



# MENTOR

Spring 2024

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor

## COUNTDOWN TO THE ECLIPSE

In case you haven't heard, a total eclipse will traverse the United States from Texas to Maine on April 8th and Mentor is in the path of totality.

Areas in the path of the eclipse are expected to draw large amounts of visitors and Lake County is no exception. Hotels and restaurants are looking forward to serving the needs of visitors and safety forces throughout Lake County are already working on managing the influx of traffic in our area.

A number of public events are being hosted across northeast Ohio including right here in Mentor.

An **Eclipse Watch Party** will be held from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Mentor Civic Amphitheater. Guests can enjoy a number of fun games and activities and track the progress of the eclipse on the videoscreens. A DJ will be on hand spinning your favorite tunes as we count down to the big moment at 3:14 PM when we'll experience 3 minutes and 48 seconds of totality.

Food from some of the area's favorite food trucks as well as beverages will be available for purchase. Admission and parking to the event is free. A limited number of eclipse glasses will also be available free of charge.

It's important to remember that during a total solar eclipse, it is safe to view the sun with the naked eye only during the brief period of totality when the moon completely covers the sun.

Please be mindful of the following tips to ensure your safety.

**Use proper eye protection.** Always use ISO-certified eclipse glasses or handheld solar viewers to protect your eyes from the sun's harmful rays. Regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for direct solar viewing.

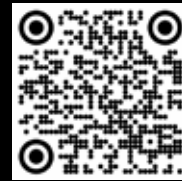
**Avoid DIY filters.** Do not use homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even if they are very dark, as they will not protect your eyes from the sun's intense light.

**Be cautious with telescopes and binoculars.** If you are using a telescope or binoculars to view the eclipse, ensure that they are fitted with solar filters. The concentrated sunlight can cause serious damage to your eyes if viewed directly without proper protection.

**Supervise children.** Children should be closely supervised when using eclipse glasses or solar viewers to ensure that they are using them correctly and not looking at the sun without proper protection.

We are all hopeful that the weather cooperates for us since the next eclipse over northeast Ohio won't occur until 2444.

For additional information and helpful links, visit [cityofmentor.com/2024eclipse](http://cityofmentor.com/2024eclipse)



## INSIDE

PICK A PARK

POLICE DRONE TEAM

DOLLARS & SENSE

...and much more!

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### 2024 Yard Waste Collection Program

Mentor's Yard Waste Collection Program begins April 1st. 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). For more information visit [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com) and select the Waste Removal and Recycling page under the Resident Info tab.

### City Tax Assistance

April 15th is the deadline to file City taxes. If you need assistance with your tax form, you may reach the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) online or by phone. Help is available online at [ritaohio.com](http://ritaohio.com) or by calling 800-860-RITA.

### Garage Sales

A permit is not required for a garage sale, but the city does restrict where signs can be placed. Garage sale signs are permitted only on the property where the sale is being held. They may not be posted at the street corner, on tree lawns, or utility poles. Illegally posted signs may be confiscated by city staff without prior notice.

### Power Outage

Call the Illuminating Company's Automated Outage Reporting Line at (888) 544-4877. Doing so will allow the Illuminating Company to track outages and restore service. Please do NOT call 911 unless you are experiencing an emergency.

### Street Tree Requirements

Just a reminder that any trees located in the public right-of-way (tree lawn) must be trimmed so they don't create an obstruction for pedestrians and motorists. Branches that hang over the sidewalk or right-of-way should be kept at 7 feet above a sidewalk, and 14 feet above a public road.

### Mentor Rental Inspection Program

The City's rental inspection program ensures that rental properties are safe, habitable, and assure that properties are maintained in compliance with Mentor's Property Maintenance Codes. Learn more about the Rental Inspection Program at [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com).

### Mentor Safety Assurance Programs

A variety of programs are available for Mentor residents who may require additional care during an emergency. Learn about them at [cityofmentor.com/resident-info/safety-assurance-programs/](http://cityofmentor.com/resident-info/safety-assurance-programs/)



## THE STATE OF OUR CITY

Mentor City Manager Kenneth J. Filipiak addressed an audience at Mentor Schools Paradigm during the Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting on February 27, 2024, regarding the current state of the city.

Watch the "2024 Mentor State of the City" address to learn more about what was accomplished and what's in store for Mentor!

View the entire presentation by clicking the QR code or visiting the following link [www.cityofmentor.com/2024-state-of-the-city/](http://www.cityofmentor.com/2024-state-of-the-city/)



## JOIN THE MCRC

The Mentor Community Recreation Center [MCRC] is one of the largest facilities of its kind in Northeast Ohio and includes an indoor soccer field, basketball, tennis, racquetball, and pickleball courts, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, cardiovascular and weight training areas, group exercise rooms, a Kids Corner, and other amenities.

Affordable memberships and day passes are available for residents and non-residents. A number of programs and activities are

available to keep you fit all year round.

Click the QR code to take a video tour and see everything they have to offer!

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

For hours of operation, membership requirements, and other information visit [mentorrec.com](http://mentorrec.com).





# DOLLARS & SENSE

The Mentor Finance Department's is responsible for accounting for the city's financial transactions. This includes, day-to-day budget administration, payment of bills, preparation of payroll, maintenance of capital asset records, receipt of monies, municipal income tax enforcement, auditing, debt administration, city insurance, and reporting the city's financial condition.

It's a lot to keep track of and we're proud to state that the department has received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award for thirty-eight consecutive years.

We get a number of questions from our residents regarding finance. Here are some that are most frequently asked.

## What is the Income Tax rate in Mentor?

The City of Mentor has a flat 2%

Municipal Income Tax for all residents and businesses with a taxable income, and for all persons earning income within the City.

## Where does this money go?

Nearly 2/3 of the city's operating budget is supported through income tax and nearly 2/3 of that is generated by people who work in Mentor but live elsewhere. These funds help support our safety forces, road repair programs, parks and facilities, programs, and much more.

## Do I have to pay income taxes if I live in Mentor but work in another city?

Mentor Residents are required to pay a 2% Municipal Income tax to the City of Mentor if they have any earned income, including lottery winnings, or rental income. Some cities offer a reciprocity and if they are taking city taxes out for their city, you will get credit for the 2% due to Mentor. It is still mandatory for all Mentor residents

to FILE a city income tax return if you have any earned income.

## Who do I talk to about my property taxes?

Property taxes are assessed and collected by the county, not the city. Contact the Lake County Auditors Office at (440) 352-2532 or [www.lakecountyohio.gov/auditor](http://www.lakecountyohio.gov/auditor).

## Where can I find information about the City's budget?

The Finance department publishes the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) each year. It is available to review at [www.cityofmentor.com/finance](http://www.cityofmentor.com/finance).

The Finance Department is located on the 2nd floor of the Mentor Municipal Center, 8500 Civic Center Blvd. Mentor, Ohio 44060. They are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and can be reached at (440) 974-5770 or [finance@cityofmentor.com](mailto:finance@cityofmentor.com).



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 23

## Adult Flashlight Dash

Black Brook Golf Course

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

\$20. Registration required.

March 23

## Wildwood Bridal Boutique

Wildwood Cultural Center

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

\$5 at door.

April 8

## Eclipse Watch Party

Mentor Civic Amphitheater

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Free.

April 20

## Earth Day Celebration

Wildwood Cultural Center

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Free.

April 27

## Senior Center Garage Sale

Mentor Senior Center

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Free for shoppers. Sellers call to register (440) 974-5725.

May 17

## Just Kids Stuff Garage Sale &

## Early Bird Mentor Farmers Market Sale

Garfield Park 2:00 - 6:00 PM

May 19

## Wildwood Garden Club Plant Sale

Wildwood Cultural Center

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

May 27

## Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony

Mentor Cemetery 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Visit [cityofmentor.com/calendar](http://cityofmentor.com/calendar) for the latest information.

# MEET THE MENTOR POLICE DRONE TEAM

In February 2023, Mentor Police Department added a new unit to their roster of specialty teams with the establishment of the Mentor Drone Team.

Three new drone pilots; Sgt. Steve Ondercin, Pt. Shawn Wilson and Pt. Logan Hanreck, joined Capt. Robert Valley (Team Commander), and Det. Brian Yenkevich, who are both FAA licensed pilots serving with the Lake County Public Safety UAS Team since 2018.

Advancements in UAS (unmanned ariel systems) technology have given public safety agencies a cost-effective means to increase awareness and safety for first responders during critical incidents. Drones have proven to be extremely effective in search and rescue, hazardous material and dangerous ordnance identification, fugitive search and support, crime scene imagery, accident reconstruction, fire investigations and night-time operations. With high-

definition cameras, thermal imaging, and spotlights, the drone team can provide visual support over large areas, at night, or when it is too dangerous to send in first responders.

The Mentor Drone Team provides support to all other specialty units. Their drones have the capability to stream video footage to ground units or command to assist with tactical planning and decision making during critical incidents.

In 2023, the team assisted with missing persons, crime and accident scene mapping. They also assisted tactical units at the Mentor Green Mobile Home Park incident and the Mentor Fire Department in identifying hot spots in the field fires which were sparked last summer near the Painesville border.

Some of the drone equipment used by the Mentor Drone Team was obtained with grant funding through the Lake County Public Safety UAS Team which



also provides training and additional UAS equipment and pilots as needed.

Residents are advised that our drone pilots go through a variety of training to include FAA laws and regulations, flight operations using various drones, indoor searches, search and rescue and geo-spatial imagery.

The Mentor Drone Team respects the privacy of all citizens and follows all laws and regulations regarding privacy.



## WE'RE CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

Come join the City of Mentor Natural Resources team as we celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Wildwood Cultural Center & Park, located at 7645 Little Mountain Road in Mentor.

Bring the family for a fun and educational day that includes games, upcycled crafts, great food, earth-themed vendors, and ideas to help better protect the earth. Learn how little changes in your lifestyle can add up to a big difference for our planet.

Mentor Natural Resources experts will be on hand to offer tips as well as answer any questions you may have about living green. Admission and parking are free!

For over 50 years, America has been celebrating this special day to raise awareness about environmental issues that affect our planet. Join in on the fun, and let's celebrate the Earth together!



# SEASONAL JOBS ...APPLY NOW!

The City of Mentor ramps up the fun during the summer – but we can't do it alone! Every season, we hire hundreds of part-time workers to help in our pools, parks, and camps.

Our seasonal positions are critical for the summer because they specifically affect operations and programming that we are able to offer the residents of Mentor.

Teens and adults looking for a summer job are encouraged to apply.

Available positions include:

- LIFEGUARDS
- WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTORS
- SUMMER CAMP STAFF
- MAINTENANCE AIDES
- CASHIERS
- WAIT STAFF (21+)
- SPECIAL EVENT ATTENDANTS

The City of Mentor is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

For complete job descriptions and applications visit the Employment Opportunities page at [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com).



# PICK A PARK!

With more than 1,200 acres of park land, Mentor offers a number of ways to play, year round!



## Civic Center Park

8600 Munson Road

Civic Center Park, adjacent to the Mentor Municipal Center and the Mentor High School campus, is one of Mentor's largest parks. Some of the amenities that you can find here are the Civic Center Pool, which is our largest aquatics facility, the Mentor Ice Arena, which features two regulation size ice rinks, and the Mentor Civic Amphitheater. Civic Center Park also has an all-people's playground, 10,700 SF skatepark, picnic grounds, 15 lighted pickleball courts, a basketball court, and a paved bike/multi-use path.

## Donald E. Krueger Park

7556 Chillicothe Road

This 30-acre park features four soccer fields, indoor and outdoor seating, barrier-free restrooms, small pavilion, and acres of open green space.

## Edward R. Walsh Park

7221 Bellflower Road

Edward R. Walsh Park is a true community park and it includes a picnic pavilion, playground, baseball / softball field, restrooms, soccer field, fishing pond with barrier-free dock, five tennis courts, two basketball courts, water spray park, and 1-1/2 mile paved walkway. The picnic pavilion is available for rental. Reserve the pavilion by calling (440) 974-5720.



## Eleanor B. Garfield Park

7967 Mentor Avenue

This 65-acre park is located right in the heart of Mentor. As one of our largest parks, Garfield Park includes a Community Center with barrier-free restrooms, an all-people's playground, baseball/softball diamonds, basketball court, picnic pavilion, 5-acre fishing pond, soccer fields, lighted tennis courts, and wildlife area.

## Mentor Beach Park

7779 Lake Shore Boulevard

Mentor Beach Park is a scenic, 13-acre park overlooking Lake Erie. While situated in Mentor-on-the-Lake, the City of Mentor owns and maintains the park that includes a two-story, lake front pavilion with barrier-free restrooms, a picnic grove, a playground, and soccer field.

## Mentor Dog Park

6647 Hopkins Road

The dog park is a great place for dogs to come and play off leash. A small dog area and a large dog area allow unlimited play with dogs the same size. Doggie water fountain, park benches, and a safe, fenced in entry /exit area make this park a pleasurable place to visit with other dog owners and provide your dog with exercise and socialization.



## Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve & Marina

8365 Harbor Drive

This beautiful nature preserve is located right on the shores of Lake Erie and includes 1-1/2 miles of shoreline with rare dune plants, a riverine marsh, mature oak bluff, crescent-shaped open waterways, and a newly opened handicapped accessible boardwalk. Over 3-miles of hiking and biking trails encircle the Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve providing four distinctly different vistas: a view of the marina, Mentor Marsh, upland forest, and Lake Erie shoreline.

## Morton Community Park

9325 Rosemary Lane

This park is home to Morton Pool & Spraypark, and also includes, restrooms, picnic pavilion, playground and a basketball court.

## Presidents Park

7670 Buchanan Court

This beautiful neighborhood park has a picnic pavilion, small playground, one basketball court, one tennis court, open green space, and a paved walking path. On-street parking is available adjacent to the park.



## Springbrook Gardens Park

6776 Heisley Road

The 53-acre Springbrook Gardens property features a newly restored wetland area, native plantings, an expansive pond, an overlooking boardwalk, 1.7 miles of paved multi-use trails, a playground, two picnic pavilions, and the new 4,400 square foot Springbrook Gardenhouse which features a main hall with dramatic timber trusses and a dominant fireplace. Operable glass sectional panels on three sides of the hall allow access to the outdoor seating area. The building also features a warming kitchen as well as interior and exterior restrooms. The Gardenhouse is available for rental by calling (440) 974-5720.

## Tiefenbach Skate Park

4666 Corduroy Road

Tiefenbach Park offers a variety of ramps and rails for skaters and bikers.

## Veterans Park

5730 Hopkins Road

Veterans Park protects the largest inland pond in the county and offers four accessible fishing piers, a 1.78-mile loop trail through native wetlands with 830 feet of boardwalk, and a wetland/wildlife viewing area. The property was purchased from the Granger family by the City of Mentor in 1970 and was Mentor's first neighborhood park. It is currently managed by Lake Metroparks.



## Wildwood Park

7645 Little Mountain Road

Encompassing 34-acres, Wildwood Cultural Center and Park features not only a 25-room English Tudor Manor House, but also walking trails and passive recreation areas. Amenities include wooded hiking trails, barrier-free restrooms, picnic areas, benches and gardens. Home and grounds are open to the public.

# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

MARCH – MAY 2024

## ANNUAL CITY STREET REPAIR PROGRAM

This annual program will resurface or repair approximately 20 asphalt and concrete neighborhood streets throughout the City. In 2024, the City will invest roughly \$1.5 million in resurfacing and repairing local roads.

## 2024 SIDEWALK PROGRAM

This annual program will replace deficient concrete sidewalk slabs in Ward 1 (Zones D and E) through an assessment process that were not replaced by property owners as a result of 2023 inspections by the City. These zones consist of 17.6 miles of sidewalk. The sidewalk inspections found roughly 2300 slabs of sidewalk to be deficient and in need of repair or replacement.

## MENTOR LAGOONS MARINA BULKHEAD REPLACEMENT PHASE 5

This project will repair and replace approximately 600 feet of bulkhead in the marina along D Dock with steel sheet piling and concrete walk at a cost of around \$600,000.

## MENTOR LAGOONS MARINA OBSERVATION TOWER

This project will construct an approximate 95-foot tall steel observation tower at the edge of the Mentor Marsh.

## SENIOR CENTER PARKING LOT

This project will construct a new 90 space asphalt parking lot just to the north of the existing parking lot connecting to Munson Road. The new lot will roughly double the amount of parking at the Senior Center and is expected to cost around \$1,500,000.

## EDGEHILL ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

This project will replace an existing 42-inch diameter deteriorating steel culvert with a new 42-inch diameter high density polyethylene corrugated culvert and install concrete headwalls. This project began in 2023.

## LAKESHORE BLVD. STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT

This project will replace approximately 600 feet of undersized storm sewer on the south side of Lakeshore Boulevard from Green Oak Avenue to Deerborn Avenue with 12-inch pipe.

## CENTER STREET BRIDGE DECK REPLACEMENT

ODOT will continue to work on the project in 2024. Work will mostly be confined to under the bridge and includes steel beam painting. Traffic on Center Street should not be impacted.

## MARINA PAVER PARKING LOT

At a cost of around \$550,000, this project consists of installing a 16,000 square foot permeable paver parking lot at the Mentor Marina accommodating 22 tow vehicles / boat trailers. In addition to the pavers, vegetated buffers will be installed and the existing bioswale by the office/storage building will be restored.

# SPRING FORWARD TO CLEANER WATER

This spring the rain will wash away debris from the surface of the ground that was left behind from the winter accumulations as well as pollutants from our daily activities. Unfortunately, much of it flows directly to our creeks and streams and eventually to Lake Erie without being treated. Car maintenance, lawn care and even dog walking can contribute to storm water pollution. Here are some of the most important ways to prevent various storm water pollution:

- Properly store and dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint. Never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.
- Take advantage of the Lake County Special Collection Events this year.
- Clean up any spills on your property.
- Clean up remaining yard waste, leaves, and branches that overwintered from your yard for proper disposal.

- Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and sparingly to prevent excess runoff pollution.
- Consider installing innovative storm water practices, such as rain barrels or rain gardens to capture natural water and keep it on site.
- Pick up after your pets right away and dispose of their waste properly.
- Keep all waste stored indoors or in leak proof containers with tight fitting lids if storing outdoors.
- Report discharges from storm water outfalls during periods of dry weather, indicating a possible problem with the storm sewer system.

Join in to help protect our area waterways and Lake Erie! For more information, contact the City of Mentor Building and Engineering Department at [building@cityofmentor.com](mailto:building@cityofmentor.com) or (440) 255-1100.



## 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, Fire, Apple, and Android devices.

Download it today at [thementorchannel.com](http://thementorchannel.com).





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Mentor, Ohio 44060

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# MENTOR

SPRING 2024 SPECIAL EDITION

### WELCOME!

Are you new to Mentor?  
Visit [cityofmentor.com](http://cityofmentor.com)  
and click on New Resident  
Resources under the  
Resident Info tab.

**Published by the City of Mentor**  
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[www.cityofmentor.com](http://www.cityofmentor.com)

*"The nations of the earth must not be allowed to point at us as pitiful examples of weak selfishness...our duty must be so done that the eternal scrolls of justice will ever bear record of the nobility of the nation's heart."*

- 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 1.

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](mailto:citycouncil@cityofmentor.com).

## MEETING INFORMATION

### Mentor City Council\*

Mentor Municipal Center, 7:00 PM  
March 5, 19  
April 2, 16  
May 7, 21

### Board of Building & Zoning Appeals

Mentor Municipal Center, 7:00 PM  
March 12  
April 19  
May 14

### Municipal Planning Commission\*

Mentor Municipal Center, 7:00 PM  
March 21  
April 11  
May 2, 23

### Tree Commission

Mentor Municipal Center, 4:30 PM  
March 13  
April 10  
May 8

### Community Arts Commission

Wildwood Cultural Center, 4:30 PM  
March 7  
April 4  
May 2

\*These meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 1024, U-Verse Channel 99, online at [thementorchannel.com](http://thementorchannel.com) and on the Mentor Channel ROKU, Google, Apple, and Fire app.



## 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 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](http://www.cityofmentor.com)

## MEACO...HELPING BUSINESS GROW

*Are you looking to start or expand your business? MEACO can help!*

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 towards the purchase of land and 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 \$50,000) 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](mailto:conrad@cityofmentor.com) or (440) 974-5740 for additional information.

## MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

All are invited to attend the city of Mentor's annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 27, 2024, at 10:00 AM at the Mentor Municipal Cemetery.

The ceremony will be preceded by a solemn parade which will step-off at 9:30 AM from Memorial Middle School located at 8979 Mentor Avenue. It will proceed north to the cemetery, arriving at the Mentor Memorial Promenade.

Members of city council and administration, county and state elected officials, and other veterans and civic groups will be in attendance.

Mentor Municipal Cemetery is located at 6881 Hopkins Road.

