

# Fall 2018 SPECIAL EDITION

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor



## RESTORING A NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK

Until a few years ago, most area residents under the age of 50 would have been surprised to learn that the Mentor Marsh was once a lush wetland forest. This rich, unique ecosystem was spoiled in the 1960s when salt tailings were dumped into the eastern end of the basin. As native trees and plants died off, the invasive, salt-tolerant plant, Phragmites australis, began to dominate the landscape.

Fortunately, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH) has been committed to the restoring the Mentor Marsh with a coalition of government and agency partners.

Since the 1980s, remediation efforts to reduce salt contamination have been ongoing, and have led to steady improvement of the ecosystem. For the past six years, the CMNH has been working to restore the Marsh by removing the Phragmites and encouraging native plant growth. This past spring, the Museum aerially seeded approximately 40 acres of the Marsh east of Corduroy Road with a mix of 200 million seeds composed of approximately 20 different wetland species of plants, including halfgrasses and sedges, as well as half-flowering plants like blue flag iris and swamp rose mallow.

The staff, with the help of contractors, partners, volunteers and community service personnel, have also planted over 30,000 specimens of 23 species native to the Marsh to help restore the habitat.

Eradication of the Phragmites and re-establishment of native species has set this unique ecosystem on the road to recovery and the results are already apparent.

Birds, fish and other wildlife, including rare specimens such as the American and Least Bitterns, Virginia, King and Sora Rails, have also

Fall Migration begins in late July, but the best month to see migrating songbirds is September. Look for Vireos, Thrushes and Warblers as they



returned to the area.

#### And, you can see the

results for yourself! Visit the Marsh to observe a wide variety of birds as they stop at to feed and rest on their way to their winter nesting sites.

pass through the Marsh and take a moment to appreciate this Mentor treasure as work continues to restore the natural



### **HONORING OUR HEROES**

Veteran's Day Commemoration at the Mentor Senior Center

The City of Mentor will honor the brave men and women who have served our country on Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11th.

A ceremony to pay tribute and celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of all U.S. veterans will take place at 11:11 AM at the City's Veterans Memorial located on the corner of Center Street and Civic Center Boulevard adjacent to the Mentor Senior

Veteran groups are warmly invited to participate. Please contact the Mentor Recreation Department at (440) 974-5720 for details. The ceremony will be recorded and aired at a later date on the Mentor Channel for those who are unable to attend.



The Mentor Senior Center will also be hosting a Pancake Breakfast and Recognition Event which is free for all Veterans at 9:30 AM on Saturday, November 10th.

Reservations must be made in advance by calling the Mentor Senior Center at 440-974-5725.

Non-Veteran guest breakfasts are available for a small fee.



#### **INSIDE**

Follow the Blue Blazes **Fall Into Fun RITA Income Tax Filing Notice Move Over & Slow Down** 

...and more!

#### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

#### **DEER SEASON**

2018/2019 Deer Bow Hunter Permit Applications are available at the Mentor Municipal Center, or for download at cityofmentor.com/natural-resources. Hunting is only permitted on properties where the owner has granted permission. An archery proficiency test form must be returned with your application.

#### **FALL YARD WASTE COLLECTION**

The amount of yard waste homeowners can put out each week increases from 12 to 25 units the week of October 22nd. A unit is one bag, bundle or container of yard waste. If you have questions about the Yard Waste Program, call the Public Works Department at 440-974-5780.

#### **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 prior approval of the Fire Prevention Bureau by calling (440) 974-5768.

#### **POWER OUTAGE - WHO DO I CALL?**

If your power goes out call the Illuminating Company's Automated Outage Reporting Line at (888) 544-4877. Doing so will allow the Illuminating Company to restore service that much quicker. Please do NOT call 911. Only call 911 to report a crime in progress, or a fire, or if an ambulance is needed.

#### **ELECTRIC UTILITY CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

There are many programs available to Ohio customers who are having difficulty paying their electric utility bills. First Energy has information on different programs which you may qualify for. Contact The Illuminating Company at (800) 589-3101 or visit cityofmentor.com and click on the Resident Info menu for details.

#### **STAY UP TO DATE**

Download the City of Mentor App and receive timely alerts involving road closures and other emergencies.

Did you cut the cord? You can now watch the Mentor Channel live on ROKU, Apple and Android devices on our Mentor Channel App.

Download links available at cityofmentor.com/connect





Days get shorter, the weather gets cooler, and nature puts on a spectacular color display. Celebrate the season by taking a walk in our parks or registering for these City of Mentor events.

#### **FAMILY SCARECROW CONTEST**

Get into the spirit by building a scarecrow. Registration fee includes a kit consisting of wood, nails, and straw, to take home and create the ultimate scarecrow. Bring your finished masterpiece to Wildwood where it will be on display and judged. First, Second and Third Prize will be awarded. Scarecrow kits available the week of September 17th. Scarecrows go on display October 15th. Resident cost is \$20/\$25 Nonresidents. Call 440-974-5735.

#### **MYSTERIES OF THE MANOR TRAIL**

It's a good old-fashioned hayride with a spooky story, camp fire, snacks, and glow sticks for the kids. Decorate a pumpkin, climb the hay pyramid, wear a costume, join the costume parade, play games, and enjoy the brisk fall evening. Friday and Saturday, October 19th and 20th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at Wildwood Cultural Center. Cost is just \$7 for Residents and \$9 for Nonresidents. 2 and under free. Call 440-974-5735

#### **HOWL-O-WEEN PARTY FOR DOGS**

Join us for a Free Halloween party just for dogs at the Mentor Dog Park on Friday October 19th at 5:30 PM. Contests, prizes and doggone good fun. Dogs must be vaccinated, licensed, and not be in heat, to visit the dog park. The Mentor Dog Park is located at 6645 Hopkins

#### **WILDWOOD HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Costume party for kids ages 4 to 8 years-old. Dress up and enjoy games stories and even Trick or Treat at Wildwood. Wednesday, October 24 from 4 to 5 PM. Cost \$5 residents/\$6 Nonresidents. Register by calling 440-974-5735.

#### **HALLOWEEN SKATE**

Come in costume to the Mentor Ice Arena on Friday, October 26th from 8:30 to 10:30 PM. Skate to a DJ playing both spooky and popular tunes, play games and win prizes. Admission is just \$5 with free skate rental for those in costume.

#### TRICK OR TREAT

Calling all ghosts and goblins! Trick or Treat on Wednesday, October 31st from 6 to 8 PM



#### **COMFORT 54 NOW IN SERVICE**

In the United States alone, it is estimated that over 1.7 million people will be diagnosed with some form of cancer in 2018. Treatment can leave those affected feeling self-conscious and lonely.

The City of Mentor wants to make it clear that no one fighting cancer is alone and that they will always have the support of the community

Recently, Mentor Reserve Fire Engine 1154 was wrapped in lavender to support and comfort those in the community and in the firefighting fraternity that are afflicted by this terrible disease.

The project was completed at no cost to the taxpayer. Materials and labor were donated by Mentor based Avery-Dennison, MC Sign Company and Visual Graphics. Work was conducted at Mentor Fire Station 5 and took over 120 man-hours.

This fire engine was renamed "Comfort 54" and presented to the public on August 21st. All of those affected by cancer have the opportunity to write their personal tribute on the truck as it makes its way around the community in the coming years as reminder that no one is left alone in this fight.





#### IT'S TURKEY ROLL TIME

What's more fun than cooking a Thanksgiving turkey? How about bowling with the holiday bird? The Turkey Roll on Ice is back this year at the Mentor Ice Arena. Gather a team of four and get ready for some fun. Choose a team name and team uniform (pilgrim hats, giant drumsticks, matching bowling shirts - be creative) and test your turkey bowling skills. Prizes are awarded for the top bowlers, best team name, and uniform. The only requirement is team members must wear rubber-soled shoes. Register for the Turkey Roll on Ice at the Mentor Ice Arena on Saturday, November 17th at 7 PM. Cost to participate is \$80 per team. You're welcome to bring your own adult beverage of choice; snacks will be provided. 21+ only.

To register call 440-974-5720.

## GET READY FOR SOME FOOTGOL

FootGolf is the trendy new team sport combing the sports of Soccer and Golf into one fun game. The basic premise of the game is much like golf - a player must kick a soccer ball into a cup in as few shots as possible.

The game was invented in Europe in the 1990s and has spread to other countries and continents since. In 2011 an American FootGolf League was formed, and the game has spread to all 50 states and is played on over 500 US Golf Courses.

And now you can experience FootGolf at Mentor's Black Brook Golf Course...with an added twist. The game will be played at night with a glowing course and a light up soccer ball. Gather your four-person team and mark your calendars for Saturday, September 29th. Cost to play is just \$20 per person and no special equipment is necessary to play. Tee times start at 7:30 p.m. Call the Parks & Recreation Department at 440-974-5720 to book yours today.



#### October 6

#### **Mascot Day**

Skate with your favorite Mascots at the Mentor Ice Arena. 1:30 - 3:30 PM. Admission: \$5/Skate rental free

#### October 31

#### Halloween

Trick or treating is from 6 - 8 PM in the City of Mentor. Please drive safely and be mindful of ghouls and goblins crossing the road.

#### November 4

#### Wildwood Quilt Guild Small Quilt Show & Sale

Mentor Senior Center, 10 AM - 4 PM. See the display of award winning quilts. \$3 donation at the door.

#### November 10

#### **Veteran's Day Breakfast**

Mentor Senior Center, 9:30 - 11 AM. Pancake Breakfast and recognition event free for Veterans. Reservations must be made in advance by calling the Mentor Senior Center at 440-974-5725. Small fee for guest breakfasts.

#### November 11

#### **Veteran's Day Ceremony**

Join us as we honor the men and women who have served our country from 11 AM - 12 PM at the Mentor Veteran's Memorial located adjacent to the Mentor Senior Center.

#### November 17

#### **Arts & Crafts Sale**

Mentor Senior Center, 9 AM - 3 PM. Huge sale with hand-made items great for Christmas! Bake Sale too! Free admission. Call 440-974-5725 for details.

#### November 17

#### **Turkey Roll on Ice**

Mentor Ice Arena, 7 - 9 PM. Register your team of four today. 21+ only. Snacks provided and you are welcome to bring your own beverage of choice. Team members must wear rubber soled shoes.

Visit cityofmentor.com/calendar or call 440-974-5720 for more information on these and other upcoming city events.



**MOVE OVER & SLOW DOWN** 

Many people don't know about it, or simply don't observe it but in the state of Ohio, drivers are required to move over one lane or to slow down when approaching a stationary emergency or maintenance vehicle displaying flashing lights on all Ohio interstates and state highways.

The original Move Over Law was passed back in 1999 with the intention of protecting police officers and emergency responders. The law expanded in 2013 to apply to every stationary vehicle with flashing lights including road construction, maintenance, and utility crews.

And, police are serious about enforcement; you could be fined \$300 for your first offense.

Across the US, hundreds of people are killed or injured every year when they're struck by a vehicle after pulling over to the side of the road or highway. On average, these "struck-by" crashes kill one tow-truck driver every six days; 23 highway workers and one law-enforcement officer every month; and five firefighters every year.

Here in Mentor we've experienced tragedy firsthand when Officer Mat Mazany was struck on State Route 2 while assisting another Mentor Officer with a traffic stop earlier this summer.

Help avert another tragedy. If you see a vehicle on the side of the highway with lights flashing, move over and slow down.

It's not only the law, you could be saving a life.

### 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.





#### **RITA INCOME TAX FILING NOTICE**

Some Mentor residents may have recently received a letter from RITA (Regional Income Tax Agency). With respect to the amount of fraudulent mail that is often received, we want to let you know that this letter is legitimate and is being sent to tax payers who may have missed filing a municipal tax return in recent years.

You may not owe any income tax and may have simply forgotten to file, but if you have received the letter, please follow the enclosed instructions. Not responding to the letter will likely result in a formal subpoena.

RITA maintains a local office on the First Floor of the Mentor Municipal Center, with hours limited to Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

For additional information, you can also call 800-860-7482 or visit **cityofmentor.com/income-tax**.

## **FOLLOW THE BLUE BLAZES**

#### Mentor is now a Buckeye Trail Town

Mentor was officially recognized as a Buckeye Trail Town by the Ohio Buckeye Trail Association during a ceremony at last month's CityFest as representatives from the Association and the City took to the Amphitheater stage to mark the partnership.

A Trail Town offers support and information to hikers and helps promote the trail system to residents and visitors. The 1,400-mile Buckeye Trail loops through Ohio traversing park lands, nature preserves, historic site and country roads providing hikers a unique view of the Buckeye State. Blue blazes mark the way guiding folks along the approximately 12-mile stretch of trail in Mentor leading hikers though Civic Center Park on the way to beautiful views of Lake Erie.

As a Buckeye Trail Town, we'll let hikers know about all the great amenities here in Mentor, along with outstanding attractions like the Garfield National Historic Site, the Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve and the Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve.

We'll also provide information about special events happening in the City, including Headlands BeachFest, Mentor Rocks Concerts, the Mentor Marsh Bald Eagle Fest, and events at the Garfield Site, so that hikers can plan their visit to include attending special events when they walk the Mentor portion of the Buckeye Trail.

We're proud to add the Buckeye Trail Town designation to Mentor's list of accomplishments and encourage all residents to follow the blue blazes and experience the Buckeye Trail here in Mentor and beyond.



## **UNDER**CONSTRUCTION

#### **SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2018**

#### **ROADS**

#### **Marigold Road Reconstruction Project**

Work on the project to reconstruct Marigold Road from Woodridge Lane to Lake Overlook Drive will be completed by October, 2018.

#### **Orchard Road Reconstruction Project**

This project will reconstruct Orchard Road from Woodridge Lane to Lake Overlook Drive. Work will begin this Fall and is scheduled for completion in late 2019.

#### **Hopkins Road Bridge Replacement**

Lake County is replacing the Hopkins Road Bridge over Martin Ohm Ditch (0.35 miles north of Hendricks Road). Hopkins Road was closed and traffic detoured starting in early May 2018 and is scheduled to reopen to traffic in October, 2018.

#### **Hopkins Road Resurfacing Project**

This project will repair and resurface Hopkins Road from Mentor Avenue to SR-84. Construction will begin in August, 2018 and will be completed by the end of October, 2018.

#### **Center Street - City Market Project**

This project will construct a southbound right turn lane on Center Street to enter the new City Market site. Center Street will be resurfaced from SR-2 to Fracci Court. New traffic signals will be installed at the Tyler Boulevard and Center Street entrances to the City Market site. Utility relocation work began in the spring and construction is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2018.

#### **Diamond Centre Drive Lane Extension**

The westbound right turn lane will be extended from Heisley Road to Emerald Court. An eastbound right turn lane into the new Menards site will also be constructed. Two-way traffic will be maintained with narrowed lanes to allow for the construction. Work will begin in mid-September and is anticipated to be complete by late November, subject to utility relocation schedules.

#### **SIDEWALK AND BIKEWAY**

#### **Pedestrian Safety Program**

Sidewalk repairs in Zone 3A will be complete by September 2018. Zone 3A is bounded by Bellflower Road, SR 306, SR 2 and Independence Place Condominiums.

#### STORM DRAINAGE

#### Two Town Ditch Restoration

This project entailed the restoration of approximately 2,700 lineal feet of existing stream bed and create approximately 900 lineal feet of intermittent stream between Bellflower Road and Jeremy Avenue. Along with stream restoration, the project included the construction of new and enhanced wetland areas to promote water quality treatment and provide stormwater detention. The project is substantially complete and restoration on this project should be complete by the end of September, 2018.

#### **Brighton Road Outfall Improvement**

This project will replace a deteriorated 12-inch corrugated metal pipe stormwater outfall for Brighton Rd. and Headlands Rd. towards the Lake.

#### Stormwater Detention at Dale R. Rice School

The stormwater detention project behind the Dale R. Rice school is designed to help reduce flooding along Raymond Drive at Brooks and Dawson Boulevards and Meadowbrook and Dunbar Drives. Construction is expected to begin this fall with substantial completion in Summer 2019.

#### PARKS

#### Springbrook Park

Springbrook Park is located on the west side of Heisley Road between Mentor Avenue and Jackson Street. Construction of the grade, roadway, parking lots and walkways are underway and scheduled for completion this fall. Additional improvements including picnic shelters, boardwalk and a playground will be completed in 2019.

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 161 Mentor, Ohio

## Residential Customer ECRWSS

**Dated Material:** Deliver by September 25, 2018

## EALL 2018 SPECIAL EDITION

#### **WELCOME!**

Are you new to Mentor? Let us know and we'll send you a New Resident Packet. Call (440) 974-5794 or email pubinfo@cityofmentor.com.

#### Published by the City of Mentor

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#### **MENTOR CITY COUNCIL**

Standing: (L-R) Matthew E. Donovan (Ward 2), Scott J. Marn (At-Large), Ray Kirchner (At-Large), and Sean P. Blake (Ward 1).

Seated: (L-R) Council Vice-President Bruce R. Landeg (Ward 3), Council President John A. Krueger (Ward 4), and Janet A. Dowling (At-Large).

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 <a href="mailto:emailt

## MEETING INFORMATION

Mentor City Council\* Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM September 4, 18 October 2, 16 November 5 (Monday), 20

Municipal Planning Commission\* Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM September 6, 27 October 18 November 8, 29

Board of Building & Zoning Appeals Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM September 11 October 9 November 13

**Tree Commission**Mentor Maintenance Facility, 4 PM
September 12
October 10
November 14

Community Arts Commission Wildwood Cultural Center, 3 PM September 6 October 4 November 1

\*These meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 1024, U-Verse Channel 99, online at thementorchannel.com and on our app.

### **RECYCLE OFTEN...RECYCLE RIGHT**



Have you ever heard the phrase, "one bad apple spoils the bunch?" The same is true for recycling, where one non-recyclable item can spoil an entire batch of otherwise good materials.

You **can recycle** glass and plastic bottles & containers, food and beverage cans & cartons, as well as paper, flattened cardboard, and paperboard.

Please remember to leave your recyclables loose in the bin. Do not bag them.

You **cannot recycle** food waste, plastic bags and film, foam cups and containers, or needles.

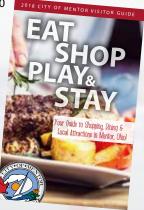
It may seem like such a small detail – a wrong item in the recycling bin – but it represents a global problem that's preventing thousands of tons of recyclables from ever seeing a second life. Find additional information at cityofmentor.com. For questions, please call Waste Management Customer Service Center Toll Free at (800) 633-9096.

## WHERE ARE YOU EATING TODAY?

Go to **visitmentor.com** to download a copy of our Visitor's Guide which contains information on restaurants, shopping, events, activities and more.

Mentor is home to over 300 retailers and 170 eateries. It might surprise you to learn that over 135 of these establishments are independently owned and operated.

Thank you for supporting our businesses!



### **PRO HOCKEY COMES TO MENTOR**

Northeast Ohio will welcome its newest professional sports team as the expansion Mentor Ice Breakers hit the ice this October as a part of the Single-A Federal Hockey League (FHL).

Now in its 9th season, the FHL consists of 6 teams in 5 states. Teams play a 58-game regular season schedule which runs from October through April. The team will play its home games at the Mentor Ice Arena. The league features players from around the world and the team offers local hockey hopefuls a great opportunity to play professionally and advance their careers.

The City of Mentor is thrilled to have been selected as home for the FHL's newest expansion team. League officials have recognized that Northeast Ohio is hotbed for hockey and we are looking forward to the puck hitting the ice this October.

The franchise promises to deliver a fun, family-friendly, professional hockey experience with tickets starting at just \$10.00. The team anticipates an average attendance of approximately 1,000 per home game.

Learn more at www.mentoricebreakers.com.



