



MENTOR

Fall 2025

SPECIAL EDITION

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor

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Mentor History Trail

Citizen Connect

Calendar of Events

Storm Preparedness

...and much more!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

OPEN BURNING

Burning trash, brush, or leaves is not permitted in the City of Mentor. Small, attended campfires for cooking purposes are permitted during favorable weather conditions without prior approval. Bonfires require approval from the Fire Prevention Bureau by calling (440) 974-5768.

FALL YARD WASTE

Starting October 27, the amount of yard waste homeowners are permitted to put out each week increases from 12 to 25 units. A unit is one bag, bundle, or container of yard waste. If you have questions about Mentor's yard waste program, call the Public Works Department at (440) 974-5781.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF

Lake County residents can drop off Household Hazardous Waste at the Lake County Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 20, from 8 AM to 2 PM. Accepted items include bulbs and batteries, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals and more. For a complete list of acceptable items visit lakecountyohio.gov/utilities/ or call (440) 350-2908.

DEAD ANIMAL OR DEBRIS IN ROAD

If you notice a dead animal or debris in the road please let the city know. Call the Public Works Department at (440) 974-5781 from 7 AM to 4 PM. Call the Police Department at (440) 255-1234 at all other times.

BURNED OUT STREETLIGHT?

First Energy is responsible for maintaining streetlights, but if you notice a burned-out streetlight, you may call Public Works at (440) 974-5781. Please have an accurate description of the location of the pole. The outage will be reported to First Energy.

SOLICITATION

It is unlawful to solicit within the city without first obtaining a solicitor's permit from the Police Department. Those who have obtained a solicitor's permit may solicit within the City of Mentor between 9 AM and 7 PM. It is unlawful to solicit at any premise at which a "No Solicitors" sign is displayed. "No Solicitors" signs are available at the Mentor Police Department or from the receptionist desk at city hall. A printable version is available the Ordinances page of the city website.

To file a complaint, please call the Mentor Police non-emergency number at (440) 255-1234.

Garfield Park Splash Pad

SPLASH INTO NEXT SUMMER



New Bathhouse at Garfield Park



New Buildings at Civic Center Pool



New Waterslides at Civic Center Pool

Mentor residents and guests will have some great new ways to play next summer! Earlier this year, plans were unveiled to modernize and improve Civic Center Pool.

Construction is already underway on a 42-foot-tall waterslide structure which consists of three separate chutes. Demolition of the buildings in the pool area will begin soon, and a new series of inter-connected buildings with restrooms, a locker area, a concession stand, covered eating area, and more, take their place. Work will also include expansion of the pool pad and splash pad areas.

At Eleanor B. Garfield Park, visitors will enjoy a brand-new splash pad complex replacing the outdated pool which was razed last year. Spanning over 7,000 square feet, the splash pad will feature more than a dozen water stations, allowing children to play while parents and guardians relax in the shade or soak up the sun on the raised retaining wall and spacious lawn area.

The new bathhouse will include separate men's and women's restrooms, two family-access restrooms, a covered picnic area, lockers, and secure equipment storage.

The entire facility will be fenced and gated for safety.

The 60-year-old Garfield Park pool closed in 2020 due to the pandemic and remained shuttered because of a lifeguard shortage. But even before its closure, attendance had reached historic lows. It was decided to replace the pool with a splash pad so that visitors could enjoy a unique, modern experience distinct from other local facilities. And, a splash pad requires fewer staff, ensuring the facility can remain open regardless of lifeguard availability.

Construction on the multi-million dollar project will begin soon and both of these exciting and innovative projects are scheduled to open in time for the 2026 swim season!

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

The city of Mentor will host a Veterans Day ceremony at 11:11 AM on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, to honor the men and women who have served our country in the military.

Originally known as Armistice Day, the observance was first held on November 11, 1919, marking the first anniversary of the end of World War I and honoring the heroism of those who died in the country's service.

In 1954, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day – a national holiday celebrating all veterans.

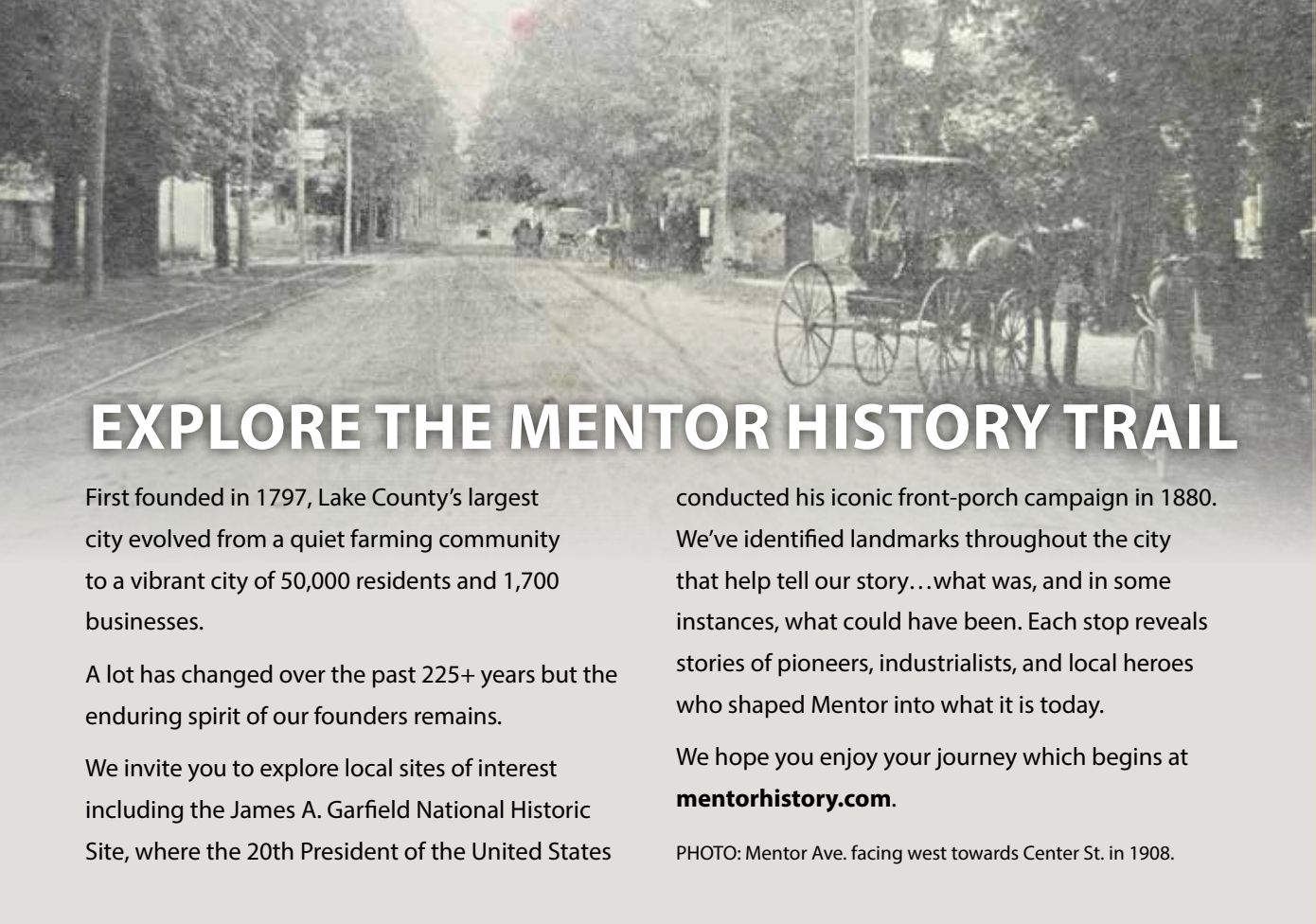
The ceremony will be held at the Mentor Municipal Cemetery memorial promenade located at 6881 Hopkins Road.

Should weather be a factor, the event will be moved to the Mentor Senior Center located at 8484 Munson Rd.

All are welcome to attend. Veteran groups are invited to participate. Please contact the Mentor Recreation Department at (440) 974-5720 or parks@cityofmentor.com for details.

The ceremony will be recorded and aired later on the Mentor Channel for those unable to attend.





EXPLORE THE MENTOR HISTORY TRAIL

First founded in 1797, Lake County's largest city evolved from a quiet farming community to a vibrant city of 50,000 residents and 1,700 businesses.

A lot has changed over the past 225+ years but the enduring spirit of our founders remains.

We invite you to explore local sites of interest including the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, where the 20th President of the United States

conducted his iconic front-porch campaign in 1880. We've identified landmarks throughout the city that help tell our story...what was, and in some instances, what could have been. Each stop reveals stories of pioneers, industrialists, and local heroes who shaped Mentor into what it is today.

We hope you enjoy your journey which begins at **mentorhistory.com**.

PHOTO: Mentor Ave. facing west towards Center St. in 1908.



FREE STREET TREES

The City of Mentor manages a street tree program to enhance the beauty of our streetscapes and manage stormwater runoff.

Each year, trees are provided free of charge to Mentor residents on a first-come, first-served basis and are planted by city staff in the public right-of-way. Once planted, the property owner is responsible for the care and maintenance of the new tree.

Trees are planted in spring and fall. A tree of appropriate size for the homeowner's tree lawn is planted during the next planting season after the application is received.

Please note that any dead tree or stump on your tree lawn must be removed by the homeowner before a new tree can be planted. A permit is required for the removal of any street tree.

To download the City of Mentor Street Tree Order Form or Tree Removal Permit Application, visit cityofmentor.com and select "Street Tree Program" under Resident Info.

For questions about the Mentor Street Tree Program or other tree-related programs, contact the Public Works Department at (440) 974-5781 or pubworks@cityofmentor.com.

OPERATION SNOW LIFT

Winters in Northeast Ohio can be unpredictable, with some seasons bringing heavy snowfall and others only a light dusting. Seniors, in particular, may find it challenging to clear their driveways during winter storms, which could result in missed essential services, such as doctor appointments, in-home care, or Meals on Wheels.

To address this issue, city officials have partnered with the Lake County Council on Aging to create and test a pilot emergency snowplowing assistance program. Operation Snowlift is designed to support low-to-moderate-income Mentor seniors who meet specific criteria and may struggle to afford per-push snow removal services.

The pilot program will launch for the 2025-2026 winter season, providing up to 74 qualifying

households with vouchers redeemable through a partner contractor for snow removal services during snow emergencies. The goal is to expand the program in the 2026-2027 winter season.

The Lake County Council on Aging will soon announce a registration day and location where a limited number of applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. To participate, individuals must meet specific income and residency criteria.

Funded through a HUD Community Development Block Grant, this program demonstrates the city of Mentor's commitment to assisting its senior residents, helping to ensure their safety and independence during the winter months.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEXT STORM?

The City of Mentor utilizes Lake County Ohio's Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS) to help keep residents informed during emergencies and other events in our city.

This system provides subscribers the option to receive notifications via text, email, and/or voice*, related to weather events, emergencies, road closures, and more. Lake County residents can also sign up to receive community

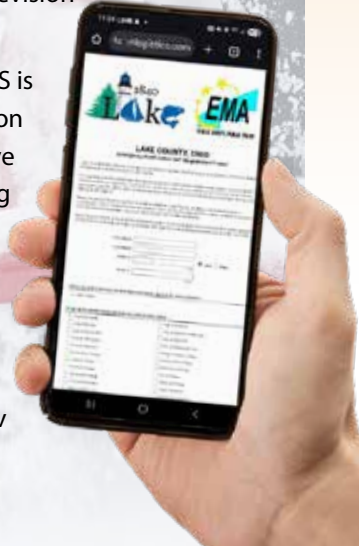
specific alerts. Signing up at **lakeohioalert.com** takes less than 60 seconds and can help keep you and your family safe during an emergency.

When signing up, be sure to click "City of Mentor" under the specific community Emergency Alerts section.

Users are advised that this system is made available to Lake County residents and businesses as a supplement and not a replacement for

existing public safety warning and information notification systems such as television and radio.

Lake County's WENS is managed by Inspiron Logistics. If you have questions regarding this system, please contact the Lake County Emergency Management Agency at ema@lakecountyohio.gov or (440) 350-5499.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 5/12
Mentor Farmers Market
Garfield Park
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

September 13
Just Kids Stuff Garage Sale
Garfield Park
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Free.

September 20
Hazardous Waste Collection
Lake County Fairgrounds
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

October 10
Howl-O-Ween Party for Dogs
Mentor Dog Park
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Free.

November 22
Turkey Roll on Ice
Mentor Ice Arena
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
\$120 per team of four. Registration required.

December 2
Community Tree Lighting
Mentor Municipal Center
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Visit cityofmentor.com/calendar for the latest information.

/cityofmentor



NOW HIRING!

The City of Mentor is looking for qualified candidates to fill a number of full-time, part-time, temporary, and seasonal positions, throughout the city.

For a complete list of currently available career opportunities, visit cityofmentor.com/employment.

The City of Mentor is an equal opportunity employer.

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT

Trick or treat will be held on October 31, 2025, from 6 PM to 8 PM in the City of Mentor.

Here are some Halloween safety tips from the Mentor Police Department

- Avoid walking alone. Walk with an adult
- Wear bright, flame-resistant costumes or use reflective tape
- Use sidewalks when you can and be on the lookout for cars
- Stay in familiar neighborhoods
- Avoid wearing masks that block your vision and costumes that are tripping hazards
- Examine treats before you eat them

As always, the Mentor Police Department has extra officers on patrol Halloween night so have fun, stay safe, and have a Happy Halloween.





THIS HOLIDAY SEASON SHOP IN MENTOR

With over 325 stores to choose from,
you'll find everything on your list.

You probably already know that Mentor is one of
Northeast Ohio's leading shopping destinations.
But, it may surprise you to learn that Mentor is
also home to over 135 *independent* retailers and
restaurants.

68¢ of every dollar spent local stays local.

Shop small. Shop local. Shop Mentor.

Learn more about what Mentor has to offer at
www.shopinmentor.com

The Mentor Police Department is pleased to announce the launch of our new CITIZEN CONNECT website. This website is a dedicated resource for transparency and a platform designed to keep our community informed about local police-related incidents. Visitors to the site will be able to view an interactive map of reported incidents, based on the timeframe and incident types selected. Take advantage of this valuable resource to stay informed and connected.

Explore Citizen Connect at **cityofmentor.com/police**.



IS IT TIME TO TRIM THAT TREE?

Most would agree that tree lined streets add a sense of character to any community.

Many of the neighborhoods in the City of Mentor are well established with mature trees. We wanted to offer a reminder that property owners are responsible for all tree maintenance, including those located on the tree lawn.

Annual inspections are conducted throughout the city to ensure



the safety of our residents.

You, or your neighbors, may have received a letter advising that trees lining your street are encroaching the roadway and/or sidewalk and impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

Our ordinance dictates that trees along roadways must be trimmed to a height of 14 feet above the road surface, and 7 feet above the sidewalk.

Please take the time to inspect your trees and arrange for trimming if it looks like it is required.

Please contact Kelly Mylott, Code Enforcement Supervisor, at (440) 974-5740 or mylott@cityofmentor.com if you have any questions or concerns.



FYI - Cont...

DEER SEASON
2025/26 Deer Bow Hunting Permit Applications are available at the Mentor Municipal Center front reception desk, or for download at mentornature.com. Hunting is only permitted on properties where the owner has granted permission. An archery proficiency test form must be returned with your application.

SLOW DOWN IN SCHOOL ZONES
Students are back in the classroom, and motorists need to exercise caution, especially in school zones. The Mentor Police Department reminds motorists to observe speed limits in school zones. The speed limit of 20 mph during the times school zones are active will be strictly enforced. Slow down and do your part to help keep Mentor students safe.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
Have a complaint about a Mentor property that is not being maintained? You may file a complaint with the City's Code Enforcement department. Contact them by call (440) 974-5792 or download a complaint form at cityofmentor.com. You'll find it on the Code Enforcement page under the Resident Information tab.

WATCH THE MENTOR CHANNEL
Stay on top of what's happening in the City of Mentor including live broadcasts of City Council and Planning Commission Meetings, community bulletin boards, community news, and other great content. Watch it your way on Spectrum 1024, AT&T U-Verse 99.9, YouTube, or by downloading the free Mentor Channel app available for ROKU, Apple, Fire, and Android devices. Download it today at thementorchannel.com.



JOIN THE MENTOR COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER TODAY!

The 128,000 SF Mentor Community Recreation Center is one of the largest facilities of its kind in Northeast Ohio and includes an indoor soccer field, basketball, tennis, racquetball, and pickleball courts, golf simulators, an open concept fitness center, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, cardiovascular and weight training areas, group exercise rooms, a childcare room, an outdoor playground, and other amenities.

Members can enjoy a variety of year-round programs and activities.

Family and individual annual membership plans are available for both residents and non-residents. Memberships can be paid in full or through a payment plan.

For membership rates, terms, and additional information, visit **mentorrec.com** or call (440) 205-3608.

Single-day admission is available for \$10.00 per person (age restrictions apply).

The Mentor Community Recreation Center is located at 6000 Heisley Road.

PROTECTING OUR WATERWAYS

Protecting our waterways is a top priority. Everything that enters our storm drains—grass clippings, yard waste, soaps, pesticides, fertilizers, automotive fluids, pet waste, and litter—flows directly to our streams, rivers, and ultimately Lake Erie.

We can safeguard our rivers and Lake Erie by conserving water, harvesting rainwater, reducing chemical use, and recycling yard trimmings back into our lawns. Here are practical steps to help:

- Promote healthy soil.** Create loose, well-aerated soil to support air, water, and robust root growth.
- Conserve water with rain barrels.** Store rainwater to reduce water usage while providing plants with a natural water source.
- Redirect downspouts.** Channel downspouts into lawns or garden beds to minimize runoff.
- Protect plants naturally.** Use eco-friendly methods to shield plants from pests and diseases, reducing reliance on harmful chemicals.
- Prevent bacterial pollution.** Always clean up pet waste, especially before rain, to keep it out of waterways.
- Recycle yard waste.** Compost or mulch yard trimmings to recycle nutrients. Never dump yard waste along waterways or in ravines.
- Enhance soil with compost or mulch.** These help soil retain nutrients and water, reducing the need for excessive fertilizers and watering. Create your own compost at home using leaves, flowers, and grass clippings. Keep the compost moist to foster beneficial soil life for healthier plants.

For more information, contact the Building and Engineering Department at (440) 255-1100.

FALL SAFETY CHECK LIST

While house fires occur year-round, they're most common in the fall and winter. As temperatures drop and leaves fall, it's important to prepare your home for cold weather. Clip this handy list from the Mentor Fire Department.



- ☐ Have your furnace and chimney cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional. Make sure they check your flue. If you turn your furnace on and then see water on the inside of your windows, that may indicate that your flue is blocked which is a risk for carbon monoxide poisoning.
- ☐ Make sure your carbon monoxide detector is properly placed, has working batteries, and is not expired (most expire in 5-10 years and should have an expiration date on the unit).
- ☐ Do a thorough clean-out of your dryer vent.
- ☐ Exercise your main water shut-off. This will help ensure that the valve will operate if you need to shut the water off during an emergency or repair.

If you have questions about fire safety, call the Mentor Fire Department's Public Education Office at (440) 974-5769 or garey@cityofmentor.com.



City of Mentor
8500 Civic Center Boulevard
Mentor, Ohio 44060

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Mentor, Ohio

Residential Customer ECRWSS

MENTOR

FALL 2025 SPECIAL EDITION

WELCOME!

Are you new to Mentor?
Visit **cityofmentor.com**
and click on New Resident
Resources under the
Resident Info tab.

Published by the City of Mentor
8500 Civic Center Boulevard
Mentor, Ohio 44060

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logarusic@cityofmentor.com

www.cityofmentor.com



*"Freedom can never yield its fullness
of blessings so long as the law or its
administration places the smallest
obstacle in the pathway of any
virtuous citizen."*

- James A. Garfield



MENTOR CITY COUNCIL

Seated: (L-R) Janet A. Dowling – Councilperson at Large;
Sean P. Blake – President of Council, Councilperson,
Ward 1; and John A. Krueger – Vice-President of Council,
Councilperson, Ward 4.

Standing: (L-R) Ray Kirchner – Councilperson at Large;
Mark T. Freeman – Councilperson, Ward 3; Scott J. Marn
– Councilperson at Large; and Matthew E. Donovan –
Councilperson, Ward 2.

Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday at 7
p.m. at the Mentor Municipal Center. Meetings are open
to the public. To reach a member of City Council call (440)
974-5755 or email citycouncil@cityofmentor.com.

MEETING INFORMATION

Mentor City Council*
Mentor Municipal Center, 7:00 PM
September 2, 16
October 7, 21
November 3, 18

Board of Building & Zoning Appeals
Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
September 9
October 14
November 12

Municipal Planning Commission*
Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
September 4, 25
October 16
November 6

Tree Commission
Mentor Municipal Center, 4:30 PM
September 10
October 8
November 12

Community Arts Commission
Wildwood Cultural Center, 4:30 PM
September 4
October 2
November 6

*These meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum
Channel 1024, U-Verse Channel 99, online at
thementorchannel.com and on our ROKU, Apple,
Android, and Fire apps.



CITY OF MENTOR

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
LAKE CTY 211 GOV SERVICES & PROGRAMS	211
AQUA OHIO WATER	(877) 987-2782
CITY HALL MAIN SWITCHBOARD	(440) 255-1100
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE	(440) 974-5755
CODE ENFORCEMENT	(440) 974-5792
DOMINION /EAST OHIO GAS	(800) 362-7557
ENGINEERING/BUILDING PERMITS	(440) 974-5785
FIRST ENERGY POWER OUTAGES	(888) 544-4877
FIRE NON-EMERGENCY	(440) 255-1212
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	(440) 350-2543
ICE ARENA	(440) 974-5730
LAKE COUNTY MAIN	(800) 899-5253
LAKE COUNTY LANDFILL	(440) 350-2644
LAKE COUNTY UTILITIES SEWER 24/7	(440) 350-3431
LAKETRAN	(888) 525-3872
MENTOR COMMUNITY REC CENTER	(440) 205-3608
MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY MAIN	(440) 255-8811
MENTOR SCHOOLS MAIN	(440) 255-4444
MUNICIPAL COURT	(440) 974-5744
PARKS & RECREATION	(440) 974-5720
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	(440) 974-5740
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY	(440) 255-1234
PUBLIC INFORMATION	(440) 974-5794
PUBLIC WORKS PLOWING / ROAD REPAIR	(440) 974-5781
RITA REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY	(800) 860-7482
RECREATION CENTER	(440) 205-3608
SENIOR CENTER	(440) 974-5725
WASTE MANAGEMENT	(866) 797-9018
WILDWOOD CULTURAL CENTER	(440) 974-5735



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www.cityofmentor.com



BIRDING FESTIVAL RETURNS

The 2025 Headlands Birding Festival will take place
from September 19–21, 2025. The event celebrates
the fall migration of bird species traveling to their
wintering grounds, some as far away as South
America.

The Headlands and Mentor Marsh region hosts some
of the highest diversity and volume of migratory
birds in the state, with 352 species documented in
Lake County. This event welcomes birders and nature
enthusiasts of all ages and experience levels.

A welcome reception will be held on Friday evening
at the Springbrook Gardenhouse, featuring keynote
speaker Julie Zickefoose, a talented naturalist, writer,
and artist from Ohio's Appalachian foothills.

A full schedule of activities and presentations are
planned for Saturday at a number of locations
throughout Lake County.

The event will conclude on Sunday with a bird
banding demonstration, a flight watch at Lake Erie
Bluffs, and additional activities.

Registration is required. Learn more at
headlandsbirdingfestival.com.

STOP MEANS STOP

You've no doubt seen numerous videos
of careless drivers rolling past school
buses with their lights flashing.

Mentor school buses are equipped
with cameras, enabling bus drivers and
police to track down drivers who ignore
this important safety law.

There is simply no excuse to drive past a
school bus with its flashers on.

For the safety of our children, stop
means stop! All it takes is one moment
of lapsed judgment for tragedy to strike.

On roads with fewer than four lanes, all
traffic approaching a school bus from
either direction must stop at least 10
feet from the bus until the bus begins to
move or the driver signals motorists to
proceed.

On roads with four or more lanes, traffic
traveling in the same direction as the
school bus is required to stop.

Those who violate school bus traffic
stop laws may receive a \$500 fine
and could have their driver's license
suspended.

If you have questions, please contact
the Mentor Police Department at (440)
974-5760 or police@cityofmentor.com.

