

### Message from Mayor Cyril Kleem



During this unprecedented national emergency, I want to assure you that the City is doing whatever it can to keep you safe while maintaining basic services.

The circumstances change daily and often hourly and we are following Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Ohio Department of

Health guidelines.

Measures we have taken include closing the Berea Recreation Center and the Active Senior Network indefinitely. City Hall is open and is cleaned daily. After the commercial cleaning crew leaves, the Berea Service Department sanitizes the building further. The Jitney is cleaned after rides. Smith School is cleaned daily and sanitizer is used on surfaces.

Additional safeguards and closings may happen as the situation develops.

We are our brother's and sister's keepers. Those of us who are least vulnerable to COVID-19 or better able to fight it and survive it have a duty to protect the most vulnerable among us. For example, if you go to work, work out, socialize with friends, you may have had contact with someone who is a carrier or someone who has just started to have symptoms. You use precautions, wash your hands, but some of the virus may have lingered on your clothing. Then you visit grandma and grandpa – the most vulnerable among us. You may be OK. They are not.

I have often said that Berea is a community and the most important part of that word community is unity. We are in this together. Residents are donating non-perishable food items for students who rely on the school breakfast and lunch programs. We are stocking the Little Food Pantries. We take care of our neighbors.

Government can only do so much. But the community – the churches, civic organizations and our friends and neighbors working together with the City – can do a lot to make this very trying time bearable.

As we enter this holy season of Easter and Passover, please know that my family and I are praying for all of us.



Our Facebook, Twitter & Instagram page name is:  
City of Berea, Ohio

[www.cityofberea.org](http://www.cityofberea.org)

### Dave Pusti named Grindstone Award recipient

Dave Pusti moved to Berea in 1978, following his new bride who got a job teaching art in the Strongsville Schools.

“We wanted a small town with a good school system,” he said. “I met a lot of people through the Jaycees,” he added, “and that drew me into volunteering.”

Four decades later, Pusti has accumulated a laundry list of volunteer stints from coaching youth soccer to serving on the Berea Board of Education.

Those accomplishments have garnered him the Berea Chamber of Commerce's Grindstone Award as an outstanding citizen.

Pusti grew up in the W. 123<sup>rd</sup> and Harvard Avenue neighborhood of Cleveland, graduating from Cleveland Central Catholic High School in 1970. He went on to graduate from Kent State University in 1975 with a degree in architecture. He now is president and managing partner of Makovich & Pusti Architects Inc., which was founded in 1986. The firm moved from Park Street to its current location at 111 Front St. in 2000. The firm bought the vintage 1897 building and extensively renovated it, keeping the historic feel as much as possible.

His work has been mainly local, designing renovations for Baldwin Wallace University's student union, working on Guidestone's Reinberger Chapel, for example, as well as projects for local hospitals, including the VA's Louis Stokes Medical Center, Marymount Hospital, South Pointe Hospital, UH St. John Medical Center, UH Cleveland Medical Center and St. Vincent Charity Hospital.

In between all this, Pusti coached soccer and Little League Baseball, supported Berea Arts Fest, served on Berea Planning Commission, served on the Little Red School House Foundation board, member of Kiwanis, President of the Berea Chamber of Commerce, active in PTA, treasurer for the Education Foundation for five years and member of the Board for 10, member of the Berea Board of Education for 13 years, member of the Polaris Career Center Board of Education and lector at St. Mary's Church for 25 years, just to name a few.

He and wife Joanna raised three children amid the busy schedule and now have six grandchildren. “I did my best to make the time” for all these activities, Pusti said. Joanna passed away in 2012. He has established an enrichment grant through the Education Foundation in her memory. Pusti remarried three years ago to wife Mary.

Pusti said he is very proud of all of his affiliations but counts his time on the Board of Education and the Education Foundation as especially meaningful to him. “The school board was a major commitment,” he said, “the time involved and the finances.”



Now it's time to step back a bit. He plans to retire from Makovich & Pusti in December and “continue part time for a while.”

“I've been doing this for 34 years. It's time for someone else to take over.”

His commitment to Berea remains strong. “I am a product of the community,” he said. “This has been a nice family place to be a member of.”

***The Berea Chamber of Commerce's Grindstone Award Dinner will be in late September at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Middleburg Heights. Details will be announced later.***

### Chamber announces Courtesy Awards

While architect Dave Pusti will receive the Grindstone Award at the Berea Chamber of Commerce's banquet, other outstanding residents will be recognized too.

Eight people will receive the 2020 Courtesy Awards, given to workers in the public and private sector who go above and beyond to make customers or students feel comfortable and who deliver on good service. Courtesy Award winners were nominated by customers and fellow workers.

#### Courtesy Award recipients are:

- Angela Brooks– Mootown Creamery
- Jim Bycznski– Berea-Midpark High School
- Nick Doehr– Brookview Elementary School
- Kristen Johnson– Grindstone Elementary School
- Cindy Millen– Grindstone Elementary School
- Everett Phillips– City of Berea Service Dept.
- Junior Rosado– Northwestern Healthcare Center
- Leah Segedi– US Bank

The Chamber also will present the Rising Star Award to an up and coming entrepreneur. The 2020 Rising Star Award will go to Roy Jenkins of the Berea Fine Arts Club.

New this year is the Legacy Award. It will go to Dr. Robert Helmer, president of Baldwin Wallace University.

## Bulk Trash Collection

### Friday, April 24

*Bulk trash includes large items such as furniture, appliances, carpeting & any large objects that will not fit into the regular blue trash container.*

Questions: Call Republic Services at (800) 433-1309

## Recycling Tip of the Month

### Arbor Day is April 24

Every year, 27 million acres of rain forest (an area the size of Ohio) are destroyed. Rainforests are home to more than half of the world’s wild plant, animal and insect species. They also are the source for teak and mahogany, harvested for furniture and household items. Alternative: Look for Forest Stewardship Council certified wood. Buy used furniture, flooring and other products made from used or salvaged wood.

## LEGAL LINES

*(Information in Legal Lines is supplied by the City of Berea Law Department)*


The Ohio Attorney General’s office has launched a new consumer protection campaign **#JUSTDONTANSWER** in response to the enormous volume of robocalls that Ohio citizens receive every day, month and year.

Robocalls are auto-dialed calls that deliver a prerecorded message. While some are legal, such as calls from your child’s school or your doctor’s office, others are illegal because you have not consented to them and they generally try to get you to pay for something or provide personal information.

The recommendation from the Attorney General’s office is to just not answer the call. Let the call go to voicemail and then either choose to listen to it or not and do research, if necessary, to determine if it is a legitimate call. Do not press any numbers if you do pick up.

You can report illegal robocalls by texting the work “ROBO” to 888111, or by visiting the Ohio Protects portion of the OAG’s web site at <https://www.ohioprotects.org/>. At this link, you also can watch videos about robocalls, read about robocall basics and review the robocall do’s and don’ts.

Educate yourself in order to protect yourself.



## Berean

Monthly Newsletter

The Monthly Berean is published monthly by the City of Berea and is distributed to residents, organizations and businesses in Berea.

Mayor Cyril Kleem  
Linda G. Kramer, editor  
Megan Pochatek, design editor

**To submit information, contact:**  
**[bereanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bereanewsletter@gmail.com) or (440) 274-5608**

*Please submit stories and information by the 10th of every month.*

## News Briefs

### Mailing address for water payments has changed

The mailing address to remit water/sewer bill payments has changed. The new address will be included in the next bill. If you mail your Berea water bill payments each quarter, please send the payments to:

City of Berea  
P.O. Box 933359  
Cleveland, OH 44193

Payments also can be made online at [cityof-berea.org](http://cityof-berea.org), placed in the locked payment box at the entrance to City Hall or paid in person at the Building Department in the basement of City Hall.

### Berea named one of Safest Cities

Berea has been named one of Ohio’s Top Ten safest cities by the National Council for Home Safety and Security. Berea ranked No. 9 out of more the 2,000 Ohio cities. No. 1 was Olmsted Township. The council reviewed the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics and data for 2,831 law enforcement agencies to determine the rankings. For more information, go to [www.alarms.org](http://www.alarms.org).

### City earns finance award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) award-

## Yard waste collection begins on April 17

Republic Services will pick up yard waste at curbside beginning on Friday, April 17.

Grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste should be placed in brown paper yard waste bags, which are available at discount, drug and hardware stores. Yard waste also can be placed in specially marked garbage cans. The bags and cans should not weigh more than 40 pounds when fully loaded.

Yard waste in plastic bags should be placed in the blue trash container.

Leaves should not be raked to the curb.

Cut small branches to no more than 4 feet in length and bundle them with string. Place them at curbside alongside the yard waste bags and cans. Do not place yard waste in the green recycling containers.

Questions, call Republic Services at (800) 433-1309.

## Historical Society to open new exhibit

“Berea’s Influential Women” will be the new exhibit featured at the Berea Historical Society this year. The display will formally open 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, May 17. The Historical Society is located in the Mahler Museum, 118 E. Bridge St.

ed a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the City of Berea, for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended Dec. 31, 2018. The Certificate of Achievement is a prestigious national award, recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government financial reports. The City has received the Certificate of Achievement for the last 15 consecutive years.

### Registration for Safety Town begins in April

Safety Town for children entering kindergarten in the fall will be June 16-26 at the Berea Recreation Center, 451 Front St. There will be two sessions – 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-2:30 p.m. Registration opens in April. Contact the Rec Center at (440) 826-5890.

### Sign up for plots at Community Garden

It’s time to sign up for plots at the Berea Community Learning Farm. Register at [www.bereacommunitylearningfarm.org](http://www.bereacommunitylearningfarm.org) and select a plot size. There will be several orientation meetings at the farm and growers are asked to be familiar with the plot rules. Call Farmer Joe at (440) 668-5947 with any questions. The farm is located at 224 Emerson Ave. on the site of the former Riveredge School.

## Telephone scams target seniors

The Ohio Department of Insurance is warning seniors about two new telephone scams. One scam seeks Social Security Number information and the other asks for personal information to set up a pre-paid funeral.

Medicare beneficiaries are receiving recorded calls that appear on Caller ID as coming from the Social Security Administration. The message says that the Social Security account has been suspended and to press 1 for more information. Pressing 1 gets you to a scammer who asks for personal information. The SSA will not call unless the beneficiary requests it.

In the second scam, Ohio Public Employee Retirement System members are receiving calls from a scammer claiming to be from VIA Benefits. The caller asks for personal information to set up a pre-paid funeral account. The real VIA is not making such calls.

Call the Ohio Department of Insurance fraud hotline at (800) 686-1527 to report suspicious calls. Seniors also can contact the non-profit Pro Seniors and its Ohio Senior Medicare Patrol at (800) 488-6070.

For concerns about possible Medicare scams, call Social Security at (800) 269-0271 or visit <https://faq.ssa.gov>.

OPERS members can call VIA Benefits at (844) 287-9945 or OPERS at (800) 222-7377.



# Stroke is preventable & beatable

(Information supplied by the Berea Fire Department)

A stroke is a sudden interruption in the blood supply of the brain. Most strokes are caused by an abrupt blockage of arteries leading to the brain (ischemic stroke). Other strokes are caused by bleeding into brain tissue when a blood vessel bursts (hemorrhagic stroke).

Stroke is preventable, treatable and beatable. Up to 80 percent of strokes can be prevented by not smoking, making healthy food choices, getting enough physical activity, maintaining a healthy weight and treating conditions such as high blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar.

To help spot stroke signs in someone, use the letters "F.A.S.T" and know when to call 9-1-1.

**F**=Face droop on one side or numb. Ask person to smile. Is the person's smile uneven?

**A**=Arm weakness or numbness. Ask person to hold both arms straight out (palms up) and close eyes. Does one arm drift?

**S**=Speech is slurred when talking. Is the person hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence.

**T**=Time to call 9-1-1. If person shows any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately!

For additional information, visit the American Stroke Association web site at [www.stroke.org](http://www.stroke.org).

# Optometrist opens new office

Caitlin Filips, O.D., dreamed of being an optometrist since the age of 4. Once she had her degree in hand, her goal was to operate her own free-standing business. Mission accomplished.

Filips opened her practice in her newly constructed building on Bagley Road last year. She and her staff have settled in and are looking forward to expanding the client list.

After eight years at the Helwig Whistlestop, Filips said it was time to branch out on her own. "I've always wanted to be my own landlord," she said. The late Ted Macosko, a local architect, designed her building at the corner of Bagley and Lindberg Boulevard. Filips said the 2,683-square-foot business is about the same size as her previous Whistlestop office but the new digs come with a storage shed and room to expand if that becomes necessary. The ½-acre lot was rezoned from residential single family to commercial center district in 2017.

The City worked with Filips to help the new building become a reality. Berea awarded Filips a Sign Rebate Grant and the Building Improvement Grant.

Filips, who graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 2008, said she wanted to follow in her uncle's footsteps. As a young girl, her parents took her to Columbus for Uncle Jim Tomko's graduation from OSU's optometry school. He's still in practice in Aurora. She was duly impressed. While other kids waffled between wanting to be teachers or astronauts, Filips set her sights early on to becoming an "eye doctor."

The journey began at Miami University (Ohio) where she earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry. Then on to OSU. In 2009, she purchased



Welcoming new as well as established clients to their new office are, from the left, optician Sue Church, Dr. Caitlin Filips and office manager Denise Guenther.

Procare Vision Center from optician Jim Rump, who was retiring, and Rump's daughter, Sue Church. Church is now the optician with Filips' office. In 2011, Filips moved the practice to Helwig Whistlestop.

Filips and husband, Randy Rees, live in Olmsted Falls with their tabby cat Iris, but they remain active in Berea. She is a long-time sponsor of the Berea Recreation Center and City events, such as the festivals and movie nights. She also is a Live at the Lake sponsor and a supporter of the Berea-Midpark Titans Boosters. Those Titans T-shirts that are tossed into the crowd at home football and basketball games come courtesy of Filips' office.

Office hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on alternate Saturdays. The office is closed on Wednesdays.

Call (440) 891-1940 or go to [drfilips.com](http://drfilips.com) for more information and to make an appointment.

# Safety News You Can Use

(Information provided by the Berea Police Department)

## April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Distracted driving is anything that diverts your attention from driving, including texting or talking on your phone, talking to people in your vehicle, changing the music on your radio, inputting addresses into your navigation system, or anything else that takes your attention away from the roadway.

According to the National Safety Council, using a cell phone while driving results in 1.6 million crashes per year. One out of every four car accidents in the U.S. is caused by texting while driving, an activity that is six times more likely to cause an accident than drunken driving.

Although teens are the focus in many distracted driving campaigns, just like so many other things, parents need to set the example and be responsible while driving with their children. Parents also need to have conversations with their teens about the dangers of distracted driv-

ing. That conversation and reinforcement at home can include, prior to your teen getting his or her license, having your teen sign a driving contract that prohibits distracted driving.

Distracted driving is not only dangerous, it is against the law. Currently, 48 states having texting while driving bans, and 38 states ban all cell phone use by teen drivers. Berea Codified Ordinance 731.44 prohibits the use of cell phones to text while driving in Berea. A conviction for texting while driving will cost you up to a \$150 fine for your first offense, up to a \$250 fine for your second offense, and up to a \$500 fine for each subsequent offense. If you are found to be distracted in other ways, you also run the risk of a citation for Full Time and Attention, Berea Codified Ordinance 731.34(c).

Distracted driving is preventable, and when people choose to make smart choices in their vehicles the roadway is a much safer place. Make today the first day you stop using your cell phone in your vehicle while driving!

# Be careful in school zones

Drivers are asked to observe the 20 mph speed limit in school zones. Flashing lights on Race Street indicate when students and buses are arriving and departing from Grindstone Elementary School. Crossing guards are stationed at the corner of Race and West streets and at the bus entrance to Grindstone. They often must stand in the street to allow children to use the pedestrian crosswalks and to allow buses to safely enter and exit the parking lot. Drivers should use caution when approaching crossing guards, who are members of Berea's Veterans Security Team, as they aid children on their way to and from school.

Also, remember that Race Street is one-way from 8:30-9:30 a.m. and from 3:30-4:30 p.m. while students are arriving and departing the school.



Baldwin Wallace University has canceled all campus activities through May 31. Students will be taking classes online and all non-athletic events have been canceled. Patrons who have purchased tickets to performances will be issued refunds. Sporting events will be for athletes and coaches only.



HEALTHY HOUSING TIPS

Spring is clean up time

You work hard to keep yourself and your family healthy. Spring is a good time to make sure your house is healthy too.

Berea’s Exterior Maintenance Office recommends homeowners walk the property and take a survey of what damage winter and cold temperatures might have done to the yard and the outside of the house. There are six areas homeowners can take a close look at as the weather starts to warm.

- **Yards:** Missing ground cover or bare spots; debris from stumps, trees or trash; animal waste.
- **Foundations:** shifted or cracked blocks or bricks; loose or missing mortar.
- **Porches, patios & decks:** broken or deteriorated floor boards, posts or railings; broken concrete or bricks; flaking paint.
- **Roofs:** broken or missing shingles; moss or mildew; damaged awnings or canopies.
- **Exterior walls:** broken or deteriorating siding or brick; fading or peeling paint; rusted metal.
- **Gutters & downspouts:** loose connections; rust; missing or broken sections.

A complete list of suggestions is available from the Exterior Maintenance Office at Smith School, 535 Wyleswood Drive.

Yard waste pickup by Republic Services begins on Friday, April 17. The City of Berea also offers free brush pickup. Call the Berea Service Department at (440) 826-5816 to arrange for pickup. You also can schedule pickup at the City’s web site, [www.cityofberea.org](http://www.cityofberea.org).

A crew of inspectors from the Code Enforcement Division makes regular rounds of residential neighborhoods. If they notice an issue or a violation of the Exterior Maintenance Code, they will leave an inspection report that explains the violations as well as the corrections to be made. Homeowners are urged to contact inspectors for further information and assistance. The goal of the Exterior Maintenance Office is not punitive but to help homeowners keep their properties healthy and their neighborhoods attractive.

Communication is the key so it is important to call us, said Jim Brown, administrator of operations and supervisor of the Exterior Maintenance program. Call (440) 826-5800 ext. 4402 or email [jbrown@cityofberea.org](mailto:jbrown@cityofberea.org). For more information, visit [www.cityofberea.org](http://www.cityofberea.org).

(This column will offer home maintenance tips during the repair and maintenance season through November.)



At the Library

(All branches of the Cuyahoga County Library System are closed through Sunday, April 5. Late fees and fines are waived during this period.)

Investment basics: annuities, stocks, bonds & more

The Foundation for Personal Financial Education is offering Investing 101 at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 13. The session will include annuities, mutual funds, stocks and bonds. Visit [www.cuyahogalibrary.org](http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org) or call (440) 234-5475 to register.

Reservations are requested for all programs except weekly children’s story times. Visit [cuyahogalibrary.org](http://cuyahogalibrary.org) or call (440) 234-5475. Other programs in April at the Berea Branch are:

FOR ALL AGES

**Family Maker Fest:** An afternoon of hands-on, creative fun! A variety of make-and-take and tinkering projects for people of all ages. **2 p.m., Saturday, April 18**

FOR ADULTS

**New Plants for 2020—Petitti Garden Centers:** Join Noelle Clark Akin from Petitti Garden Centers who will introduce you to some new and spectacular specimens. **7 p.m., Monday, April 27**

FOR TWEENS and TEENS

**Teen Innovation Challenge - Grades 6-12:** Put your creativity and skills to the test during innovation-themed activities and challenges. Compete for prizes! Registration includes all three sessions - Saturdays, April 11, 18, and 25. **10 a.m. - Noon**

**NASA Young Innovators: Mechatronics - Grades 6-12** - Join our NASA engineers on an adventure to ex-

plore the multidisciplinary world of mechatronics. **2 - 4:30 p.m., Saturday, April 11**

**Teen Space - Grades 6-12:** Quick and easy crafts, fun activities, and mini service projects. Share your ideas of how to make the library a better place. **4 - 4:45 p.m., Wednesday, April 15**

FOR CHILDREN

**Weekly Children’s Storytimes run throughout the month of April.** Call (440) 234-5475 or visit [cuyahogalibrary.org](http://cuyahogalibrary.org) for specific times and ages. Storytimes are available for children from birth through age five. Registration is not required for weekly storytimes.

**Music & Movement (Ages 19 months – 5 years with a caregiver)** Enjoy a high-energy session of music and movement using shakers, bean bags, scarves and more. Registration required. **3:30 p.m., Monday, April 13**

**Fabulous Fridays: Celebrate Earth Day (Ages 2 to 5 with a caregiver)** Join us to celebrate Earth Day with a special storytime and hands-on activities. **10:30 a.m., Friday, April 17**

**STEAM Team: Zany Zip Lines (Grades 4 to 8)** Learn about the science of zip lines and make your own zip line carrier. **7 p.m., Tuesday, April 21**

**People In Your Neighborhood: Firefighter Storytime (Ages 2 to 6 with a caregiver)** Join us for stories, songs and a craft with a Berea Firefighter. Learn how these local heroes help to keep us safe. **10:30 a.m., Friday, April 24**

SCHOOL NEWS

Titans wrestlers conference champs

Berea-Midpark High Schools’ Titans wrestling team won the Southwestern Conference title with 158.5 team points. The team was undefeated in conference regular season duals. The 14-man team won four individual titles, six finals appearances and eight top four places. Senior Pino DiPierro (120 pounds) won his fourth straight conference title as the top seed in his class. Winning their second individual conference crowns were Shane Heil (126 pounds), Caden Wendling (138 pounds) and Jimmy Paletta (182 pounds).

PTA president tapped for national fellowship

Heather Zirke, president of Berea-Midpark High School PTA, has been named an equity fellow with the Center for Family Engagement for the next year. The fellowship is part of National PTA’s efforts to improve diversity, equity and inclusion. Zirke was one of five PTA leaders selected from across the country.

Athletic Boosters sponsor mulch sale

The Berea-Midpark Athletic Boosters are conducting a spring mulch sale. Prices are \$26-37 per yard delivered or \$41-52 per yard delivered and spread by BMHS athletes, coaches and parents. Athletes will be available to spread mulch on these weekends: April 25-26, May 2-3, May 9-10 and May 16-17. Four types of mulch are available and will delivered through Three-Z Inc. of Valley View. Order by May 8 at

<https://bmhsathleticboosters.us19>.

Ohio Lottery raffle tickets benefit cross country team

The BMHS cross country team is selling Ohio Lottery raffle tickets as a fundraiser to cover the cost of attending camp this summer. Winning raffle tickets will have numbers corresponding with the Evening Ohio Lottery Pick 3 numbers throughout April. Tickets are \$10 and the payout is \$100. Purchase tickets by emailing [has-tings.sarah@gmail.com](mailto:has-tings.sarah@gmail.com).

Cheerleaders win conference honors

Seven Berea-Midpark High School cheerleaders from the competition team have won All-Southwestern Conference honors. Mackenzie Haney, Baylee Medvetz and Megan Robertson were named to the First Team. Lauren Carver and Kaleigh Ternovan won Second Team honors. Christina Bachie and Cheyenne Laney won Honorable Mention.

Polaris students place 4<sup>th</sup> at auto show

Two Polaris automotive technology students Alex Gee and Logan Jones of Berea-Midpark High School placed fourth in the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Greater Cleveland Automobile Dealers’ Association Automotive Technology Competition at the 2020 Cleveland Auto Show. The team had to trace, diagnose and fix problems placed in a vehicle by instructors from Cuyahoga County Community College. Gee and Jones will each receive a \$1,600 scholarship.



## Coronavirus Information

Southwest General Health Center has set up a 24-hour hotline to answer your questions and concerns about COVID-19 (coronavirus). That number connects directly to an emergency room nurse. The hospital also has established some restrictions on visitations. The flier is reprinted here.

Albert Matyas, vice president of ambulatory operations & business development at Southwest, issued this statement:

“At Southwest General, the health and well-being of our patients, visitors and staff are our first priority. With the recently diagnosed cases of COVID-19 (coronavirus) throughout the state of Ohio, please be assured that we are actively monitoring the situation and working closely, on a daily basis, with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Additionally, at this time, we have enacted a strict visitor restriction policy to limit the number of people entering our facility, and have canceled all on-site group events as well as any community health and wellness events.

We are prepared, and equipped, to handle any suspected cases of COVID-19. However, we urge the public to practice everyday preventive actions (see the CDC website for additional information – [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) to help prevent the spread of infection. For questions regarding COVID-19, contact Southwest General’s COVID 19 24-hour hotline at (440) 816-8962. We appreciate our community’s deep support of the hospital as we make our way through this challenging time.”

### HOTLINE NUMBERS

**Southwest General Health Center**  
(440) 816-8962

(Open 24 hours a day, every day)

**Ohio Department of Health**

(833) 427-5634

(Open 9 a.m.-8 p.m., every day)

## VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

*These restrictions are in place to protect our patients, our community and you.  
We appreciate your understanding and assistance.*



- **Visitors with flu-like symptoms are not permitted to visit.**
- Symptoms include cough, sore throat, aches and fever.



It's okay to visit if you are healthy, but please follow these guidelines:

- **Wash your hands** before and after you visit a patient, and after coughing or sneezing
- **Cover your cough** with a tissue or your sleeve.
- **Two visitors at a time** aged 18 or older.

#### Preferred visiting hours are as follows:

Medical/Surgical, Critical Care Unit and Maternity: 11a.m. - 8p.m.  
Geriatric Behavioral Health Unit: 11a.m. - noon and 6p.m. - 8p.m.  
Oakview Behavioral Health Center: 6p.m. - 8p.m.



## City honors Model UN students

Taking part in Model United Nations “really grew my public speaking skills,” said Berea-Midpark Middle School student Ellie Connor. “I had to think on my feet.”

Connor and 10 of her classmates were recognized by Berea City Council for winning top honors at the Junior Model UN conference at John Carroll University. The conference is sponsored by the Cleveland Council on World Affairs.

Faculty adviser Stacey Jennings, who began the program seven years ago, said students were assigned to represent various countries on committees. They debated real world issues such as human trafficking and the use of children as soldiers.

Connor and her partner Emma Escalier represented North Korea, a daunting challenge, Jennings said. Connor won the Gavel Award, the highest honor Model UN can present. It meant she had to “know the country’s policies, understand parliamentary procedures and exhibit confidence in public speaking,” Jennings said.

Connor said it was “a bit stressful representing a country that is not popular” but she was grateful for the experience. She credited Escalier “for the team effort.” The two said they had but one ally – Russia.



*Mayor Cyril Kleem presents a Resolution to team adviser Stacey Jennings and the Berea-Midpark Middle School students who won honors at the Model UN conference in January.*

Other winners were Elizabeth Chen and Sophia Savchenko (UNICEF – Japan), Best Position Paper.

Nate Barrett and Henry Maxwell (UNICEF – Sweden), Owen Dettmer and Quinn DiCillo (Security Council – Poland), Hannah Elsehaly and Aubrey Trzebuckowski (Environment – Haiti), Honorable Mention.

Christina Calvis and Alexa Daulton (Refugees – South Africa), Excellent Delegation. “It means a lot to have the community recognize our students,” said Jennings, who added that the program has returned to Berea-Midpark High School after an absence of several years.

## Berea Youth Works begins April 27

Berea Youth Works will begin its spring and summer program on April 27.

Sponsored by the North End Foundation, Berea Youth Works provides jobs for Berea-Midpark High School students. The Foundation is accepting student applications now. Call the office at (440) 243-2988 or email [bereanef@gmail.com](mailto:bereanef@gmail.com).

Students have the opportunity to work at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds with Berea’s National Rib Cookoff over the Memorial Day weekend and other such events. Students also are hired to do yard work, clean out garages, paint fences and decks, among other chores at local homes.

Customers can call (440) 243-2988 or email [bereanef@gmail.com](mailto:bereanef@gmail.com) to receive quotes on projects. The average cost of lawn mowing is \$35. This includes edging and bagging of grass clippings.

The Berea City Club funds the mowing program for seniors. The Club will pay a portion of the costs. Berea seniors approved for the program will pay \$10 for mowing. Seniors who would like to enroll, can call (440) 243-2998.



## Annual Golf Fundraiser, Brunch and Auction

**May 17, 2020**  
**TopGolf Cleveland**  
5820 Rockside Woods Blvd. N  
Independence

\$50 golf and brunch\*  
\$20 non-golfer brunch\*  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

\*payments due by May 1st  
(\$60 and \$25 day of event)

### TO REGISTER:

#### Electronic/Online registration:

1. Email golfer names, contact info, and golfers/ attendees name for whom payment is being made to [tbidirector@aol.com](mailto:tbidirector@aol.com)
2. Visit [www.HansonHouseBerea.com](http://www.HansonHouseBerea.com) and pay by clicking on donate button through Network for Good. Your full payment will go to HansonHouse

**Mail in** registration form with check to HansonHouse, 173 Front Street, Berea, OH 44017





### Events, programs canceled

Many events and meetings have been canceled or postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Contact organizations to check on the status of events. The following events have been canceled or postponed:

The City of Berea Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Shred Fest and Electronics Roundup scheduled for April 10-11 has been canceled.

The Grindstone Awards Banquet has been postponed until September.

Berea Kiwanis meetings suspended until further notice. Kiwanis Empty Bowl Supper canceled. In lieu of the dinner, Kiwanis is donating \$10,000 to be divided among four food pantries.

Berea Rotary meetings suspended until further notice.

Berea Elks Lodge is closed. Meetings and events are suspended.

American Legion Post 91 all events canceled. The canteen is closed.

Berea City School District Alumni Hall of Fame Induction and Dinner on April 30 has been canceled.

Berea Animal Rescue Friends rummage sale scheduled for May 2 is postponed until a later date.



**LICENSE  
TO FLY**

Get your federally compliant driver license or identification card for air travel within the U.S. by

**October 1, 2020**



### Trucks, kids & a good book: Service Department puts it all together

Paul Chontos, Rich Lasecki and Dave Ulman usually spend their work days at the Berea Service Garage, driving snow plows, fixing water main breaks and filling potholes.

But they took some time off on Feb. 28 to visit the Berea Branch Library and about 13 children plus parents and grandparents. First, the men read to the children. The books were related to their jobs.

Chontos, the supervisor at the Service Department garage, read “Super Truck,” being careful to show the boys and girls the pictures. Ulman followed up with “Ride the Big Machine.”

Then it was off to the parking lot where the children clambered over a real snow plow and a front-end loader. When asked which truck he liked the best. Ben, 4 ½, said “both.” “He enjoys anything with trucks,” explained grandmother Susan Madden.

The quarterly program “People in Your Neighbor-



Paul Chontos and Dave Ulman of the Berea Service Department read to children at the Berea Branch Library.

hood” is meant to introduce youngsters to a variety of workers in the community. The first program in the fall featured the Berea Police Department.

Janet Machovec of the library’s Children’s Department said the program is aimed at children from pre-school to age 5. She introduced the half-hour program with songs and a picture book. “City workers are busy all the time to make the city work for us,” she told the children.

The morning ended with crafts. The families made blizzard in a bag, colored drawings of trucks and played a game of find the hidden objects.

Erin Turner brought daughter Genesis, 1 ½. “It was fun and educational,” Turner said.

The next People in Your Neighborhood is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 24 with the Berea Fire Department. Contact the library at (440) 234-5475 or go to [www.cuyahogalibrary.org](http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org) to register and to confirm the schedule. Library programs are subject to change in light of the corona-



Zoevaeh Clark, 2, and Jayden Robertson, 5, explore the cab of a city snow plow. Zoevaeh brought along Minnie Mouse, lower right, who didn’t make it into the driver’s seat.

### Berea to hire new trash hauler

Kimble Recycling and Disposal Inc. is the City’s new trash hauler.

Kimble was the low bidder of three companies that submitted bids, which were opened on March 3. Service Department Director Paul Anzalone said the firms were given 16 options. Anzalone said he studied all of the bids on those options and said Kimble’s was the lowest, most responsible and most responsive.

Other bidders were Republic Services, the City’s current trash hauler, and Rumpke.

Kimble’s bid for the first year of the contract is \$1,275,300. It includes five-day automated trash and recycling collection with weekly bulk pickup. Yard waste will be picked up weekly all year long but will not be recycled. Anzalone said including yard waste in the recycling would have added another \$156,000 to the contract. Yard waste will be included in bulk pickup.

Kimble will receive a five-year contract with options for three additional years. The rate increases each year with the cost going to \$1,449,240 in Year 5.

The City will be divided into five zones with Kimble picking up trash in each zone once a week. Details will be announced later this year when Kimble takes over trash collection from Republic Services. The City’s current contract with Republic dates from 2012 and will expire on Aug. 31. Kimble will begin trash collection on Sept. 1. Republic will collect its trash and recycling bins, which will be replaced by Kimble’s.

Kimble is based in Dover, Ohio. Its fleet of vehicles has been converted to compressed natural gas, which the company says returns a cleaner discharge into the air.

Berea’s Board of Control voted to accept the bid on March 16. City Council must now approve the contract. Anzalone said he consulted members of the Ad Hoc Trash and Recycling Committee and all were in favor of the contract. Members of the committee are Mayor Cyril Kleem, City Council President Jeff Dettmer, and Council Representatives Chris McManis (Ward 2), Jim Maxwell (Ward 3) and Kim Smith (Ward 4).

The Berea Fine Arts Club Inc.

**Anniversary Fundraiser**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | FREE ADMISSION

*Donations Graciously Accepted*



**Taiko Drum  
Concert**

FEATURING

**Yume Daiko**

JAPANESE DRUM GROUP

50/50 Raffles, etc. | Snacks, Beverages & Fun!

SATURDAY

**APR 18**

6pm to 9:00pm

at the Historic  
**Little Red School House**  
323 E. Bagley Rd. • Berea OH 44017

FREE ADMISSION

All Proceeds Benefit The Berea Fine Arts Club Inc.

BFAC is a 503-C4 non-profit organization working to empower art awareness and appreciation in our community.

**BereaArts.org**

Follow Us on Facebook





Veterans' Corner is a monthly listing of activities and resources for military veterans. Submit items to [bereanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bereanewsletter@gmail.com).

Breakfast Chat canceled for April

The monthly Veterans Breakfast Club and Chat with Chaplain Willie Springer will not meet in April. The next Breakfast Club is set for Saturday, May 16.

Pet Valu offers discounts for vets

The Pet Valu store in West Valley Plaza sponsors a discount for veterans and seniors on the last Tuesday of every month. The discount day in April will be April 28 when seniors and vets will receive 10 percent off their purchases of pet supplies. Vets should enroll in the Pets Points Plus program to qualify for the discount.

VA launches television channel

While waiting for appointments at VA Medical Centers, vets can now tune into VNN – the Veteran News Network. The channel offers a mix of entertainment, news and educational programming 24 hours a day. There also are inspirational stories of veterans and their families overcoming hardships and disabilities. VNN is currently at 53 health centers around the country. Vets also can watch it on YouTube.

Lady vets can connect online

The Military Sisterhood Initiative (MSI) is a free social platform to connect women veterans to resources, peer-to-peer support, online courses and events throughout the country. MSI launched on Feb. 18. MSI is geared toward the unique challenges women face during their military service and the difficulties they experience when transitioning to civilian life. Many feel isolated and invisible even among the veteran community. Lady vets can join MSI by visiting [www.militarysisterhoodinitiative.org](http://www.militarysisterhoodinitiative.org).



In honor of:  
**Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day**  
March 29, 2020

In honor of:  
Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day,  
March 29, 2020

**The Office of Veterans Outreach  
Invites Vietnam Veterans & Families**  
*(this includes those who lost a loved one who served during Vietnam)*  
**To Join us for a FREE Memorial Breakfast**

**Saturday, May 2**  
**Berea Recreation Center**  
(451 Front St., Berea)  
**10 a.m. - Noon**

**Catered by: 4 Seasons Catering**  
To reserve a meal ticket,  
please RSVP by April 24 to:  
Chaplain Willie Springer  
Veterans Outreach Coordinator  
(440) 973-4567

 *No Veteran Walks Alone* 

Veteran Spotlight

William “Bill” Douglass graduated from Berea High School in 1959 and spent the next few years painting houses. He took out an ad in the Berea News where Berea Mayor Quackenbush spotted it. That was Douglass’ first painting job – Quackenbush’s house on South Rocky River Drive.

Then the Vietnam War heated up and Douglass joined the Navy. He served from 1962-1965. He was a personnelman with Fighter Squadron VF-24 that flew F-8 Crusaders off the USS Midway. His unit was transferred to the U.S. Hancock where he spent two tours in Vietnam. The Hancock was the most decorated carrier in the Vietnam War.

Bill used the GI Bill to graduate from Kent State University in 1969. He became a bank examiner for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and retired several years ago as a commercial lender for Middlefield Bank.

His wife Lynda passed away in 1994. He has a son, Rob, and daughter-in-law, April.



Bill Douglass

Bill is a member of the Board of the Berea High Alumni Association and volunteers with Berea’s Veterans Outreach Office where he visits nursing homes and assisted living facilities and takes part in flag programs at Grindstone Elementary School.

“I grew up in the military service,” Bill said “It made me what I am today.” He is committed to helping our community. “It’s time to give back,” he said.

RECRUITING VETERANS  
SECURITY TEAM  
MEMBERS



Veterans are trained by the Berea Police Department to supplement Police and Auxiliary officers at city events.

During the school year, they work as school Crossing Guards.

Requirements:

- Honorably Discharged Veteran.
- Finger prints/background check.
- Trained by the Police Department.

For more information or to apply contact:  
Veterans Outreach Office at (440) 973-4567 or [wspringer@cityofberea.org](mailto:wspringer@cityofberea.org)

Veterans do not need to be a resident of Berea to apply.

CRUISE-IN FOR VETERANS

**FATHER'S DAY** 3-8 PM

**CLASSIC**

**CAR SHOW**



**HOSTED BY: CITY OF BEREA VETERANS OUTREACH**  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020 • DOWNTOWN BEREA**

\$5 entry fee for classic cars. Car arrival time is 3 p.m. Pay as you enter: Front St. or East Bridge St.  
Awards for: Mayors choice, Peoples choice, Veterans Outreach choice  
All proceeds benefit the Office of Veterans Outreach

MUSIC • FOOD • RAFFLES

FOR MORE INFO: (440) 973-4567 | [WWW.CITYOFBEREA.ORG](http://WWW.CITYOFBEREA.ORG)  
*No Veteran Walks Alone*

Free tax preparation

The AARP Tax-Aide site in Brook Park is offering free tax preparation services.

The Tax-Aide site is located at Brook Park United Methodist Church, 6220 Smith Road, Brook Park. The site is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays through April 9.

Appointments are required. Call (216) 6776-4738 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Taxpayers should bring with them last year’s federal and state returns, Social Security cards or other official ID for themselves and all members of the household and all W-2 and 1099 forms.

The tax returns are prepared by AARP volunteers and e-filed with the IRS.

Veterans Breakfast Club  
with Chaplain Willie  
City of Berea, Veterans Coordinator  
Meets Once a Month  
Next Meeting: May 16  
10-Noon

Berea Rec Center: Senior Room.  
451 Front Street  
Egg Wraps/Hash Browns/  
Muffins/Coffee/ Donuts  
(Donated by Café Ah Roma)

A place for Veterans to connect.  
*No Veteran Walks Alone*



# Thank you to our Berea Community Outreach Donors, Sponsors & Volunteers

AFR Properties  
American Legion Post 91  
Ann Cate  
Antoinette Leirer  
Barbarino's Restaurant  
Bardwell and Jeanne Wiggins  
Berea City Club  
Berea Fire Department  
Berea Kiwanis  
Berea-Midpark High School Staff  
Bill and Penny Spanfellner  
Bill Tentler  
Bob Dutton  
Carol Wilson  
Cary and Donna Keegan  
Christy & Kevin Davenport  
Colleen Hill  
Credit First, Bridgestone/Firestone Division  
CVS  
Dave Smith  
Debbie Hudson  
Debbie Malloy  
Debra Scott  
Denny and Nancy Peltola  
Destination Override  
Diana Emrich  
Diane and Bruce McLaughlin  
Diane Dalton  
Dick and Jane Judson  
Dick and Pat Koharik  
Estabrook  
Expeditors - Cleveland  
Fraternal Order of Eagles  
Fraternal Order of the Eagles  
Gail Hansen  
George Malar  
Giant Eagle  
Gwen Presley  
Heather and Mark Walker  
Heinen's  
Helwig Whistle Stop  
Helwig's Whistlestop  
Heritage Congregational Church  
Jackie and Larry Kelly  
Jane E. Palmer  
Janet Lehman  
Jeff and Kim Dettmer  
Jennifer Hernandez  
Jessica Grigsby  
Jim and Carol Templeton  
JoAnn Airghai  
Joseph Hooley  
Kruger Consulting  
Larry and Elaine Myers  
Leanna Eulinberg

Leonard and Phoebe Skowron  
Linda Kerekes  
Linda Kinsey  
Mangat Rai  
Marcy Gasler  
Margie and Al O'Keson  
Mary Myers  
Mary Ward  
MaryBeth Sarko  
MetroPet Veterinary Clinic  
Midwest Transatlantic Lines  
Mike and Rosann Sopko  
Mike's Bar and Grill  
Mr. and Mrs Dean Van Dress  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
MTA Lines  
My Personal Trainer  
Nancy Tibbits  
New Hope Charter #590  
Paul Cutlip and Clara Aguilar  
Paulette Flandera  
QuadStar Digital Guidance  
Ralph & Georgie Rohde  
Redding Painting  
Renee Nieman  
Richard and Marlea Fulchiron  
Richard and Patricia Koharik  
Rotary Club of Berea  
Rubye Neely  
Sadi Morgan  
Sandra Baggaely  
Sandy & Terry Coreno  
Shannon McGrath  
Southwest General Health Center  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Sue Manner  
Synergy Physical Therapy  
Telecom Pioneers  
The Throne of David  
Tom Fishburn  
United Methodist Church  
Valerie Iassacs  
Westpoint Wealth Management  
WOW  
Wright's Catering



## Time for the US Census

Residents should have received in the mail a notice from the U.S. Census 2020 asking them to fill out the official Census form.

The notice includes a Census ID number, which people can use to fill out the questionnaire online at my2020census.gov. by April 1. For those who may prefer a paper version, the Census Bureau will send a paper questionnaire in a few weeks when residents do not complete the online form. It is possible that door-to-door interviewers will also canvass neighborhoods.

If you need help filling out the form, you can call toll free, (844) 330-2020.

The Census is conducted by the U.S. Department of Commerce every 10 years. It is used to count every person living in your household. The results are used to allocate federal funds to states and communities

and to determine the number of representatives state voters may elect to Congress. When populations decline, states lose representatives. When populations increase, the states gain representatives.

The questionnaire takes on average about 10 minutes to complete. It is available in 13 different languages. The information you provide is protected by law. The Census Bureau is not permitted to release your responses or identify you. The data collected determines population in your location, income levels and other statistics.

You are required by law to complete the Census form. The Census is conducted every 10 years as required by the U.S. Constitution.

For more information, call (844) 330-2020. For the hearing impaired, call (844) 467-2020 for Telephone Display Service (TDD).

City of Berea  
11 Berea Commons  
Berea, Ohio 44017

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. PAID  
BEREA, OH  
PERMIT #333  
ECRWSS

### POSTAL PATRON

(440) 826-5800

www.cityofberea.org

## Community Events

**April 1: Berea Cares.** 6 p.m., Smith School, 535 Wyleswood Drive.

**April 5: Palm Sunday.**

**April 8: Passover Begins at Sundown.**

**April 10: Good Friday.**

**April 12: Easter.**

**April 15: Tax Day.**

**April 15: Berea Millstream Quilters.** 1 p.m., Berea Branch Library.

**April 15: Berea Historical Society.** 7 p.m. “When Strongsville was a Frontier Town” with Valerie Mattingly. Free.

**April 16: Sweet 16 Celebration.** Noon to 4 p.m., Mootown Creamery. Cake & ice cream specials to celebrate Mootown’s 16 years in business, 437 W. Bagley Road.

**April 17: Yard Waste Collection Begins.**

**April 18: Berea Fine Arts Club.** Anniversary Fundraiser. 6-9 p.m., Little Red School House, 323 E. Bagley Road. Taiko Drum Concert. 50/50 raffles, snacks. Free.

**April 19: Orthodox Easter.**

**April 21: Holocaust Remembrance Day.**

**April 21: Grindstone Knitters’ Guild.** 7 p.m., Mahler Museum, 118 E. Bridge St.

**April 22: Earth Day.**

**April 24: Arbor Day.**

**April 24: Bulk Trash Day.**

**April 25: Berea Historical Society Spring Sale.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mahler Museum, 118 E. Bridge St.

**April 25: Academy for Dramatic Arts.** Spaghetti Dinner, 6-8 p.m., Christ United Church, 23114 West Road. Adults, \$12; children 5-12, \$6. Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, beverage. Vegetarian option & carry out available. Tickets at academyfordramaticarts.net.

**April 28: Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus – Berea Group.** 7 p.m., Berea Branch Library.