



Weatherstfield TOWNSHIP

PROUD PAST • PRODUCTIVE PRESENT • PROGRESSIVE FUTURE

WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

1451 Prospect Street
Mineral Ridge, OH 44440

WEATHERSFIELDTWP.ORG

- Paramedics 330.652.0066
- Police & Fire 330.675.2730
- Trustees 330.652.6326
- Zoning 330.652.6326
- Police Business 330.652.6486
- Fire Business 330.652.6326
- Cemetery Sexton 330.652.6326

**WE WILL
EMERGE**
#VALLEYTOGETHER

In an effort to help the Valley's business community navigate through the COVID-19 crisis, the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber launched a new initiative, EMERGE, to provide direct assistance on a variety of topics and matters through the expertise of the team, members of the organization's Board of Directors and Chamber members.

The primary areas in which the Chamber may assist include finance, accounting, law, insurance, business, healthcare, government affairs and marketing.

No matter the question, or if a business isn't sure what area it may fall into, the Chamber encourages them to call nonetheless so that their team can make every effort to help during this challenging time.

For more information about EMERGE, including a list of contacts, please visit regionalchamber.com/emerge. ■

Thank you!



As we continue to weather the COVID-19 storm, we would like to take a moment to thank the Weathersfield community for all of the generous donations to our first responders. From food and masks to cleaning supplies and household essentials, we wouldn't be able to do what we do without the support of our residents.

The sense of community we have experienced continues to be a shining light in these dark times, and no act of generosity has gone unnoticed. As life slowly approaches normalcy in the coming months, we look forward to a stronger and brighter future together.

In the meantime, if you are looking for more information or resources associated with COVID-19, please visit the Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber's website at regionalchamber.com/covid-19 to learn more. ■



Weatherstfield TOWNSHIP

NEW LOCAL FITNESS CENTER ANXIOUSLY AWAITES “GRAND OPENING 2.0”

Q & A with Darin Ward, Owner of Commit To Be Fit Fitness Center



On March 15, Darin Ward had just opened the doors of Commit To Be Fit Fitness Center and excitedly celebrated the momentous occasion with a ribbon cutting ceremony, when orders governing the COVID crisis resulted in the new business having to shut its doors just 24 hours later. Despite these challenging times, Darin is looking forward to the day when the gym, located at 14 Youngstown-Warren Road, can launch what he calls “Grand Opening 2.0” and an unbeatable offer for those who want to see what the fitness center is all about.

How did Commit To Be Fit come to open in the township?

“I’ve been a firefighter and emergency medical technician for 16 years, and while posting in the ambulance for the company I worked for, I would look in through the dusty windows of the former gym that was at the location of Commit To Be Fit and noticed there was a lot of fitness equipment inside.

I called the real estate company that owns the plaza and asked if they were interested in selling any of the equipment. At the time, they weren’t, but we began talking about the old fitness center that had been there, and I began thinking to myself, ‘Wouldn’t it be great to have a gym there again?’ We had talked more about it and negotiated terms for a lease. I had applied for a loan from the SBA in October and received the greatest Christmas gift when I found out it was approved. We officially took over the fitness center in January.”



What will fitness enthusiasts find at Commit To Be Fit?

“Our goal was to create a clean, attractive, state-of-the-art fitness center with an old-school feel. After investing over \$40,000 in improvements, Commit To Be Fit Fitness Center was born! We have a 14,000 square-foot facility that offers plenty of free weights, cardio, Nautilus and cross fit equipment. We accept Silver Sneakers members and will also have an outdoor workout area beginning this summer.

We are fortunate to have a partnership with NBD Medical, which comes in and sterilizes the entire gym frequently, and also a partnership with Cooper Cycle and Fitness, which will be holding classes every day in our huge aerobics area!”

What can customers expect when you reopen?

“We understand that people have been horribly impacted by this pandemic. We certainly didn’t expect to close a day after we opened and are struggling like so many other businesses out there. We are all in this together, though, and once we are able to open our doors again, **we will have a special offer during that first week for people to join the fitness center for only \$1 for their first month, if they bring a non-perishable food item for the Second Harvest Food Bank.** During this time of stress and uncertainty, we want to do what we can to help our community, and we know many people will be ready to get out of their homes and get back to living! Please support your new locally-owned fitness center!” ■





Weathersfield TOWNSHIP

TRUMBULL COUNTY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT SET TO BEGIN

*Article originally published March 3, 2020 on wfmj.com; **REPORTER:** Glenn Stevens

The nearly \$400,000 project will be covered mostly by a Community Development Block Grant

A bridge replacement project will close a road in Trumbull County for more than two months.

County officials gathered in early March for a ground-breaking at the bridge site on Brunstetter Road in Weathersfield Township.

“The reason this bridge is important, it was starting to fall into a condition where it would have to be posted. Now we’re able to replace it before there are any weight restrictions,” said Trumbull County Engineer Randy Smith.

The new bridge will be a reinforced concrete arch bridge, which will be stronger, longer and two feet wider.

The nearly \$400,000 project will be covered mostly by a Community Development Block Grant.

“The local contribution is a little under \$100,000 between



County officials gathered in a steady rain for a ground-breaking at the bridge site on Brunstetter Road in Weathersfield Township.

in-kind services and money out of pocket, Smith said. The construction contract was awarded to the A.P. O’Horo Company of Youngstown.

Construction will commence on March 16 and is scheduled for completion by May 30.

The detour will close Brunstetter Road for approximately 75 days.

Engineer Smith noted that Trumbull County has rehabilitated or replaced 56 bridges over the last seven years. ■

A MESSAGE FROM WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF THOMAS LAMBERT:

Our department would like to take a moment to inform the community of Weathersfield Township’s action plan for the current pandemic. We want to assure you that the Weathersfield Township Fire Department is taking every precaution that we deem necessary to keep our volunteers and our community safe

during these times. The Trumbull Regional Hospital, Mercy Health Hospital, University Hospital and all Fire/EMS agencies in Trumbull County have developed a new protocol that meets all CDC guidelines, specifically for care and transport of COVID-19 presumptive patients.

With this being said, Weathersfield Township Fire Department has adopted and will continue to follow and update this policy. Following the CDC guidelines, our personnel will be required to wear a mask, gloves and goggles/safety glasses as a precaution when responding to all calls for service.

In addition, our 911 center (Trumbull County 911) has implemented several prescreening questions that will be asked prior to dispatching our Fire Department. Again, please do not be alarmed as this is only a precaution and is asked on every call.

Weathersfield Township Fire Department will continue to serve the residents and community as always. To better serve you, our department is now staffing two members at Station 41.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Fire Department via phone at 330-652-5347. ■



Weathersfield TOWNSHIP

WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP FEATURED IN WALL STREET JOURNAL



During the Township's March meeting, the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber presented a framed Wall Street Journal ad to Trustees to display in the administration building. The Chamber highlights an available property in the township to a national audience via an ad in the publication each year. ■

2020 SPRING CLEANING PROGRAMS

The Spring Clean-Up Program (May 11-15), Scrap Tire Curbside Pickup Collection Program (May 11-15) and Residential Tree Limb Chipping Program (May 8-Oct. 16) are all scheduled to begin in early May. More details about these programs are available on our website at weathersfieldtownship.org. ■



POLICE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENTS NEW POLICY REGARDING CALLS FOR SERVICE

Due to continued concerns over COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of our police officers, Chief of Police Michael J. Naples, Jr. implemented a policy on how the department will be answering calls for service. If you call the police to make a report and the incident is not in progress, an officer will not be dispatched to your home. Rather, an officer will call to file a report for you over the phone. If the incident is in progress, the officer will respond but will ask that all parties come out of the residence, if possible. ■

WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATORS ADVOCATE FOR VALLEY IN COLUMBUS



Weathersfield Township Administrator Dave Rouan, along with Trustees Steve Gerberry and Richard Harkins, joined more than 70 business and community leaders to advocate for their state capital budget project—the final phase of the Multi-Jurisdictional Opioid Education & Workforce Development Training and Meeting Center—at the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber's third annual Columbus Drive-In in February.

The event featured a full slate of activities, including keynotes from the top officials in state government, valuable networking opportunities and visits to policymaker offices—all designed for Valley leaders to advance important issues that impact economic development and quality of life in Mahoning and Trumbull counties. ■

FEATURED PROPERTY: WARREN-DEPOT

1590 WARREN AVENUE, WEATHERSFIELD, OH

\$3.425M

This available facility offers a total of 1 million square feet split between 7 buildings and resting on 184 acres of land. The property has immediate access to a Norfolk Southern branch line and abuts the Mahoning River. ■

If you are interested in this property, please contact Shea MacMillan, Manager of Business Development at the Regional Chamber, for more information :

shea@regionalchamber.com / 330-744-2131, ext. 1101





Niles
CITY SCHOOLS

MINERAL RIDGE HIGH SCHOOLS PAYS TRIBUTE AT SENIOR NIGHT LIGHT UP



Mineral Ridge High School turned on the lights at Joe Lane Stadium on Sunday, April 19 at 8:20pm for exactly 20 minutes to recognize seniors of the 2020 class, spring athletes, essential workers, medical personnel, first responders and families of Mineral Ridge. Weathersfield Fire and Police Departments were on site as well as many cars honking their horns in support. ■

OPEN ENROLLMENT FORMS FOR 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The form to apply for Open Enrollment in either Mineral Ridge High School, grades 7 - 12 and/or Seaborne Elementary, grades K - 6 is now available online at weathersfield.k12.oh.us.

You will be notified of acceptance/denial by June 30, 2020. ■

BREAKFAST/LUNCH BAGS AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP

A 5-day breakfast and lunch bag will be available on Mondays only, beginning April 13 until further notice. The grab-and-go bags will be available from 11am to 1pm in the foyer of Mineral Ridge High School near the band room. ■

NILES INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS PROMOTE POSITIVE SELF IMAGE, SPEAK OUT AGAINST BULLYING



Niles Intermediate School's Kids Against Bullying (KAB) group poses in neon colors to show their stance against bullying for the "Be Bright, Don't Fight" initiative during the school's anti-bullying week in February.

Niles Intermediate School's Kids Against Bullying (KAB) program comprises a group of fifth graders, chosen for their leadership skills, that meet once a month to come up with ideas to promote positive self image in others and speak out against bullying. During the last week of February, students in the group organized an anti-bullying week full of activities and something fun to wear each day. They can be seen above posing for a group photo in neon colors to show their stance against bullying for the "Be Bright, Don't Fight" initiative.

Beyond bullying, KAB makes its presence known to younger grades by volunteering twice a week in third-grade classrooms. The group is led by Laura Luoma. ■



NILES PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

Zadiya Salamah, Niles Kindergarten student from Mrs. Canterino's class, reads to dogs as part of Read Across America week in March. ■



NILES SPEECH TEAM COMPETES AT OSDA'S YOUNGSTOWN DISTRICT TOURNAMENT



Pictured left to right (front): Savanna Taylor, Dramatic Interpretation; Jupiter DeLuca, Program Oral Interpretation; (back): Adrian Easterling, Humor; Yovani Martinez & Zack Wilson, Duo Interpretation; Erika Scharf, Informative Speaking; Christian Grubb, Informative Speaking; Ethan Hess, Dramatic Interpretation.

The Niles Speech Team competed at the Ohio Speech and Debate Association's (OSDA) Youngstown District Tournament on Feb. 1st at Canfield High School. The following students qualified for the OSDA State Tournament, which was held at Wooster High School on March 6th & 7th:

- **Adrian Easterling** - Quarter Finalist in Humor
- **Yovani Martinez & Zack Wilson** - 2nd place in the state in Duo Interpretation

Congratulations to the entire team! ■

NILES SCHOOLS BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DISTRIBUTION

As a result of Ohio Governor Mike DeWine's strong recommendation of social distancing and to avoid gatherings of 10 or more people, the Niles City School District is making an adjustment to the way breakfast and lunch bags and instructional packets are distributed during the school closure.

Effective Thursday, March 19, Niles City Schools will now be providing grab-and-go breakfast and lunch bags and instructional packets by a drive-up method of distribution at the Administration offices located at 309 North Rhodes Avenue in Niles. Families will see tents set up as they pull into the Administration offices. We ask that everyone remain in their cars and stay in the drive-thru lane to receive their items.

Niles City Schools will continue to provide breakfast and lunch items on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9 - 11am at the Administration offices.

"We thank our families for being patient with us as we continue to try to best serve and support our students and families," said Ann Marie Thigpen, Niles City Schools Superintendent. ■



NILES MIDDLE SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM COMPETES AT YOUNGSTOWN STATE

The Niles Middle School Robotics Team competed in Northeast Ohio Robotic Education Program's competition on March 11, 2020 at Youngstown State University. This year's challenge was titled "Mine Rescue," and students conducted research on how robotics technology is aiding in search and rescue missions, including mining accidents, natural disasters, firefighting, bomb threats and terrorist attacks.

The NMS team won first place in Competition Game 2 and third place Overall in the Middle School division. Congratulations! ■

PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: Front row (6th graders): Lukas Signor, Andrew Strader, Cali Rodgers; Back row (8th graders): Avah Rodgers, Colorado Wareham, Ainsley Elliot



NILES SENIOR ATHLETES SIGN LETTERS OF INTENT

Congratulations to the Niles senior athletes who signed Letters of Intent on Thursday, February 13! Pictured above, from left to right:

- *Jacob Buttar, Golf, University of Mount Union;*
- *Vela Carter, Soccer, Thiel College;*
- *Aneziah Fryer, Basketball, University of Mount Union;*
- *Joe Gallo, Baseball, Malone College; and*
- *Nathan Zook, Bowling, Kent State Trumbull. ■*