

Summer Camp

**KidShow
Coloring
Contest**
page 15

**MARCH
2024**

COUNTY
KIDS

DIVE INTO YOUR PASSION AT SUMMER CAMP!

**Mark your calendars for
the KidShow!**

COMING SOON



KidShow

Anything & Everything About Kids!



One BIG day for One REALLY BIG Event!

Saturday, March 23rd

11am - 6pm GREAT LAKES MALL in MENTOR

Parents:
Mark your
calendars!

Companies:
Be an Exhibitor!
KIDSHOWINFO.COM

Northeast Ohio's Best
FREE Kids Event!



Event Producer PROMARK ENTERPRISES, LLC • TO EXHIBIT CALL 440-974-1198 / pat@usepromark.com

One BIG Day for One REALLY BIG KidShow

KidShow Returns to Great Lakes Mall and Celebrates 25 Years!

Known as Northeast Ohio's best and longest running free kids event, the KidShow returns to Great Lakes Mall on Saturday, March 23 (11am-6pm) to celebrate its 25th year! Each year thousands of families from all over Northeast Ohio attend the event seeking resources for kids' services and products. This event is perfect for companies who want to reach parents, parents who are seeking services and products for their families and kids who like to have fun!

Parents look to see schools and day-cares, sports and entertainment, health and fitness, home and financial, music and activities, camps, vacations and just about anything and everything having to do with kids. Complimenting the wide variety of exhibitors, there will be plenty of fun, activities and entertainment for the kids, making it a family experience!

As the KidShow celebrates its big milestone year, plenty of surprises are planned. Look for the new Scavenger Hunt, 5 red



KidShow

Anything & Everything About Kids!

envelopes in the goody bag giveaway filled with 5 spectacular prizes and a cookie decorating station! Favorites to include Meet the Author Corner, Kids Craft Counter, costume characters, Dr. UR Awesome and a Cookie Art Contest for local bakers will return.

A fun-filled awesome day is in the making and best of all ... it's free! Visit www.KidShowInfo.com for all the KidShow details along with a complete entertainment schedule.

Interested in entering the Cookie Art Contest or being an exhibitor? Get involved and call KidShow producer, Patty Perry of ProMark at 440.974.1198. Exhibitor registration can also be found on line at www.KidShowInfo.com under "Exhibit at the KidShow."



Focusing on the whole kid not just the achievement

The term "participation award" has often held negative connotations. It implies that everyone should receive a prize regardless of effort or skill. It's easy to understand why a lot of parents don't like it. However, there's a powerful message hidden behind this approach, and I personally feel the Participation Award should get more credit, and here's why.

I grew up with a father who was always focused on my grades, and if he wasn't focused on those he was focused on how I could help him in his real estate business, or on the mistakes I made. He was a Navy dad, raised by an Army dad. He had high expectations and often that involved some level of perfection. It came from a very driven family of hard workers, and there's nothing wrong with that. It served us all very well. But growing up I felt like I was never allowed to fail, do what I wanted, or heck, just be me. That, I'm afraid, has not served me so well.

As parents, we are quite aware that we are

our child's first teacher. We often have high expectations of ourselves which are then easily transferred onto our children. Sometimes without even thinking, we are measuring our success by that of our children. That doesn't often go away. It's sad to me, that we can sometimes forget what it was like to be a kid.

All my life I have had ADHD (or at least I believe that to be true looking back). Now that I am diagnosed, I can see that there is probably only one or two people in my lineage who don't have it (albeit they are not diagnosed). I bring this up because ADHD has added another level of 'doing' focus to my life, which I also brought into my parenting style. I was always busy. A family of workaholics and high achievers (with ADHD) we have really set the stage for busyness and are achievement focused people who are hard on ourselves. As a mother, I was not only trying to outdo my own last task, but I

SEE PAGE 11

ANIMAL CAMP 2024

The Best Camp Ever!
We are celebrating our 18th year and inviting you!

11 one week sessions
For kids 5 to 13 years old

Camp hours 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Features:
Horseback riding, playing with rabbits, goats, chickens, cows and dogs. Plus crafts and games all day long.

Rising River Farm
6618 Chagrin River Rd., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

Visit us at: www.risingriver.net
Contact Us: (440) 463-3146
khanimalcamp@gmail.com

Visitation:
Visitation of the Animal Camp will be offered on an individual basis. Visitation must be scheduled, and is of limited availability.



SUMMER FUN STARTS AT THE YMCA!

At the Y, we value the unique personalities and potential of every child and teen. Day Camp creates an environment where kids can be themselves, discover exciting new things, cultivate friendships, and make memories to last a lifetime. The YMCA Day Camp is geared to involve age-appropriate activities in both large and small group settings. Planned task-oriented activities challenge their present abilities and teach new skills. Campers choose from many activities for fun and learning and are encouraged to accept responsibility and develop self-reliance. With the right building blocks for healthy development, campers gain the skills they need to be active, thriving, and contributing members of society. Physical activities develop good coordination and skill development through physical fitness. Opportunities for outdoor and recreational activities are planned every day. Campers learn appropriate social behavior through group discussions, projects, and positive adult modeling, and gain a sense of belonging. The YMCA Day Camp provides ways for campers to: Build self-esteem, make new friends and build meaningful relationships with others, discover who they are, help and serve others, and demonstrate a helpful and



cooperative attitude. The YMCA is for youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. All Lake County YMCA Day Camps are registered with the State of Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services. Each day camp location provided by the Lake County YMCA is a licensed summer care camp. Camp locations include; Central YMCA, Painesville: 440-352-3303, East End YMCA, Madison: 440-428-5125, and West End YMCA, Willoughby: 440-946-1160.



MENTOR SAFETY TOWN

Safety Town is an awareness program to teach young children safety while providing parents with peace of mind. The program includes classes on fire safety, stranger danger, poison prevention, and an outside mini town with instructions on pedestrian/traffic/bike rules. Registration is open to children ages four (as of June 1, 2024), five and six years old. The program is presented by the Junior Women's Club in partnership with the Mentor Fire and Police Departments

along with the Mentor Public Library and The Mentor School System. This successful program in safety and education for Lake County children is directed and taught by caring and experienced local state board teachers. Safety Town is offered for two weeks in the summer and each session is 5 days. Morning and afternoon sessions are offered. Safety Town questions can be directed to our Safety Town Coordinator at mentorsafetytown@gmail.com.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GET AMPED FOR CAMP!

WEST END Y	CENTRAL Y	EAST END Y
Willoughby	Painesville	Madison
440.946.1160	440.352.3303	440.428.5125

www.lakecountyyymca.org

Camp 2024 Registration Now Open!



MAJOR LEAGUE INSTRUCTION FOR KIDS 6-14

LOCATIONS IN PERRY, WILLOUGHBY, AND MANY MORE!

REGISTER TODAY!



CLEGUARDIANS.com/summercamps



Girl Scouts are a force of nature.

This summer plan an unforgettable experience in the great outdoors at Girl Scout Camp.

gsneo.org/summercamp

girl scouts
of north east ohio

customercare@gsneo.org | 800-852-4474

Camp Curiosity: Summer Science Camps GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER



Welcome to Camp Curiosity 2024! We know your kids thrive on the fun of learning new things and challenging themselves with new experiences. Our week-long, summer day camps for kids in grades K-6 feature a variety of STEM themes, offering them unforgettable science adventures, new opportunities to grow their interests, and the chance to practice essential soft skills such as communication and problem-solving.

This year, we have tons of new camps with themes focusing on nature, music, space, LEGOs, and technology, and a few returning favorites (we see you Minecraft fans!). There are new art themed camps, and excitement over this summer's Olympic Games has led to the creation of

new sports themed camps! Camp themes are available for both grade bands (K-2 and 3-6), but specific activities are tailored appropriately for each age group.

Sessions begin June 4 and run through the week of August 12.

Register by March 31 and receive \$20 off. Register by April 30 and save \$10. Discounts are also available for multi-week registration, siblings, and returning camp alumni, and discounts can be combined. Members always save \$25 per camp. Before- and after-care are available. Scholarships are also available, which allow us to provide summer camp opportunities to underserved youth.

Camp Curiosity is presented by Timken.

For more information and to register call 216-621-2400 or visit GreatScience.com.

LOVES LEARNING LOFT

Innovative & Responsible

At Love's Learning Loft, our mission consists of providing a warm and nurturing environment where children feel safe. Our unique Childcare Center offers various activities that are specifically designed to encourage each child's growth. Through cooperative play and creative activities, kids reach their social, emotional and physical milestones naturally and with ease.

We are proud to provide a caring, clean, secure, and safe environment for your children. By following our mission, vision and values, we create a nurturing, stimulating and welcoming learning environment for all children.

TWO LOCATIONS!

www.loveslearninglofts.com



Creative fun all summer long!

Busy Bees Summer Art Camp is the place for the kids to “bee” this summer!

Parents looking for “that something different” for their creative kiddos should check out the summer camps offered by the Busy Bees Pottery & Arts Studio in Great Lakes Mall.

Since 2015, the studio has provided a cheerful creative outlet for school-aged children to explore and create throughout the summer. “Within the camps, our instructors take kids on a journey, exploring our mediums, from paint your own unfinished bisque pottery pieces to mosaics, canvas painting, glass fusing, clay hand building, and board art,” says owner Beth Brinton. “There’s really nothing as special as seeing a child’s face light up when they finish creating something.”

Beth and her artsy staff have come up with a range of half-day and full-day camps to appeal to kids ages six to 12. Running the second week of June through the first week of August, each day of the week focuses on a special medium and theme!

“The kids will create one to three pieces of artwork each day during the camps,” says Beth. “And their pottery, or clay or glass pieces will be kiln fired at the studio which is a really unique experience for the

kids. Non-fired projects such as canvases and mosaics will be available for the kids to explore as well.

Busy Bees Pottery & Art Studio is located in the heart of Great Lakes Mall, near the Fuji Japanese Steakhouse entrance, at 7850 Mentor Avenue, in Mentor. You should book parties in advance, but for regular art projects, walk-ins are always welcome. Register for summer camps online. The studio is open seven days a week, Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 440-571-5201 or visit www.Mentor.BusyBeesArt.com. From ceramic and hand-built pottery to glass fusing, painting, jewelry making and more, you can get creative and have a lot of fun at Busy Bees Pottery and Arts Studio.

Save on Summer Camp!

Mention this story and receive \$25 off any Busy Bees Pottery summer camp.

Offer good for camps registered by

Sunday, March 31, 2023.



HAWKEN SUMMER PROGRAMS

In Gates Mills and Lyndhurst

(440) 423-2940 • www.hawken.edu/summer



Hawken Day Camps provide a variety of exciting and challenging activities led by experienced professionals. While your child enjoys a four or six-week session, you’ll rest assured knowing he or she is in a safe, nurturing environment that includes daily hot lunches, optional transportation, and pre- and after-care services. Camp offerings include Hawkings (ages 4 – 5), Boys or Girls Day Camps (prekindergarten – grade 5), Boys Sports Camp (grades 4 – 8), and Girls Lifetime Adventure Camp (Grades 4 – 8).

Passport Camps offer unique week-long, full and half-day opportunities to learn, create, and explore. Families can piece together a summer of courses or choose a one-week adventure. Camp topics include science; the performing and visual arts; design and construction; leadership; cooking; world language and culture; games, sports, and fitness; technology and creativity; makerspace innovations; and mythology, mystery, and adventure.

Hawken Athletics Camps offer skill-driven instruction for campers seeking to improve their skills in soccer basketball, lacrosse, football, field hockey, tennis, and volleyball.

This year, Hawken will be running several camps for students entering grades 5-8 at the Mastery School of Hawken in University Circle. Students can choose from Improv Comedy, Sports and Leadership, Mechatronics, and Health Sciences.

Hawken Summer Studies Program, open to public and private school students, is a six-week program of credit and enrichment for students entering grades 6 – 12. Subject offerings include courses in the humanities, science, mathematics, history, health studies, and PSAT/SAT strategies.

Come join the fun! Camps run at varying intervals between June and August. For more information, contact summer-programs@hawken.edu, 440.423.2940, or visit www.hawken.edu/summer.

WILLOUGHBY PARKS & RECREATION

SUMMER DAY CAMP | AGES 6-12

MINI MUNCHKIN CAMP | AGES 4-6

440-953-4200 | WILLOUGHBYOHIO.COM

theater

visual arts

music

dance

creative arts therapies

BE A PART OF THE ARTS!

SUMMER CAMPS AND CLASSES FOR ARTISTS LIKE YOU!

Beck Center
— FOR THE —
arts

BECKCENTER.ORG | 216.521.2540

The Official Camp of Summer Fun!

GET THE MOST OUT OF SUMMER AT **CAMP GILMOUR**

There is more fun than ever at Camp Gilmour this year. With nine weeks of new offerings and old favorites, Camp Gilmour has something for everyone. Campers ages 3 through 12 can choose from full- and half-day traditional day camp experiences, sports, arts and specialty camps. Campers enjoy weekly field trips, special guests, arts and crafts, swimming lessons, ice skating, summer enrichment, and lots of opportunities and activities designed to make new friends.

No wonder Gilmour is the Official Camp of Summer Fun!

10% DISCOUNT THRU 2/29

REGISTER TODAY
LIMITED AVAILABILITY
DUE TO HIGH DEMAND

Visit gilmour.org/summercamp



**GILMOUR
ACADEMY**

**BEFORE &
AFTER CARE
AVAILABLE**

SCAN THE QR
CODE TO VIEW
THE CAMP GUIDE



9 WEEKS OF CAMP JUNE 3 – AUG. 2

***SPARK CAMPS**
ENTREPRENEURIAL CAMPS

***BLACK ROCKET CAMPS**
TECHNOLOGY FOCUSED

SPORTS CAMPS
BASKETBALL, CROSS COUNTRY,
TENNIS, VOLLEYBALL, SOCCER
& MORE

**FINE & PERFORMING ARTS
CAMPS**
THEATRE, MUSIC, ART &
PHOTOGRAPHY

SPECIALTY CAMPS
TRY SOMETHING NEW

HOCKEY CAMPS
INTENSIVE OFF-SEASON TRAINING
FOR BOYS & GIRLS



Cleveland Guardians Youth Summer Camps

Entering the vibrant world of the Cleveland Guardians Youth Summer Camps is an invitation to a week filled with more than just swings and catches—it's an odyssey of growth, camaraderie, and the sheer joy of playing the game. For kids aged 6 to 14, this camp isn't just about baseball and softball; it's about creating lasting memories, learning new skills, and having fun.

Imagine a gathering where the youngest rookies and potential future Progressive Field stars converge. This camp transcends the spectrum of experience—from those gripping a bat for the first time to the veterans of the area's top travel programs. The promise is simple: a week that leaves every player, regardless of age or skill, a better ballplayer on Friday than they were on Monday.

Safety is the heartbeat of this experience. When grouping kids, age groups are a starting point, with an additional emphasis on prior experience, ensuring each camper finds the perfect balance between challenge and confidence. Instructors carefully curate an environment where tennis balls, whiffle balls, and safety balls join regulation baseballs, fostering a fear-free space for learning and fun.

Our instructors are top coaches from around Northeast Ohio and SafeSport certified, they bring passion and creativity to every one of the 30 hours of camp. From

the first swing to the final catch, these mentors guide young players in skill building, being a good teammate, Cleveland Guardians Culture, and more.

Competition is the heartbeat of any sport, and every camper gets a chance to showcase their skills. Baseball and softball competitions culminate in the announcement of top performers at the end of every camp throughout the summer, with scores proudly posted online. This all culminates in Champions Day: after the last camp of the summer, the top 10 scorers from each age group from the will be invited to compete at the Champions Day finals with kids from all our camps throughout Northeast Ohio.

This isn't just a camp; it's a Major League experience. Each player receives an MLB-quality Guardians jersey, pants, belt, and cap. Guest appearances by current Guardians players or team alumni add a touch of big-league magic. As a bonus, every participant receives two tickets to a 2024 Guardians game, extending the experience beyond the week on the field, providing an opportunity to reunite with newfound friends.

The Cleveland Guardians Youth Summer Camps aren't just about refining skills; they're about kindling a love for the game, and the Cleveland Guardians, that lasts a lifetime.

CITY OF WILLOUGHBY

We would like to invite everyone young and old to visit our parks, pools, golf course and Senior Center this summer. We have something for everyone! **This summer we will be offering Summer Camp for ages 6-12 at both our Daniels and Osborne Park.** Have little ones in preK? Join our Mini Munchkin Camp designed for our preK and kindergartners, ages 4-6. In addition, we will have swim lessons available at our Osborne Park Pool. Looking to golf? Check out our Lost Nation Golf Course!



LIMITED SPACES!

CREATIVE FUN ALL SUMMER LONG!

REGISTER NOW FOR WEEKLY SESSIONS



POTTERY PLAY GLASS MOSAICS CANVAS & MORE!



FOR AGES 6 YEARS TO 14 YEARS



**REGISTER ONLINE AT
MENTOR.BUSYBEESART.COM/KIDS-CAMP**

GILMOUR DAY CAMPS

34001 Cedar Road, Gates Mills, OH 44040
gilmour.org/summercamp
(440) 473-8000 ext. 2267



Camp Gilmour: The official camp of summer fun! With exciting offerings that include entrepreneurship, coding, drone, cooking and baking, adventure, nature-based camps, sports camps, and fine and performing arts experiences, *Camp Gilmour has something for everyone!* Camps will be offered from **June 3-August 2**.

We will again host nine weeks of Day Camp for children ages 5-12 (limited spots remain). Campers can attend for the full day or combine a half day of day camp with other half-day specialty camps. Additionally, campers have daily enrichment in math, science, reading and writing at no added cost.

We will offer skill-specific hockey, volleyball, football, tennis, soccer and cross country sports camps, hosted by Gilmour coaches from these **state-ranked programs**. The camps will provide campers the opportunity to hone their skills and strategies, whether they play at the recreational, CYO or high-school level.

Gilmour offers Before and After Care options from 7:15 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Register today at www.gilmour.org/summercamp. If you have any questions, please call (440) 473-8000 ext. 2267 or email summercamp@gilmour.org.

Gilmour Academy is an independent, Catholic, coed school in the Holy Cross tradition. Grades K-12 and Montessori Pre-school (18 months-Preschool) • gilmour.org

Animal Camp: Hosted by Rising River Farm

6618 Chagrin River Rd., Chagrin Falls Ohio, 44022
khanimalcamp@gmail.com,
RisingRiver.net, 440-463-3146

Animal Camp is a unique farm day camp experience for kids ages 5-13. Since 2006 we have honed an interactive self-directed, technology free experience for the children of our community. Kids enjoy and explore farm animals, participate in horseback riding (weather permitting), an end-of-week trail ride, crafts, games, cooling off in the Chagrin River which is both shallow and located on the property, and "Feed-em-Friday" when kids are permitted to bring apples and carrots to feed the animals. We offer 11 individual sessions during June, July, & August from 9:00-4:30. Campers are welcome to participate in one, or multiple sessions. All activities are supervised by experienced counselors, many of whom are Animal Camp graduates! (Typical ratio camper to counselor 4:1) Horseback riding helmets are provided, sneakers or boots, water bottle, and lunch are required. Please email Krista with any questions, or information requests. Like Rising River Farm on facebook to stay up to date on available experiences and activities. Visitation of the farm is encouraged prior to the commencement of camp and may be scheduled via email.

Rising River Corporation is a 501c-3 dedicated to Equine Education, Vocational opportunities, and horse rescue/sanctuary. The majority of the animals on the farm are rescue animals.



Imagine Summer, THINK HAWKEN!

Summer programs for boys and girls ages 4-18

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

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

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

exciting adventures await you!

summer.hawken.edu

Lyndhurst • Gates Mills • University Circle

HAWKEN
SCHOOL





Best. Summer. Ever.



Hathaway Brown offers a wide array of summer programming for girls and boys, kindergarten through college.

Browse through academic, athletics, adventure, theatre, and specialty camp options to create your own one-of-a-kind experience.

Visit hb.edu/summer



SCAN FOR CAMPS

Hathaway Brown



12401

Rabbit Run offers creative fun

So much summer fun is in store for campers as they discover hidden talents in many different fine arts camps available at Rabbit Run Community Arts Association (RRCAA) in Madison.

Youth Art Camp is for anyone who likes to be creative and maybe make a mess in the process. In these one-week camps, campers, ages 7 to 16, get elbow deep in paint, clay, and other mediums as they create original two- and three-dimensional works of art. Art Camps meet Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Pop Star Camp gets youth ages five through 10 up and moving as they learn to sing and dance like their favorite pop star. This one-week day camp is from 9:30 a.m. to noon typically in June.

Campers delve into all areas of the theater arts including drama, music, dance, costumes, make-up, and stage craft in both **Junior Theater Camp** for ages 4 through 8 and **Explorer's Theater Camp** for ages 8 through 15. Campers also participate in arts and crafts and age-appropriate games.

Explorer's Camp is for those who are new to theater and are looking for a great introduction to the world of drama. The camp meets from 1 to 4 p.m., Monday



through Friday.

Just for Juniors Camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. Just for Juniors is a one-week camp introducing young children to the world of theater through song, dance, and lots of imagination.

Specific dates for all camps will be announced the end of February.

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

RRCAA is a non-profit organization offering year-round instruction in all the major disciplines of the fine and performing arts and receives partial funding from the Ohio Arts Council.

The Girl Scouts have a camp for every girl



Girl Scouts are a force of nature. They were meant for outdoor adventures. They're ready to rediscover the world – to disconnect from technology and embrace the freedom of the woods, the sky, and water. The best part,— no Girl Scout experience necessary!

Every camp adventure is different, but that doesn't mean your camper won't get a well-rounded experience! From archery, low ropes, campfire cooking and exploring nature, your girl will experience everything that makes camp, feel like camp. Whether for a day, a week, or longer, Girl Scout camp provides an opportunity to grow, explore, and have fun under the guidance of caring, trained adults.

We have a camp for every interest! We offer one-day programs and week-long day camps. We also have week-long resident camps at Camps Ledgewood and Timberlane.

If your Girl Scouts loves the water, Splish Splash may be the perfect Day Camp, but if she loves science, maybe Friends of the Forest is the perfect Week-long Day Camp for the girl who's eager to learn about animals and their native habitats! Stardust may be the Resident Camp for the astronomer in training in your life. Whichever camp themes she chooses, fun is sure to follow!

For more information visit gsneo.org/summercamp or call Customer Care at 800-852-4474.

CAMP CURIOSITY

2024 SUMMER CAMPS



Grades K-6 Camps start June 3!

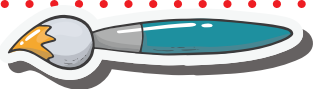


Camp Curiosity Presented by

TIMKEN



Register Now! Visit GreatScience.com for more information



BECK CENTER For The Arts

Beck Center offers classes at the Lakewood campus in dance, theater, visual arts, private music lessons, and group lessons. All are welcome! Students of all ages and abilities learn as they create unique works of art, discover hidden talents, and have loads of fun with new friends. Beck Center has something for every interest in visual and performing arts, and for every skill level. Classes are available for fall, winter/spring, and summer sessions. Looking for free arts programming? Visit the Beck Center campus and enjoy free visual arts exhibitions all year. Looking for live entertainment? Beck Center offers professional theater, youth theater, dance performances, and music recitals on three stages. *Please call 216-521-2540 to buy tickets for the entire family to enjoy Beautiful, the Carole King Musical, running July 12 to August 11, 2024, or visit beckcenter.org for more details today.*

FOCUSING ON THE WHOLE KID FROM PAGE 2

was also pushing my kids to outdo theirs as well. Long story short, I too often have been overly focused on the doing than the being. As an adult, I have a hard time relaxing-struggling for decades with a perfectionist mindset and a habit of over-productivity. I have pressed that upon my kids and that is a lot of pressure. Whether it's getting an A in a class, an above passing grade on a test, or making the right decisions, I wish I did more of just complimenting them. More often applauding them for who they are, not just what they did.

Genuinely complimenting our children for who they are is important. It may not seem like it, in a world where it's easy to shower our kids with praise based solely on achievements. In a world where we have so many options to do anything, and mediocre just doesn't seem like enough, there are kids everywhere who are quiet but still shine, seem lazy but they are brilliant! There are kids who don't do sports but have so much ability to achieve success in other areas of life. What about them? What about the budding scientist who prefers reading experiments to winning races, or the thoughtful soul who excels at empathy rather than

being an academic genius? And the gamer, who refuses to be the socialite their sibling is...they might be the next computer programmer? The 10 year old who wants to be a YouTuber might be the next philanthropist with their nominal success. Look that up, there are so many who use their platforms to help others (though their parents cringed because they said they wanted to be famous as an online influencer). Just because their sites aren't set on something we can make sense of (or believe in at the time) doesn't mean it's not going to bring them (and other people) joy... or result in success.

- **Celebrating their intrinsic qualities:** Notice and comment on their kindness, resilience, sense of humor, creativity, or even their quirky interests. Saying "I love how you always help others" or "Your imagination is amazing!" fosters self-acceptance and confidence beyond external measures.

- **Focusing on effort and progress:** Instead of fixating on winning or attaining perfect scores, highlight their dedication, perseverance, and willingness to learn. Say "I'm so proud of how hard you practiced your piano piece" or "You never give up, even when things get tough". This builds

natural motivation, and a growth mindset.

- **Create a space for authentic expression:** Encourage kids to explore their passions without pressure to compete or perform. Whether it's building fantastic Lego creations, writing whimsical stories, or simply enjoying quiet exploration, allow them to pursue their interests for the joy it brings, not external rewards.

- **Embrace their individuality:** Resist the urge to compare your child to others. Every child develops at their own pace and possesses unique talents. Celebrate their differences and encourage them to do the same.

Every one of us has a unique spark that makes us who we are and every kid deserves to feel like a star. Why shouldn't they? They exist every day, attempting to do their best. They should be acknowledged. They should be loved for who they are through acceptance and encouragement because that would be the greatest prize of all.

To read more parenting stories in the archives visit our blog: www.FamilyMatterswithAmber.com. To hear more about my thoughts on this topic, visit our Podcast with the same name on Podbean: Family Matters with Amber.

ceramics · fiber arts · quilted items · soaps · candles · and much more!



2024 WILLOUGHBY HILLS Spring CRAFT SHOW

saturday
MARCH 16
9 AM to 3 PM

* Save *
the
Date!

Great gifts & goodies
from local artisans

Stop by and visit our crafters with handmade items on both levels of the Community Center. (35400 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills)

Bring a friend
Raffles & Refreshments

FREE ADMISSION

Follow us on Facebook for
updates and more details!



Rabbit Run Community Arts Association

Art Camps Ages 7 - 16

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

Pop Star Camp Ages 5 - 10

Learn to sing & dance like your favorite pop star!

Dance Classes All ages

Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Creative Movement,
Adult Ballet, Adult Tap, Modern, Hip Hop



Summer Fun at Rabbit Run

Theater Camps Ages 4 - 15

Have a blast learning all about theater arts in a fun and traditional camp setting.

Camp dates to be announced soon

Call 440-428-5913

www.rabbitrun.org
Madison, OH



YOUTH SPRING SPORTS AT LNSP EAST!

Lil' Kickers - Soccer



Winter Session runs through March 2.

Register Today!

Spring Session: March 11 - June 2

Registration opens Feb 4!

- Choose 1 day per week (Mon, Tue, Thur or Sat)
- Innovative child development program based on soccer

- Focuses on kids ages 18 months - 7 years old
- Classes run 50 minutes per session, once a week
- Class fee of \$17/week

Sign up for a **FREE TRIAL TODAY!**

www.lostnationsports.com/youth-program/lil-kickers-east/



Skills Institute - Soccer

NEW PROGRAM BEGINNING THIS SPRING!

Spring Session: March 11 - June 2

Registration opens Feb 4!

Skills Institute is where soccer takes center stage. Rooted in child development theory, kids have a blast learning and improving technical and tactical soccer skills. Players will walk away more

Confident, equipped for their next right step, and ready for life's challenges on and off the field. Players enjoy 30 minutes of age-appropriate instruction and 20 minutes of small-sided scrimmaging. Classes meet weekly for 50-minutes.

- Class fee of \$19/week

Read more about the program **HERE:**

www.lostnationsports.com/youth-program/skills-institute/



Lil Sluggers - Baseball

Winter Session runs through March 2.

Register Today!

Spring Session: March 11 - June 2

Registration opens Feb 4!

- Choose 1 day per week (Mon or Sat)
- Introduction to baseball ages 2-6 years old
- Class fee of \$17/week



Mike Moran Basketball Camp

The Mike Moran Basketball Camp!

Dates: June 17-21 & June 24-28

Time: 9:00am-3:15pm

To find out more details and pricing, please visit:
www.morancamps.com

36830 Jet Center Dr., Willoughby | 440-602-4000 | www.LNsportspark.com



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 44060

(440) 257-2512

Headlands

4669 Corduroy Rd. Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 257-2000

www.mentor.lib.oh.us

Register for Free Eclipse Glasses Mentor Public Library is distributing eclipse glasses so you can safely view the total solar eclipse on April 8. People can register to receive up to two pairs of glasses per family at mentorpl.org/eclipse, while supplies last. Registration starts on March 1, and you'll need an adult card in good standing from Mentor Public Library or another CLEVELAND to sign up. Pick up the glasses from the front desk at MPL's Main Branch. Glasses must be picked up by April 3. Patrons can also receive eclipse glasses by attending specific programs this March and April at Mentor Public Library.

Science Readathon All March while supplies last Main, Lake & Headlands Branches Kids (ages 12 and younger) can receive a free pair of eclipse glasses when they check out two science books from Mentor Public Library's Lake Branch, Headlands Branch, or the Children's Area at its Main Branch. Families can receive a maximum of two pairs per family to ensure as many children as possible can participate. The program will run through March, while supplies last.

St. Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt March 1 - 16 Search the Lake Branch for pots of gold. Each contains a coin with a unique symbol. Collect all eight coins and take them to the front desk for a prize. May only be completed once.

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss Friday, March 1, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Children's Area Main

Branch Families can celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with games, activities and crafts inspired by Seuss's stories and characters. The program is walk-in; no registration required. The library will also host a Seuss-pendous story time at 10:30 a.m.

LEGO at the Library Saturday, March 2, at 11 a.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch Kids (ages five to 12) can rock the blocks on the first Saturday of every month. No registration required.

Monthly Make a Craft Monday, March 4, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Children's Area, Main Branch Kids can visit the children's area and make a craft (while supplies last.) These crafts are designed to be made in the library and not packaged to take home.

Sew Much Fun: Solar Eclipse Glasses Holder Monday, March 4, at 4 p.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch Kids (ages eight to 12) can sew a case for their eclipse glasses. Registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

The Fine Arts Club Tuesday, March 5, at 4 p.m. Children's Story Room, Main Branch Children (ages seven to 12) will learn about dance, theatre, poetry, painting and other forms of art using history and hands-on activities. This month, the kids will explore rhythm and tempo. Registration required.

Travel Club Wednesday, March 6, at 4 p.m. Children's Story Room, Main Branch Kids (ages six to 12) can experience a new country without boarding a plane. Make a craft, have a snack, and enjoy activities from a different country every month. Registration required.

Let's Cook with Kids Wednesday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. Headlands Branch Local chef LaDonna Oltmanns will lead a cooking class for children (ages eight and older.) Registration required.

Smash Bros. Party Wednesday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages nine to 14) will battle in Smash Bros. for the coveted Gamer



Mentor Safety Town



Presented by the Junior Women's Club of Mentor
A Safety Awareness Program
For Children ages 4-5-6

NEW Location

Ridge Elementary School
7860 Johnnycake Ridge Road, Mentor, Ohio

Dates

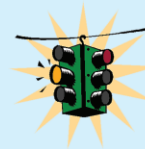
Session 1 June 3rd - June 7th
Session 2 June 10th - June 14th

Morning and Afternoon Classes

9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
12:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

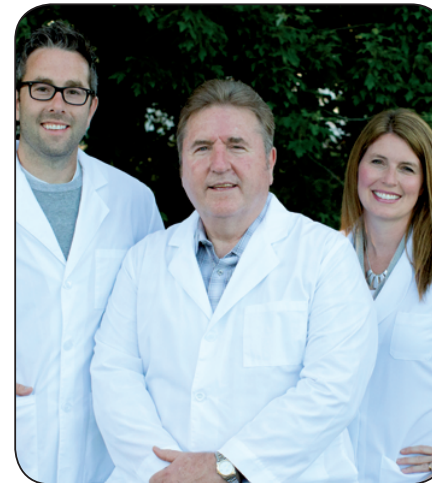
Mail-in Registrations accepted
February 15, 2024 through April 15, 2024

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



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up. Gamers can bring their own Switch or use the library's. Registration required.

Geometry in Motion Thursday, March 7, at 4 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Dance instructor Tom Evert will integrate movement and geometry using improvisation and dance. It's a fun way for kids (ages six to 10) to learn math while moving. Registration is required. The program is possible because of a Libraries Accelerating Learning grant from the Ohio Department of Education.

Headlands Jeopardy Saturday, March 9, at noon Headlands Branch Kids can test their trivia know-how and learn something new with a fun afternoon of trivia challenges. Signup required to play.

ROBLOX Saturday Saturday, March 9, at 2 p.m. Headlands Branch Join the library online or in-person for a different game from ROBLOX each month. Register to get in the game.

Connie Schultz Reads 'Lola and the Troll' Sunday, March 10, at 2 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Connie Schultz reads her debut picture book, "Lola and the Troll," at Mentor Public Library. It tells the story of a young girl who decides to be brave and stand up to a bully. Registration required.

A Celestial Dance of Light and Shadows Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. Lake Branch The Mentor-on-the-Lake Star Seekers will talk about the earth, moon and sun with a focus on the March penumbral lunar eclipse and the total solar eclipse on April 8. Weather permitting, the library's telescope will be set up for star viewing afterward. This program is open to all ages. Registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

Master Builders Wednesday, March 13, at 4 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages five to 11) can enjoy free play with LEGO blocks, magnetic tiles, magnet sticks and Brain Flakes. No registration required.

Next Level Video Game Club Wednesday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m. Headlands Branch Kids (ages eight and older) can play games like Smash Brothers, Mario Kart and Nintendo Sports on Switch. They're also welcome to bring their own portable device. Registration required.

Firehouse Friends Thursday, March 14, at 10 a.m. Children's Story Room, Main Branch Join Fireman Dan from Mentor Fire Department as he reads stories and offers tips on staying safe. No registration required.

Moonbear's Shadow: Eclipse Time Friday, March 15, at 11 a.m. Village Room, Main Branch Kids in kindergarten through sixth grade can learn all about the eclipse with some help from moonbear. Registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

Dog Man Saves the Day Friday, March 15, at 1 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages seven to 11) can celebrate all things Dog Man. Play Dog Man bingo, take a personality quiz to see which Dog Man character you are, and each child who attends will receive a free Dog Man graphic novel to keep. Registration required.

Leapin' Literature Thursday, March 21, at 10 and 11 a.m. Main Branch The Willoughby Fine Arts Center will lead a special story time that explores favorite children's books through music and art experiences. For kids from birth to age six. Two sessions will be held. Registration is required; please only sign up for one session. This program is made possible by a Libraries Accelerating Learning grant from the Ohio Department of Education.

Eclipse Path of Totality Wooden Wall Decor Thursdays, March 21 or 28, at 4 p.m. The HUB Kids can use the makerspace's Cricut to create special wall décor that commemorates the upcoming eclipse. Keep it for yourself or give it as a gift. Registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

Egg Hatching at the Library March 25 until the eggs hatch Children's Area, Main Branch Beginning Monday, March 25, come visit the chicken eggs that will be hatching in the Children's Area of Mentor Public Library's Main Branch. The library will have an incubator set up and visitors may even get to see the eggs hatch. You can also follow the chicks' progress on the library's Twitch channel, twitch.tv/mentorpubliclibrary. After the chicks hatch, they'll stay at the library for about a week before relocating to their forever home.

Feather, Fur & Scales Monday, March 25, at 1 p.m. Lake Branch Kids can meet feathered, furred and scaly friends from Lake Metroparks' Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center. Discover where these animals live, their favorite foods, their hunting techniques, and many more facts about Ohio's native wildlife. Registration required.

Book Bunnies Monday, March 25, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch The Book Bunnies, Hazel and Hopkins, as well as bunny friend Trick, are returning to the library so kids can read to them. This program is perfect for reluctant readers in up to fifth grade. Registration is required. Sign up for a 15-minute time slot by calling the library.

Eclipse T-Shirts Monday, March 25, walk in from 4 to 7 p.m. The HUB Bring a cotton T-shirt to The HUB and use the makerspace's Cricut and heat press to customize it for the total solar eclipse on April 8. Walk-in program; no registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse, while supplies last.

COSI Connects Learning Lunchbox Water Kits Tuesday, March 26, at 1 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages seven to 12) can explore water and discover how precious it is with a COSI Connects Water Kit. The children will use one of the kit's activities at the library and take the rest home for continued exploration. Registration required.

Reading Buddies Program Tuesday, March 26, at 4 p.m. Children's Area, Main Branch Kids in kindergarten through third grade can improve their reading skills with games and activities designed to improve their literacy. The children will also receive a reading buddy to take home with them and keep. This program is supported by a Libraries Accelerating Learning grant from the Ohio Department of Education.

Creation Station Wednesday, March 27, from 1 to 5 p.m. Lake Branch Kids of all ages can walk in and craft. The library provides the supplies; they bring the imagination! No registration required.

Build a Peeps House Wednesday, March 27, at 1 p.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch Kids (ages seven to 12) can create a cute Peeps house with graham crackers, frosting and candies. Registration required.

Mr. Zap's Thrill Show Thursday, March 28, at 11 a.m. Village Room, Main Branch Mr. Zap will thrill children with juggling, magic, comedy and puppets. Registration required.

Kids in the Kitchen Club Thursday, March 28, at 4 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Kids (ages eight to 12) can learn basic culinary skills and make yummy snacks. Registration required.

Solar Science Crafts Friday, March 29, at 1 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages six to 10) can create crafts that will teach them about the sun and solar system. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

Science Saturdays: Be Eclipse Smart Saturday, March 30, at 1 p.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch Kids (ages six to 12) can learn what an eclipse is and why it's so special. They will also learn how to observe an eclipse safely. Registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

Solar Art Soiree Saturday, March 30, at 2 p.m. Headlands Branch Kids (ages eight and older) can learn what an eclipse is and how to watch it safely. They'll also make some spectacular art with the sun's help. Registration required. All participants will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse.

WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Eastlake Public Library

36706 Lake Shore Blvd. Eastlake 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

Family Play Group Spend the morning playing at the library. A variety of toys, books, and manipulatives will be available in the storytime room for everyone to enjoy. Friday, March 1, 11 am Willowick Public Library

Board Game Tasting Sample a variety of board and card games. Teens and adults welcome. Saturday, March 2, 2 pm Eastlake Public Library

Tween & Teen Anime Awesomeness Join us for a new anime each session. Feel free to draw, chat, snack, and have anime-zing time. Ages 10

and up. Wednesdays, March 6 & 20, 3:30 pm Willowick Public Library.

LEGO Club We provide the LEGOs, you provide the imagination! Saturday, March 9, 10 am Eastlake Public Library, Saturday, March 9, 2 pm Willowick Public Library

Homeschool LEGO Club: Friday, March 8, 11 am Willowick Public Library,

Build Your Own Music Make your own musical instruments out of everyday objects to explore the science, math, and engineering of sound. Design and build instruments while looking into the physics of drums, strings, and tubes. This hands-on program. Monday, March 11, 2 pm Willowick Public Library,

First Chapter Reading Club Join us for a reading and discussion group that introduces school-aged readers to different subjects and genres each month. Through read-alouds, first chapter book tastings, and group discussion and play, we'll help young readers find their next favorite book. Grades 1-5. Monday, March 11, 6:30 pm Willoughby Public Library

Family Movie Night at the Hills Watch movies recently released on DVD up on the big screen. Check the website for updated titles. Outside food and drink is permitted. Wednesday, March 13, 4 pm Willoughby Hills Public Library

Hop into Spring Celebrate the start of spring with bunny crafts, games, and more. Wednesday, March 13, 6:30 pm Willowick Public Library

Rescue Readers In 20-minute sessions, emerging readers will gain confidence, improve skills, and provide soothing company to cats and small critters as they await adoption at Lake Humane Society in Mentor. Thursday, March 14, 3 pm Lake Humane Society

Stuffed Animal Sleepover Bring your stuffed animal to the library for bedtime story and then leave them OVERNIGHT for an adventure at the Willoughby Library! Stuffed animal adventures will be shared on social media and children can pick up their stuffies the next day. Ages 3-10. Thursday, March 14, 6 pm Willoughby Public Library

Mindful Programs for Kids, Tweens and Teens De-stress with simple yoga, guided meditation, and mindfulness activities and crafts. Space is limited! Kids, ages 5-9, will meet in one room. Tweens and Teens, ages 10-14, will meet in another. Monday, March 25, 6:30 pm Willoughby Public Library

Spring Storytime and Craft Spring is finally here! Celebrate with stories and songs then make a fun craft! Tuesday, March 26, 1 pm Willoughby Hills Public Library

Teen Art Club Do you love to create art but never get the chance? Join other art-loving teens for Art Club where we will focus on a different artist or style each session. Grades 6-12 (Ages 11-18). Thursday, March 28, 6:30 pm Eastlake Public Library

Learn and Play Chess Club Enjoy playing against people of various experience levels, in a friendly environment. An excellent opportunity to learn strategies and develop skills. All ages and skill levels. Registration is encouraged and walk-ins are welcome! Saturday, March 30, 12 pm Willoughby Public Library.

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KidShow

Calling All Artists!

COLORING CONTEST

PRIZES

1st Place ages 4-6

Arts & Crafts Creative Center by Artist's Loft

2nd Place ages 4-6

140 Piece Deluxe Drawing Set by Artist's Loft

1st Place ages 7-10

Arts & Crafts Creative Center by Artist's Loft

2nd Place ages 7-10

140 Piece Deluxe Drawing Set by Artist's Loft

Coloring Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Age Group (circle one): 4-6 7-10

Drop off completed entries at the March 23 KidShow at Great Lakes Mall in Mentor. Entries will be accepted at the KidShow Registration Center at the top of the Food Court or at the Michaels store across from the mall at 7900 Plaza Boulevard. Deadline for entries is 6:00 pm on March 23, 2024.

Contest Rules

1. One entry per child.
2. Entries can be colored using crayons, markers or colored pencils.
3. All entries must include child's name, address, phone and age.
4. All entries must be submitted by 6:00pm on Saturday, March 23, 2024.
5. Winning entries will be displayed at Michaels until March 31, 2024.
6. All entries become the property of Michaels.
7. Winners will be notified by phone on March 26, 2024.
8. Decision of the judges is final.

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In-House Field Trips

Included in the cost of tuition.

- Petting zoo
- Roxy the Mechanical Dinosaur
- Pony rides
- Jungle Terry
- Lake Metroparks (making ice cream)
- Balloon artist
- Magician
- Face painting
- Lake Metroparks (Adopt an animal – Apollo the Eagle)
- Carnival
- Dunk tank
- Pizza party

Off-Site Field Trips

Included in the cost of tuition.

Packed lunch included.

Transportation fee applies.

- Sky Zone
- Cleveland Metroparks Zoo/Rainforest
- Greater Cleveland Aquarium
- The Jump Yard
- Kalahari (family outing)
- Great Lakes Science Center
- COSI
- Children's Museum of Cleveland

\$260 PER WEEK OR \$75 PER DAY {SET DAYS}

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