

COUNTY KIDS

JANUARY 2020

Farmpark Ice Festival

page 2

**FUN DAY: Bird
Quest for Kids**
page 2

**What All Kids
Should Learn**
page 3





Winter fun begins! Happy New Year.

Become a Friend on Facebook



Published By: **The News-Herald**
Advertising: **440-954-7134**
Production: **Lee Moran**

Send all submissions to:
lmoran@news-herald.com

County Kids is published once a month by:
County Kids/The News-Herald

Copyright 2020 by 21st Century Media
All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is strictly prohibited.

County Kids is a registered trademark of
21st Century Media



Farmpark Ice Festival

LAKE METROPARKS FARMPARK

Saturday, January 25 • 9 am to 9 pm • Sunday, January 26 • 9 am to 5 pm

It's winter in northeast Ohio. Come out to Lake Metroparks Farmpark and embrace it at the annual Ice Festival on Saturday, January 25 from 9 am to 9 pm and Sunday, January 26 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Watch the creativity Aaron Costic of Elegant Ice Creations—a nine-time world champion ice sculptor who regularly competes at the Winter Olympics. He took home gold in Torino and bronze in Nagano. Aaron and other local carvers will show off their skills during speed-carving competitions scheduled throughout the weekend and ice-carving demonstrations (Sunday only). Saturday night's festivities will conclude with a battle of fire and ice (a large fire burns inside a six-foot tower of ice). On both days, visitors can sit on the Farmpark-themed ice throne, enjoy live music and other winter-themed activities. Sit by one of our fire pits and make s'mores. Hot cocoa available for an additional fee.

So brave the cold and make Farmpark's Ice Festival your North-eastern 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.



Fun Day: Bird Quest for Kids

Penitentiary Glen Reservation
January 20 • 10 am to 3 pm
FREE Event

Birds are all around us, even in winter! Bring family and friends and explore the avian world during Fun Day Monday on January 20, 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. This event is free for all ages, no registration required.

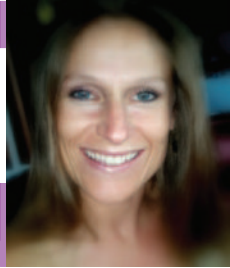
Inside the Nature Center, visitors can interact with hands-on nature exhibits and displays, watch for birds through the "Window on Wildlife" and browse the Nature Store for nature-themed gifts ideas, birdfeeders, t-shirts, field guides, toys, children's books and more. Snowshoe Lodge will be open for hot chocolate, coffee and tea.

Outside, explore the interactive Nature Play area, rent some snowshoes (both weather permitting), meet our wildlife animal ambassadors in the Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center yard, and hike on more than 8.5 miles of trails. You can also sign out an X-plorer Pack and go on your own outdoor Bird Quest! How many birds can you find?

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: Animal Grossology on February 17 (Presidents' Day) and Fun Day: Wild Animal Babies during spring break on April 10.

Penitentiary Glen Reservation is located at 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd in Kirtland (44094). For more information about Fun Day activities, visit www.lakemetroparks.com



Family Matters

with Amber

What All Kids Should Learn (Cont'd): #1 Self-care

This column topic is one we visited this past August. As school was starting for many of us, I wrote a column titled "20 Most Important Things to Teach a Child". I listed twenty of the things that I thought were either part of what I raised up my own kids with, learned myself, or wished I'd been taught. I didn't list them in any particular order, and I realize that I could have grouped a few of them together under an umbrella of just one word. I also didn't give any real expansion on the list; sometimes there just isn't enough space or time. I also recognize that we are a more visual generation. So, I'm going to do my best this year to take each value, skill or character trait and break them down to just 13 and what that might look like. I briefly covered one in December already (choosing Joy) which is somewhat related to this month's topic.

In the new year, I'll try to show what each plan would look like parenting an infant (if applicable), toddler, elementary schooler, teen and adult. I recognize that one size doesn't fit all and there will probably be things missing on my list. But that's just it, it's my list. You, and everyone else (parent or not) will have their own. And will each of us do all of these things right in parenting? That, we might never know. We can only do our best. I hope this begins to help expand on that column from August and how to apply it in most cases. No matter if you are guiding a teen or adult child...know it's never too late to work some of these into your plan. Because it's never too late to teach, and it's never too late to learn.

I think it's normal for parents to wonder how they're doing. Sometimes it's in the moment, but most often it's after the time of raising up little ones has passed. I think it's quite common to ask ourselves, "Did I do it right?". I've always said there is no manual. There is also no way to know in the moment, or maybe ever, if what we're doing is working. I've always said to just do what you feel is right. Everyone's going to have their opinions. When I look around, I don't know if I've ever seen the perfect parent, child or family. We're all human and we're all different.

The truth is, a picture-perfect kid can come from poverty and the worst kid can come from wealth. Geniuses can come out of very uneducated families, while insensible children can come from very cultured homes. The bullies or the bullied. The successful or the failing. There is no prediction and no prejudice. That's because it might not matter what you do. You just won't know today how your child will turn

out. We can only do our best. That's what my dad has always told me. Kids will eventually do what they want. I finally believe him.

I've always thought I did a good job. My friends say I did a great job. My dad said I did a perfect job. But, well, what do my kids think? Until they have their own kids, they probably won't ever truly be able to judge. Like we all know, there is no handbook. And I didn't have a mother. But I did have a gut feeling, a dad, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, counselors, books (and Mr. Rogers).

I'm on my third and last baby (he's 15) and now I feel there are a few things I would change. If you are with small kids, don't be scared or get discouraged, it's just the way it is...you will always second guess or wish you'd done something different...I haven't met a parent of adult kids yet who hasn't. Trust me when I say this.

This is my opinion on parenting though: I believe that if you treat your kids with the mindset that they're not you, unconditionally love them, show them respect and talk to them, you're on the right path. That's where my tagline to Family Matters with Amber came from over ten years ago; my kids gave it to me one night in our living room when I was creating my blog. "Strengthening families through unconditional love, respect and communication". I asked why. They said, "Because, Mama, that's how you raise us". And they all nodded. Even if my youngest was only 5 1/2 years old, he still seemed to agree. I've kept doing that as much as possible over the last 22 years and will wait to see how things turn out.

Here is what I thought would be the best first thing to talk about teaching our kids. Most often we don't really even know the meaning, or importance of Self-Care. What is that exactly? Well, it's definitely newer in its stages of awareness and what it encompasses and is surely different depending upon who you ask. Some women on YouTube are telling people it's spa days, reading books and taking baths. Others are describing it as boundaries (saying no), intentional living, and being kind to ourselves through self-acceptance and positive affirmations. There is nothing wrong with combining some positive talk while in the bathtub, while you turn off the phone and say no to something. But what is it really? I think it's knowing oneself, what we need, what we want, and having the ability to recognize when we need it and not feel guilty about it and/or giving ourselves the permission to have it.

SEE PAGE 7



ALL THE ARTS CAMP AT FAA!

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

JANUARY 20, 2020

8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Grades K-5

ONLY \$50
FOR THE
ENTIRE DAY!

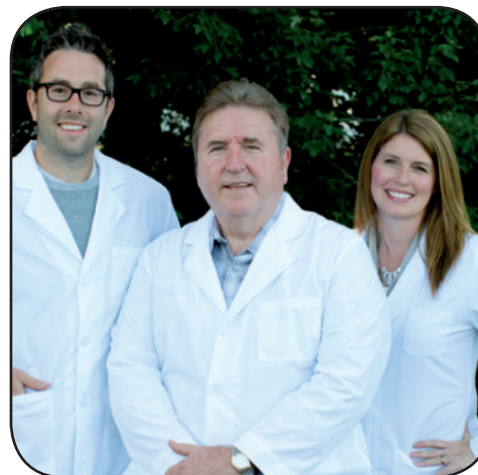
Before
Camp Care
included!



38660 MENTOR AVE. WILLOUGHBY, OH 44094

FineArtsAssociation.org | (440) 951-7500

ALBRECHT FAMILY DENTISTRY



Rusty M. Albrecht, D.D.S.
Lundon R. Albrecht, D.D.S.
Chandice A. Richards, D.D.S.
Welcoming New Patients

We perform all types
of dentistry for all ages.
Emergencies Welcome!

Weekday, Evenings &
Saturday Appointments

**Now Placing
Dental Implants**

Need a Dentist?
*Our Dental Family
would be honored
to serve your Family.*

**Call today for
an appointment**

(440) 358-0495

9659 Old Johnnycake Ridge Rd. Mentor
(behind Lowes)

Visit us at: www.albrecht dental.com

335 Vine Street
Fairport Harbor, OH 44077
(440) 354-8191

fairportlibrary.com

All programs are free, and no registration is needed.

Special Hours – Fairport Harbor Public Library will be closed December 24 and 25 for Christmas and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for the New Year. Regular hours resume on January 2. We will also be closed on Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Feb. 17 for Presidents' Day.

Winter Reading Contest! Earn chances to win prizes for every item you check out between January 6 and February 29. Winners will be drawn Monday, March 2 in multiple age categories.

Monday Mischievous - 10:30 AM / all ages with a participating caregiver - Scamper in and enjoy some art, science, cooking, music, mischief, and fun. Resumes January 6.

Story Times - Thursdays, 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM / all ages with a participating caregiver – Enjoy an interactive storytime with your child that includes early literacy fun with stories, songs, rhymes, imagination and movement activities. Resumes January 9.

Short on Time – a reading and discussion group every Wednesday afternoon at 1:30. This month we continue with “The Moth presents All These Wonders.” Resumes January 8.

Let's Talk – a book club for readers and discussers. The Caldecott Medal is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. For the past several years we have held our own Mock Caldecott discussion using ten books that have been lauded by reviewers through the year. For a complete list of books stop in the library or check the library website. Join us on January 27 at 6:30. It's harder than it looks and a lot of fun.

Cake Walk – Borrow one of our easy-to-use cake pans and bake a delicious creation. Bring it to the library Sunday, February 23 at 2 pm for an old-fashioned cake walk contest!

Leap Day Folk Dancing Party – bring the whole family for an international folk dancing party Saturday, February 29 from 3 to 4:30 pm. No registration needed.

MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

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, starting Jan. 13 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.

Pajama Story Time Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at Main Branch, starting Jan. 13 Main Branch in the Children's Story Room The library's new story time is a pajama jam! Kids can wear their snugly pajamas while they enjoy stories, songs, rhymes, a craft and snack. All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required.

Tiddlywinks Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at Main Branch, starting Jan. 14 Thursdays at 10 a.m. at Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch, starting Jan. 16 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. 14 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 at 11 a.m., starting Jan. 14 Main Branch. 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 years old.

Pre-K Pop Party Wednesdays, at 11 a.m., starting Jan. 15 Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Does your little one have some energy to burn? Come to the library's new Pre-K Pop Party. Each week, the library will throw a half hour party, full of music, movement, rhymes, a story, and lots of dancing. For children ages three to five years old. No registration required.

Tyke Time Thursdays from 11 to 11:30 a.m. 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. 17 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.

Family Story Time Fridays at 11 a.m., starting Jan. 17 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.

Saturday Crafty Pop-Up Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Make a craft to take home. No registration is necessary.

Pixel Perfect: Video Game Club Thursday, Jan. 2, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Enjoy an afternoon of gaming with the library's video game club, Pixel Perfect. The library will have age-appropriate games available to play on the Wii U. Kids are also encouraged to bring mobile devices on which to play Minecraft. For kids, ages eight through 12. Registration is required.

New Years Vision Board Monday, Jan. 6, at 2 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Tweens and teens (ages 10 and older) can learn how to create a vision board with their dreams and goals for the New Year. Inspire yourself to get organized and be motivated to achieve success with you new masterpiece. Registration is required for this program.

It's Knot Art Tuesday, Jan. 7, anytime between 3:30 to 7:30 The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor)

Teens (ages 12 through 18) can walk in and learn how to make fun and easy knot art. No registration required. While supplies last.

Comics Club Tuesday, Jan. 7, 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.

American Girl Book Club Wednesday, Jan. 8, 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.

Merrily We Sing Along Thursday, Jan. 9, at 10:30 a.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Kids (ages two to six) can come to the library for a morning of singing and dancing. Kids can enjoy favorite tunes and discover new ones. No registration required.

Family Afternoon Movie Saturday, Jan. 11, 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.

Post Holiday Pick-Me-Up Saturday, Jan. 11, at 1 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Feeling blah after the holidays? Come to the library and make winter-themed crafts, including an edible sleigh. Please bring a small picture of yourself for one of the crafts. Registration required.

Spa Day for Teens Saturday, Jan. 11, at 3 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Teens (ages 11 through 18) can enjoy an afternoon of pampering at the library. Try warm foot baths, nail polish, face masks and more in a relaxing setting. Refreshments will be provided. Registration is required.

Curious Kids Monday, Jan. 13, at 6 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids can explore new ideas every month through science experiments and playful activities. See new things and challenge yourself to be more curious about the world.

Laser Cut Wooden Jigsaw Puzzle Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 5 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Kids (ages four to eight) can craft their very own little wooden puzzle in The HUB's maker-space. Registration required.

Wordplay Creative Writing Club Wednesday, Jan. 15, 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.

Yoga Kids! Thursday, Jan. 16, at 10:30 a.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Certified yoga instructor Darlene Kelbach

will lead kids (ages three to six) and their grownups through exercises in breathing and movement, along with a story and music. This hour-long program also includes a craft and a little snack. Registration is required to attend. Also, please bring a yoga mat or towel for both child and adult.

Hand-Stamped Bracelets Thursday, Jan. 16, anytime between 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Teens (ages 12 through 18) can walk in and make a beautiful and unique bracelet. No registration required. While supplies last.

Dungeons and Dice: Tabletop Adventuring Club Thursday, Jan. 16, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Kids (ages eight through 12) can join the adventuring party and write their own destiny in the library's new tabletop gaming club. Become a fierce barbarian or powerful wizard. Take on the role of a premade character to explore dungeons, fight monsters, and save kingdoms. Game supplies and character sheets will be provided. Registration is required.

Celebrate Winnie-the-Pooh Day Friday, Jan. 17, at noon Main Branch in the Village Room Kids (ages three through six) can celebrate Winnie-the-Pooh Day with games, crafts and tasty treats. Registration required. Younger siblings and other family members are welcome to join the fun.

Celebrate Penguins Saturday, Jan. 18, at 1:30 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Kids (in kindergarten through fifth grade) can waddle into the world of penguins. Learn cool facts about these flightless seabirds, perform an experiment, and create rock penguins. Registrations required.

Let's Go LEGO Club Saturday, Jan. 18, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Families can drop in and build with the library's LEGO blocks.

Silent Library Monday, Jan. 20, at 3 p.m. Main Branch Just like the television show, kids (ages eight through 12) will team to perform tasks – all while trying not to make a sound. Challenges will include movement and using their different senses of taste, touch, sound, smell and sight. Registration is required to play.

Studio MPL Art Club Monday, Jan. 20, anytime from 3 to 7 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Kids in second through fifth grade can come in for a fun art project and coordinating, artsy scavenger hunt. Every session will highlight a different artist and their famous works. Walk-in program with no registration required.

DIY Photo Frame Necklace Monday, Jan. 20, at 5 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Kids (ages six to 12) can make a photo frame necklace using The HUB's laser engraver. Don't forget to bring a photo. Registration is required to attend and opens Jan. 6.

Geek Club Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 4:30 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Teens in grades six through 12 can make Star Wars-themed jewelry with the library's newest club. All creative types are welcome – writers,

crafters, painters, poets, sketchers, cinematographers, and more! Each month, we'll tackle a different project. All experience levels welcome. There will be snacks.

Acrylic Pet ID Tag Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 5 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Kids (ages five to 10) can make a customized acrylic ID tag for their pet in The HUB's makerspace. Registration is required and opens Jan. 8.

Color Me—Headlands Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Looking for some quiet time? Bring the family to a calm evening of coloring at the Headlands branch. Supplies provided.

Masterpieces at Main: Art Club for Kids Thursday, Jan. 23, 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.

Shivery Snowman Paint Thursday, Jan. 23, at 4:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Kids (ages five to 12) can learn how to mix a special kind of paint to use for their next masterpiece. Registration is required and opens Jan. 9.

Super Bowl Snacks Showdown Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Tweens (ages nine to 12) can taste and rank some tasty Super Bowl snacks. See if your favorite is voted best. Registration is required to participate.

Full STEAM Ahead: Art Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room First through fifth graders can enhance their STEAM development with activities involving Art. Registration is required.

Laser Cut Wooden Backpack Pin Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 5 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Kids (ages five to 10) can use The HUB's laser engraver to craft a wooden backpack pin. Choose from several designs. Registration is required for this program and opens Jan. 15.

Headlands Family Game Night Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 6 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Forget how to play chess? Want to learn a new game? Just looking for something to do with the kids on a Wednesday night? Come to the Headlands Branch for a fun evening of board games for all ages. No registration required. Just drop in.

School Spirit Scrunchies Thursday, Jan. 30, at 4:30 p.m. The HUB at Mentor High School (6477 Center St., Mentor) Teens (ages 12 to 18) can show some school spirit with handmade fashion. Registration is required for this program and opens Jan. 16.

MORLEY LIBRARY
184 Phelps St.
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 352-3383
www.morleylibrary.org

the Winter Storytime Session runs for 7 weeks: Monday, January 6th through Friday, February 21st, 2020. Registration begins Monday, December 30th, online at www.morleylibrary.org or by phone at 440-352-3383. Many of our storytimes are drop-in and require no registration.

MONDAYS:

Toddler Tales - 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Stories, rhymes, & fingerplays for little ones 3 and under! Child attends with caregiver. No registration needed.

Li'l Explorers - 10:30 – 11:00 AM Play-based exploration stations geared towards toddlers 3 and under with a caregiver. Explore stations designed to promote early learning and discovery. No registration needed.

Books at Bedtime - 6:30 – 7:00 PM Pajama storytime while cuddling your favorite stuffed animal for kids 18 months – 5 years old. Child attends with caregiver. No registration needed.

TUESDAYS:

Baby Bookworms - 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. No registration needed.

Español Plus - 4:15 – 5:00 PM For kids in grades K-3rd. Learn about famous artists, writers, and inventors while exploring Latino culture and the Spanish language through music, art, and snacks! No registration needed.

WEDNESDAYS:

Music in Motion - 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Stories, rhythm, music, and instruments! Child attends with caregiver. No registration needed.

Li'l Explorers - 10:30 – 11:00 AM Play-based exploration stations geared towards toddlers 3 and under with a caregiver. Explore stations designed to promote early learning and discovery. No registration needed.

Toddler Tales - 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM Stories, rhymes, & fingerplays for little ones 3 and under! Child attends with caregiver. No registration needed.

N B TWEEN - 4:15 – 5:00 PM For tweens ages 9 - 12. Crafts, games, and activities geared specifically towards tweens! Have fun with your friends at the library after school! No registration needed.

THURSDAYS:

Preschool/Kindergarten Storytime - 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM An exciting and engaging storytime with a focus on early literacy skills for kids ages 3-6. Child attends without caregiver. Registration is required. Please choose Thursday OR Friday.

Preschool S.T.E.A.M. Stations - 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. Discover how everyday household items can become learning tools for your child. No registration needed.

Parachute Playtime - 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.

FRIDAYS:

Preschool/Kindergarten Storytime - 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM An exciting and engaging storytime with a focus on early literacy skills for kids ages 3-6. Child attends without caregiver. Registration is required. Please choose Thursday OR Friday.

Preschool S.T.E.A.M. Stations - 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.

Stories & S.T.E.A.M. - 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.

Children's Scavenger Hunt: Thursday, January 2nd through Thursday, 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.

Children's Winter Reading Club: Sunday, January 5th through Saturday, February 22nd 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 7 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 5th.

KIDS CRAFTERNOON! Thursday, January 9th ~ 3:00 – 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Story Room to make a fun, free winter magic scratch craft. As supplies last, small children may need help. No registration needed.

Nora the Explorer: Saturday, January 11th ~ 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Bring the whole family to Morley Library for animal educator Nora the Explorer as she brings her collection of creatures! From creepy and crawly to soft and fluffy, her collection includes a parrot, rabbit, chinchilla, bugs, snakes, lizards and more. All ages welcome and no registration necessary.

Homeschool Art Explorers: Tuesday, January 14th ~ 11:00 – 11:45 AM Calling all homeschoolers age 6-12 years! Do you love art? Join other homeschoolers to discuss art techniques and make some beautiful creations! Please dress for mess as we may be doing

me messier projects. Registration required and begins January 1st.

Storytime with the Mentor Ice Breakers: Saturday, January 18th ~ 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.

Toddler Craft – Blow Art: Monday, January 20th ~ 10:30 – 11:00 AM For toddlers 2-4. Enjoy a free half hour art session with your toddler and leave the mess to us! Toddlers blow through straws onto paint drops to create cool creatures. Be sure to have your child bring or wear a cover-up. Registration is required and begins Monday, Jan. 6th.

KIDS CRAFTERNOON! Thursday, January 23rd ~ 3:00 – 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Story Room to make a fun, free paper penguin craft. As supplies last, small children may need help. No registration needed.

Winter Library Olympics: Saturday, January 25th ~ 11:00 – 11:45 AM If you can't wait around for this year's Summer Olympics this is the program for you! 96 years ago today the very first winter Olympics kicked off in France. We will have Olympics-Inspired crafts for you to take home as well as kid friendly Olympics-Style "sporting events" to take part in. See if you can take home a medal! This program is geared towards families with children 12 and under and no registration is required.

WICKLIFFE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

Little Beans Story Time Monday, January 6th at 11:00 am Join Miss Linda at CouchLand Coffee House (29933 Euclid Ave.) for books, rhymes, and music perfect for ages 6 and under with an adult. Coffee and food are available for purchase before and after story time. Registration requested, call 440-944-6010.

Young at Heart Story Time Monday, January 20th at 11:00 am For ages 10 and under with an adult, join Miss Linda from the Wickliffe Public Library for an inter-generational story time at Tapestry Senior Living, 28500 Euclid Ave. We'll have stories and songs, a craft and refreshments. Registration requested at 440-944-6010.

Bumbling Bumble Bees Story Time Mondays at 6:30 pm January 6-27 Children ages 3-6 with an adult, join our Children's Librarians for stories, rhymes, songs, activities and more! Registration requested.

Little Ducklings Story Time Wednesdays at 10:00 am, January 8-29 and Thursdays at 6:30 pm, January 9-30 Children ages birth-2 with an adult, join our Children's Librarians for stories, rhymes, songs and movement activities! Registration requested.

Family Story Time Wednesdays at 6:30 pm January 8, 22, 29 Kids ages birth-6 with an adult, enjoy stories, rhymes, dance and a small craft. Registration requested.

Family Winter Party Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 pm Children ages birth-6 years old with an adult, enjoy this fun winter themed story time. Registration requested.

Little Readers Fridays at 10:00 am January 10-31 Children ages birth-6 years old with an adult, join us for stories, activities and fun! Registration requested.

Adventure Travelers Tuesday, January 7 at 3:15 pm Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, experience the custom, crafts and geography of various states and countries. Registration requested.

Arts & Craft Club Tuesday, January 14 at 3:15 pm Children Kindergarten through 4th grade will be making a variety of fun projects and display them at our very own art show in May! Registration requested.

Wild Child Tuesday, January 21 at 3:15 pm Children Kindergarten through 4th grade will explore nature themes with hands on activities, crafts, and stories. Registration requested.

STEAM Tuesday, January 28th at 3:15 pm Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, learn about topics in science, art, math, and engineering. Registration requested.

Tales for a Dog Saturday, January 4th at 9:30 or 10:00 am Readers Kindergarten and older, come share a story with a certified therapy dog. Reading aloud in a non-judgmental environment helps children with confidence and fluency. Pre-register or drop-in.

Lego Club Saturday, January 11th at 2:00 pm Children and families build with us! Children under the age of 5 must be accompanied by an adult. Stop by for some building challenges and fun!

Super Science STEAM Day Saturday, January 25th, Noon-1:00 pm Boys and girls, ages 5 and up, with an adult, enjoy science discovery with our children's librarians. Space is limited, registration required.

Tween Time Wednesdays at 2:30 pm Children, 5th – 8th grade, join us for fun activities and socializing! Registration requested, call the Library and ask for the Children's Department. Themes are subject to change, check the website for information:
January 8—Board Games
January 15—National Hat Day Celebration
January 22—Book Tasting Event
January 29—Board Games

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

Willowick Library Saturday Family Films
Join us for a Saturday 2 pm matinee. Bring your own snacks & blankets and enjoy! Saturday, January 4, 2 pm – Movie: Toy Story 4
Willowick Library 440-943-4151

Basement Writers Write with us in our creative writing group. Bring your writing and ideas to share. All writing welcome. Positive feedback and fun environment provided. Grades 7-12. Ages 13-18.

Mondays, January 6 & 20, 7-8 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151

Teen Art Club Do you love to create art but never get the chance? Join other art-loving teens for art club. We supply the paint/pencils, you supply the genius. Ages 11-18.

Wednesdays, January 7, 7-8 pm
Willowick Library 440-942-3200

LEGO Club We provide the LEGOs, you provide the imagination in our LEGO club. All ages welcome!
Saturday, January 11, 2-3:30 pm
Willowick Library, 263 E. 305 St., 440-943-4151

Special Needs LEGO Club at Willowick Library meets on the same dates from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Saturday, January 18, 1:30-3 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Police Officer Storytime Patrolman Bruce Fedor from the Willoughby Police Department will present a storytime/craft at the library!
Monday, January 13, 10 am
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Storytime with The Mentor Icebreakers! Join us for storytime with members of Mentor's hockey team The Ice Breakers. All ages welcome. Tuesday, January 14, 11:30 am
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362

Winter Wonderland Enjoy winter stories, crafts and games at the library!
Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Book Hedgehogs Join Miss Bryn and Miss Sarah to decorate your very own book hedgehog to take home. We provide the hedgehogs, you provide the fun! Tween program. Ages 8-12. Tuesday, January 14, 6:30-8 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151

Adapted Storytime Specifically for children with special needs, this storytime features stories, rhymes, songs and other engaging activities in a welcoming environment.

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Homeschool Travelers Take a trip around the world without leaving the library! Each month features a different location & fun activities.
Wednesday, January 15, 2:30 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Super Sleuth Jr. Book Club Calling all junior detectives! Join us for an all new kids book club. Books will be available for checkout at

least 3 weeks before each meeting. January's Featured Book: Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer by John Grisham

Wednesday, January 15, 6:30-7:30 pm
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362

All Things Disney Discussion Group for Teens & Adults Join other Disney fan(atic)s to talk about everything Disney-TV shows, movies, theme parks, etc. Ages 12 & up.

Wednesday, January 15, 7-8 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Yoga Storytime Try out our brand new class that incorporates yoga into storytime. This class is taught by our very own certified yoga instructor! Please bring a mat or towel. Ages 3-6. Thursday, January 16, 10 or 11 am
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Homeschool Thursdays Children ages 6-12 will enjoy a variety of different hands-on projects. Space is limited.

Thursday, January 16, 1:30-2:30 pm or 3-4 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Book vs. Movie: The Tale of Despereaux Was the book better? Decide for yourself at our Book vs. Movie program! Read the book The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo, then join us at the library where we will watch the movie to compare and contrast.

Friday, January 17, 2 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151

Interactive Movie Night – Moana Watch Moana while you shout, sing and snack along. Viewers will receive prop bags full of surprises and more! Tuesday, January 21, 6 pm
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362

Cardio-Drumming for Teens and Adults Exercise can be fun! Join Melissa and Melissa from Will-Power Nutrition for an hour of drum sticks, music, movement and fun. Wear comfortable clothing. Space is limited. Ages 13 & up. Tuesday, January 21, 7-8 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Learn and Play Chess Club Join us for an informal gathering of chess enthusiasts, including instruction and play, fun and refreshments! It's also a perfect opportunity for scouts to earn their chess merit badge. All ages and chessboards welcome.

Saturday, January 25, 12-4 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Barks for Books Practice your reading skills by reading to a therapy dog! Grades K-5th grade. Saturday, January 25, 9:30 am and 10 am (Choose one time slot)
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Homeschool Technology Each month we will explore different facets of technology starting with the very basics. Ages 10 & up.
Monday, January 27, 1:30 or 3 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151

Homeschool Sewing Children ages 9-18 will learn how to make their very own pillow case on our sewing machines. All materials will be provided. Tuesday, January 28, 1 or 2:30 pm
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362

Pirate Ship Playdate & Craft Toys! Crafts! Fun! Ages 2-5. Wednesdays, January 29-March 18, 10 am Eastlake Library, 440-942-7880

In December, I wrote about My One Word: Joy. That's a tough word. I thought other words over the years were a challenge. I'm pretty sure, already, that this one is going to top the list so far and take the cake as most difficult. Joy in the moment, Joy after the moment, not easy for everyone. But Joy for me this year is going to place itself underneath a bigger meaning/goal: Self-care. Watching out for me. Reducing the negative, accentuating the positive and eliminating the unnecessary. As a mother, this is sometimes hard.

For a teen, I bet it's even harder. Coaches, teachers, peers, parents, boyfriends/girlfriends etc. These are all contributing factors where she can get tangled up in what they don't want to do, opposed to what they really want to do. I believe that it's imperative to teach our kids what self-care is, why it's important, how they can benefit. In a day and age of 'doing and overachieving' that's not something that seems tangible right? But it has to be. I have an 18-year-old, who ALWAYS needs her naps or sleep. While she has sacrificed that now for the military life, ha-ha, she was always granted that at home...because it made her better. I have a 22-year-old who needs her down time in solitude and creativity for her to rejuvenate. That's part of who she is. That's how she balances the busy life with her center. My son, he needs sports and food, and a good night's sleep (even if I have to force it). We must encourage our kids to do what is best for them.

So, what does this look like when parenting a baby or toddler? It is you identifying the needs of that child; their food intake, their sleep needs, their schedule. If they are out long periods of time, honor their need to eat by bringing plenty of snacks. If they can't hack long periods of public exposure, don't push them. Go home when it's time or prepare to not stay out as long. Self-care is about knowing one's self and giving one's self what they need. For us as parents, we need to provide that to our children when they are still young and don't know what they need yet. It gives them the space and acceptance to be themselves. When I first had children, I realized very quickly, that my time was no longer my



own. I was on their time. But, if I organized the time appropriately, we could all have what we wanted and needed.

When a child is in elementary school, middle or high school, I don't think that this is much different. There were things going on in both my high schooler's world and my college student's world where they both needed to take a look at what they had on their plate. They both chose to take a step back for their own sanity. Perfect. I say. It's up to them, what they need, how they will do it, and why. Even if I loved them doing what they were doing, I am not them, and they aren't doing that stuff for me, so "zip it mom".

As our children become actual adults, on their own making choices, times will arise that they'll recognize and need to participate in some sort of self-care routines. We can help with that by listening, offering assistance when they need it, like in the form of a movie together, lunch out, or giving them a day/night off so they can get away from their own kids.

Teaching our kids that their needs are important, just as much as anyone else's, is essential for them to lead happy lives. We weren't put on this earth to please everyone or live our lives for other people completely. Teach your

kids that it's okay, at any age, to make their own decisions minus any guilt, pressure or feelings of failure. At this point, most importantly, refrain from giving advice, unless they ask, or unless they seem like they don't know what to do. Just listen. Sometimes asking a few simple questions can help them process their needs.

Self-care now-a-days is lacking. That's why it's such a new topic and it's growing. If you have ever traveled by plane, you'll recall the stewardesses telling us all to take our own oxygen mask and use it on ourselves first, then help the children we are with. I've been reading a book called Lead Yourself First by Raymond M. Kethledge and Michael S. Erwin. In there, is a whole section on emotional balance. From what I gather, the majority of the characters described are real life military personnel who have all had to at one time or another taken time (solitude) to lead the team on a mission, or to just show up whole to a memorial service of a fellow soldier. There are

many stories in this book of famous leaders who have stopped everything to regroup. It's proof we should teach what we preach.

In my opinion, the doors for all of us are so revolving, that if we don't say STOP, we don't get a chance to clear our heads. Our kids are no different. Especially in this busy era of on the go, over scheduling, information intake overload and the demands we all eagerly line up for.

So, as I've noticed this topic pop up more and more on social media and in the news, educate yourself when and where you can learn about this newer topic that's being buzzed about. Pay attention to yourself and your kids. The happiness vs. the weight. Take some time to reflect and identify this month if and when (and where) you all might need a little more (or better) self-care...and how to get there.

Visit our blog to search other common sense parenting topics at www.familymatter-swithamber.blogspot.com.



SCIENCE DAY!

Environmental Learning Center
January 20 • noon to 4 pm

Come explore science at the Environmental Learning Center with Lake Metroparks this Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Enjoy hands-on activities that you can explore at your own pace. Have you just wanted to explore different sciences? We will cover different fields of science in different rooms. There will be a chemistry experiment you can work on with your family and we will look at a snowflake under a microscope. For physics, we will be heading outside to blast off rockets that you create while you are here. Come have a blast with science!

Snowshoes will be available, weather permitting.

Science Day! is free for all ages. No registration is required. For more information visit <https://goto.lakemetroparks.com/science-day>.

The Environmental Learning Center is located at 7250 Alexander Road in Concord Twp. (44077).

the **Y**
LEARN
THRIVE

Child Care
 LAKE COUNTY YMCA



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
 FOR HEALTHY LIVING
 FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In Child Care at the Y, parents feel confident their kids are in a safe, caring and educational environment and . . . the kids can't wait to see their "teachers" and play with friends.

CENTRAL Y (Painesville) Preschool, School-Age Painesville City 440.352.3303
EAST END Y (Madison) Preschool, School-Age Madison 440.428.5125
WEST END Y (Willoughby) Preschool, School-Age Willoughby 440.946.1160
PERRY CHILD CARE CENTER Infant, Toddler, Preschool School-Age Perry 440.259.4596

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

GREAT LAKES
MALL

KidX^{CLUB™}

TODDLER TUESDAYS

1st Tuesday of Each Month | 11 a.m. – noon

Join us near the Lake Health Children's Play area for fun, seasonal themed activities. Events are approximately 1 hour long.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT SHOPGREATLAKESMALL.COM



All Saints School of St. John Vianney

*Preschool - Grade 8
Catholic Education
We look forward to
meeting you!*

"Little Saints" Preschool

Our developmentally appropriate Preschool programs are licensed by the Ohio Department of Education and are in alignment with the Ohio Early Learning Content Standards in Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. The programs are designed to develop both Kindergarten readiness and social-emotional skills. Pre-5 classes offer opportunities for the 5-year old child who may benefit from an additional year of growth and development prior to kindergarten. Religion is the most important part of the day. The children also enjoy going to Art, Music and Computer classes.

Pre-3 class meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings

Pre-4 class meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
(either all day or 1/2 day morning option)

Pre-5 class meets Monday through Friday
(either all day or 1/2 day morning option)



A Day at All Saints School

We begin each day with prayer and continue to emphasize our commitment through liturgies, service projects, Eucharistic Adoration and Sacramental preparation. Parish priests visit us each week. At All Saints we recognize that children vary in learning styles, talents and abilities, and we foster growth through a variety of teaching methods, learning activities and hands on experiences. All the courses of study meet Ohio state and Diocesan standards and reflect the Catholic school philosophy of providing a faith-filled environment. We provide children with the opportunities to develop their potential for knowledge, self-inquiry and self-esteem.



Kindergarten - Our five day, all-day Kindergarten program establishes a strong foundation for future learning. The curriculum is based on the State of Ohio and Diocesan standards of academic and social education to meet the needs of your developing child. The core subject areas of Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies are offered, as well as, Religion, Art, Physical Education, Music and Computer.

28702 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092
(440) 943-1395

allsaintssjv.org info@allsaintssjv.com

Located on the campus of Center for Pastoral Leadership

OPEN HOUSES

Sunday, January 26, 2020 (11:00-1:00 P.M.)
Wednesday, January 29, 2020 (8:00-10:00 A.M. and 6:00-8:00 P.M.)
Sunday, February 9, 2020 (11:00-1:00 P.M.)