



OCTOBER 2017

COUNTY KIDS

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**Happy Halloween cover by
Prelude Photography.**

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Halloween Youth Overnight Brings Fun and Excitement to Fall Hosted at the Lake County East End Y

Lake County East End Y is hosting a Halloween Youth Overnight for children ages 6-12 from Saturday, October 28 to Sunday, October 29.

"While kids are enjoying swimming, playing games, and having Halloween party fun with their friends at the Y, parents can get out for a date night or enjoy a quiet evening at home," said Greg Church, Program Director at the Lake County East End Y.

Dressed in their best Halloween costumes, children will enjoy swimming, gym games, and snacks during the overnight fun with their friends. Halloween Youth Overnight is open to children ages 6-12. Children are recommended to bring swim gear, sleeping bag and overnight clothes; Halloween costume is optional.

Registration is \$20 Y members and \$30 program members. Additional sibling discount, each child is \$15/\$25. Children may be dropped off at the East End Y Saturday, October 28 at 8pm and picked up on Sunday at 9am. Youth will be supervised by Y staff and teen Leaders.

To register for the Halloween Youth Overnight, contact Lake County East End Y at 440-428-5125 or visit www.lakecountyyymca.org.



Family Fun at Lake County YMCA Fall Festival

**Great activities for Kids and
Families on October 21**

Lake County YMCA is excited to host its annual Fall Festival for kids and their families at the Lake County Outdoor Y (4540 River Road in Perry) on Saturday, October 21 from 2:30-4:30 pm.

Children of all ages and their parents can enjoy creating festive fall crafts, hayrides, games and a petting zoo. Games, activities and door prizes will be given for kids of all age groups.

"Family time at the Y is about giving families opportunities to deepen relationships, connect with other families and create great memories. Between the games, hayrides and crafts everyone will be sure to enjoy a wonderful autumn afternoon," said Liann Cox, program director for the Lake County Y Outdoor Family Center.

Children are encouraged to wear their favorite Halloween costume for the "Trick or Treat Trail" and bring a coat for outdoor hayrides. Registration is \$5 per child for Y members and nonmembers. Adults are free. Registration is not required but recommended. Proceeds from the Fall Festival support the Outdoor Y Annual Giving campaign which helps everyone in the community, regardless of age, background and income, to benefit from the programs and activities offered at the Y.

To register for the Fall Festival, contact the Outdoor Y at 440-259-2724 or visit www.lakecountyyymca.org.



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Holden Arboretum's Popular Goblins in the Garden Returns

Join us October 7 and October 8 all-day for our annual family-friendly, not-to-scary Halloween celebration. Bring your costumed children to trick-or-treat during the daylight hours in the decorated garden setting of our annual Halloween celebration.

Each day will feature musical performances at 10:30am, 12:30pm and 2:30pm. On Saturday, we welcome Musical Mark with his snappy, happy, danceable music to the Holden stage. On Sunday, Chip and the Munks will serve up stories, songs and smiles during a high-energy musical performance designed to be interactive and inspiring for families.

During Goblins, keep your eyes open for the Pick-Up Stix Stilts who will be entertaining guests, as well as the Walking Tree of Life and get a tree's perspective on why our forests are important.

The Murch Canopy Walk and Kalberer

Emergent Tower will be open during Goblins in the Garden, with tickets available on a first come, first serve basis. Register are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children.

On-going activities from 10am to 4pm include:

- Trick-or-treat trail
- Wagon rides
- Hedge and cornstalk maze
- Straw pyramid climb
- Face and hand painting
- Family crafts
- Free apples, while supplies last

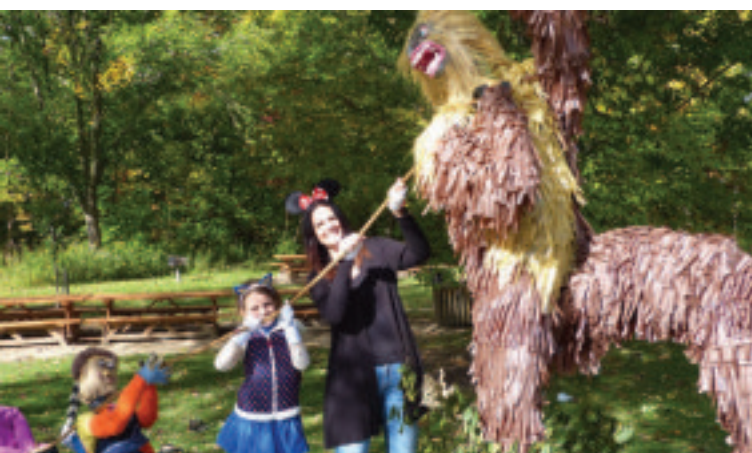
Don't forget to cast your vote for your favorite scarecrow in our Scarecrow Row Competition.

Food concessions from Chefs for Hire, Culinaire Pavane, Bakers Rack and Girl Scout Troop #71605 will be available at the Thayer Building.

Admission: \$10 per car for members, \$20 per car for nonmember.



A notable new element of our Goblins in the Garden event is an appearance by the **Walking Tree of Life** out of California. Michael Shaffer, creator and operator of the Walking Tree of Life, will "talk" with guests about a tree's perspective on the importance of trees to life. He will do this multiple times each of the two days of the event.



GOBLINS IN THE GARDEN

@ HOLDEN ARBORETUM

**OCTOBER 7 & 8
10AM-4PM**

Bring your children, and furry four-legged friends, in their best costumes for an unforgettable day of trick-or-treating, decorated gardens, cornstalk mazes, face and hand painting, wagon rides, live entertainment, food and the traditional Scarecrow Row. *Rain or Shine.*

NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
MEMBERS: \$10 PER CAR
NONMEMBERS: \$20 PER CAR

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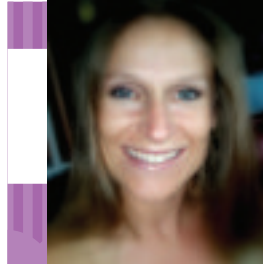


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Family Matters with Amber

Who Are Your Children's Friends?

Your children's friends are just about as important as you are. No, never mind, they are more important than you are. Whether you attend concerts with them, buy them an iPhone, provide them with take-out food every night for dinner and say yes to everything, you are still not your child's best friend. (Nor should you be, *but that is a topic for another column.*)

No matter how 'cool' our kids think we are, they still most likely trust their peers more than us, talk to them more often, and reveal more to them than they will to us. Yep, it stinks. It's unfair. It seems wrong. But honestly how many of us trusted our own parents not to go off the deep end if we told them something we knew they wouldn't understand? You know what I mean...they had a cow when we came home late, they had a bird when we left laundry in the washer or dryer and they blew a gasket if we were even remotely honest with them about our ideas or thoughts. They even lost their tempers in public! I'm not sure about you, but there wasn't much I could tell my parents as a teenager...so I didn't.

As we navigate the period our small child begins growing into a pre-teen, then into a full-fledged teenager, we enter into a foreign place. We don't know whether to be really, overly too nice, or become really, overly too strict. I'll agree it's a strange and complicated place (and they say we are the weird ones) but one that we have to do with great care (but not walk on egg shells)... I know, it's all so complicated.

What's my advice on doing this? **Be a parent first.** Then help them find some really great friends! I'd like to believe that from the time they were very small I tried to teach my three kids how to behave. I set the guidelines and boundaries for how to act and treat others. *Then* I enforced them with a firm hand (yes, I spanked) but with the realization that things weren't always going to be black and white. If it was about safety, it was non-negotiable, if it was about health and hygiene then it was

non-negotiable. If it were about kindness it was also just as important. Who your kids hang out with can either help reinforce or these foundations or tear them down... and it doesn't take long.

I'd like to think I was a kid with a good heart and one who knew right from wrong, except I look back and find that I could be good or bad depending on who I was with. For the most part all of my friends were really great, well behaved kids who did good in school. There were a few, however, who I just followed and did most of whatever they did and never went well for me. I'm sure we all remember a point in our lives where we could be swayed to do certain things. It was usually with friends, but most likely not the kinds our parents would have liked us to be around.

I home schooled for several years, but I still sometimes found it difficult to find some friends for my kids that I found to be good for them. I mean everyone is different; different upbringings, maturity, habits and behaviors and that's okay. But as small children are growing up they tend to copycat their peers, so this can become a problem if you allow your two year old to hang out with the toddler who bites, kicks, punches and throws toys. You could at some point explain why those behaviors are happening, which can help. I explain stuff to my kids all the time regarding why we as people do what we do both positively and negatively so it helps them understand and make better choices, but trust me, at some point if things don't improve you will want to distance yourselves until they do.

There is no true way to keep your kids on the straight and narrow, because as my dad always said, 'no matter what you do your kids can and will go out there and do whatever they want', but if you build their lives and their minds with solid foundations (which is what so many moms have told me I have done) they will stay well and choose well. But what if they do not?

SEE PAGE 5

 **YES on ISSUE 9**

**Your community
library**

**MENTOR
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

RENEWAL not an increase

Paid for by Citizens for Mentor Public Library, Grants, House, Treasurer



Corn and pumpkin photo by Earl Linaburg

Corn & Pumpkin Festival

Lake Metroparks Farmpark

October 7 & 8 and 14 & 15 • 9 am to 5 pm

Bring the family out to enjoy three weekends of fall harvest fun at Lake Metroparks Farmpark every weekend in October through October 19. These weekends will provide visitors opportunities to enjoy the many family-friendly hands-on activities that are part of Farmpark's harvest traditions.

Top off our fall harvest experience with two weekends of corn and pumpkins October 7 & 8 and 14 & 15. Help husk, shell and grind corn. Take home your own handmade corn husk doll and play a little corn hole and corn darts. Sample our fall harvest stew made with Farmpark's own potatoes, help crank up some pumpkin ice cream and learn how to plow behind Farmpark's draft horses. Kids can paint a pumpkin and take it home (additional fee applies).

If you enjoy a challenge, then Farmpark's corn maze is for you. Follow winding paths that steer you to intersections where you must decide which way to go. Show off your skills as you make your way through multiple twists and turns in the three-acre maze.

Visitors may also enjoy our Showman's Circle area, including a farm-themed playground and covered shelter for live animal demonstrations.

At Farmpark's Fall Harvest Weekends, visitors can participate in many traditional harvest activities. Each weekend will also have a different focus on some aspect of farming and harvest.

Regular Farmpark admission and membership apply to Fall Harvest Weekends. Children younger than 2 and Farmpark members are Free.

Lake Metroparks Farmpark is located at 8800 Euclid Chardon Road in Kirtland,.

CHILDREN'S FRIENDS FROM PAGE 4

Dad is right a lot of the time, isn't he? I've been told they'll come back.

The other way I try helping my children find good friends is to ask them about their friend's hobbies, school habits, family life. Sometimes this can lend itself to a way of helping another child also, not just find out who your kids are with. I have asked questions like these since they were very young. I'll also ask them why they like this friend or that friend. I also talk to them about how true friendship should be. This last suggestion can be help you segue

into the relationship years when dating becomes a thing. The key in many parenting situations is to talk with your kids, ask them questions with answers that require more than yes or no.

Visit my blog www.familymatterswith-amber.blogspot.com to read more about this topic: what to do if your child finds friends you don't particularly like, how to help your child stand up and stick to their values in sticky situations and what to do when family is your kids' friends but they aren't the best influences.

LAKE METROPARKS FARM PARK

Corn & Pumpkin Festival

October 7 & 8, 14 & 15

9 am to 5 pm



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Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Enrollment Rule Update

By Carole Richards

The Ohio Department of Education has two exciting programs for children with disabilities:

- Autism Scholarship Program (since 2004)
- Jon Peterson Scholarship Program (JPS) (since 2012-13 School Year)

In this article, I will explain the Jon Peterson Scholarship Program

Who is eligible to apply for the scholarship?

Any child with a disability and who have a current finalized IEP (Individualized Education Plan) from their district of residence; and child is eligible to attend (grades K to 12 - ages 5 to 22)

NEW RULE! -- When will JPS applications be accepted?

Beginning October 1, applications are accepted throughout the year. *Previously students could only enroll twice a year November 15 and April 15.*

How do I apply for JPS?

The parent selects an Approved Provider who applies to the program on the family's behalf. Multiple providers may be used but only one provider submits the application. *(This is a very simple two-*

page application)

Who are the Approved Providers?

Go to the ODE website to see the list of Approved Providers. They fall under the following categories:

- Tuition at private schools that offer special education services
- Education service providers and other private therapists (*i.e. speech and OT*)

What is the value of the scholarship?

Scholarship amounts will be based on the child's Special Education Category. If a child has more than one disability, they may qualify under multi-handicapped. Your child's eligibility is determined by your school district on the Education Testing Report (ETR) in Section 4.

Will parents/legal guardians have to pay any amount of money?

They are responsible for any costs exceeding the amount of the scholarship.

Are children in private school or home schooled eligible?

Yes, but they must first obtain an IEP from their district of residence.

Can my child attend school in the public district and use JPS to pay for IEP support services?

No. You must choose the public district

Special Education Category	Scholarship Funding Per Student
1 - Speech and Language Impairments	\$ 7,588
2 - Learning Disabilities, Intellectual Disability or OHI minor	\$10,015
3 - Hearing Impaired or Emotional Disturbance	\$15,632
4 - Vision Impaired or OHI-major	\$18,851
5 - Orthopedic Impairment or Multi-handicapped	\$23,400
6 - Autism, Traumatic Brain Injury, Hearing & Vision Impaired	\$27,000

or the JPS, not both.

Will every child who applies be awarded a scholarship?

No, the number of scholarships cannot exceed 5% of the total number of Ohio students currently identified as a child with a disability.

If my child is awarded a scholarship, how long can he/she continue to use JPS?

Until age 22, however, the scholarship application process occurs on a yearly basis. If the student has a current IEP and continues to be identified as having a disability by their resident district then a parent may submit a renewal application for the next program year.

For More Information: Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/Special-Needs-Scholarship

If you want to learn about the Autism Scholarship Program, go to: education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/Autism-Scholarship-Program

North Coast Tutoring Services is an approved provider for both the Jon Peterson and Autism Scholarship Programs.

Carole Richards is president of North Coast Tutoring Services, President of the Creative Education Institute, author of Richards Learning Systems and a frequent guest on radio and TV. She can be reached at www.northcoasted.com.

Halloween Special \$6 A SHEET!!

Our Halloween session is quick and fun!

Tell us the code words and get \$6 a sheet for any kids in costume for the month of October

*What are the code words?
PUMPKIN BABIES, of course*



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Apple Butter and Cider Festival

Lake Metroparks Farmpark

September 31 & October 1 • 9 am to 5 pm



Lake Metroparks Farmpark continues a tradition of celebrating the harvest season with a weekend all about apples! Get a taste of apple cider, sample a variety of apples and help grind apples and press cider. Apple slushies are available at the Apple Cider Bar.

Learn how to drive a horse, harvest potatoes, fish at the pond pavilion and helping hand crank and taste ice cream with different harvest flavors. Little farmers can wind their way through the farm maze on pedal tractors, navigate through the hay maze and have fun in the kid's tent.

If you enjoy a challenge, then Farmpark's corn maze is for you. Follow winding paths that steer you to intersections where you must decide which way to go. Show off your skills as you make your way through

multiple twists and turns in the three-acre maze.

Little farmers can pedal their way on mini tractors through the farm maze on the Pedal Tractor Overlook. They can navigate the hay maze and play in the kid's areas. The whole family can explore the three-acre corn maze. Enjoy harvest-themed crafts and more.

Visitors may also enjoy our Showman's Circle area, including a farm-themed playground and covered shelter for live animal demonstrations.

At Farmpark's Fall Harvest Weekends, visitors can participate in many traditional harvest activities. Each weekend will also have a different focus on some aspect of farming and harvest.

COLORS OF FALL OPEN HOUSE

Penitentiary Glen Reservation October 8, 2017, noon to 4 pm

FREE. No registration required

Enjoy the sights, smells and sounds of autumn in Northeast Ohio! Celebrate the changing of the seasons with an afternoon of free, fun activities for the whole family at the Colors of Fall Open House from noon to 4 pm Sunday, October 8 at Penitentiary Glen Reservation. Journey through fall colors on miniature steam trains from 1 to 3 pm (weather permitting). Play games and complete other activities to learn about autumn. Hear about how wildlife prepares for the coming season during one of our wildlife presentations, and hike one of the many park trails.



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Halloween Storytimes

9:30 am For children 0-24 months
attending with a caregiver
10:30 am - 11:00 am
For children 25-48 months
attending with a caregiver
October 31. This prog
11:30 am - 12:00 pm

For children 3-5 years not in kindergarten attending independently. Proram features age appropriate stories and songs. It will conclude with a parade through the library to trick-or-treat through various stations set up around the building.

MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**Main Library**

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

Mentor-on-the-Lake

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

Headlands

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

www.mentor.lib.oh.us

Snappy Little Story Time Mondays at 10 a.m.

at Main Branch. 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. Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. at Mentor Headlands Branch

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. 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. 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.

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

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

Mother Goose on the Loose Fridays at 10 a.m. The Read House A 4-week interactive program for children up to 30 months. The program uses rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments



and more to stimulate the learning process in babies and toddlers. Registration is necessary and opens two weeks before the beginning of the next session.

Make a Craft Monday, Oct. 2 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.

Comics Club Tuesday, Oct. 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, Oct. 4, at 4 p.m. Meet Molly. 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 Molly" before this program. Registration is necessary each month.

Time Travelers Club: Paper & Pencil Games Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 6 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Teens can come to the library and try out games, crafts, and other activities that were popular in the past. This month, learn a bunch of games that only require paper and pencils to play. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Minecraft Club Thursday, Oct. 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.

Whodunnit? Thursday, Oct. 5, at 6 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Families can solve the mystery and find the culprit in a supersized game of Clue. Registration is required. Families are encouraged to attend. Recommended for ages eight and older.

Rock the Mic Club Monday, Oct. 9, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room A monthly club that meets on the second Monday of each month where kids can come and practice speaking in front of their peers, tell jokes,

play an instrument, sing, practice for a school report, or perform a monologue. This club will build self-esteem and confidence while having fun. A snack and drink will be provided.

Pumpkin Rhyme Time Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 10:30 a.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Come to the Lake Branch for a monthly preschool story time.

Wordplay Creative Writing Club Wednesday, Oct. 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 Art Club Thursday, Oct. 12, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Children's Story Room Join Mentor Public Library's art club for kids (from first through fifth grade.) Each month, Studio MPL makes a different fun art project.

Feathers, Furs and Scales Friday, Oct. 13, at 2 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Program presented by Lake Metroparks. Children learn about animals and their habitat. What animals are covered with feathers? What animals are born with fur or scales? Meet a couple of live animals that are permanent residents of the Wildlife Center.

Family Afternoon Movie Saturday, Oct. 14, at noon Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Bring the whole family to the library for an afternoon movie. On the second Saturday of each month, the library will show a family movie and provide popcorn. All movies will be rated G or PG. Find out which movie will be playing each month in the Children's Department. This event is for families with children 13 and younger. Ages 8 and younger must have parent supervision. No registration required.

LEGOmania Saturday, Oct. 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.

Write On: A Writing Club for Teens Monday, Oct. 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.

Day of the Dead Celebration Monday, Oct. 16, at 6 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Come to the not-so-haunted Lake Branch to make four spooktacular Halloween decorations, and play some Halloween trivia.

Clashing Controllers Wednesday, Oct. 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, Oct. 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, Oct. 19, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Come to the library for an afternoon of gaming with the new video game club, MPL Arcade. The library will have age-appropriate games available to play on the Wii U, as well as fun board and tabletop games. For kids in third through sixth grade. Registration is required.

Lake Branch Minecraft Club Saturday, Oct. 21, 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.

Let's go Lego Club Saturday, Oct. 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.

Fall Leaf Printing Monday, Oct. 23, at 6 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Teens can use fallen leaves to create beautiful works of art. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Read With Me Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 10:30 a.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch A literacy-based story time for kids from newborn to three years old. Children can enjoy stories, songs and activities while parents and caregivers learn tips to promote early literacy at home. The library will also supply book recommendations and craft supplies to enhance story times at home.

Full STEAM Ahead: Technology Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room First through fifth graders can enhance their STEAM development with activities involving technology. Registration begins Oct. 10.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest Wednesday, Oct. 25, at 6:30 p.m. Mentor-on-the-Lake Branch Bring the whole family to the Lake Branch to decorate a pumpkin. Enter it into a contest for a chance to win a prize. Dress for a mess.

Color Me—Headlands Wednesday, Oct. 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.
Let's Glow: A Glow-in-the-Dark Party Thursday, Oct. 26, at 4 p.m. Main Branch in the James R. Garfield Room Kids from five to 10 years old can come to the library for an unforgettable party filled with neon games, crafts, and dancing. Come dressed in neon or glow-in-the-dark clothing. Registration is required and begins Oct. 12.

Headlands Annual Pumpkin Decorating Saturday, Oct. 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Families can walk in and decorate a small pumpkin. No registration required. While supplies last.

Techno Tweens Saturday, Oct. 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.

Fall Ball: Preschool Dance Party Monday, Oct. 30, at 1 p.m. Main Branch in the Village Room Kids from two to six years old, with their parents, can come dressed in their best costumes to the library's Fall Ball. Join us for an afternoon of dancing, moving, and grooving to some spooky songs, as well as some of your favorites. Registration is required and begins Oct. 16.

Mr. Dennis' Halloween Puppet Show Monday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. Mentor Headlands Branch Mr. Dennis will be here with his spooky puppet friends for a Spooktacular puppet show. Registration is required and begins Oct. 16.

MORLEY LIBRARY

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

www.morleylibrary.org

Toddler Tales (3 and under)

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

Books at Bedtime (18 months - 5 years)

Mondays: 6:30 – 7:00 PM Pajama storytime while cuddling your favorite stuffed animal. Child attends with caregiver. Registration is required.

Baby Bookworms (for babies not yet walking)

Tuesdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

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

Music in Motion (2 - 5 years)

Wednesdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Stories, rhythm, music, and instruments! Child attends with caregiver. Drop-in, no registration needed.

Preschool/Kindergarten Storytime (3 - 6 years)

Wednesdays: 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM or Thursdays: 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM An exciting and engaging storytime with a focus on early literacy skills. Child attend without caregiver. Registration is required.

Parachute Playtime (2 - 5 years)

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

S.T.E.A.M. Stations (2-6 years) October 11th, 12th, 25th, and 26th: 10:30 – 11:00 AM Explore various activities that will build your child's early

literacy skills. This program is designed for children ages 2-6 and their caregivers and will take place after the 10:00 AM storytime. Discover how everyday household items can become learning tools for your child. No registration needed.

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

N B TWEEN (9 - 12 years) Wednesdays: 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM Crafts, games, and activities geared specifically towards tweens. Tweens attend without caregiver. Registration is required and opens 1 week prior to each class.

Fall Scavenger Hunt – Sunday, October 1st through Sunday, October 15th Kids 12 and under can participate in a fun, FREE picture Scavenger Hunt in the Children's Room. Find all 10 pictures hidden around the Children's Room and turn in your sheet for a free, small prize from the treasure chest. Limit once per child, please.

Paws 2 Read - Saturday, October 7th - Children's Room - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Bark all about it, Paws 2 Read is back! Paws 2 Read is a program that encourages readers of all abilities to relax and read in a comforting environment with a friendly, certified therapy dog for 15 minutes. Registration is required and opens two weeks before the program. To register, please call the Children's Room at 440-352-3383 to choose a dog and a time slot for your child.

KIDS CRAFTAFTERNOON - Thursday, October 12th - Children's Room Rotunda - 3:00 - 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Room Rotunda to make a fun, free fall silly face leaf ornament. As supplies last, small children may need help. No registration needed.

The Construction Zone - Tuesday, October 17th - Story Room - 4:00 - 5:00 PM Drop by the Story Room between 4:00-5:00 PM for The Construction Zone! Build a LEGO creation or test your marble race track skills and have your picture taken for the new Construction Club wall. All ages welcome, parents must stay with children ages 5 and under. No registration needed.

Spooky Creations - Thursday, October 19th - Project Room - 4:15 - 5:00 PM For kids grades K-3rd. Are you ready for some spooky fun? Create spooky food treats, make a creepy craft, and listen to a terrifying tale! Registration is necessary and begins 2 weeks before the program on October 5th.

The Magic of Michael Mage - Saturday, October 21st - Meeting Rooms AB - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Known as a comedian stuck in a magician's shoes, national award-winning magician Michael Mage incorporates comedy and endless audience participation into this hilarious show. Join us for a family friendly presentation as the audience becomes the highlight of this comedy magic spectacle. No registration needed, all ages welcome.

KIDS CRAFTAFTERNOON - Thursday, October 26th - Children's Room Rotunda - 3:00 - 7:00 PM Make a FREE kids craft! Drop by the Children's Room Rotunda to make a free Sugar Skull Mosaic craft to celebrate Día De Los Muertos/Day of the Dead. As supplies last, small children may need help. No registration needed.

Halloween Happenings! - Friday, October 27th - Children's Room - 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Join us for Halloween Happenings at Morley Library! Kids ages 12 and under can trick-or-treat at 4 stops around the Library, make 3 different crafts on the Children's Floor, and participate in a fun scavenger hunt for a free, small prize. No registration needed, drop in any time from 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM. Costumes encouraged but not required. Happy Halloween!

Kids Halloween Party! - Saturday, October 28th - Story Room - 11:00 - 11:45 AM For kids grades K-3rd. Join us for a Halloween party at Morley Library! Show off your Halloween costume as we read spooky stories, make a creepy craft, play scary fun games, and enjoy a shockingly yummy snack! Come if you dare! Registration is required. Registration begins 2 weeks prior to the program on Oct. 14th. (Costumes encouraged but not required).

Teen Movie Night - October 3, 6-8:30pm, Meeting Rooms A&B. Teens, come on out for pizza and popcorn as we watch a brand-new DVD release on the big screen! Check www.morleylibrary.org or call (440) 352-3383 for movie title and details. No registration required.

Celebrate Teen Read Week! October 8-14: The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) and Morley Library encourage teens to read for the fun of it, and to celebrate, we're giving away FREE books all week long! Stop by the Reference Desk on the 3rd floor and tell a librarian "I love to read!" – then pick out a new book to keep. We'll have plenty of hot titles available while supplies last.

Teen Comic Con & Halloween Gaming Party - October 31, 6-7:30pm, Meeting Rooms A&B. Join us for gaming, music, food, and fun! You can dress up as your favorite character from a graphic novel, anime, manga, T.V. show, book, or just come as you are! Registration is required.

WICKLIFFE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

www.wickliffe.lib.oh.us

Book Bugs Fridays at 10:00am, October 6–December 22nd. Children up to age 6 with a caregiver, join us for stories, activities and fun!

Tales for a Dog First Saturday of every month @ 9:30 or 10:00am, 10/7, 11/4, 12/2. Readers completed Kindergarten and older, come share a story with a certified therapy dog. Pre-register or drop-in.

Lego Club Second Saturday of every month at 2:00pm, 10/14, 11/1, 12/9. Children Kindergarten and older, stop by for some building challenges and fun! Drop-in.

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

Birth-2 Year Old Story Time Wednesdays at 10:00am, October 4 - November 15. Thursdays at 6:30 pm, October 5 - November 16. Registration requested.

3-6 Year Old Story Time Mondays at 6:30pm, October 2 - November 13. Thursdays at 10:00am, October 5 - November 16. Registration requested.

Crafty Kids First Tuesday of the month at 3:15pm, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5. Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, join us for stories and crafty activities. Registration requested.

Jr. Chief Second Tuesday of the month at 3:15pm, 10/10, 11/14, 12/12. Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, join us for stories and creative cooking for kids. Registration requested

Book Blast Third Tuesday of the month at 3:15pm, 10/17, 11/21, 12/19. Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, explore a new book series each month through sample reading and activities. Check out a book from the series and discuss the next month. Registration requested.

STEAM Ahead! Fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:15pm, 10/24, 11/28. Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, join us and explore science fun. Registration requested.

Boo Time Tuesday, October 31 at 3:15pm Children Kindergarten through 4th grade, join us for spooky stories and activities. Registration requested.

Trick or Treat at the Library Tuesday, October 31 9am-9pm. Stop by the library dressed in your costume. Anyone in costume will receive small treats as they walk through the library.

Tween Time Wednesdays @ 2:30 PM, October 4-November 15 Children 5th-8th grade, join us for snacks, socializing and fun activities. Registration requested.

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

Night Creatures Get a close-up view of some of the animals lurking in your own backyard! Presented by Lake Metroparks. All ages welcome. Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 pm Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Teens Make Stuff @ the Willoughby Library:

T-Shirt Yarn Come to the Willoughby Library and learn how to turn an old t-shirt into yarn and then turn the yarn into a small braided rug. Ages 13 & up.

Wednesday, October 4, 7-8 pm Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Homeschool Science Adventures Each month we will cover an aspect of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) with hands-on activities. Ages 6+ only. Registration has begun.

Thursday, October 5, 10 or 11:30 am Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

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

Saturday, October 7, 1:30-3 pm Eastlake Library 440-942-7880
Saturday, October 14, 2-3:30 pm Willoughby Library 440-942-3200

Saturday, October 14, 2-3:30 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151
Saturday, October 21, 2-3:30 pm
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362
Willoughby Otaku Anime Club Join fellow Otaku at the Willoughby Library to watch anime, discuss anime and manga and draw our own characters. You can even cosplay if you want. Refreshments will be served. Ages 13 & up. Saturday, October 7, 1-4 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200
Otaku Craft Days Create art with perler beads (Sep 12), design your own foam badges & pins for some nerdy flair (Oct 10) and cut and fold paper craft figures, bookmarks & more (Nov 14). Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7-8:30 pm Willowick Library 440-943-4151
Teen Card Night @ the Library Bring two or more friends and your Yu-Gi-Oh and/or Pokemon cards to the Willoughby Library where you can battle each other and maybe someone new. Ages 13 & up.
Wednesday, October 11, 7-8:30 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200
Movie Night at the Hills Watch recently released DVD movies on the big screen with free popcorn. Doors open at 5:30 pm with the movie running from 6-8 pm. Outside snacks and drinks are permitted.
Wednesday, October 11: To be announced
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362
Barks for Books Practice your reading skills by reading to a therapy dog! Grades K-5.
Saturday, October 14, 9:30 or 10 am (Choose one time slot)
Eastlake Library, 440-942-7880

Special Needs LEGO Club This LEGO Club is specifically for children with special needs. We provide the LEGOs, you provide your imagination. All ages welcome!
Saturday, October 14, 10:30 am-12 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151
Boy Scout Merit Badge: Reading! Take steps toward earning a badge in reading by conducting research and learning how to use your library! Saturday, October 14, 1 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880
Homeschool Art for Teens Do you want to learn more about art? Love to create art but never get the chance? Join us to meet other art-loving teens and learn about different artists and styles. Homeschool grades 6-12. Ages 11-18.
Tuesday, October 17, 10 am-12 pm
Eastlake Library 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, October 17, 6:30 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880
Thursday, October 26, 10 am
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200
Homeschool Computers and Research This four month series of classes will teach your child computer and Internet basics, as well as research and library skills. Registration begins Aug 14. Ages 10 & up.
Thursday, October 19, 10 or 11:30 am
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200
Homeschool Travelers Take a trip around the

world without leaving the library! Each month features a different location, complete with facts and fun activities.
Thursday, October 19, 2 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880
Halloween Blast! Get ready for Halloween with special stories, games and crafts! Be sure to wear your Halloween costume. There may even be a spooky treat to take home! All ages welcome! Thursday, October 19, 7 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151
Library Fun House Join other students for board games, puzzles, crafts, puppet play and other fun activities. Grades K-6.
Saturday, October 21, 11 am-12:30 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151
The Basement Writers Bring your writing and ideas to share! Give and receive feedback as well as bounce ideas off of your peers. All writing welcome, fanfiction to original works. New to writing? We've got prompts!
Saturday, October 21, 1-3 pm
Willowick Library 440-943-4151
Opiate Crisis for Teens Presenter Jeff Markell from ADAMHS will speak on the opiate crisis.
Monday, October 23, 6-7 pm
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362
Halloween Spooktacular Enjoy crafts, games and stories during our annual Halloween event. Don't forget your costume!
Monday, October 23, 6:30 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200
Spooky Spectacular Wear your costume and join us for Halloween fun! Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880

Howling Halloween at the Hills Join us for a howling good fright night, complete with stories, songs and spooky crafts. Scary treats are included. Wear your costume!
Wednesday, October 25, 6-7:30 pm
Willoughby Hills Library 440-942-3362
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. Grades 6-12. Ages 11-18.
Thursday, October 26, 6:30-8:30 pm
Eastlake Library 440-942-7880
Learn and Play Chess Club Join us for an informal gathering of chess enthusiasts, including instruction and play, fun and refreshments! No registration needed. All ages and chessboards welcome. Saturday, October 28, 12-4 pm
Willoughby Library 440-942-3200



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Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza
Young Chefs Academy
Round 1 (Opening 2018)

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OCTOBER 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.

OCTOBER 9
1st Annual Lake County Volunteer Fair! Interested in volunteering but aren't sure where to start? Join us for the 1st Annual Lake County Volunteer Fair. Several Lake County organizations will be on hand to showcase their volunteer opportunities including Lifeline, Hospice of the Western Reserve, McKinley Outreach Center, W-E Library Boosters, Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities and many more. Refreshments, door prizes and vendor bingo will also be available. 3-7 pm Willowick Library, 263 E. 305 St., 440-943-4151

OCTOBER 13
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. 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby. Cost: \$50/camper; Before Camp Care included from 8:00-9:00 a.m. Camp officially begins at 9:00 a.m. Call 440-951-7500 or log on to www.fineartsassociation.org to register and for further information.

OCTOBER 13
Howl-o-ween Party for Dogs Fri, October 13, 5:30pm - 6:45pm Mentor Dog Park, Hopkins Road. FREE! Bring your dog

and join us for a Halloween party just for dogs at the Mentor Dog Park. We'll have some contests, prizes and doggone good fun. Dogs must have up-to-date vaccinations, be licensed, and not be in heat, to visit the dog park. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call (440) 974-5720 for more info.

OCTOBER 14
Chili Cook-Off 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm Benefits Willoughby-Eastlake Schools Admission is FREE. Cost is per bowl at each participating restaurant. For more information on which restaurants will be participating go to www.downtownwilloughbyohio.com/chili

OCTOBER 14
Painesville Fall Fest & Trick or Treat Kiwanis Recreation Park - Painesville 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Free pumpkin painting (first 300 children) Fall produce & custom pumpkins for sale. Food vendors. Costume contest / games. Live entertainment featuring Dr. Insecta. Hayrides.

OCTOBER 14 & 15
Oxtoberfest Enjoy a Burton tradition on the square. The village green will be filled with vendors, ox roast sandwiches, a beer tent and polka music. Burton Log Cabin & Sugar Camp Burton Chamber of Commerce 1-440-834-4204 burtonchamberofcommerce.org

OCTOBER 14 & 15
Apple Butter Festival The second week-end of each October the copper kettles provide the wonderful aroma of apple butter being made! You can visit Century Village Museum to purchase freshly made Apple Butter, Apple Fritters, tour

the historic buildings with authentic artifacts, gaze at the beautiful fall views, visit with Historic Artisans and More! Children's activities, a straw pile to play in, pony rides and wonderful foods. Burton Century Village 1-440-834-4656 centuryvillagemuseum.org

OCTOBER 14 & 15
Ashtabula County Covered Bridge Festival will be celebrating its 34th Annual Festival located on East Jefferson Street from Chestnut Street going East to the Railroad tracks. For details visit www.coveredbridgefestival.org

OCTOBER 19
Creative Writing Workshop-Story Start Ages 10-13 get insight on generating great story ideas from teacher and young adult author Rachele Alpine. Learn prompts, exercises and tips to help bring your ideas to life. 6:30-8:30 p.m. The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby. Cost: \$24. Call 440-951-7500 or log on to www.fineartsassociation.org to register and for further information.

OCTOBER 20
Mysteries of the Manor Trail 6:30pm - 8:30pm Wildwood Cultural Center & Park, 7645 Little Mountain Rd, Mentor. This family-friendly event will features a DJ, games, pumpkin painting, pumpkin hunt, refreshments and a bonfire! We'll provide apple cider, donuts and glow sticks for the kids. Kettle corn will also be available for sale.

The highlight of the evening is the hayride which will wind its way through the 34 acre estate's trails. No strollers permitted on the hayride. For more information

or to register, call the Wildwood Cultural Center at (440) 974-5735 or visit cityof-mentor.com. Preregistration required.

OCTOBER 21
Eastlake North High School Craft Show Eastlake North High School, 3404 Stevens Boulevard - Eastlake. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Crafters! Vendors! Baked Goods! Concessions! 50/50 Raffle! Stop by to see what's new this year! Sponsored by Class of 2018 Safe & Sober Afterprom. www.weschools.org/northhighschool

OCTOBER 21
Ohio Hauntings Join us at Barnes and Noble Booksellers in Mentor for a spooky and fun family event! Hear eerie tales, create a ghostly craft and meet Ohio authors Theresa Argie, John Kachuba, Cathi Weber and James Willis. You will learn the scary secrets behind their true stories. The authors will also sign and sell their books. Registration is not required. Saturday, October 21, 1-5 pm Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Mentor

OCTOBER 25
Halloween Roller Skating Party Mentor Skateland 5615 Andrews Road - Mentor 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm You are invited to a Spooktacular Roller Skating Halloween Party. Skater's admission \$5.00, Rental \$3.00. Wear your costume. Play games. Fun for all ages. www.mentor-skateland.com

OCTOBER 28
Family Halloween Skate Sat, October 28, 1:30pm - 3:30pm Mentor Civic Ice Arena, 8600 Munson Rd, Mentor. Bring the kids in costume to this family-friendly fun event!

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 Preschool, School-Age
 Madison
 440.428.5125

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

PERRY CHILD CARE CENTER
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 School-Age Perry
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Nature's Artistry

By Tom Koritansky, Lake Metroparks Natural Resource Manager

As the days shorten and become colder, nature still has one last spectacular show to put on before taking a break for winter. In the coming weeks, the familiar shades of green cast upon the leaves of trees will be replaced by a palette of colors complete with vibrant yellows and oranges, striking shades of red and subtle browns. Deciduous trees lose their leaves during the fall in order to prepare themselves to survive the upcoming cold winter months.

The science behind leaf color change is quite fascinating. Fall is truly a remarkable time to visit the parks, take in some magnificent scenery and watch resident wildlife prepare for the upcoming winter. It is also a great time to appreciate the true complexity of this amazing process that contributes to such beautiful landscapes before the trees enter their winter slumber.

Leaves are an important organ in trees that serve as the location where food and nutrients are produced. Trees produce their own food through a process known as photosynthesis. Photosynthesis takes place within specialized cells called chloroplasts that contain chlorophyll giving leaves their green color and allowing energy from the sun to be absorbed. Energy from the sun is used in photosynthesis to transform water and carbon dioxide into sugars that trees use as their primary food source. Oxygen is also produced as a byproduct of photosynthesis and is released back into the atmosphere (trees are largely responsible for the oxygen present in the atmosphere). During the spring and summer when temperatures are warm, days are long and soil moisture is plentiful, trees actively undergo photosynthesis. When conditions can no longer support photosynthesis after summer ends, temperatures cool and day lengths shorten, trees must prepare to survive the upcoming cold winter months.

Deciduous trees enter senescence, or the period that leaves stop functioning, in response to changes in day length and temperature. Shorter days and cooler temperatures signal trees to stop producing auxin, a key plant growth hormone. One of the functions of auxin is to con-

trol a special layer of cells at the base of leaves known as the abscission layer. When auxin is produced during the growing season, cells in this layer are prevented from growing; however, when auxin production is stopped in the fall, the cells of the abscission layer grow and cutoff the flow of water and nutrients to the leaves.

Other pigments are also found in leaves during the growing season but are masked because of the green pigmentation from chlorophyll. After the abscission layer develops, chlorophyll breaks down and these other pigments become visible creating tapestries of color. Carotenes and xanthophyll cast leaves in hues of yellow and orange. Anthocyanin, produced during the late summer and fall, transforms leaves into vibrant shades of red and purple. The amount of anthocyanin produced depends on the amount of sunlight exposed to the leaves during senescence. Greater sun exposure produces more anthocyanin increasing the redness of leaves. Anthocyanin combined with carotene produces showy expressions of orange and crimson. If some chlorophyll remains in leaves after senescence with high amounts of anthocyanin, they will appear brown. Late into autumn once most of the leaves have fallen, these colorful pigments will decompose leaving behind only tannins that also appear brown.

The forests of Lake Metroparks offer visitors a great sample of this marvelous show produced by our trees. Visitors to forests rich in sugar and red maple like those at Girdled Road Reservation will certainly not be disappointed by the variety of color possible. Spectacular scenery at Indian Point Park, complete with some truly stunning large oaks, maples and hemlocks, provides a full array of color along a dramatic background overlooking the Grand River. Be sure to watch the weather this fall for just the right time to witness the full extent of fall color. Some of the best fall color is produced when sunlight is abundant and temperatures are low but not freezing throughout the fall. These conditions break down chlorophyll more rapidly and produce the greatest amount of anthocyanin.

Be sure to take a look at our favorite fall hikes to discover your Lake Metroparks in full autumn brilliance.

Chapin Forest Reservation

With a panoramic view of everything from Lake Erie to the Cleveland skyline, the view of fall colors is one of the best overlooks anywhere.

Enter from State Route 306 (Chillicothe Road) and drive to the end of the parkway (pictured right). Lucky Stone Loop Trail (1.5 miles) begins at the cul de sac/Ledges picnic area and takes you to the highest elevations in the park.

Enter from Hobart Road and access Arbor Lane Loop Trail from the parking lot. Hike this gravel trail until it intersects with Lucky Stone Loop; hike to the overlook and enjoy the panoramic view described above.

Lake Erie Bluffs

Enter through Lane Road or Clark Road.

Lake Erie Bluffs features the natural wonder of Lake Erie in Lake County's front yard. In addition to the more than three miles of trails, a 50-foot coastal observation tower overlooks the lakeshore with multiple viewing platforms along a staircase that culminates in a deck featuring 360-degree views. The height and location of the tower provide visitors with a unique view of the lake and the surrounding woods, fields and wetlands, along with a variety of wildlife.

Hogback Ridge Park

Enter from Emerson Road

Few areas of this park offer the viewing vistas of some of the other parks, but here you walk through the colors. From the start of the Hemlock Ridge Loop Trail to the finish, fall colors will surround and envelope you. Come on a sunny day when the yellow leaves are at peak color and everything in the forest takes on a yellow glow.

Hidden Valley Park

Enter from Klasen Road

Take the River Breeze Trail; this riverside trail has excellent views of the forested hillside on the opposite bank. The display of colors never ends along the entire half-mile trail.

Indian Point Park

Enter from the upper parking lot on Seeley Road. Hike one mile along Point Overlook Loop Trail to Lookout Ridge Scenic Trail, which will provide a spectacular view over the Grand River valley and the hillsides will be alive with colorful leaves.

Hell Hollow Wilderness Area

Enter from Leroy Center Road

Walk Beech Ridge Loop Trail (0.5 mile) to a stunning overlook of the Paine Creek valley, more than 200 feet below. From this unique view, the breathtaking beauty of the season stretches out before you.

Photo: Indian Point Park canopy by Courtney Kempert