



# THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 55 No.4

August, 2019

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....

Welcome Back! I hope that you have enjoyed your summer, that you were able to travel, plant your garden, and just enjoy your retirement. Some things to think about:

Invite a new retiree to the luncheon on September 10. New members and new ideas are important to keeping this group viable and growing. Please advise Sue McCarter when you send in your reservation form that you have invited a new retiree to attend .

Our speaker for the September 10th luncheon is Rebecca McFarland. Her topic will be "Cleveland Breweries." She has presented her programs all over the Cleveland area. If you have not attended one, be sure that you attend.

Some information from ORTA:

ORTA has moved into its new office resulting in significant savings to the organization. The new address is:

ORTA,  
250 East Wilson Bridge Rd. Suite 150  
Worthington, Ohio 43085

I have access to the ORTA newsletter that is only sent by email after you send in a request. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter, I will send it to you. Please email me at [sawitke@oh.rr.com](mailto:sawitke@oh.rr.com) if you are interested.

**PLEASE do not send in your money for 2020 dues until AFTER October 30, 2019.** We will be beginning a membership drive in November.

Are you able to help us out? The nominating committee will be seeking one(1) person to be President-Elect for the 2019-2020 year. David Morse and Terri Herbert will be co-presidents for that year, however, a President-Elect will be necessary once their term is finished. Please, if you are asked...give it some thought.

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT.....

Tom Moscovic

### The Beat Goes On even when Your General Assembly is on Summer Break

#### Governor Signs Budget

With Gov. Mike DeWine's signature, funding for Ohio Schools will increase by \$263 million for the 2019-20 school year, which is a four percent increase with a two percent increase slated for 2020-21 school year. The bill also provides \$20million for districts to purchase school buses, according to an Ohio House news release.

Officials from the Ohio School Boards Association, Ohio Association of School Business Officials and Ohio's Superintendent Association issued a joint statement about the new two-year budget. The news release states, " We appreciate the priority placed on Ohio's children in the biennial budget bill, House Bill 166. By investing in the new Student Wellness and Success funds, Gov. Mike DeWine and the Ohio House and Senate recognize the non-academic barriers that are facing our students. These deeply needed resources will go a long way to help students overcome these challenges."


The organizations also applauded DeWine's vetoes of three property tax-related provisions "that would have had a negative impact on school districts. The vetoes will help preserve districts' ability to effectively manage their local share of funding ." the release stated.

"Our organizations pledge to work with state leaders to ensure the state's new investment in Education moves Ohio forward, and we offer our assistance in the effort to reform our school-funding system while also continuing to address the non-academic barriers our students face," the organizations stated.

#### Ohio's Public School System Ranked 28th in the Nation in New Report

Ohio's public school system is the 28th best in the country, a new report finds. The ranking from WalletHub found students perform well in tests, as Ohio ranked 13th for math test scores and 15th for reading test scores.

"The report aims to paint a picture of the quality of the public school system in each state," WalletHub analyst Jill Gonzalez said in an email. "It accounts for class size, funding, instructor credentials, and performance."

"It is a well-known fact that the quality of public 

### LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday  
September 10, 2019  
Kirtlander Party Center  
9270 Chillicothe Road  
Kirtland



11:00 Social time 11:30 Luncheon  
Program: Rebecca McFarland  
"The History of Cleveland Breweries"

**PLEASE PARK IN THE BACK AND  
ENTER THROUGH THE BACK DOOR**

Legislative continued...

schools is often times a question of funding,” Gonzalez added. “However, some states seem to be doing better than others with less money, and this is where schools and authorities could learn from each other, by looking into the strengths and weaknesses of each state.”

The report assessed a range of categories including safety, funding, class size and instructor credentials. The state ranked 38th for its pupil-teacher ratio, 23rd for its bullying incidence rate and 12th for the share of families who agreed their children go to safe schools.

In the new ranking, Ohio outpaced Michigan (No.37) and West Virginia (No. 47). The state, however, lagged behind Kentucky (No. 13), Indiana (No. 22) and Pennsylvania (No.27)

Massachusetts topped the list, followed by New Jersey, Connecticut, Virginia and Vermont. New Mexico finished at No. 51 in the report, which also included Washington, D. C.

### Teacher Retires from ‘Toxic’ Profession in Facebook Post: ‘I will not miss what education has become’

Florida teacher Jonathan Carroll retired from his profession in a moving Facebook post. This Florida teacher’s list of “Things I did not sign up for” inspired him to leave his once-beloved profession.

Jonathan Carroll, a social studies teacher from South Lake High School in Groveland, Florida, has worked in both public and private schools in his 20 year career. “When I started teaching, I was excited to make an impact on children. I love every minute of my job,” this married, father of two tells *Yahoo Lifestyle*.

However, in March, feeling disillusioned by the state of his profession-teachers across the country have been striking against overcrowded classrooms and low wages- he started recording his grievances: Overly-digitized classrooms, high-stakes test scores, burnt-out students, and a yearly salary of 48K.

Carroll’s list helped him reach a decision: He’ll retire from teaching on May 28. “So I guess this is it...I am leaving the field of education. I have had so many wonderful memories, but it has become a toxic profession,” Carroll wrote on his Facebook post.

Once believing he would spend his days “Opening minds, inspiring the next generation to reach higher and learn from the past,” Carroll wrote. “ I think of all the things I did not sign up for...like micromanaging administrators, mental health counseling, blueprints with no freedom or flexibility (even through you can not enforce planning), not being considered an expert in my chosen field eventhough I have a graduate degree. Students overdosing on drugs and collapsing in my classroom when they get back from the bathroom, active shooter drills, teachers being armed, knowing where it is safe to hide in my classroom, feeding and clothing my students,

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

*By Louise Bennet*

Hannah’s Home, Lake County’s maternity house, is the organization which will receive the donations at our September meeting. The list of needed items is quite extensive, so it would be wonderful if we could give assistance by providing many of them next month.

### Soaps

HE laundry detergent  
Hand soap  
Dishwasher detergent  
Dawn  
Dreft laundry detergent

### Paper Products

Towels  
Toilet paper  
Plates  
Cups  
Napkins  
Tissues

### Other Needs

Trash bags (13 gallon)      Wet and dry Swiffer pads  
Lysol/Clorox wipes      Adult and baby Tylenol  
Dryer sheets      Shampoo and conditioner

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**Regarding Volunteer Hours:** Please complete the form found in this newsletter or one available at the meeting to record and all hours NOT previously reported. Every hour counts when tracking the total for our group.

**FYI:** The Salvation Army on Pearl Street in Painesville accepts clothing and small appliances on Wednesday and Thursday morning which are then given away to those in need.

constant testing...tired of everyone else knowing better and being chastised if I dare ask questions or challenge leadership. So this May, I am walking away...”

## INFORMATIVE & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

**Terri Herbert**

### **GIVING BACK: How it Benefits YOU!**

Volunteering may not come to mind when considering ways to stay mentally or physically fit, but it can have a lasting impact on your health for years to come.

When you focus on helping others your mind lets go of worries or challenges you are facing. The time spent away from your daily stressors can greatly decrease your anxiety or lessen anger. The social interactions through volunteering also have a big impact on your mental health. Meeting new people who have similar interests as you creates a sense of community, which can decrease your risk of depression and feelings of isolation. Lastly, volunteer activities that engage your mind, such as tutoring in a school, can greatly improve brain function, known to prevent memory loss and the progression of Alzheimer’s as you age.

*See back page for remainder of this article.* ➡

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation

**Kirtlander Party Center  
9270 Chillicothe Road  
Kirtland, Ohio**

**DUE: AUGUST 30, 2019**

**MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.C.R.T.A.**

**SEND RESERVATION TO:**

Susan McCarter  
9720 Johnnycake Ridge Road  
Concord, Ohio 44060  
Ph. 440.639.1141

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_(s) for the TUESDAY, September 10, 2019 at \$16.00 per person.

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one(1): \_\_\_\_\_ Pork Scallopini \_\_\_\_\_ Eggplant Parmesan

Includes: Salad, Fingerling potatoes, Carrot/broccoli mix  
Rolls/butter, Sheet cake, beverages

## Lake County Funding

County	District	2018-19	2020-21	Change	Pct. Change	Students 2019
Lake	Fairport Harbor	\$4,242,275	\$5,420,362	\$1,178,087	27.8%	696
Lake	Kirtland	\$809,908	\$932,421	\$122,512	15.1%	1,166
Lake	Madison	\$13,482,999	\$14,883,608	\$1,400,609	10.4%	2,833
Lake	Mentor	\$14,398,069	\$15,381,481	\$983,411	6.8%	7,472
Lake	Painsville City	\$25,594,154	\$27,760,374	\$2,166,220	8.5%	2,755
Lake	Perry	\$3,400,179	\$4,013,570	\$613,392	18.0%	1,616
Lake	Riverside	\$5,913,237	\$6,429,748	\$516,511	8.7%	3,905
Lake	Wickliffe	\$1,923,900	\$2,548,808	\$624,909	32.5%	1,297
Lake	Willoughby-Eastlake	\$14,414,964	\$17,014,736	\$2,599,772	18.0%	7,551



## THE BELLRINGER

A Publication of the  
LAKE COUNTY RETIRED  
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

LCRTA

9399 Ridgeside Drive  
Mentor, Ohio 44060



STATE TEACHERS  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OF OHIO



### Informative & Protective Services continued:

People who volunteer can also experience better physical health. Volunteering often involves some degree of physical activity. For example, contributing to a community garden, walking dogs at an animal shelter or cooking meals for the homeless keeps you up and moving.

According to one study, older adults can decrease their risk of high blood pressure by up to 40% if they volunteer at least 200 hours per year, or roughly 4 hours per week. ➡

Lowering your blood pressure decreases your risk for heart attack, stroke, heart failure, vision loss and much more,

Dedicating time to giving back is a great way to expose yourself to new experiences, meet new people and improve your health. So get out there and GIVE BACK!

**And remember to track your hours and turn them in to Louise Bennet at luncheon meetings.**



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 23, 2019 - Rabbit Run Theater - "My Way"

September 10, 2019 - Luncheon/Meeting - Kirtlander Party Center

October, 2019 - Australia/New Zealand

November, 2019 - Informational Meeting - TBA

December 6-9, 2019 - Williamsburg Christmas (check for availability)

October 9-14, 2020 - Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

## 2019 - 2020 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR

**AUGUST 23, 2019 – RABBIT RUN THEATER – “MY WAY”**  
**OCTOBER, 2019 – AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND**  
**NOVEMBER, 2019 - INFORMATIONAL MEETING - TBD**  
**DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2019 – WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTMAS**  
**OCTOBER 9 - 14, 2020 - ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA**

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.C.R.T.A.**  
**UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE!!**

**PHONE OR EMAIL THE PERSON IN CHARGE WHEN YOU MAIL YOUR CHECK!!**

IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR TRIPS, PLEASE CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER  
OR SEND AN EMAIL TO OUR EMAIL ADDRESS: [oh.lcrtasoctrav@gmail.com](mailto:oh.lcrtasoctrav@gmail.com)

### SOCIAL/TRAVEL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gail Allcock, Sherry Barbieri, Kathleen Kling, Bev Lee, Lynn Miller, Sherry Niederkorn, Sarah Reinhard

**SPECIAL WELCOME** to our newest member, Beverly Lee. Bev attended our last committee meeting and is already helping to organize a trip. **Happy to have you on board, Bev.**

**AUGUST 23, 2019** "MY WAY" AT RABBIT RUN **CLOSED**

Arrive for the optional dinner at **Joey's Italian Restaurant**, 2731 Hubbard Rd., Madison, OH by **5:15 PM**. We will then move to **The Barn** at the **Rabbit Run Community Arts**, 5648 Chapel Rd., Madison, OH. for the performance of "**MY WAY**" (a musical tribute to **Frank Sinatra**). Meet at the restaurant at 5:15 PM (optional) / Meet at theater outdoor lobby at 7:00 PM / Show begins at 7:30 PM. **No transportation provided.**  
**Contact: Sherry Niederkorn at 440-477-1198 or [sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com).** with any questions.

**OCTOBER 3, 2019** AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND **ONLY DOUBLE ROOMS LEFT**

Those who are traveling to Australia & New Zealand should attend the meeting at the Krystolic house on Tuesday, September 17 at 1:00 PM. Bring any itineraries and documents that you have with you.

**Contact: Sherry Niederkorn** for additional information at **440-477-1198** or [sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com).

**NOVEMBER, 2019** INFORMATIONAL MEETING **TBD**

A meeting to introduce new ideas and upcoming trips has been planned at Mentor Public Library but we cannot sign up as of yet. The date and time will be forthcoming.

**DECEMBER 6 - 9, 2019** WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTMAS **CHECK FOR AVAILABILITY**

We will be traveling by motorcoach with Great Day! Tours to experience the Grand Illumination at Williamsburg. The tour visits Historic Staunton, Monticello, and Richmond as well as Williamsburg, VA. Included are three breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners, transportation, lodging, and entrance fees. Cost: **\$759.60 (double) or \$972.60 (single)**. **DEPOSIT OF \$100 due ASAP to hold your reservation. A two part payment is optional.** First payment of **\$372.00** would be due **Sept. 6, 2019**. **No cancellations after Sept. 6, 2019 - Replacements only. Final or full payment is due Oct. 23, 2019.** All payment(s) should be made to **Great Day! Tours**.  
**Contact: Sarah Reinhard at 440-567-9515 or [swreinhard4@yahoo.com](mailto:swreinhard4@yahoo.com).**

**OCTOBER 9 – 14, 2020** ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA **DEPOSIT DUE: APRIL 9, 2020**

Join us on an exciting trip to New Mexico with Premier World Discovery Tours. Experience over 100 colorful hot air balloons from around the world at the Dawn Patrol and early morning Mass Ascension. Trip highlights include: Balloon Glow, Old Town, Albuquerque; 3 nights in Santa Fe; Indian Pueblo Cultural Center; Los Alamos Science Museum; Santa Fe city tour; Loretto Chapel; Taos Pueblo and Taos City Tour; and High Road to Taos. The trip includes 5 breakfasts, 2 dinners, 2 nights in Albuquerque, 3 nights in Santa Fe, and airfare to and from Cleveland. The cost is \$2333 per person double occupancy which includes a \$100 discount if final payment is made by check. The single supplement is \$675. A \$300 deposit is due by April 9, 2020 as long as space is available. The brochure and registration can be found on the LCRTA website or **contact Sherry Barbieri at 440-946-1628 or [sun\\_light@oh.rr.com](mailto:sun_light@oh.rr.com).**

## FINE ARTS SENIOR MATINEE SERIES 2019

Ticket prices of **\$12 each** are based on a group of 10. The show begins at 1:00 pm in The Fine Arts Association Corning Auditorium at 38660 Mentor Avenue in Willoughby and includes a cookie and punch reception following the performance. The new fall schedule has **not** been announced as of yet. **Contact: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060.**



# COME TRAVEL WITH LCRTA



Visit the Social / Travel page at <https://lakecountyrta.weebly.com/socialtravel.html> to download forms and see photos of previous trips.