



# THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 54 No.4

August, 2018

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....

Where did the summer go?? It seems that we waited so long for the warm weather and now we are headed back into the cooler air again.

With September on the horizon, it is time for LCRTA members to be thinking about our Candidates Luncheon to be held at the Holiday Inn on Route 306, September 10, 2018. Candidates attendance at this meeting has been very good. I am hoping that this year is no different. Great attendance by LCRTA members is most important. Come and hear what Lake County's prospective leaders have to say in their platforms to the voters. Thank you to Tom Moscovic for organizing this program.

Our Nominating Committee has been working very hard to find leaders for LCRTA for the next election. You will be electing a President, President-Elect and a Director at the November meeting. Please consider giving a few hours of your time to this important organization. Contact David Morse, Terri Herbert, or Joyce Grady if you are interested. You will find their phone numbers in your directory. Another thought, bring a newly retired teacher, or a retired teacher that you know who is not a member to the next meeting. Give them the opportunity to find out about what is happening in Lake County and in LCRTA.

Dues time will be upon us very soon. PLEASE do not send any dues until after you receive and read the October newsletter. Also, if you are willing to receive *The Bellringer* emailed to you instead of a paper copy, please send an email address to [sawitke@oh.rr.com](mailto:sawitke@oh.rr.com). This will not only save us money, but will also give you instant access to the news.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer.

*Karen Sawitke*

## Stuff You Need to Know (and it ain't all good!!) Tom Moscovic– Legislative Chairperson

### BILLS WOULD REQUIRE OHIO SCHOOLS TO START AFTER LABOR DAY. Do you agree?

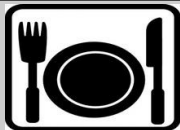
By [Laura Hancock, cleveland.com](mailto:lhancock@cleveland.com)  
[lhancock@cleveland.com](mailto:lhancock@cleveland.com)

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Two bills in the Ohio General Assembly would delay the school year from starting until after Labor Day. **Senate Bill 34** and **House Bill 549** are identical. They would make state education funding contingent on school districts starting the school year after the September holiday. But the bill would allow schools to opt out--and not be financially penalized--if school boards or other school governing bodies hold a public hearing at least 30 days before adopting resolutions to start before Labor Day.

The bills are each in committee in their respective chambers. Various tourism and recreation groups support the bill. The Ohio Travel Association has presented lawmakers with polling it commissioned that showed a majority of the public supports a later school start. There is also a wide support for all Ohio schools to start on the same day, the polling showed. However, groups representing school districts business administrators and Ohio's Superintendent Association oppose the bill. They argue school start dates should be a local matter, not imposed by Columbus. They said school start dates take into account local weather and regional labor and industry needs.

"This new requirement with the local flexibility boards of education require in meeting the educational needs of students," Jay Smith of the Superintendent's Association recently testified before the Senate Education Committee. "Further, S.B. 34 does not make adjustments to the state's testing schedule, which plays a major roll in districts' decisions about school calendars."

Some local districts support the measure. Gary Taylor, the Human Resources Director of the Elyria City School District, said the district decided to move the start of the 2017-2018 school year from August 17 to Sept 5. the decision was made in part based on parental feedback over the increasingly earlier start dates of the academic year in schools across the state, he said.



### LUNCHEON MEETING

**CANDIDATES LUNCHEON**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
**Holiday Inn**

**7701 Reynolds Road, Mentor**  
**11:00 Social Time**  
**311:30 Luncheon Served**

**Parking in the rear of the hotel. Please enter by the**

## Ohio Bill Would Require Teachers to 'Out' Transgender Children

(An LGBT rights group condemned the bill calling it 'unnecessary' and 'discriminatory'.)

Author: Marilyn Icsman, Cincinnati Enquirer

Teachers would be required to "out" transgender children to their parents under a new GOP bill introduced in the house. House Bill 658 requires any government agent (which includes teachers) immediately report to all parents or guardians if a child "demonstrates a desire to be treated in a manner opposite the child's biological sex" or exhibits symptoms of gender dysphoria, which is when someone identifies with a gender other than the one they are assigned at birth.

Under HB658, it would be a fourth-degree felony for a school or any "government entity" to provide gender dysphoria treatment without consent from each parent or guardian. Treatment includes "educational materials, classes, or programs, and medical, psychological, social, or other professional treatment, therapy, counseling, or other services.

The Ohio Education Association, a teachers' union that represents more than 124,000 Ohio teachers, opposes the bill, OEA President Becky Higgins said in a statement. "[HB658] is contrary to OEA's belief that all persons, regardless of gender orientation, should be afforded equal opportunity and guaranteed a safe and inclusive environment within the public education system," Higgins said. The bill would also prohibit courts from making custody decisions based on a parent's refusal to let a child undergo gender-based medical treatment.

Rep. Tom Brinkman, a Mount Lookout Republican, introduced the bill in May. His legislation was inspired by a case in Cincinnati in which a Hamilton County Juvenile Court granted custody of a transgender teen to his grandparents. The custody arrangement allowed the teen to pursue hormone therapy, which his parents opposed. In testimony to the Community and Family Advancement Committee, Brinkman said, "parents have a fundamental right to decide what is best for their children." the bill is co-sponsored by Rep. Paul Zeltwanger, a Mason Republican.

The bill specifies that parents retain the right to determine what's in the best interest of their child regarding treatment including:

The child's diagnosis of gender dysphoria....

The child's exhibition of gender dysphoria symptoms...

Whether the child should participate in classes or programs, with or without accompanying educational materials related to sex and gender

Any counseling, therapy, or treatment provided to the child regarding the child's gender dysphoria.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

By Louise Bennet

In an attempt of fairness and to provide a variety, I try to change the community organizations for which we collect items at each of our five meetings during the calendar year. For our September meeting, it would be



great if each member would donate at least one(1) taxable item. A day or two later, I will make a delivery of our collection to the McKinley Community Outreach Center

housed in the former McKinley Elementary on Lost Nation Road.

If you are not familiar with the Center, it began about 5 years ago with an emphasis on serving the 7 communities in the western end of Lake County. Presently, those resident who qualify are able to receive food and taxable items. However, there are other services offered for all residents of the county.

It's a great place to donate furniture, clothing, and left-over items from garage or rummage sales, although not everything is accepted. The website is kept current so check it out if you find yourself in the mood to clear out closets, cupboards, etc.

Returning to our focus, examples of taxable items are any cleaning supplies, paper goods, and personal care items. So please bring something small-deodorant, something large-a package of paper towels, or something in between.



### Volunteer Hours

In past newsletters I have neglected to announce the member who reported the greatest number of volunteer hours last year. Congratulations to **PAT NORRIS** for all of her volunteer work. She will receive a free lunch at the meeting of her choice.

On the same subject, ORTA asks to be informed of the total number of hours our members spend volunteering. Please complete the tear off form found in this newsletter OR complete the form from the RED BASKET found on the table at the next meeting. If you are current with reporting your hours, this period is for June through August. If however, you have not submitted hours they can be reported at this time, even if they are from earlier in 2018.

Editor's Note: Sincere apologies to Janice Christopherson and her family for the placement of her name in the In Memoriam section in the May edition of *The Bellringer*. I sincerely regret the error.

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation

Holiday Inn

**DUE BY SEPTEMBER 3, 2018**

7701 Reynolds Road, Mentor

Please send reservation form with your payment to:

**MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.C.R.T.A.****Susan McCarter****9720 Johnnycake Ridge Rd.****Mentor, Ohio 44060**Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_(s) for the **MONDAY**, September 10, 2018 LCRTA luncheon at \$18.00 per person

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

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

Lunch ( Choose 1) \_\_\_\_\_Chicken Roulade \_\_\_\_\_Vegetarian Lasagna

Includes: Haricot Verts (French green beans) with both meals

Red skinned potatoes with the chicken,

Tossed salad, rolls &amp; butter, Apple dumpling/Carmel sauce

Social time 11:00am Lunch served at 11:30am

**Informative & Protective Services** Terri Herbert**Emergency Preparedness: Floods**

Floods are one of the most common weather hazards in the United States. They can happen anywhere at any time of the year. In our part of the country they are most common during winter thaws, spring rains and with heavy summer rainfall.

Densely populated areas have a higher risk of flash floods than rural areas. Flash floods can occur within minutes or hours of a heavy rainfall, and waters can rise as high as 30 feet or more. Even small streams and creeks can flood rapidly and cause damage.

Flash floods can move homes and cars, uproot trees and destroy bridges. Because floods happen with little to no warning, residents in low-lying areas are particularly at risk. According to the American Red Cross, flash floods are the No. 1 weather related killer in the U.S.

Listen to radio and television to become aware of flood watches and warnings. A flood Watch means flooding or flash flooding is possible. A Flood WARNING means flooding or flash flooding is already occurring or will occur soon in your area. If a flood warning occurs you must be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice. Have your "Go Bag" prepared in advance with important papers (in waterproof containers), medications, identification, cell phone, flashlight, whistle, first aid kit, spare clothing (including heavy rubber gloves), and at least a 3 day supply of food and water for each household member and pets.

Have a plan in place on where to go, someplace at higher ground. NEVER walk or drive through a flooded area. Six inches of water is enough to knock you off your feet or stall your car. Two feet can flood or float most vehicles. Avoid underpasses, underground parking

garages or basements. Prior to leaving home turn off electricity and other utilities.

When returning home following a flood do so only after you have been told it is safe to return. Check outside for downed power lines, damaged gas lines or cracked foundations. Be aware that you might find wild animals, especially snakes, in your home. Always wear protective clothing, including rubber gloves and boots during clean up. Discard any food products, including canned goods that have come in contact with floodwater. Remember that in the aftermath you could be without electricity, gas, water, transportation, communication and other services. Be prepared and stay safe!

**DUES-Dues will be collected for the 2019 year beginning in NOVEMBER. Additional important information will appear in the October newsletter. Hopefully, with a shorter collection period duplicate payments will be eliminated. PLEASE, DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY BEFORE NOVEMBER!**

**In Memoriam**

Pat Christenson

Agnes Harper

Dorothy Musiel



# THE BELLRINGER

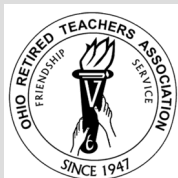
A Publication of the  
LAKE COUNTY RETIRED  
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

LCRTA

9399 Ridgeside Drive  
Mentor, Ohio 44060



STATE TEACHERS  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OF OHIO



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



August 30, 2018 - Iceland Pre-departure Meeting - 1:00PM  
Mentor Public Library - Garfield room

SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 - CANDIDATES LUNCHEON - 11:00AM

September 15-23, 2018 - Iceland Adventure (SOLD OUT)

October 3, 2018 - Xanadu - Fine Arts - 1:00PM

November 15, 2018 - Informational Meeting - 1:00PM  
Mentor Public Library - Garfield Room

December 8, 2018 - Golden Triangle Holiday Lights

December 12, 2018 - 98% Nice, 2% Naughty - Fine Arts - 1:00PM

October, 2019 - Australia/New Zealand

Volunteer Hours June - August, 2018

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Hrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Caregiver Hrs. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Louise Bennet

9970 Cottonwood Ct.

Mentor, Ohio 44060

OR

Bring to September Meeting

**2018-2019 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR**  
**AUGUST 30, 2018 – ICELAND PRE-DEPARTURE MEETING – 1 PM**  
**MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY – GARFIELD ROOM**  
**SEPTEMBER 15 – 23, 2018 – ICELAND ADVENTURE (SOLD OUT)**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2018 – XANADU – FINE ARTS – 1 PM**  
**NOVEMBER 15, 2018 – INFORMATIONAL MEETING – 1 PM**  
**MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY – GARFIELD ROOM**  
**DECEMBER 8, 2018 – GOLDEN TRIANGLE HOLIDAY LIGHTS**  
**DECEMBER 12, 2018 – 98% NICE, 2% NAUGHTY – FINE ARTS – 1 PM**  
**OCTOBER, 2019 – AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND**

**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**

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



Reykjavik



Xanadu



Holiday Lights



98% Nice, 2% Naughty

**AUGUST 30, 2018**

**ICELAND PRE-DEPARTURE MEETING**

The Iceland travelers will meet at 1 PM at the Mentor Public Library (Garfield Room) for our pre-departure meeting. The **Travel Documents** will be mailed to your homes so please bring them with you. Diane Wilhelm, the Globus Tours Representative, will be there to answer any questions. Please contact **Gail Allcock, 440-477-6830** or [gailallcock@gmail.com](mailto:gailallcock@gmail.com) if you cannot attend.

**NOVEMBER 15, 2018**      **INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

Join us at **Mentor Public Library** at **1 PM** in the Garfield Room (Lower Level) to learn about some of the events and trips your Social/Travel Committee has planned for the coming year. This is a good time to ask questions and let us know of your interest in any of these activities. **We look forward to seeing you there!!**

( Page 2 on back )

CUT-----

**DECEMBER 12, 2018 (1PM)**      **“98% NICE, 2% NAUGHTY”**      **DUE: NOV. 16, 2018**  
 MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Make check payable to **“LCRTA.”**  
 Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for “98% Nice, 2% Naughty” @ **\$12 per person (based on group of 10).**  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
**Please list name(s) and contact information separately if additional members/guests are included on this form.**

CUT-----

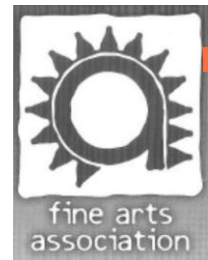
**DECEMBER 8, 2018**      **“GOLDEN TRIANGLE HOLIDAY LIGHTS”**      **DUE: OCT. 20, 2018**  
 MAIL TO: Sarah Reinhard, 8677 Harvest Home Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Make check payable to **“GREAT DAY TOURS.”** Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) for “Golden Triangle Holiday Lights” tour @ **\$97 per person (based on group of 35).**  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
**Please list name(s) and contact information separately if additional members/guests are included on this form.**

CUT-----

**OCTOBER 3, 2018 (1PM)**      **“XANADU”**      **DUE: SEPT. 7, 2018**  
 MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Make check payable to **“LCRTA.”**  
 Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for “Xanadu” @ **\$12 per person (based on group of 10).**  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
**Please list name(s) and contact information separately if additional members/guests are included on this form.**

## FINE ARTS SENIOR MATINEE SERIES 2018

Ticket prices of **\$12 each** are based on a group of 10. All shows begin at 1:00 pm in The Fine Arts Association Corning Auditorium at 38660 Mentor Avenue in Willoughby and include a cookie and punch reception following the performance. Make checks payable to "LCRTA" and mailed to: **Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060.** (Separate checks for each show).



**WED, OCT. 3, 2018**

**"XANADU"**

**DUE: SEPT. 7, 2018**

The musical comedy that both spoofs & pays homage to 1980's roller skating craze. *Rated PG-13*

**WED, DEC. 12, 2018**

**98% NICE, 2% NAUGHTY**

**DUE: NOV. 16, 2018**

David Malinowski and company return with their mix of comedy, songs, and shenanigans for a rousing holiday cabaret. *Rated PG*

**DECEMBER 8, 2018**

**"GOLDEN TRIANGLE HOLIDAY LIGHTS"**

**DUE: OCT. 20, 2018**

Join us for a festive holiday trip. We will meet at 7:15 AM at First Presbyterian Church, 4785 Shankland Blvd., Willoughby, OH (**only pickup**). Our motorcoach will transport us to Pittsburgh to begin our tour at the **National Aviary Museum**, the country's largest aviary, to see "Wings in Winter Holiday Show" with birds and music. Our next stop is the **Grand Concourse Restaurant in Station Street Square** for a complete luncheon of grilled lemon chicken. The gingerbread theme, holiday train running through part of the restaurant, and beautiful holiday decorations should "warm up" our dining experience as we enjoy the view of the Pittsburgh skyline and rivers. We continue on to **PPG Place** in downtown Pittsburgh, the epicenter of holiday activity. Here we have the opportunity to see **Wintergarden**, a plant filled, all-glass atrium which features 16 life-sized Santa figures dressed in costumes from countries around the world, a **Community Gingerbread House** display (over 500 of them), and a 32-foot decorated Christmas tree with a model train display around its base. **PPG Plaza** is nearby with the Pittsburgh Ice Rink that encircles a 65-foot decorated Christmas tree. We should return to Willoughby about 8 PM with everyone feeling the Christmas spirit. **COST: \$97 per person based on group of 35** includes lunch, admission to stated activities, transportation, and all gratuities. **Checks payable to "GREAT DAY TOURS."** **CONTACT: Sarah Reinhard at 440-567-9515 or [swreinhard4@yahoo.com](mailto:swreinhard4@yahoo.com).**

**OCTOBER 3, 2019**

**AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND**

**DEPOSIT DUE: ASAP**

Discover a region of true natural and cultural diversity on our *Australia & New Zealand* tour. Join us for the 19-day comprehensive itinerary with Grand Circle Travel to explore iconic South Pacific locales like Australia's Great Barrier Reef, cosmopolitan Sydney, and New Zealand's mystical Milford Sound. You'll also go beyond the landmarks to make up-close cultural discoveries, as your resident Program Director introduces you to Australian Aboriginal people, New Zealand's native Maori, friendly schoolchildren, and more—all the engaging people who give this part of the world its deserved reputation for friendliness and good cheer. Explore even more, with an optional Pre-Trip to Melbourne & the Outback and a Post-trip extension to Fiji. **Main Trip Dates: (19 days)** Oct. 3 thru Oct. 21, 2019 \$4095 per person. **Airfare from CLE: (round trip)** \$2010 per person. **Pre-Trip Option: (5 nights)** Sept. 28 thru Oct. 3, 2019 \$1995 per person. **Post-Trip Option: (4 nights)** Oct. 21 thru Oct. 25, 2019 \$1595 per person. Call GCT Reservations at **800-221-2610**, mention Group Code: **GG9-3472** and tell the travel counselor that you want to reserve **Australia & New Zealand** with the **Lake County Retired Teachers Association Group**. **Deposit: \$350 per person.** Contact is Sherry Niederkorn at 440-477-1198 or **[sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com)**. No single rooms left; only a few doubles remain.

**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.