



THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 55 No. 1

January, 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....

Happy New Year!

I hope that 2019 is a Happy and Healthy year for all.

Welcome to the new members who have joined LCRTA and welcome back to those who have renewed their membership for 2019. If you know of any newly retired Lake County educators, please bring them to a luncheon meeting to acquaint them with who we are and what we do.

I sincerely hope that you will all join us for our luncheon/meeting on February 12, 2019, at the Kirtlander Party Center across from the Kirtland Library on Route 306. The Kirtlander has re-opened under new management. You will find the reservation form for the luncheon on page 3 of this newsletter.

There are some changes in the Board that might be of interest to you. I will be President for the 2019 year, Presidents-elect are **David Morse** and **Terri Herbert**. Secretary and Treasurer remain the same. Please consider becoming an elected officer of LCRTA in the near future.

Thanks to **Joyce Peoples** for being our Historian for a number of years. That position has now been placed in the hands of **Virginia Keller**.

Our Social/Travel Committee has planned many interesting places to go for 2019. The big trip will be to Australia/New Zealand. Please read the Social/Travel page in the newsletter. **Lynn Miller** and **Sherry Barbieri** have decided to retire from their chairmanship of this committee. They are remaining as members of the committee, as they are all working together to bring you the best trips and events. Thank to Lynn and Sherry for all of their past years of leading this committee.

Our website remains the same:

www.lakecountyrta.weebly.com

It is in the very capable hands of **Sherry Niederkorn**. All meeting locations, and other information can be found on the site.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, February 12 at the Kirtlander.

Karen Sawitke

P.S. Bring a guest!

Happy Legislative New Year 2019! So Long 2018!

Tom Moscovic

This is the last of the Legislative news from the 2017-2018 Legislature. By the time you read this, the newly elected Legislatures in Washington and in Columbus will have been sworn in. We can expect more of the same from the 2019-2020 General Assembly- "If nothing changes—nothing changes!"

More Cursive in Schools: Kasich Approves New Lessons to Encourage Penmanship

Cursive is making a come back in Ohio if state law makers have anything to say about it. House Bill 58, which is headed to Ohio Gov. Kasich's desk, would require the Ohio Department of Education to create instructional materials on handwriting through the fifth grade. The goal of the materials: students should be able to print letters legibly by the end of the third grade and write in cursive by the end of fifth grade. The proposal initially required cursive to be taught in schools. Now, it would be an option as soon as the 2019-2020 school year.

More than a dozen other states are reinstating cursive lessons in schools. Many states stopped teaching the writing style after adopting national Common Core curriculum standards, which did not require students to learn the handwriting style. Cursive proponents say it's about more than signing checks. The writing helps develop fine motor skills. Reading cursive is key to comprehending the nation's historical documents, such as the U.S. Constitution.

Ohio Law Details Attendance Changes in Schools

By Michelle Person

In an effort to change how districts handle students with excessive absences and truancy issues, the Ohio General Assembly passed House Bill 410. In effect since last school year, the law's most impactful change was that schools can no longer suspend or expel students for missing too much school, which many have long believed was more of a hindrance than a solution to the problem. The law also changes how absences are tracked, the language used to describe attendance issues, and how issues are reported. Prior to this year, students were labeled chronic truants and once they missed a predetermined number of days they could be reported to juvenile courts and their parents charged.

Schools are now required to keep track of a student's

Legislative continued...

hours in school—if a student is consistently leaving school early or arriving late, the time missed will count toward their truancy designation, even if they attended the bulk of the school day. The “chronic truant” label has been replaced with “habitual truancy,” which is defined as 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse, 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse, or 72 hours in a school year without a legitimate excuse.

Once a student meets the habitual level, the district must then assign the student to an absence intervention team; attempt to engage the parent in creating a plan to rectify the student’s attendance issues; and keep data for at least two months. Only then should a district file a complaint in juvenile court. The hope is that with the early intervention and support, students will be encouraged to overcome their truant habits and avoid the court system altogether.

Alianna’s Alert Bill Signed by Governor Kasich

A bill that would require schools to call parents within two hours of the start of the school day if the child is absent received final approval from the Ohio House and now heads to Governor Kasich’s desk to be signed. The language contained in the “Alianna’s Alert” bill was rolled into a different piece of legislation which passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 85-4.

Alianna Defreeze, 14, was lured away from the bus stop on Cleveland’s east side in January, 2017, by convicted sex offender Christopher Whittaker. A year later, Whittaker was convicted of torturing, sexually assaulting and murdering the girl before dumping her body in an abandoned home. Alianna’s disappearance ignited a city-wide search, and city officials held a press conference to announce a reward for any information regarding her whereabouts. Just hours after the press conference, authorities confirmed the worst.

The purpose of the bill is to take precautionary measures to ensure children are safe when they are absent from school.

As part of the legislation, all school districts in the state of Ohio will be required to notify a student’s parents or guardians within two hours if the child is absent from school. The original version of the bill required school districts to make such a notification within one hour. The original language of the bill drew opposition from the Ohio School Boards Association and other lobbyist groups, Senator Williams said. “It started out shaky but once we amended the bill to satisfy some of the people who were not very happy with it, it started moving pretty quickly,” Senator Williams said. “You have to give a little to get a little. Right now, that was the only way we could get it through the [Ohio School Boards Association] and others who were saying this was an unfunded mandate.”

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

By Louise Bennet



In February, the month of Valentine’s Day, let’s show our “love” by aiding the residents of Forbes House: “When home is not safe.” Living in Forbes House, Mothers and their children find safe shelter, but there is a constant need for items for daily living. A couple of Wish Lists are available for your reference on the website: www.forbeshouse.org. Basically any cleaning supplies or household items which are used in your home are needed in their “home.” Listed below are most of the items shown on the Wish List marked “Urgent.”

NEW women’s clothing and shoes (all sizes)
 Baby formula
 Diapers/Pull Ups (all sizes)
 Infant/Children’s medicine
 Children’s toiletries
 Tall trash bags
 Trash bags-30 gallon size
 Paper plates
 WalMart gift cards
 Gas gift cards

Please bring any items you are donating to the February luncheon and place them on the table provided which will also have a basket for the collection of canceled stamps. Thank you in advance for your help.



INFORMATIVE & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Terri Herbert

Emergency Preparedness: Blizzards and Winter Storms

As I write this it is a sunny and mild day in northeast Ohio, but we all know blizzards and winter storms do happen. We have lived through them and probably will again sometime soon. So what can you do to prepare for and survive in a winter storm.

1. Always have your car winterized. Battery, antifreeze, wipers, windshield washer fluid, ignition system, thermostat, lights, flashing hazard lights, exhaust system, heater, brakes, oil, defroster, and tires.
2. Keep the following items in your vehicle: windshield scraper, small broom, small bag of sand for generating traction, matches in a waterproof container, red cloth to tie on the antenna, emergency supply kit, warm clothing, high protein food and water. Make sure your gas tank is full.
3. Dress in layers of loose fitting clothing, light weight, warm clothing. Remove layers to avoid sweating. Add layers if you get cold.
4. Bring your companion animals inside. Make sure you have an adequate supply of food and water for yourself and your animals.
5. Eat regularly and stay hydrated to generate and conserve body heat.

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation

Kirtlander Party Center
9270 Chillicothe Road
Kirtland, Ohio 44094**Due by February 5, 2019**

Please send this reservation form with your payment to:

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.C.R.T.A.Susan McCarter
9720 Johnnycake Ridge Road
Concord, Ohio 44060
440-639-1141

Please reserve _____(s) for the TUESDAY, February 12, 2019 \$17.00 per person

Name (s) _____ Phone _____

Amount enclosed _____

Lunch (Choose 1) _____Chicken Marsala _____ Vegetarian Lasagna

Includes: Red Skin Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Cheesecake Assortment, Beverage

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

6. Conserve fuel (electric, gas, fuel oil, propane, etc.) Lower thermostat to 65° F during the day and to 55° F at night. Close off unused rooms. Learn how to prevent pipes from freezing, create a plan for what to do if the power is lost make sure someone knows your plan.

7. Listen to a local radio, television or NOAA radio. If you must go outside, wear layered clothing, mittens or gloves, and a hat. Cover your mouth to protect your lungs from severely cold air. Minimize talking, avoid deep breaths, keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently, watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

8. Stay in your vehicle if you are stranded. Don't leave the vehicle unless help is visible within 100 yards. Run the engine occasionally to keep warm. Running the engine for short periods of time reduces the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and conserves fuel. Keep the exhaust pipe clear of snow, and slightly open a down wind window for ventilation.

Generally we get plenty of warning of a winter storm so use this time wisely to prepare yourself before trouble happens. Being adequately prepared for emergencies is your best defense.

Luncheon Program February 12, 2019



The program for the February 12 luncheon at The Kirtlander Party Center is Euclid Beach Park, "Then and Now."



IN MEMORIAM

NAN GOLDEN

LORELLE BEHREND

Our sympathies to the families of
these members

Scholarship Committee Seeks Funding with "Dining to Donate" Fundraising Events

The LCRTA Scholarship Committee is seeking funding for additional scholarships to be given to local high school students planning on studies in the field of Education in college.

The first is scheduled for **Thursday, February 21, 2019, from 11:00am to 10:00pm at Longhorn Steak House, 9557 Mentor Avenue, Mentor— by Kohl's.**

The second will be held on **Tuesday, March 5, 2019, from 11:00am to 10:00pm at Max & Erma's 7890 Mentor Avenue, Mentor., near the Great Lakes Mall.**

Fliers for both events will be available at the next luncheon and will be posted on the website:

<https://lakecountyrta.weebly.com>.



THE BELLRINGER

A Publication of the
LAKE COUNTY RETIRED
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

LCRTA

9399 Ridgeside Drive
Mentor, Ohio 44060



STATE TEACHERS
RETIREMENT SYSTEM
OF OHIO



pdfelement



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

February 21...Dine to Donate...Longhorn Steak House 10:00AM-10:00PM

March 5... Dine to Donate... Max & Erma's 11:00AM-10:00PM

March 6... Debbie Gifford Quartet...Fine Arts 1:00PM

May 1.... The Pop Tarts...Fine Arts 1:00PM

May 21... Holden Arboretum

June 12... The Secret Garden...Fine Arts 1PM

June 26... Wooster/Ohio Light Opera "Girl Crazy"

July 11... Falling Water & Flight 93 Memorial

August 23...Rabbit Run Theater... "My Way" Save the Date

October, 2019 ...Australia/New Zealand

December 6-9...Williamsburg Christmas

Please Note: If you have received or do receive a card from ORTA asking for "past dues" payment, please call Barb Temple, Membership Chair @ 440-974-8847 BEFORE sending a pay-

2019 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR

MARCH 6, 2019 – DEBBIE GIFFORD QUARTET – FINE ARTS – 1 PM
MAY 1, 2019 – THE POP TARTS – FINE ARTS – 1 PM
MAY 21, 2019 – HOLDEN ARBORETUM
JUNE 12, 2019 – THE SECRET GARDEN – FINE ARTS – 1 PM
JUNE 26, 2019 – WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA – “GIRL CRAZY”
JULY 11, 2019 – FALLINGWATER & FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL
AUGUST 23, 2019 – RABBIT RUN THEATER – “MY WAY” – SAVE THE DATE
OCTOBER, 2019 – AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND
DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2019 – WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTMAS

Remove Watermark Now

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

SOCIAL/TRAVEL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

MAY 21, 2019 **HOLDEN ARBORETUM** **DUE: APRIL 17, 2019**

Welcome Spring on a guided one hour tram tour on Tuesday, May 21st at the Holden Arboretum. We will meet near the Corning Visitor Center located at 9550 Sperry Rd. by 10:45 AM for the 11AM tram tour. The cost is **\$8.00** per person and includes admission to the Arboretum and the tram tour. Lunch options include packing a picnic lunch or purchasing a sandwich or salad from their cold cooler. Optional tickets to the Canopy Walk or Emergent Tower are extra and may be purchased at the Arboretum and done on your own. There is a minimum of **10** and maximum of **15**. **Contact: Sherry Barbieri at 440-946-1628 or sun_light@oh.rr.com.**

JULY 11, 2019 **FALLINGWATER & FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL** **DUE: TBA**

Join us along with Great Day Tours on a one day tour to Pennsylvania. Our first stop is Shanksville, PA for a visit to the Flight 93 Memorial. A luncheon buffet follows at a historic restaurant that was not in agreement with Prohibition. Lastly, there will be a visit to Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater, a home situated over a waterfall. This tour may depart between 6 to 7:30 AM and generally returns about 9 PM to 10 PM. **Cost: \$164 per person.** **Contact: Kathy Kling at 440-487-3806 or kathyk5773@aol.com. Check LCRTA website for sign-up form.**

CUT-----
JUNE 26, 2019 **WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA** **DUE: MAY 6, 2019**

MAIL TO: Sarah Reinhard, 8677 Harvest Home Dr., Mentor, Ohio 44060. Make check payable to **LCRTA**. Please reserve ____ place(s) at **\$102 per person (based on group of 35)**. **Only pickup: First Presbyterian Church, 4785 Shankland Blvd., Willoughby, OH – please arrive no later than 8:15 AM.**
Lunch Choices: (Beverage and dessert included, please select **1** per person).

- ____ French Onion Soup, Lemon Muffin with Garden Salad
- ____ Quiche DuJour, Fresh Fruit
- ____ Half Club Croissant, Fruit Salad.

NAME(S) _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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

CUT-----
MAY 21, 2019 **HOLDEN ARBORETUM** **DUE: APRIL 17, 2019**

MAIL TO: Sherry Barbieri, 38147 Poplar Dr., Willoughby, OH 44094. Make check payable to **LCRTA**. Please reserve ____ place(s) at **\$8.00 per person** for the Holden Arboretum tram tour.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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

CUT-----
MARCH 6, 2019 **DEBBIE GIFFORD QUARTET, Spring Fling** **DUE: FEB. 8, 2019**

MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060. Make check payable to **LCRTA**. Please reserve ____ tickets for “Debbie Gifford Quartet” at **\$12 per person (based on group of 10)**.

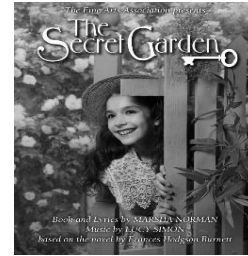
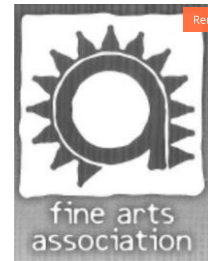
NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

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

FINE ARTS SENIOR MATINEE SERIES 2019

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. Payment for each performance must be made to "LCRTA" with separate checks and mailed to: **Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060**. Now accepting checks for **MARCH 6TH** show **only**.



WED., MAR. 6, 2019

DEBBIE GIFFORD QUARTET, Spring Fling

DUE: FEB. 8, 2019

Internationally renowned jazz vocalist Debbie Gifford & her combo perform "jazzy" favorites. *Rated G.*

WED., MAY 1, 2019

THE POP TARTS, Warm & Ready to Serve

DUE: APR. 5, 2019

This trio, in three delicious flavors, serves up a fun and tasty tribute to 60's girl groups. *Rated G.*

WED., JUN. 12, 2019

THE SECRET GARDEN

DUE: MAY 17, 2019

The enchanting children's literature classic, reimagined as a musical tale of forgiveness and renewal. A timeless story for all ages. *Rated G.*

JUNE 26, 2019

WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA

DUE: MAY 6, 2019

We will make our annual trip to Wooster to see "Girl Crazy" by George Gershwin. This 1930's musical features songs such as "I Got Rhythm," "But Not for Me," "Bidin' My Time," "Embraceable You," and many others. Our lunch stop is at Pine Tree Barn before we head to our matinee performance at the College of Wooster. Our **only pickup** will be 8:30 AM in Willoughby at First Presbyterian Church, 4785 Shankland Blvd. *Please arrive no later than 8:15 AM.* Cost: **\$102 per person** based on 35 participants (increase due to ticket increase) and includes lunch, theatre tickets, transportation, and all gratuities. **Contact: Sarah Reinhard at 440-567-9515 or swreinhard4@yahoo.com.**

OCTOBER 3, 2019

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

ONLY DOUBLE ROOMS LEFT

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. The Pre-Trip to Melbourne and the Outback is sold out, but you can explore even more, with a Post-trip extension to Fiji. **Main Trip Dates: (19 days) Oct. 3 thru Oct. 21, 2019 \$4395 per person. Airfare from CLE: (round trip) \$2010 per person. Pre-Trip Option: (5 nights- SOLD OUT). 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**. **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.