



THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 55 No. 3

May, 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....

Our next meeting/luncheon on June 11th at the Kirtlander Party Center will include presentations for our members and by our members. Our Scholarship program under the leadership of Tim Niederkorn and his committee will present checks to our Scholarship winners (we are not disclosing their names yet). Also, the winners of the LCRTA Jean P. Lentz Memorial Active Teacher Grants will be presenting their grant activities. These are both interesting presentations for the members. I hope that you will join us to see how the donations you have given are being used.

By now, you should have received your yearbook. It has come to our attention that there are four names missing from this book, an incorrect address and five names that should have not been in the book. You will find these corrections on Page 3 of this newsletter.

Please also note that some members are concerned about the use of this book and whether or not it should contain addresses and phone numbers. The Board discussed these suggestions at the May 6th Board meeting and came to the following consensus: There is a statement in the beginning of the name listings: *"The use of the membership list in this book is restricted to LCRTA members. Any other use of this book is prohibited unless permission is secured from the Association."* We trust that you will respect this statement and use this book for personal use only.

In today's age of technology, you know how simple it is to open an internet site, put in a name and 30 seconds later you have the whole life of that person.

We would hope that you would respect the privacy of the names and addresses of those in our directory, and use it only for its intent.

If you are planning on moving or have moved and this newsletter has been forwarded to you or you have changed your email address—PLEASE let me know. We need to keep our lists updated so that you can receive the messages that are meant for you in a timely manner.

Please send this new information to:

Karen Sawitke sawitke@oh.rr.com

Hope to see you all at the June meeting.

Karen

MORE FUN FROM COLUMBUS - MAKES RETIREMENT EVEN SWEETER

Legislative Report - Tom Moscovic

Cursive By 5th Grade is the Law

Ohio students officially must learn cursive. A bill signed into law by then Governor John Kasich last year has gone into effect, mandating schools in the state to teach students to write legibly in cursive by fifth grade.

Under Amended Substitute House Bill 58, the Ohio Department of Education must include supplemental materials in cursive handwriting in the English Language Arts Model Curriculum. The bill states students need to be able to print letters and words legibly by the third grade. By the end of the fifth grade, children must know how to write in cursive. The Bill went into effect on March 20. It also states that materials shall be added to the curriculum no later than July 1 and are to be updated periodically. The writing curriculum's implementation will be overseen by the Ohio Department of Education.

Ohio Falls Short of Fair Funding for Schools (A Summary)

The Ohio Supreme Court ruled more than 20 years ago that the state's school-funding system was so unfair that it violated the Ohio constitution. And yet a system that adequately and fairly funds public education in Ohio has eluded more than a generation of lawmakers and governors in this state.

So expectations were high for a recent effort led by State Reps. Bob Cupp (R. Lima) and John Patterson (D. Jefferson). Their working group of school superintendents and treasurers collaborated to come up with what they call the "Fair School funding Plan."

The reform plan would base funding on what it actually costs to educate students, what tax payers can afford, and what local districts believe will work in their communities. The challenge is large because not only is Ohio school funding still unfair, it also has been stagnant for all districts for years. Particularly squeezed since the 2008 economic crisis, state aid to districts has not even kept pace with inflation. This has made districts even more reliant—not less—on property taxes for funding. For this reason it is welcome that the plans calls for an overall increase in school funding state wide. That proposal of 10.5 percent will amount to an additional \$1.1 billion in state aid for



Legislative continued...
the biennium.

What does not quite add up is that while the reform plan would deliver large increases for suburban districts, **it would provide flat funding for the state's largest and neediest districts, including Toledo, Cleveland, Dayton, and Youngstown. Toledo Public Schools would continue to receive about \$179.5 million annually and \$8,240 per student under the new plan.** By contrast, Maumee City Schools would see annual state funding grow from \$4.19 million in fiscal year 2019 to \$6.17 million in fiscal year 2021. In Toledo, 40 percent of people live below the poverty line. One in 4 children suffers from hunger. There are more homeless students than in any other Ohio school district; 80% of the children who show up for kindergarten are behind before they even start school.

Of course more funding to schools is not the magic bullet fix for what ails cities like Toledo. Dense and systemic poverty cannot be fixed with the best-funded schools in the world. And yet adequately funded schools are necessary for communities with these struggles. Any school funding formula that can call itself "fair" must account for the income disparity between Ohio's big, urban, and largely poor districts and their wealthier suburbs. If there is any aspect of the current funding formula that the state gets right, it's that relatively poor districts get a boost. Toledo Public Schools must be able to pay teachers top dollar to attract talent. The district must be able to fund innovation-such Superintendent Romulus Durant's themed academies-to give students the best opportunities.

A "more fair" funding system that shifts aid away from struggling districts to affluent neighbors is...**HOWEVER...**

School Funding Overall May Get Delayed Two Years, Lawmakers Say

Ohio legislative leaders say the new funding formula introduced to much fanfare this spring by Reps. Bob Cupp and John Patterson may not be the way Ohio funds its schools the next two years. Speaker of the House Larry Householder told Gongwer News Service last week that the Cupp-Patterson plan "still needs a lot of work" that may not be achievable by the June state budget deadline. Householder (R-Glenford) added that he has "very big concerns" about the plan's impact on high poverty school districts.

Rate Your State: Teacher Salaries

NATIONAL	OHIO	RANKING
Nat. Avg. Starting Sal. \$39,249	Starting Sal. \$35,923	#37
Nat. Avg. Salary \$60,477	Avg. Sal. \$58,000	#17
Teacher Pay Gap \$.79/\$1.00	Teacher Pay Gap \$.84/\$1.00	
Per Student Spending \$12,602	Per Student Sp. \$11,713	#25

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

By Louise Bennet

The most gratifying moments of my "job" are usually the day after one of our luncheon meetings when I have the opportunity to deliver our donated "goods" to the organization for which we have collected. Those on the receiving end are always most thankful. This was the case after the April meeting when the donated items were taken to Project Hope. At first, a couple of people began to carry in the several bags and boxes to soon be joined by two additional helpers. Thanks to all who brought something to the meeting, not only was the back of my car filled but more items were stored on the backseat. Those on the receiving end expressed their appreciation and send it to each of you who helped their cause.



Moving on to the furry ones in need, we will be collecting for Lake Humane Society at the June meeting.

An extensive list of their wishes is available by going to the website: www.lakehumane.org. Find "Get Involved" at the top of the page, go to "Make a donation," then to "Our Wish List." These items can be purchased on Amazon or purchased elsewhere. Without referencing the Humane Society website some ideas include: towels, blankets, crates, nitrile (NOT latex) disposable gloves, cat food, dog food and cat litter. They would also like: Kong or Nylabone dog toys, Dawn dish soap, powder laundry soap and Clorox bleach and wipes. Our donations will be sure to produce some "woof, woofs," and "meow, meows" in appreciation.

Please be sure to turn in your volunteer hours for April and May. If you have not reported any hours thus far this year, simply include a total number on the form.

(Legislative Continued)

HB 154 - Ohio House Votes 83-12 to Repeal State Takeovers

Ohio House of Representatives voted 83-12 in favor of HB 154 (Jones-R/J.Miller-D), which would repeal state-mandated Academic Stress Commissions and restore control of local school districts to elected school boards.

The current state takeover law (HB70-131st General Assembly) provides no citizen oversight through elected school boards, no voice for classroom teachers and has been bad for our kids.

"The OEA has always believed that silencing the voices of educators and local officials in determining the best ways to improve student performance was ill-conceived," said OEA President Becky Higgins. "Educators want to be able to advocate for their students and we are very pleased that House lawmakers have taken the first step toward replacing the current law. We look forward to working with Senate members to complete this important task."

Continued next page..... ➡

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation Form

Kirtlander Party Center
9270 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland

DUE BY MAY 31, 2019

Please send reservation form with your payment to:

Susan McCarter
9720 Johnnycake Ridge Road
Concord, Ohio 44060
440-639-1141

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

Please reserve _____(s) for TUESDAY, June 11, 2019 at \$16.00 per person

Name (s) _____ Phone _____

Amount enclosed _____

Lunch (Choose 1) _____ Roast Beef/au jus _____ Pasta Primavera

AuGratin Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Salad, Rolls and Butter, Pastry Platter

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

PLEASE ENTER THE KIRTLANDER THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR.

(Legislative)

State government has already taken away local control from Youngstown, Lorain and East Cleveland schools. In the next two years, if the current law is not changed, state government could take away local control from Dayton, Columbus, Canton, Mansfield, Lima, Toledo, Ashtabula, Euclid, North College Hill and Painesville City Schools.

HB154, which has strong bi-partisan support, also includes accountability measures that require school districts that have an F-rated building to set up school improvement teams.

*No more Academic Distress Commissions. No more CEOs.
No more state takeovers.*

The missing names and addresses below are those not found in the 2019 LCRTA Year Book.

Please add them to your book:

Lee, Beverly 8699 Woodhawk Lane
Kirtland, Ohio 44094666-2058

*Lovsin, Bette 59 Ranch Drive,
Willoughby, Ohio 44094....946-3396

Lewis, Rosemary 9663 Dublin Lane,
Mentor, Ohio 44060....667-0957

*#Lowe, Gail 7482 Andrea Drive,
Concord Twp., Ohio 44060...357-0056

Kathleen Kling's corrected address:
6810 Rockport Lane, Mentor, Ohio 44060

INFORMATIVE & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Terri Herbert

With summer coming up we are all at increased risk for dehydration. Dehydration happens when your body doesn't have as much water as it needs. Without enough, your body can't function properly. You can have mild, moderate, or severe dehydration depending on how much fluid is missing from your body. Older adults have less water in their bodies and often don't realize they're thirsty. If they can't get around very well anymore, they may not be able to get a drink easily.

It's normal to lose water from your body everyday by sweating, breathing, urinating, and defecating, and through tears and saliva. Usually you replace the lost liquid by drinking fluids and eating foods that contain water. If you lose too much water or don't drink and eat enough you will get dehydrated. You can lose more water than usual when you have a fever, diarrhea, vomiting, excessive sweating or urinating more than normal (due to a medical condition or medications). You may not replace the water you lose because you are too busy and forget to drink, you don't realize you are thirsty or you are not drinking enough due to a sore throat, mouth sores or nausea.

Signs of mild or moderate dehydration include thirst, dry or sticky mouth, less urinating, dark yellow urine, dry, cool skin, headache or muscle cramps. Severe dehydration includes not urinating or having very dark yellow urine, very dry skin, feeling dizzy, rapid heartbeat, rapid breathing, sunken eyes, sleepiness, lack of energy, confusion and irritability and fainting.

Dehydration can cause serious health problems and, if severe, is a medical emergency.

So Cheers, all!!! Drink your Water.



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 2019



June 11.....Kirtlander Party Center 11:00 Luncheon/Meeting

June 12.....The Secret Garden 1:00PM Fine Arts

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

July 11Fallingwater & Flight 93 Memorial

July 17.....Lake County Captains Baseball Game

August 23....Rabbit Run Theater- "My Way"

October.....Australia/New Zealand

December 6-9...Williamsburg Christmas

October 9-14, 2020-Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta - Save the date

VOLUNTEER HOURS APRIL-MAY 2019

NAME _____

Please send this form to:

Louise Bennett
9970 Cottonwood Court,
Mentor, OH 44060

_____ Caregiving Hours

_____ All other hours

OR Bring to June Meeting

2019 - 2020 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR

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

JULY 17, 2019 – LAKE COUNTY CAPTAINS BASEBALL GAME

AUGUST 23, 2019 – RABBIT RUN THEATER – “MY WAY”

OCTOBER, 2019 – AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND

DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2019 – WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTMAS

OCTOBER 9 - 14, 2020 - ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA - SAVE DATES

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

CLOSED

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 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. If you have questions, please contact **Sherry Barbieri at 440-946-1628 or sun_light@oh.rr.com**.

JULY 11, 2019

FALLINGWATER & FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL

CLOSED

We are joining 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. Lastly, there will be a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater home. We will depart from Lakeland Community College. You will be notified of the departure time. **Contact: Kathy Kling at 440-487-3806 or kathyk5773@aol.com if any questions.**

JULY 17, 2019 “BASEBALL, BRATS, & BREWS” – CAPTAINS GAME

DUE: JULY 3, 2019

Watch the Captains Baseball team when they play Cedar Rapids Kernals at 7 PM on July 17, 2019 at the Eastlake Stadium. **Check website for order form.**

AUGUST 23, 2019

"MY WAY" AT RABBIT RUN

DUE: JULY 25, 2019

Join us for an evening performance of "My Way" (a musical tribute to Frank Sinatra) at **Rabbit Run Community Arts**, 5648 Chapel Rd., Madison, OH. There is an optional dinner at **Joey's Italian Restaurant**, 2731 Hubbard Rd., Madison, OH. We will order off the menu and have separate checks. Meet at the restaurant at 5:15 PM and/or the outdoor lobby of Rabbit Run at 7 PM. The play begins at 7:30. **Cost: \$22 per ticket based on 20 people.**

Contact: Sherry Niederkorn at 440-477-1198 or sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com.

CUT-----

AUGUST 23, 2019

"MY WAY" AT RABBIT RUN

DUE: JULY 25, 2019

MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060. Make check payable to **LCRTA**.

Please reserve ____ tickets for "My Way" at **\$22 per ticket (based on 20 people)**.

Please indicate number ____ who plan to join the optional pre-show dinner at Joey's Restaurant. **Reservations are required!!**

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

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

CUT-----

JUNE 12, 2019

THE SECRET GARDEN

DUE: MAY 17, 2019

MAIL TO: Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060. Make check payable to **LCRTA**.

Please reserve ____ tickets for "The Secret Garden" at **\$12 per person (based on group of 10)**.

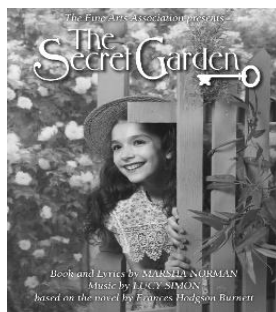
NAME _____ PHONE _____

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. 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. Payment for the performance must be made to "LCRTA" and mailed to: **Sherry Niederkorn, 6988 Weatherby Dr., Mentor, OH 44060.**



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. **Only a few tickets left. Rated G.**

JUNE 26, 2019

WOOSTER / OHIO LIGHT OPERA

CLOSED

We will make our annual trip to Wooster to see "Girl Crazy" by George Gershwin. 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.* Lunch, theatre tickets, transportation, and all gratuities are included. **Contact: Sarah Reinhard at 440-567-9515 or swreinhard4@yahoo.com** with any questions.

OCTOBER 3, 2019

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

ONLY DOUBLE ROOMS LEFT

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. **Contact Sherry Niederkorn** for additional information at 440-477-1198 or sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com. **No single rooms left; only a few doubles remain.**

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).** **Contact: Sarah Reinhard at 440-567-9515 or swreinhard4@yahoo.com.** **DEPOSIT OF \$100 due ASAP to hold your reservation. Payment of \$372.00 due Sept. 6, 2019. No cancellations after Sept. 6, 2019 - Replacements only. Final payment due Oct. 23, 2019.** Registration form is on LCRTA website or contact Sarah for the form.

OCTOBER 9 - 14, 2019

ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA

Brochures for this trip will be available at the June Luncheon.

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.