

JANUARY 2019

COUNTY KIDS

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Winter fun begins!

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Winter fun at Penitentiary Glen Reservation. Photo: Al Susinskas



FUN DAY MONDAY AT THE GLEN

Penitentiary Glen Reservation

January 21, 2019 • 10 am to 3 pm

Rain, snow and ice, isn't it nice? Winter in Northeast Ohio can bring many unexpected surprises but also many fun adventures. Bring family and friends for a good time during Fun Day Monday on January 21, at Penitentiary Glen Reservation. This event is free for all ages. Stop by the Nature Center between 10 am and 3 pm and explore inside and outside activities while enjoying them in hands-on ways. Enjoy scavenger hunts, a seasonal nature craft, s'mores, animal programs and much more! Naturalists will be on hand to answer all of your nature-related questions and to help guide you through the day.

Inside the Nature Center, visitors can interact with hands-on nature exhibits and displays, watch for wildlife through the "Window on Wildlife" and browse the Nature Store for nature-themed gifts ideas and birdfeeders, t-shirts, field guides, toys, children's books and more.

Outside, explore the interactive Na-

ture Play area (weather permitting), sign out an X-Plorer pack filled with seasonal hands-on activities, see our wildlife animal ambassadors in the Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center yard and hike on more than 8.5 miles of trails.

The Nature Center and Wildlife Center are open 9 am to 5 pm. The Nature Store is open until 4:30 pm.

Join us for the upcoming Fun Day Monday on February 18 (Presidents' Day) and Fun Day Friday during spring break on April 19.

Penitentiary Glen Reservation is located at 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd in Kirtland (44094). For more information about Fun Day activities, visit www.lakemetroparks.com and click on events or call 440-256-1404.

ST. GABRIEL LEARNING LOFT PRESCHOOL HOSTING OPEN HOUSE

Families with 2 ½ year old or preschoolers are cordially invited to our Learning Loft Open House on **January 13, 2019 from 10am-1pm or January 27, 11:30am-1:30pm**. Families will have an opportunity to meet our amazing Preschool team, join some fun activities, and ask questions regarding our school. Come and discover a world of difference in faith based learning! Please call Ann Silvester for more information or a tour at 440/354-7574. Located at 9935 Johnnycake Ridge Road, Concord Twp.



Celebrate Mentor Public Library's 200th Anniversary



Mentor Public Library is celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2019, and there are lots of ways to join the party. Win prizes for reading along with us. Donate to local nonprofits during our Year of Giving. Get those pesky fines forgiven.

Come to our Programs

We're hosting programs that celebrate the history of our community all year long.

Kids can join us for tea with First Lady Lucretia Garfield at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9, at our Main Branch.

Meanwhile, adult can learn about Mentor from the man who literally wrote the book on it. Tom Matowitz, local historian and author of *Mentor*, will share untold stories from the city's history at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, at our Main Branch. For more information, visit www.mentorpl.org/200th.

Farmpark Ice Festival

Lake Metroparks Farmpark

Friday, January 25 • 5 to 9 pm

Saturday, January 26 • 9 am to 5 pm

You could hibernate all winter, but that would be awfully boring. So instead of complaining about the cold, why not embrace it? On January 25 from 5 to 9 pm and January 26 from 9 am to 5 pm, Farmpark will host its annual Ice Festival. The event will feature a variety of winter-themed activities including carving competitions, demonstrations, a battle between fire and ice and much more. See the miniature Zamboni from the Mentor Ice Arena as part of a children's ice-themed story hour on Friday and Saturday. Visitors will also enjoy crafts, a hot cocoa and s'mores bar, fire pits and live music.

Friday night starts with speed-carving competitions and the night's festivities will conclude with a large fire inside a six-foot tower of ice. Can't picture how fire will burn inside ice? Come to Farmpark to see for yourself!

The festivities will continue on Satur-

SEE PAGE 7



Photo Earl Linburg



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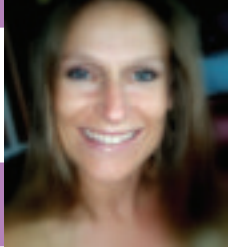
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Family Matters

with Amber

The Importance of Passion

I don't talk about my son, Justice, very often. Probably because for the most part, he's under the radar. Not because he's the baby, as my girls always point out. Not because he's my favorite, as the girls always say. I don't have favorites. I actually bought them a book one year, "You're All My Favorite" by Sam McBratney, to help visualize and explain via someone else's brilliant storytelling, that they're all very special to me.

I think Justice isn't talked about much because he's kind of quiet. If you know him, he talks quite a bit, but on a daily, even annual, basis he doesn't require much. Just food, hugs, rides, hot chocolate, and sports equipment. He's kind of low maintenance but can be a bit costly. Since pee-wee-league days, he's played football, baseball, basketball, wrestling, and the new one lacrosse. He excels at most of them. We share a love of football together. He's taught me to love basketball. And, we're learning lacrosse together. But, his passion, in my opinion, is wrestling. If you watch him in the zone...view him in action...listen to him tell the play by play of each match (even if you were right there with him and saw it all), you know there's a drive and a thirst for it like no other sport so far. I might live on the sidelines, but he is staying out of trouble, so it's worth it.

As a child, I wasn't the focus of my parent's lives. My folks were too busy arguing and working. Then too busy divorcing, moving on, and working. In elementary school, I found choir to be of interest because I loved singing. I enjoyed being on stage with the other kids, learning new music, it made me happy. But, no one at home came to watch me, or even seemed to care. So, I didn't continue. I wished I had. I'd go on to high school with no focus, hobby, or passion, except for paper, books and journaling (which I used mostly to deal with feelings). Still, no one took notice of that. If they had, they would've realized I was creative, good in English, and if I tanked in one class, like History, I would make it up on my reports because I wrote my way into it. No one paid attention. No one tried to foster my interests. That is why I'm always an advocate of my children's talents and interests.

I have put my kids in karate, dance, drama, sports and library/community offered



classes which all matched their current interests. Some of them stuck, some of them didn't. The ones they wound up loving, were the ones they wound up staying in. And, as I watch the differences between these kids and myself at their age, I see that the hobby, the passion for something, has kept them focused and out of trouble. No matter the cost, the time, the taxiing, I will invest 'til my last penny, or gallon of gas for them. Because, if before and after school they are working out with their team, or every day after school they are practicing for the next choir performance, there really isn't any time to hang out with the wrong 'bored' crowd and get into trouble or wind up places you shouldn't.

I wish my parents had realized that. I began smoking at 10 or 11 (well, that was because the cigarette butts were in my Nanny's ashtray and the matches were close by, and well, put my cousin and I together and we could do some damage). But, it went as far as hanging out with the kids who smoked marijuana, in junior high, having a sip of my first beer at 12, and winding up at parties I had no business being at in high school (when I

didn't even know what we were drinking or the party drink references). It wasn't me, I was out of the loop, not too interested actually, but would wind up in the wrong places anyway, because I didn't have anything else to do...and nobody cared. My parents weren't paying attention, to me. If they had, they would've noticed my love and talent for art, music and photography. If they had been, they would have taken me to the local library to take books out on those things. If they realized how much I loved writing and drawing, they would've bought me pens, paper and art supplies. But they didn't. If they would have believed in my ability to see things in a very artistic, creative way, they would have found the ways and the means to support my high school art class choices and my college selections, rather than pull me out of my chosen classes, buy me a type writer, and send me to secretarial school. Okay, so I'll admit, I'm a damn good administrative assistant and I kill it on a keyboard, but it still leaves many of my inner passions by the wayside, not to mention a better paycheck.

There is no promise that later in life we'll be blessed enough to have a career doing what we love. Some will. But, even if it never happens, we have to think about the other side of life for our children (and for ourselves). The time we have before and after work, the weekends, retirement. That part

of us is important too. What we do in our down time, helps keep us focused on the other parts of life.

Passion brings purpose, joy, release. Passions equals fun, and often times it's the only fun a kid or parent has on a given day. Whether a very small child, elementary schooler, middle school or high schooler, even in college, kids need an outlet. Someplace they can find happiness. Life is stressful. Life can be hard. Without a hunger for something more; a hobby or activity that allows a person to let go of what must be done...it can sometimes feel pointless. The balance must be there, or there's burn out, frustration, exhaustion and depression. There are too many 'have to's' and not enough 'love to's' in daily life sometimes.

For years I've boycotted New Year's Resolutions. Instead, I've chosen to incorporate into my year one word that can make a difference in my daily life, and which will lead up to a larger goal for the whole year; to become better. What that is each year, I never know until I'm almost through the previous year and look back at how it went with the last word I chose. This year my one word is PASSION!

When my kids were small, I found a ton of things that kept a fire burning outside of being a mom (which is my favorite job in the

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REGISTER FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 13, 10 AM -1 PM (preschool)

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CELEBRATION OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 27

Preschool: 10:30-12:30, Mass at 11:30, School: 12:30-2:30

Monthly Open Houses

Tuesdays at 9 AM

February 5 & April 9

Kdg Meet & Greet: March 7

Kdg Round Up for Registration: Feb 26 & Mar 14

Register On Line at St-GabrielSchool.org or

Call 440/354-7858 (school) 440/354-7574 (preschool)



St. Gabriel School • Please call 440/354-7858

St. Gabriel School Offers:

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Learning Loft Preschool

Please call 440/354-7574

St. Gabriel Learning Loft Offers:

- Offering My Budy & Me (2½ yo/w Adult) and 3-5 year old classes
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- Low student to teacher ratio
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Can Learning Be Fun?



by Carole Richards

Regularly, I see students of all ages that need a respite from learning and school. My first question to them is, "What would YOU like to learn?" They are often shocked that anyone cares what they want to learn.

Over my many years consulting with families, I have found creative ways to take any interest and make it into a positive learning experience. This does not mean we ignore skill deficits. It does not mean we don't teach the required subjects for a high school diploma. However, it means the student becomes more engaged in the learning experience.

I tell parents not to expect miracles. If your child has shut down and does not want to learn, it may take months to repair enthusiasm and motivation.

About ten years ago, we had a tenth grader that had been thrown out of a private high school. He was barely making it to his public high school one period a day. The school even provided a van to pick him up.

Through the Ohio Autism Scholarship Program and a school we work with to grant diplomas, we began to slowly help this young man become engaged in learning again. He was interested in gaming blogs so his English course was designed around researching them and writing about them. He was improving his writing skills. He wanted to visit London so his geography course focused on planning a trip to London. Transportation, sites, housing, and a budget were all part of the course. It required research, math and problem-solving skills.

Why does learning have to be boring? I know the Common Core directs our



students' learning. We have "important" standardized tests that require preparation. But, must all learning be like this?

Learning how to learn should be the purpose of school. We do not need to pour information into our children's heads. Some of them even have poor memories. Students need to learn basic skills: reading, spelling, writing and math. With these skills and curiosity to learn will take you far in life.

I never took a business course and knew nothing about accounting when I started my business 34 years ago. But, I had passion for learning how to learn and believed that I could succeed.

Yes, learning can be fun! We spend about \$640 Billion dollars a year on education in the United States, yet statistically year after year we fail to give our children the skills they need. And, typically learning isn't even fun for the \$640 Billion!

Carole Richards is President of North Coast Education Services, President of Creative Education Institute, Inc. and Richards Learning Systems, LLC. She appears regularly as a literacy expert on radio and TV. She can be reached at caroler@northcoasted.com.



St. Gabriel Community and School Celebrate Christmas By Giving Back

The whole St. Gabriel community pulled efforts together during Advent to provide gifts to brothers and sisters in need. Sue Betteley has become known as "Head Elf" at St. Gabriel. Since 1980 she and other parishioners along the way have led the annual gift giving effort at St. Gabriel, better known as The Scrolls.

Sue lives in Painesville with her husband, Gary, and works in Willoughby at Meister Media Worldwide as an Office Manager. She has six grown children and six grandchildren. In the mid-eighties Sue implemented the "Scroll Idea" her ministry still uses today. Her ministry receives requests from St. Vincent de Paul clients as well as other churches and referral agencies.

New this year, St. Gabriel provided gifts to Altercare residents who do not have families. The total number of families and single recipients for Christmas 2018 was over 200, resulting in close to a thousand gifts for the needy.

Many ministries such as St. Gabriel School classes, Christ Child, and Good Shepherd participate by "adopting a family." They "adopt" the whole family and buy and wrap the gifts. Sometimes local companies will adopt families as well. Most gifts are bought and wrapped by parishioners and dropped off at the parish waiting to be distributed.


Two weeks prior to Christmas the sorting begins. Armed with her spreadsheet,

codes, and volunteers the elves set out to do a mini North Pole Workshop of sorting and bagging by family. Sue checks her list twice making sure all clients receive a gift. It is an awesome experience to witness the thousands of gifts together in one room. Truly the love of Jesus is present in each and every gift.

"We have a very generous parish. It's not just me—it's the WHOLE parish pulling together! The generosity amazes me!" Sue thankfully exclaims. "I am also thankful to the volunteers for sorting day. This piece has really improved over the years! It does more for me than it does for the recipients. You just have to give back. My family gets more out of it each year," Sue shared.


This past year, Steve O'Hearn, Parish Council member, had an idea to add a seed of evangelization to the effort. All bags that went home to families had a Christmas blessing tag that included an invitation to join us for Christmas Mass. This new tradition will hopefully take root when we welcome them to our community.

"This idea to invite the recipients to Mass took the scroll effort to a whole new level. With God's help this powerful prayer and invitation to people can be the seed that takes root to change lives and give the ultimate gift of Jesus' Love. The gift of faith goes way beyond the material gifts," said Fr. Fred.



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For more details visit us online at www.lakecountyyymca.org

ICE FESTIVAL FROM PAGE 3

day with Elegant Ice Creations' World Champion ice carver Aaron Costic competing against other local speed carvers to the cheers of the crowd. Visitors will also be treated to many other winter-themed activities and Farmpark's daily activities. So brave the cold and make Farmpark's Ice Festival your Northeastern Ohio winter tradition!

Regular Farmpark admission applies. Farmpark members and children under 2 get in free. Farmpark is located at 8800 Euclid Chardon Rd. in Kirtland, Ohio (44094).

Lake Metroparks Farmpark provides a connection to our agricultural roots, helping people understand where our food and clothing come from. For more information, visit www.lakemetroparks.com/parks-trails/farmpark.

PASSION FROM PAGE 4

whole wide world). Sadly, as our lives, and the kids' extracurricular schedules amped up, my passions (and time for them) tamped down. They're getting older now, and need less of my time; my oldest has her license and helps taxi and they both have busy social lives. Empty Nest anyone? I find myself wondering, 'Now what?', 'I'm bored.' I decided to take a journal and make a page for each thing I liked to do (before my babes took over my free time). It looked like this: Reading, writing, exercising, faith, gardening, socializing, cooking, growing/learning via continued education, fashion/makeup/hair, photography. Then I decided to make it happen. I made time to read a complete book a month (yes, I'm that busy it takes me that long, sometimes longer), take class, do container gardens until our outdoor garden got finished, set an exercise routine significant enough to make a difference but small enough to fit into my crazy schedule. I began writing fiction, took a women's bible study, and started my own business with an independent skin care and makeup company, which I love and find a lot of motivation and education through. It has been small steps, but it's working! I normally test drive a word, so I guess in 2018 I sort of had a taste of that, now I'm ready to bring it on fully in 2019!

There's someone else who has been driven with passion who I met via Instagram this year, and that is a woman who is from my own home state of Connecticut! I was paying attention to accounts which showed great photos and this account struck me as one with a good eye for the very natural things in life. The photo she posted was of winter...yes, and snow. She was from a town not too far from my home town. Soon we were learning more about each other's passions and that led to a phone call. I found out that her passion is coloring. Coloring seems to be the thing for the past few couple years in the adult community. Except this woman isn't coloring for herself, she's coloring for others, and she has made a mission out of it. Literally.

Inspired by being pen pals in the past, her love of art, and an organization she learned of in the Dominican Republic called Destiny Village, she has made it her goal to help children. With ages ranging from age 4 through late teens, she wants kids there, and everywhere, to know that someone cares about them and shows it through her coloring! She encourages others to help her do this. Anyone can submit drawings, both colored or uncolored, for children in these age ranges. She then ships those collections off at least twice a year in hopes that they will help children have a brighter day, knowing that someone took the time to create something beautiful for them because they care. You can see the children that The Color Connection is supporting by visiting her website: <https://www.thecolorconnection.org/>

Maybe your word this year is GIVE, VOLUNTEER or PASSION! What a fun way that you and your kids could help children who are likely facing some tough challenges. Visit the Destiny Village website and get to know the different children who you could be encouraging this year. The overall goal of The Coloring Connection is to keep going, bringing this full circle into our own communities. Sharing hearts, joy and a little time, by brightening a child's day with color! If you do not have the ability to color or draw, The Color Connection accepts donations of coloring supplies like paper, colored pencils and crayons. This is not limited to just you, but maybe your work, organization or church would like to create a giving project to this cause! All drawings are hand delivered to each child. Go now to The Color Connection website, fill out the form, it just takes a couple of seconds and for just a few hours a year, you and/or your children could make a difference in a child's life by using your passion and love of art.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Join me in selecting a One Word Resolution this year, visit us at www.familymatterswithamber.blogspot.com for all of our previous One Words!

SLED SAFE

Don't sled in parking areas, roadways, rivers or lakes. Always ride sitting and facing forward (going down head first increases the chance of head and spinal injuries). Sledging equipment should be in good repair without sharp edges. Avoid "jumps" that send a rider airborne—the higher they fly, the harder they fall. The building of such "jumps" is a violation of Park Rule 5.1(e) and the offender can be cited. Watch for other sledders and walk up the side when returning to the top of the hill.



Enjoy sledding at four hills throughout Lake Metroparks:

Chagrin River Park
3100 Reeves Rd., Willoughby
Moderate hill located off the Riverwood Trail
Chapin Forest Reservation
10381 Hobart Rd., Kirtland
Small hill used primarily by cross-country skiers to practice control skills

Hidden Valley Park
4880 Klasen Rd., Madison Twp.
Moderate sledding hill located next to parking lot
Riverview Park
4895 Bailey Rd., Madison Twp.
Hill steeper than Hidden Valley hill—located next to parking lot

LAKE METROPARKS FARMPARK

ICE FESTIVAL



JANUARY 25

Friday 5 to 9 pm

Battle between fire & ice

Ice chair • Ice carving demonstration and more!

JANUARY 26

Saturday 9 am to 5 pm

Ice carving competition

Hot cocoa & s'mores bar*
Ice chair • Music • Crafts
Farmpark's daily activities

*small fee applies



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Main Library
8215 Mentor Ave.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-8811

Mentor-on-the-Lake
5642 Andrews Rd.
Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060
(440) 257-2512

Headlands
4669 Corduroy Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 257-2000
www.mentor.lib.oh.us

Snappy Little Story Time Mondays at 10 a.m. at Main Branch Main Branch in the Children's Story Room This story time is a combination of Tiddlywinks and Family Story Time. There will be songs, rhymes, books, and flannel stories all geared to the little listener. Please note there will be no craft. Open to ages birth to age 5. No registration is necessary.

Family Story Time Mondays at 6:30 p.m. & Fridays at 11 a.m., starting Jan. 7 Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Take a little time for some great stories and family time. Families with children of all ages will enjoy stories, music, rhymes and crafts together. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Tiddlywinks Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m., starting Jan. 8, at Main Branch Thursdays at 10 a.m., starting Jan. 10, at Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Come and enjoy an interactive story time filled with stories, songs and rhymes just right for little listeners. For children 36 months and younger with an adult. No registration is necessary.

Storytime Stars Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., starting Jan. 8 Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Children, ages six months to five years, can enjoy stories, music, rhymes and a craft to take home. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Preschool Story Time Tuesday and Wednesday at 11 a.m., starting Jan. 8 Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Children attend without an adult and enjoy a fun-filled session of stories, songs and rhymes. A responsible adult must remain on the children's floor during the story time session. For children ages three to five.

Tyke Time Thursdays from 11 to 11:30 a.m., starting Jan. 10 Mentor Headlands Branch A weekly, interactive story time for children from six months to four years old at the Mentor Headlands Branch. Kids will enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and, perhaps, a craft. An adult must remain with the child during story time. No registration is necessary.

Mother Goose on the Loose Fridays at 10 a.m., starting Jan. 11 The Read House A 4-week interactive program for children up to 30 months. The program uses rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments and more to stimulate the learning process in babies and toddlers. Registration is necessary and opens



two weeks before the beginning of the next session.

2019 Bingo Party Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids can enjoy their day off from school with bingo games, prizes, snacks and fun.

American Girl Book Club Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 4 p.m. Meet Kaya Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Girls between the ages of six and 12 years old meet once a month for a craft and a snack for each of the historical American Girl dolls. Each month will focus on a different doll. Be sure to read "Meet Kaya" before this program. Registration is necessary each month.

Makerspace 101 Wednesday, Jan. 2, from 4 to 5 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Learn all about the incredible Makerspace services now available to Mentor Public Library patrons. Take a tour of The HUB's Makerspace, complete with live demonstrations of its laser engraver, vinyl cutter and more.

Minecraft Club Thursday, Jan. 3, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Time Room Join the library's Minecraft Club where you can mine, explore and share strategies in the wide world of Minecraft. Each session will feature a new challenge. Kids must bring their own charged laptop, tablet or mobile device and have an active Minecraft account. The club is for children from ages eight to 12. Registration is required.

Mary Poppins Returns Saturday, Jan. 5, at 1 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Everyone's favorite nanny is returning. Come to the library for a supercalifragilistic-expialidocious time. Kids will make Mary Poppins hats, have a British tea, and learn to "Step in Time." Registration is necessary and will begin Friday, Dec. 21. This program is open to children ages five to 12.

Post-Holiday Pick-Me-Up Saturday, Jan. 5, at 1 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids have the holiday blahs? Then start the New Year off with some fun winter-themed crafts. For kids in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Make a Craft Monday, Jan. 7 Main Branch in

the Children's Department Kid can stop by the Children's Department any time throughout the day (while supplies last) and get creative with one of the library's monthly crafts. No registration is necessary.

Make-It Monday: Touchscreen Gloves Monday, Jan. 7, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School Teens in sixth through 12th grade can come to The HUB and get crafty. This month, they'll make touchscreen gloves (while supplies last.)

Coding Club at The HUB Tuesday, Jan. 8, at 4:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School Learn how to animate drawings and design websites every first Tuesday of the month at The HUB. In this self-paced club, kids earn badges as they reach certain milestones. Earn all the badges to become a Programming Wizard. Participants must bring their own laptop and headphones. An account at KhanAcademy.org is recommended, but not required. For kids in fourth grade and higher.

Comics Club Tuesday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Children, eight to 12 years old, are invited to join the Comics Club to read, discuss, and make their own comics. Club members will meet the first Tuesday of every month. Registration is required.

Wordplay Creative Writing Club Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 4:30 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Young writers can get creative with words at Wordplay. Kids from third through sixth grade will write, share stories and play word games. Bring your imagination. The library supplies paper, pens and snacks. Registration required.

Masterpieces at Main: Art Club for Kids Thursday, Jan. 10, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Kids don't need to paint like Picasso or sculpt like Michelangelo to enjoy the library's new art club. All they need is a desire to learn something new, fun and creative. For kids, ages eight through 12. (In order to fully enjoy this club, the library asks that

the children be able to work independently.) Please dress for a mess and registration is required.

Family Afternoon Movie Saturday, Jan. 12, at 1 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Bring the whole family to the library for an afternoon movie. On the second Saturday of each month, the library will show a family movie and provide popcorn. All movies will be rated G or PG. Find out which movie will be playing each month in the Children's Department.

This event is for families with children 13 and younger. Ages eight and younger must have parent supervision. No registration required.

Curious Kids Saturday, Jan. 12, at 2 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Kids can explore new ideas and meet interesting people every month at the Lake Branch's newest club. Through science experiments and playful activities, they'll learn and see new things (or old things in new ways) and challenge themselves to be more curious about the world.

Custom Tote Bags Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 4:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School Kids (kindergarten through sixth grade) can make a custom tote bag to carry all the books they're going to read this year. They'll design their own tote using the vinyl cutter and T-shirt press in The HUB's Makerspace.

Firehouse Friends Thursday, Jan. 17, at 10:30 a.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Join our friends from the Mentor Fire Department for stories and songs. Meet the local firemen. Find out what it's really like to be a fireman. Open to all ages. Each time kids attend the "Firehouse Friends" story time will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win lunch with the firemen in December.

MPL Arcade: Video Game Club Thursday, Jan. 17, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Enjoy an afternoon of gaming with the library's video game club, MPL Arcade. The library will have age-appropriate games available to play on the Wii U, as well as fun board and tabletop games. For kids in third through sixth grade. Registration is required.

Celebrate Winnie the Pooh Day Friday, Jan. 18, at 1 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Children (ages three through sixth) can celebrate Winnie the Pooh and all his forest friends. There will be stories, a craft and more. Registration required and younger siblings welcome.

Let's go Lego Club Saturday, Jan. 19, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids can get creative with Lego bricks, either following a monthly theme or doing their own thing. The library will supply the Lego and Duplo bricks, so kids only need to bring their imagination. Children younger than eight must be accompanied by an adult. No registration is necessary.

Studio MPL Art Club Monday, Jan. 21, at 4 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Studio MPL returns—now at the Lake Branch! Kids in second through fifth grade can come to the

Library for a fun project. Children need to be able to work independently and responsibly with art supplies for a successful studio experience. Please dress for mess.

Write On: A Writing Club for Teens Monday, Jan. 21, at 4:30 p.m. Main Branch in the Frances Cleveland Room A monthly creative writing club for teens. Each month focuses on a different prompt. It's a fun way to expand your creative writing, get some great ideas, and meet other teen writers. All writing levels welcomed, and snacks will be provided.

Laser Engraver Basics Monday, Jan. 21, from 4 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Learn the basics of using The HUB's laser engraver at one of these informative presentations. Makers of all ages can get inspired for their next project and walk away with an engraved souvenir.

Shadowhunter Academy Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 3:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School Welcome to the Shadowhunter Academy at The HUB. Kids can create crafts inspired by the Mortal Instruments series by Cassandra Clare. Make a stele, runes, and create book-quote stickers while enjoying snacks. Cosplay is welcome, but not required.

Full STEAM Ahead: Art Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room First through fifth graders can enhance their STEAM development with activities involving art. Registration begins Nov. 13.

Green Kids Craft Lab Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School What can kids make with recycled material? Kids from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade can come by The HUB on the fourth Wednesday of the month to see what their imaginations can bring to life. Discover how to make new objects and art from items typically tossed away with the Green Kids Craft Lab. This month's theme is Robots & Monsters.

Upcycle Old Sweaters Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Teens and adults can learn how to turn their old, shabby sweaters into fashionable winter accessories.

Super Bowl Fun Saturday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids (nine to 12 years old) can play Table Top Football and Super Bowl Bingo. There will be game-day snacks too.

Vinyl Cutter Basics Monday, Jan. 28, from 4 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Learn the basics of using The HUB's vinyl cutter at one of these informative presentations. Maker of all ages can get inspired for their next project and walk away with a vinyl keepsake.

Changemaker Workshop Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 3:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School Want to be a changemaker? Teens can come to The HUB and find out ways you can make a difference in your community

A Puzzling Party Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Kids (first

through sixth grade) can be a part of Mentor Public Library's 200th anniversary celebration by putting together a puzzle of the library on National Puzzle Day. Once the puzzle is completed, it will be put on display so everyone can admire the children's masterpiece.

Newspaper Animal Art Wednesday, Jan. 30, from 5 to 7 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School Kids can make their favorite animal using newspaper, scissors, and glue. Walk-in craft, while supplies last. No registration necessary.

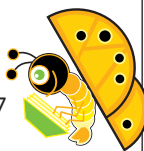
'Reading Is Magic' Show & Mentor Schools Foundation Read-a-Thon Kickoff

Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Kids can enjoy a magic show about the wonder of reading with Mr. Zap. Then they'll learn how they can help raise funds for the Mentor Schools Foundation. The foundation provides money to Mentor Schools to enhance learning in and outside of the classroom.

MORLEY LIBRARY

184 Phelps St.
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 352-3383

www.morleylibrary.org



Storytimes & Weekly Programs:

The Winter Storytime Session runs for 7 weeks: Monday, January 7th through Friday, February 22nd, 2019. Registration begins Wednesday, January 2nd, online or by phone at 440-352-3383. Many of our storytimes are drop-in and require no registration.

Toddler Tales (3 and under)

Mondays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Stories, rhymes, & fingerplays for little ones! Child attends with caregiver. Drop-in, no registration needed.

Books at Bedtime (18 months - 5 years)

Mondays: 6:30 – 7:00 PM Pajama storytime while cuddling your favorite stuffed animal. Child attends with caregiver. Drop-in, no registration needed.

Baby Bookworms (for babies not yet walking)

Tuesdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM For babies who are not yet walking and their caregivers. Enjoy one-on-one lap time engaging in stories, songs, rhymes, fingerplays and more. 20 minutes of stories, songs, etc. followed by 10 minutes of playtime and caregiver interaction. Drop-in, no registration needed.

Music in Motion (2 - 5 years) Wednesdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM and Stories, rhythm, music, and instruments! Child attends with caregiver. Drop-in, no registration needed.

Preschool/Kindergarten Storytime (3 - 6 years) Wednesdays: 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM or Thursdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM An exciting and engaging storytime with a focus on early literacy skills. Child attend without caregiver. Registration is required. Please choose Wednesday or Thursday.

Parachute Playtime (2 - 5 years) Thursdays:

11:00 – 11:30 AM A fun-filled 30-minute parachute playtime for walking toddlers through 5 years old. Child attends with caregiver. Music, rhymes, games, and lots of fun shakin' the 'chute! Drop-in, no registration needed.

Preschool S.T.E.A.M. Stations (2 – 6 years) Jan. 9th, 17th, 23rd, & 31st: 10:30 – 11:00 AM Explore various activities that will build your child's early literacy skills. This drop-in program is designed for children ages 2-6 and their caregivers and takes place in the Project Room on the Children's Floor. Discover how everyday household items can become learning tools for your child. No registration needed.

Hora de Cuentos/Bilingual Storytime (4 – 8 years) Wednesdays: 6:30 – 7:00 PM Para niños de 4 a 8 años. Canciones, rimas, juegos e historias con un enfoque al lenguaje español y las culturas hispanas. Los niños asisten sin los acompañantes, pero al final los ayudarán con una pequeña artesanía. No se necesita matriculación.

For children ages 4-8. Songs, rhymes, games and stories with a focus on the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. Children attend without caregivers, but caregiver helps with a small craft at the end. No registration needed.

Stories & S.T.E.A.M. (6 – 8 years)

Fridays: 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM Kids ages 6-8 can explore stories and more with science, technology, engineering, art, and math in this fun after-school program. Caregiver must stay in the building but does not attend with the child. Registration is required.

N B TWEEN (9 - 12 years)

Wednesdays: 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM Crafts, games, and activities geared specifically towards tweens. Tweens attend without caregiver. Drop-in, no registration needed.

Homeschool Passport: Around the World at Morley (6-9 years) Tuesday, January 15th: 11:00 – 11:45 AM ~ Project Room ~ Quest to Canada Calling all homeschoolers ages 6-9! Join Miss Joya for an adventure through a different country each month. Learn about the country's culture, traditions, and foods. Each child will receive their own passport, which will be stamped upon entering each country! Registration for each class is required and will begin two weeks prior to each class.

Kids Scavenger Hunt: Wednesday, January 2nd through Wednesday, January 16th Kids 12 and under can participate in a fun, FREE picture Scavenger Hunt in the Children's Room. Find all 10 pictures hiding around the Children's Room, then turn in your sheet for a free, small prize from the treasure chest. Limit once per child, please.

Inventive Engineering: Toy Car Construction & Derby ~ Saturday, January 5th ~ 11:00 - 11:45 AM You are all inventors! Come to the library to flex your creative muscle and show your mettle. Families will face a ten-minute construction challenge to see how high they can aspire. Then make your own toy car from

household items and race to see who has built the fastest car. After all the excitement take a leisurely walk around the children's floor and complete a scavenger hunt to discover the faces of famous inventors and scientists. This program is geared towards families with children 12 and under, and no registration is needed.

The Children's Winter Reading Club ~

Sunday, January 6th through Saturday, February 16th Kids 12 and under can stop by the Children's Desk to pick up a Winter Reading Log and start reading! The Children's Winter Reading Club will run for 6 weeks. All children who turn in their reading log at least once receive a FREE book! Additionally, for every day that a child reads or is read to for at least 20 minutes, s/he will receive an entry into the prize raffle. Prizes include gift certificates, toys, and a Kindle Fire tablet! Registration is ongoing starting January 6th. The Morley Library Children's Winter Reading Club is generously sponsored by the Painesville Rotary Club.

KIDS CRAFTAFTERNOON! Thursday, January 10th ~ 3:00 - 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Story Room to make a fun, free snowman necklace craft. As supplies last; small children may need help. No registration needed.

Jungle Terry & Friends! Saturday, January 12th ~ 11:00 - 11:45 AM Join us for an educational and engaging family-friendly show featuring Jungle Terry's famous animals, including reptiles, birds, and more! Jungle Terry has been visiting Morley Library to teach kids about wild animal education and conservation for over 30 years. Experience his animals up close in this interactive, participatory animal show. No registration needed and all ages are welcome to attend.

Toddler Craft ~ Monday, January 14th ~ 10:30 - 11:00 AM For toddlers ages 2-4. Enjoy a free half hour finger paint session with your toddler! Let your child play with paints and get messy at the library without the cleanup at home! Make a paint resist name finger painting using tape. Be sure to have your child bring or wear a cover-up. Registration is required and begins two weeks before the program on Wednesday, January 2nd.

Homeschool Passport: Around the World at Morley Library ~ Tuesday, Jan. 15th ~ 11:00 - 11:45 AM Calling all homeschoolers ages 6-9! Join us for an adventure through a different country each month. We will learn about the country's culture, traditions, and foods. Each child will receive their own passport, which will be stamped upon entering each country! Registration for each class is required and will begin two weeks prior to each class. January 15th is Quest to Canada, and registration begins on January 1st.

Storytime with the Mentor Ice Breakers!

Saturday, January 19th ~ 11:00 - 11:30 AM Join us for a very special storytime with members of Mentor's pro hockey team, the Mentor

Ice Breakers! The Ice Breakers are the newest team in the FHL and will help us celebrate National Skating Month. Enjoy fun stories about ice skating read by pro hockey players themselves, and learn about all the programs that the Mentor Civic Ice Arena has to offer. No registration needed.

KIDS CRAFTERNOON! Thursday, January 24th ~ 3:00 - 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Story Room to make a fun, free magic scratch snowman craft. As supplies last; small children may need help. No registration needed.

The Construction Zone! Tuesday, January 29th ~ 4:00 - 5:30 PM Drop by the Story Room between 4:00-5:30 PM for The Construction Zone! Build a LEGO creation, test your marble race track skills, or play with fun magnetic toys. All ages welcome, parents must stay with children 5 and under. No registration needed.

WICKLIFFE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1713 Lincoln Road, Wickliffe, Oh 44092
(440) 944-6010
www.wickliffe.lib.oh.us

Birth-2 Year Old Story Time Wednesdays at 10:00 am: January 9-March 13. Thursdays at 6:30 pm: January 10- March 14. Registration requested.

3-6 Year Old Story Time Mondays at 6:30 pm: January 7-March 11 Registration requested.

Book Bugs Fridays at 10:00 am: January 11-March 15 Children, birth up to age 6 with a caregiver, join us for stories, activities and fun! Drop-in!

Tales for a Dog First Saturday of every month @ 9:30 or 10:00 am: 1/5, 2/2, 3/2. Readers completed Kindergarten and older, come share a story with a certified therapy dog. Pre-register or drop-in.

Lego Club Second Saturday of every month at 2:00 pm: 1/12, 2/9, 3/9 Children Kindergarten and older, stop by for some building challenges and fun! Drop-in.

Family Reads On-the-Go! 3rd week of the Month, during open hours: January 21, February 18 Pick-up a copy of next month's family friendly book (to be read at home together) and activity packet. Call to pre-register.

Globetrotters First Tuesday of the month at 3:15 pm: 2/5, 3/5, 4/2, 5/7 Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, discover a new country each month and get a stamp in your passport. Registration requested.

Masterpiece! 2nd Tuesday of the month at 3:15 pm: 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14 Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, explore famous artists and create your own masterpieces. Registration requested.

STEAM Ahead! Third Tuesday of the month at 3:15 pm: 1/15, 2/19, 4/16, 5/21 Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, join us and explore science fun. Registration requested.

Garden Gnomes & Forest Friends Fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:15 pm: 1/22, 2/26,

3/26, 4/23 Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, will learn about their surroundings through nature based activities. We will explore animals, plants, and more! Registration requested.

Tuesday Surprise Tuesday, January 29 at 3:15 pm Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, join us afterschool for a surprise program! Registration requested.

Tween Time (5th-8th grades) Wednesdays @ 2:30 pm: January 9-30 Join us after school for fun activities and socializing! Check the website for weekly themes and information. Registration requested. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE: Register for programs beginning the first of the month for the next month.

WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Eastlake Public Library
36706 Lake Shore Blvd.
Eastlake, OH 44095
(440) 942-7880 x. 105

Willoughby Public Library
30 Public Sq.
Willoughby, OH 44094

(440) 942-3200 x. 104
Willowick Public Library
263 E. 305 St.
Willowick, OH 44095

(440) 943-4151 x. 116
(440) 516-0843 TTY

Willoughby Hills Public Library
35400 Chardon Rd.
Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
(440) 942-3362
www.welibrary.info

Homeschool Art Adventures

Each month we will explore art with hands-on activities. Ages 5 and over. Thursday, January 3, 1 or 2:30 pm. Willoughby Library
Willoughby Otaku Anime Club
Join fellow Otaku at the Willoughby Library to watch anime, discuss anime and manga and draw our own characters. You can even cosplay if you want. Refreshments will be served. Ages 13 & up. Saturday, January 5, 1-4 pm Willoughby Library

Video Game Club Come make friends and play our Xbox One and Wii-U! Ages 12-18. Saturday, January 5, 2-4 pm Willowick Library

Tween Crafts & More Children are invited to create a variety of different projects together. We'll make slime, scarves, art and have a special breakout adventure! Register for each month you plan to attend. Ages 9-12. Wednesday, January 9, 6:30 pm Willoughby Library

Homeschool Technology Each month we will explore different facets of technology. Ages 10+ only please. Thursday, January 10, 1:30 or 3pm Willoughby Hills Library

Yoga Storytime Try out our brand new class that incorporates yoga into storytime. Taught by our very own certified yoga instructor

Danielle Battaglia! Please bring a mat or a towel. Please register for each class you want to attend. Ages 3-6.

Thursday, January 10, 10 or 11 am Willoughby Library

Afterschool Reading Stars Stop by our pirate ship after school and practice reading with some entertaining readers' theater, regardless of your reading level! Grades 1-4.

Thursday, January 10, 3:30 pm Eastlake Library

LEGO Club We provide the LEGOs, you provide the imagination in our LEGO club! All ages welcome!

Saturday, January 12, 1:30-3 pm Eastlake Library

Saturday, January 19, 2-3:30 pm Willowick Library

Homeschool Parent Support Group

Experienced educator and homeschool mom Sara Williams will moderate monthly discussions about homeschooling. Join us for support, answers and guidance.

Monday, January 14, 6:30 pm Willoughby Library,

Adapted Storytime Children with varying learning styles and abilities learn together in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences is encouraged. This storytime, followed by a time for socialization, is designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime experience. Content is geared toward ages 3 to 7 years, but all ages are welcome. Siblings may also attend, but must register separately. Tuesday, January 15, 6:30 pm Eastlake Library

The Wonderful World of Bubbles with the Bubble Lady If you've never seen Sue Durante's amazing bubble show, you must attend this event! If you have seen her, you know you can't wait to see it again! Space is limited so register today! Tuesday, January 15, 6:30 pm Willoughby Library

All About Autism: A Footprints Guide to What You Need to Know About Autism and Autism Resources in Northeast Ohio

Has your child recently received an autism diagnosis? Are you unfamiliar with the world of IEPs, sensory diets, specialized schools, social groups, funding options or even just knowing how to get support as a parent? Look no further! Footprints Center for Autism would like to provide you with an evening full of helpful information, useful resources and open conversations that will provide you with a comprehensive knowledge of the tools available to parents like you. All ages welcome.

Wednesday, January 16, 7 pm Willowick Library

Sensory Toy Playgroup Get out of the cold and play! Children with varying learning styles and abilities play together in a safe, supportive environment. A variety of toys from our Toy Library will be available to play with and check out. Everyone is welcome! Friday, January 18, 10 am-12 pm Willoughby Library



All Aboard the Polar Express!

All aboard the Polar Express at Morley Library! On Saturday, December 15th, children decorated their very own cardboard box train cars and watched the classic children's movie The Polar Express "drive-in" style. During the movie, families moved through stations around the room to make elf hats, decorate Christmas sugar cookies with frosting and sprinkles, sip hot cocoa with marshmallows, hunt for Christmas items in a winter sensory bin, and write wish list letters to Santa. A truly magical time was had by all as the bell still rings for those who truly believe!

Special Needs LEGO Club

This LEGO club is specifically for children with special needs. We provide the LEGOs, you provide your imagination. All ages welcome! Saturday, January 19, 10:30 am-12 pm Willowick Library, 263 E. 305 St., 440-943-4151

Barks for Books Practice your reading skills by reading to a therapy dog! (Grades K-5). Saturday, January 19, 9:30 or 10 am (Choose one session) Eastlake Library

Toy Swap: LOL Dolls, Shopkins, Hatchimals, Num Noms, Doorables and More!

Did you get a double of your favorite toy brand? Want a chance to trade them for ones you don't have? Join our monthly swap meet with your toys and any accessories they came with to trade them with other kids! Saturday, January 19, 2-3:30 pm Willoughby Library

Basement Writers Bring your writing and ideas to share! Give and receive feedback as well as bounce ideas off of your peers. All writing welcome, fanfiction to original works! New to writing? We have prompts. Grades



LOST NATION SPORTS PARK CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

**It's the perfect time of year to "hit" the batting cages,
open gym time (\$5) and indoor links (pricing and availability online)!**

\$1.50 per token, \$10 for 7, \$20 for 15

\$50 hitting card for 40 tokens

\$100 hitting card for 90 tokens

Soccer 101 January 5th

Soccer 101 is the "next step" in our youth soccer program. Targeted at kids ages 6-9, Soccer 101 includes both soccer foot skills training with small-sided soccer games. The emphasis is on FUN, coupled with an introduction to competition by playing some team matches. All teams will be coached by current and/or former soccer players.

Saturday mornings at 11 am

**Contact Danny at 440-488-1313 or email
danny.bartulovic@LNSPORTSPARK.com**

2019 LNSP Baseball

January 4 – March 10

14u, 12u, 10u, full field divisions

\$950/team for 7 games and possible playoffs

8u, side by side \$735/team for 8 games

Registration deadline: December 23

Training cage, turf and practice hours available to rent.

For more information contact Ed Strauss:

EStrauss@LNSPORTSPARK.com • 440-602-4000 X. 225

Birthday Parties

**Combine your child's
favorite sports activity
with a complete
birthday party
package!**



Call Marilyn at 440-602-4000 ext. 223



**38630 Jet Center Drive, Willoughby
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www.LNSPORTSPARK.com

