

JANUARY 2017

# COUNTY KIDS

**Catholic  
Schools Week**

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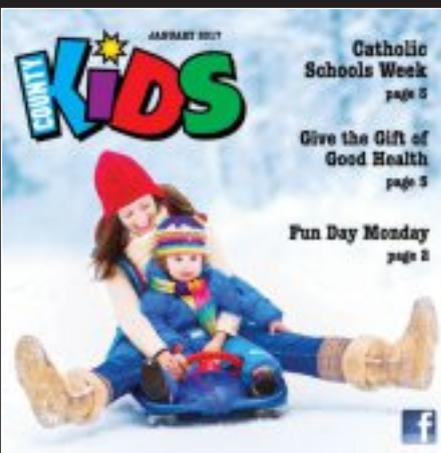
**Give the Gift of  
Good Health**

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**Fun Day Monday**

page 2





**Happy New Year!**  
from County Kids

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

**Send all submissions to:**  
County Kids@news-herald.com

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

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*Fun Day Monday meet wildlife at Penitentiary Glen Reservation - photo by Albert Susinskas*

## FUN DAY MONDAY

**Penitentiary Glen Reservation • January 16, 2017 • 10 am to 3 pm**

Bring the family and friends for a good time learning about nature during Fun Day Monday at Penitentiary Gen Reservation. Stop by the Nature Center anytime between 10 am and 3 pm on Monday, January 16 for free fun indoor and outdoor activities. Enjoy scavenger hunts, a campfire complete with s'mores, seasonal craft, outdoor "x-plorer" packs, hiking, hands-on exhibits, the Wildlife Center, live animals and much more. Naturalists are available to answer all of your nature-related questions and to help guide you throughout the day. The event is free for all ages.

Explore the park on snowshoes. Rentals are available for a small fee on a first-come, first-served basis, weather permitting. Stop in the Nature Center for details.

### **Everyday free activities at Penitentiary Glen:**

- Discover the sights and sounds of wildlife at the interactive Nature Calls exhibit.
- Watch and listen to birds and other wildlife outside through the Window on Wildlife.
- Visit the Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center and see the

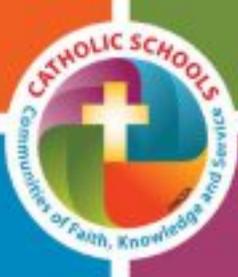
Lake Metroparks wildlife ambassadors, including hawks, owls and eagles.

- Hike on more than 8.5 miles of scenic trails (open year-round).

The Nature Center and Wildlife Center are open 9 am to 5 pm. The Nature Store, open until 4:30 pm, is a great resource for "fun" nature-related toys, field guides for adults and children, nature-inspired t-shirts, binoculars by VORTEX, bird feeders and wildlife houses. Snacks and beverages are also available for purchase.

Join us for more Fun Day Monday activities on February 13 (Presidents' Day) and April 17 (Spring Break).

Penitentiary Glen Reservation is located at 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd in Kirtland (44094). The park features 424 acres of forest, fields, wetlands, and 8.5 miles of hiking trails and has been designated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife as a "Watchable Wildlife" site. For more information about Fun Day Monday activities, visit <http://bit.ly/penitentiary-glen-reservation> or call 440-256-1404.



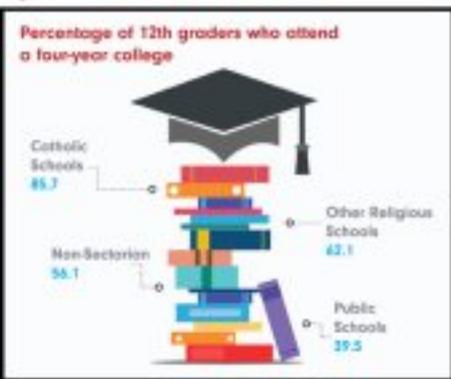
## WE ARE A PROUD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Share why you love Catholic Schools on social media using #CSW17.

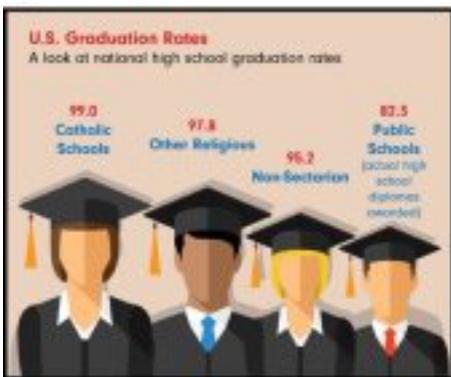
Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2017 is January 29 - February 4. The theme for the National

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SNAPS

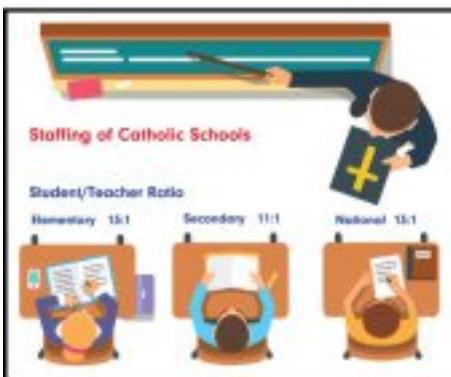
A quick take on issues and statistics



Source: Brookman, J.P. and Swain, M.L. (2013); Sprake, T.D., and O'Neil, S.A. (2010)



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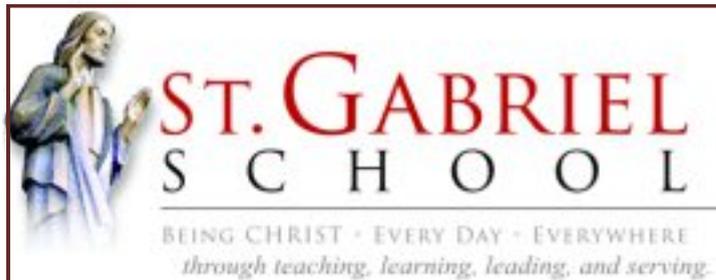


Source: U.S. Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2014-2016: The Annual Statistical Report

Catholic Schools Week 2017 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." Schools typically observe the annual celebra-

tion week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events,

schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

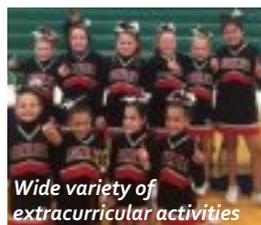


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### Monthly Open Houses, JRK –8th Grade

Tuesdays at 9am

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

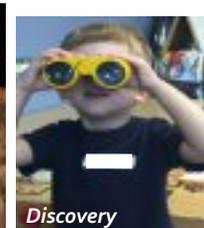
Sunday, January 29, 12:30-2:30pm

Join us for Mass at 11:30

Register On Line at

[www.St-GabrielSchool.org](http://www.St-GabrielSchool.org) or

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



### Learning Loft Preschool

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LAKE METROPARKS FARMPARK

# ICE FESTIVAL



**JANUARY 27**

Friday 5 to 9 pm *GLOW NIGHT*

**Battle between fire & ice**

Ice chair & car • Ice carving demonstration  
and more!

**JANUARY 28**

Saturday 9 am to 5 pm

**Ice carving competition**

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

EARL LINABURG

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Hot cocoa & s'mores bar\*  
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Farmpark's daily activities

EARL LINABURG

## Family Matters

with Amber

### Make Bonding Your New Family Resolution!



Before

Healthy family bonds start with small efforts, that once all linked together, make the perfect environment for a strong family unit. Our house is a well-oiled machine, kinda crazy hectic at times with scheduling, but pretty consistent and quite solid. Our home is a safe place, where anything can be said, any thought can be shared and no judgement takes place. I believe this was built on three things which my kids have tag-lined my Family Matters With Amber blog: **unconditional love, respect and communication**. These never wane in my book. All the rest is just experimental.

No one has the perfect answer for what works for your family, but with the three basics I mentioned, plus a sense of humor, flexibility and courage, parenting in today can be fun and positive!

This January, I want you to try some experiments to find out if any of them can make a difference in your relationships at home. You might not find all of these things to be easy (or possible), but try as many of them as you can, and hopefully you'll have fun! If your family is overscheduled, busy, tired, or disconnected, you can't afford not to give these a try:

1. Schedule a one on one date with of your children doing something they love to do.
2. Try learning more about your kids



After

by listening, instead of talking. Refrain from telling them what you think about what they said or did, just nod or say oh. Maybe ask more questions stemming off of their answer.

3. Avoid feeding the family take out for 1 week and...

4. Try scheduling one sit down dinner a week with your family for the month of January where everyone is present. That's only 4 times...so make a home cooked meal a couple of those times (see how many recruits you get to help with the shopping, prep and cooking). You'll be amazed at the natural conversations that will happen.

5. Try asking one of your children for help with something grown-up-ish. This builds self-esteem and shows your child that you value their opinion and respect them.

6. Try putting a puzzle on a table in a common room. Watch how many family members stop, even together, to sit down and do the puzzle. If it's a photo puzzle you have printed up, you can glue it together when you're done, everyone can sign it, then date it, frame it and hang it.

7. Try turning off devices, TV's and computers one night a week and all sit in the same room doing something. It doesn't have to be a group activity, just relax. See what happens. Try this once a

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**

## ALBRECHT FAMILY DENTISTRY

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# Give the Gift of Good Health

## Lake County Outdoor Y Family Membership Special

**WHAT:** Lake County residents can receive 20% off the regular price of a family membership if they sign up at the Y's Outdoor Family Center in Perry, now thru January 9.

A membership at the Outdoor Y also gives families access to facilities and activities at the other Lake County YMCA branches in Eastlake, Painesville and Madison.

In addition, YMCA memberships are now reciprocal with other Ohio Ys, allowing any Y member to workout, play and have fun with their family and friends at any Y facility in Ohio.

Because no one is turned away from the Y, regardless of age, background or income, everyone has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

**WHEN:** Now thru January 9, 2017

**WHERE:** Lake County Outdoor Y  
4540 River Road Perry, OH 44081

**WHY:** For 150 years, the Y has helped strengthen communities by strengthening individuals and families. When you join the Y, you're committing to more than simply becoming healthier. You're supporting the values and programs that strengthen your community.

A membership at the Y fits any lifestyle. Whether you are seeking a place to connect with new people, workout 7 days a week or just swim with the family, the Y helps you to be more confident and connected. Kids want to discover who they are and what they can achieve through youth sports programs, school days off camp and summer camp.

**CONTACT:** Lake County YMCA - Outdoor Family Center  
440-259-2724  
www.lakecountyyymca.org

# Winter Bird Open House

January 29, 2017 • Noon to 4 pm

Feeding and watching the birds in your yard is a great way to connect to nature. Enjoy an afternoon in the Nature Center learning tips to identify the winter birds that are commonly seen in our area, the basics of birdwatching and all about birdfeeders and types of bird feed. Visit the Winter Bird Open House between noon and 4 pm January 29, 2017. The event is free for all ages.

Explore the park on snowshoes. Rentals are available for a small fee on a first-come, first-served basis, weather permitting. Stop in the Nature Center for details.

**Everyday free activities at Penitentiary Glen:**

- Discover the sights and sounds of wildlife at the interactive Nature Calls exhibit.
- Watch and listen to birds and other wildlife outside through the Window on Wildlife.
- Visit the Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center and see the Lake Metroparks



*Eastern Towhee - photo by Courtney Kempert*

wildlife ambassadors, including hawks, owls and eagles.

The Nature Center and Wildlife Center are open 9 am to 5 pm. The Nature Store, open until 4:30 pm, is a great resource for "fun" nature-related toys, field guides for adults and children, nature-inspired t-shirts, binoculars by VORTEX, bird feeders and wildlife houses. Snacks and beverages are also available for purchase.

Penitentiary Glen Reservation is located at 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd in Kirtland.



## \$17 Join Fee!

When you join in January 2017.

[ystretchyourself.org](http://ystretchyourself.org)

# STRETCH YOURSELF IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

Strengthen your community. Strengthen yourself.

# Behind the Smiling Faces

by Carole Richards

As parents, we see our children as beautiful and growing creatures. Behind their smiling faces, we can look at them as learners, with three developmental “faces:

- Emotional
- Physiological

## • Intelligence

**The Emotional face ...** a combination of factors

A child’s personality is a combination of genetics, environment and experience.

Your child’s genetic personality is a constant in the emotional face. Everyone has a personality driven by genetics, which affects behavior. When discussing juvenile problems, a judge friend of mine once said, “It’s in their genes,” she didn’t mean “blue jeans!”

Certain behaviors are genetically driven and, when viewed objectively, the child’s behaviors mirror other family members. In my own family, my son tends to be a deep-thinking introvert and his sister is very out-going and social. Both children were raised in the same environment but have very different personalities.

## Stress and your child’s emotional face...

Stresses in life also affect a person’s behavior. A divorce, death in the family, peer pressure, and school failure affect emotional health. When any of us is under stress we don’t think as clearly, and our behavior may be less rational. Be aware that stress will affect your child’s learning and school success. When you think about how you react to stress, remember your child reacts to stress, too.

## Emotional intelligence is a different way of being smart.

“It is being able to manage distressing moods well and control impulses. It is remaining hopeful when you have setbacks. It is empathy and social skills,” states Daniel Goleman in his book, *Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ*, “A caring adult in a child’s life can nurture the development of emotional intelligence ... it can be taught,” adds Mr. Goleman.

## The Physiological Face

Physiology is defined as the processes of living organisms or their parts. In this case, your child’s physiological face is affected by the way his brain processes information.

The brain receives information through its senses:

- eyes [visual]

- ears [auditory]
- touch and muscle movements [kinesthetic]

...then processes it somewhat like a computer. All human brains receive and process information in slightly different ways. Some process information better when they hear it, and some deal better with the information if they see it. Others, kinesthetic learners, process information better through touch and muscles.

To illustrate, Mr. Smith’s engine won’t start. He is a kinesthetic learner. He would never learn to fix his car by reading a manual or listening to a lecture. He would open up the hood of his car and try to figure out the problem. Or, he might ask a mechanic to show him how to fix his car.

It is important to understand how your child processes information while learning. Logically, teachers teach the way they learn. It is critical to create a partnership between parents, child, and teacher so the learner has the most opportunities to learn successfully.

## The intelligence face...

How smart is your child? Einstein believed humans use only 10% of their innate intelligence. If he is correct ... IQ should be considered, but it may be the least measure of a child’s abilities. No matter what IQ tests show, every child has tremendous untapped potential.

## So what does this all mean?

A 5 year old struggles with cutting and pasting as a result of poor fine motor skills. However, at the same time, the child talks in complex sentences using big words. His verbal skills are



fantastic.

A 4-year-old child builds great bridges with Legos. However, the same child struggles to learn letters and sounds.

Both of these children are bright. Their parents understand the strengths and weaknesses of their children. The parents have the opportunity to be the best advocates and “researchers” for their children as they look for solutions to their child’s challenges. And, they are also the best cheerleaders encouraging their child to be persistent and to develop a love of learning.

Everyone has an “emotional face” created by genetics and environment, a “physiological face” and an “intelligence face.” Understanding these “learning faces” of your child will help create limitless opportunities for academic success.

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LAKE COUNTY YMCA



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FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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**EAST END Y (Madison)**  
Preschool, School-Age  
Madison  
440.428.5125

**WEST END Y (Willoughby)**  
Preschool, School-Age  
Willoughby  
440.946.1160

**PERRY CHILD CARE CENTER**  
Infant, Toddler, Preschool  
School-Age Perry  
440.259.4596

For more details visit us online at [www.lakecountyyymca.org](http://www.lakecountyyymca.org)

# FARMPARK ICE FESTIVAL

Lake Metroparks Farmpark

Friday, January 27, 2017 • 5 to 9 pm • Saturday, January 28, 2017 • 9 am to 5 pm

One of the sayings at Lake Metroparks Farmpark during the winter months over the last couple of years is “Mother Nature and Old Man Winter are fighting again.” Northeast Ohio has seen either very high or low temperatures during the winter months. Farmers in the area need the cold of winter to help eliminate many damaging insects. If we don’t have those cold temperatures, a fruit crop will suffer due to poor bud development. As much as we enjoy the warmer days, cold weather is important to the growing cycle.

In celebration of the cold, Farmpark has partnered with Cleveland’s own and nationally known Elegant Ice Creations for the first annual Farmpark Ice Festival Friday, January 27, 5 to 9 pm and Saturday, January 28, 9 am to 5 pm. Presented by Ganley Subaru East and Discount Drug Mart, the festival will kick off Friday night with the unveiling of the Farmpark themed ice chair and an ice carving demonstration. Afterwards visitors can enjoy crafts, hot cocoa, a s’mores

bar, fire pits, music and an appearance by Anna and Elsa. The night will conclude with a large fire inside a tower of ice!

Join us Saturday to witness some of the best ice carvers from around the country take part in a speed carving competition. Enjoy many other winter-themed activities to participate in on Saturday, including snowshoeing (weather permitting), in addition to all of the regular Farmpark daily programs.

Make Farmpark’s Ice Festival your new Northeastern Ohio winter tradition! See you there!

Regular Farmpark admission applies. Farmpark members and children under 2 get in free.

Farmpark is located at 8800 Euclid Chardon Rd. (Route 6), one mile east of Route 306 in Kirtland, Ohio (44094).

*Lake Metroparks Farmpark provides a connection to our agricultural roots, helping people understand where our food and clothing come from. For more information, visit [www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)*



photo by Lake Metroparks

## BONDING FROM PAGE 4

week for all of January. Make it Sunday afternoon, that’s our favorite quiet day and when there is less going on.

8. Try taking a winter walk when it snows. If you don’t have snow, take a sunset or sunrise walk. That’s when everything is at peace. Clearing our heads helps us parent better. Next time, take the dog and kids.

9. Try reading to your child. For teens, try reading something in tandem with them that they are reading, or sharing something you’ve read. I’ve had great success with this. For younger ones, go to the library together and pick out a few books they think look fun and interesting.

10. Try sharing old movies from when you were their age. My teenage girls loved when I shared *Breakfast Club*, *Sixteen Candles* and *Dirty Dancing* with them. (It’s up to you about which you share. Only you know your child’s maturity level and comfort.)

11. Try whispering. Kids hate hearing parents scold, more so, they tune it out when we use you loud voices. Tone it down (way down) to a whisper. They’ll be bound to listen better, because they have to just to hear you!

12. Try putting yourself in your child’s shoes.

13. Try their video games (I won’t promise you’ll avoid falling on your face

or be embarrassed, but it sure will be fun for them and excellent bonding time for you both). This is one of my favorites.

14. Try getting active with your kids. Like yoga or weight lifting, walking on the treadmill. Do something together that’s age appropriate and do it together! Fitness is a healthy and fun activity.

15. Try to stop posting and start living. I know that in this day and age it’s nearly impossible to go a minute without wanting to share what you’re doing, or what your kids are doing, but try putting the social media away, for just a day (or try two days). Maybe the whole weekend! See how much more connecting happens with your kids and not the internet.

16. Play remember when, see how far back the kids can remember good or bad times. Talk about them. Tell them what you recall as a child as far back as infancy if possible. (I can still recall a few times in my life when I was only a baby and they’ve been confirmed by relatives.)

17. Get your kids to sit down and play a board game. Oh, yes, those weird things you have to pay attention to. Those things with pieces and directions which don’t require plugging in. Watch how funny things get. We just did Apples to Apples. I know they didn’t want to play a game, but man, by the second round they were into it and at the end wanted a rematch (mom won twice).

Get out for  
**WINTER FUN!**

Sledding • Snowshoeing  
Cross-country skiing  
Winter hikes and more!

Follow Lake Metroparks for up-to-date information about trail and park conditions or call the Winter Sports Hotline: 440-256-2118 x4178.

  @lakemetroparks

LAKEMETROPARKS.COM

**MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

6111 Middle Ridge Road  
Madison, OH 44057  
(440) 428-2189

[www.madison-library.info](http://www.madison-library.info)

**Madison Public Library will close for a spruce up until 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](http://www.mentor.lib.oh.us)

**Snappy Little Story Time**

Mondays at 10 a.m. at Main Branch, starting Jan. 9 Mentor Public Library's newest story time is a combination of Tiddlywinks and Family Story Time. There will be songs, rhymes, books, and flannel stories all geared to the little listener. Please note there will be no craft. Open to ages birth to age 5. No registration is necessary.

**Family Story Time**

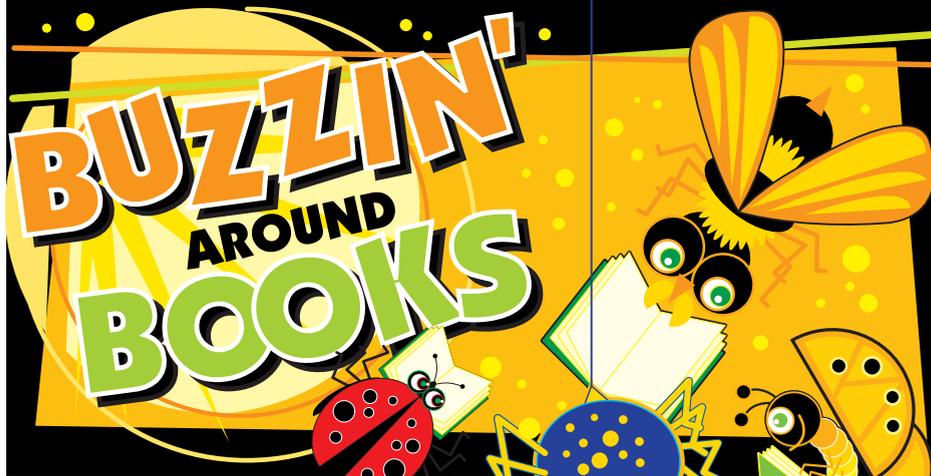
Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 11 a.m. at Main Branch, starting Jan. 9 Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. at Mentor Headlands Branch, starting Jan. 11 Take a little time for some great stories and family time. Families with children of all ages will enjoy stories, music, rhymes and crafts together. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Tiddlywinks**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at 10 a.m., starting Jan. 10 Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Come and enjoy an interactive story time filled with stories, songs and rhymes just right for little listeners. For children 36 months and younger with an adult. No registration is necessary.

**Preschool Story Time**

Tuesday and Wednesday at 11 a.m., starting Jan. 11 Main Branch in the



Children's Story Room Children attend without an adult and enjoy a fun-filled session of stories, songs and rhymes. A responsible adult must remain on the children's floor during the story time session. For children ages three to five years old.

**Tike Time**

Thursdays from 11 to 11:30 a.m., starting Jan. 5 Mentor Headlands Branch A weekly, interactive story time for children from six months to four years old at the Mentor Headlands Branch. Kids will enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and, perhaps, a craft. An adult must remain with the child during story time. No registration is necessary.

**Mother Goose on the Loose**

Fridays at 10 a.m., starting Jan. 13 Read House A 4-week interactive program for children up to 30 months. The program uses rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments and more to stimulate the learning process in babies and toddlers. Registration is necessary.

**Pizza & Comics Club**

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 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 Marvel's Hawkeye #1. Contact MPL Reference staff for more information and a copy of the comic.

**Comics Club**

Tuesday, Jan. 3, at 7 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Children, eight to 12 years old, are invited to join

the Comics Club to read, discuss, and make their own comics. Club members will meet the first Tuesday of every month. Registration is required

**American Girl Book Club**

Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 4 p.m. Meet Kaya.

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

**Time Travelers Club**

Wednesday, Jan. 4 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, the Time Travelers will play retro video games. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

**Minecraft Club**

Thursday, Jan. 5, 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.

**Snow Day Like Today**

Saturday, Dec. 10, at 1 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Even if it snows

outside, it's warm at the library. Listen to some snowy stories and make a cool craft.

**Kids at Work: A Lego Brick Building Club**

Saturday, Jan. 7, at 2 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Build with Mentor Public Library's Lego bricks around a monthly theme or build something else of your choosing. Children younger than eight must be accompanied by an adult. No registration is necessary.

**Make a Craft**

Monday, Jan. 9 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.

**Bundle Up! Rhyme Time**

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 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 "Bundle Up."

**Wordplay Creative Writing Club**

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 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.

**Studio MPL Jr. Artist**

Thursday, Jan. 12, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Join Mentor Public Library's art club for young kids (from kindergarten through second grade.) Each month, Studio MPL makes a different fun art project.

**LEGOmania**

Saturday, Jan. 14, 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.

**Mix It Up**

Monday, Jan. 16, at 2 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story

Room Let's celebrate winter with some warm cozy activities, including making our own hot chocolate mix.

### **Studio MPL Art Club**

Monday, Jan. 16, 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, Jan. 16, 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.

### **Party Game Night**

Monday, Jan. 16, at 6 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Play party games at the library, including Apples to Apples, Heads Up and Pictionary. Bring a friend and compete for the title of Party Champion! Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

### **Clashing Controllers**

Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 6:30 p.m.

Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Get your game on. Challenge your friends at this monthly video game tournament held at the Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

### **Paws to Read**

Wednesday, Jan. 18 First session starts at 6:30 p.m. Second session starts at 7:00 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Department Kids who are able to read independently are invited to sign up for a 30-minute session. Children will be paired with a gentle dog that is licensed and trained to be a good listener. This event will fill quickly. Registration begins two weeks before each session.

### **MPL Arcade: Video Game Club**

Thursday, Jan. 19, at 4 p.m. Main

Branch in the Village Room Come to the library for an afternoon of gaming with our new video game club, MPL Arcade. We'll have age-appropriate games available to play on the Wii U, as well as fun board and tabletop games. For kids in third through sixth grade. Registration is required.

### **Let's go Lego Club**

Saturday, Jan. 21, 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.

### **Preschool Dance Party: Winter Formal**

Monday, Jan. 23, at 1 p.m.

Main Branch in the Village Room It might be cold outside, but it's time to dance. Kids, ages two to six with their parents, can join us for an afternoon of dancing, moving, and grooving. Put on your dancing shoes and join in on the fun. Registration is required.

### **Read with Me**

Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 10:30 a.m.

Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Come to the library for a new story time that reinforces early literacy. Children from newborn to three years old can enjoy stories, songs, and activities while parents and caregivers learn tips and tricks to promote early literacy at home. Book recommendations and craft supplies will be given to enhance story times at home.

### **Stuffed Animal Sleepover**

Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Bring your favorite stuffed animal to the Lake Branch for a sleepover. We'll read bedtime stories and have a snack. Then leave your stuffed animal overnight and see what kind of adventures your pal had at the library when you pick it up the next day.

### **Color Me—Headlands**

Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m.

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

### **Techno Tweens**

Saturday, Jan. 28, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Mentor Headlands Branch Tweens (ages ten to 14) can challenge their friends to a quest in Roblox. Join your friends for gaming fun at Mentor Headlands Branch. Registration is required.



### **Crafty Puzzles**

Monday, Jan. 30, at 6

p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Celebrate National Puzzle Day by creating one of your own. Kids should be prepared to use their artistic sides and make a craft stick puzzle to take home.

### **Full STEAM Ahead: Science**

Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room A 5-week program focusing on hands-on activities that will enhance STEAM development. The first session focuses on science. Registration is required and opens Jan. 17.

### **MORLEY LIBRARY**

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

[www.morleylibrary.org](http://www.morleylibrary.org)

**Monday, January 2 – Registration opens for 7-week Winter Storytime Session**

**The Winter Storytime Session** starts Monday, January 9th and runs for 7 weeks through Friday, February 24th. There will be no Monday storytimes on MLK, Jr. Day or President's Day since the library is closed. Register at the library, online, or by phone at 440-352-3383.

**Baby Bookworms** (for babies not yet walking) Tuesdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

For babies who are not yet walking and their caregivers. Enjoy one-on-one lap time engaging in stories, songs, rhymes, fingerplays and more. 20 minutes of stories, songs, etc. followed by 10 minutes of playtime and caregiver interaction.

**Toddler Tales** (3 and under) Mondays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Stories, rhymes, songs & fingerplays especially for little ones! Child attends with caregiver.

**Music in Motion** (2 - 5 years) Wednesdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Stories, rhythm, music, and instruments! This storytime is geared towards active children. Child attends with caregiver.

**Preschool/Kindergarten Storytime** (3 - 6 years) Thursdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

An exciting and engaging storytime with a focus on early literacy skills.



Child attend without caregiver.

**Books at Bedtime** (18 months - 5 years)

Mondays: 6:30 – 7:00 PM OR

Wednesdays: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Pajama storytime geared towards families while cuddling a favorite stuffed animal. Child attends with caregiver.

**Stories & S.T.E.A.M.** (6 – 8 years)

Fridays: 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM

Kids ages 6-8 can explore stories and more with science, technology, engineering, art, and math in this fun after-school program. Caregiver must stay in the building but does not attend with the child.

**N B TWEEN** (9 - 12 years)

Thursdays: 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM

Crafts, games, and activities geared specifically towards tweens. Tweens attend without caregiver.

**Thursday, January 5 – Movie Night: The Secret Life of Pets.**

Join us for The Secret Life of Pets in Meeting Rooms AB. Rated PG and running 90 minutes. Food and covered beverages are permitted but must stay in the Meeting Rooms. No registration needed.

**Saturday, January 7 – Pajama Party**

For kids grades K-3rd. Wear your favorite PJs and join us for a Pajama Party! We will read bedtime stories, make yummy cereal necklaces, and play fun breakfast food themed games. You "donut" want to miss it! Registration is necessary and opens two weeks before the program December 24th.

**Monday, January 9 – Winter Storytime Session starts & NEW for 2017, children 12 and under can join the Children's Winter Reading Club!**

**The Children's Winter Reading Club**

runs for 4 weeks from Monday, January 9 through Saturday, February 4. Stop by the Children's Desk starting January 9 to pick up a Reading Log. For every 3 hours of reading, earn a raffle ticket for the prize drawing to win gift cards, toys, or even a Kindle Fire! Limit of 5 entries per child. The Children's Winter Reading Club ends Saturday, February 4.

**Thursday, January 12 – KIDS CRAFT-ERNOON!**

Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Room Rotunda to make a fun, free craft. As supplies last, small

children may need help. No registration needed.

### **Saturday, January 14 – The Checkers Magic Show**

Join us for a hilariously fun, all ages magic show! The Checkers Show features lots of comedy magic and antics alongside juggling, HUGE magic wands, and a giant balloon stunt.

There will be plenty of music and audience participation too. No registration needed, all ages welcome.

### **Tuesday, January 17 – LEGO Club!**

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.

### **Wednesday, January 18 – Silly Party!**

For kids grades K-3<sup>rd</sup>. Come to a silly party wearing the craziest hat you can find! We will make a craft, play some silly games, and show off our dance moves. This is sure to be a fun-filled time for all! Registration is necessary and opens two weeks before the program on January 4.

### **Thursday, January 26 – KIDS CRAFT-ERNOON!**

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

### **Saturday, January 28 - Creation Stations**

For families with children 12 and under. Bring your creative side and join Miss Robin in the project room for Creation Stations! There will be several stations set up for hands on activities including play-doh, painting, and sensory bags. Come let your creativity shine! Parents may want to bring a cover-up. No registration needed.

### **WICKLIFFE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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

[www.wickliffe.lib.oh.us](http://www.wickliffe.lib.oh.us)

**After School Adventures:** (K-4th grade) Tuesdays at 3:15 PM, January 10-March 7 Different activities each week. Registration required.

**Tales for a Dog:** (Kindergarten & up) Come share a story with a certified

therapy dog.

Saturday, January 7 @ 9:30 or 10:00 AM Registration required.

**Lego Club:** (Kindergarten & up) Stop by for some building challenges and fun! Saturday, January 14 @ 2:00 PM Registration required.

**Birth-2 Year Old Story Time**  
Wednesdays at 10:00 AM, January 11-25

Thursdays at 6:30 PM, January 12-26  
Registration required.

**3-6 Year Old Story Time**  
Mondays at 6:30 PM, January 9-30  
Thursdays at 10:00 AM, January 12-26  
Registration required.

**Preschool Blast**  
Kids 6 and under with a caregiver  
Every Friday beginning January 6, 2017 @ 10:00AM

Drop in every Friday morning for preschool programming. We will offer one of our well-loved programs (Wee Play, Storybook Theatre, Make & Take Craft) or a surprise new program! Drop-in, no registration necessary.

**Family Reads On-the-Go!**  
3rd week of the Month, during open hours Weeks of 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.

**Young Adult /Tween Programs:**  
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.

### **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

### *The Polar Express "Drive-In" at Morley Library*

Morley Library was transformed into the North Pole on Saturday, December 17th. Children received golden train tickets and bells to watch the movie, The Polar Express "drive-in" style. The kids decorated cardboard boxes to look like train cars and enjoyed the movie sitting in their cars. There was also a craft station featuring an elf door hanger craft, a "Letters to Santa" station to mail letters, a snack station, and a sensory station with fake "snow" for the kids to play with and make miniature snowmen. The kids and parents loved posing by the giant Santa's Workshop wall with their train cars. This program proved that the bell still rings those who truly believe!



*Twins Jackson and Riley Ludwig and their cousins Jimmy Kelbach and Justin Hyatt pose in their train cars in front of Santa's workshop.*

(440) 516-0843 TTY

#### **Willoughby Hills Public Library**

35400 Chardon Rd.

Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

(440) 942-3362

[www.welibrary.info](http://www.welibrary.info)

#### **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). Classes held at Willoughby Senior Center until the Willoughby Library renovation is complete.

Thursday, January 5, 10 or 11:30 am  
Willoughby Senior Center

#### **LEGO Club**

We provide the LEGOs, you provide the imagination in our LEGO club!  
Saturday, January 7, 1:30-3 pm  
Eastlake Library, 36706 Lake Shore Blvd., 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! Classes held at Willoughby Senior Center until the Willoughby Library renovation is complete.

Thursdays, Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 16, Apr

20, May 18

10 am (Ages 5-7)

11:30 am (Ages 7+) (Younger siblings may attend but must be at least 5).

Willoughby Senior Center

#### **Barks for Books**

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

Saturday, January 21, 9:30 or 10 am  
(Choose one session)

Eastlake Library, 36706 Lake Shore Blvd., 440-942-7880

#### **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, January 26 6:30 pm  
Eastlake Library, 36706 Lake Shore Blvd., 440-942-7880

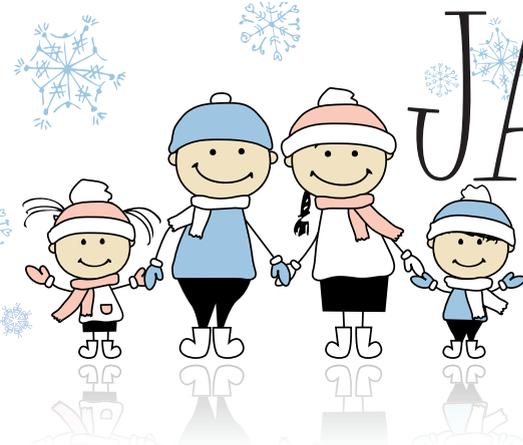
#### **Special Needs Storytime**

This storytime, specifically for children with special needs, features stories, rhymes, songs and other engaging activities in a welcoming environment. All ages welcome!

Tuesday, January 31, 6:30 pm  
Eastlake Library, 36706 Lake Shore Blvd., 440-942-7880

# JANUARY 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](mailto:countykids@news-herald.com). Submissions should be 65 words or less. We reserve the right to edit any information prior to publication.



## **JANUARY 7, 14, 21, 28** **Geauga Fresh Farmers' Market - Winter Market**

Winter Market is at 16540 Chilli-cothe Road in Bainbridge. A producer-only market located in Lowe's Greenhouse and Gift Shop. Here you will find many of the quality products sold at the summer market. The market runs through March 18th from 9am to Noon. Pastured meats, free-range eggs, winter vegetables, honey, maple syrup and bakery are just a sample of what is offered. 440 474 9885 [www.geaugafarmersmarket.com](http://www.geaugafarmersmarket.com)

## **JANUARY 14** **"Snow Much Fun Dance Showcase"**

The Fine Arts Association's performance dance troupes, the FAA Dance Factory and the FAA KREW perform a variety of dance pieces from ballet to hip hop. Proceeds benefit the dance program at Fine Arts. Corning Auditorium at The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby 44094 \$8/all tickets, reserved seating Call 440-951-7500 for reservations and information.

## **JANUARY 15** **Frozen Fest**

Join Geauga Park District for an exciting afternoon of winter fun! Many family activities throughout the afternoon include live ice carving/sculptures, guest appearances by a winter snowman and ice princesses, snowshoeing, snow-themed crafts, face painting, refreshments and much more! No pre-registration necessary (12PM). For more information call Geauga Park District 440-286-9516 or visit [www.geaugaparkdistrict.org](http://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org).

## **JANUARY 16** **All the Arts Camp**

Have a day off school? Come to Fine Arts for FUN! Kids in grades K-5 will

enjoy hands-on arts explorations in dance, music, visual arts and theatre in this awesome one-day camp. Includes Before Camp Care from 8:00-9:00 a.m. The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby 44094 Cost: \$50/camper Call 440-951-7500 or log on to [www.fineartsassociation.org](http://www.fineartsassociation.org) to register and for further information.

## **JANUARY 21** **Lake County Chili Open**

9am – 12pm Black Brook Golf Course, 9800 Lake Shore Blvd, City of Mentor The 9 hole course will challenge your skills and provide the most fun you've ever had at a tournament. Cost \$18. Proceeds benefit the United Way of Lake County. Register by calling (440) 974-5720.

## **JANUARY 21** **Winterfest on the Chardon Square**

Winterfest was founded in 2011 as a way of showcasing Chardon as the snow capital of Ohio. The event is made possible through the support of our community partners, including the city of Chardon, Chardon Square Association, Great Chardon Chamber of Commerce and local businesses. This

year, we will be bringing back many of your favorite festivities and adding a few new entertainment options. The Fire & Ice Tower, Ice Sculptures, carriage rides and other favorites will return. Stay tuned for more details on this fantastically frigid event! [www.chardontomorrow.org](http://www.chardontomorrow.org)

## **JANUARY 28** **Fine Arts Coffeehouse Series** **Denny Carleton & Friends**

Join us for a casual, fun evening of java, munchies and music. Main Gallery at The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby 44094 FREE Admission; Charge for refreshments Call 440-951-7500 or visit [www.fineartsassociation.org](http://www.fineartsassociation.org) for further information.

## **BEGINNING THE WEEK OF** **JANUARY 30**

Camps, classes, workshops and private instruction in visual arts, dance, music and theatre for all ages and ability levels. Registration now taking place. The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby Call 440-951-7500 or visit [www.fineartsassociation.org](http://www.fineartsassociation.org) to register

## **DECEMBER 31** **NOON YEAR'S EVE**

Don't miss Noon Year's Eve at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 31, celebrate the New Year twelve hours early with a special countdown to a ball drop over the Zoo's Welcome Plaza at noon.

Fun for the whole family, Noon Year's Eve features music, dancing, crafts, an ice carving demo, 'ReZOOlutions' and a special Professor Wylde's Live Animal Show featuring a crew of critters. All activities are included free with Zoo admission; guests are encouraged to arrive early to avoid any traffic delays.

## **JANUARY 1 & 2** **Holiday Open Skate**

12pm – 2pm Daily. Mentor Civic Ice Arena, 8600 Munson Rd, Mentor. This holiday season spend some time having fun at the Mentor Ice Arena! Bring the entire family. Admission: Adults:\$6/Youth 17and under \$5/ Seniors \$5. Skate rental \$3.

## **JANUARY 7-8** **2nd Annual FAA Sleepover**

Games, dance party, talent show, movie, t-shirt making, pizza, snacks, breakfast AND MORE comprise this fun all-night party. Proceeds benefit the Fine Arts Capital Campaign. For ages 8-18. Come for the full 12 hours or stay until midnight. The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby 44094 \$50/until midnight; \$110 for overnight fun. Call 440-951-7500 for reservations and information.



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