

# Mentor

## SPECIAL EDITION

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor

SPRING 2016



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# Kids Love Summer Camp



**Make this a summer your children will always remember by enrolling them in summer camp.**

Mentor Recreation offers traditional day camps as well as specialty camps like Artist Camp, Cooking Camp and Sports Camps where kids can participate in golf, flag football, basketball and even scuba diving.

One-Week Camps begin the first full week of June and continue throughout the summer.

Most importantly, your kids are in good hands. Mentor Recreation is dedicated to providing an outstanding, fun and safe experience for all campers. Staffers are primarily adults and college students who are CPR and first aid certified. All staffers undergo a criminal background check before they are hired.

**Learn more at [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com) or call Mentor Recreation at 440-974-5720.**



## for your information

### Yard Waste Collection Program

Mentor's Yard Waste Collection Program begins April 4<sup>th</sup>. Residents may put out up to 12 units of yard waste each week on their regular collection day. A unit is a biodegradable bag or up to 32 gallon reusable container (marked YW) of grass clippings, trimmings twigs and leaves, or bundles of sticks (no more than 4 feet long and 3 inches in diameter). If you have questions about the City's Yard Waste Program, call the Public Works Department at 440-974-5781.



### Mentor Rents!

Are you planning a wedding, surprise party, baby shower or kid's birthday? The City of Mentor has over a dozen facilities available for rent, all at great rates, and you save even more if you're a Mentor resident. For information call 974-5720 or go to [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com).

### Spring Special Collections

Lake County will host two special waste collections this spring. A Computer Collection will take place on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Lake County Fairgrounds. Dispose of old computers, laptops, monitors, keyboards and other computer accessories.

A Scrap Tire Collection is scheduled for Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 8 AM to 1 PM at the Fairgrounds. Residents may drop off up to 6 tires without rims free of charge. Additional tires will be accepted for a fee.

These special collections are for Lake County residents only. For more information, call the Lake County Solid Waste District at 440-350-2908.

### Library Shred Day

The Mentor Public Library, in conjunction with Xpress Shredding, will offer a free shred day for Library patrons and residents. Up to 5 boxes or bags of documents per car will be accepted for secure shredding on Saturday, April 16 from 9 AM to 1 PM in the library's auxiliary parking lot on the corner of Mentor Avenue and Sharon Lee Drive. Thanks MPL!



## What you might not know about city income taxes

A few years ago, the state of Ohio dramatically reduced the amount of revenue it shared with local governments. This resulted in several million dollars of lost revenue for Mentor. It also placed an even greater emphasis on local income tax dollars to provide police, fire, infrastructure, and nearly all other public services. In fact, city income taxes now pay for about 75% of all general expenditures.

In Ohio, working persons pay city income taxes to the community where they work. Because so many non-residents are employed in Mentor, we are fortunate that nearly two-thirds of the city's total income tax revenues are collected from persons who live outside the city. This

outside revenue is one reason the city's 2% tax rate has not increased in several decades and isn't likely to in the future. And unlike what is paid to the state and federal government, every dollar of local income taxes stays in Mentor for the community good.

The city uses a part of its income tax revenue to keep and attract high-paying jobs that support our families. This work has paid off, as we currently have the lowest unemployment rate in Ohio for cities with 50,000 residents and larger. Keeping existing jobs, creating new ones, and maintaining a good business environment is more vital now than ever. Without healthy income tax collections, Mentor could not maintain the quality and diversity of services it now provides.



# Save on Swimming

Summer will be here before you know it! Purchase your Mentor Pool Pass online or in person between Monday, April 4 and Saturday, April 30 and save \$10 on a family pass or \$5 on an individual pass.

If you purchased a pass last year, you can renew it online at [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com). Once your payment has been processed, your existing pass will become valid and may be used when pools open.

**To purchase your pass in person, visit the Recreation Department weekdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Learn more at [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com).**



## It's All About Safety

For over 25 years, Mentor preschoolers have been learning about safety thanks to the Junior Women's Club of Mentor. Each summer volunteers from the Junior Women's Club team up with the Mentor Police and Fire Departments to present **Safety Town**.

The week-long interactive course teaches kids ages 4 to 6 years old important safety lessons, including safely exiting a school bus, fire safety, stranger danger, and traffic safety. Dates for this year's program are June 6 – 10 and June 13 – 17 with both morning and afternoon sessions offered each week.

Registration forms are available at the Mentor Recreation Department, Civic Arena, Mentor Public Library, and online at [mentorjuniorwomen.org](http://mentorjuniorwomen.org). Cost is \$40 if you register before April 15<sup>th</sup>. All sessions will be held at Garfield Elementary School, 7090 Hopkins Road

## Calendar of Events

**March 10**  
**Ladies Night Out - Chocolate Fondue**  
 Wildwood Cultural Center  
 7 – 9 PM  
 Adults 21+  
 Preregistration required.  
 Resident \$15/Nonresident \$18  
 Call 440-974-5720



**March 19**  
**Springtime Egg Hunt for Kids**  
 Wildwood Cultural Center  
 11 AM  
 Resident \$8/Nonresident \$12  
 Preregistration required.  
 Call 440-974-5720



**April 30**  
**Senior Center Garage Sale**  
 Mentor Senior Center  
 9 AM – 3 PM  
 HUGE Indoor Sale & Bake Sale.



**May 6**  
**Wildwood Singers Concert**  
 "Hooray for Hollywood"  
 Mentor Senior Center  
 7:30 PM  
 Tickets: \$5  
 Call 440-974-5735



**Tuesdays, May 24 – June 14**  
**Music at the Manor**  
 Wildwood Cultural Center  
 6:30 PM  
 Free. Bring a lawn chair.

Visit [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com), or call 440-974-5720 for more information on upcoming city events.



## Think Local. Act Global.

A contingent from Mentor will be traveling to Europe later this spring on a trade mission to Germany and the United Kingdom. The group will attend Hannover-Messe, the world's leading trade fair for Industrial Technology as well as meet with members of the British American Business Council in Birmingham to uncover new opportunities for investment in our city.

It's no secret that a strong economy results in a better quality of life. Attracting new high-tech investment and creating jobs in the City of Mentor are a few of the reasons the City established the Mentor International Trade Initiative (ITI) as a part of its economic development strategy.

The mission of the Mentor International Trade Initiative is to assist Mentor-based companies who seek to expand or develop new export markets as well as attract foreign investment to the City of Mentor.

Learn more about Mentor's International Trade Initiative at [www.mentorglobal.trade](http://www.mentorglobal.trade)

Global Business & Markets



# Help Keep Mentor Beautiful

The Great American Cleanup™, the country's largest community improvement program, kicks off in over 20,000 communities each spring. Over a million volunteers participate in beautification projects, recycling collections and litter collection activities across the nation.

The spring phase of the program, runs from March 1st to May 31st and is a great opportunity to make a difference right here in Mentor. Contact Bonnie Rice at 440-974-5780 or rice@cityofmentor.com to learn about existing projects that you or your group can participate in. We will help match you up with the best experience to fit your needs.



## Beautiful Gardens Start Here

Come to the Wildwood Garden Club's annual Spring Plant and Flower Sale at Wildwood Cultural Center on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 1 PM. You'll find a wide variety of reasonably priced plants and flowers which will enhance your landscape all year long.

Don't have a green thumb? Don't worry! Members of the Garden Club will be on hand to offer expert advice on how to care for your plants and flowers. The Spring Plant and Flower Sale will be held rain or shine.



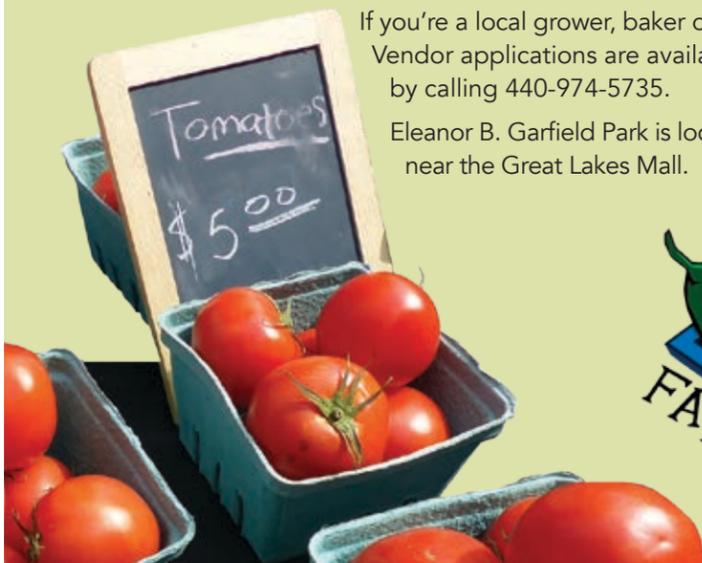
## Green Goodness at the Market

The Mentor Farmers Market will be back again this year under the trees at Garfield Park from 2 - 6 PM each Friday. This year's market is running from June 3<sup>rd</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Each week, you'll find fresh, seasonal produce from local farmers as well as artisanal goods and crafts. You'll love the variety of fare offered through the season. Be sure to stop by and purchase some tasty locally grown fruits and veggies and support your local food growers!

If you're a local grower, baker or artisan there is still time to participate. Vendor applications are available online at cityofmentor.com or by calling 440-974-5735.

Eleanor B. Garfield Park is located at 7967 Mentor Avenue, near the Great Lakes Mall.



# Under construction

The following projects are scheduled over the next few months:

## ROADS

### ■ Heisley Road Phase 3

The widening of Heisley Road from two lanes to four lanes between Jackson Street and Mentor Avenue is scheduled to be completed October 2016.

### ■ Road Repair Program

Approximately 24 city streets are scheduled to be repaired or resurfaced in 2016. Streets included this year are; Heather Hill Drive, Pekin Court, Welk Court, Villa Marina Court, Barkwood Court, Nearing Circle Drive, White Oak Drive, Market Street, East Avenue, Agard Court, Marian Drive, Edgehill Road, Oakdale Road, Spinach Drive, Hollycroft Lane, Eastmoor Road, Dartmoor Road, Commerce Drive, Enterprise Drive, Monroe Court, Olde Farm Lane, Champaign Drive, Lupine Drive and Rutland Drive.

### ■ Plaza Boulevard Extension Phase II

This project consists of extending Plaza Boulevard to Tyler Boulevard. Other than street lighting, the City has completed most of its work outside the railroad right-of-way. Railroad crossing work that is to be done by the railroads is expected to begin this summer.

### ■ I90/SR615 Interchange Enhancement

Interchange enhancements scheduled for this year include ornamental gateway wall construction at the west bound on and off ramps as well as decorative lighting installation north and south of the bridge. In addition, the City of Mentor name and seal will be installed on the bridge fencing for both east and west bound traffic on I-90.

## SIDEWALKS & BIKEWAYS

### ■ Newell Creek Bikeway

This project will provide a bike path system from Norton Parkway to SR 84 in dedicated open space for public use.

### ■ City Sidewalk Repair Program

The City will be advertising for construction bids in January for sidewalk repair work related to the 2015 Pedestrian Safety and Sidewalk Repair Program. The contractor selected will complete sidewalk repairs in Zone 1A of the City which is the area bounded by Munson Rd., Center St., Edgewood Rd., and Melshore Dr. The scheduled completion date for the work is June 2016.

## STORM DRAINAGE

### ■ Jenther Drive Storm Sewer Improvement

This project will remove 140 feet of undersized 12 inch storm sewer on the cul-de-sac end of Jenther Drive and replace it with 140 feet of 18 inch storm sewer. The project is scheduled to be complete by May 2016.

## PARKS

### ■ Wildwood Parking Lot Resurfacing, Bioretention and Permeable Pavers

This project will construct 4,800 square feet of permeable pavement, 2,200 square feet of bioretention, and resurface the parking lot at the Wildwood Cultural Center. The project is scheduled to be complete by June 2016.

### ■ Mentor Marina & Nature Preserve Green Infrastructure Gateway Parking Area

This project consists of installing approximately 24,600 square feet of permeable pavers and 3,200 square feet of bioretention cells at the trailhead and parking lot of the Mentor Marina & Nature Preserve. Stormwater runoff from a 20,000 square foot maintenance building and adjacent parking lot will be filtered through the permeable pavers and bioretention cells before it enters the Mentor Marsh. The project is expected to be completed by May 2016.

## Residential Customer ECRWSS

**Dated Material:** Deliver by March 2, 2016



### Welcome!

Are you new to Mentor?  
Let us know and we'll send you a New Resident Packet. Call us at (440) 974-5794 or send an e-mail to [pubinfo@cityofmentor.com](mailto:pubinfo@cityofmentor.com).

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### MENTOR CITY COUNCIL



Standing: (L-R) Council Vice-President John A. Krueger (Ward 4), Sean P. Blake (Ward 1), Scott J. Marn (At-Large), and Bruce R. Landeg (Ward 3). Seated: (L-R) Council President Janet A. Dowling (At-Large), Ray Kirchner (At-Large), and Matthew E. Donovan (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](mailto:citycouncil@cityofmentor.com).

### meeting information

**Mentor City Council\***  
Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM  
March 15  
April 5, 19  
May 3, 17

**Tree Commission**  
Mentor Municipal Center, 3 PM  
March 9  
April 13  
May 11

**Municipal Planning Commission\***  
Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM  
March 3, 24  
April 14  
May 5, 26

**Community Arts Commission**  
Wildwood Cultural Center, 3 p.m.  
March 3  
April 7  
May 5

**Board of Building & Zoning Appeals**  
Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM  
March 8  
April 12  
May 10

\*These meetings are broadcast live on The Mentor Channel. Time Warner channel 96.12 or 12; on ATT U-verse channel 99, and online and on demand at [TheMentorChannel.com](http://TheMentorChannel.com)

### Taming the Next Big Storm

In January, Mentor City Council voted to purchase a portion of the former Dale R. Rice Elementary School property to use as a stormwater retention area. The acquisition is for 18 acres of the rear portion of the property and does not include the building or playground area. Once completed, the project will help reduce flood risk to more than 300 homes in the area by catching and holding excess storm water; then slowly releasing it into the storm sewer system.

The \$234,000 purchase was paid for by a capital grant from the State of Ohio obtained with the assistance of State Senator John Eklund (District 18) and State Representative Ron Young (District 61).

Preliminary design of the retention area has begun, with construction expected to begin as early as 2017.



## Fire Education in Good Hands

The best defense in preventing fires and a host of other accidents isn't equipment, it's education.

The Mentor Fire Department has long supported the concept of educating residents to promote safety and help prevent fires and loss of property and life. Recently the Department welcomed one of their veteran firefighters as their new Public Education Specialist. He replaced Nathan Peters, who did an outstanding job in the role over for the past 5 years.

Firefighter/Paramedic Jerry Craddock brings years of experience to his new position. He started a part-time Mentor firefighter in 1985 and became a career firefighter/paramedic in 1992. Over the last five years, Jerry has also worked as a national coordinator for a non-profit water safety organization promoting safe boating and the importance of wearing life jackets.

Jerry has hit the ground running planning new and innovative new ways to get the safety message out to everyone, especially young people.

"I sincerely believe in the power of education! It's not that people don't want to be safe, it's just I think people need to be periodically reminded to be safe," he says.

While Jerry is respectful of the importance of safety messages, residents may be a bit surprised by the delivery method. According to Jerry, a non-traditional approach will make an impact and help people remember the messages.

"Let's face it, if I'm boring, people will tune me out, thus missing a valuable safety message. I need to make things interesting for folks and sell the value of my safety message," he concludes.

**Mentor Fire offers safety training to Mentor schools, organizations and businesses. Contact Mentor Fire Public Education at 440-974-5769 to learn more.**

