

Mentor

SPECIAL EDITION

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor

Don't be a Victim of Fraud

by Chief Kevin Knight



Residents should be aware of three different types of scams that we have seen in recent months. The first is a distraction burglary. One of two individuals will start up a conversation with the homeowner pretending to offer some type of service. This person will distract the homeowner by getting them to go outside or to a different part of the home. Meanwhile, a second person will enter the home and go directly to a bedroom where most people keep their valuables.

The case in Mentor involved a woman who talked to the homeowner about trimming trees and while they were in the back yard, her male partner made off with her valuables. During this fraud, the suspect was talking on a cell phone in a foreign language. Protect yourself by always asking for identification from unexpected visitors and by keeping your doors locked.

In another scam, a woman in a parking lot approached a resident. The woman had what appeared to be a large sum of money and was willing to split it with the resident. The suspect insisted that they go to the resident's bank to withdraw money as a "good faith" gesture to cover fees. A second suspect is usually involved posing as a banker, lawyer or trustworthy stranger. You should never pay money in order to receive money. This is also true of letters or emails claiming you have won a lottery. They usually involve wiring money for fees and taxes and are just another way to get you to part with your money.

A third scam targets seniors. The victim receives a phone call from someone pretending to be a grandchild. They will claim that they are out of town or out of the country and have a financial crisis they do not want their parents to know about. They may claim that they have been arrested or have been in an accident. They will ask to have money sent via Western Union or MoneyGram. Never send money without checking with family members first.

There are also frauds that involve phony but authentic-looking emails from banks, credit card companies, or government agencies asking to verify your account and personal information. Banks and government agencies will NEVER request or ask to verify personal information in this way. If you receive an email that appears suspicious, delete it and notify your bank or credit card company.



**Remember that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
When in doubt, call the Mentor Police Department at (440) 255-1234.**

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for your information

Need Assistance with Paying Winter Heating Bills?

Residents that might have trouble paying their natural gas or electric bills this winter are advised that there are financial assistance programs available through the State of Ohio. Eligibility depends upon income level and household size. Those interested should call the Ohio Development Services Agency at (800) 282-0880 or visit energyhelp.ohio.gov.



Yard Waste Collection Ends Soon

Residents with services through Waste Management can continue to set out up to 25 bags or bundles of leaves, branches or yard waste through Friday, December 13. The curbside collection will resume next spring. More details at cityofmentor.com; click on Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste under the LIVE tab.

Black Brook Golf Course and Practice Center Open Year Round

Take advantage of winter rates and play a round! Remember, if it's nice out (and of course, conditions allow) – we're open!



Thanks for Supporting 2013 Special Events

This was a big year for the City of Mentor. We celebrated our 50th anniversary and hosted a number of first time events. We could not have done it without the support of our generous sponsors. So, thank you to the following businesses that contributed financial support, volunteer assistance and donations of products and supplies. Look for the return of these successful events in 2014!



Headlands BeachFest (July)
Fine Arts Association
Headlands Beach State Park
Lake Health
Lake Metroparks
Mentor Public Library
Mentor Schools
STERIS Corporation
The News-Herald
Lake National Bank
Mentor Economic Assistance Corporation



Mentor Farmers Market & Final Fridays at Civic Center (May-September)
Chipotle Mexican Grill

MENTOR CITYfest
LOCAL FOOD • LIVE MUSIC • FUN & GAMES

Mentor CityFest presented by Lake Health (August)
Aqua Ohio
Classic Autogroup

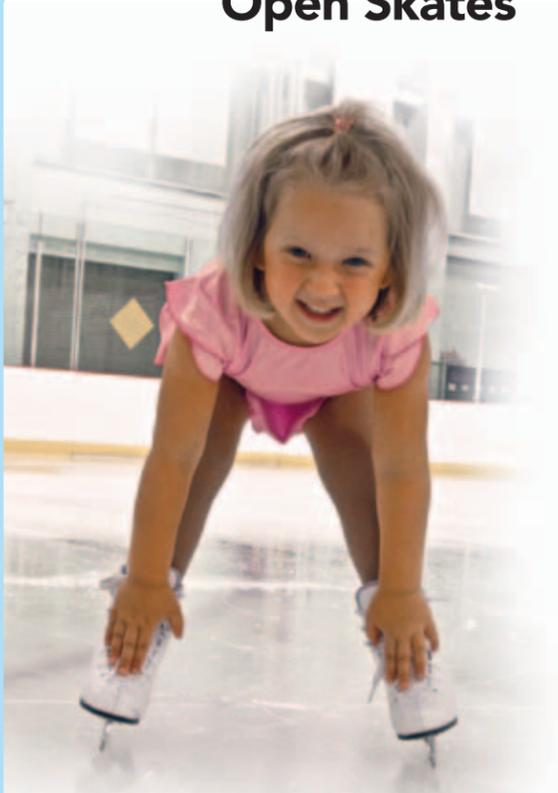
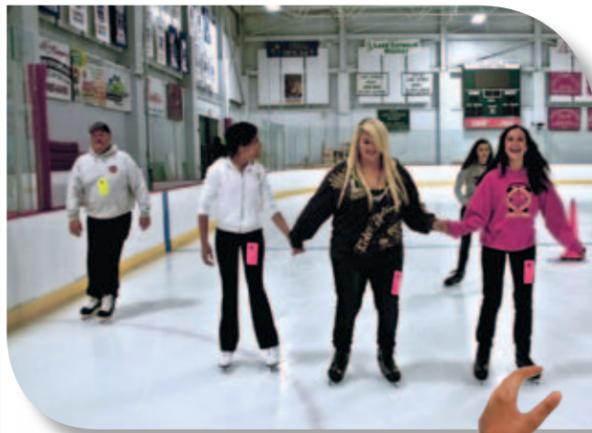
EYE Lighting International
Giant Eagle
Hooley House
Howard Hanna Real Estate Services
Lincoln Electric
Medical Mutual
Parker Hannifin Corporation
Petitti Garden Centers
Red, Wine & Brew
STERIS Corporation
The Bicycle Hub
Walmart
Waste Management, Inc.
Yuengling

Come to the COOLEST SPOT IN TOWN

Mentor Ice Arena Hosts Holiday Special Events and Open Skates

Holiday Figure Skating Performance

Enjoy a free holiday gift from the Mentor Figure Skating Club and the City of Mentor. Watch figure skating at its finest as the Mentor Figure Skating Club, Mentor Ice Diamonds Synchronized Teams and Learn-to-Skate students perform this special holiday show. Sunday, December 15, 4 - 6:30 PM. Free Admission.



Holiday Family Skate

On Sunday, December 22 from 1:30-3:30, we'll host a special skating event for the entire family! The Studio Rink will be open for skaters under age 8. \$4 per person, skate rental \$2 per person.

Free Ice Skating Lessons!

Our skating professionals invite the entire community for a free skate lesson! Purchase an admission to our 12 Noon Open Skate and come early for a free introductory lesson. Enjoy your time on the ice with confidence! December 30 and 31, 11:30 AM - 12 Noon

New Year's Eve Special

All three rinks will be open for this special evening skate! Come for the music, skating, and prizes! December 31, 6 - 9 PM. \$4 per person, skate rental \$2 per person

Holiday Open Skate Schedule

December 26 – January 5, 2014
Noon - 2 PM • 2:30 - 4:30 PM • 7 - 9 PM (except January 5)
Closed December 24 & 25. Our regular schedule resumes Monday, January 6.



Under construction

The following projects are scheduled over the next few months:

- The Plaza Boulevard extension consists of extending Plaza Boulevard across the NS and CSX railroad tracks to about 1,500 feet north of Mentor Avenue. It will intersect with St. Clair Avenue and connect with Tyler Boulevard via Clover Avenue. The project is expected to be complete by mid-July, 2014.
- The City has been inspecting sidewalks in Zone 3B as part of this year's pedestrian safety program. Zone 3B is generally located between Bellflower Road, Reynolds Road, Lake Shore Boulevard and Melshore Drive. In July and August, the City sent out notifications, via certified mail, to property owners regarding sidewalk deficiencies.

Calendar of Events

December 8, 10 AM – 4 PM
**Wildwood's Annual Holiday
Display & Craft Show**
Wildwood Cultural Center,
Admission \$1



December 10, 7:30 PM
**Hillcrest Concert Band
Christmas Concert**
Mentor Senior Center. Includes
light refreshments. Cost \$5;
register by December 6.



December 13, 7:30 PM
**Wildwood Singers
Holiday Concert**
Mentor Senior Center, Free



Visit cityofmentor.com, or call
974-5720 for information on city events.

Mentor Ice Arena, 8600 Munson Road, (440) 974-5730

The Power of 50

Fifty years ago this month, the City of Mentor became the largest city in Lake County. At the same time, a minimum wage worker was earning \$50 a week, thanks to an hourly wage increase to \$1.25. Compare that to the minimum wage today of \$7.85.

Your dollar really did go farther back in the 60s. How many remember when you could pull up to a gas station and say, "Gimme a dollar's worth." You could also send letters to 25 friends for \$1. Or, you could buy a complete meal for \$1 that included a double-decker burger with fries, salad and ice cream. For 30 cents more, you could get a complete fried chicken or shrimp dinner. But for a real deal, the lunch counter offered a hot dog and coke for less than two quarters. At the same time, a copy of *Life* or *Time* magazine cost 35 cents and a six-pack of your favorite American brew could be picked up for just 99 cents.

But, before you get too nostalgic, remember that the median income was less than \$7,000. Other cost comparisons:

	1963	2013
Movie ticket	\$.86	\$ 7.96
Beach Boys concert ticket	\$4.00	\$45.00
Tide laundry detergent, 49 oz.	\$.69	\$ 7.54
Loaf of bread, 1 lb.	\$.20	\$ 1.41
Gas, 1 gallon	\$.30	\$ 3.29
First class postage stamp	\$.04	\$.46
Coffee, 1 lb.	\$.69	\$ 6.01
Pork chops, 1 lb.	\$.88	\$ 3.53

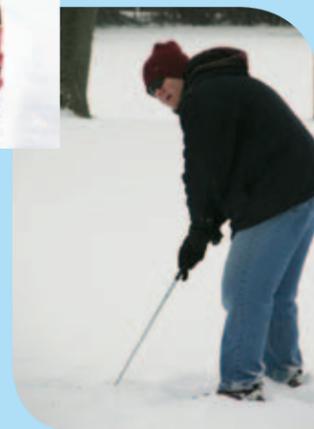


What Other Events Occurred in 1963?

- Beatles recorded their debut album, "Please Please Me"
- The Hula-Hoop was patented
- Harvey Ball invented the ubiquitous smiley face symbol
- Mary Kay Ash launched Mary Kay Cosmetics
- The first James Bond film, "Dr. No" was shown in U.S. theaters
- Coca-Cola introduced its first diet drink, Tab
- Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I have a dream" speech at the March on Washington
- The Pro Football Hall of Fame opened in Canton
- Of course, everything that happened that year was overshadowed by the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, wikipedia.com, history.com



Lake County Chili Open

**Saturday, January 25
Black Brook Golf Course
and Practice Center**

Get ready for the biggest winter golf event in Northeast Ohio! Golfers will play nine snowy holes followed by hot lunch of chili, hot dogs, and hot chocolate. Prizes awarded to the top three winning teams and door prizes are raffled throughout the day. The cost is \$18.

The Chili Open is sponsored by the City of Mentor with proceeds benefiting the United Way of Lake County. Register by January 22 by calling Mentor Recreation at (440) 974-5720. If the course is not covered with snow, we'll play the normal yardage – so bring your whole set of clubs.

If you're interested in sponsoring a hole, contact United Way of Lake County at (440) 352-3166.

The Dangers of Sky Lanterns



Sky lanterns, or wish lanterns, are small, hot air balloons made of paper. The English refer to them as Chinese lanterns. Canadians have dubbed them high-flying fireworks.

But in a growing number of US cities, they're called "a serious threat to fire and life."

The sky lanterns are sometimes used during celebrations, but they are unpredictable and impossible to control. There is an opening at the bottom where a lighted candle heats the air trapped within the paper lantern, causing it to rise into the sky. Once the lantern reaches the air currents, it's completely up to nature as to how long it stays aloft. And there's no telling where it will come down.

Mentor Fire Officials will not issue permits for these devices, warning that they are a serious fire and safety hazard, especially in a community like ours.

"Anyone releasing lanterns can be held responsible for the damage they may cause," said Mentor Fire Chief Richard Harvey. "Once launched, a sky lantern is unpredictable. They could land in the Mentor Marsh or on someone's roof possibly resulting in an uncontrolled fire." If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Office at (440) 974-5768.

Residential Customer ECRWSS



Dated Material: Deliver by December 5, 2013

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is produced quarterly to inform Mentor residents.

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.

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with **Biolocity™** environmentally responsible inks.

MENTOR CITY COUNCIL



Seated (l-r): Janet A. Dowling, Council President Scott J. Marn, and Council Vice-President Ray Kirchner. Standing (l-r): Bruce R. Landeg, John A. Krueger, Matthew E. Donovan and Robert M. Shiner.

Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Center. Meetings are open to the public and can be viewed live over the Time Warner cable system on Channel 12 and on AT&T's U-verse Channel 99.

meeting information

Mentor City Council*

Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
January 7, 21
February 4, 18

Municipal Planning Commission*

Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
December 5
January 9, 30
February 20

Board of Building & Zoning Appeals

Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
December 10
January 14
February 11

Tree Commission

Mentor Municipal Center, 3 PM
December 11
January 8
February 12

*These meetings are broadcast live on
**The Mentor Channel 12, on AT&T U-verse
channel 99, and online and on demand at
TheMentorChannel.com.**

Christmas Tree Drop-Off Sites

After the holidays are over, you can take your tree to one of four drop-off sites: Edward R. Walsh Park, 7221 Bellflower Road (behind Farmington Meadows development); Eleanor B. Garfield Park, 7967 Mentor Avenue; Donald E. Krueger Park, 7556 Chillicothe Road, or Morton Park, 9325 Rosemary Lane.

The drop-off sites are open until January 31st. Please remove all decorations before leaving your tree in the designated area. Trees will NOT be picked up at the curb with recyclable materials.



Chamber Recognizes Community Leaders

Since 1965, the Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce has honored outstanding leaders and businesses that enrich the Mentor community through their accomplishments and activities. The 2013 winners were announced last month at the Chamber's monthly luncheon meeting.

Our congratulations to the winners:



Citizen of the Year:

Richard L. Harvey
Mentor Fire Chief



Business Leader of the Year:

Morris W. Beverage Jr.,
President, Lakeland
Community College



Business of the Year:

Lake National Bank

