



photo by Jim Woofter

Musician extraordinaire

Summer vacation, life memories

By Sally Lane

Enjoying music comes naturally to people. From the first lullabies we hear as babies, to songs that help us learn our ABCs, march for miles, walk down the aisle at a wedding, or dance all night, music is part of our life.

Creating the music that touches

our souls and makes our spirits soar, is the difficult part. Joe Augustine is one of those chosen few who can create, interpret, and compose the music he performs. More than talent, even more than gifted, Augustine is a master who can take a simple well-known melody, or one he composes, and create just the right blend of harmony and rhythm without ever losing the melody. The listening experience is magical.

People with such high ability in the arts are born with that talent. But sometimes it takes a fateful encounter for that person to realize the gift they have been granted. For Augustine, the revelation was as much a surprise to him as it was for a student teacher at Girard High School.

"At the time, I wasn't even thinking about music. I wanted to play football," said Joe. However, one day he was in the hallway and heard the student teacher practicing some rather complicated chords. He stopped to listen, then asked the teacher if he could try. He played the same chords and tune, and the teacher

See **Augustine** on page 4

By Sally Lane

School doesn't start for another month or so, Little League baseball is over, soccer hasn't started, and there are Christmas movies on TV... in July. However, there is still time to build some wonderful memories. Of course, the ultimate summer activity is usually a trip away from home, but that usually only lasts for a week, or weekend. What to do the rest of the time?

While most or some of us remember days of playing outside until the street lights came on, or pretend camping in a blanket tent swung over a clothesline with corners weighted down with rocks, there were still times when summer got a little boring for us kids. Somehow, we lived through it without a lot of effort from our parents. We suddenly found things to do when Mom suggested that we clean our rooms.

As parents, our kids sometimes moped around, complaining that there was "nothing to do." But there was, and we found lots of somethings. The mothers in our neighborhood would often pack the kids in our cars and head for Farmer Jim's for an afternoon. We

took our kids berry-picking, or to an apple orchard; we went to local festivals, we packed sandwiches and picnicked at Mosquito Lake. We visited historical sites around the county.

One time the older kids organized a neighborhood "Olympics" for the younger ones. There were obstacle courses, three-legged races, water balloon tosses, badminton and volleyball games. The older kids made ribbons for the kids, making sure everyone got one. There were block parties for all the families.

As a grandparent, it is sometimes amusing to see our grown children grappling with the July "doldrums" with their younger school age kids as we sometimes did. We smile even bigger when we see them dig into their favorite summer memories to help their own children get through the downtimes. Of course, kids now have electronic games, but that's not building fantastic

See **Summer** on page 22

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Cortland City

www.cityofcortland.org

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City Hall	330-637-3916	Emergency	911
Fax	330-637-4778	Dispatch	330-675-2730
Clerk of Council	330-638-0142	Police - Business	330-638-1000
Service Director	330-637-4637	Fire - Business	330-637-2891

Meetings

City Council - first and third Monday of each month
 Monday, Aug. 6, 7 p.m.
 Monday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m.

Cortland City Council meeting minutes
 Read the minutes from Cortland City Council meetings at <http://www.cityofcortland.org/> under City Council Minutes.

Parks and Recreation - second Monday of each month
 Monday, Aug. 13, 5 p.m.

Planning & Zoning - second Monday of each month
 Monday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.

Meetings and agenda of Council and Planning meetings area available at www.cityofcortland.org

All meetings are held at City Hall and are open to the public

Cortland City Council Meetings are now on TV

Cortland City Council Meetings are now posted on YouTube. The videos are usually posted no later than the next day after the meeting and can be accessed via a link on the city website or by visiting www.youtube.com and searching "City of Cortland, Ohio"

Bazetta Township

www.bazettatwp.org

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Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector and Cemetery Sexton	330-637-8816	3000 Warren Meadville Rd.	
Road Department	330-637-8311	Non Emergency calls	330-675-2730
Police Department	330-638-5503		

Bazetta Township Trustees Regular Meetings

Regular meetings the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, July 24, 9 a.m. - A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.
 Tuesday, Aug. 14, 7 p.m. - A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings are held at the Township Administration Building unless noted

Lakeview Board of Education Meetings

Regular meetings the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Lakeview High School Media Center, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, Aug. 13, 6 p.m. - Lakeview High School Media Center

Area Service Clubs

Cortland-Bazetta Historical Society and Museum Sally Lane 330-638-2330	Bazetta-Cortland Optimist Club Charlie Harper 330-847-0114
The Opera House Kathy Fleischer 330-219-4884	Cortland Rotary Club Donna Zuga
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Cortland Masonic Lodge #529 330-638-3110	Cortland Opal Chapter #181, O.E.S. Carla Kahler 330-856-2356
Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF) 330-720-9136	

Please contact the Cortland News if you would like your organization listed here.

Our Next Issue....Aug. 11, 2018

Our theme will be Back to School

Article Deadline by July 27 • Display Advertising Deadline is Aug. 1
 Email articles to editor@cortlandnews.net

The mission of the Cortland News is to focus on the positive aspects and events of our community. Our goal is to inspire pride and bring the residents of our community closer to one another by providing accurate, timely and useful information. We hold ourselves to high standards of journalism and strive to be a source of trust for our readers.

Based on the policy of the Cortland News to print positive news about our community, we reserve the right to reject contributed material considered inappropriate. We reserve the right to edit information accepted for publication for accuracy, style, length, spelling, grammar, and clarity.

The Cortland News wishes to present a fair and accurate news report. If you have a concern about anything published, please call our office at 330-565-2637 and leave a message for our Manager or Editor.

Death notices and obituaries will be printed in the Cortland News at the request of the family. Arrangement should be made to have information for death notices and obituaries sent directly to the Cortland News from the funeral home. Space restraints may require some editing. Publication dates for the Cortland News may prohibit an obituary from appearing prior to a funeral or memorial service.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newspaper, the Cortland News cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions

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We do not keep regular office hours but if you leave us a message, we will return your call as soon as possible.

The Cortland News will no longer be accepting any facsimile "fax" documents. Please direct all communications to the following email addresses.

Article submissions to:
editor@cortlandnews.net

Display and classified advertising and photographs to:
sales@cortlandnews.net

The Cortland News is published every three weeks free of charge and mailed via USPS to over 5000 area residents and businesses in Cortland and parts of Bazetta Township.

SCAN TO VISIT CORTLAND NEWS



Community Events

Event Calendar July 21-August 11

- Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules.** See pg. 2 and 7
- Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules** visit www.lakeviewlocal.org.
- American Red Cross blood donations**, various dates. www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-733-2767.
- American Red Cross Swim lessons**, 330-392-2552, various dates.
- Cortland Branch Library events.** See pg. 17
- Johnston Senior Center offers hot meals** Monday through Friday at noon.
- OhioCAN Blessing Bags** project for homeless population, items dropped off at city hall.
- Free guided tours of Geauga County's buildings and grounds** on Saturdays, through Oct. 27 by Geauga County Historical Society.
- Shepherd of the Valley "Stars and Stripes Sock Drive,"** month of July. See pg. 8
- "Being a Victorian: Hygiene History of the 19th Century" exhibit**, Sutliff Museum, second floor of Warren-Trumbull County Public Library, 444 Mahoning Ave., Warren, through August.
- Collection of "The Original S'mores" ornaments display**, Sutliff Museum, second floor of Warren-Trumbull County Public Library, 444 Mahoning Ave., Warren, through August.
- Youngstown Nighthawks Soccer League, Cortland League** schedule, visit www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks

JULY

- 21 **5K on the Runway**, 5K race on runway at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, registration 7 a.m.
- 21 **"Mitch and Cindy's Bluegrass Jamboree,"** Trumbull County Fairgrounds, gates open at 5 p.m.
- 21 **Lounging by the Lake outdoor concert**, Overboard, The Love Boat Band, Mosquito Lake Marina, 1439 state Route 305, Cortland, 5-9 p.m.
- 25 **In the Garden Series "Care of Garden Tools,"** TC Agricultural & Family Education Center, 520 W. Main St., Cortland, 6 p.m.
- 28 **Lounging by the Lake outdoor concert**, Southern Cross, Mosquito Lake Marina, 1439 state Route 305, Cortland, 5-9 p.m.
- 28 **All Saints Community Church trunk sale**, 4530 state Route 46, Cortland, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. See pg. 6
- 28 **6th Annual Mike Hull Memorial Ride for Autism**, registration 11 a.m., Dash Inn, 2716 Mahoning Ave., Youngstown. See pg. 17

AUG.

- 1 **Southington United Methodist Church chicken dinner**, state Routes 305 and 534, 3:30-6 p.m. See pg. 18
- 2-4 **St. William Parish rummage sale**, 5431 Mahoning Ave., Champion, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.-10 a.m.
- 4 **Niles Heritage Day**, Ward-Thomas Museum grounds, 503 Brown St., Niles, noon-5 p.m.
- 4 **Garage sale fundraiser** to benefit League of Women Voters educational fund, 7985 Castlerock Drive, Howland, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. See pg. 12
- 6 **Cortland UMC hosts Cortland Community Band**, side lawn at the Red Brick Church, High Street, 7 p.m. See pg. 16
- 8 **In the Garden Series "Blooming Hydrangeas,"** TC Agricultural & Family Education Center, 520 W. Main St., Cortland, 6 p.m.
- 8 **Cortland Community Band Concert**, Cortland United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.
- 10 **Lounging by the Lake outdoor concert**, "The Voice" finalist Curtis Grimes, Mosquito Lake Marina, 1439 state Route 305, Cortland, 6-8 p.m.
- 10 **OH WOW! 7th Annual Science of Brewing fundraiser**, 11 W. Federal St., Youngstown, 6-9 p.m. See pg. 4
- 11 **Lounging by the Lake outdoor concert**, Rudy & the Professionals, Mosquito Lake Marina, 1439 state Route 305, Cortland, 5-9 p.m.
- 11 **Seeking God's Glory Church rummage sale**, 3217 Surrey Road SE, Warren, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. See pg. 15

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THE ROGER & GLORIA JONES
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OH WOW! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children's Center for Science & Technology is gearing up for its biggest fundraiser of the year. The 7th Annual Science of Brewing is set for Aug. 10 from 6-9 p.m. where 200 guests are expected to attend this adult-only event. Attendees will sip wine, beer and spirits while exploring the exhibits and taking part in MAKE! Workshops geared for the "after hours" crowd. Live entertainment by Spirit of the Bear and an auction will round out the night.

Proceeds will improve OH WOW!'s exhibit floor and programs and subsidize the cost of field trips for schools who might not otherwise be able to afford to offer their students such a crucial hands-on experience.

The event features food and drink from Avalon Downtown, Birdfish Brewing, Inspired Catering by Kravitz, Jackie O's Brewery, L'uva Bella Winery, Modern Methods Brewing Company, Noble Creature Cask House, Paladin Brewing, V2, Vintage Estate Wine & Beer and Youngstown Vodka.

Tickets are available by calling 330-744-5914, by mail or in person at 11 W. Federal St., Youngstown, Ohio 44503 (make checks payable to OH WOW!) or at <http://ohwowkids.org/support/fundraising-events>.

Augustine from page 1

said, "Oh, you play?" Joe replied that he had never played a piano, and the teacher immediately said, "We need to set you up with lessons to learn fingering technique." That moment launched his classical training with Dolores Fitzer, and extensive jazz and compositional training with Gene Rush. He also studied in New York with masters in the jazz field.

After high school, Augustine played professionally six nights a week while earning a degree from Youngstown State University. Over the last 40+ years, he has been performing and teaching Jazz piano nationally and internationally. He has been on the faculty of Akron University and Lake Erie College as the artist-in-residence for about 10 years, conducting classes in Jazz Studies.

For 32 years, the Joe Augustine trio: Joe, Dave Morfan on drums and Jim Rupp on bass, have played weekly at Avalon Inn. He observed that "When people go out to eat, they usually prefer music where the volume allows conversation, but sets a mood. You can tell they are enjoying the music when you see smiles and feet tapping." Augustine is as comfortable performing and adding his signature touch to music from the 1930 and '40s as he is the popular music from the 1960s to the present time. Avalon has recently opened a new area where he performs every Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. It is called Gatsby's at Avalon Inn and Resort.

Over the years, Augustine has produced over 37 CDs including 15 recordings for QRS Pianomation and another five recordings for PianoDisc. He is always writing new music for another CD.



His most recent CD is "Remembering You." He commented, "The coolest thing about this CD is that we have also worked very hard to create song sheets so you can play every song on this CD just like it sounds!" Proceeds from this CD benefit the University of Akron's School of Music. To purchase the CD or paperback book "Remembering You," please send all inquiries to: concerts@uakron.edu or visit Augustine's website: joeaugustine.com.

In 1995, he was named to the Steinway & Sons International Artist Roster. It is a life-long honor. Just over 1,000 artists in the world have been named to the roster in its 170+ year history. It includes such immortals as Irving Berlin, Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Cole Porter, and current leading stars such as Van Cliburn, Billy Joel, Herbie Hancock,

Peter Nero, Billy Taylor and Roger Williams and more. Whether their music is classical, jazz, popular, religious or new age, the common thread is their belief in the Steinway piano as a piano that will allow them to express themselves as no other instrument can. "The House of Steinway deeply values the artistry of Joe Augustine and is committed to assisting him in his performance and recording activities throughout the world," says the award.

The good news for us is while Joe Augustine could live and work any place in the world, he prefers the Warren-Youngstown area. "I love the people here. They are real down-to-earth people, good people and friends. It is home."



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Veterans Memorial Committee receiving donations of household items

The public can now donate their furniture and other household furnishings to benefit the Cortland Veterans Memorial Project. Arrangements have been made with Patti Keller of Furniture Décor & More consignment store, 212 North High St. in Cortland, to receive and sell any donated items.

Anyone wishing to donate their items to the memorial project can take them to the store location and mention

that the items are being donated to the Cortland Veterans Memorial project. This arrangement, to accept furniture pieces and other household items, is in effect until Oct. 1. If it proves to be successful, this program may be extended through the end of this year, and possibly beyond.

Anyone with questions about the items that will be accepted are asked to contact the consignment store at 234-244-4206.

Music 101 float wins 1st place in Cortland Street Fair



Music 101 won first place in the Cortland Street Fair Parade contest with its "It's Play-time" float with a theme of a half-time show. The float featured a group of young musicians and helpers making great music and distributing candy. The group was powered by a beautiful red chariot provided by Greenwood Hubbard Chevrolet and Mick Robinson.

The first place award money of \$150, awarded by the Cortland Lions Street Fair Board, will go towards the Russell S. Girts Memorial Music Scholarship fund. To make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund, make a check payable to: Cincinnati Scholarship Foundation - memo "Russell S. Girt Memorial Music Scholarship Fund," C.S.F., 602 Main St., Suite 1000, Cincinnati, OH 45202 or visit www.cincinnati-scholarship-foundation.org/make-a-donation, Russell S Girt Memorial Music Scholarship fund, by name, on "in memory of" box online.

Child and Family Solutions joins Pediatrician Dr. Lynn Johnson for anniversary



Dr. Lynn Johnson of Cortland recently celebrated the 10 year anniversary of her practice this year. An open house was held on June 29. Parents were able to meet Dr. Johnson and representatives from Child and Family Solutions to learn more about how they can help families, bounce back from physical, emotional and behavioral health issues. The festivities included balloon animals, cookies from Donny's Cookie Jar and giveaways.



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Quilter's Fancy part of free program to teach children to sew

Six-year-old Ayrabella Smith of Cortland hopped into Quilter's Fancy recently smiling and peaking around the bolts of fabric happily. She had just turned 6 and had been waiting anxiously to be a part of a free national program where children learn to sew.

The program is Row By Row Junior and it is happening at participating quilt and sewing stores across the country through Oct. 31. Children ages 6 through 14 simply walk through the door of participating quilt and sewing stores with an adult and receive a free pattern to take home and sew with family help.

When Ayrabella brings the quilt project back into Quilter's Fancy, she will receive an "I made this" certificate and a blue ribbon. The first five youngsters to bring in their sewn project will receive a gift certificate to Quilter's Fancy as well.

"This free program is designed to teach young people the joy of creating with their hands and their sewing machines and to learn a skill they can enjoy the rest of their lives," said Cindy Oravec of Quilter's Fancy.

Also this summer other stitchers can be a part of a similar free program for those ages 16 and above called Row By Row. For both programs, this year's theme is "Sew Musical." Each participating shop designs a project with this theme and gives away the free pattern to anyone walking in the door.

Quilter's Fancy designed a carousel

horse pattern. Visitors from all over the country are stopping in at sewing stores to collect the patterns and make the quilt projects. If a stitcher sews eight rows in one quilt and takes the finished quilt into a participating store, they have a chance to win 24 quarter yards of fabric and possibly additional prizes.

Travelers see photos of the different rows and shops participating across the country by going to Row By Row state Facebook pages. Ohio's page is www.facebook.com/OHRowbyRowExperience/

"We had a mother and daughter traveling from Maryland to Montana and planning to stop at 140 quilt shops on their trip to visit grandchildren in Montana this summer. Our quilt store here in Cortland was one of their planned stops," said Oravec. "We are meeting nice people - both adults and children - that love to travel and love to sew this summer."

Quilter's Fancy is having a children's sewing class 2-4 p.m. on Aug. 1. Young people will learn how to tint pumpkin fabric with crayons and then turn their creation into a placemat. Cost is \$12 for the class and all materials. Call Quilter's Fancy at 330-637-3106 to reserve space in the class. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Also a yo-yo hand sewing class for all ages is from 2-4 p.m. on Aug. 8 at the store. Cost is \$10 for class and materials. Call Quilter's Fancy to reserve a place. Quilter's Fancy is located at 225 S. High St., Cortland.

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Business News and Notes

By Thom Foley

So, if you want the best breakfast around (in my humble opinion) then you need to check out **Vasilio's**. In fact, see the coupon they have for FREE coffee or orange juice. I recommend Paul's favorite, "The Ultimate!"

Centerra has STEP 3 on sale - now is the time to add more fertilizer to make your yard extra green.

If your child wants to learn how to play an instrument there is no better place than **Girt's Cortland Music 101**. Right now, they have an unbelievable deal on instrument rentals - starting as low as \$8.95 a month! Check out their Cortland or Fowler store for all of the details

Jody Sova tells us that houses are selling great. If you want a true professional to help you through the buying and/or selling process than you want to "Call Jody."

Did you see the great coupons from **Beef 'O' Brady's**? Check out their ad.

Did you know that **Mark Thomas Ford's** service department has actually won many awards? In fact, the entire dealership has been declared one of the top dealerships in all of America by the FORD Motor Company - a pretty rare feat - and they are right here in our community.

Don't forget **Jeannette's School of Dance** has a Hawaiian Princess Camp July 30 and 31. Meet MOANA!!! The JDC Dance auditions are July 24 and 25. Call them for details.

Did you suffer an injury? No better place to get physical therapy than **Action Physical Therapy**. They can help you recover quickly - and they accept most insurances.

Buckeye Bulk still has plenty of landscaping supplies - they are a year 'round supplier and have some of the best prices anywhere.

Country Porch hosted the annual meeting of the Trumbull County Tourism Board on July 12 to a packed house. Residents and businesses from all over Trumbull County got to see one of Cortland's hidden gems. Be sure to save your seat for the 3rd annual "Paint a Chair in Memory of a Loved One" event on Sunday, Aug. 19. Pre-sale tickets are \$35.

All Saints to hold trunk sale

All Saints Community Church, 4530 state Route 46, Cortland, is holding a trunk sale on Saturday, July 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with set-up at 8 a.m. Space is \$10, with tables \$5 each. Food will be available for purchase. To reserve a space call Amy at 330-984-8596.



By Christine Dorma, administrative assistant

The Splash Pad hours have been extended! It is open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Cortland has a **cardboard recycling bin** located at Willow Park.

Curbside Brush Chipping

Pick-up for the entire city is the week of the fourth Monday. Brush should be placed at the curb no later than the Sunday prior to the week of collection. See the full policy on the city website.

July 23 will be the next brush chipping pick-up date. Please be sure to have the fallen brush set out no later than July 22. Only one pass per street will be made. We appreciate your cooperation in following these rules.

2018 Mosquito Spraying

Mosquito spraying for this year is scheduled on Wednesday evenings.

7 p.m. to midnight

July 25 Aug. 22

Aug. 8 Sept. 5

For effective mosquito control, it must not be raining, the winds need to be between 5 to 10 miles per hour and the temperature above 50 degrees. If the proper conditions are not present, the spraying will be cancelled and a make-up date will be scheduled the following evening.

2018 Annual Resurfacing

This year's project will be resurfacing the following streets: Wakefield (between Lakeview and Argali), Hillman, Natale, Corriedale, Cricklewood, Cheviot, Argali and Karakul and Deer Creek Trail from state Route 305 to the bend.

Zoning Permits

Please remember to get a zoning permit before you begin if you plan to add a shed, deck, pool, fence or similar project this year. Permits for accessory use are only \$25 and this ensures that your project complies with the city's zoning requirements.

You can find many "Frequently Asked Questions" about zoning on the city website under the Zoning and Development tab.

Dates to Remember

Aug. 6 - Council Meeting - 7 p.m.

Aug. 13 - Parks Meeting - 5 p.m.

Aug. 13 - Planning & Zoning Meeting 7 p.m.

Aug. 20 - Council Meeting - 7 p.m.

Stay cool and enjoy the summer!

Local woman chosen as future long term care leader

The Ohio Health Care Association (OHCA) announced that Sherry Rinck, licensed administrator and Qualified Disabilities professional at Boyd's Kinsman Home, Kinsman, has been chosen by the American Health Care Association and the National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) as a future leader in long term health care. Rinck will join the Association's Future Leaders program, a year-long program that offers training and guidance for health professionals.

"At AHCA/NCAL we are always searching for the future leaders of our profession. After a thorough review, we have selected Sherry Rinck as one of our future leaders," said Mark Parkinson, president & CEO AHCA/NCAL. "Sherry has already made a positive impact on the lives of older people in their community and we are excited to be a part of their future."

"Sherry will fill an important role at AHCA/NCAL as both an experienced professional and as a leader in the intellectual and developmental disabilities communities," said Peter Van Runkle, OHCA executive director. "As a member and current chair of

the Ohio Centers for Intellectual Disabilities (OCID), she has represented our ID-DD providers in the state and in Washington."

Rinck has formally worked in the ID/DD field for 13 years; her experience, however, has a lifetime of growth. She is the third generation to run Boyd's Kinsman Home, an ICF-ID in Trumbull County. Growing up seven days a week around the residents, as a child getting on and off the school bus at Boyd's, playing and eating with the residents (many of whom still live there today), taught her life experiences that grew a desire to serve those with ID/DD with the proper love, care and respect that everyone deserves.

As a long-time member of OHCA/OCID, Rinck says she appreciates the opportunity and educational value in attending various conferences and networking with others. She has also participated in AHCA conferences and events in Washington, D.C. where, with other AHCA members, has advocated numerous members of Ohio's congressional offices for the future of Ohio's ID-DD services and funding.

SCOPE Senior Services receives HealthPath grant

By Mike Wilson, SCOPE Senior Services Director

SCOPE Senior Services is a recipient of the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio's 2018 Community Connectors grant of \$7,500. The grant will support SCOPE's Traveling Pantry Food Truck project that delivers free groceries to homebound and shut-in seniors throughout Trumbull County. The HealthPath grant judges were very happy since SCOPE delivers in the food desert areas of Warren and southern Trumbull County. Food deserts are designated by the USDA as areas where there is no close access to grocery stores or fresh produce or meats.

SCOPE Senior Services, a program of Family and Community Services Inc., has operated the food truck with community partners, the Warren Family Mission, Vantage Aging and Second Harvest Food Bank for three years and serve approximately 220 individuals with free grocery deliveries every two weeks.

HealthPath Foundation of Ohio

is headquartered in Cincinnati and provides funding to nonprofits who work on healthy Ohioans, safe elders and children's health projects. Since the community connections program began in 2012, HealthPath has awarded more than \$1.45 million through 176 grants over that six year period to organizations across Ohio.

"We recognize that changes in health and healthy behaviors depend on solutions built upon the strengths and needs of individuals living in the community," said Eric Dewald, president of HealthPath. "The Community Connections initiative was designed to do just that, and we are proud to partner with exemplary nonprofit organizations such as SCOPE Senior Services to help all Ohioans reach their fullest health potential."

Seniors can call SCOPE for more information regarding the Traveling Pantry free groceries project at 330-399-8846 or email mwilson@fcsOhio.org.



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Veterans Memorial Committee holding Buckeye basket raffles

To benefit the Cortland Veterans Memorial Project, the committee is having an OSU Buckeyes basket raffles. Only 500 tickets will be sold. The winner will receive two party tub baskets filled with 30 Buckeye items including tickets to the OSU vs. Rutgers football game on Sept. 8.

Among the Buckeye items are a handmade blanket/throw, autographed player photos, a bean bag (corn hole) yard game, a football for autographs, oven mitt, seat cushion, license plate frame, garden stone, wall clock, 12-can cooler, Tervis tumbler, hat, water bottle, money clip and a CD of the OSU marching band.

Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at Cortland Mower or from any committee volunteer or by calling Ernie Stewart at 321-514-8350 or Ian McAleer at 330-891-9486. Tickets will also be on sale at the Truck and Jeep Show, sponsored by the committee, scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Cortland. For more information about this free family event, contact Bob Woolfer at 330-442-9669.




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Fundraiser for Bazetta 5-year-old with leukemia

There will be a golf outing fundraiser on Sept. 15 to raise money for Aiden Elder, a 5-year-old Bazetta resident who is battling leukemia. He is the son of Courtney Callahan Elder and Aaron Elder. Aiden is the grandson of Mitch and Jeannette Callahan of Bazetta and Lori and Ed Elder of Howland. He will be a kindergarten student at Lakeview Elementary School this fall.

In April of 2017, Aiden was diagnosed with T-cell all leukemia. He is just into his second year of a three and one half year battle with the disease. All money raised will go to help support Aiden's fight.

The golf outing will be held at Pine Lakes Golf Course in Hubbard at 9 a.m. on Sept. 15. The committee is looking for \$100 corporate hole sponsors, gift baskets, donations and checks. Make checks out to Aiden's Benefit Fund, 9114 Chalfonte Dr., Warren, Ohio 44484. Anyone wishing to donate directly to Aiden's fight, can also go to Farmer's Bank and make a direct deposit into the Aiden Benefit Fund account. For more information contact Ed Elder at 330-883-0343, Tom Elder at 330-719-8042 or Bill Dolan at 330-553-9046.

Aiden and his entire family truly thank you for all of your support.



Shepherd of the Valley collecting socks to help veterans

During the month of July, Shepherd of the Valley is collecting white, cotton socks for veterans in need. Shepherd of the Valley is holding its first "Stars and Stripes Sock Drive" to benefit local veterans. The collected socks will be given to the Trumbull County Council of the American Legion to distribute to veteran men and women in local nursing facilities and veterans clinics.

Men's and women's socks can be dropped off at any Shepherd of the Valley community between 8:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily. Drop-off hours for the corporate offices are 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

- Boardman: 7148 West Blvd., Boardman; 330-726-9061
- Howland: 4100 North River Road NE, Warren; 330-856-9232
- Niles: 1500 McKinley Ave., Niles; 330-544-0771
- Poland: 301 W. Western Reserve Road, Poland; 330-726-7110
- Corporate Office/ At Home With Shepherd: 5525 Silica Road, Austintown; 330-530-4038

For more information, contact Danielle Procopio at 330-530-4038, ext. 2057 or by email dprocopio@shepherdofthevalley.com.



By Kathleen Ferris, Master Gardener

*A tisket, a tasket
A green and yellow basket*

Remember that old nursery rhyme? Well my basket is full of herbs and is going to the Trumbull County Fair flower show. One category under herbs caught my interest this year, "Artistically Arranged," thus my basket of herbs. I am using the tried and true mantra of all container gardeners in filling my basket: fillers, spillers and thrillers.

I've mossed the sides of a 14" wicker basket with a handle using Oregon green moss and covered the bottom with a piece of coconut fiber cut from an old liner. The center plant, my thriller, is Curry. Helichrysum italicum likes full sun, blooms in summer and grows 24" tall. Curry has narrow, silver colored, curly, scented foliage providing attractive contrast plus bright yellow flowers in summer. Alas this is not the curry or masala used in India, but used more for potpourris and in medicinal oils. It is an annual in our growing zone.

Corsican Mint is a natural spiller and a perennial ground cover for full sun. Mentha requienii is one of the smallest in the mint family with tiny mauve flowers in July and August. It can be used as a steppable between stepping stones as it can take some abuse, a pest repellent in the garden and is most famous as the flavoring in crème de menthe.

Another spiller in my basket of herbs is Caraway. Carum carvi is a biennial herb growing to 24" in the second year. In the second year, flat, umbrella-like clusters of white flowers appear in mid-summer and ripen into seeds - then the plant dies. The foliage is delicate and lacy like that of carrots. The flavorful seeds are prized for pickles, sauerkraut, rye bread, cheese spreads, soups and meat dishes. Young fresh leaves add zest to salads.

Fillers for my herb basket are Sorrel and Eucalyptus. Rumex sanguineus is a common perennial grown in many herb gardens. Red sorrel is a foliage plant grown for its rosettes of light green leaves accented with bold maroon veining. Young fresh leaves can be blended with other salad greens for an attractive salad presentation. It is also a great edging plant in the garden. My other filler is Eucalyptus adding fragrant blue-gray foliage to the arrangement plus a different leaf shape and texture. A great aromatic herb, the stems with a lovely small, silvery leaf can be used both fresh or dried in arrangements. Popular culinary uses include infused butter, sauces and herbal jelly.

The final plant is lemon mint. The aromatic and flavorful leaves are great fresh or dried in food or beverages. Lemon mint grows to 36" but can be trimmed and used as a filler or a spiller.

While most herbs are sun lovers, benefiting from about eight hours of sun each day, in the garden their roots are insulated from over-heating because the plant leaves shade the soil in which their roots are growing. Containers do not always provide this same insulation from the heat and drying air. A simple way to minimize this danger is to place your container-planted herbs where they will receive shade during the hottest part of the day.

I have varied my plants, used colored leaves and texture for interest, included aromatics and the curry is in bloom. Hope the judge like what he/she sees. Let you know next column.

Happy gardening!
Kathleen Ferris is a Trumbull County Ohio State Extension Master Gardener and a Cortland resident.

Avalon 3 on 3 champions



The winners of the 2018 Avalon 3 on 3 league was the team of Nosich for Judge. Shown are front row M.J. Nosich. Back row from left: Keith Black, Chad Powell, Marty Nosich, Bob Naples and Chuck Williams III.

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Summer outing with Travel Club

The Trumbull County Travel Club is planning a one-day outing to the Zanesville area for Wednesday, Aug. 15. The public is invited to join them on the "Longhorn Tour," which includes close-up viewing of BlueLingo, Texas Longhorn and African Watusi cattle herds. Cow candy will be available to feed the cattle before the gang heads to Chowin' with the Cows, classic country buffet included on the ranch. Three stops after lunch include the John and Annie Glenn Museum, the potato chip factory and Harry London Chocolate store. Call 330-856-5398 for price and details on pick-up site for this trip. There are only 10 seats remaining with final payment due by July 26.

The Travel Club is open to any person over the age of 21 interested in traveling by motor coach, train or plane. Two trips remain on the 2018 schedule. The first is a six-day trip to Boston, Cape May and southern New England from Oct. 8 through 13. The second trip is a one-day excursion to Columbiana County to see

the luncheon, live show of "Indiana Smith and the Mummy's Curse." There will be shopping time allotted on this outing.

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Many people will encounter a legal situation at some point in their lives and family matters are among the most common cases to make it through the justice system. According to the Ohio Courts Statistical Report, more than 140,000 cases made it to Ohio domestic relations courts in 2016. Divorce, dissolutions and custody matters are just a few legal matters in which having a dedicated attorney could make a world of difference.

How an Attorney Can Help
 Family law attorneys help their clients make some of the most important decisions of their lives. In these types of cases, children, property, income and the ability to pay basic expenses are often affected for years to come. In Ohio, there are numerous statutes regarding children, property and spousal support and a family attorney has read them and can answer questions on topics like custody, shared parenting and retirement benefits, which are often marital property. An attorney will also be able to recommend action appropriate for individual circumstances.

The Risks of Representing Yourself

The risks of navigating legal matters alone are numerous. Court orders and divorce decrees are often final and without an expert to explain all of your rights, it can be hard to get the full picture or to understand how these decisions will affect your life in the future.

Many people who choose to represent themselves try to find forms online. But if these forms are not from an Ohio court or attorney, they may not be valid in the state. Additionally, most of the forms that are acquired directly from the courts don't come with instructions and court staff are unable to provide legal advice.

Attorneys are for Everyone

Attorneys are not only for the rich and everyone has the right to access the justice system. Many people who choose to represent themselves

can end up paying more in the long run. Regional Legal Aid offices also offer legal assistance to low-income individuals. (Visit OhioLegalAid.org to find a local Legal Aid office and apply for assistance.)

Think of your attorney as a skilled negotiator who is trained to get the best outcome for you, their client. Some attorneys accept payment plans and credit cards and all attorneys are required to be up front and clear about payment. In most cases, your attorney will offer you a written, explicit fee agreement and go over it with you.

If you are on the fence about hiring an attorney for any legal matter, consider what effect your case will have on the rest of your life if the matter does not go your way. It may be helpful to consider what you would pay your physician to protect and restore your or your child's health, or what you paid your real estate agent when you bought your home. Deciding to hire an attorney is deciding to be informed and to have an advocate who protects your rights and your property.

How to Find an Attorney

Many people find an attorney through a referral from a friend or family member who has been through a similar situation. (Just make sure never to ask your friends or family for legal advice.)

You can also search for an attorney online by using the "Find a Lawyer" tool at OhioBar.org. There, you can also find a list of Ohio State Bar Association certified specialist attorneys. This list is in alphabetical order, so look for attorneys in your area.

This "Law You Can Use" consumer information column was provided by the Ohio State Bar Association.

Articles appearing in this column are intended to provide broad, general information about the law. This article is not intended to be legal advice. Before applying this information to a specific legal problem, readers are urged to seek advice from a licensed attorney.

The history of the Ravenna Arsenal presentation

Back by popular demand! The Johnston Senior Center is excited to announce the return of Ralph Pfingsten, author of "The History of the Ravenna Arsenal." This program will be on Wednesday, Aug. 15 at 10:30 a.m. Pfingsten will discuss the Ravenna Arsenal and the mysteries behind it. "The History of the Ravenna Arsenal" includes comprehensive history of

the Ravenna Arsenal inception to its present uses. The book features more than 900 photographs and drawings and will be available for purchase. You must RSVP for this event since space is limited. Call the Johnston Senior Center at 330-924-0412 to make a reservation. There will be refreshments available. The Johnston Senior Center is located at 5922 Warren Road, Cortland.

Local drag racer having strong start

Local drag racer, M. Andrew Franko, is off to a great start this racing season. At age 17, he is competing in the points program at Thompson Raceway Park, which began Saturday, June 16. Andrew advanced to the 10:90 index for the 2018 season after running the 11:50 last year. Starting the season off right, he won a gamblers race at Thompson Raceway Park (Thompson, Ohio) in May. This was the first race Andrew had run since ending the 2017 season as Rookie of the Year for the Renegade Racing Association.

The 10:90 index is stacked with experienced and skilled competitors that will bring Andrew a very challenging season. Index racing programs are scheduled at Dragway 42 in West Salem and Quaker City Speedway in Salem in addition to the program at Thompson, and Andrew has plans to participate in all of the programs.

Andrew began the 2017 racing season as the youngest driver to become a member of the RRA. Leaving the Teen Championship Racing league behind (Quaker City Raceway Park, Salem), he moved up to take on the adult crowd of skilled, seasoned drivers with the Renegades.

To compete in the RRA 11:50 index, Andrew's dad and coach, Mark Franko, took him from his '88 Monte Carlo and into an '81 Malibu that required new skills and had all the complexities of a full race car. For Andrew, this meant moving away from traditional foot braking at the starting light to using a trans-brake system and from automatic transmission to manual shifting all while getting the feel of a different, faster car.

Taking on all of these challenges, Andrew finished 5th overall from a grouping of 26 drivers in the index. Qualifying twice in the #1 position, earned him additional recognition at the RRA awards banquet in Geneva on Jan. 27.

The 2017 RRA season ended with the Battle for the Benjamins, a final race that brings the top eight point competitors from the indexes together for a run off race with a grand prize of \$1,000. In record setting style, Andrew, the youngest driver to ever compete in the race, won the 11:50 position to take on the winner of the 10:50 index. When the lights came down, Andrew's lightning quick reaction time paired with his driving skills gave him the winning package setting the record as the youngest driver to win the Battle for the Benjamins.

Overall, the 2017 season was one for the record books:

- 2017 youngest RRA member
- 2017 5th Place Overall 11:50 Index
- 2017 2-time #1 Qualifier
- 2017 Battle of the Benjamins winner
- 2017 Rookie of the Year

Andrew will be attending the University of Northwestern Ohio in Lima, Ohio, where he will pursue a degree in High Performance Motorsports Technology and audition for a driver's position for the school's drag race team. UNOH is known for its racing programs and successfully places graduates with professional racing teams, which is Andrew's ultimate goal.

'The Wall' honoring Vietnam veterans coming to Warren

In conjunction with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, the Warren Heritage Center and Trumbull County Veterans Services are bringing "The Wall" to Packard Park in Warren from Aug. 16 to 19. The wall is a ¾ scale replica of the Washington D.C. Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The Wall That Heals and its accompanying Mobile Education Center will be open 24 hours a day starting Aug. 16 after the 11 a.m. opening ceremony through the noon closing ceremony on the Aug. 19 and is a free public event. The display honors the more than 3 million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and bears the names of more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

Warren will be the only Ohio stop out of 38 sites chosen for the VVMF 2018 National Tour. The 375-foot exhibit stands 7 ½ feet tall at its highest point and visitors will be able to make name rubbings of individual service members. The 53-foot Mobile Education Center includes digital photo displays of "Hometown Heroes," area service members whose names are on The Wall, the In Memory program honoring Vietnam Veterans who returned home and died as a result of their service and video displays that teach the history

and impact of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The schedule is:

Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2 p.m.: The Wall and local Honor Escort depart Quaker Steak & Lube, Austintown, and travel through downtown Warren (ETA 2:30 p.m.) to Packard Park.

Thursday, Aug. 16, 11 a.m.: opening ceremony with Welcome Home Dedication. The Welcome Home Dedication will have Congressman Tim Ryan presenting Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pins to any living U.S. veteran in attendance who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, regardless of location, from Nov. 1, 1955 to April 30, 1975. These individuals represent over seven million living Vietnam veterans and nine million families of those that served.

Saturday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m.: Women on the Wall and Purple Heart events.

Sunday, Aug. 19, noon: Closing ceremony with the Laying of the Roses and recognition of POW/MIA and Gold Star Families.

Free on-site parking is available at Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren.

For volunteer or donation information to help bring The Wall to Ohio call Jim Valesky at 330-507-8831 or email warrenheritage@aol.com.

St. John's planning annual fest

Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Warren will host its Second Annual St. John's Fest on Saturday, Sept. 29. The event will take place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Come and enjoy ethnic foods and homemade sausage, a

bake sale, live entertainment, Orthodox vendors, church tours and games for kids. St. John's is located at 2220 Reeves Road NE in Warren. See the parish website: www.stjohnswarren.com for more information or call 330-372-3895.

League of Women Voters installs new officers



The League of Women Voters of Trumbull County held its annual meeting and installed its 2018-2019 officers. Pictured in first row are from left, Kirsten Burkey, second vice-president; Mary Hoke, first vice-president; and Peggy Boyd, president. In the second row are Pam Hallett, treasurer and Sandy Mahaffey, secretary.

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Fire Prevention & Safety Tips



By David Rea, Fire Chief, Cortland Fire Department

Summer is upon us and with that we need to keep some things in mind so that we can all enjoy the great outdoors. Here are some summer weather safety tips and summer weather hazards brought to us by the National Weather Service.

Tornadoes

- Winds from tornadoes can exceed 200 mph. Flying debris is most dangerous. Seek a sturdy shelter in an interior room away from windows on the lowest floor and cover your head.

Thunderstorms

- Severe thunderstorms produce strong wind and/or large hail. Take shelter in a sturdy structure away from windows. A vehicle is also a safe location when there is no other nearby shelter. Conditions can change rapidly with thunderstorms nearby or overhead. Don't second-guess how a thunderstorm will evolve, and take shelter before the storm and remain there through an all-clear signal from the NWS.

- Strong wind gusts from thunderstorms can create dust storms. Dust storms can reduce visibility and make travel difficult. If travelling, prepare to reduce speed and pull over to the side of the road.

Lightning

- Thunderstorms produce lightning. Lightning kills an average of 30 people every year. Take shelter inside a sturdy structure, or a vehicle is also a safe location if nothing else is available.

Flooding

- Flooding is often caused by heavy rain in the summer. More than half of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related. Obey road signs and never drive through flood waters!!

Extreme Heat

- Heat and humidity take a toll on the body. Know the signs of heat illness. Reschedule outdoor work and strenuous activities until the coolest time of the day. Sunburn and heat illness can be avoided. Apply and reapply sunscreen to protect your skin from sunburn. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water.

- We must also take care to ensure our furred population is protected for the heat as well. We must remember that they can't sweat to dissipate the heat. Hot surfaces affect them as they would you. They need hydrated as much as you, so provide plenty of water. And when you have had enough sun/heat so have they.

Air Quality

- Smoke from wildfires can travel thousands of miles and cause

1 Tornado Warning
Tornado expected! Seek shelter. A tornado is occurring or will shortly at this location on the map.

2 Tornado Watch
Tornado possible. Be prepared. Weather conditions favor thunderstorms capable of producing tornadoes at this location on the map.

Wireless Emergency Alert

Emergency Alert
Tornado warning for this area until 815 pm. Take shelter immediately. Check local media. - NWS

1 Severe Thunderstorm Warning
Severe storms expected! Seek shelter. Large hail or damaging wind is occurring or will shortly at this location on the map.

2 Severe Thunderstorm Watch
Severe storms possible. Be prepared. Weather conditions favor thunderstorms capable of producing large hail or damaging wind at this location on the map.

1 Excessive Heat Warning
Excessive Heat Expected! Take Action. Confidence is high that extremely hot weather will cause significant stress on the people and animals unless precautionary measures are taken. Avoid direct sunlight, drink plenty of fluids, and find a cool indoor place is possible.

2 Excessive Heat Watch
Excessive Heat Possible. Be Prepared. Confidence is medium that extremely hot weather will develop across the region. Have a plan in place to avoid strenuous activity during the warmest parts of the day. Make sure children, elderly, and pets are taken care of in case extreme heat develops.

poor air quality. Keep door and windows closed to reduce infiltration into your home. Exhaust from vehicles is another source of air pollution. Harmful buildup of ground-level ozone can enhance health problems such as asthma. Limit strenuous outdoor activity on days with poor air quality.

In addition, it is a good idea to have a severe weather plan at home and work. Get in the habit of practicing this plan with your coworkers and family. Make a communications plan so you can stay in contact with loved ones. Keep in mind that during severe weather events cellular phone systems can become overwhelmed and usage can be difficult. With a little planning and observing the warnings/watches issued by the National Weather Service you and your pets can have a safe and enjoyable summer.

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Fundraiser garage sale to benefit League of Women Voters

There will be a garage sale fundraiser held at 7985 Castlerock Drive in Howland on Saturday, Aug. 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monies raised will be placed in the League of Women Voters educational fund to be used for projects the LWV does throughout the year. A bake sale will

be on site with free coffee to all who come. Come and browse and meet the ladies of the LWV. Membership information will be available during the garage sale. Invitations to Women's Equality Day, held at the Women's Park in Warren, will be posted for this Aug. 26.

5 fun, educational summer activities for kids

(Family Features) Summer may be a break from formal education, but keeping kids excited about learning can be an easy way to keep them active and engaged instead of zoned out on screen time.

The National Summer Learning Association estimates that kids can lose up to two months of learning during the summer but involving kids in educational summer activities can prevent them from forgetting skills they learned during the school year.

Encourage your kids to keep learning outside of school with these fun and educational summer activities.

Visit a Science Museum

Spend a rainy day enjoying a science museum, which offers hands-on experiences to make learning fun. Kids can build on what they've already learned and apply new discoveries when they return to school in the fall. Many museums offer special prices for families, which makes it an opportunity for the whole family to bond. Once you get home, talk about favorite exhibits or lessons and ask kids to express those memories on paper in the form of a journal entry or colorful drawing.

Head to the Zoo or Aquarium

At a conservation-oriented destination like an Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited zoo or aquarium, kids can learn about the importance of environmentally friendly practices, animal care and welfare and more. Families can also explore the unique challenges facing endangered species and discover how members are Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE). After learning about animals that need help, kids can visit zebrapen.com/aza for fun games that reinforce what they learned. Kids can also draw their favorite animals, real or imaginary, and take a photo to enter Zebra Pen's AZA SAFE contest. Prizes include zoo or aquarium tickets and items from the Zensations product line.

Go on a Nature Hike

Hikes provide abundant nature lessons, giving kids a chance to get some exercise while exploring and appreciating their surroundings. Visit a national or local park to get some fresh air and learn about preserving nature. Along with a picnic lunch, bring along information about local wildlife and plants, and have kids search for each item on the list as a scavenger hunt. Back at home, test their memories by having them create a collage of all the things they found.

See a Show at a Children's Theater

Experiencing live theater is a positive way to introduce kids to new cultural experiences. Because they're typically short in run time, most shows can hold the attention of kids of all ages while conveying important life lessons. Pick a show with lots of interaction that can allow kids to stay focused and maybe even participate in the show. Acting out their favorite scenes, illustrating favorite characters or writing a new scene or different ending are all ways to keep the learning going after the curtains close.

Join a Library Program

Special summer programs at libraries can give kids a chance to enhance their reading skills. Many local libraries offer contests that challenge

kids to read a certain number of books during the summer and include a series of incentives for reaching certain milestones. The reading component is often supplemented with crafts and activities to make reading fun. Extend the challenge even further by choosing a favorite book and asking kids to write or draw a sequel that takes those characters on another exciting adventure.

Capture Life's Moments

In addition to getting out and exploring new things, encourage daily writing, coloring and expression by asking kids to creatively capture their summer experiences. Teaching kids to write and draw about things they find fun is a great way to reinforce what they've learned and foster a love for writing.

Letting kids get creative begins with the right supplies. For example, Zebra Cadoodles and Starters come in different designs to get creativity flowing.

Make summer adventures more memorable by encouraging kids to capture them through these ideas:

1. Write about experiences in a journal or diary.
2. Mom and Dad can join in on the fun by writing or creating their own bullet journals using Zebra Sarasa Fineliners, Mildliners and more. Bullet journals can be perfect for planning summer activities.
3. Take photos to share with friends and family both online and in-person.
4. Draw pictures of the favorite parts of the day. An option like Zebra Zensations Colored Pencils are perfect for writing, coloring, sketching and expressing creativity for every craft and project. They're refillable and triangular-shaped, so they won't fall off the table.
5. Share experiences on social media.
6. Collect drawings, writing entries and photos to create a summer keepsake or scrapbook.

Find more ideas for capturing summer experiences at zebrapen.com.

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Scooter is a 7-year-old domestic shorthair. She was brought to the shelter back in December when her owner could no longer care for her. They had her since she was born. She's lived with other animals her whole life. She was very shy at first, so we put her in a showcase room with other cats and she has come out of her shell! She'd love to be a part of any family! How can you not fall in love with those beautiful green eyes? Her adoption fee is \$35 and includes her spay, vaccinations, FeLV/FIV testing, a microchip with registration and more.

Nellie is a 1 1/2-year-old pit mix. She was found as a stray in Youngstown in February and is a beautiful sandy/white color. We have no clue how she hasn't been adopted yet! Just look at that smile! She has so many things going for her. She loves babies, children and other big dogs however, she is not a fan of cats. She is very nervous when you see her in her kennel, but once she's out, her personality shines! She is a mellow girl and does not jump on you. Her adoption fee is \$150 and includes her spay, vaccinations, heartworm testing, microchip with registration and more.



Shelter hours are Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. Adoptions close at 5:30 p.m. The shelter is closed on Sundays and Mondays. AWL shelter is located at 812 Youngstown Kingsville Road SE in Vienna, across the street from Avalon at Squaw Creek. For more information call 330-539-5300 or visit www.awlrescueme.com.

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Savory summer entertaining

Island infusion for warm-weather festivities

(Family Features) Flavorful foods and cold drinks are the focal points of just about any summer gathering. Create a party atmosphere that can stand out by adding a bit of island infusion to both bites and beverages so your warm-weather soiree can soar to new heights.

To help add that island spark, an ingredient like bitters provides a potent flavor made from botanicals like aromatic herbs, bark, roots and fruit. While known for their ability to balance countless cocktails, it may come as a surprise that bitters are regarded by some chefs as a pantry staple, adding real depth of flavor to a variety of dishes. Bitters can be added to classic and contemporary cocktails and a range of cuisines to create taste-tempting creations.

Much like vanilla extract, when cooked, the alcohol in bitters evaporates, so bitters-infused recipes can be enjoyed by the whole family at your next backyard barbecue or patio party.

Center your spread around a summer favorite like Pulled-Pork Sliders with Bitters, a tangy Caribbean twist on a classic dish featuring a spicy chili rub. Coupled with a vinegar-based sauce dashed with Angostura aromatic bitters, an unmistakable culinary and cocktail essential made with the same secret recipe since 1824, the flavorful sliders make for a crowd-pleasing main course.

Add to the island vibe with a unique take on a tried-and-true sweet treat like cake. Orange Butter Sponge Cake enhances every party's dessert course with the sweet and tangy combination of citrus and bitters.

Whether you're an aspiring home chef, an amateur bartender or anything in between, you can elevate summer entertaining with bitters to complement an array of ingredients for exceptional entertaining all summer long.

Find more summertime food and drink recipes to savor at AngosturaBitters.com.

Pulled-Pork Sliders with Bitters

Servings: approximately 14 small sandwiches

Chili Rub:

- 2 tablespoons Angostura aromatic bitters
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3-3 1/2 pounds boneless pork shoulder roast
- 1 tablespoon cooking oil

Bitters Sauce:

- 1 can (15 ounces) unseasoned tomato sauce
- 1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons Nature's Intent apple cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon Angostura aromatic bitters
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 3 large cloves garlic, chopped
- 1-2 tablespoons cornstarch (optional)
- 14 small slider buns

To make Chili Rub: Stir together aromatic bitters, chili powder and salt; let stand 10 minutes.

Cut pork shoulder across grain into 1 1/2-inch thick slices; trim excess fat. If needed, cut into chunks to remove some fat.

Rub meat with chili mixture. In 8-quart pot or 9-10-inch wide, high-sided saute pan with lid, heat oil. Add meat and brown on both sides, about 15 minutes total. Remove meat and place on plate; keep warm.

To make Bitters Sauce: Combine tomato sauce, brown sugar, apple cider vinegar, aromatic bitters, chili powder and garlic cloves; stir well. Pour into hot, empty pan. Simmer 5 minutes, stirring and scraping bottom of pan.

Return meat to pan; spoon sauce over meat. Cover and cook 1 hour and 15 minutes on low, rearranging meat halfway through cooking. Transfer meat to plate; cover with foil to keep warm.

To thicken sauce, if desired: Let sauce cool in pan 5 minutes then whisk in cornstarch. Bring to boil; continue to cook and whisk until slightly thickened.

To serve: Pull meat apart with two forks or fingers. Serve warm on buns, drizzled with sauce.

Orange Butter Sponge Cake

- 8 ounces butter, plus additional for buttering pan
- 2 cups cake flour, plus additional for flouring pan
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 4 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 tablespoon Angostura orange bitters
- 1 cup freshly squeezed orange juice
- powdered or extra-fine sugar, for dusting

Heat oven to 350 F.

Butter and flour two 9-inch cake pans. Sift flour three times and add baking powder and salt. Set aside.

With electric mixer, cream butter and sugar until light and creamy, about 10 minutes. Add eggs one at a time, beating well between additions. Add vanilla and orange bitters.

Divide flour mixture into four portions. Set electric mixer on medium low and add flour alternately with orange juice, starting and ending with flour. Mix just until incorporated after each addition.

Divide batter evenly between cake pans and bake 35-40 minutes, or until cake pulls away from sides of pans. Remove from oven and cool 5 minutes in cake pans before turning out.



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Identity theft

By Detective John P. Weston, Cortland Police Department

If you find yourself in a position where your identity has been compromised, here are some steps you can follow. Go to the website, www.identitytheft.gov/Steps, which is from the Federal Trade Commission website (www.ftc.gov). Once there you can report your identity fraud and get a recovery plan. The categories lead you through: What To Do Right Away, What To Do Next, Other Possible Steps, Steps For Certain Accounts, and Special Forms of Identity Theft. There is also a separate link at the top right corner of the page if you have been exposed to a data breach.

Contained within the steps is a link to a free credit report. I highly suggest that you only use the credit report link available through the www.ftc.gov website. Other sites offering credit reports can have fees attached or worse. You will find on FTC.gov and Identitytheft.gov websites, the link www.annualcreditreport.com. When you use it, you can see for free, all three reporting bureaus. However, resist looking at all three at once. When you do that you cannot get the report for one more year but if you only look at one every two to three months you can get almost a whole year's coverage to your credit reports.

Also contained within the steps on the Identitytheft.gov site you can follow the directions to put a free 90 day Fraud Alert on all three credit reports. You only

need to put the Fraud Alert on one credit bureau and they are required to notify the other bureaus. You can find sample letters for identity theft that you can send to the credit report bureaus.

We encourage people to speak with their older relatives and coach them not to give out information over the phone unless they personally know the caller on the other end or the older relative called for a particular service or item themselves. This applies to in-person visits as well.

There are a multitude of scams that can get someone to reveal enough information to be able to take their identity. The most recent scams in our area are the phone calls that trick you into thinking it is a relative in trouble. Always ask a personal question that only the relative in question would be able to answer. Also any request for immediate payment by wire transfer or the purchase of gift cards is a major indication that a scam is underway. As I type this article, a lady called to report that she was going to be arrested in three days by the IRS if she did not pay money right away. She recognized that it was a scam. The IRS scam has been very popular in our area for the last year or so.

If you are ever in doubt, please contact any member of the Cortland Police Department for assistance.

Authorship of this column alternates between the Cortland and Bazetta Police Departments.

A fit, fun summer

(Family Features) During warm-weather months, fitness enthusiasts often take their exercise routines to the great outdoors. The spike in summer temperatures can make those tough workouts even more challenging.

Even after your workout is complete, your body does not stop - after a tough sweat session in the summer heat, you need to replenish what you lost to rebuild and refuel muscles. A tall glass of chocolate milk may not be the first thing you think to reach for after a long run, but recovering from each intense workout with the nutrients in low-fat chocolate milk allows you to get the most out of your fitness routine.

Before gearing up for your summer workout routine, make sure you are taking care of your body with these tips.

Be Mindful of High Temperatures

High temperatures don't have to get in the way of your workout plan, but it's important to consider the heat index and time of day when exercising. Temperatures typically peak during the middle of the day, so aim to work out in the morning or once the sun starts to set.

The body loses a lot of important nutrients through sweat. Learn your sweat rate by weighing yourself with minimal clothing before and after one hour of sweaty exercise. One pound of sweat loss equals 16 ounces of fluid loss. This can guide your fluid intake during your next workout.

Replenish What You Lose in Sweat
After putting in real work this summer, your body needs real recovery. Recovery after strenuous exercise can make a difference in how well you can perform during your next workout. For example, low-fat chocolate milk helps replenish fluids and electrolytes lost in sweat. In fact, drinking low-fat or fat-free milk after exercise could restore hydration better than other popular post-exercise beverages, including water or sports drinks, according to a study published in the "American Journal of Clinical Nutrition." Plus, chocolate milk has a 3-to-1 carb-to-protein ratio scientifically shown to refuel and rebuild muscles quickly.

Shield Yourself from the Sun's Rays

Just because your fitness routine includes strenuous laps in a pool or a run through shady trails doesn't mean you are protected from the sun. Apply sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher to your face, neck, ears and body before exercising outdoors. If you're going back out for another round of laps in the pool or around the track, reapply sunscreen 20-30 minutes before getting back to work.

While summer weather provides many opportunities for fresh air and fitness, it's important to remember these tips and more for healthy hydration. Find more information at builtwithchocolatemilk.com.

Rummage sale items needed

Seeking God's Glory Church, 3217 Surrey Road SE, Warren, is holding a rummage sale on Saturday, Aug. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds will be used for the women's retreat. Donations are being sought for good

sellable items. They can be dropped off at the church Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Thursday and Saturday before or after the 6:30 p.m. service until Aug. 2. No large items, please.

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<p>2018 Ford Escape SE FWD #T28369</p> <p>2 AT THIS PRICE 32 AVAILABLE</p> <p>LEASE RENEWAL EVERYONE PAYS</p> <p>\$246 PER MO* PER MO* PER MO* 36 MOS 36 MOS 36 MOS +TAX +TAX +TAX</p> <p>\$266 PER MO* PER MO* PER MO* 36 MOS 36 MOS 36 MOS +TAX +TAX +TAX</p> <p>TOTAL DUE \$938⁰⁰ TOTAL DUE \$910⁰⁰</p> <p><small>RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY **1ST PAYMENT TAXES, TITLE, 45 DAY TAG & DOC FEE DUE AT SIGNING.</small></p>	<p>2018 Ford Edge SE #T28456</p> <p>1 AT THIS PRICE 20 AVAILABLE</p> <p>LEASE RENEWAL EVERYONE PAYS</p> <p>\$296 PER MO* PER MO* PER MO* 36 MOS 36 MOS 36 MOS +TAX +TAX +TAX</p> <p>\$316 PER MO* PER MO* PER MO* 36 MOS 36 MOS 36 MOS +TAX +TAX +TAX</p> <p>TOTAL DUE \$991⁰⁰ TOTAL DUE \$963⁰⁰</p> <p><small>RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY **1ST PAYMENT TAXES, TITLE, 45 DAY TAG & DOC FEE DUE AT SIGNING.</small></p>	<p>2018 Ford F-150 Super Cab STX 4X4 #T28024</p> <p>LOADED</p> <p>F-150 LEASE RENEWAL EVERYONE PAYS</p> <p>\$321 PER MO* PER MO* PER MO* 36 MOS 36 MOS 36 MOS +TAX +TAX +TAX</p> <p>\$340 PER MO* PER MO* PER MO* 36 MOS 36 MOS 36 MOS +TAX +TAX +TAX</p> <p>TOTAL DUE \$1018⁰⁰ TOTAL DUE \$992⁰⁰</p> <p><small>RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY **1ST PAYMENT TAXES, TITLE, 45 DAY TAG & DOC FEE DUE AT SIGNING.</small></p>	<p>2018 Ford Focus S #28399</p> <p>MSRP RATE DISCOUNT REBATE</p> <p>\$15,220 OR \$234/78 MO. @ 5.94% PLUS TAX, W/ TAX, TITLE & FEES DUE @ DELIVERY</p>	
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CHOW continues to prepare shipment to Panama

Desks and school supplies are ready, books are still needed

By Jean Bolinger

In a previous issue of the Cortland News we reported that CHOW (Cortland Humanitarian Outreach Worldwide) had obtained numerous desks from Cortland Middle School and these would be going to Panama. We are excited to report that an additional 105 desks were recently picked up from Champion Elementary and Middle Schools and will also be going to Panama. A very generous Champion resident contributed money to purchase school supplies for this shipment and a school in Wisconsin just mailed 15 boxes of school supplies as well. They

had learned about CHOW online.

The application for transport of these items to Panama has been approved and CHOW is waiting for a carrier to be assigned. Before the shipment is complete, however, CHOW is looking for donations of books suitable for children grades K-5, especially picture books and simple chapter books. The Panamanian teachers want to be sure their students are learning to speak English correctly.

If you have any books to donate please call Becky or Bill Costas at 330-637-0219.

Something to Think About

By Rev. Donald P. Barnes

"I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly." John 10:10

I love the salad bar! On Saturday, Lorra and I hit the highway south, traveling through Trumbull, Mahoning and Columbiana counties - somewhere's around 50 miles to be exact. Our destination - Dutch House. It's worth the trip. Forgoing other menu items, I select the one that offers the biggest "bang for the buck." With the waitress' permission, I saunter up to the "bar" - plate in hand - and load up with all the fixins: romaine crisp mix, baby spinach, purple onion, sweet grape tomatoes, cucumber slices, green peas, mushrooms, pickled eggs, pickled beets, olives, diced ham, potato salad, pasta salad, cole slaw, three-bean salad, cottage cheese, feta cheese, real bacon pieces, raisins, croutons, bleu cheese dressing, fresh muffins, cracker basket and a steaming bowl of homemade wedding soup. That's just the first course. Might be a stretch, but

I think the salad bar offers a pretty fair metaphor for life. My question: do you indulge fully in all life has to offer or are you content with bologna on white bread?

According to Ben Sweetland, the "world is full of abundance and opportunity, but far too many people come to the fountain of life with a sieve instead of a bucket - with a teaspoon instead of a steam shovel. They expect little and as a result they get little." How about you? Ask yourself the question: what does the smorgasbord of life hold for me today? Who will I meet - what will transpire - blessings, challenges, lessons, surprises, awakenings. Don't know about you, but I plan on loading up on all this day has to offer, a scoop of this and a dollop of that - a bounteous harvest of this day's offerings. I'm excited - energized. Be blessed!

Cortland UMC to host Community Band

Join with family and friends on the side lawn at the Red Brick Church of High Street at the Cortland United Methodist Church to hear the Cortland Community Band on Aug. 6 at 7 p.m. Share the fellowship - enjoy their great music - have a root beer float

or milkshake provided by the men's group.

Bring your lawn chair for comfort. In case of rain it will be held in the Opera House. Overflow parking available. More information can be obtained at church office at 330-637-2571.

CCC welcomes new pastor

The Cortland Christian Church welcomes Pastor Casey R. Chapman to the congregation. On Sunday, July 15, Pastor Chapman was installed as the new pastor. He has delivered many sermons at CCC, however, his first official message will be delivered on Sunday, July 22.

Rev. Chapman comes to the Cortland Christian Church, from Sandy Lake, Penn. His Christian education started at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. where he received his degree in Pastoral Leadership upon completing his internship at the Lakeview Church of God in Stoneboro, Penn. Pastor Chapman has served as interim pastor of several congregations across northwestern Pennsylvania. He served as the senior pastor for the Atlantic Community Church and the executive pastor for Custaloga Town Scout Reservation. Pastor Chapman also sits on the executive committee for the Greenville Area Christian Ministers



Association in Greenville, Penn.

A "welcome luncheon" is planned after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Aug. 5 at 11:15 a.m. All are invited to meet the new pastor and to share in the excitement as they embark on this new chapter together. Cortland Christian Church is located at 153 Grove Drive, in the center of Cortland.

A note from a new friend!

By Rev. Casey R. Chapman

Family reunions, cookouts, pool parties, and fireworks - what joy it is to be with friends and family this year! I am grateful for being welcomed into

this community with the love that only a family can give. 1st Corinthians 12:12-13a says "For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body - so also is Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body" (HCSB).

Today many Christians have fallen into the trap of "keeping to themselves." It is all too easy to forget about the body of Christ with the busyness that summer brings. It is also all too easy to think of the many churches that dot our land as separate bodies when in fact we are all one body. As I come to Cortland Christian Church as their new pastor I have been welcomed by true and genuine family. Family that I did not know a month ago, but nonetheless family. The time is now for us, as believers in Christ, to come together. To take joy in each other in times of happiness. To support each other in times of need. To grow in Christ together. To love one another as Christ first loved us. Let us stand as one body with one purpose, to bring glory to God.



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Cortland Branch Library events in August

The following programs take place at the Cortland Branch Library, 578 Lakeview Drive, Cortland. For registration call 330-638-6335. All library events are free and open to the public. No reservations are required unless noted.

FOR TEENS

#SummerMidweek

Aug. 1, 8, 15

Join us for different activities each Wednesday! For those entering grades 7-12. Free.

FOR ADULTS

Romance Novel Book Discussion

Wednesday, Aug. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

In honor of August as Read-a-Romance Novel Month, we're reading "Miss You" by Kate Eberlan. Read the book, and then join in the discussion! Free.

Writing Flowers

Saturday, Aug. 11 at 1 p.m.

Cortland artist Lisa Bickel will show participants how to make an arrangement with silk flowers in a flower pot using writing instruments. For ages 16+. All supplies will be provided. Registration is required and space is limited. Free.

Local bikers invited to raise awareness & funds for autism

The Autism Society Mahoning is the beneficiary of the 6th Annual Mike Hull Memorial Ride for Autism on Saturday, July 28. Mike Hull was a beloved husband, father, brother and grandfather of a granddaughter on the autism spectrum that he cherished. He was also a musician who loved playing and donated his time and talent to organizations in need.

Registration for the annual poker run is at 11 a.m. at the Dash Inn, 2716 Mahoning Ave., Youngstown. The run begins at noon and ends at West Side Bowling. There will also be bowling and a pizza party starting at noon, plus a Chinese auction and a 50/50 raffle. Cost is \$10 per rider and includes a food ticket and music. For more information call Melissa Kalamán, director, 330-770-6978 or by email at melissakalaman@sbcglobal.net.

Lakeview High School Bands car wash

The Lakeview High School Bands will be holding a car wash on Saturday, Aug. 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The car wash will be held at Dr. Davenport and Dr. Rohrabough's office at 277 S. High St.

The marching season has begun. You can follow the Lakeview Marching Pride on its Facebook page Lakeview High School Bands. You can find up-to-date information regarding the upcoming marching season on the Facebook page.



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Consumer alert: Be skeptical of 'free meal' insurance and financial services seminars

Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment is cautioning Ohioans – especially middle-aged and older adults – to be skeptical of insurance and financial products and services seminars that entice people to attend by offering a free meal. Even though pitched as only being informational, attendees can find themselves being encouraged – and even pressured – to make a purchase during or after the event.

“Be skeptical about “free meal” seminars,” Froment said. “The offer of free meals, door prizes, and/or free advice may lead you to attend a seminar when you would not otherwise. Some invitations make you feel it is urgent to register due to ‘limited space.’ A nice restaurant, an expensive meal, and a well-dressed presenter may be impressive, but it does not mean that what they are selling is right for you.”

Froment shared these consumer protection tips:

- **Be skeptical.** Federal regulators examined firms that offered “free lunch” seminars and found that every seminar was a sales presentation. You’ll likely receive products and services solicitations if you put your contact information on a registration form.

- **Do your homework.** Before meeting with an insurance or financial expert, contact the Ohio Department of Insurance to verify that the person is licensed to sell the product. Ask if the person has complaints or enforcement actions on their record.

- **Review credentials.** Some professional credentials suggest certain expertise to provide insurance and financial advice that may or may not exist. An expert who is “certified” or “accredited” or someone claiming retirement planning or senior issues expertise sounds qualified to help you, but may or may not be. Research their credentials online or contact the Ohio Department of Insurance.

- **Does the product or service meet your needs?** Insurance and financial products can be complicated so ask questions. It’s rare that one product or service meets the needs of everyone attending a seminar. If the presenter doesn’t know your personal financial situation, the person can’t know if a product suits you.

- **Never make a final decision at a seminar.** You may be exposed to high-pressure tactics, frightening stories about people low on funds in retirement, and promises of unrealistic financial returns at a seminar. Don’t provide your personal information, sign documents, or make final decisions. Leave your checkbook at home. Always get a second opinion.

The “free meal” seminar solicitations are typically made by telephone, mail or as an advertisement.

If you suspect a scam or believe an insurance agent or company has misled you, report it to the Ohio Department of Insurance at 1-800-686-1527 or www.insurance.ohio.gov. Consumers with questions about insurance or an agent or company can call the department at 1-800-686-1526.



5 tips for buying a house in today’s competitive market

Today’s housing market is creating more and more hurdles for homebuyers. According to The National Association of Realtors, the number of homes for sale has steadily declined over the past three years. At the same time, interest rates hikes are increasing monthly mortgage payments. In this competitive environment, potential homebuyers have more factors to consider as they search for the perfect home for their lifestyle and budget. If you are in the market for your next home, vacation home or rental property, keep the following tips in mind.

1. Come prepared

Before beginning the home search, decide what features are most important to you. Having a clear list of must-haves (or must-avoids) such as the location, number of bedrooms and bathrooms, yard size, and other amenities, can make it easier to sort through which homes may be ideal for your lifestyle.

2. Widen your search

You might have your heart set on a specific town or neighborhood as you begin your search. If finding the right home is proving to be a challenge, consider expanding your geographic horizons. Also, you may want to consider shopping for a home during certain off-peak selling seasons. For example, in northern climates, home sales tend to slow in the winter months.

3. Keep your emotions in check

It can be tempting to look at – or even make an offer on – homes that are above your price range or that are not realistic for your lifestyle. Emotions can run high when searching for a home, especially when you need to make quick decisions in a seller’s market. Stay grounded in your priorities and budget, reminding yourself that the perfect home is one that fits your needs and financial situation today and down the road.

4. Stay informed of new listings

In a competitive market, homes can be put up for sale and subsequently sold within days or even hours. Be proactive about checking listings that fit your criteria. Consider working with a realtor in addition to the array of digital tools that are now available. A realtor may be able to connect you with new listings before they become widely available. And once you find a house that you like that fits your needs, be prepared to make a decision about an offer quickly.

5. Have your financial house in order

Before putting an offer on the table, build up your savings for a down payment. The ability to put more money down up-front may help you avoid paying for private mortgage insurance and can make you feel more confident about the added financial responsibility of a new home. Also, check your credit score and consider working with a reputable lending institution to get pre-approved for a loan. Pre-approval gives you an idea of what loan terms you may qualify for and may eliminate potential hiccups in the purchasing process. Talk to a mortgage specialist and financial advisor to if you’d like assistance on how you can best position yourself to buy a home when the opportunity is right.

Column provided by Shortreed & Associates, Financial planning services and investments offered through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA & SIPC.

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Southington UMC holding chicken dinner

The Southington United Methodist Church, state Routes 305 and 534, will be holding a chicken dinner, on Wednesday, Aug. 1, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. The menu includes: one fourth of a chicken, scalloped potatoes, green beans, applesauce, coleslaw, homemade desserts and beverage. Price is adults \$9, children (ages 4-10)/chicken tenders dinner, \$4.50; and children 3 and under, free. Carry outs available. Call 330-898-2156.

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By Jennifer J. Slywczak

Deducting home equity interest under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

Passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) in December 2017 has led to confusion over some longstanding deductions. In response, the IRS recently issued a statement clarifying that the interest on home equity loans, home equity lines of credit and second mortgages will, in many cases, remain deductible.

How it used to be

Under prior tax law, a taxpayer could deduct "qualified residence interest" on a loan of up to \$1 million secured by a qualified residence, plus interest on a home equity loan (other than debt used to acquire a home) up to \$100,000. The home equity debt couldn't exceed the fair market value of the home reduced by the debt used to acquire the home.

For tax purposes, a qualified residence is the taxpayer's principal residence and a second residence, which can be a house, condominium, cooperative, mobile home, house trailer or boat. The principal residence is where the taxpayer resides most of the time; the second residence is any other residence the taxpayer owns and treats as a second home. Taxpayers aren't required to use the second home during the year to claim the deduction. If the second home is rented to others, though, the taxpayer also must use it as a home during the year for the greater of 14 days or 10% of the number of days it's rented.

In the past, interest on qualifying home equity debt was deductible regardless of how the loan proceeds were used. A taxpayer could, for example, use the proceeds to pay for medical bills, tuition, vacations, vehicles and other personal expenses

and still claim the itemized interest deduction.

What's deductible now

The TCJA limits the amount of the mortgage interest deduction for taxpayers who itemize through 2025. Beginning in 2018, for new home purchases, a taxpayer can deduct interest only on acquisition mortgage debt of \$750,000.

On February 21, the IRS issued a release (IR 2018-32) explaining that the law suspends the deduction only for interest on home equity loans and lines of credit that aren't used to buy, build or substantially improve the taxpayer's home that secures the loan. In other words, the interest isn't deductible if the loan proceeds are used for certain personal expenses, but it is deductible if the proceeds go toward, for example, a new roof on the home that secures the loan. The IRS further stated that the deduction limits apply to the combined amount of mortgage and home equity acquisition loans — home equity debt is no longer capped at \$100,000 for purposes of the deduction.

Further clarifications


As a relatively comprehensive new tax law, the TCJA will likely be subject to a variety of clarifications before it settles in. Please contact our firm for help better understanding this provision or any other.

Jennifer J. Slywczak, CPA, is the owner of Integrated Accounting and Tax Solutions LLC, located at 3378 state Route 5, Cortland. You can reach her at 330-638-2727 or by email at jenniferslywczak.com. To sign up for monthly newsletters you can visit her website at www.jenniferslywczak.com.

Now and Then display at fair

Photos by Jana Payne Ostrode were recently featured by the Cortland-Bazetta Historical Society for their display at the Trumbull County Fair's Historical Village. Originally a project for a college course, the "Then" photos of sites around Cortland were borrowed by Jana from the society. She then located the exact spot from where they were first photographed and took a "Now" photo. Large copies of both photos were then displayed for her project. The display at the fair resized the photos and mounted them for a display at the fair.







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Kent State Trumbull introduces Weekend College/Hybrid Completion Program

Kent State University at Trumbull continues to examine ways to encourage prosperity in the Mahoning Valley. Its new Weekend College/Hybrid Completion Program offers anyone with prior college credits a unique opportunity to cost- and time-effectively complete their degree.

Beginning this fall, classes meet for a few hours every-other Saturday and the remainder is completed online. Classes are completed in eight weeks and begin on Saturday, Aug. 25.

"People stop attending college for a number of reasons," said Dr. Jim Ritter, director, Enrollment Management and Student Services, Kent State Trumbull. "Time and cost are two of the biggest reasons and we feel like this new program will alleviate these issues and help folks finish what they had started."

Students who enroll on or before Aug. 15 are eligible for a \$500

scholarship. For more information, contact Dr. Jim Ritter at 330-675-8935 or jritter1@kent.edu.



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Lakeview 12U team go undefeated



The Lakeview 12U 304 league champions went undefeated during the regular and post season. Congratulations!

Love, but not at first sight

Cortland residents making a difference at TCTC

By Larry Crawford

Rick and Courtney Sommers never have to ask each other this question. How was your day of work? They are employed at the same high school and in fact teach the same subject. They are math teachers at the TCTC.

As student teachers in the building, Rick Sommers and Courtney Terbovich had never met. They also understood that one divided by two does not yield a quotient with a whole number. Both of them were competing for a full time math position that would become available for the next school year.

Courtney stated, "In the beginning we were more rivals than friends. It is pretty difficult to like the person who might receive the position that you were hoping to be hired for."

Jason Gray, superintendent at the TCTC, remembers the scenario that occurred. "Both of them were outstanding student teachers highly recommended by their cooperating teachers. It was going to be a very difficult decision to choose between them. Fortunately, our student enrollment increased sufficiently that we could select both of them."

Time heals most wounds especially the superficial ones. Within a short time Rick and Courtney discovered how much they had in common in addition to their passion for mathematics. "First we became good friends and ultimately, things clicked between us," Courtney said. They were married in 2015. The couple have three small children and reside in Cortland.

Courtney is a graduate of Lakeview High School with a degree in secondary mathematics from Kent State. Rick is a graduate of Mathews High School with a similar degree from YSU. He will receive his masters in mathematics from KSU in 2019.

As academic supervisor, I reference Rick's post graduate work in mathematics. There is a significant shortage of teachers with a masters degree in math. After he finishes, he will be able to teach college level math classes for high school students. This will be a boon to our enrollment.

In their journey from students in high school to their present positions at the TCTC, Rick and Courtney identified educational role models who provided them with inspiration.

"Both of my parents are teachers and I noted how satisfied they are with their careers. Therefore, I had teaching in my blood. Additionally at Lakeview, Mike Detoro was my math teacher for two years. He was an instructor who never gave up on a kid. From him I learned that you never let temporary frustration interfere with your long term goals. You keep digging, you keep trying new ideas. Eventually, you will find a way," Courtney said.



As a high school student, Rick did not aspire to become a high school teacher. He was accepted into the chemical engineering program at YSU. "During my freshman year of college, I was explaining to a friend how to solve a math problem. I really enjoyed the experience and I felt I had the ability to explain material in a way that students could understand. I switched my major to math education and I have not looked back," he said.

Despite his proficiency in math and science, Rick points to his former principal and English teacher, Lou Demarco, as a major influence in his career decision. "Mr. Demarco taught for 40 years and he never lost his enthusiasm for helping kids. He had the ability to transfer his love of reading and writing to several generations of students. When I was a child, basketball icon, Michael Jordan was at his zenith. Everybody wanted to be like Mike. Well, I wanted to be like Lou," said Sommers.

Rick and Courtney credit math teacher, Dawn Haight for her mentorship in shaping them as instructors at the TCTC. Haight is a National Board Certified teacher who is widely respected in educational circles.

They believe that she helped them to separate what is important from what is not important in the classroom. "She enabled us to see that the teacher has to reach the students before they can expect the students to reach them. She is also very patient and affirms the dignity of every kid," they said.

As the parents of three small children, free time and personal hobbies are sacrificed at the altar of parenthood. Taking kids to swimming, gymnastics lessons, preschool, etc., requires a significant investment of their time. At the end of the day, however, the topic of their jobs inevitably becomes a conversation piece.

"We are always comparing notes about what worked, what did not work and how our lessons could improve. There are not too many guys who can say that their wife is also their colleague," Rick said.

Dawn Haight believes the unique professional relationship of Courtney and Rick serves to make them better teachers. "Each year they have grown and improved," she said. "We have a cadre of teachers who meet frequently to discuss best practice educational strategies. Rick and Courtney are among them."

Whoever first said, "You never know, I might get lucky" had a saga like Rick and Courtney's in mind. From rivals competing for a spot in the teaching arena to parents and partners for life, their evolution has come full circle. While it's a fundamental principle of mathematics that you cannot divide one by two and get a whole number, it is also true that you can divide two by two and get one happy couple.

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Pictured are Cheryl Gyure and Victoria DiLallo, daughter of Khristina and Joe DiLallo. Victoria earned her free pizza in Mrs. Haynie's kindergarten class and seems to be enjoying it based on that smile. Children have until Aug. 1 to redeem the coupon.



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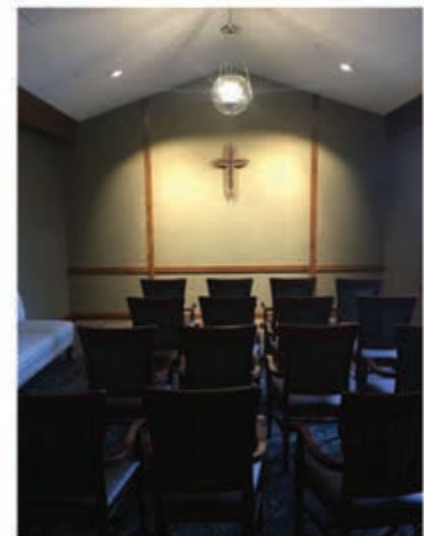


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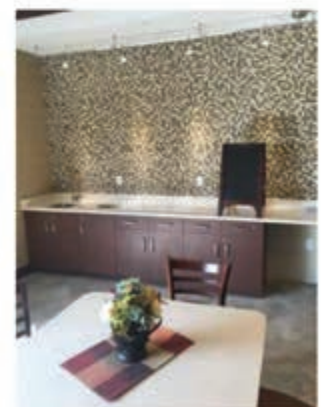
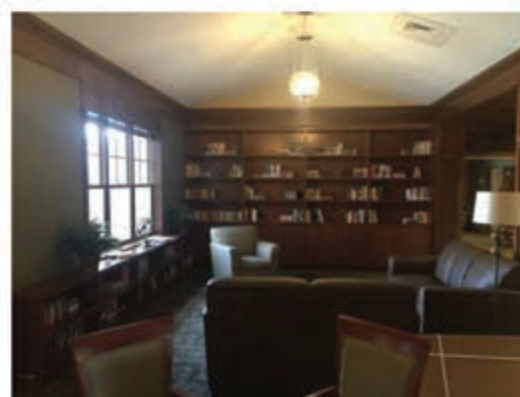
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Summer from page 1

summer memories. Chasing lightning bugs is fun and educational. Making s'mores, going to the Splash Pad are enjoyable. Our new neighbors invited our grandchildren to play with their children on a water slide. Yay! The kids had a ball. "Slushies" made in special cups that freeze juice as you stir it were a real hit. Our grandchildren have painted flat rocks shaped like "Ohio" for special memories of their visit to the lake.

Since most parents have cell phones

with cameras, one great idea is to print out several photos of what your kids are doing and help them compile an album/journal of what they did this summer. These journals become a special record of childhood memories (not to mention educational!)

I hope this column helps give you some ideas for your kids' summer memories. I can guarantee your children will remember these good times. If they are still bored, tell them to clean their rooms.

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Practical Money Matters

A pet could be a great opportunity to teach children

By Hugh Norton

A friend and I were recently discussing family pets. Their family had recently adopted a dog, and he was pointing out that while his children had fervently promised to take care of the pet with the best of intentions, they didn't necessarily have the greatest track record of following through. After the first few months, he and his wife found themselves handling 90 percent of the responsibilities. While I laughed, I also know that it's likely that our family will wind up having the same experience when we get a pet.

Regardless of who handles the bulk of the responsibility for a pet over the long term, the conversation got me thinking about the many valuable teaching moments that can present themselves when you bring a pet into your family. While parents often use pet ownership as a tool to teach overall responsibility, there are great opportunities to use the experience to impart lessons concerning financial responsibility as well.

Trying before buying and entrepreneurship

Children and teenagers don't always understand the long-term consequences of their decisions. However, if you can get them to take care of neighbors' or friends' pets (with you there to supervise if necessary), they'll be able to experience the balance of work and enjoyment that goes into having a pet before the final decision is made to foster or adopt a pet of their own.

It may even be a good way of creating income and encouraging entrepreneurship. They might offer their friends and neighbors a service - the first few dog walks, check-ins or litter box changes as freebies and then charge a small fee for their services. Even if they charge just \$5 or \$10 each visit, the experience will help them get a taste of the responsibilities of pet ownership while they practice entrepreneurship and learn about the effort needed to succeed and rewards that can come from starting a business. In addition, if they are able to amass an income of their own from the experience, you may want to consider having them chip in to cover part of the adoption fees.

How to create and follow a budget

The real work (and fun) starts once you bring a pet home. Picture this: your children have learned about the many responsibilities that come with having a pet and are taking it upon themselves to handle all the basic associated chores... a parent can dream, right?

Even if your children don't exactly tackle these chores with the grit and determination you would have hoped for, you can teach them financial lessons by involving them in all pet-related financial decisions and transactions and by teaching them how to create and follow a

budget. Have them start by listing out the necessary expenses, such as food, vet check-ups and toys. Then work together to research the anticipated costs and create a plan. There is a big difference in the budget needed to bring home a small goldfish versus a cat or even a large dog. One friend's child fell in love with horseback riding after participating in the sport at camp. Now, in addition to taking care of the family dog, my friend and the child are exploring the possibility of signing up for horseback riding lessons or even sponsoring a horse.

If you want to teach your children about budgeting in this context, they'll need an income to use to cover their expenses. The money could come from an allowance, continued pet care work or a part-time job if they're old enough. Or you may have to fund a special pet care account that they help manage.

The importance of saving to cover long-term expenses

While a budget is primarily intended to be used to cover day-to-day expenses, it's also an important tool for planning for the future.

To help teach your children the importance of saving, make sure to teach them to set aside money in the budget for longer-term expenses. Long-term costs could include holiday gifts for the pet, boarding or pet sitting fees for when your family travels or even an emergency medical fund for visits to the vet. Boarding and medical care can be quite expensive. To help set your child's expectations and set savings targets, research your pet or breed of pet and base your savings plans on the information you find.

Tangible savings accounts, such as a jar labeled with the saving goal, could be a good option if only a small amount of funds needs to be saved. As savings needs grow, it could be a good opportunity to open a joint checking or savings account where your child can deposit money and practice using an account.

Bottom line: For children and adults alike, learning about money can be difficult when it's only an abstract concept. By tying the prospect of getting and taking care of a new pet to the importance of earning, budgeting and saving money, you can help teach your children about financial responsibility and instill money habits that could serve them for the rest of their lives.

To follow Visa's Practical Money Skills on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney

This article is intended to provide general information and should not be considered health, legal, tax or financial advice. It's always a good idea to consult a tax or financial advisor for specific information on how certain laws apply to your situation and about your individual financial situation.

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