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NEIGHBORS

BUILDING COMMUNITY, ONE NEIGHBOR AT A TIME.

MAY 2022



GO TEAM LIVINGSTON

Cover photo by Holly Michelson



Best Version Media



Welcome NEIGHBORS

Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers in our neighborhood!



Until next month,
Amy Sonia Richards
Content Coordinator | arichards@bestversionmedia.com

HELLO NEIGHBORS READERS!

This is a simple heads up to all the dedicated readers in Chagrin Falls, Bainbridge and Bentleyville (CFBB).

Best Version Media (BVM), the media company who backs and prints NEIGHBORS MAGAZINES across the country, is dealing with paper supply-chain disruptions being experienced worldwide. The magazine is temporarily being printed on a different stock, as the disruption is specific to coated paper. This may or may not affect our CFBB publication. If it does, you will know why the magazine may look a little different for a couple of months. To keep the magazine production undisrupted, they must use an uncoated paper until the coated paper is once again available. We are grateful for your understanding of the short-term pivot BVM was forced to make given the circumstances beyond their control.

THANK YOU, LOYAL READERS! Christi Z. George | Publisher

APOLOGY FROM THE ROCKY'S STAFF

Last Month Rocky G reported on "favorite nurseries" for spring planting. It was pointed out to me that Rocky left out one of the area nurseries staples; none other than Lowe's Greenhouse. When you are choosing your favorite greenhouse to visit, put Lowe's on your list too for springtime planting.

Next month, Rocky will feature some of Lowe's "best planted by June" flowers and shrubs.

Local Publishing Team



Christi Z. George
Publisher
cgeorge@bestversionmedia.com



Amy Sonia Richards
Content Coordinator
arichards@bestversionmedia.com



Holly Michelson
Contributing
Photographer



Gail Vannelli
Contributing
Writer



Glenn Chandler
Graphic Designer

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PUBLICATION TEAM

Publisher: Christi Z. George
Content Coordinator: Amy Sonia Richards
Designer: Glenn Chandler
Contributing Photographer: Holly Michelson
Contributing Writer: Gail Vannelli

ADVERTISING CONTACT

Email: cgeorge@bestversionmedia.com
 Mobile: 216-526-2726
 Office: 440-543-7983

FEEDBACK | IDEAS | SUBMISSIONS

Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 10th of each month.

Go to www.bestversionmedia.com and click 'Submit Content'. You may also email your thoughts, ideas and photos to: arichards@bestversionmedia.com.

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EXPERT CONTRIBUTORS

To learn more about becoming an expert contributor, contact BVM at cgeorge@bestversionmedia.com or phone 216-526-2726.



TREE SERVICE

Eric Eckard
Mr. Falls Tree Experts
 877-MR FALLS (673-2557)
fallsland@aol.com



REALTOR

Michael Henry
Henry Real Estate Group, EXP Realty
 216-973-1402
michaelhenry@hgagents.com



AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

Chad Kane
Highway Garage
 440-708-0600
ckane@highwayautocenter.com



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Dr. Astrid Moise
Solon Vein Clinic
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Morgan, Jeanette, Mae, Malcolm, Maddie, Mason, and John



GO TEAM LIVINGSTON

By Amy Sonia Richards, Content Coordinator | Photos by Holly Michelson

It started with a chance encounter. “I went to hear a teacher whom I worked with do a presentation, and John was there,” recounts Jeanette Eichmuller Livingston, who was born and raised in Middleburg Heights. After graduating with a BA in art from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana and an MA in education from John Carroll University, she had been teaching in the Cleveland Heights School District for 12 years.

John Kenneth Livingston II grew up in Rhode Island, emulating his maternal grandfather, who was head bacteriologist for the State of Rhode Island Health Department and a weather enthusiast. Like his grandfather, John kept daily, weekly, and monthly logs of weather patterns, but in the end decided that weather wasn’t his



Jeanette in her private little studio

real passion. “I didn’t think I would grow at that,” he explains. He went on to follow in the footsteps of his father and paternal grandfather, both chiropractors. He earned a BA in biology from Dartmouth College and a BS and doctoral degree from the National College of Chiropractic in Chicago. After graduation, he moved to Cleveland to work with a local chiropractor while his dad’s Rhode Island chiropractic office was under renovation after a devastating flood. “I went to Ohio to get my feet wet,” he says. In fact, he stayed at that practice for six years before beginning his own clinic in 2000.

While in Cleveland, John and Jeanette met and hit it off at that lecture and married three years later.

Then Jeanette became pregnant with twins, or so she thought. “Four months into the pregnancy,

I went for an ultrasound. I can still remember the nurse saying, ‘Baby! Baby! Baby!’” Jeanette says with a smile. TRIPLETS! “Maddie, Mae, and Malcolm were born on New Year’s Eve ten weeks early and came home from the hospital on Valentine’s Day. That was 11 years ago,” she recalls.



Morgan

Adjusting to life with triplets was no easy feat. “It was like an assembly line, with everything on a schedule,” Jeanette remembers. “It was like zone defense,” adds John. Luckily, they found help. “Dianna, a contact of John’s, became our nanny. She was an angel. She still comes to visit and stays for dinner. She has a way of making you lighten up and not get too worked up about anything,” says Jeanette.



Malcom

“A year later, I got pregnant again!” explains Jeanette. Mason (9) made baby 4. But even with four babies, Jeanette and John always kept Thursday nights as date night. “On date night, a few years later, I told him I was pregnant with our last baby, Morgan (6),” Jeanette recalls.



Maddie the oldest!

Suffice it to say, the Livingston house is very busy from dawn to dusk. “I am a morning person, so I get up before the family is awake and walk,” says Jeanette. “I always joke that if I don’t come back, I took off!”



Mason

While Jeanette walks, John gets the kids moving. “I get up and make lunches, get the kids dressed, gets backpacks packed, and get the kids to the bus stop in two rounds. Then I leave for work,” explains John. “I’m home by 5:30 and take my work hat off and put my kid hat on so I can relieve Jeanette. While Jeanette makes dinner, I help with homework and hear about the kids’ days.” Jeanette adds, “John is very patient with them. He comes home and still has energy just as I am punching out.”



Mae

While the kids are at school, Jeanette has a chance to get back to her love of art. “I started painting again when the kids were little, and now that our last one is in kindergarten, I have alone time to paint. I create large paintings then transfer them to greeting cards for my business called NettiNotes. Cards are a way to spread good vibes, and I love art. Painting for me is like meditation - after I work in the studio, I am ready to be a mom when the kids get home,” Jeanette explains.



Dad and Mom at the kitchen art table

John’s day at work is also full. His clinic, Livingston

Chiropractic Center on Miles Road in Warrensville Heights, is “an open-concept office where patients are in one large space together. Patients talk to each other. I like that casual treatment experience,

Continued on page 6

and I love the human side of it. I want to know my patients, connect with them, and work with them one on one. My practice focus is spine and joint injury, but it is also health and wellness. I help people with problems such as herniated discs or sciatic nerve pain, but I also help diabetics, menopausal women, migraine sufferers, and many other patients with difficult health concerns. I spend my day explaining to my patients why they have symptoms and helping them get rid of them," he says.

Daily life is easier as the kids are growing up. "The triplets are getting to the age that they can help. They are self-sufficient to some extent," John shares. Jeanette and John try to spend as much time as possible with the kids. "We ride bikes; we play football; we play cards; we do anything they want to do. It is hard to have time with each of them all the time, but we try to be there for them as much as we can," says John.

And each of their five kids has his or her own personality. "Maddie was the first-born of the

triplets. She is a big helper. She has always been a little mommy. She also loves to illustrate," explains Jeanette. "Mae is next," says Jeanette. "She is compassionate. Mae is on student council; she is an artist; and she has had purple glasses since she was two years old," she adds. "Malcolm loves sports. He is kind and an amazing brother to all of his siblings," John says. "Mason is tender-hearted and fun. He also loves animals. Morgan, she is our little princess. She loves music," says John. Jeanette adds, "She plays piano and is constantly singing around the house."

With five kids, it isn't a quiet house. "When everyone talks, it is like a ballgame," John says. Jeanette chimes in that their kitchen, which holds a 10-foot long table, often sounds like a cafeteria.

Jeanette adds, "Our kitchen table is a truly special place. The family plays games, creates projects, makes art, does homework, and eats at this table." John and Jeanette say they are both grateful for their family, each other, and the people in their lives.



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By Christopher Dietzel



Christopher Dietzel

“As a Northern Ohio native, born and raised, I have an intimate knowledge of the area and a strong desire to make my home, your home.”

Northern Ohio is a great place to live and work, which is why Christopher Dietzel has called it home for him and his growing family. With roots in Hudson, Ohio, Christopher Dietzel was born and raised in Northern Ohio. Real estate is a passion and lifestyle for Chris, with a background in Technical Corporate Recruitment and sales/marketing, it is easy to see why so many clients have been calling Christopher for help buying and selling real estate in the Cleveland and Akron markets.

Christopher Dietzel has been a licensed Realtor® in Ohio since 2016 and has been a part of the Russell Real Estate Services family since June 2021. His passion for helping clients take the next step in their homeownership journey is why so many clients have chosen him as their Realtor® and referred him to friends and family in the area. Christopher Dietzel volunteers with and loves being a part of other Northern Ohio, Cleveland/Akron community events.

When it concerns his clients, Chris believes in a philosophy of transparency and honesty. He says, “I feel creating something of value must lead first with integrity, honesty, and trust. This creates a solid foundation between business partners.”

When Christopher Dietzel isn't in the office or volunteering, you'll often find him spending time with friends and family, his 2 sons, and watching Cleveland sports teams.

Having just set personal records in volume/sales and families helped in 2021, Chris is looking to continue to show his passion and industry knowledge with those clients who choose to take the journey with him. Please check his reviews on Facebook and Zillow and reach out for any questions on today's market.

<https://www.zillow.com/profile/christopher752/#reviews>

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Realtor- 
330-221-9190
cdhomesales@gmail.com
www.clehouses4sale.com

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YOUR MOM IS TOPS!

By Chef Holly Strauch

For a delicious Mother's Day brunch, you need to make this high-rising (over the top of the skillet) savory, mushroomy, cheesy Dutch Baby. Serve with brown sugar pecan bacon and fresh fruit. Your mother will think you are tops!

MUSHROOM AND CHEESE DUTCH BABY

(makes 4-6 servings)

You can replace 8 oz. of the mushrooms with fresh asparagus, cut into 1-inch pieces. Cook along with the mushrooms to add a touch of springtime. Make sure that you read the recipe all the way before preparing. Enjoy!



- 1 1/2 pounds fresh cremini mushroom, quartered
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme leaves, divided
- 2 tablespoons fresh chives, divided
- 2/3 cup flour
- 2/3 cup whole milk
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt, divided
- Ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup butter, divided
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese, plus more for garnish
- 1/2 cup white wine, marsala, or dry sherry

Place a rack in middle of oven; remove any racks above it. Place 10-inch cast iron skillet on rack; heat oven to 425°F. In medium-sized bowl, whisk together flour, milk, eggs, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and black pepper to taste, until batter is smooth. Whisk in 1 tablespoon thyme, and 1 tablespoon chives. Carefully remove hot skillet from oven; immediately add 2 tablespoons butter. Swirl to melt, coating bottom and sides of

pan. Immediately pour batter into skillet; sprinkle with parmesan. Bake until golden, puffed, and crispy on edges, 18-20 minutes. While Dutch Baby is baking, heat large skillet on high until very hot. Add mushrooms and asparagus if using. Season with remaining salt and black pepper; continue searing until well browned. Reduce heat to medium; add remaining butter, garlic, and remaining thyme. Cook for about 2 minutes. Add white wine; cook until mostly evaporated. As soon as Dutch Baby is done, remove from oven; immediately top with mushroom mixture. Sprinkle with remaining chives and more parmesan cheese.

BROWN SUGAR PECAN BACON

(makes 6 servings)



Sweet, salty, crispy, fatty--need I say more? My absolute favorite way to eat bacon! This also makes a great appetizer.

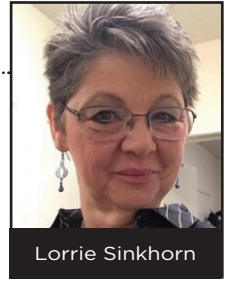
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- Pinch cayenne pepper
- 12 thick-cut strips smoked bacon

Preheat oven to 375°F. Process pecans and brown sugar in food processor until pecans are finely chopped. Place mixture in small bowl; add cayenne. Place bacon in single layer on aluminum foil-lined baking sheet. Press pecan mixture on top of bacon slices, coating well.

Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until browned and crisp. Let stand 5 minutes before devouring.

BRUNCH ANYONE?

By Lorrie Sinkhorn, Tasting Attendant at Cooper's Hawk Winery



Lorrie Sinkhorn

Did someone say brunch? Most people think of serving mimosas when it comes to a nice brunch. For a different twist, try using pear or lychee juice instead of orange juice to mix with your sparkling prosecco. The softness of those fruits will help to balance the acidity level of your bubbly wine.

This dish has some earthy tones in it with the mushrooms and the herbs. A Beaujolais or even a sparkling shiraz would pair nicely. A cranberry wine is refreshing, and I bet it tastes good in that glass of prosecco you are enjoying. Let's do a quick blend of prosecco, cranberry wine, and top it off with pear juice. Never be afraid to think outside the box and blend a few things. If you were contemplating an oaky, buttery chardonnay, unfortunately that wine does not pair well with eggs. Save that bottle for later.

Now, about that bacon! Make a double batch if you plan on sharing. Beverage options are swirling in my head (pun intended.)

Bloody Mary's. A little spice in that would enhance the heat from the cayenne pepper just

a touch. If that is too much, the sweetness from the brown sugar would pair nicely with a German Riesling that also has a bit of sweetness. For a lighter option, a pear hard seltzer or even a hard cider would offset some heavy flavors.

So many options, of course the best pairing is the one you like. Don't be shy, stop by North Coast Wine Club on Thursdays to share your perfect pairing.

Cheers!



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Janie Reinart

JANIE INSPIRED BY BIDIBIDI REFUGEE CAMP

By Janie Reinart

Publisher's profits for *When Water Makes Mud: A Story of Refugee Children* (Blue Whale Press, 2021) are being donated to UNICEF Uganda. My book is dedicated to the 200,000 children in the Bidibidi settlement in Uganda escaping war in South Sudan. A National Geographic article about refugee children making their own toys from mud, paper and plastic caught my eye. The exquisite pictures in the article started the picture book story for me. I contacted Nora Lorek, the photographer, and she was gracious enough to give me her email and became my inspiration and resource.

Nora asked to see my story when it was finished. She loved the story and said it reminded her of a photo. When I clicked on the link she sent, it was the very picture of Nora's that started the story for me. That picture is in the backmatter of my book. It was important to me for children to see that photo to empathize with children in other places in the world.

I was inspired by the refugee children and the complexity of the invented toys they made from found objects using their imagination, critical thinking, problem solving, design, and engineering skills. Children without toys—yet children who play. Their hope becomes our hope. Free downloadable resources for the story can be found at www.janiereinart.com under the BOOKS tab. I love sharing my story with author visits.

I revel in playing with words. Words are my tools. During school visits, I'm eager to encourage emergent writers of all ages to find their voice, share their stories, and experience the sheer joy of writing through free verse poetry.

I've worn many hats, performing as a clown in children's hospitals, sharing original tales in schools as a musical storyteller, and helping children find their voice as a poet in residence. Best of all, I love writing for children. I live in Ohio with my charming husband, and I'm always up for a game of cards, hopscotch, or dress-up. Just ask my sixteen grandchildren.

I am a member of SCBWI (Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators), a former Poetry Day Liaison for OCTELA (Ohio Teachers of English Language Arts), a Teacher Consultant with the National Writing Project (NWP), and member of the NWP Writers Council.

The book can be purchased from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, Bookshop.org, Walmart and Fireside Book Shop.



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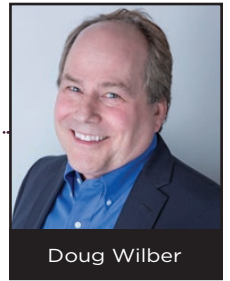
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CATARACTS AND VISION: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

By Doug Wilber, Owner of Cherished Companions



Doug Wilber

If you are a senior citizen and are experiencing vision problems, you may be suffering from cataracts. Cataracts are a leading cause of visual impairment in the United States, and they can occur at any age.

In this article, we will discuss the impact of cataracts on vision and what you can do to protect your sight.

WHAT ARE CATARACTS?

Cataracts occur when the lens of your eye becomes clouded. This cloudiness can make it difficult to see clearly. In some cases, cataracts can cause complete blindness. Cataracts are usually caused by the natural aging process, but they can also be caused by injuries to the eye, diabetes, or long-term use of steroid medications. Below are some other causes:

- UV radiation from the sun
- Smoking
- Excessive alcohol consumption
- Certain medical conditions, such as Parkinson's disease
- Cataracts can also be hereditary

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF CATARACTS

It can be difficult to tell if you have cataracts because the symptoms develop gradually. However, there are some common signs that you may be experiencing cataracts, including:

- Blurry vision
- Difficulty seeing at night
- Glare from oncoming headlights while driving
- Fading or yellowing of colors

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, it is important to see an eye doctor as soon as possible.

WHAT IS THE TREATMENT FOR CATARACTS AND HOW SUCCESSFUL IS IT IN RESTORING VISION?

Cataracts can be removed with surgery. The surgeon will make a small incision in your eye and then remove the cloudy lens. Once the lens is removed the doctor will replace it with a new lens. You will then be able to see clearly again. Surgery is usually successful in restoring vision. In fact, more than 98% of people who have cataract surgery experience an improvement in their vision.

As with all surgeries, there are some risks associated with cataract surgery. These risks include infection, bleeding and damage to the eye. However, these risks are very small and most people do not experience any problems after surgery.

There's no urgency to have surgery, so many individuals put it off until it's absolutely necessary, preferring to manage their symptoms in other ways until then. The deterioration of eyesight is frequently gradual.

HOW TO COPE WITH CATARACTS

Sometimes treatment may not always be effective in restoring vision. In this case, there are some things that you can do to cope with your cataracts.

Cataracts may not be very irritating early on. Many people just adjust to minor eyesight alterations. Other coping and visual assistance tactics that may be employed when eyesight deteriorates include:

- Images might be easier to view with better lighting. Invest in a quality floor lamp.
- Increase text size on computer screens and other devices by making the text larger in your settings or purchasing a magnifying glass.
- Reading aids include magnifying glasses, stronger lens prescriptions (glasses/contacts).
- Contrasting colors can be used to help differentiate not just between things, but also to show the border of a counter or a step.
- Limit your night-time driving because visibility is often reduced and there may be greater glare from headlights and lamps. Furthermore, darkness might make it more difficult to identify potential road hazards as well as read traffic signs.
- Wearing sunglasses or a hat with a brim to help reduce glare.

There are also Ohio organizations that can help with activities of daily living that provide seniors with extracare and assistance they may need. If you are experiencing vision problems and would like more information on how we can help you, contact us today.



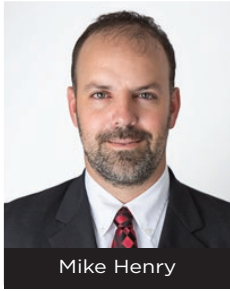
CONCLUSION

Cataracts are the leading cause of blindness in the world. This means that there is a good chance that at some point in your life you or someone you know will be affected by cataracts. As we age, our risk for developing cataracts increases so it's important to be aware of the symptoms and how to treat them.

We hope that this information provides you with a better understanding of cataracts and empowers you to take action if you experience any of these symptoms.

At Cherished Companions, our caregivers take health and safety seriously and will have ongoing communication with family members about the health of their loved ones.

For further questions, to request resources or to inquire about having your loved one utilize our services, contact Cherished Companions today on our website or call (440) 484-5390.



Mike Henry

HEDGE AGAINST INFLATION WITH THESE 3 REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TYPES

By Mike Henry, Lead REALTOR® and President, HG Agents - EXP Realty

The annual inflation rate in the United States is currently around 7.5%—the highest it has been since 1982. It doesn't matter if you're a cashier, lawyer, plumber, or retiree; if you spend U.S. dollars, inflation impacts you. Economists expect the effects of inflation, like a higher cost of goods, to continue. Luckily, an investment in real estate can ease some of the financial strain. Here's how:

Real estate prices across the board tend to rise along with inflation and often rise faster than inflation. That's one of the reasons demand for real estate is soaring right now. We believe real estate is the best hedge against inflation. Owning real estate does more than protect your wealth—it can make you money. For example, home prices rose nearly 17% from 2020 to 2021, 10% ahead of the 7% inflation that occurred in the same timeframe. Plus, certain types of real estate investments can help you generate a stream of passive income.

TYPES OF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS

Though there are myriad ways to invest in real estate, there are three basic investment types that we recommend for beginner and intermediate investors.

PRIMARY RESIDENCE

If you own your home, you're already ahead. The advantages of homeownership become even more apparent in inflationary times. As inflation raises prices throughout the economy, the value of your home is likely to go up concurrently. At the same time, you've locked in a set mortgage payment for the next 30 years, so you'll be immune to rising costs.

If you (or a family member) don't already own your primary residence, homeownership is a worthwhile goal to pursue. Whether you already own a primary residence or are still renting, now is a good time to also start thinking about an investment property. The types of investment properties you'll buy as a solo investor generally fall into two categories: long-term rentals and short-term rentals.

LONG-TERM (TRADITIONAL) RENTALS

A long-term or traditional rental is a dwelling that's leased out for an extended period. An example of this is a single-family home where a tenant signs a one-year lease and brings all their own furniture.

To invest in a long-term rental, you'll need to budget for maintenance, repairs, property taxes, and insurance. You'll also need to have a plan for managing the property. But a well-chosen investment property should pay for itself through rental income, and you'll benefit from appreciation as the property rises in value. We can help you find an ideal long-term rental property to suit your budget and investment goals.

SHORT-TERM (VACATION) RENTALS

Short-term or vacation rental's offer temporary accommodations. A short-term rental is defined as a residential dwelling that is rented for 30 days or less. The furniture and other amenities are provided by the property owner. Think Airbnb or Vrbo.

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A short-term rental can potentially earn you a higher return than a long-term rental, but this comes at the cost of daily, hands-on management. With a short-term rental, you're not just entering the real estate business; you're entering the hospitality business, too.

Done right, short-term rentals can be both a hedge against inflation and a profitable source of income. As a bonus, when the home isn't being rented you have an affordable vacation spot for yourself and your family!

Whether you are interested in a primary residence or investment properties, mortgage rates are expected to rise, so you'll want to act fast to maximize your investment return.

WE'RE INVESTED IN HELPING YOU

Inflation is a fact of life in the U.S. economy. Luckily, you can hedge against inflation with a carefully-managed investment portfolio that includes real estate. Owning a primary residence or investing in a short-term or long-term rental will help you both mitigate the effects of inflation and grow your net worth, which makes it a strategic move in our current financial environment.

If you're ready to invest in real estate to build wealth and protect yourself from rising inflation, our team can help you find a new home or investment property that meets your financial goals.

The above references an opinion and is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be financial advice. Consult the appropriate professionals for advice regarding your individual needs.

For more information about the luxury market, contact Michael Henry with HG Agents at EXP Realty 216-973-1402 or email michaelhenry@hgagents.com.

GRADS' BIG DAY AND OTHER NEWS

By Gail Vannelli, Contributing Writer

CHAGRIN FALLS EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Since the first student received a diploma from Chagrin Falls High School in 1879 (Hugh Christian), over 10,000 students have become graduates. As another school year comes to a close, the school is gearing up for its 2022 senior commencement, taking place May 22 at either 11 am or 2 pm (depending on weather) at Harris Stadium.



Chagrin Falls Graduating Class of 1890

The Chagrin Falls Alumni Association has been instrumental in making commencement special for new graduates. Those who have a parent who graduated from Chagrin Falls receive a corsage (or two if both parents graduated from Chagrin), which they wear to commencement. Also, the high school's victory bell, which disappeared in the early 1970s, was replaced two years ago thanks to an alumni family donation. It was placed beneath the scoreboard and, starting last year, the graduates have been encouraged to ring the bell at commencement to declare and celebrate their great victory.

OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST INCLUDE:

- Fifth and Sixth grade Band Spring Concert on May 23 at 7 pm at the Intermediate School Auditorium
- Sixth Grade Dance on June 3, from 7-9 pm at the Chagrin Falls Intermediate School
- Band Camp Jr. 2022, taking place June 13 to June 17, 9 am to 12 pm at the Chagrin Falls Campus. The camp is for current fifth to seventh graders who will be in band in the 2022-2023 school year. The Chagrin Falls Band website describes the camp as a "fun music camp [where] students will learn new songs, play music-related games, and explore ways to enhance their performance skills."

KENSTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Did you ever wonder how the Kenston Local School District got its name? Back before Auburn and Bainbridge townships were formed, the area they encompassed was known as Kent's Town. When Auburn School and Bainbridge School consolidated in 1953, they derived the new school district's name from Kent's Town.



Since 1953, Kenston has graduated thousands of students, and one of those graduates, Stephan Dechant (Class of 1987), was recently nominated for an Oscar in the category of Best Production Design for Apple Original Films/A24-IAC Films production of "The Tragedy of McBeth." Soon a new group of Kenston High School graduates will be receiving their diplomas, as they dream of what their futures may hold. The commencement ceremony takes place May 24 at 7-8 pm at Parkside Church in Bainbridge Township.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST INCLUDE:

- Kenston Intermediate School Talent Show is taking place May 27 from 9:30 to 10:30 am at the Kenston High School Auditorium.
- Kenston Schools Celebration & Fundraiser, sponsored by the Kenston PTO. Get away on May 31 to the Kalahari Resorts in Sandusky, Ohio (indoor waterpark). Enjoy a special rate; part of the room bookings will benefit the PTO Council.



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KENSTON BOMBERS... TAKING FLIGHT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

By Kathleen M. Poe, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum



Kathleen M. Poe,
Assistant Superintendent

Student preparedness for life after high school graduation has always been a priority for Kenston. What has changed and developed over the years is the intentionality of our work in creating more choices and experiences to support college and/or career readiness (CCR). Over the past seven years, Kenston has focused on our expanding efforts to best meet the

individual interests and needs of our students as they plan for their college or work life. Formal efforts begin in grade 6 and continue to graduation. The value of CCR preparedness has been supported by Ohio law and reflected in the revised Ohio Department of Education's Graduation Requirements. The new graduation options for students recognize the importance of grades, competency, such as industry credentials, and readiness skills that are awarded in the form of Graduation Seals.

Some of the District's recent actions that are aligned with the College and Career Readiness priority include:

- **ESTABLISHED A DISTRICT COLLEGE CAREER READINESS (CCR) COMMITTEE.**

This group, with representation from counselors, administrators, teachers and outside organizations when needed, meets monthly to evaluate progress and brainstorm how to improve offerings for our students.

- **EXPANDED CURRICULUM AND COURSES.**

Seven new courses have been added over the past several years at KMS and KHS to allow students to expand skills and interests and learn in a more real-world manner. Courses included are Pre engineering, Engineering, Design and Modeling, Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, Mathematical Modeling and Reasoning as an Algebra 2 alternative course. Additionally, a 9-week College and Career Readiness course for all 8th graders is available.

- **INCREASED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.**

Career experiences have been made available through our partnerships with organizations such as Geauga Growth Partnership, CVEC, Auburn Career Center, ESC of the Western Reserve, and Leadership Geauga County.

Local businesses have supported senior mentorships and summer internships, as well as participating in interview workshops, the KHS Career Day and speaker panels representing a broad range of career opportunities that don't necessarily require a four-year degree. Kenston, INC (Innovate, Nurture, Connect) is our Kenston Business Advisory. Community agencies, businesses and interested individuals are invited to quarterly meetings to learn how our students are preparing for their futures. Many of the participants have generously supported our CCR ideas and efforts.

- **INCREASED COMMUNICATION TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.**

The District recognizes that working closely with students and families allows the preparation for plans after high school to be further developed. To strengthen the home to school connection, some of the supports put in place are:

- Designated CCR website at the high school. This website link from the Homepage has a wealth of information for families. Internships, scholarships, work experiences, and leadership programs are all shared on this site.
- Nine educational blueprints have been developed for various career pathways. These documents outline for students and parents the courses, electives and extracurricular activities that are recommended if the student is interested in pursuing a particular field, such as journalism, fine arts, business, pre-law or science/medicine.
- Use of the Naviance platform beginning in 6th grade. This platform provides students with career exploration resources, offers career assessments and interest inventories, as well as a place to hold credentials, transcripts, college applications, etc. Counselors and teachers at KMS and KHS are trained to access this platform and guide students to these resources. Ohio Means Jobs is an additional digital resource that is available.
- Scheduled parent meetings in middle school and high school offer parents the opportunity to learn more about what is available for their child as they prepare for the future. A brochure was created by the CCR committee that is distributed to parents at the beginning of middle school and high school. The brochure's information, divided by grade levels, provides CCR activities for the school, the parents and the student.

COMMUNITY

CHAGRIN VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPCOMING EVENTS

By Mark George

- May 14th- Rubber Duck Race 9am/ Riverside Park/ CF
- May 20th- Business Therapy-Social Media/8am/ Elite Sotheby's International Realty
- May 25th- Meet Me @5/Sapphire Creek
- June 16th- August 11- Simple Summer Concert Series
- June 17th- Lunch with the Mayors/Trustees 11:30am Location TBD/ Sponsored by CMIT Solutions
- July 27th- Meet Me @5/ PopCulture CLE
- August 25th- Annual Golf Outing/ The Tanglewood Club/11am
- September 15th- Business Therapy/ Living Lean/ 8am
- October 26th- Sponsorship Cocktail Party
- November 12th- Sip and Shop
- December 14th- Holiday Party



Chagrin Valley
Chamber of Commerce

Established 1943

KIDS STORY STUDIO

By Gail Vannelli, Contributing Writer

STORY WRITING FOR CHILDREN AGES 8-10

**4-5 pm/Every Wednesday at Cuyahoga County Public Library,
Chagrin Falls Branch**

In this free story writing class, children are guided to imagine, write and draw their unique and creative stories in a fun, supportive environment.

The course is offered to children who live in the Cleveland area and are between the ages of 8-10.

All writing and drawing materials are provided.

At the end of the class, each child receives an exciting, colorful picture book.

Bring the joy of story writing and drawing into your child's life in a class where they will be instructed, inspired, and motivated to write and draw their stories by a professional story author and a published illustrator.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER FOR KIDS STORY STUDIO CLASSES GO TO:
WWW.KIDSTORYSTUDIO.ORG**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

By Gail Vannelli, Contributing Writer

CHAGRIN FALLS COMMUNITY EDUCATION
The Spring and Summer 2022 Brochure is available for download at

www.chagrinschools.org/Community.aspx. Classes therein are offered from the present time through August and include high school programs, summer camps, youth activities, and youth sport and fitness. For more information, contact the Community Education Department, (440) 247-5375.

**THE CHAGRIN VALLEY JAYCEES PRESENTS
BLOSSOM TIME 2022. THE SCHEDULE INCLUDES:**

- Balloon Glow (hot air balloon launch and light show), May 26 from 6-10pm
- Chagrin Falls All-Class Reunion for Alumni, Teachers and Friends, May 27 from 7:30pm-11pm at the Chagrin Falls Township Hall.
- Kids Day (*games, rides, kids programming, and more*), May 28 from 9am-1pm
- Blossom Time Run (*5.25-mile road race*), May 29 from 9-11am
- Blossom Time Parade, May 29 from 2-4pm
- Memorial Day Parade, May 30 from 10-11am (*from Triangle Park to Evergreen Cemetery*).

VALLEY ARTS CENTER presents its 38th annual Art by the Falls, June 11 to June 12 at Riverside Park, Chagrin Falls. "Art by the Falls is a wonderful event that brings juried artists' masterful artwork to our community and highlights the work of the Valley Art Center's year-round programs." Call (440) 247-7507 for more information or to volunteer.

SUMMER MARKET Saturdays 9am-12pm
5205 Chillicothe Road, South Russell, OH 44022
May 7-October 8, 2022

CHAGRIN MEALS-ON-WHEELS - BUILDING CONNECTIONS

Submitted by Nancy Adams

Chagrin Meals-On-Wheels (MOW) has been serving the Chagrin Valley community, providing much more than meals, for over 45 years. The personal connections that MOW volunteers have made with clients has been just as important as the nutritionally-balanced meals delivered. Clients, as well as family members, appreciate the social interaction and wellness check from the caring MOW delivery team.



Meals-On-Wheels client Jack Stanton with his son Matt Stanton

Matt Stanton, the son of MOW client Jack, recently shared his experience and appreciation for the MOW program. Matt, an independent film maker living on the west coast, returned home in 2019 to visit his dad, still living on their family farm. Matt quickly realized that his father needed assistance with many daily living activities and had become severely dependent. Matt adjusted his plans to stay and become his father's live-in home care provider. He explained, "My dad was always an amazing provider to us - I felt it was my duty to step up." Matt shared, "They say it takes a village to raise a child and that also applies to our aging parents." He appreciates the community support from MOW that goes well beyond food service delivery. The relationships with MOW volunteers have been important to both Matt and his dad. Matt admitted, "My dad enjoys engaging and sharing with the drivers, and I look forward to it just as much as him. The relationships I've been able to cultivate with volunteers at MOW have been rewarding." Likewise, the MOW drivers are fulfilled and energized by the connections they have with clients and their families.

MOW's mission of providing nutrition, independence, and caring gives comfort and peace of mind to both clients and family members. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from the MOW meal delivery service, please contact Sue Mansour, Client Coordinator, or apply online at www.chagrinfallsmeals.org.

NEIGHBORS

1140



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