



MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 12—ISSUE 1

19TH ANNUAL COMMISSIONERS' CHARITY BALL

Get your party clothes on for the 19th Annual Commissioners' Charity Ball to be held Saturday, January 20, 2018 at Weymouth Country Club (3946 Weymouth Road, Medina). The social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., sit-down dinner (your choice of four entrees) at 7:00, and dancing after dinner. The cost is \$60 per person.

The primary mission of the Charity Ball is to enable Medina County agencies to better serve those who are in need, face obstacles that impede their full participation in society, or assist in their educational development. In the past 18 years, the Ball has raised over \$350,000 to help local charitable organizations advance their mission and strengthen our community. Funds from 2018 will be divided equally among charities chosen by the Commissioners. Commissioner Pat Geissman has chosen Lodi Harrisville Historical Society and Robby's Recovery Center; Commissioner Adam Friedrich chose Medina Health Ministry and Oasis of Hope; and Commissioner Bill Hutson has chosen Habitat for Humanity and Medina County Historical Society.

The Charity Ball's continued success is largely due to the generous support of corporate and individual sponsors, and tax-deductible donations. The Commissioners and the Charity Ball Committee are reaching out to the community to donate or become sponsors to make this year's event a success. You can get your invitation by going to the website at www.mcc-charityball.com. For further information, call Rhonda Beck at 330-466-9072 or at 330-722-9208.

BICENTENNIAL LICENSE PLATE UPDATE



Ohio Senate President Larry Obhof and State Representative Steve Hambley sponsored legislation to authorize the sale of Medina County's bicentennial license plate. When Governor Kasich signs the legislation, the specialty plates should be available from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles early in 2018. The plates, designed by local graphic artist Judy Barabas, commemorates the 1818 establishment of Medina County. Proceeds from the license plate sale will benefit 18 Medina County historical societies.

MEDINA CITY BICENTENNIAL BUZZ!

Saturday, January 13, @ 1:00 PM—Medina Library The focus of this event will be on some of Medina's founders. Actors from Show Biz will portray characters such as Zenus Hamilton, Lathrop Seymour, and Austin Badger. There will also be a presentation on Medina's early history.

Sunday, January 21, 1:00 PM—County Courthouse There will be a celebration of Medina as the County seat. Medina County is also celebrating their Bicentennial in 2018! Tours of the old and current courthouses will be guided. Please visit www.medina200.com for reservations and more information.

Saturday, January 27, 11:00 AM—Medina Library Attend the 3rd Annual Medina County History Fair to learn about the history of Medina City and Medina County.

Volunteers are needed for many events. Call 330-722-9029 for information.

SALES TAX TO BE ON MAY BALLOT

The Commissioners are preparing to place a .2% sales tax increase on the May ballot. This would bring in approximately \$5,258,000 and would be used to cover the expenses for criminal justice services, such as the courts and Sheriff. Commissioner Geissman said that since the levy would be for criminal justice services, it would allow the county to use more General Fund monies for other services such as childrens' services, transit, the Office for Older Adults, and capital maintenance issues. Mrs. Geissman noted that the Ohio Revised Code requires the county to maintain its buildings; the courthouse project is one of the projects that has been delayed for several years. Commissioner Friedrich stated that a sales tax is the least evil of all taxes; income tax is the worst and property tax is the second worst. Commissioner Hutson noted that childrens' services expenditures have increased, primarily because of opiate issues.



Public Hearings are scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, January 16, at 9:00 a.m. Both will be held on the second floor of the Administration Building (144 N. Broadway St.) in the Commissioners' Hearing Room. If passed, the sales tax would be implemented October 2, 2018.



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If you want to be removed from this mailing or know someone who wants to be added, please notify Clerk Peggy Folk, CAP, OM at 330-722-9210 or at pfolk@medinaco.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following are some Medina County Parks' activities. Please register for programs online at www.medinacountyparks.com.

Sat., January 6 9:00-11:00 a.m. HIKING FOR THE HEALTH OF IT Carolyn Ludwig Mugrage Park
This is a hiking club for those adults who can hike 4-5 miles at a brisk pace. Walking trails can be mildly strenuous with a limited amount being off trail. Please dress for the weather and be sure to have appropriate footwear. Ages 10 to adult. No registration required. Free.

Sun., January 7 2:00-4:00 p.m. PINTEREST: "FOR THE BIRDS" WALL ART Wolf Creek Environmental Center
Create a beautiful piece of nature-themed wall art for your home using wallpaper samples and scraps. You will complete one project that will fit in an 8"x10" frame or mat. All supplies will be provided. Ages 16 to adult. Register by January 6. Free.

Tue., January 9 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 1:00-2:00 p.m. CREATIVE CONCOCTIONS FOR PRESCHOOLERS Wolf Creek Environmental Center
Younger park friends are invited to create mysterious mixtures and make marvelous messes in this fun, hands-on discovery program. Come experiment with combinations of ordinary ingredients to create something fun. All supplies are provided; come dressed for mess! Ages 3 to 6. Register by January 8. Free.

Wed., January 10 10:00-11:00 a.m. NATURE THROUGH THE SEASONS Susan Hambley Nature Center
The "Nature Through the Seasons" series consists of easy walks that explore different parks while observing the unfolding of nature throughout the seasons. These hikes also count toward the Natural Discoveries program, an award-based hiking series. Visit the park district website for details about the program. Ages 7 to adult. No registration required. Free.

Thu., January 18 or 10:00-11:00 a.m. or Fri., January 19 1:00-2:00 p.m. TALES FOR TOTS Wolf Creek Environmental Center
Who carries a rack on his head and a flag on his back end? Find out about this mysterious and marvelous creature through a story, craft, and hands-on discovery. For ages 3-6 with an adult companion. Some or all of the program will be held outdoors; please dress accordingly. Register by January 17. Free.

Sat., January 20 1:00-3:00 p.m. CHICKADEES Wolf Creek Environmental Center
Although black-capped chickadees weigh less than half an ounce, these tiny birds survive Ohio winters as well as harsher, more northern winters. Listen to a presentation about how they manage winter, then take a short hike to look for these birds in their natural habitat, and observe them feeding at bird feeders. All ages are welcome. No registration required. Free.

Sun., January 21 3:00-4:00 p.m. NATURAL DISCOVERIES HIKING SERIES: TRACKS! Schleman Nature Preserve
Natural Discoveries is a series of free nature-themed programs designed for ages seven to adult. Participants in the program who complete certain hike requirements are eligible to receive awards. See the Natural Discoveries link on the Park District website for award details. Hiking on a wintry day is a great way to learn about animal tracks. The tracks will help you discover what animals are active in our parks! Ages 7 to adult. No registration required. Free.

Tue., January 23 & 6:00-8:00 p.m. ICE FISHING WORKSHOP Wolf Creek Environmental Center
Thu., January 25
This two-day workshop will teach the techniques necessary to ice fish in Northern Ohio. Topics will include proper clothing, proper footwear, safety on the ice, what kinds of equipment to use, best baits to use, what kinds of fish you can expect to catch, use of an ice auger, and use of an ice shanty and how to keep it warm. On the second night, you'll be on the ice to test your skills. The class will be taught by experienced ice fishermen. Ages 16 to adult. Register by January 19. Free.

Wed., January 31 6:30-7:30 p.m. BLUE MOON NIGHT HIKE Carolyn Ludwig Mugrage Park
Once in a blue moon, you can hike in the parks at night. On this blue moon, walk with a naturalist to learn a little bit about the moon, night vision, and nocturnal wildlife. You may bring a flashlight, but plan not to use it. All ages are welcome. No registration required. Free.



Fri., January 19 6:00-10:00 p.m. FOR THE LOVE OF CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL Community Center (735 Lafayette Rd.)
Faith in Action Medina County Caregivers presents the 21st Annual For the Love of Chocolate Festival. Attendees age 5 and older must purchase a \$10 ticket and then you choose 8 two-bite samples of chocolate delights! Tickets are available at the door or pre-sale tickets are available at all Medina County Buehler's locations and Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory at Ohio Station Outlets. For information, visit fiamedina.org or call Cindie Schneider at 216-780-4135.

Sat., January 27 Registration: 10:00 a.m. 8TH ANNUAL POLAR BEAR JUMP & RUN Chippewa Lake Beach (Longacre & Beachside)
Join the Chippewa Lake Lions Club for this unique winter event. Minimum donation to jump is \$30. Proceeds benefit local charities: Lions International, CrossPointe Community Church's meal program, Lafayette Township Fire Department, Church at the Lake's food pantry, and SHC. The 5K Run/Walk begins at noon and the Polar Bear Jump begins at 1:15 p.m. For more information and to register online, go to chippewalakelions.com. Contact Alan Robbins at 330-701-7879 for more information.

Sat., January 27 5:00 p.m. CHATHAM CHILI CHALLENGE Chatham Memorial Hall (6299 Avon Lake Rd.)
Benefits the Chatham Township Bicentennial Celebration Committee. Call Sue Arters (330-635-5969 or artersfarms@gmail.com) or Helen Greenya (330-421-0707) for information.

Sat., February 10 7:00 p.m. SOCK HOP Chatham Memorial Hall (6299 Avon Lake Rd.)
Dress in 50's attire (prizes for best outfits) and dance the night away (dance contest). Enjoy root beer floats, sloppy joes, hot dogs, and chips. \$15 per person (includes food). Benefits for Chatham Township Bicentennial Celebration Committee. Contact Sue Arters (330-635-5969) or Sarah Bistline (330-667-2257) for tickets and additional information.

Sat., February 24 9:00 AM-Noon THE RESILIENT GARDEN A.I. Root Candle Community Room (640 W. Liberty St.)
Learn how to integrate and plant native plants (beyond milkweed) into your existing landscape. Registration (\$25/person or \$40/2 people) includes great speakers, door prizes, and a full-color booklet on native plants of Ohio. Register by February 16. Call OSU Extension Office (330-725-4911) for information.