



MENTOR

Spring 2020 **SPECIAL EDITION**

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor



SPRING TIME FUN!

Winter is over and spring is just an egg hunt away! Hop into springtime with a City of Mentor Egg Hunt offered for both children and adults!

Glide in to the Mentor Ice Arena for the **Frost Bound Egg Hunt** on Saturday, March 28th from Noon to 1 PM. Hunt for eggs and paint the ice with colorful spring designs. Don't skate? Don't worry! The event just requires rubber soled shoes. Cost is just \$10 for residents, \$12 for nonresidents, and includes admission to the 1:30 PM Open Skate. Skate rental is available for \$3.

Hop over to the Mentor Civic Amphitheater on Saturday, April 4th at 11 AM for the **Springtime Egg Hunt for Kids**. This event is for children ages 2 to 10 years-old and features the floppy-eared harbinger of the season – the Easter Bunny. Meet and greet the big rabbit (and even get a picture or two), decorate a cookie, and then hunt for the over 1,000 eggs which he has "hidden" on the grounds. Children will be divided into age groups and are guaranteed at least 10 eggs each. Cost is \$10 for residents and \$12 for nonresidents.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

Earth Day was first celebrated in 1970. Over the past 50 years, over 1 billion people have participated in events around the world. The Earth Day Network's mission is to build the world's largest environmental movement to drive transformative change for people and planet.

Find out what you can do locally at the Mentor's Earth Day Eco-Fair! On Saturday, April 25th, from 10 AM to 3 PM, join City of Mentor Natural Resources and Keep Mentor Beautiful staff to learn how to live a greener life in our City. Experts from environmental groups will be on-hand to demonstrate ways to improve the environment and help the planet. Learn about native plants, rain gardens and habitat preservation. The day will also feature kid-

friendly activities, information on volunteer opportunities and a hands-on demonstration on how to make upcycled crafts and turn discarded items into things of beauty.

Several vendors will be on hand selling healthy and delicious food, and locally sourced items like honey, all-natural soaps, as well as native plants to encourage pollinators and enhance the local landscape.

The Eco-Fair will take place at Springbrook Gardens Park, 9842 Heisley Road. Admission is free.



And, why should kids have all the fun? The **Adult Flashlight Dash** is a chance for adults 21 and over to kick up their heels in a challenging all-out-sprint to collect great prizes at Black Brook Golf Course on Saturday April 4 at 7:30 PM. Armed with flashlights, participants will gather as many of the 4,000 eggs that are hidden in the dark as possible. Over 100 of the eggs contain prizes. Snacks are included and adult beverages are available for purchase. Cost is \$20 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents.



Registration is required for each of these events. Register online at cityofmentor.com or by calling Mentor Parks and Recreation at (440) 974-5720.

INSIDE

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2020 Yard Waste Collection Program
Mentor's Yard Waste Collection Program begins April 6th. Residents can 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). Questions? Call (440) 974-5781.

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 25th from 9 AM to 1 PM in the library's auxiliary parking lot on the corner of Mentor Avenue and Sharon Lee Drive.

Free Mentor Visitor Guide
The Mentor Visitor Guide contains information on where to eat, shop, play, and stay in Mentor! Available at City facilities or download at visitmentor.com.

City Tax Assistance
April 15th is the deadline to file City taxes. If you need assistance with your tax form, stop in at the RITA office located on the first floor of the Mentor Municipal Center. The office is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 1 PM and 1:30 to 5 PM. Help is also available online at ritaohio.com or by calling 800-860-RITA.

Mentor Dog Park
The Mentor Dog Park is located at 6647 Hopkins Road and is open daily from dawn to dusk. The park features secure areas where dogs can run and play off leash while socializing with other four-legged friends. A small dog area is available.

Lake County Special Collections
Dropoffs are available for Lake County residents ONLY at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Avenue.

April 25 - Computers & Electronics
9 AM - 1 PM. Computer equipment, VCRs, DVD players, coffee makers and most corded electronic items. No TVs.

May 2 - Scrap Tire Collection
8 AM - 1 PM. Drop off up to 6 tires without rims free of charge. Additional tires accepted for a fee.

May 9 - Television & CRT Monitor
9 AM - 3 PM. Small fee for some items. Cash/Check only.

For more information, call (440) 350-2908 or visit lakecountyohio.gov.

Burned Out Street Light?
Call the City's Public Works Department at (440) 974-5781 and have an accurate description of the location of the pole. The outage will be reported to The Illuminating Company.



THE STATE OF OUR CITY

On February 25th, Mentor City Manager Kenneth J. Filipiak presented the annual **State of the City Address** at the Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce meeting. During the speech, Mr. Filipiak highlighted accomplishments from the past year, gave an overview of the City's economic well-being, City safety forces, and upcoming improvement projects.

You can watch the complete presentation on youtube.com/cityofmentor.

SAVE & SWIM

City of Mentor Pools open on Sunday, May 24th at 1 PM. Get your Pool Pass NOW and be ready to swim. Pool passes go on sale Monday, April 6th at 8 AM.

To purchase a pool pass, visit the Mentor Recreation Department located on the second floor of the Mentor Municipal Center, weekdays between 8 AM and 5 PM. The Recreation Department will also be open for Pool Pass Sales on some evenings and weekends to accommodate customers not able to come to the Recreation Department during normal business hours.

SIGN UP EARLY & SAVE!

Purchase your 2020 Pool Pass in person at the Mentor Recreation Department by Thursday, April 30 and receive \$10 off a family pass and \$5 off individual passes. Renewals and New membership purchases need to take place in person.

Don't forget to bring a picture ID and utility bill, printed with your name and Mentor address, to receive the resident rate.

EXTENDED POOL PASS SALE HOURS

Tuesday, April 21	5 PM – 7 PM
Saturday, April 25	9 AM – 12 PM
Thursday, April 30	5 PM – 7 PM
Tuesday, May 5	5 PM – 7 PM
Wednesday, May 13	5 AM – 7 PM
Thursday, May 21	5 PM – 7 PM

Contact the Recreation Department at (440) 974-5720 with any questions.

MAKE MENTOR COUNT

The US Census takes place every ten years in order to get an accurate count of the population. Participating in the census isn't just a chance to make a difference in our community, it's also the law.

When you respond to the census, you help ensure that Mentor gets its fair share of the more than \$675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

Results of the Census also help how determine how many seats each

state gets in Congress. State and local officials also use census counts to draw boundaries for congressional, state legislative, and school districts.

But that's not all; Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, and this creates jobs. Developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods. Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness. Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.

In mid-March, homes across the nation will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. Once your invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail.

For more information on the U.S. Census visit 2020census.gov



GARAGE & YARD SALES

A permit is not required for a garage sale in the City of Mentor. There are a few things you need to know though. No more than 3 sales are permitted per property per calendar year, no sale can extend for more than 4 consecutive days, and hours limited to 9 AM to 7 PM.

Signs promoting the sale are permitted ONLY ON the property where the sale is being held. Signs are not permitted on street corners, tree lawns, or utility poles. Illegally posted signs will be confiscated without notice.

Contact Code Enforcement at (440) 974-5792 with questions.



HELPING BUSINESS GROW

The Mentor Economic Assistance Corporation (MEACO) is a non-profit Certified Development Company created to encourage new and small businesses in Mentor and Lake County. Established in 1983, MEACO has helped over a hundred small businesses achieve success.

Both new and established businesses can take advantage of MEACO's U.S. Business Administration 504 loan financing provides (up to \$5 million) long term, fixed interest rate with lower down payment requirements. Funds may be used for purchase of land & building, building improvements, machinery and equipment or to refinance debt in connection with business expansion. MEACO also offers Mentor businesses more modest small business loans (up to \$25,000) at below market fixed interest rates.

"MEACO is the only SBA Certified CDC physically located in Lake County. The partnership of MEACO and the City of Mentor lends a wealth of knowledge on local incentives and grants to take advantage of including, but not limited to, tax abatements, tax increment financing, incentive and economic development grants which combined could offset initial project costs," says Mentor Economic Development Administrator Kelly Conrad, who oversees the MEACO Program.

If you're looking to start or expand your business, MEACO may be able to help. Contact Kelly Conrad at conrad@cityofmentor.com or (440) 974-5740 for additional information.



WILDWOOD Spring Plant Sale

The Wildwood Garden Club will host their annual **Spring Plant and Flower Sale** on Saturday, May 16th from 10 AM to Noon at Wildwood Cultural Center, located at 7645 Little Mountain Road.

Shop for reasonably priced plants and flowers to accent your flower gardens, naturalize your landscape, or jumpstart your vegetable garden. Plants are cultivated in Club member's gardens, and include flowering bushes, herbs, perennials, shrubs and even tomato plants. Wildwood Garden Club members will also be on hand to answer questions and offer advice about creating and maintaining a beautiful garden. The Spring Plant and Flower Sale will be held rain or shine.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 16

Tempests in A Teapot: Influential Women in the World of Tea
Wildwood Cultural Center
6 – 7:30 PM. Resident \$8 / Nonresident \$10
Call 440-974-5735

March 28

Wildwood Micro Con
Wildwood Cultural Center
10 AM - 4 PM. Admission \$2
Age two & under free.

April 3

Murder Mystery Evening "Deadly Consequences"
Wildwood Cultural Center
60s music/hors d'oeuvres. Adults 21+ only.
7 PM. Cost: \$22 per person
Preregistration required. Call 440-974-5735

April 13

Easter Monday Egg Roll
Garfield National Historic Site
8095 Mentor Ave. Children's games, activities & Egg Roll. 1-3 PM. Free.

April 17

[unveiled] Art Exhibit
Mentor Municipal Center
Opening Reception, meet artists Gail Peters & Jacqueline Sajewski and view exhibits.
7 PM. Free.

April 25

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

May 14

Just Kids Stuff Garage Sale
Garfield Park
9 AM - Noon
Table space available 440-974-5720

Visit cityofmentor.com or call 440-974-5720 for more information on upcoming city events.



REMODELING? MAKE SURE YOUR CONTRACTOR IS REGISTERED!

Traditionally, Spring is a time when homeowners turn their attention to sprucing up and remodeling their homes. From a simple kitchen makeover to a more ambitious project that involves adding a room, it's more than likely you'll need a contractor. All contractors who work with the general public are required to register with the Mentor Building Department prior to performing any work within the City of Mentor*.

So if you're planning a project that involves a general contractor or a trade contractor to perform work such as plumbing, electrical, heating, ventilating and air conditioning, fire protection, right-of-way (such as site utilities or paving) or lawn sprinklers, make sure that they are registered.

According to Mentor's Chief Building Official, Jim Decker, checking to make sure your contractor is registered gives homeowners assurance that the job will comply with State of Ohio building codes as well as Mentor's Codes and Ordinances.

To that end, contractors must submit a registration bond to assure they will comply with the City's requirements.

"Additions and remodels are big undertakings. Our registration process helps to solidify the building code and

licensing laws of the State of Ohio. Registration provides an additional layer of protection for our residents," says Decker.

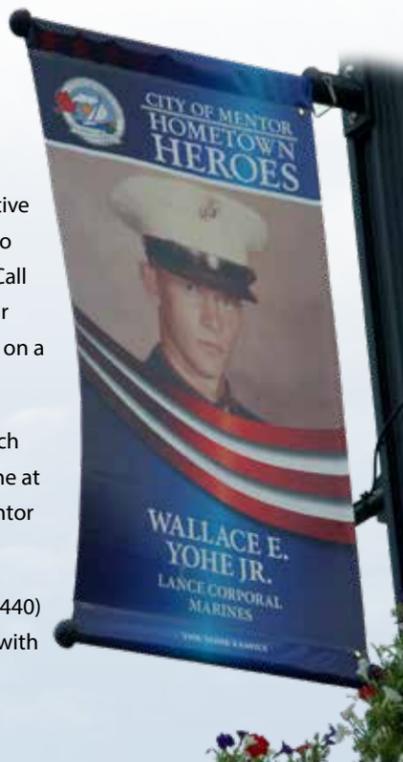
While a contractor may advertise that they are "bonded and insured," a bond is written for a specific purpose and may not protect the homeowner. Contractors must submit a registration bond on Mentor's Surety Bond Form to assure that they will comply with state and local codes and ordinances. The registration bond provided will be used if a contractor fails to correct a code violation identified by the City inspection staff during construction.

Additionally, specialty trade contractor must show proof of a license provided by the State of Ohio. All plumbing, electrical, HVAC and fire protection contractors must be licensed with the state.

No contractor should ever advise you to obtain a permit under your own name. The only reason to ever obtain a permit yourself is if you are performing the work yourself.

If you have any questions, or to request a list of registered contractors, contact the City of Mentor Building Department at building@cityofmentor.com or (440) 974-5785.

**Per Mentor Code of Ordinances 925, 1307 and 1309*



HONORING OUR HEROES

HOMETOWN HEROES

The City of Mentor's Hometown Heroes Banner Program returns in 2020 to honor current or former Mentor residents who have served our country in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard.

Banners will be displayed from Memorial Day through Veterans Day on light posts along Civic Center Boulevard and on Munson Road between Civic Center Boulevard and Market Street.

Families and organizations can sponsor banners for \$100 each to cover production costs. Register online at cityofmentor.com or in person at the Mentor Municipal Center.

MILITARY ROLL CALL

If you, or a loved one, are currently on active duty, we'd like to recognize your service to our country as a part of our Military Roll Call display located in the lobby of the Mentor Municipal Center. The display is updated on a quarterly basis and is free of charge.

Please note that only the name and branch of service will be displayed. Register online at cityofmentor.com or in person at the Mentor Municipal Center.

Contact the Public Information Office at (440) 974-5794 or pubinfo@cityofmentor.com with any questions regarding these programs.

GET READY TO MOW

Several wastes can emerge from the ground, sidewalks, and driveways once the snow melts and the busy season begins. Do not let it all wash away with the next rainfall. Keep the runoff clean by following the steps below:

- Sweep up the leftover salt, dirt, litter, and pet waste that was left behind and properly dispose of it in the trash.
- Consider getting a soil test done to prevent over application of nutrients as well as save time and money. Test soil every 3 years in the spring or late fall. Kits are available at the Soil and Water Conservation District or Cooperative Extension Office.
- Lightly rake the lawn to remove compacted grass and snow mold that may have formed from excess moisture.
- If there is yard waste, leaves, and branches in your yard, start a compost pile with the first grass clippings of the season. Any clippings thereafter can be left on the lawn as a natural fertilizer.

- Use your waste pickup. Never dump waste at the banks of streams or in a storm sewer. This waste will clog the sewers and stream channels and is harmful to the fish and bugs living in the water.

Remember, storm water does not flow to a wastewater treatment plant like our household wastewater does. Anything flowing into the storm sewers and streams in our neighborhoods will wash directly to Lake Erie untreated. Help keep our waterways and Lake Erie Clean! For more information, contact the City of Mentor Building and Engineering Department at (440) 974-5785.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

MARCH – MAY 2020

Pedestrian Safety and Sidewalk Repair Program

This program will start in May, 2020 and will repair uneven and/or broken sidewalk slabs along the following streets: Agard Ct., Allen Troy Ct., Beechwood Dr., Blue Bell Ct., Bosley Cove, Brookside Cr., C J Ct., Daisy Ct., Dellhaven Ave., Diamond Centre Dr., Emerald Ct., Evergreen Dr., Freeport Ln., Gabriel Ct., Georgie Ct., Graystone Ln., Gregory Ct., Harborside Landing, Heisley Rd., Hopkins Rd., Hudson Ave., Jackie Ct., Kathleen Dr., LaSalle Ln., Longview Ave., Lori Jean Dr., Marion Dr., Matthew Ct., Mentor Ave., Michael Dr., Ocean Point, Omega Ct., Perennial Ln., Rockport Ln., Sugarbush Dr., and Whalers Cove. The project is scheduled to be complete by August 14, 2020.

SR 306 Bridge Repairs over SR 2

This project will repair existing guardrail, install new black vinyl coated fencing with the City of Mentor name and seal, and patch and seal the bridge parapets. Sidewalk and curb repair along with painting of the steel curb plate of the bridge will also be performed. Work is expected to begin in the spring with a scheduled completion date of June 26, 2020. Two way traffic will be maintained in each direction.

Tyler Blvd Roadway Rehabilitation

This project will provide for concrete repairs and an asphalt overlay of Tyler Blvd from Center Street to Heisley Road. The project is scheduled for primarily night work between the hours of 7PM and 7AM. Project will begin in the spring and be complete by August 30.

Belle Meadow Reconstruction

This project will reconstruct Belle Meadow from Woodridge to Lake Overlook. The project will include spot sanitary repairs, sanitary sewer lining, storm sewer lateral replacement and complete roadway reconstruction. Project will begin in April and be complete by the end of September.

2020 Road Repair Program

This project will provide concrete street repairs or asphalt overlay of 19 City streets. Streets included for concrete repairs include portions of Champaign, Demshar, Green Valley, Lakewood, Spring Blossom and St John. Streets included for asphalt overlay include portions of Acacia, Barbara, Broadmoor Circle, Esther, Hilltop, King Memorial, Lauren J, Maple, Maplewood, Melshore, Southwood and Willowbrook. Project will begin in the spring and be complete by August 21.



CITY OF MENTOR

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	DIAL 911
CITY HALL MAIN SWITCHBOARD	255-1100
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE	974-5755
CODE ENFORCEMENT	974-5792
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	974-5740
ENGINEERING/BUILDING	974-5785
FIRE NON-EMERGENCY	255-1212
ICE ARENA	974-5730
MUNICIPAL COURT	974-5744
PARKS & RECREATION	974-5720
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY	255-1234
PUBLIC INFORMATION	974-5794
PUBLIC WORKS	974-5781
RITA REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY	526-0900
SENIOR CENTER	974-5725
WILDWOOD CULTURAL CENTER	974-5735



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MENTOR

SPRING 2020 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.

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MENTOR CITY COUNCIL

FRONT (left to right): Janet A. Dowling – Councilperson-at-Large; Bruce R. Landeg - President of Council, Councilperson, Ward 3; Scott J. Marn – Councilperson -at-Large

REAR (left to right): Matthew E. Donovan - Vice-President of Council, Councilperson, Ward 2; Ray Kirchner – Councilperson-at-Large; Sean P. Blake – Councilperson, Ward 1; John A. Krueger – Councilperson, Ward 4

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 PM
March 3, 16 (Monday)
April 7, 21
May 5, 21 (Thursday)

Board of Building & Zoning Appeals

Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
March 10
April 14
May 12

Municipal Planning Commission*

Mentor Municipal Center, 7 PM
March 5, 26
April 16
May 7, 28

Tree Commission

Mentor Maintenance Facility, 4 PM
March 11
April 8
May 13

Community Arts Commission

Wildwood Cultural Center, 3:30 PM
March 5
April 2
May 7

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

KEEP MENTOR BEAUTIFUL



The City of Mentor is once again participating in the Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest community improvement program. As people have become more conscious of the impact pollution has on the environment, we know that having clean beaches, parks and public lands is a community partnership. Each year the City asks individuals, students, groups and corporations to help in the effort to help keep our parks and public lands clean. Working together we can keep Mentor beautiful.

In 2019, over 500,000 volunteers nationwide collected 68 million pounds of recyclables and cleaned over 21,000 public spaces. Here in Mentor, over 7,000 individuals and groups participated cleaning up roadsides, parks, the Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve, schools and neighborhoods. This year we're hoping to double participation. Living in a clean community benefits us all.

By cleaning our shoreline, we create more attractive recreation areas and help keep our water source clean. In our parks, litter-free playgrounds, ballfields and picnic areas are safer for children and families. Clean neighborhoods benefit those who live there and increases property values.

You can make a difference! Get involved by gathering your group of friends, family, coworkers, classmates, scouts, or neighbors and scheduling a cleanup. The City will provide trash bags, clothing collection bags, volunteer stickers, and a form to report the results of the cleanup.

A volunteer appreciation Trash Bash will be held in May to recognize our volunteers!

To register for a cleanup, contact Bonnie Rice at the Mentor Public Works Department at (440) 974-5780 or rice@cityofmentor.com.

COOL BLADES SKATE CAMP

Wouldn't it be great if we all got a Spring Break every year? ...unfortunately most working parents don't. That's why the Mentor Ice arena offers the Cool Blades Skate Camp during the Mentor Schools Spring Break.

It's a safe and convenient option to keep kids busy and having fun during their week off school. The camp is designed for children ages 5 to 13 and is jam packed with skating and other fun activities. Besides time on the ice, campers will play broomball, watch movies, make crafts and play games. Camp is offered by the day, March 16th through the 19th. Resident cost is \$40/day. A medical form is required for all campers and can be downloaded if registering online or will be emailed if registering by phone.

For more information or to register call the Arena at 440-974-5730. It's a cool way to spend Spring Break!

