



THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 53 No. 2

March, 2017

From the President....

I hope that most, if not all of you, are as anxious for warm weather as I am. I am beginning to think that Mother Nature has her months confused!! Let's just hope that March "goes out like a lamb!"

Some interesting news in this issue of *The Bellringer*. Be sure to read "Bits & Pieces of Legislative News" about the new regulations for licensing of teachers that appears in the 2018 budget. Many are saying that the powers that be may benefit from following a few teachers around for a week to see what life is like on the job today! The phone numbers and emails for our legislators are listed at the end of the article. Feel free to call them and voice your opinions.

Also, there is an opportunity for helping by in-home tutoring if anyone is interested. You will find that article on the back page.

Continuing on our journey to find a lunch site, on April 11 we will be having lunch at Auburn Career Center. Please remember that this luncheon will be created by students and served by students. Dr. John Cavanaugh, Ex. Director ORTA will be the speaker. Be sure to have your questions ready.

Hope to see you there!

Karen Sawitke

LUNCHEON/MEETING

APRIL 11, 2017

AUBURN ROOM RESTAURANT

AUBURN CAREER CENTER

8140 Auburn Road

Concord Township, 44077

Social Time 11:00, Luncheon Served 11:30

PROGRAM

Dr. John Cavanaugh, Ex. Director ORTA

Reservations due by March 31, 2017

BITS & PIECES OF LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Tom Moscovic

Early in February Governor Kasich rolled out his proposed budget for the next two years. I am sad to say that Education again seems to be the last thing on his mind as funding for many school districts would be reduced. I have included excerpts from two articles that were printed in the Columbus Dispatch.

Buried in the budget proposal is a requirement that teachers participate in an externship as part of their license renewal. The Local Professional Development Committees (LPDC) in each district would implement this should it be approved. This is exactly what teachers need - less free time and more requirements! No wonder the profession will be looking at a teacher shortage in the not so distant future. I have also included a short article from NBC News in Columbus. The budget must be approved by the State Legislature by July 1, 2017.

A new Right to Work bill has been introduced in the House in Columbus by Representative John Becker, (R) of Cincinnati. If passed, this would be devastating to the unions and the effects could trickle down to us as retired members. It would be the gateway to other anti-union legislation. The Governor has said that he is not interested in this since the overwhelming defeat of Senate Bill 5 in 2011. We will see.

(Excerpts from the Columbus Dispatch February 7 & 9, 2017)

New data shows even more districts would lose under Kasich's school-funding plan Governor John Kasich rejected the notion that \$5 billion in tax cuts on his watch have deprived the state of money that could have been used to benefit public schools and other services.

Governor Kasich's proposed biennial budget has mixed messages for school districts in Ohio. It includes a small increase in funding but does not return the \$500,000,000 still left on the table from his budgets in 2013 and 2015. As additional data provides a more complete picture of Gov. John Kasich's school funding plan, it turns out more districts than initially revealed would see funding cuts.

When the Kasich administration released spreadsheets last week (Feb. 8) detailing how this budget proposal impacted individual districts, it did not include the reduction in tangible personal property tax reimbursements that have

Bits & Pieces of Legislative News continued...

A new nonpartisan Legislative Service Commission analysis that included those reimbursements shows that 388 districts would lose funding over two years...49 more than prior data.

The budget also does not include any base per-pupil funding increase, allowing schools with declining enrollment to lose funding, lower transportation funding for some districts, and a declining state-share index that, above all else, is the key to how money is distributed.

Overall, 373 districts saw their state share index drop, meaning the state picks up less of the cost of education, while it rose for 237 districts. Basic operational aid for Ohio schools would grow by 0.7 percent next year, and 1.2 percent in 2019 overall; an increase of about \$155 million over two years.

Ohio budget bill would require teachers to job shadow as part of license renewal By NBC4 Staff (Columbus)

COLUMBUS (WCMH) -Buried more than 1,000 pages into the proposed Ohio 2018-2019 budget bill is a job-shadow requirement for teachers looking to renew their license.

The bill reads, "Beginning September 1, 2018, the state board of education's rules for the renewal of educator licenses shall require each applicant for renewal of a license to complete an on-site work experience with a local business or chamber of commerce as a condition of renewal. Work experience obtained pursuant to this section shall count toward any required continuing education. Each local professional development committee established under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code shall work with its teachers to identify local work experience opportunities that meet the requirements of this section." The section appears on page 1056 of House Bill 49, the state's proposed 2018-2019 fiscal year budget.

KEEP ADVOCATING FOR OUR RETIRED AND ACTIVE TEACHERS BY CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS.

State of Ohio Representatives:

John M. Rogers, District 60 77 High Street, 10th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: (614)466-7251 Email: rep60@ohiohouse.gov	Ron Young, District 61 77 High Street, 11th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: (614) 644-6074 Webform: ohiohouse.gov/ron-young/contact
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State of Ohio Senators:

John Eklund, District 18 Senate Building 1 Capitol Square, 1st Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: (614) 644-7718 Webform: www.ohiosenate.gov/ eklund/contact	Kenny Yuko, District 25 Senate Building 1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: (614) 466-4583 Webform: www.ohiosenate.gov/ yuko/contact
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COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**Louise Bennet**

"Forbes House-Where Victims Become Survivors."

For our next luncheon meeting, a request is being made to aid residents of the only domestic violence shelter in Lake County. Below are some ideas for donations:

Laketran bus passes	For Babies:
Laundry detergent pods	Sippy cups
Paper Towels	Diapers, baby wipes
Women's underwear-sizes 5,6,7	Onesies
\$5-\$10 gift cards for local gas Stations, Target, Marc's	Fitted crib sheets

Used iPads, iPods and cell phones(having a battery and/or being in working order is not necessary)

If you would like additional suggestions, please consider a visit to their website: www.forbeshouse.org and look under "How to Help." I'm looking forward to delivering many donations from you to Forbes House following our April 11th meeting. Thank you in advance for your help.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

In April, LCRTA members are asked to submit their volunteer hours from last November through March. Although the exact number of hours would be appreciated I know it is often difficult to keep track. Please be as accurate as possible. My goal is to have the most realistic picture of our chapter as possible. I believe we spend many, many hours doing some form of volunteering, but fail to report it. A few minutes here and a half hour there begin to add up, so please share this information as each year a report is sent to ORTA showing the total hours our members spent helping others "pro bono." Slips to use to record your hours will be available at the meeting. You may also use the tear-off located on the bottom of the back page of *The Bellringer* for recording your information. Please place the paper in the RED BASKET when arriving or leaving the meeting.

TUTORING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

North Coast Education Services, the largest provider of in-home tutoring services in Northeast Ohio, is seeking tutors for referrals in and around Lake County.

NCES provides tutoring to students of all ages, in all grades and subjects, including special needs tutoring. Specify your preferred subjects and create your own schedule. Tutoring opportunities are available seven days a week— daytime, afternoons and evenings. All tutoring takes place in the family home, or a nearby public location, such as a library.

All tutors must have at least a four year college degree with current BCI and FBI background checks (or the ability to obtain both) Licensed and retired teachers are welcome. Please send your current resume and teaching license to Kelly Preston at kellyp@northcoasted.com. www.northcoasted.com

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation Form
April 11, 2017

AUBURN ROOM RESTAURANT
Auburn Career Center
8140 Auburn Road
Concord Township, 44077

DUE: MARCH 31, 2017

Mail to: Elaine Courtney
7300 Arbor Glen Place
Mentor, Ohio 44060
440-350-1626

Please make checks payable to L.C.R.T.A.
Social Time 11:00AM, Lunch served 11:30AM

Please reserve _____place(s) for the April Luncheon on April 11, 2017 at \$14.00 per person.

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Please choose 1: _____ If more than 1 person, please indicate who is having each choice.

Menu: _____ Stuffed Chicken Breasts - Chicken breasts stuffed with spinach, feta, roasted red peppers-topped with a lemon butter caper sauce. Served with fingerling potatoes and maple glazed carrots.

_____ Spinach & Mushroom Vegetarian Lasagna - Slow baked homemade lasagna with house marinara and blended cheeses

Luncheon includes: salad, strawberry shortcake, beverage

Please cut out and return with your check for your reservation

INFORMATION & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Marilyn Decker

MILLY KNEW BETTER

The experts said that plastics couldn't be recycled. A spunky woman proved them wrong. A little-known Wisconsin woman almost singlehandedly created America's plastic recycling industry. Along the way, she became an environmental hero.

It all began with a trip to Japan in 1978. Millie was impressed by Japan's cleanliness. She noticed that each day a different type of waste item was placed on the sidewalk for pickup and recycling. Back home she noticed that tons of plastics were thrown away and contacted county supervisors asking why they did not recycle plastics. The supervisors were cool to the idea because there was no market for the materials.

Millie Zantow and her good friend, Jenny Ehl cashed in their life insurance policies, bought a \$5,000 plastics grinder and started E-Z Recycling, one of the first, if not the first, business of its kind to recycle plastics in the United States. Milk jugs were the first plastics to be recycled with other plastics later. Undaunted, she invented a system to identify different plastics with an imprint of a triangle with a number inside.

In 1988, the coding system was adopted by the Society of the Plastics Industry adopted the coding to identify different plastics, and is now used world wide. Earlier she had sold her company, stating that she had never made a dime from the business. She proved plastics recycling was feasible. Wisconsin's statewide recycling law was signed in 1990 and is considered one of the best in the country.

Scholarship Information

Once again it is time to think about scholarship nominations. If you would like to nominate a student for our LCRTA scholarship, please call me at 440-352-2144 before April 1, 2017. I will send the student the necessary materials. You may nominate any senior attending high school in Lake County who will be majoring in education. Student applications are due back by May 1, 2017. The committee will review the application forms and interview the nominated students. Selection will be made in June. Thank you for all of your support.

Barbara Strumbel, Scholarship Chairman

* **Congratulations to our members:** *
* **Rosemarie Hixenbaugh** for receiving a Quality Service *
* Award from RSVP for her volunteer work and leader- *
* ship, and to **Robert Wolf** for his 59 years as a faculty *
* member at Fine Arts Association in Willoughby. *



Eleanor Baker
Thelma Battershell
Jeanne Cocco

LCRTA members send their deepest sympathies to the families of these members.



THE BELLRINGER

A Publication of the
Lake County Retired
Teachers
Association

LCRTA

9399 Ridgeside Drive
Mentor, Ohio 44060

www.lakecountyrta.weebly.com



STATE TEACHERS
RETIREMENT SYSTEM
OF OHIO



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- March 26-30, 2017.....San Antonio Getaway (Closed)
- April 9, 2017..... Once Upon A Mattress (Sold Out)
- April 11, 2017 Luncheon/Meeting - Auburn Career Center
- May 3, 2017..... Wine Tour (See Social/ Travel page)
- June 13, 2017..... Luncheon/Meeting
- June 14, 2017..... “Kiss Me Kate” Fine Arts Association
- June 27, 2017..... “The Music Man” Wooster Light Opera
- September 10, 2017 Texas Tenors - JB Productions
- September 12, 2017 Luncheon/ Meeting
- September 19 - 26, 2017..... National Parks - Collette Tours
- November 14, 2017 Luncheon/Meeting
- December 6 - 9, 2017 Philadelphia/Christkindlmarkt/Sands

VOLUNTEER HOURS November, 2016-March, 2017 Bring to April 11 luncheon/meeting or mail to

____Hours as a caregiver ____Hours for all other volunteer work

Louise Bennet

Name _____

9970 Cottonwood Court, Mentor, Ohio 44060

2017 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR

- MARCH 26 – 30, 2017 – SAN ANTONIO GETAWAY (CLOSED)
- APRIL 9, 2017 – “ONCE UPON A MATTRESS” – FINE ARTS ASSOC. (SOLD OUT)
- APRIL 26, 2017 – “THE FAMOUS AND INFAMOUS WOMEN OF CLEVELAND’S MILLIONAIRES’ ROW – FINE ARTS ASSOC.
- MAY 3, 2017 – WINE TOUR
- JUNE 14, 2017 – “KISS ME KATE” – FINE ARTS ASSOC.
- JUNE 27, 2017 – “THE MUSIC MAN” – WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA
- SEPTEMBER 10, 2017 – TEXAS TENORS – JB PRODUCTIONS
- SEPTEMBER 19 – 26, 2017 – NATIONAL PARKS – COLLETTE TOURS
- DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2017 – PHILADELPHIA / CHRISTKINDLMARKT / SANDS

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.C.R.T.A.!!

PHONE OR E-MAIL THE PERSON IN CHARGE WHEN YOU MAIL YOUR CHECK!!

IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR TRIPS, PLEASE CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER OR SEND AN E-MAIL TO OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS: oh.lcrtasoctrav@gmail.com

SOCIAL/TRAVEL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sherry Barbieri, Lynn Miller (Co-chairs), Gail Allcock, Sherry Niederkorn, Sarah Reinhard

FINE ARTS PRODUCTIONS – WILLOUGHBY SEPARATE CHECKS FOR EACH!!

CONTACT is Sherry Niederkorn (440-477-1198) or sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com.

APRIL 26, 2017 – “THE FAMOUS AND INFAMOUS WOMEN...” – 1 PM – WED. SENIOR SERIES

Dan Ruminsky, “Cleveland’s Storyteller” gives you a personal look at the lives, accomplishments, and misdeeds of the wives of Millionaire Row. Tickets are **\$12 each (based on a group of ten)**.

JUNE 14, 2017 – “KISS ME KATE” – 1 PM – WED. SENIOR SERIES

The hilarious musical retelling of William Shakespeare’s *The Taming of the Shrew*. Rated PG-13. Tickets are **\$12 each (based on a group of ten)**.

(SEE PAGE 2 ON BACK)

CUT-----
JUNE 14, 2017 “KISS ME KATE” DUE: MAY 19, 2017

MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Please reserve ____place(s) at **\$12 each (based on a group of ten)**. Make check payable to **LCRTA**.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Please list name(s) and contact information on back if additional members/guests are included on this form.

CUT-----
JUNE 27, 2017 WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA DUE: MAY 8, 2017

MAIL TO: Sarah Reinhard, 8677 Harvest Home Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Please reserve ____place(s) at **\$98 per person**. Make check payable to **LCRTA**.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Pickup: ____Painesville 9:15AM (Church of Christ) ____Willoughby 9:45AM (First Presbyterian Church)

Please list name(s) and contact information on back if additional members/guests are included on this form.

CUT-----
MAY 3, 2017 WINE TOUR DUE: APR. 1, 2017

MAIL TO: Sherry Barbieri, 38147 Poplar Dr., Willoughby, OH 44094. Please reserve ____place(s) at **\$75 per person**. Make check payable to **LCRTA**.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

LUNCH CHOICE: ____Pasta with meatball ____Pollo Merlot

Please list name(s), lunch choice(s), and contact information on back if additional members/guests are included on this form.

CUT-----
APRIL 26, 2017 “THE FAMOUS AND INFAMOUS WOMEN....” DUE: MAR. 31, 2017

MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Please reserve ____ place(s) at **\$12 each (based on a group of ten)**. Make check payable to **LCRTA**.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Please list name(s) and contact information on back if additional members/guests are included on this form

DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2017**PHILADELPHIA/CHRISTKINDLMARKT/SANDS****\$100 Deposit DUE: MAY 8, 2017 \$272 DUE: SEPT. 7, 2017 Balance DUE: OCT. 27, 2017**

MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Please reserve ____ place(s) at
\$707 pp. dbl. / \$950 pp. sgl. Discount (10%) if paid in full by May 8, 2017. **MAKE CHECK** payable
 to **GREAT DAY TOURS.**

NAME(S) _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

CUT-----

MAY 3, 2017**WINE TOUR**

Join us for a tour to several wineries in Ashtabula County. We begin with tastings and lunch at Ferrante Winery. Then we continue to M Cellars and South River Winery for more tastings. We depart **by bus** from First Church of Christ, 422 Mentor Ave., Painesville at 11:15 AM with expected return about 5 PM. The Cost is **\$75 per person based on 20 people** and includes tastings, lunch, transportation, taxes, and gratuities. Lunch choices are Pasta and Meatball in Marinara Sauce or Pollo Merlot (grilled chicken breast with mushrooms in Merlot demi-glaze) with garlic mashed potatoes. **CONTACT: Sherry Barbieri at (440-946-1628) or sun_light@oh.rr.com.**

JUNE 27, 2017**WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA**

Join LCRTA for a matinee performance of “**The Music Man**” at the Ohio Light Opera. Meredith Wilson, who wrote the book, music, and lyrics, won the 1958 Tony Award for the Best Musical. This homespun musical is about a music peddler in a small Midwest town. Tunes from this show include “Ya Got Trouble,” “Goodnight, My Someone,” “Seventy Six Trombones,” “Marian the Librarian,” and many other memorable tunes.

COST: \$98 pp. based on 35 participants. This includes lunch at TJ’s Restaurant in Wooster, theatre ticket, transportation, and all gratuities. If interested **CONTACT: Sarah Reinhard at (440-567-9515) or**

swreinhard4@yahoo.com. PAYMENT DUE MAY 8, 2017 (Reservations accepted by mail only.)

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017 TEXAS TENORS JB PRODUCTIONS at MENTOR PERFORMING ARTS**5 PM****SAVE THE DATE****SEPTEMBER 19 – 26, 2017****AMERICA’S COWBOY COUNTRY****COLLETTE TOURS**

An 8 day trip beginning in Jackson Hole and ending in Rapid City, SD. Some of the highlights are rafting on the Snake River, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone National Park, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Deadwood, Crazy Horse Memorial, Mt. Rushmore, Badlands National Park, and Wall Drug. **COST: \$3,269 per person (dbl.)** if booked before **Mar. 20, 2017**. Rates and available spaces may change after Mar. 20, 2017. Includes round trip air from Hopkins Intl. Airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, and hotel transfers. **CONTACT: Sherry Barbieri at (440-946-1628) or sun_light@oh.rr.com.** for more information.

DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2017**PHILADELPHIA/CHRISTKINDLMARKT/SANDS**

Join us on this 4 day visit to the Philadelphia area with a 3 night stay at the Sands Casino Resort. Highlights include a city tour, visit to “America’s Christmas City” Bethlehem, PA, Martin Guitar Company, arts and crafts at Christkindlmarkt, shopping, slot play, Night Lights tour, and the Christmas Light Show by Macy’s (formerly Wanamaker’s). **COST: \$707 pp. dbl/ \$950 pp. sgl. \$100 deposit due May 8, 2017/ 2nd payment (\$272) due Sept. 7, 2017/ balance due Oct. 27, 2017. Discount (10%) if paid in full by May 8, 2017.**

CONTACT: Sherry Niederkorn at (440-477-1198) or sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com for more information.

COME TRAVEL**WITH****LCRTA**