

DECEMBER 2016

COUNTY KIDS





Happy Holidays!
from County Kids

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Spread the Joy collection helps replenish local food pantries Lake County YMCA Branches Collect PB&J

All Lake County YMCA branches will be collecting peanut butter and jelly from its members and the community throughout the month of December to replenish local food pantries in January. "Last year we were able to collect 1,946 jars of peanut butter and jelly which was distributed to over 10 local food pantries including McKinley Community Center, Madison Food Bank, local church food pantries, Willoughby Food Pantry, and End 68 hours of hunger. By helping to fill their pantries with PB&J they can spend precious resources on other important needs. It was a record year for our collection and we hope the support this year is as strong," said Margaret Warner, Healthy Living Director of the Lake County West End Y.

Any size peanut butter and jelly donations are accepted at the Lake County Central Y in Painesville, at the West End Y in Willoughby, and at the East End Y in Madison.

"The Lake County Y is dedicated to supporting individuals and offering help in trying times, including feeding the needs of our community. The Christian Emphasis Committee at West End Y started the collection six years ago and now the whole association is involved which allows us to make a much greater community impact. Our community grows stronger each year as evidenced by the growing support of this program and others at the Y," added Warner.

For more information regarding the Spread the Joy food collection contact the Lake County West End Y at 440-946-1160.

Fine Arts Family Fun

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

"Be Our Guest" this holiday season for Disney's classic tale of inner beauty and love. Rated G
Corning Auditorium at The Fine Arts Association. Dec. 2, 9 & 16 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 & 18 at 2:00 p.m. \$15/Children ages 10 and under; \$23/Seniors & Students ages 11 and up; \$25/Adults, reserved seating

Holiday Gift Making Workshop

Kids ages 6-10 will love ending their week with this fun workshop and pizza dinner! (Hey, parents, this is a perfect time to plan a date night out or evening with friends.) Pizza and materials included in workshop fee.

Cost: \$32, Dec. 9 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Call 440-951-7500 or log on to
www.fineartsassociation.org to register and for further information.



photo Emily Wearstler

CANDY LAND HAS GONE WILD! THE WILD DAYS OF WINTER GAME

Penitentiary Glen Nature Center

Open daily through January 1, 2017 noon to 5 pm

Exhibit closed Christmas Eve, Christmas and New Year's Eve
Northeast Ohio's "wildest" holiday tradition continues this year. The Wild Days of Winter game is played just like the iconic board game CANDY LAND, but with a "natural twist." An indoor magical wonderland brings this favorite family game to life! Take a turn on the life-sized game board, move along from space to space through all the seasons and discover through interactive play the many things that nature gives us. In addition, children will enjoy making a craft, completing activity pages and going on scavenger hunts both indoors and out! It's wild fun for the whole family! Explore the park on snowshoes. Rentals of shoes designed to fit most sizes are available, weather permitting.

Candy Land has Gone Wild is free for all ages. The game is open noon to 5 pm daily through January 1, 2017, with the exception of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve when the exhibit will be closed.

Supporting sponsors include Playground World, The Lakeshore Live Steamers, The News-Herald and Today's Family Magazine.

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FourSeasonsKidsReSale@gmail.com



Chapin Forest Reservation - photo Lake Metroparks

Top Ten ways to explore and enjoy your Lake Metroparks this winter

1) Snowshoe the Parks: Have you ever tried snowshoeing? It's a great way to explore the outdoors and also has many health benefits. Lake Metroparks offers visitors opportunities to snowshoe on a variety of terrain throughout the park district. Girdled Road Reservation offers backcountry snowshoe trails, while Penitentiary Glen Reservation offers nearly seven miles of trails.

2) Skiing Fun: Because Lake and Geauga Counties are blessed with the best snowfalls in the state each year, cross-country skiing is a great way to get out and enjoy the parks! Lake Metroparks offers both groomed and ungroomed trails for skiers of all abilities.

3) View the Dunes: Have you ever seen the ice dunes along the Lake Erie shoreline? Visit one of our lakefront parks and discover what happens to the lake in winter.

4) Celebrate Ice: Shake the mid-winter blues at the NEW Farmpark Ice Festival! See ice sculptures, a speed carving competition and more. Then come sit by the fire and warm up with hot cocoa and s'mores.

5) Winter Bird Feeding: Many of our feathered friends fly south for the winter in search of food, but many stay right here in Northeast Ohio. We also see some species in the winter only—these birds nest north of us and fly south to Ohio for their winter vacations.

6) Winter Camping: Have you ever thought about camping in the winter? Lake Metroparks offers winter camping at Girdled Road Reservation in Concord Township. It is a hike-in or ski-in site about ¾ of a mile into the Big Creek Valley. Enjoy this park in a new way from the comfort of your tent!

7) Wild Days of Winter: Visit Penitentiary Glen Reservation for the Wild Days of Winter Game: Candy Land has gone Wild. On a life-sized indoor game board, discover the many things that nature gives us as you draw a card, move from space to space and explore nature through the seasons.

8) Take a Hike: With more than 50 miles of trails across Lake County, there's a trail for every age and ability.

9) X-plore the Parks: Ever wonder what made that track? Or what bird that is? Now you can discover that and much more. Come out to Penitentiary Glen and discover all of its hidden wonders at your own pace! X-plorer Packs are filled with fun nature games and seasonal activities for the whole family. Sign out a backpack and "X-plore" the park today!

10) Freeze Frame: While you're out and about this winter, snap some photos and enter them into Lake Metroparks' Instagram Photo Contest. Themes change monthly and encourage you to share your love of nature. Visit lakemetroparks.com to learn more.

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For a class catalog,
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or visit fineartsassociation.org



The Fine Arts Association
38660 Mentor Avenue Willoughby, Ohio 44094



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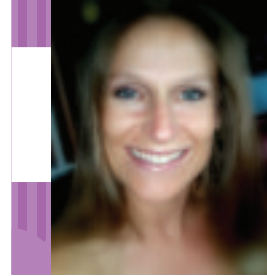


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Family Matters

with Amber

2016 How to Tame Eager Kids At Christmas Time

By the time you read this, there won't just be 25 days til Christmas, there will be less. Not only that, there will also be about a million little excitable kids counting down those days faster than you can get through them! Those same kids will be driving teachers nuts, annoying the lunch ladies and pestering their parents every chance they get, for approximately the next three weeks. We've got problems.

Thankfully, my twelve year old son (he says 'twelve-and -a-half') says he has the answers. No, seriously. I've been writing this column for years now, and this year I was at a loss for what to write about for December considering I've covered some of the most basics so far. I just wanted to do something different. It was kind of funny how it came about. I decided to ask my kids what they thought parents wanted to hear in December, and he came up with the best idea. It was so obvious that I can't believe I didn't think of it! (He'd tell you it's because I'm old...but that's his excuse for everything with me now.)

Hey, we all know it's true (no, not that I'm old), kids do get crazy around this time. They know it's coming (even if they can't count) they know that Christmas is around the corner. How can they not? What, with all the Christmas decorations up in the stores (since Halloween, thank you very much). Now the houses are lighting up on every block and there's rarely a radio station not playing a little Christmas music. They know.

Once I finally lifted my chin up off the floor (shocked my 12 ½ year old son wanted to teach discipline) we got to work finding answers. A fine little writing and thinking lesson for my son, I had to ask, "What would you do if you needed to keep kids calm until Christmas?.."

Here are his suggestions:

- Limit their wish list and the talk about how much they want for Christmas, allowing them only 3 items to put on the list.

- Teach them giving at this time of year instead like Operation Shoebox, Toys for Tots and more. Even asking a local church if you can adopt a family who has children but is underprivileged at this time and cannot afford many things at Christmas. Donate to a food pantry. Visit a soup kitchen.

- Promise them a Christmas light night drive each week if they're good all week. There are plenty in everyone's neighborhood, plus nighttime driving is relaxing to kids and may help with sleep. Be sure to define expectations and unacceptable behaviors so they know what their goals are. Make it age appropriate and don't set them up for failure by expecting them to achieve perfection. Set goals they can reach. Maybe use a chart for each day about how they are doing during the week.

- Promise NOT to get items off of the child's wish list if they are exceptionally bad or hurt someone with their actions (hint: for this to work next time, you must follow though, don't make an empty threat).

- An early visit from Santa with a warning: have some stockings hung early and place a lump of coal as a physical symbol of caution that certain behaviors better cease.

Hopefully some of these kid and mother approved tips work for you. Let us know if you have some that work. Sometimes we get so angry (or desperate) to make a child behave that our mouth gets ahead of our brains and we'll say anything. So, here are some things to remember:

- Don't ever 'take away' Christmas. That's just traumatizing for a child.
- Don't ever threaten to take all of their gifts back (technically, they shouldn't know they have any to begin with- they should be earned and a surprise).

For more common sense parenting tips (and to share your own) please stop by at www.familymatterswithamber.blogspot.com.

PLAY & SKATE

Fridays, January 6 – April 28

This program is for the Pre-School age child looking for playtime once a week for a 2 hour class. Your child will play with toys and listen to music in a fun relaxed play room at the Arena. We have a professional figure skating coach (mother of three) and an aide to bring the fun to the class on and off the ice. Each class will be approximately an hour long with a snack provided in between. This class runs every Friday from January through April, with a new class starting each month.



Your children will be introduced to the ice, where they will have the choice to play on the ice or put skates on and see what it is like to skate! All children must wear helmets. Dress in warm pants and a sweat shirt, bring gloves and wear high socks.

This class will be on **Friday, 10:30am – 12:30pm**. This will give mom or dad a chance to go to the grocery store and run errands by themselves while your child is having great fun at the Mentor Ice Arena.

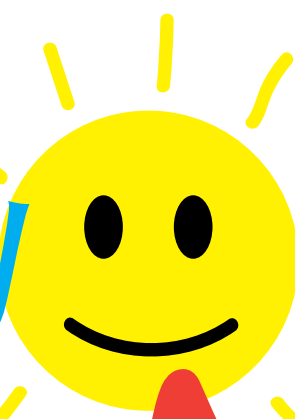
***50% off new skater in our LTS Program with attached coupon**

Class Fee per Month
Residents: \$80
Nonresident: \$90
To register, call
440-974-5730

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INFO LINE: (440) 974-5730 www.mentoricearena.com
8500 Munson Rd., Mentor, OH 44060 [/mentoricearena](https://www.facebook.com/mentoricearena)

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KIDS

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- Live Magic
- Gift for Kids



*Kids 12 and Under Eat FREE

STAY SAFE in the Parks this Winter

The onset of cold weather can transform the outdoors into a winter wonderland, full of opportunities for you to enjoy skiing, ice skating, sledding, ice fishing and snowshoeing. While creating lasting winter memories, be sure to take proper safety precautions.

Make a plan. Always make sure that someone knows where you are. Inform a friend or relative if you are going out and when you plan to return.

Check the weather report. Heed precautions and advisories. If weather warnings suggest a severe wind chill or extremely low temperatures, consider avoiding outdoor activities until the weather improves.

SLED SAFE

Don't sled in parking areas, roadways, rivers or lakes. Always ride sitting and facing forward (going down head first increases the chance of head and spinal injuries). Sledding equipment should be in good repair without sharp edges. Avoid "jumps" that send a rider airborne—the higher they fly, the harder

they fall. The building of such "jumps" is a violation of Park Rule 5.1(e) and the offender can be cited. Watch for other sledders and walk up the side when returning to the top of the hill.

Enjoy sledding at four hills throughout

Lake Metroparks:

Chagrin River Park

3100 Reeves Rd., Willoughby
Moderate hill located off the Riverwood Trail

Chapin Forest Reservation

10381 Hobart Rd., Kirtland
Small hill used primarily by cross-country skiers to practice control skills

Hidden Valley Park

4880 Klasen Rd., Madison Twp.
Moderate sledding hill located next to parking lot

Riverview Park

4895 Bailey Rd., Madison Twp.
Hill steeper than Hidden Valley hill—located next to parking lot

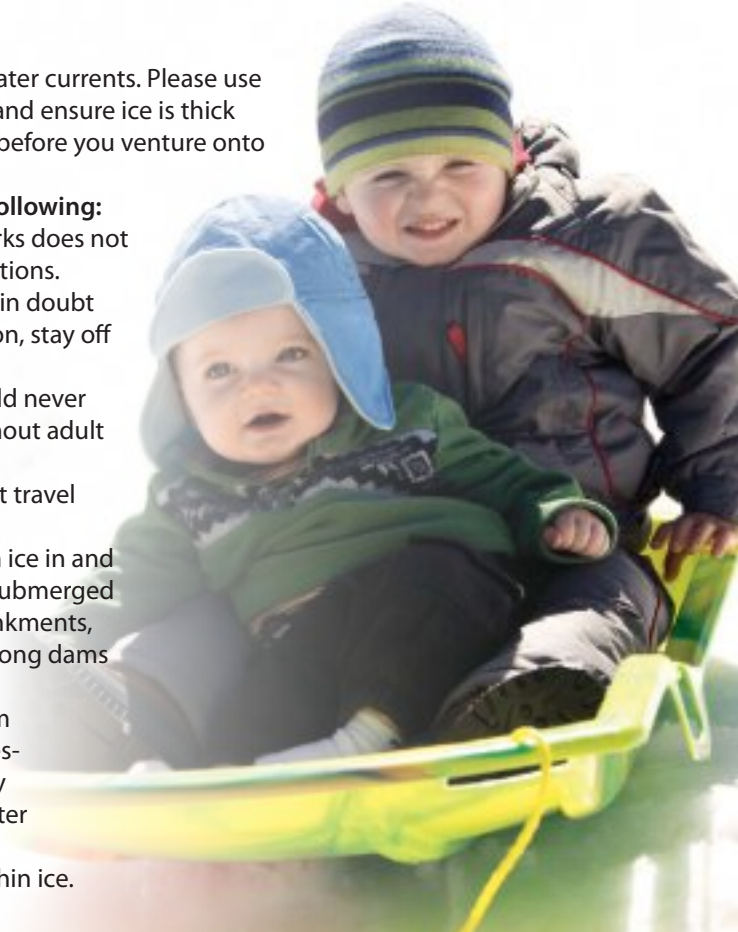
WATCH THE ICE

Ice conditions are highly variable and can change quickly due to weather

conditions and water currents. Please use extreme caution and ensure ice is thick enough and safe before you venture onto any ice.

Please note the following:

- Lake Metroparks does not monitor ice conditions.
- When you are in doubt of the ice condition, stay off the ice.
- Children should never be on the ice without adult supervision.
- You should not travel alone on the ice.
- Beware of thin ice in and around partially submerged structures, embankments, vegetation and along dams or spillways.
- Stay away from cracks, seams, pressure ridges, slushy areas, moving water and darker areas that may signify thin ice.



PLAY & SKATE

Fridays, January 6 – April 28

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This class will be on **Friday, 10:30am – 12:30pm**. This will give mom or dad a chance to go to the grocery store and run errands by themselves while your child is having great fun at the Mentor Ice Arena.

***50% off new skater in our LTS Program with attached coupon**

Class Fee per Month
Residents: \$80
Nonresident: \$90
To register, call
440-974-5730

MENTOR ICE ARENA

INFO LINE: (440) 974-5730 www.mentoricearena.com
8500 Munson Rd., Mentor, OH 44060

Santa's Toy WORKSHOP

December 27–31*

10 am to 3 pm



Lake Metroparks Farmpark
8800 Euclid Chardon Rd.
Kirtland, Ohio 44094
440-256-2122
lakemetroparks.com



Children ages 2 to 11 can build a wooden toy with an elf in Santa's Workshop!

Farmpark admission applies plus \$2 per toy.

*Closes at 2:30 pm on Dec. 31



LEARN THRIVE

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LAKE COUNTY YMCA



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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

PHOTOS WITH SANTA! DECEMBER 1-24

1

Santa Photos
10am-8pm

2

Santa Photos
10am-8:30pm

3

Santa Photos
10am-8:30pm

4

Sensitive Santa
8-10am
Santa Photos
10am-6pm

5

Santa Photos
10am-8pm

6

Santa Photos
10am-8pm

7

Santa Photos
10am-8pm

8

Santa Photos
10am-8pm

9

Santa Photos
10am-8:30pm

10

Santa Photos
10am-8:30pm

11

Santa Photos
11am-6pm
Pet Photo Night
6:30-8pm

12

Santa Photos
10am-9pm

13

Santa Photos
10am-9pm

14

Santa Photos
10am-9pm

15

Santa Photos
10am-9pm

16

Santa Photos
10am-9pm

17

Santa Photos
10am-9pm

18

Santa Photos
11am-6pm
Cookies & Milk
With Mrs. Claus
6-7:30pm

19

Santa Photos
9am-9pm

20

Santa Photos
9am-9pm

21

Santa Photos
9am-9pm

22

Santa Photos
9am-9pm

23

Santa Photos
9am-9pm

24

Christmas Eve
Santa Photos
8am-6pm

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MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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 (440) 428-2189
www.madison-library.info

Madison Public Library will close for a spruce up Monday, November 28 to Wednesday December 28. Book drops and drive-up window remain open. Check website for program location and times.

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

Deck the Halls Family Story Time Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 10 a.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 10 a.m.; and Thursday, Dec. 22, at 10 a.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Families can get together for Mentor Library's special seasonal story times. Enjoy stories, rhymes, songs and a simple craft. Open to all ages. No registration necessary.

Minecraft Club Thursday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Join the library's Minecraft Club where you can mine, explore and share strategies in the wide world of Minecraft. Each session will feature a new challenge. Kids must bring their own charged laptop, tablet or mobile device and have an active Minecraft account. The club is for children from ages eight to 12. Registration is required.

Merry Grinch-Mas Saturday, Dec. 3, at 1 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Come to the library for some fun Whoville activities and help the Grinch find the true meaning of Christmas. Family event for all ages.

Make a Craft Monday, Dec. 5 Main Branch in the Children's Department Kid can stop by the Children's Department any time throughout the day (while supplies last) and get creative with one of the library's monthly crafts. No registration is necessary.

Walt Disney's Birthday Party Monday, Dec. 5, at 6:30 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Celebrate Walt Disney's 115th birthday at the library. There will be



food, fun, and crafts inspired by his famous movies.

Rhyme Time Tuesdays, Dec. 6 and 13, at 10:30 a.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Children, ages six months to five years, are welcome to attend themed Rhyme Times with stories, songs and a craft. The theme is "Winter" on Dec. 6 and "Very Merry" on Dec. 13.

Pizza & Comics Club Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 5 p.m. Main Branch in the Frances Cleveland Room Mentor Public Library has a new book club for teens where they can talk comics. The Pizza and Comics Club will meet to discuss sequential art and nosh pizza on the first Tuesday of every month. The comic they'll discuss this month is the latest issue of Hawkeye. Contact MPL Reference staff for more information and a copy of the comic.

Comics Club Tuesday, Dec. 6, 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, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. Meet Julie. 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 Julie" before this program. Registration is necessary each month.

Time Travelers Club Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Teens can join us each month as we try out games, crafts, and other activities that were popular in the past. This month, we're celebrating a Very Vintage Christmas. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

LEGOmania Saturday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Stop by the Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch to get creative with the library's Legos. Each session will feature a theme, but kids are free to build whatever they want. All ages are welcome, but children younger than eight must be accompanied by an adult.

Where is Frosty? Saturday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids can solve a mystery and help find Frosty at the library. Enjoy a special story time with holiday songs and crafts.

Bingle Jells Monday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Mr. Dennis will present a merry, holiday-themed show featuring magic and puppetry. The show features a musical by Vern the Bird and a Magical Washing Machine that launders Christmas stockings. Kids can also help Rudolph find his missing red nose.

Wordplay Creative Writing Club Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 4:30 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Get creative with words. Every month, kids from third through sixth grade can play games, write and share their stories. Bring your imagination and the library will supply the pens, paper and snacks.

Star Wars Party Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Teens can come to the library for a Star Wars party with games, crafts, and refreshments. You'll be blown away (like Alderaan.)

Rock 'N Roll Holiday Style Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Offsite at the Headlands Community Center Get in the holiday spirit with the Travelin' Man Band and rock out to some holiday favorites at the Headlands Community Center, 9096 Lake Overlook Drive, across the street

from the Headlands Public Library. All ages welcome.

Lake Branch Minecraft Club Saturday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch You can mine, explore and share strategies in the wide world of Minecraft at MPL's Lake Branch. Each session will feature a new challenge. Kids must bring their own charged laptop, tablet or mobile device and have an active Minecraft account. The club is for kids from fourth through eighth grade. Registration is required. Every child that attends will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a prize at the end of the year.

Let's go Lego Club Saturday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Kids can get creative with Lego bricks, either following a monthly theme or doing their own thing. The library will supply the Lego and Duplo bricks, so kids only need to bring their imagination. Children younger than eight must be accompanied by an adult. No registration is necessary.

Holly Jolly Christmas Celebration Monday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m.

Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Kids (three and older) can make a Holly Jolly Christmas gift while sharing stories and songs and sipping on hot chocolate.

Studio MPL Art Club Monday, Dec. 19, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Join Mentor Public Library's art club for kids (from third through sixth grade.) Each month, Studio MPL makes a different fun art project.

Write On: A Writing Club for Teens Monday, Dec. 19, at 4:30 p.m. Main Branch in the Frances Cleveland Room A monthly creative writing club for teens. Each month focuses on a different prompt. It's a fun way to expand your creative writing, get some great ideas, and meet other teen writers. All writing levels welcomed, and snacks will be provided.

Clashing Controllers Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 6:30 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Get your game on. Challenge your friends at this monthly video game tournament. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Graham Cracker "Gingerbread" Houses Friday, Dec. 23, at 2 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Celebrate the holidays at the Lake Branch by designing and building your own gingerbread house (minus the gingerbread). Use graham crackers, frosting, and sweets to create something delicious.

Color Me—Headlands Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 7 p.m. Mentor Headlands

Branch Looking for some quiet time? Bring the family to a calm evening of coloring. Supplies provided.

MORLEY LIBRARY

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

www.morleylibrary.org

Decorate a Gingerbread House Saturday, December 3, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM For children ages 12 and under. Choose a 30 minute time slot to decorate a graham cracker gingerbread house with frosting and candy. All supplies provided by the library. Parents may want to bring a smock or cover-up for their children. A parent or caregiver must stay with the child—this is not a drop-off program. Registration is necessary. Registration is open.

KIDS CRAFTAFTERNOON! Thursday, December 8, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Room Rotunda to make a fun, free holiday ornament craft. As supplies last, small children may need help. No registration needed.

Kids Holiday Party Saturday, December 10, 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM For kids grades K-3rd. Join us as we celebrate the holiday spirit! Listen to holiday stories, make a craft, play fun games, and enjoy a delicious treat! Registration needed. Registration will open 2 weeks before the program on Nov. 26th.

Tween Holiday Party Thursday, December 15, 4:15 PM - 5:00 PM For tweens ages 9-12. Celebrate the holiday season with friends at the library! Make a craft, play fun games, and enjoy a snack. Start your holiday break off with some fun! Registration is required. Registration will open on Dec. 1st.

The Polar Express Saturday, December 17, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM All aboard the Polar Express! For children ages 3-8 and their parents. Celebrate the magic of the holiday season with the classic children's movie, The Polar Express. Kids will be decorating cardboard box train cars and watching the movie "drive-in" style, then taking the cars home after the movie. Light snacks will be served. Registration is necessary as space is limited. Registration opens on Dec. 3rd.

Holiday Storytime Monday, December 19, 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM Join us for a special drop-in holiday storytime! Enjoy holiday stories, songs, and a flannel-board. For families with children ages 5 and under. No registration needed.

LEGO Club! Tuesday, December 20,

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Drop by the Story Room between 3:30-5:00 PM for the Morley Library LEGO Club! Build a LEGO creation and have your picture taken for the LEGO Club Wall! All ages welcome, parents must stay with children 5 and under. No registration needed.

KIDS CRAFTAFTERNOON! Thursday, December 22, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Room Rotunda to make a fun, free holiday magnet craft. As supplies last, small children may need help. No registration needed.

Family Matinee: Frozen Sing-Along!

Wednesday, December 28, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Join us for a family matinee during Winter Break! We'll be watching Frozen and singing along to all of the songs. Popcorn will be served and families are welcome to bring their own snacks and covered beverages, but they must stay in the Meeting Rooms. No registration needed.

Board Game Bonanza Thursday, December 29, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Unplug and have fun at our Board Game Bonanza! For families with children ages 12 and under. Drop by the Story Room to play some classic board games and beat winter break boredom. We will have a variety of games for children of different ages. No registration needed.

WICKLIFFE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1713 Lincoln Road, Wickliffe, Oh 44092
(440) 944-6010

www.wickliffe.lib.oh.us

Tree Decorating Party Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30PM Drop by and enjoy an evening with Friends decorating our Christmas Tree. Use our ornaments or create one using our supplies. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Everyone welcome! *Sponsored by Friends of the Wickliffe Public Library

After School Adventures: (K-4th grade) Tuesdays at 3:15 PM, December 6 & 13 Different activities each week. Registration required.

Tales for a Dog: (Kindergarten & up) Come share a story with a certified therapy dog.

Saturday, December 3 @ 9:30 or 10:00 AM

Registration required.

Lego Club: (Kindergarten & up) Stop by for some building challenges and fun! Saturday, December 10 @ 2:00 PM Registration required.

Wee Play! Birth through 6 years old Drop-in on Fridays 10:00-11:30 AM, December 2-16

Put your electronic devices away and share quality play time with your child. Enjoy self-guided play in our story time room each Friday. No registration necessary.

Family Reads On-the-Go: NEW! 3rd week of the Month, during open hours Weeks of December 19, January 16, February 20

Pick-up a copy of next month's family friendly book (to be read at home together) and activity packet. Call to pre-register.

Make & Take Holiday Crafts Kids 12 and under stop by the Children's Department during open hours, make a craft using our supplies and take it home!

Monday, December 19: Winter
Tuesday, December 20: Christmas
Wednesday, December 21: Winter
Thursday, December 22: Hanukkah
Friday, December 23: Kwanza

Tween Time (5th-8th grade) Every Wednesday after school @ 2:30pm If no special theme is advertised, join us for snacks, socializing, and fun activities. Registration required only for themed programs. Stop by the Children's desk or call 440-944-6010 to register by phone.

December 14: Gingerbread House Contest - Tweens will receive all the goods needed to create their own Gingerbread House! A team of judges will decide whose is the most imaginative.

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

Fall Crafts at Willoughby Hills Library

Each week the library will have a make-and-take craft. Stop in any time. Willoughby Hills Library

Homeschool Science Adventures Each month we will cover an aspect of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) with hands on activities.

(Ages 6 and up). September and October sessions will be held at Willoughby Library. November and December sessions will be held at Willoughby United Methodist Church. Thursday, December 1, 10 or 11:30 am

Barks for Books Practice your reading skills by reading to a therapy dog! (Grades K-5).

Saturday, December 3, 9:30 or 10 am (Choose one time slot) Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Miracle on Erie Street Stop by the Willoughby Library craft room at Willoughby United Methodist Church when you come to Historic Downtown Willoughby for the Miracle on Erie Street!

Saturday, December 3, 10 am-2 pm Willoughby United Methodist Church

Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree Join us for a holiday celebration featuring this famous children's movie, with stories and crafts that showcase the story. Children can wear their PJ's for fun! Wednesday, December 7, 6-7 pm Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362

LEGO Club We provide the LEGOs, you provide the imagination in our LEGO club! All ages welcome! Saturday, December 10, 1:30-3pm Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Saturday, December 17, 2-3:30 pm Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362

Christmas Tails & More Join us for holiday stories & songs and meet some of our friendly therapy dogs! Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 pm Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Homeschool Art Adventures Each month we will learn about an artist or art technique and then create our own works in that style. Dress for making a mess! (Ages 5 and up). September and October sessions will be held at Willoughby Library. November and December sessions will be held at Willoughby United Methodist Church. Thursday, December 15, 10 or 11:30 am


OMG! Do You Believe What They Did on "The Walking Dead" or "Fear the Walking Dead?"

Even though the Willoughby Library is going through some renovations, we'll still get together (somewhere in the building) and talk about our favorite programs "The Walking Dead" and "Fear the Walking Dead." We can even continue to play Walking Dead Monopoly. Ages 13 & up. Tuesday, December 27, 7-8 pm Willoughby Library 440-942-3200



Holiday Concerts Bring Family and Friends Together

One Night Performances WOW Audiences at The Fine Arts



The Fine Arts Association invites the community to spend the holidays with family, friends and the sounds of joy with special performances featuring the Brass Band of the Western Reserve and The Coastliners of the North Coast Men's Chorus.

The Brass Band of the Western Reserve Holiday Pops Concert will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 pm. This vibrant band returns with a wonderful array of holiday music sure to delight the entire family.

In addition, Holidays with The Coastliners of the North Coast Men's Chorus entertains with the perfect blend of lush harmonies and campy comedy numbers during their performance on Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 pm.

Fine Arts is also offering a theatre special just in time for the holidays.

"If you're looking for a gift for someone who already has it all – through December 18 we are offering 20% off each adult ticket or gift certificate for the 21st Annual One Act Festival – "Ten

Below" (Feb 10-18, 2017) or "Kiss Me, Kate" (June 9-25, 2017). This is the perfect gift that saves you money too," said Wanda Wareham, director of communications & marketing for The Fine Arts Association.

For tickets or gift certificates for any Fine Arts performances, call 440-951-7500. Reservations are not required for the holiday concerts, but are highly recommended.

Individual holiday concert tickets are \$20 each, reserved seating. Discounted group tickets (for ten or more) are also available.

The holiday concerts are part of the 2016-2017 Modern Classics Series, sponsored by Cornerstone IT and supported in part by a grant from The Lake County Visitors Bureau Arts and Culture Fund. The Fund's purpose is to further par-

ticipation in, and awareness of, arts and culture in Lake County. Funding is also received from the Ohio Arts Council.

Upcoming Fine Arts productions include Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" from November 25 through December 18 and the 21st Annual One Acts Festival from Feb 10-18, 2017.

The Fine Arts Association is located at 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby. The Corning Auditorium is barrier free. Secure, on-site parking is free.

Since 1957, The Fine Arts Association has been serving the community by enhancing lives through performances, arts education, therapies, community partnerships and advocacy.

For more information on the 2016-17 theater season and class schedules, visit www.fineartsassociation.org or call 440-951-7500.

School Days Off at the Lake County Y

Kids Enjoy Fun and Field Trips on Days Off during Winter Break

Children ages 6-12 are invited to spend their Winter Break school days off at the Lake County YMCA branches where they can enjoy time with friends, swim and discover something new.

Lake County Central Y in Painesville is hosting School Days Off activities on December 22-23, Dec 26-30 and January 2. Various activities and short trips to Fun-n-Stuff, Splash Lagoon, Atlas Cinemas, Mentor's Civic Ice Arena, and Chuck E Cheese are planned. For information on

dates of a specific activity planned during Winter Break school days off, contact Elisa Hennies at 440-352-3303.

Lake County West End Y in Willoughby is hosting School Days Off activities on December 22-23, December 26-30 and January 2-3. Various activities and short trips to Sky Zone, Splash Lagoon, Atlas Cinemas, Cleveland Art Museum, and Natural History Museum are planned. For information on dates of a specific activity planned during Winter Break

school days off, contact Erin Litwiler at 440-946-1160.

Lake County East End Y in Madison is hosting School Days Off activities on December 22-23, Dec 26-30 and January 2-4. Various activities and short trips to Fun-n-Stuff, Lake Metroparks Farmpark, Mentor's Civic Ice Arena, Scores, and United Skates of America are planned. For information on dates of a specific activity planned during Winter Break school days off, contact Daytona Boyer at 440-428-5125.

School Days Off are open to everyone, from 9:00am to 4:00pm with extended care from 7-9am and 4-6pm. Registration rates vary by YMCA branch and additional discounts are available for multiple children enrolled at West End Y.

For child registration for the Winter Break Schools Days Off contact the Lake County YMCA by phone 440-354-5656 or visit www.lakecountyyymca.org.

St. Gabriel School Hosting Kindergarten Meet and Greet

Families with preschoolers who are eligible to enter Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year are cordially invited to our Kindergarten Meet & Greet on Thursday, December 15 or Friday, December 16. Families will have an opportunity to meet our Kindergarten staff, join our attending Kindergarteners for some fun activities, and ask questions regarding our school. Come and discover a world of difference in faith based learning! All families must register by logging on to www.St-GabrielSchool.org for times and availability. Located at 9935 Johnnycake Ridge Road, Concord Twp. 44060.





DECEMBER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Contact Us! Do you have a special event or meeting you'd like to be listed in our community calendar? If so, please email your information to countykids@news-herald.com. Submissions should be 65 words or less. We reserve the right to edit any information prior to publication.

DECEMBER 1 Downtown Willoughby Holiday Stroll and Tree Lighting

Tree Lighting Ceremony- 7 p.m. Shops and restaurants will offer a warm place to visit, specials and surprises! Word on the street is that Santa will arrive on his sleigh as well!

DECEMBER 1 Chardon Square Christmas Lighting

Christmas is a special time on the Square. Main Street and the Park are decorated for the holiday with a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, complete with musical entertainment and a special visit by Santa and Mrs. Claus. Hot apple cider and ginger snaps are served. The Tree Lighting is held each year on the first Thursday after Thanksgiving. (6:30 pm) www.chardonsquareassociation.org

DECEMBER 4 Sensitive Santa Event

Great Lakes Mall 7850 Mentor Avenue Sensitive Santa Event at Great Lakes Mall – Dec. 4th from 8:00-10:00am – This is a private event designed for children and young adults with special needs and their families to have an opportunity to visit with Santa. Great Lakes Mall has made necessary adjustments to the environment to support the sensory, physical and developmental needs of all abilities. To learn more or to RSVP for this event, visit www.shopgreatlakesmall.com or call 440-255-8932.

DECEMBER 6 Community Tree Lighting

6:00pm – 7:30pm. Mentor Municipal

Center, 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor. The City of Mentor invites you and your family to join us for a commemorative tree lighting as we light our stunning 27-foot Norwegian spruce and City Hall campus. Santa will arrive in his horse drawn carriage while choirs from Mentor Public Schools sing.

DECEMBER 8-10 Home for the Holidays

Lake County Historical Society
415 Riverside Dr. - Painesville
11:00 am - 4:30 pm
Home for the Holidays is back bigger and better than ever! Voted a History Center most popular event with glorious Christmas trees, lavish Victorian decor, wreaths, ribbons, bows, Father Christmas, and more. Mistletoe Market is back! Food Emporium is back! General admission is \$3 per person. lakehistorycenter.org/programs-and-events/ 440-639-2947

DECEMBER 18 Christmas Train and Toy Show

Lakeland Community College (AFC)
7700 Clocktower Dr. - Kirtland
10:00 am - 3:30 pm. TrainMaster of Cleveland with Lake County Juvenile Diabetes Walk Family (JDRF) presents the "The Christmas Train and Toy Show". Come to the Christmas Train and Toy Show and see over 200 dealers with model trains of all gauges, antique toys, and die-cast toys just in time for your Christmas shopping. Enjoy watching the operating train layouts in many different scales and dioramas. Santa Claus will be at the show from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. If you wish to take your child's picture with Santa, we ask that you make a \$5.00 donation to JDRF. There will be Toys Collection for needy families. Please help those less fortunate by donating new, in the package (unwrapped), toys. Please no stuffed animals. \$25 Door Prize Certificate

Dealer Redeemable at this Show.
Admission: Adults \$6 each, Family \$15
Children (6-12) \$3, under 6 free.
Active Military Free. 440-256-8141
christmastrainshow.com

DECEMBER 21 Winter Solstice Candlelight Walk

Explore the roots of our modern holiday celebrations, many of which were derived from Roman, Viking, Druid and other ancient traditions associated with the winter solstice, on a candlelit walk through time. Program is held primarily outdoors, so please dress for the weather. Free shuttle provided from nearby parking areas. Geauga

Park District - The West Woods Nature Center 440-286-9516. www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

DECEMBER 21 Christmas Roller Skating Party

Wednesday, December 21, 2016
You are invited to our Christmas Roller Skating Party on Wednesday, December 21, 2016, from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Santa Claus will be there to celebrate the season with games, and prizes! Bring your family and friends for this Ho, Ho, Ho good time! Skaters admission is only \$5 and skate rental is available for \$3. Mentor Skateland, 5615 Andrews Road in Mentor on the Lake.

Winter-themed fun for the whole family!

LAKE METROPARKS FARMPARK

ICE FESTIVAL

JANUARY 27
Friday 5 to 9 pm **GLOW NIGHT**
Battle between fire & ice
Ice chair • Ice carving demonstration
Hot cocoa & s'mores bar* • Music • Crafts

JANUARY 28
Saturday 9 am to 5 pm
Ice carving competition
Hot cocoa & s'mores bar*
Ice chair • Music • Crafts
Farmpark's daily activities

*small fee applies

LAKEMETROPARKS

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ST. GABRIEL S C H O O L

BEING CHRIST • EVERY DAY • EVERYWHERE
through teaching, learning, leading, and serving.

St. Gabriel School
Please call 440/354-7858
St. Gabriel School Offers:

- Christ-centered, loving, and educational environment emphasizing service to others
- Enhanced learning through 1:1 personal computers
- Rigorous curriculum, advanced technology & differentiated instruction for optimal learning
- A wealth of extracurricular activities for further growth & development
- High School preparation for a variety of choices available to our families in the tri-county area.
- Full day Junior Kindergarten that offers Kdg. prep in a loving & fun environment!

Tradition Infused with Innovation!

*Celebrating over 50 years of exceptional education,
sharing faith, and spreading God's Love!*



**Wide variety of
extracurricular activities**



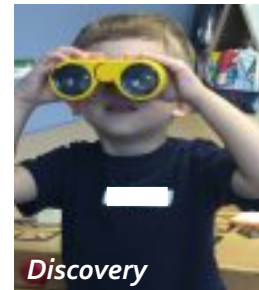
**Kind and compassionate
teachers and faculty**



**Weekly
liturgies**



**Performing &
Fine Arts**



Discovery



Center based learning



STEAM Focus

See for yourself the high quality of faith formation and education that Learning Loft Preschool, St. Gabriel School, and our loving community provide for each child entrusted in our care.

Preschool • Elementary School • Middle School

Monthly Open Houses, JRK –8th Grade

Tuesdays at 9am

Dec 13 • Feb 14 • March 14 • April 11

Learning Loft Preschool Open House

My buddy & Me (2yo with adult)—Pre-Kindergarten

January 8, 10am-1pm

Catholic Schools Celebration Open House

Both Preschool and School

Sunday, January 29, 12:30-2:30pm

Join us for Mass at 11:30

Register On Line at

www.St-GabrielSchool.org or

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

Learning Loft Preschool

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- Christ-centered, loving community and environment
- SMART Boards in every room
- Center based learning
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- Degreed, certified teachers
- Specialized curricula, including, but not limited to *Handwriting Without Tears* and *Phonics in Motion*
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