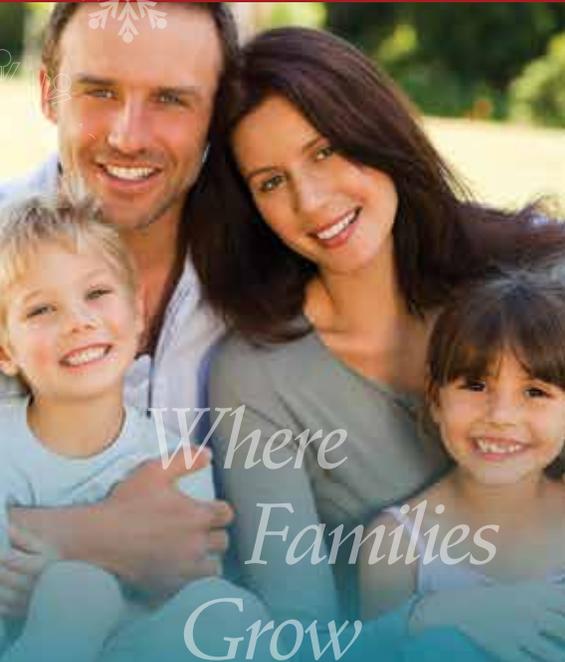


Village of Middlefield

Issue 10 | January 2015



Where
Families
Grow
Strong

Contents

Letter from the Mayor 2

Grand Opening:
Amish Historical Library 2

Cardinal Superintendent Letter 4

Vinny's Pizza, New Location 5

Middlefield Police News 6

Middlefield Village Recognizes
Outstanding Individuals 6

Geauga Library Foundation Mini-Golf 6

Village of Middlefield Local
Revolving Loan Fund Program 7

Recreation Department 7

Thinking Outside the **Corrugated** Box Packaging to Perfection

by Margje Wilber

Louie Dejesus knows a bit about packaging. In fact, the President and CEO of Third Dimensions understands a great deal after logging in more than 30 years of innovative printing and packaging experience. His limitless passion along with his creative approaches in solving even the most complex packaging dilemmas has rewarded Third Dimensions with some very strong business partnerships with clients that include such Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 clients as Chiquita, KraftMaid, Trico Corp., USG Corp. and Great Lakes Cheese.

Third Dimensions designs and implements packaging solutions for their customers. "We save our clients millions of dollars in damages by providing the best custom, protective-packaging solutions to solve packaging problems and enhance the brand," explains Dejesus. "We handle small-to large-scale runs and specialize in protecting oddly shaped and fragile product, point-of-purchase displays and sales kits. Unlike competitors who are locked into using corrugated exclusively, Third Dimensions will design and implement the best packaging solutions for our clients – whether that involves fabricated and molded foams, triple-wall corrugated boxes, specialty pallets, or simply the traditional brown corrugated box."

The self-professed "rebel in the packaging industry" is no stranger to hard work. Dejesus remembers his first job at the age of eight, working at Wayside Gardens, a nursery in Mentor. Other jobs growing up included a cashier at A&P and Tasty Freeze, and a gas station clerk. "At one time, I had three jobs," Dejesus laughs. He earned a BA degree in business and accounting from Edinboro University in Pennsylvania



"We save our clients millions of dollars in damages by providing the best custom, protective-packaging solutions to solve packaging problems and enhance the brand."

- Louie Dejesus, CEO, Third Dimensions

in 1977. After working in finance at Society National Bank (Key Bank), he was hired in sales and design at Smurfit Stone Container where he learned the ins and outs of the packaging industry.

The drive to control his own destiny resulted in Dejesus opening his own packaging company. "My wife Jeanette and I started Third Dimensions in 1985 in Geneva, Ohio as a fulfillment center and non-traditional source of packaging," says the consummate entrepreneur. "We always felt that to solve the many packaging issues, a company must embrace the use of all available media – not just brown corrugated sheets. "If you take care of your customer needs, your customers will reward you with their business and loyalty."

continued on page 3

Letter from the Mayor



Ben Garlich,
Mayor, Village
of Middlefield

Happy New Year!

I am looking forward to a successful 2015. We have seen positive results in all aspects that impact the quality of our Village. The revenue stream is the best we've seen since 2008 which is a result of the actions we've taken over the last three years. We are forecasting 2015 will show additional improvement as many projects are in the planning stages and others are just nearing completion. These improved revenues have been achieved by encouraging development and not by raising taxes or utility rates. We need to continue to improve our revenues thru growth as many funds previously received from the state have been reduced or eliminated. Our goal is to continue providing services we've all grown to expect and appreciate as residents, business owners, and visitors to the Village of Middlefield.

In addition to the financial improvement, we made some staffing changes in 2014 that provided improvement to Village Operations. We now have a Police Chief that is part of this community. He resides here, his family is employed here, his children attend school here. All these attributes contribute to creating a community-focused Police Department. Chief Tucholski has assembled a staff that works as a team and has a sense of community that reflects in everything they do.

We added a Director of Economic Development. This position has enabled communication with local business which we feel is so necessary. In addition to adding businesses, we want to insure we support our existing businesses. Leslie Gambosi-McCoy, MBA, is very knowledgeable, helping new businesses overcome road blocks and

is identifying issues that need to be resolved with our current businesses. She has been successful in securing two grants during her short tenure which will benefit the Village and future development. Leslie has a solid game plan for 2015, and I am confident will create additional activity.

Nick Giardina has assumed the position of Financial Officer for the Village. Nick's financial expertise has brought tremendous value in the areas of budget accountability, financial forecasting, and understandable financial reporting. Council now has solid financial information which enables them to make better decisions. His financial guidance will be a tremendous asset as we move forward.

Our Superintendent of Streets is just starting his 41st year of service. His leadership, knowledge, and dedication is displayed on a daily basis. It is comforting to know that, regardless the situation, it will be handled with professionalism and urgency. I often tell Charlie Ehrhart I admire the fact after this many years he still has the fire in his belly to serve this Village and give 110%.

The new Recreation Department Director Billie Warren and Program Supervisor Dave Detweiler bring renewed energy and creativity to the various Village organized sports leagues, program offerings and special events.

Although we've had no changes in the administrative staff, they continue to work with attitudes and energy to support this Village. I sincerely appreciate the support Village Council has given me throughout my entire term.

Due to the expertise and dedication of all, we have an effective government that is able to work together for the benefit of all. I appreciate the opportunity to serve with this group in making our Village a place where we enjoy living, working and playing.

Sincerely,

Ben Garlich

Mayor

GRAND OPENING

Amish Historical Library

"This is something we've needed – this history of our ancestors. We cannot appreciate the present without knowing the past," Freeman Miller expressed on Nov. 29 at the opening of the first Geauga Amish Historical Library.

The Library is located on Route 87 next to Karl's Jewelry. At present, hours are Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no admission charge, but donations are more than welcome.

Visitors can view the rare collection of Bibles, hymnals and prayer books, some dating back to 1574. A large portion of this antique book collection belongs to Newbury resident John Gingerich, who has Amish ancestors. John envisions having a rotating display of books and documents significant to Anabaptist history, especially items specific to Geauga County's settlement.

Another goal of the library is to help people trace their family histories through genealogy books and documents.

Besides written material, the library displays some artefacts and items belonging to Amish ancestors, such as a coat from 1873 and a chair from 1788. In addition, there is a small bookstore.

The Amish Historical Library staff wishes to thank all who contributed, whether in the form of literature, monetary funds, furniture or their time, to make this dream a reality: Middlefield Cheese for donating display cases and shelving; Middlefield Post for printing fliers and signs; the family of deceased Mennonite Pastor Steve Estes, historian and author of Peoria, IL, for his extensive collection of books, research files, magazines and periodicals; Ray and Linda Barnum; John and Pat Gingerich; Dieter and Nancy Huth; the Library Board and members of the Amish community. 🌿

Village of Middlefield

Where Families Grow Strong

Thinking Outside the Corrugated Box

continued from page 1



The couple has stayed true to this belief. Third Dimensions utilize 600,000-square-foot of production and warehousing space to produce packaging – from a brown corrugated box and four-color P.O.P. (Point of Purchase) displays, to certified, heat-treated export crates, pallets and molded and fabricated foams. To its credit, Third Dimensions owns the largest EPS molding presses, corrugated die cutter, and automated, four-color, large corrugated press, and large format printer this side of the Mississippi.

“All of this production equipment is at our immediate disposal to serve the unique needs of our customers,” the high-energy Dejesus says with a smile. “We specialize in custom-printed displays, protective product packaging, short-run custom boxes and fulfillment solutions. We have state-of-the-art equipment, experienced production managers, and creative designers to manage a supply-chain solution for you.”

“I am passionate about finding the perfect packaging solution for my clients. Thankfully, I have surrounded myself with smart people who enjoy what they do and share the same passion.”

- Louie Dejesus, CEO Third Dimensions

Third Dimensions is a certified-minority company due to Dejesus’ Puerto Rican roots. AIB certified, it currently has 80 full-time and 12 part-time employees including six structural and graphic designers. The company recently invested \$1.5 million on a HP Scitex 15000 printer which does six- and eight-color, large-format UV digital corrugated printing – one of only two such printers in the country. The packaging process starts with fast prototype development and often concludes with pick-and-pull service where Third Dimensions fulfillment team warehouses their clients’ product and ships it directly to end users as orders are received on a

daily basis. Third Dimensions provides fast turnaround and has custom-kitting and full-assembly capabilities as well.

Dejesus is always willing to invest in equipment and go the extra mile for his customers.

“I have a problem saying no,” admits the successful business owner. “Everything can be figured out. I am passionate about finding the perfect packaging solution for my clients. Thankfully, I have surrounded myself with smart people who enjoy what they do and share the same passion. I also never micro-manage.”

Five years ago, Dejesus decided to expand his business into Geauga County, purchasing the old Carlisle Building in Middlefield. This facility warehouses corrugated boxes for such customers as KraftMaid, Dillen, Great Lakes Cheese and Flambeau. Third Dimensions employs 18 individuals at this 250,000-square-foot plant, located at 15322 Old State Road in Middlefield, who sequence boxes to match part numbers and then ships the packaging to customers on an as-needed basis.

Terry Geraci, warehouse manager at the Third Dimension Middlefield site, says there is intensive labor, time, and logistics involved in the packaging industry. “Our customers do not have the design and storage capabilities that we offer,” says Geraci. Third Dimensions also owns three additional warehouses in Middlefield: a 15,000-square-foot facility on Rt. 87, a 20,000-square-foot plant on Nauvoo Road, and another 20,000-square-foot building on Valplast Street. “Basically, we take orders, warehouse and sequence boxes, and ship them to customers at this Middlefield site,” states Geraci.

“I’ve known Louie for 10 years. He is a real mover and a shaker,” describes Geraci, who is responsible for all shipping, receiving, logistics and warehousing at the Middlefield warehouse. “Louie is very progressive. I love working for him.” Geraci is pleased with the labor force in this area. “They are hardworking, responsible individuals,” he states.

Third Dimensions also expanded to Charlotte, North Carolina where their employees design and produce four-color P.O.P and house a CNC work centers. His son Kyle, who has a background in marketing and design, serves as operations manager at this facility. (Louie and Jeanette also have two married daughters, Rhea Greene and Nara Skipper.)

Third Dimensions recently purchased their fourth main facility in Geauga County on Rt. 87 in Burton (formerly Shade Tree). This facility will do light assembly work and serve as a repacking center in addition to warehousing products.

Dejesus hopes to triple his business in the next three years. A large part of this growth will come from the P.O.P. side of the business. He says, “Currently 10% P.O.P should grow to 25% of our business in the next few years.” The P.O.P. includes murals; life-size cutouts, sales kits and trade show displays. “Combine these services with our warehousing/fulfillment and in-house logistics, and our customers have a total solution company. It all works together to the benefit of our customers,” Dejesus describes.

“I’m on vacation when I am working 10-hour days,” admits the packaging leader. “I love this work. It is my passion. Packaging is about reducing damage to zero – that is the goal. In order to accomplish that goal, you cannot forget about the other packaging medias. If you do, you may not be solving the shipping problems. We always think outside the box and look at all the possibilities. We work very hard to innovate and design new solutions to meet the new and changing market. We also push the envelope on what we can do with a corrugated box.”

If you are interested in increasing brand awareness and sales with stunning packaging that will create a strong identity for your company and your products, visit their Web site: Thirdinc.com or call Third Dimensions at 440.466.4040 or 877.926.3223, or email info@Thirdinc.com. 🌿

A Resolution To Stay The Course

Dr. Scott J. Hunt,
Superintendent



It's a new year. 2015. This is the month where New Year's resolutions are made with the hope of following through until next year. As far as getting more exercise or committing to a better diet I have found that those resolutions typically don't make it past the month of January. One thing I have learned from my experiences as a school administrator is that it's important to continually revisit our purpose and where want to go and resolve to get there.

Several things took place this year that may have confused our community as to what the Cardinal Local Schools future looks like. First, let me say that I have outlined a vision for the district that I hope will strengthen relationships with our students, families, local government and business community. These relationships are critical if our schools are to survive in the future. One way to strengthen our community is to begin to bring them back to our schools. This year we asked a group to pull together and form the Huskie Nation Foundation for the purpose

of creating a rally point around Cardinal. This group has plans, in collaboration with the schools, to construct a sports complex. Recent news articles may have lead readers to believe that the project will not happen. The articles I am referring to are in regards to the district's lease agreement with the village and a new proposal to have a consolidated school district at the Kent/Geauga campus. I have had to reassure those that have asked that the Cardinal Stadium project IS moving forward. We are currently looking to make modifications to the village lease agreement. Also, I have had conversation with Kent State and their proposal DOES NOT plan for any type of athletic facility whether that is a gym or a football field. IF the Kent State proposal does come to fruition students will still need a facility for athletic programming.

The Huskie Nation Foundation has been hard at work this fall and winter and has solidified individuals, gifts, and money to date. The following is a portion of their work to date:

- Sports has been contracted as architect/engineer for the entire project.
- Ron Flavin has been hired for his professional grant writing service.
- The Tim Yoder Construction Company will act as project manager for the concessions/restrooms building, pro bono.
- Carter lumber will donate all building materials for the concessions/restrooms.
- Cleveland plumbing will donate all plumbing supplies for the concessions/restrooms.
- To date \$28,000 in cash has been raised NOT including in kind gifts.

The project is slated to break ground spring of 2015 and expected completion is planned within a two-year time period.

Although the Huskie Nation Foundation project is important it is equally important to highlight what we are doing to prepare kids for college and career. Last year we were able to "shuffle the deck chairs" and

build necessary programming back into our schools. We opened this year with all day every day Kindergarten; we reinstated art, band, and choir at the middle school/high school and we provided busing for all students. Early this winter the high school will be sharing a new master schedule with families. This schedule will provide our students with more time and more opportunities over their high school career to get what they need to be successful when they leave. In addition, we are in the final planning phases for the two Straight A grants that were awarded to the schools in Geauga county. Next year our students that are interested in STEM programming will have the opportunity to participate in a new STEM school that will open in the fall at Auburn Career Center. We are also infusing career exploration and preparation into the Cardinal Middle School schedule for next year via the grants. At Cardinal High School our students will have the opportunity to access digitized course work through The Ohio State University and the College Ready Ohio Straight A grant.

All of the things we are planning to do and the things we are doing add value to the Cardinal High School Diploma. As students leave here the value of that diploma will provide them with opportunities to work, learn, and find a career that fits their wants and needs. It's exciting to see what the future holds here in Cardinal as I resolve to stay the course and build with a focus on the students of the Cardinal Local School District.

Please feel free to contact me by email or phone. I can be contacted via email scott.hunt@cardinalschoools.org or in the office at 632-0261. (...AND FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER @DrSJHunt)

Sincerely,

Dr. Scott J. Hunt

Cardinal Superintendent

AROUND the CORNER

VINNY'S PIZZA Announces New Location, Expanded Hours & Services

Vinny's Italian restaurant owner Blaze Tishko, 40, fell in love with Geauga County in the fifth grade when his family moved to Newbury Township from Sagamore Hills. As an adult, the young man lived in Little Italy for 13 years, but upon marrying his wife Laura, decided to move back to Geauga County where they would live and eventually raise their family. Today, five children later, the couple are the proud owners of Vinny's Pizza in Middlefield Village – one of the only family-owned, authentic Italian restaurants in Geauga County.

"The overall goal is to make the restaurant as intimate as possible. It will be an ideal destination for date nights or family nights."

- Blaze Tishko, owner,
Vinny's Italian restaurant

"When I lived in Little Italy, where I met my wife, I was spoiled. There were many excellent Italian restaurants there," recalls Blaze. "We loved living in Geauga County, but the only thing lacking was a variety of good restaurants."

Laura adds, "One thing we knew was that we wanted to try to build something great in our community. This is where we have chosen to make our own family roots for our children."

"Six years ago, I discovered I had cancer," Blaze continues. "At the time, I was a manager of Welshfield Inn. I knew it was time to try something new. I ate like crazy while going through chemotherapy. I think I was the only person who ever gained weight with cancer. Anyway, Vinny's current location at 15620 West High Street in Middlefield became available for rent. Within two days, we signed a lease."

Since Blaze had worked in Italian restaurants for much of his life, he took this valuable knowledge to craft a menu that would appeal to Middlefield residents. Today, pizza makes up half of his business sales, but other customer favorites include chicken parmesan and Vinny's wide variety of specialty salads.

"We use only fresh, homemade ingredients in all our dishes," Blaze says. "Our stone oven is not a conveyor belt, and we offer specialty pizzas with unique sauces like our spinach and artichoke sauce. I have a lot of good cooks working for me and offer a revolving specialty menu as well. For our weekly specials menu, we have many of our regular customers on a 'call list' for notice when one of their favorite dishes returns. To us, making food someone else loves is success!"

"A menu is a living, breathing thing, and we are always trying to make it better," the dedicated business owner states. "I am most proud of our marinara sauce which is unique and very flavorful."

The self-taught chef takes real pride in creating delicious meals for his customers. "My goal is quality food at a reasonable cost," Blaze states. "I did not want to get too eclectic with my menu. We simply wanted to create great flavors."

Local demand continues to grow as more and more Middlefield residents discover this gastronomic treasure. In fact, Blaze will soon be relocating his restaurant to 15439 West High Street (formerly Wendy's) on or around April 1, 2015. In addition to expanded parking and more seating, Vinny's will begin serving breakfast at the new location from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays as well as a brunch on Sundays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vinny's new lunch hours will be 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and dinner from 4 to 10 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays. Vinny's will be open on Friday and Saturdays to 11 p.m.

In addition to completely remodeling the building's interior with new flooring, ceilings and lighting, the new location will include

Blaze Tishko, owner,
Vinny's Italian restaurant



a patio that seats 20 to 30 and a bar. "The overall goal is to make the restaurant as intimate as possible," describes Blaze. "It will be an ideal destination for date nights or family nights." He says the free-standing structure will allow for more parking and the expanded interior will enable them to seat large parties.

The outstanding Italian cuisine comes at an affordable price. Lunches average \$7 to \$9; dinner entrées average \$12 to \$15. Pizza prices range from \$7 for a small to \$13 for an extra large.

Middlefield residents within a six-mile radius of Vinny's can opt for delivery, and if business can bare it, drivers will go beyond at an additional cost.

The conscientious restaurant owner concludes, "We had outgrown this facility and wanted to have an opportunity to make this restaurant our own. We want to provide this community with something that just does not exist – something nice and affordable." 🌿

Middlefield Police News

MIDDLEFIELD'S NEW POLICE HIRES

On Nov. 7, the Middlefield Police Department hired two new officers.



(l-r) Officer Timothy Brewster, Officer Jessica Newsome, Officer Brandon Gray, Chief Joe Tucholski, new Officer Jonathan Paige, Mayor Ben Garlich, new Officer Steven C. Fertig Jr. and Sergeant Brandon Savage.

MIDDLEFIELD POLICE SPREAD GOOD CHEER

The Middlefield Police Department held a Fill-A-Cruiser event on Dec. 13 at Walmart and Save-A-Lot in Middlefield. Area residents donated several cruisers full of non-perishable food items and more than \$700 for the local food pantry. The Police Department would like to thank all the Middlefield residents who helped make this Christmas wonderful for local families in need.

This event plus others raised more than 3,500 food items. This effort touched 160-170 people including families and singles in the immediate area.

THE BRISTOL CUB SCOUT TROOP #275 VISITED THE MIDDLEFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Bristol Cub Scout Troop #275, tigers, wolves and bears visited the Middlefield Police Department on Dec. 9. Officer Jessica Newsome and Officer Steven Fertig spoke about the importance of law enforcement, when you should call for help, and what to do when it comes to strangers. The scouts saw equipment the officers use, and inside a cell – noting the conditions those who are arrested face, such as no privacy. The officers fingerprinted the scouts and addressed the reasons and uses for this practice.



(back, l-r) Officer Jessica Newsome, Zane Hochstetler, Alex Brant, Officer Steven Fertig, Drake Goss and Quinn Hochstetler. (front, l-r) Presley Robinson, Carson Weston, Ethan Howser, Daniel Southall and Dustin Morris.

GEAUGA CREDIT UNION GIVES TO FOOD PANTRIES

The Geauga Credit Union raised money and donated to area food pantries this holiday season. Thanks to their efforts, toiletries and \$600 collected will be divided among the local food pantries in Burton, Newbury and Middlefield.

Middlefield Village Recognizes Outstanding Individuals

Congratulations to the following businesses, residents and business owners who were recently recognized at the December Middlefield Village Council meeting. Nominations were taken from residents and village officials. Recognition certificates were presented by Mayor Ben Garlich.



Greg McClain, manager, Nutrition Service, University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center



Terry Brown, senior pastor Middlefield First United Methodist Church



Louise Fenselon, Friends of Mike Foundation



Mark Merryfield, owner Merryfield Electric



Phil Smallwood, owner Grace Tree Service



Brian, assistant manager, Heather, store manager - Walmart



Tom Delong, owner Geauga Bow



Nick Frank, Frank Agency



Jeff Zeigler (l), Brian Zeigler, long-time wrestling coaches for the MV Rec Dept.



Tina Rasmussen, general manager, Mary Yoder's Amish Kitchen



Village of Middlefield

Where Families Grow Strong

THE EVENT:

Mini-Golf!



Fore! The Geauga County Library Foundation is hosting Golf at the Library, where an actual mini-golf course will be staged throughout the entire Geauga West Library for the day!

The community is invited to play mini-golf and purchase chances for Chinese auction items. The event is scheduled in conjunction with Geauga's best-attended pancake breakfast during maple syrup harvesting time.

When: Sunday, March 22 | 10 am to 3 pm

Where: Geauga West Library
13455 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland

Contact: Kristen Haskell, *Director, Geauga County Library Foundation:*
- geaugalibraryfoundation@gmail.com
- 440-286-6811 Ext. 131

The Geauga County Library Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. Offices 12701 Ravenwood Dr., Chardon OH 44024.

LIBRARY MINI-GOLF SPONSORSHIP PROMOTES YOU IN GEUGA COUNTY!

Your business has the opportunity to sponsor one of 18 holes of regular play or the special 19th hole just for children too young to play the regular course.

Prices:

Tee sponsorship - \$250

Green sponsorship - \$250

Entire hole sponsorship - \$450

Major Sponsorship - \$1,000

Event Sponsorship - \$5,000

Promotional greens with tees are displayed at all branches of the Geauga County Public Library, covering more than 400 square miles. Your business' name will be featured on a large sign at the tee, hole or both locations. If you would like to decorate your hole, feel free to dress it up to represent your business. Sponsors will be able to distribute literature and promotional items.

Please make checks payable to:

Gauga County Public Library Foundation
and mail to:

12701 Ravenwood Dr., Chardon OH 44024 

VILLAGE OF MIDDLEFIELD LOCAL REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM

The Village of Middlefield has a local revolving loan fund program. The Village of Middlefield Local Revolving Loan Fund is a program whereby local specified village funds are loaned for the purpose of economic development, including financial assistance for permanent public improvements, in compliance with applicable laws of the State of Ohio.

Anyone interested in coming to or expanding / renovating in the Village of Middlefield please access this link for more information. <http://middlefieldmeansbusiness.com/economic-incentives/middlefield-revolving-loan> 

middlefieldmeansbusiness.com/economic-incentives/middlefield-revolving-loan 

Middlefield Recreation Department

Sign Up Today!

Middlefield Recreation Department's Winter Activities

BASKETBALL - Middlefield Recreation Department runs a basketball league for grades Pre4 – sixth grade. Games are played on Saturdays at the Cardinal Middle School from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The league is eight weeks long. There are 11 teams playing for Middlefield Recreation in the league. Other teams consist of teams representing Burton, Newbury, St. Helen, Ledgemont, Grand Valley, Bristol, and Maplewood.

WRESTLING - Middlefield Recreation Department's wrestling team consists of 25 wrestlers ranging in age from 4-12 years old. The wrestling team travels to Madison, Ohio every Sunday to wrestle in the North Coast Youth Wrestling League. They wrestle for eight weeks, and the season concludes with a tournament where wrestlers can qualify to wrestle at a State Competition.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS OUTDOOR DECORATION CONTEST -

Middlefield Recreation once again held their home decoration contest. This year's winner for residential is Richard Geraci. Mr. Geraci also won the contest in 2013. The winner for businesses is Olde Towne Grill.



KITCHEN KIDS - Kitchen Kids was held on Monday's in November. The 12 aspiring chefs learned to make an array for dishes just in time for the holidays. They finished the program with making a delicious trail mix to give a gifts for the upcoming holiday season. "I asked a few children what was their favorite dish they learned to make was, and they said

mashed potatoes," laughs Billie Warren, Parks and Recreation Director. 

CONSIDER THE IMPACT YOU CAN MAKE

Ravenwood Mental Health Center Seeks Board Volunteer

One in four Geauga County residents will receive a mental health diagnosis in their life. These folks are your family members, friends, business associates, and neighbors – all who contribute abundantly to your life and the life of our local communities. Ravenwood Mental Health Center is currently seeking individuals who wish to leave a legacy of caring – perhaps by serving on Ravenwood Mental Health Center’s Board of Directors. Won’t you consider making a difference?

Vicki Clark, chief executive officer of Ravenwood, acknowledges, “Gauga County is teeming with individuals who are willing to share their talents and passions by serving on various non-profit boards in our communities. We welcome men and women in all walks of life who desire to make a difference by serving on the Ravenwood Mental Health Board. Today, more than ever, diverse mental health resources are needed to treat such problems as depression, addiction, post-traumatic stress and personality disorders, to name just a few. A strong, active board is vital to

maintaining excellent mental health services throughout northeast Ohio.”

The Ravenwood Mental Health Center Board meets at 5:30 p.m. the last Thursday of each month at Ravenwood Mental Health Center, located at 12557 Ravenwood Drive in Chardon. Ravenwood Board members serve a three-year term. Board members are also asked to serve on a committee which will meet several times each year and participate in the annual

fundraising event.

“At Ravenwood, we are supporting a quality of life that, with treatment, can be much better, productive and happy.”

- Vicki Clark,
CEO, Ravenwood

“Immediate access to care is a critical component for the treatment and recovery from mental illness, trauma and addiction-related issues,” Clark explains. “Ravenwood’s Board of Directors serve on the front line, helping staff

identify needs in the community and funding sources that will allow us to continue to provide excellent services and programs.”

“For most of us, our goal in life is to help people who are suffering. At Ravenwood, we are supporting a quality of life that, with treatment, can be much better, productive and happy. While sometimes there may be no cure, there is hope.”

Clark concludes, “In the past 15 years, Ravenwood’s caseload has tripled. Part of this growth is due to more sophisticated services being offered here. There is also a huge increase in demand for children and adolescent services and much more intensive services. The continued strength and success of our programs hinge on an active, involved board.”

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on Ravenwood Mental Health Center’s Board of Directors, please call Vicki Clark at 440.285. 2170, ext. 214 to request an application. 

For up to the minute news on school closings, local weather, community services and local stories, visit the Village of Middlefield website.

www.middlefieldohio.com

And for your one-stop resource for all the local business news, visit:

www.middlefieldmeansbusiness.com

