recog-



GET READY FOR SUMMER 2022!

For decades, University School has been the place for boys and girls in Northeast Ohio to develop skills and forge friendships that extend well beyond the summer months.



DAY CAMPS

Our day camp experience expands with an extended coed week option and theme-based preschool camps.



EXPLORER PROGRAMS

Summer is the time to discover new interests, find new adventures, and explore the outdoors.



ACADEMIC COURSES

Each summer, students from around Northeast Ohio expand their intellectual horizons at US.



ATHLETIC CAMPS

Our coaches offer a challenging and safe environment for athletes to compete at every level.

View all of our programs and register at www.us.edu/summer!









Great Day Child Care cont'd

nition so you can be rest assured your child is in good hands.

In addition, the caring and compassionate environment will help your child to grow and have fun interacting with friends while learning new skills every day.

Great Day offers a summer program for children kindergarten to 12 years of age. The large outdoor fenced in area gives kids a chance to play with their friends and enjoy the summer weather.

The weekly themes, special guests, like Jungle Terry, and water days, will give your child something to look forward to all summer. Visit them online or give them a call for more details.

GREATER CLEVELAND CROSS COUNTRY CAMP

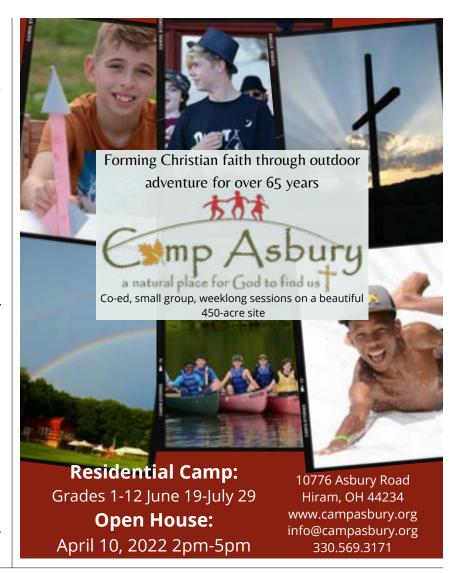
www.greaterclevelandxc.com (440) 290-0185

The Greater Cleveland Cross Country Camp is geared for the beginner to the advanced runner, who is looking to have a better focus pertaining to the fundamentals of cross country running and conditioning, to obtain maximum benefit.

Through group runs, guest speakers and group activities, each runner will leave with a positive attitude, tools to become an improved runner, and a better understanding of running.

This is the 18th annual cross country camp and will be held Tuesday, July 26 through Saturday, July 30 from 8 a.m.—11:30 a.m. at Shore Middle School in Mentor. The last day is a cross country race for all campers based on grade level. The camp is open to boys and girls K—12th grade.

The Greater Cleveland Cross Country Camp is organized by Mentor High School boys/girls head cross country coach, Bill Dennison, with the support of other local coaches and college runners. They hope each camper leaves with the love and passion that the staff at the Greater Cleveland Cross Country Camp has.





CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FILM & MEDIA ARTS

ODYSSEY PROGRAM

FILMMAKING SUMMER CAMPS FOR TEENS

LEARN ACTING, DIRECTING, CINEMATOGRAPHY, EDITING, PRODUCING, SCREENWRITING, AND MORE FROM THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY AT THE SCHOOL OF FILM & MEDIA ARTS!

- Create your own original films using professional equipment in our sound stages and Mac editing labs
- Four sessions for ages 13–18
- 1 week and 3-week camps
- Residential and day camp options Choose to commute or stay in CSU dorms!

MAKE FRIENDS AND GAIN SKILLS FOR LIFE!

Odyssey Program Experiential

Three Week Summer Camp June 13 – July 1, 2022

Odyssey Intensive:

Acting and Directing

July 11 – July 17, 2022

Odyssey Intensive:

Documentary Production

July 18 - July 24, 2022

Odyssey Intensive:

Screenwriting

July 25 – July 31, 2022

ALSO AVAILABLE: ONE-DAY SKILL BUILDING WORKSHOPS IN SPRING 2022!

For more information or to register, please contact the program coordinator by phone 216.687.5087, email odyssey@csuohio.edu, or visit csufilmodyssey.com.



CSUFILMODYSSEY.COM



HAWKEN SUMMER PROGRAMS

Gates Mills and Lyndhurst (440) 423-2940 www.hawken.edu/summer

Hawken Summer Programs
Camp offerings include a variety
of exciting activities led by experienced professionals for boys and
girls ages 4-14. While your child
is enrolled, you'll rest assured
knowing he or she is in a safe,
nurturing environment. Camp
offerings include Hawklings, Boys
or Girls Day Camps, Boys Sports
Camp and Girls Lifetime Adventure Camp.

Passport Camps offer weeklong, full and half-day opportunities to learn, create, and explore. Hawken Athletics Camps offer skill-driven instruction and provide young athletes the opportunity to hone their skills, improve team play, and learn from the best. Hawken Summer Studies Program, open to public and private school students, is a

six-week program of credit and enrichment for students entering grades 6–12.

Camps run at varying intervals between June and August. For more information, contact summerprograms@hawken.edu, (440) 423.2940, or visit www. hawken.edu/summer. Please note: COVID-19 protocols will be determined as it gets closer to camp dates.

HOSPICE OF THE WESTERN RESERVE TOGETHER WE CAN GRIEF CAMP

(216) 486-6838 www.hospicewr.org/griefandloss

Children's grief specialists at Western Reserve Grief Services are hosting summer camps where children can continue their healing process in the company of their peers, who have experienced similar losses.

Riding Through Grief, held in collaboration with Fieldstone

Farm Therapeutic Riding Center in Chagrin Falls, utilizes the gentle, nurturing feedback of horses. Two camps are scheduled: June 20–24, 9 a.m. to noon, for children 8–12, and July 18–22, 9 a.m. to noon for teens 13–17. Registration is \$75 per camper.

Scholarships are available.

Camp Red Oak (ages 6–13) in

Kirtland will be held Aug. 9–11,

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and combines

art, music, play and nature exploration. The camp brings together

children, all of whom have experienced the death of a loved one,

in a safe, supportive environment. Call to request an information packet.

LAKE COUNTY YMCA

(440) 354-5656 www.lakecountyymca.org

At the Y, they value the unique personalities and potential of every child and teen. Summer camp creates an environment where kids are encouraged to explore and discover new things, cultivate friendships and make memories that last a lifetime.

The Lake County Y Central, East End, and West End offer a variety of summer day camp and adventure camp experiences for preschoolers and children ages 4–14. Through hands-on experiences, children gain self-reliance, a love of nature and develop attitudes and practices that build character and leadership—all amidst the fun of camp songs, crafts, swimming, sports, talent shows and meaningful friendships.

INNOVATION GRAPHIC DESIGN BOOT CAMP

391 West Washington Street
Painesville
(440) 375-7050
www.lec.edu

The Innovation Graphic Design Boot Camp at Lake Erie College (LEC) allows students to explore original, useful and creative



child? Consider one of our **Together We Can**bereavement day camps for children who have
experienced the death of a loved one. Campers
will share stories, laugh together, shed some tears
and celebrate the life of their special person.

Five-da

Riding Through Grief

Fieldstone Farm

16497 Snyder Road, Chagrin Falls 9 a.m. – noon June 20–24; kids ages 8 – 12

July 18 – 22; teens ages 13 – 17 \$75 registration per camper

This camp is offered in collaboration with Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center and is for children and teens who have experienced the death of a loved one. Through riding and working with horses, campers explore grief issues supported by trained counselors.

Three-day

Red Oak

Red Oak Camp

9057 Kirtland Chardon Road, Willoughby August 9 – 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$25 registration per camper

our Lakeshore campus.

A three-day bereavement day camp for children ages 6–13 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Transportation is available from



For more information or to receive a registration packet, email thebereavementcenter@hospicewr.org or call 216.486.6838.



Scholarships are available.



Lake Erie College cont'd

communication ideas. During the five-day Innovation week at LEC, the students will learn the basic principles of graphic design and apply their creative ideas to design layouts. Students will be introduced to the critique process and begin to work through creative problem-solving as it applies to communication. Innovation week is a good way for students with potential interest in graphic design to understand the design process and learn if graphic design is the right career path for

A student with a BFA in visual communication and graphic design degree can become a graphic designer, art director, creative director, web design, UI/UX designer (app design), production artist and freelancer. Because the skills learned are so versatile, the possibilities are endless for individuals in graphic design.



LAKE ERIE COLLEGE THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER

George M. Humphrey **Equestrian Center** 8031 Morley Road, Mentor (440) 375-8052

lec.edu/therapeutichorsemanship

Come ride at the Lake Erie College Therapeutic Riding Center. Lake County's only PATH Intl. premier accredited center!

Children ages 8–14 years old with special needs can experience the joy of riding, grooming, and caring for horses during their adaptive riding lessons. Students participate in a variety of fun and creative mounted activities to increase their confidence, improve physical strength, and develop problem-solving skills. Building relationships with their classmates, volunteer team, and equine partners fosters independence, improved language skills, and better impulse control.

Students receive a personal

ummer Horseback Riding Day Camp



2022 **Camp Dates**

June 13-17 • June 27-July 1 July 11-15 • July 25-29 9 am-4 pm

Cost: \$425 per week

All riding levels - Ages 6 and up

Register @ www.doubledeucefarm.com



Double Deuce Farm, Inc. 11653 Girdled Road, Concord 440-796-653<u>2</u> oubledeucefarm22@gmail.com Professional vet, farrier, and/or equine massage therapist visit.



- All riding levels ages 6 and up.
- Two group riding lessons and one ground lesson each day.
- fine arts

CAMPS, WORKSHOPS, AND MORE! REGISTER TODAY!

THE FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION 38660 MENTOR AVE. WILLOUGHBY, OH 44094 440-951-7500 | FINEARTSASSOCIATION.ORG

JUNE 6 - AUGUST 5

The Official Camp of Summer



Travel through summer safely this year at Camp Gilmour.

With nine weeks of new offerings and old favorites for children as young

as 3, Camp Gilmour has something for everyone! From our 9 weeks of theme-based Day Camp and Preschool Camp to sports camps and fine and performing arts camps - children will be active, entertained and safe all summer long! Before and After Care available.

> Easy online registration. visit gilmour.org/summercamp

Volleyball and Cross Country Camps

(hosted by coaches from Gilmour's state-ranked programs)

Motogo V8 Engine NEW



Discover Theater

Stage Makeup

Summer Breakaway Hockey Camps

Mission Fit









Lake Erie College cont'd

evaluation to determine if the program is right for them. Summer lessons begin in June and run through August.

Learn more about their therapeutic riding program at lec.edu/ therapeutichorsemanship or email lectrc@lec.edu.

*Volunteers ages 14 and up with or without horse experience are needed to support the riders in the program. Visit their website to learn how you can help.

LIBERTY CAMP USA

www.LibertyCampUSA.com

Liberty Camp USA is a weeklong day camp in Lake and Geauga counties where campers become "time travelers" and experience the struggles and sacrifices of America's colonists as they fight to gain liberty from the British. They meet the known and unknown heroes, learn that America is a republic not a democracy, and that the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are critical pillars that must be protected for America to remain free

The importance of personal virtue including truth, perseverance, courage, vigilance, and valor are learned as they stand with America's founding citizens.

Time travelers are students entering 1st through 7th grade and young patriots are 8th grade through college-age students who contribute as reenactor assistants. Liberty Camp's goal is to reignite the flame of patriotism in today's youth by teaching history in a fun and memorable way. Liberty Camp USA is a 501(c). Registration is only \$50.

Registration opens April 1 at www.LibertyCampUSA.com.



LOST NATION SPORTS PARK

38630 Jet Center Drive Willoughby (440) 602-4000 www.LNSportsPark.com

Mike Moran Basketball Camps Open to boys and girls ages 6–14 Session #1: June 13-17 Session #2: June 20-24

- Week-long program (M–F)
- 9:00 am-3:15 p.m.
- Weekly tuition is \$185.
- Early registration discount is only \$170 (by May 1, 2022).
- All campers receive a T-shirt. Call (440) 338-8092 for more information or visit morancamps. com for easy registration.

Cleveland Soccer Academy Summer Camp

Open to boys and girls ages 8-14 Full- and half-day camps Session #1: July 13–16 Session #2: July 25–28 • Full-day tuition is \$175.

Half-day tuition is \$125. Email Ali Kazemaini, camp director, at Kaz@LNSportsPark.com.

MENTOR SAFETY TOWN

(Sponsored by the Junior Women's Club of Mentor) Garfield Elementary/Memorial Junior High School 7090 Hopkins Road, Mentor www.mentorjuniorwomen.org

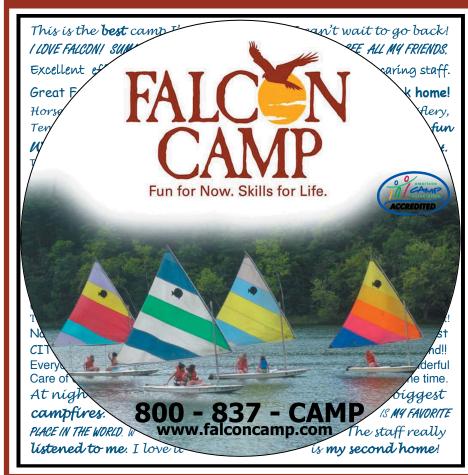
Safety Town is an awareness program to teach young children safety while providing parents with peace of mind. The program includes classes on fire safety, stranger danger, drugs and an outside mini town with instructions on pedestrian/traffic/bike rules. Registration is open to children ages 4, 5 and 6 years old.

The program is presented by the Junior Women's Club in partnership with the Mentor Fire and Police departments along with the Mentor Public Library and Mentor Public Schools.

This successful program in safety and education for Lake County children is directed and taught by caring and experienced local state board teachers.

Safety Town is offered for two

Ohio's Premier Summer Camp



Traditional Resident Summer Camp (ages 6–16)

- Only 90 miles south of Cleveland Carrollton OH.
- For boys and girls separate activities with planned coed events.
- 2,- 4-, 6- or 8-week sessions.
- Horseback riding, sailing, swimming, arts, drama, archery, riflery, nature, sports, fishing and so much more!
- Campers choose own activities within broad framework.
- American Camp Association Accredited Camp since 1959.
- 1:4 staff/camper ratio allows excellent supervision and instruction.

Young Adventurers Summer Camp (ages 6–10)

- Special one-week intro sessions includes all camp activities.
- Designed to give first-time younger campers an outstanding 'first adventure.'
- 1:3 staff/camper ratio allows for extra attention with living habits, meals, bedtime and social skills.

AWARD WINNING!

Top 10 Camp in USA!

-EarlyChildhoodEducationZone.com

Selected as Ohio's "Coolest Camp" –Philly.com

Program Excellence Award

-American Camp Association Ohio

Best Parenting Award 2021

-Cincinnati Family Magazine

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR

at www.falconcamp.com

DON'T MISS OUT!

Camp is filling now!

At Falcon, Good Things Happen by Design.



Mentor Safety Town cont'd

weeks in June and each session is five days in either the morning or afternoon.

Forms are available at the Mentor Public Library or visit www. mentorjuniorwomen.org and download the form.

Email your questions to: admin@ mentorjuniorwomen.org.

MIKE MORAN BASKETBALL CAMPS

Held at Lost Nation Sports Park Willoughby (440) 338-8092 www.morancamps.com

The Mike Moran Basketball Camps are the oldest running basketball camps in northern Ohio, with over 40 years of operation. It has always been able to boast about having the most experienced staff of coaches. All the instructors are successful college and high school head coaches.

Because it is always well attended, participants will be

working with other players of their same age group and ability level. The Moran Camp has always stressed the teaching and drilling of fundamentals. It is truly a camp designed for young players who want to improve their skills and be able to play competitive basketball. The camp runs all day, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m.—3:15 pm. Over the years it has been acclaimed by many newspapers and organizations as the top basketball camp in the area!

Because of the Mike Moran Camps popularity, it fills up quickly. Take advantage of the early registration discount. Visit their new website, morancamps.com, for easy registration. Call for a free brochure!



PAINESVILLE RECREATION SUMMER CAMP



- For kids ages 6 to 13 (5 if kindergarten completed)
- M-F, 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. (extended times available)
- Weekly price includes all field trips & two camp tshirts!
- Sibling discount available
- CPR & first aid certified staff
- Field trips, outdoor activities, swimming, crafts & games

MAY 31-AUGUST 5

Pay by the week!
Call **440-392-5912** to sign up or visit

www.painesville.com/recreation for more info





Presented by the Junior Women's Club of Mentor Our 35th Year Hosting!

A Safety Awareness Program For Children Ages 4-5-6

Garfield Elementary/Memorial Junior High School 7090 Hopkins Road • Mentor

DATES

Session 1 – June 6 – June 10 9:00 am – 11:15 am & noon – 2:15 pm

Session 2 – June 8 to June 12 9:00 am – 11:15 am & noon – 2:15 pm

Mail-in registrations accepted February 15, 2022 through April 15, 2022. Forms are available at the Mentor Public Library or visit our website at www.mentorjuniorwomen.org and download the form.

Fee: \$40 - (After 4/15: \$45)



PAINESVILLE RECREATION SUMMER CAMP

(440) 392-5912 www.painesville.com/ summercamp

For over 25 years, Painesville Recreation Summer Camp has offered unique and exciting camp activities that allow campers to have fun, learn and grow in beautiful Lake County.

Each week, campers take adventures to local parks, pools and attractions. On Fridays, campers have the opportunity to attend field trips to exciting destinations like the Zoo, Pioneer Waterland and more! Kids ages 6 to 14 can enjoy activities including games, swimming, nature exploration, playground time, crafts and more!

Summer Camp runs May 31 through August 5. Sibling discount available.

Visit www.painesville.com/ summercamp for complete camp details or call the Painesville Recreation office at (440) 392-5912 to register.

RABBIT RUN COMMUNITY ARTS ASSOCIATION

49 Park Street, Madison (440) 428-5913 www.rabbitrun.org

Thinking about summer camps for your children? Youth of all ages have tons of fun discovering hidden talents in many different fine arts day camps at Rabbit Run Community Arts Association in Madison.

Youth Art Camp is for anyone who likes to be creative and maybe make a mess in the process. In these one-week camps, campers, ages 7 through 16 get elbow deep in paint, pastels and other mediums as they create original two- and three-dimensional works of art.

Pop Star Camp, a one-week day camp, gets youth (ages 5 through 10) up and moving as they learn to sing and dance like their favorite pop star.

Campers delve into all areas of the theater arts including drama, music, dance, costumes, make-





Rabbit Run Arts cont'd

up, and stage craft in both Junior Theater Camp for ages 4–8 and Explorer's Theater Camp for ages 8-15.

Specific dates for all camps to be announced.

For more information, call RRCAA at (440) 428-5913 or visit www.rabbitrun.org.

SS. ROBERT & WILLIAM CATHOLIC SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS

351 E. 260th Street, Euclid www.srwschool.cc

Ss. Robert & William will again be offering their weekly-themed camps this summer for students entering kindergarten through 5th

Full-week and daily options are available. Their caring and attentive staff will provide themed games, crafts, and activities from June 6–August 12. Registration and pricing will be available March 14.

Visit their website for more information. For information regarding summer care for children under 5 years old, please email Mrs. Molly Lorek at mlorek@ srwschool.cc.

SUMMER AT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

Junior Kindergarten - Grade 8 20701 Brantley Road **Shaker Heights** Grades 9-12 2785 SOM Center Road **Hunting Valley** www.us.edu/summer

For decades, University School has been the place for boys and girls in northeast Ohio to develop skills and forge friendships that extend well beyond the summer months. Greater Cleveland's quintessential six-week Boys' Day Camp experience now offers a coed extended week option.

Super Summer Preschool Camp is specially designed to engage prekindergarten boys in a creative and stimulating environment



WEST GEAUGA RECREATION COUNCIL

CAMP STARTS JUNE 13

Daily Outdoor Activities swimming sports

arts & crafts drama

Learn-to-swim for all ages available

Daily and Weekly Options -

\$35/daily | \$165/weekly

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily Extended care available



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, VISIT WGRC.ORG



Eligibility: Camp is open to boys and girls ages 6–14.

- Camp Fee: \$185.00
- **Early registration** discounts and group rates available.
- **Each camper receives** a camp T-shirt.

Mike Moran Basketball Camps

Boys/Girls Camp at Lost Nation Sports Park

Willoughby June 13-17 | June 20-24 9:00 am-3:15 pm each session

Registration

Phone: (440) 338-8092 Online: MoranCamps.com Mail: Brochures will be mailed out upon request.

CAMP STAFF

MIKE MORAN: Inducted into Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame in 2020; former head coach at John Carroll University w/ 459 career wins; guided JCU to 14 OAC titles, 12 trips to the NCAA Tournament & one Final Four appearance, former VASI head appearance; former VASJ head coach where his teams won two state championships. **PETE MORAN**: Head coach of John Carroll University.

PAT MORAN: Assistant coach of John Carroll University.

MATT MORAN: Head coach of Lake Catholic.

MARK CHICONE: Former head

coach of both Lake Catholic boys team and Mentor High School girls.

TONY REDDING: Head coach

of girls at St. Martin de Porres.

RYAN SCHNEIDER: Head coach of boys at St. Martin de Porres. **JOHN GIBBONS:** Legendary coach



Imagine summer, think Hawken!

Summer programs for boys and girls ages 4-18.

Hawken Summer Programs provide some of the best summer enrichment opportunities in Greater Cleveland. Campers can choose from a broad menu of programs that are specifically designed to be age-appropriate, fun, and worthwhile.

> Day Camps • One-week Passport Camps • Athletics Camps Summer Studies for Grades 6–12

To register and for full camp descriptions visit Exciting adventures await you. summer.hawken.edu or contact us at 440-423-2940 or summerprograms@hawken.edu

summer.hawken.edu







Great summers happen at Great Day Child Care!

Activities and Events

- Crafts
- Special guests L
- Themed weeks
- Water days
- Games & sports
- Large fenced playground
- Much more!
- Summer program for children kindergarten to 12 years old.
- Camps run June 1-August 19.
- Weekly rate includes breakfast, snacks, crafts, games & more.

Great Day Child Care Learning Centers



MADISON

2471 Hubbard Rd. 440.428.5993 greatday3@netlink.net

Hours: Mon-Fri 6:00 am-6:00 pm

MIDDLEFIELD

14810 Madison Rd. (Rt. 528) 440.632.1832 greatday1@netlink.net Hours: Mon-Fri

5:30 am-7:30 pm

PERRY

4325 Manchester Rd. 440.259.8125 greatday4@netlink.net

Hours: Mon-Fri 6:00 am-6:00 pm



University School cont'd

using US's theme-based curriculum. Boys will enjoy one, two, or three weeks of age-appropriate, hands-on activities. Weekly explorations will guarantee a unique journey of discovery! This camp is run by US's dynamic teachers.

Explorer Programs are intended for the child with an adventurous spirit and inquisitive mind. Coed Sports Camps are for beginning athletes looking for an introduction to a sport, or for student-athletes wanting to take their talents to a higher level. Extended day options (before- and after-camp) are available.

WEST GEAUGA RECREATION COUNCIL SUMMER DAY CAMP

(Next to West Geauga Middle School in Chesterland) www.wgrc.org

Days of fun with old and new friends are what await you at WGRC camp. There is so much to do! Take advantage of their day rate and let the kids get a feel for what camp is about.

WGRC Day Camp is for children entering kindergarten through 8th grade. The campground is on 15 wooded acres with a covered pavilion, heated swimming pool, volleyball court, soccer field, basketball courts, arts and crafts pavilion, and playgrounds.

Daily activities include arts and crafts, games, sports, hiking, swimming (under supervision of licensed lifeguards), special guests, and entertainment. Learn to Swim for all ages is also available.

Camp opens June 13 and is open all summer (except for July 4) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Beforeand after-care are available.

For information visit their website or email camp@wgrc.org.







It was late in the day when a fully loaded minivan pulled into the only remaining campsite. As soon as it stopped, the doors flew open and four children jumped out.

They began to unload gear and worked feverishly to set up the tent. Next, the boys ran to gather firewood while the girls and their mother set up the camp kitchen area.

The camper in the space next to them marvelled to the children's father, "I've never seen such teamwork nor a camp that was ready so quickly. I'm impressed."

The father turned to the neighbour and nodded sagely.

"I have a system," he said. "No one goes to the bathroom before the camp is set up."

What do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear.

You can't run through a campsite. You can only ran...Why? Because it's past tents.

Sitting around the outdoor campfire I chuckle to myself. My friend asks, what's so funny? I reply, "I can't tell you out here, it's an inside joke."

I asked Google how to start a campfire without any tools. It gave me 20 million matches.





Cartoon by Jerry King



"I made a list of activities a summer camp must have for me to attend. Flying a plane and driving a monster truck are especially important."

🥽 SS. ROBERT & WILLIAM

SUMMER CAMPS

PRESCHOOL - GRADE 5 **REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 14** THE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM RUNS

JUNE 6 - AUGUST 12

GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER SRWSCHOOL.CC



Summer Camp for Children With Type 1 Diabetes



Camp Ho Mita Koda

14040 Auburn Road, Newbury 440-739-4095

www.camphomitakoda.org

Founded in 1929, Camp Ho Mita Koda is the very first and oldest operating coed summer camp in the country for kids with with type 1 diabetes. Our overnight and day camp program welcomes boys and girls in grades K-11 for one-week, adventure-filled sessions. Activities include:

- Canoeing Kayaking Paintball Drama • Challenge course • Rock climbing • Archery
 - Swimming Hiking Much more!

OUTSIDE + UNPLUGGED + ENGAGED



Rabbit Run Community Arts Association

Pop Star Camp

Learn to sing & dance like your favorite pop star! Ages 5 to 10

Theater Camps

Have a blast learning all about theater arts in a fun and traditional camp setting. Ages 7 - 15

Art Camps

Campers get elbow deep in paint, pastels & more as they create unique works of art. Ages 7 - 16

Dance Classes

Dance classes for all ages in Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Modern, Zumba® and Creative Movement

Camp dates to be announced.











. . . W<mark>eek-l</mark>ong camps and more!

Private Music Lessons

Lessons available in brass, guitar, voice, percussion, piano/keyboard/organ, violin/viola/cello, woodwinds

Call 440<mark>-4</mark>28-5913

49 Park St., Madison, OH www.rabbitrun.org • rabbitrunoffice@windstream.net



7 reasons to send your child to summer camp

By Mary Ann Blair

Tith summer calendars quickly filling up, it can be hard to try and squeeze in one more thing. But if you have never sent your kids to a summer camp, here are seven reasons why you should consider it!

With so many options, it's easy to find a great fit for your child.

From sports camps and art camps to STEM-based camps and more traditional overnight options, summer camps are designed to serve a variety of ages and interests. The length of camp can range from a few mornings for younger kiddos to week-long sleep-away camps for older kids. Local churches, school districts, and other organizations like the YMCA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and 4-H offer a wide range of camps. With a little bit of research, you can easily find a camp well-suited for your child.

Camps provide kids with experiences they might not have access to in "everyday" life.

Horseback riding. Paddling a canoe across the lake. Wilderness survival. Conquering a ropes course. Sleeping under the stars. Adventures are endless at camp, and your child will have an opportunity to try something brand new. For the youngest campers, trying a new craft activity or learning a new camp song can be so much fun!

Camps are a safe place to practice social skills.

It might be awkward or uncomfortable for your child during those first few hours of camp when they don't know a single soul. After all, stepping into a new social environment can be challenging. But the ability to comfortably communicate with new people is a life skill that all kids need, and a camp is a great place to practice! Camps also provide kids an opportunity to form friendships



with a whole new group of peers they might never have met otherwise.

Camps give kids a much-needed technology break.

No matter how old your child is,

they could probably benefit from a screen hiatus, especially during the summer months. Spending time outdoors, learning a new skill, having fun, and forming new friendships is good for the body and soul!





Sending kids to camp is beneficial for you, too.

Driving away from your child(ren) on the first day might be a little gut-wrenching. But entrusting your kids to someone else for a while can be truly beneficial. Maybe it will free up time for some overdue self-care, or give you and your partner time to reconnect. Maybe it will provide an opportunity to hit the reset button with your tween or teen. After all, absence makes the heart grow fonder! Parenting is tough work, so don't feel guilty if you enjoy this time to yourself. Chances are, your kids are having a blast without you!

Your child's experience as a camper could help land a summer job in the future.

Camps are staffed by amazing counselors who provide kids with all kinds of good, clean fun. Most of these counselors were campers once, too. Now they get to help a new set of youngsters make unforgettable summer memories, all

while sharpening their own teamwork and leadership skills. Your child might have that same opportunity one day. What great way to spend a summer!

Camp is just plain fun.

So many adults have fond memories from their days spent at camp, and kids who have been to camp often say it's a favorite part of their summer. Odds are, your kids are going to love it! And for that reason alone, it's worth sending them to camp.



LIBERTY CAMP USA

NOW IN LAKE & GEAUGA COUNTIES

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Time Travelers entering 1st – 7th Grade / Fee \$50.00 Young Patriots 8th Grade through College Age / Fee \$20.00







Meet Historical Heroes • Learning Activities
Travel to the 1700s!

REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 1, 2022

Register at www.LibertyCampUSA.com
Reserve the camp of your choice and make payment online.
Liberty Camp USA creates the next great generation of patriots!

HELD AT. . .

Lake County Liberty Camp USA July 11-15, 2022

Lake Metroparks Hidden Lake Shelter 7024 Kniffen Road Leroy Twp., Ohio 44077 Geauga County Liberty Camp USA July 25-29, 2022

RED! Chickagami Park 17957 Tavern Road (Rt. 168) Burton, Ohio 44021 (6 miles south of Burton Square)

CAMP FITCH YMCA



Making kids better, forever!

You're a force of nature.

Experience the outdoors at Girl Scout Camp.



Girl Scouts are a force of nature. They were meant for outdoor adventures. Your girl is ready to rediscover the world – to disconnect from technology and embrace the freedom of the woods, the sky, and water. Come to our camp open houses, meet our camp directors, and see what camp is like.

