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A Good Look at the Community
A FREE Publication

Spring 2026

A Quarterly Publication

Volume 27 Issue 2



**FOREVER A
CARDINAL!**

**This issue contains
coupons for:**

My Touch
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Rita's Italian Ice
Page 4

Regina's Pizza
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**Schlup-Pucak & Wilson
Funeral Home**
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**One Love
Karibbean Kitchen**
Page 26

CUT & SAVE!

Announcing Kenmore BLVD Block Party & First Fridays Music Lineup

by Eleni Manousogiannakis, Better Kenmore Executive Director

The sounds of summer are set to return as The BLVD Summer Music Series rolls out an exciting 2026 lineup packed with live performances, local flavor, and community spirit. Hosted by Better Kenmore CDC, this free, family-friendly event transforms Akron's "Music Row" into a lively gathering place where neighbors and visitors alike can enjoy outdoor concerts, food trucks, and local vendors throughout the season.



This year brings an added highlight with the debut of the "Battle of the Bands" during The BLVD Block Party kickoff on Saturday, June 6th. The opening day promises a full slate of activities, beginning with the Kenmore Cowbell 7K Race at 8:00 am, followed by the Kenmore Parade at 11:00 am, and culminating in live music and festivities lasting until 5:00 pm. Performances that day will feature **Back 2 Eden** and the **Gray Beard Band Akron**.

The summer series continues with "First Fridays" concerts from 6:00 to 9:00 pm in July, August, and September. Music lovers can look forward to **Bob Frank & His Delta Blues Cats** alongside the **Apostle Jones Band** on July 3rd; **Ben Gage Music Trio** with **Hunter Skeens & The Forerunners** on August 7th; and the **Buffalo Ryders** paired with **Massive Hotdog Recall** on September 4th.

Better Kenmore CDC invites everyone to celebrate the season together. Follow us on social media or check our website at www.betterkenmore.org/events for more details as they become available, but one thing is certain—The BLVD will be alive with music all summer long!



Kenmore Lawyer Retires After 60 Years of Practice

David E. Culbertson originally started his career as a mechanical engineer. But after a while working as an engineer, he decided to change careers. So David started working in his father's (Robert Culbertson's) law office as a clerk during the day, and at night went to law school. On October 28th, 1965, David was sworn in before the bar, and has been practicing law ever since. He started at the First National Tower, but in January 1992 he opened his law office in Kenmore at 2447 Manchester Road, where he has celebrated over 60 years of practicing law.

But now David has retired, as of April 30th, 2026. "I am doing this with sadness on one hand" says David, "leaving something I have done and enjoyed for so long, but with excitement on the other hand, to see what this new chapter may bring".

David lives in Kenmore, and also practices another passion of his - bicycle riding. With the help of the Towpath Trail along the Eastern boundary of the Kenmore/Ward 9 area, David has traveled more than 2000 miles by bike in past riding seasons. Another interest in Kenmore is working with the Kenmore Chamber of Commerce, where for the past twenty years David has been on their Board of Directors, including as President from 2011 to 2015. "I'm pleased to have completed the Kenmore Clock Tower Project while President" says David, "after three years of work with the help of many people."

David would like to give his sincere appreciation to all of you who have made all of this possible. "All those years of practicing law has been very fulfilling" says David, "and I am pleased to have been able to help many people with their legal and other issues".



David Culbertson Ready to Bicycle on the Tow-Path Trail

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Kenmore Boulevard Business News

Kenmore Boulevard has welcomed quite a few new businesses so far this year. **Rita's Italian Ice** has opened in the former FirstMerit Bank building at 1060 Kenmore Boulevard. Specializing in Italian Ice and Frozen Custard, they also offer a wide variety of drinks blending ice, creamy custard, and/or tasty toppings. Most days they are open 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm. They can be contacted at 234-678-0800 for more information.

Two new businesses located next to each other on Kenmore Boulevard are **One Love Karibbean Kitchen**, at 992 Kenmore Boulevard, and **My Touch**, next store at 988 Kenmore Boulevard. **One Love Karibbean Kitchen** is a great place for lunch or dinner meals with that real island flavor. You can dine-in, use curbside pickup, or have DoorDash delivery. They are open Monday thru Saturday 11:00 am to 9:00 pm. Please call 234-334-0220 to place an order.

My Touch, open 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm Monday thru Sunday, has all types of clothing, including custom t-shirts, purses, phone cases, smell goods, and more. They can be reached at 330-607-6750.



The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Rita's Italian Ice



Kenmore Boulevard Welcomes My Touch and One Love Karibbean Kitchen

And celebrating their 5 year anniversary on May 29th is **Ethicrace Clothing Company**, currently located at 971 Kenmore Boulevard. But sometime soon they will be relocating across the street to 980 Kenmore Boulevard. Please watch for details on both FaceBook & Instagram. **Ethicrace** is currently open Tuesday thru Friday 11:30 am to 6:00 pm, and Saturday 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. Their phone number is 216-924-9185.



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**Submissions Deadline for Articles
and Advertisements in the next
Kenmore Connection is July 31st, 2026
Delivery will be the week of August 22nd, 2026**

Delivery date is subject to change without notice

Problems with Delivery? Please call 330-304-9598

**We Need Your Help! Help us tell about the good things happening in Kenmore!
Please send us your articles and news about your Kenmore neighborhood,
organization, or business. See below for submission guidelines. Deadlines listed above.**

General Submission Guidelines and Disclaimer

ADVERTISEMENTS: All ads are subject to approval by the board, which reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to refuse to print any advertising for any reason whatsoever. Any information provided in any advertisements represents the opinion of the advertiser and does not necessarily represents the position or opinion of this organization or any of its members. None of the officers, board members, or newspaper writers provide endorsement for any products advertised herein. Although previous advertisers may be contacted for repeat or new ads, it is the ultimate responsibility of any previous or new advertiser to contact the Kenmore Connection Advertising Coordinator to submit advertisements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: All free announcements are subject to space availability and acceptance by the Kenmore Connection Committee. All artwork must be submitted in .TIF format and must not exceed one quarter page. Copy format announcements must be in Word document or .RTF (rich text format).

ARTICLES: The Kenmore Connection will only accept what the editorial board considers to be "good news" about the Kenmore Community. The editorial board, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to refuse submission of any article, advertisement, or announcement for any reason whatsoever. Any information provided in any article, press release, or announcement represents the opinion of the submitter, and does not necessarily represent the position or opinion of this organization or any of its members.

ARTWORK & PHOTOS: All artwork must be submitted in .TIF format and all copy in Word or .RTF (rich text format), we cannot accept articles that are in all CAPS. Photos may be sent via disk or e-mail and in .TIF format. If photos are mailed or dropped off they will not be returned without a self addressed and stamped envelope.

All submissions should be accompanied by full contact information including organization, contact person, e-mail address, and phone number.

Submit information to: John Buntin Jr
Telephone: 330-304-9598
e-mail: john@kenmore-komics.com

Mail to: Kenmore Connection
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2200 14th Street SW

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One Love Karibbean Kitchen
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Showcase Meats
2355 Manchester Road

Srina Tea House and Café
975 Kenmore Boulevard

Subway - Kenmore
1033 Kenmore Boulevard

Councilperson's Corner

It has been a busy start to spring at City Hall. I was elected as council's new President Pro-Tem, on April 27th, and we appointed Mark Greer to the council at-large seat vacated by Jeff Fusco on March 31st. For Boulevard business owners, this name likely sounds familiar since Mark led the Great Streets grant programs that helped them to install beautiful new storefront facades, and projecting (and sometimes artistic) signage while maintaining operations during the COVID-19 pandemic, an investment that benefited everyone in the neighborhood. I enjoyed working with Mark then and look forward to leading together in this new capacity.

Thank you to everyone who showed up on April 25th for my Ward 9 Cleanup, which touched all areas of Ward 9 from Summit and Nesmith Lakes to Rolling Acres and Castle Homes. While litter is a problem everywhere, I was pleased to learn from Keep Akron Beautiful staff that Ward 9 was the cleanest of all their Clean Up Akron Month locations. Let's keep the momentum going by following a few easy steps:

- 1) **Bag your trash.** When items are placed in cans unbagged, litter can fall out onto the street when sanitation trucks dump them.
- 2) **Follow the 4:30 pm & 7:00 pm rule.** To avoid fines, place cans on curbs after 4:30 pm the night before, and remove cans by 7:00 pm on the day of pickup. Leaving them can cause blowing litter and damage to cans.
- 3) **Make sure cans fully close.** When ajar, wind can cause items to blow out onto streets, into storm sewers into neighbors' yards.
- 4) **Request special pickups.** Bags, boxes and loose items that are small enough to fit in a can will not be picked up if left on the curb. Call 330-375-2311 24 hours before your trash day to request a special pickup.
- 5) **Request an extra can.** If you find yourself overstuffing your can, request an additional one by calling 330-375-2311.
- 6) **Do your own cleanup!** Contact me or Keep Akron Beautiful and we'll provide free supplies for you and your crew.

Tina Boyes, Ward 9 Councilperson, City of Akron, 330-283-7582



**Akron City Ward 9
Councilperson
Tina Boyes**

Mark Your Calendars - Summit Lake North Shore Park Ribbon Cutting

May 16th at 1:00 pm

Please join me and other local leaders and Akron Civic Commons partners as we cut the ribbon on this new \$7.5 million Ward 9 park along the north shore of Summit Lake.

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Off to the Races - The Kenmore Cowbell Rings Again!

by Nick Korora, Race Director, Kenmore Cowbell and Daralee "Dee" Ghinder, Co-Founder, Akron Promise

The third annual Kenmore Cowbell will be ringing in again on Saturday, June 6th. This is a truly unique event - a 7k (4.35 miles) race that runs on the historic Kenmore BLVD and around beautiful Summit Lake. A new feature along this year's route will be the Summit Lake Northside Park, slated to open in May. This park is a natural and recreational destination for community members and visitors, with accessible amenities like a canoe and kayak share, new boat ramp, lakeside seating and firepits, covered pavilions, floating boardwalk, and more.

The Kenmore Cowbell 7k is named after Kenmore spectator, supporter, and legend, Grandma Benn. Grandma loved anyone and everything involved with Kenmore. She always had her cowbell with her and she rang it for support at Kenmore activities. Grandma's actual cowbell is a big part of the race. It rings to start the race and each newly elected member of the Cowbell Ring of Honor gets to ring it.



The Cowbell offers many awards - first, second and third place for age groups, top three military finishers, and top three Kenmore graduates. Seven new Ring of Honor members will also be honored after the race by last year's winners: Tommy Jones, Kirk Lambert, Rob Catalano, John Oslin, Jim Ballard, Elisha West and Jim Benn. Proceeds from this race benefit the Akron Promise Scholarship fund. All students at Garfield Community Learning Center qualify for this scholarship, if they attend Stark State College, Kent State University, or the University of Akron.

The Cowbell will start off a huge day in Kenmore, followed by a parade and Better Kenmore events on Kenmore Boulevard, with food, music and vendors, concluding with Reunion Night at the Old 97 Cafe. To sign up for the Kenmore Cowbell Race, there are links on the Kenmore Cowbell Facebook page, the Akron Promise City Series Neighborhood Races Facebook page, and at akronpromise.org.



The Kenmore Cowbell is part of the Akron Promise City Series, which consists of sixteen 5k races. Last year's Cowbell tied for the 3rd highest number of racers in the 2025 series. You'll find series 5ks in neighborhoods all over the city, from April through November. Each race helps raise funds for a local community organization. For example, the April 21st Race Judicata gives financial assistance to students at the University of Akron Law School. The Donut Dash, on May 2nd, helps Summit County Children Services. The entire list of races can be found at akronpromise.org. Questions can be directed to tom@akronpromise.org.

So why does a scholarship and support organization like Akron Promise host a race series? The Race Series is the public relations arm of Akron Promise - a good way to let the community know what Akron Promise is all about. In addition, race participants get to know the city, running through neighborhoods they might not otherwise visit. Most of the races benefit youth in some way, and Akron Promise supports any organization that provides opportunities to Akron's future citizens. Of course, the obvious reason for a 5k series is to promote good health. Getting moving and getting outside have been proven to benefit physical and mental well-being.

Not everyone is a runner or a walker, but there are other ways to support the Akron Promise Race Series, and/or the Kenmore Cowbell 7k. Non-racers can volunteer or sponsor a racer at any series race. Participating in any seven of the sixteen races, in any way, earns the participant a special medal. All Akron Public Schools students can sign up for free. All of the races need spirited participants, including the Kenmore Cowbell 7k. The Kenmore community has always been ready for a challenge, ready to support and ready to go off to the races!





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Let's Move Summit County Bike & Hike

by Bethany McKenney, Summit County Council District 7

Summit County Council will host the 6th Annual Let's Move Summit County Bike & Hike at Summit Lake Community Center on the Ohio & Erie Canalway Towpath Trail on Saturday, May 16th, 2026, from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm. This free event is open to all ages (children under 14 must have a parent or guardian with them to participate).

"This is a great way to help us all to get out and enjoy the outdoors with friends and family. As a nurse, I always encourage people to remain active. Regular walking and biking have profound long term health benefits and can lower the risk of developing heart disease, stroke, obesity, type 2 diabetes and some cancers. And besides, it's fun!" said Summit County Councilwoman Bethany McKenney.

"This is the 6th straight year we have hosted this event amidst the stunning beauty of nature and wildlife at Summit Lake and I'm excited that we are back again this year" On the hike route this year, walkers will be able to check out the brand new Summit Lake North Shore Park and its new boathouse and pavilions as well as the Let's Grow Akron Community Gardens and the Metro Parks Summit Lake Nature Center before returning to the Summit Lake Community Center. Metro Parks will have its own station on the route at the Nature Center, offering walkers refreshment samples, information and other interactive activities.

Walkers will begin their 2.75 hike on the Towpath at 11:00 am in groups of 60 every 15 minutes led by event volunteers.

Bikers will follow the route between Summit Lake and the Nesmith Lake trailhead at Manchester Road on the Towpath Trail, where there will be a water/refreshment station stop before returning to the Community Center (the traditional 6-mile loop route). This year, there will also be an expanded route option to the Fairview Trailhead in Barberton, an additional 2.5 miles south on the towpath for riders who want more of a challenge. Bikers will leave in groups of 40 every 15 minutes beginning at 8:00 am led by event volunteers. For those without bikes, a limited number of bikes and helmets will be available to rent for the course with an ID security deposit. All cyclists participating in this event are advised to wear a helmet.

A free T-shirt, sport "swag bag", and a light lunch upon completion of the route will be provided while supplies last. For more information, please call 330-643-2074 for assistance.



Summit County Councilwoman Bethany McKenney



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Do you have a reunion, fundraiser, or event to promote in Kenmore? Please contact John at 330-304-9598 or via e-mail at john@kenmore-komics.com for information on how to get your event in the next issue!

Keep Akron Beautiful Ward 9 Clean Up

by Keep Akron Beautiful

Akron always shows up... rain or shine (and let's be honest, usually rain)! What an incredible day at our Ward 9 Cleanup in partnership with Councilwoman Tina Boyes. A huge thank you to the amazing volunteers who came out, from corporate teams and community members to sororities and an outstanding group of students. Your energy and dedication made all the difference in helping us pick up 1.85 tons of trash and 27 tires!



We also appreciate the generous support from Crimson Cup Coffee Houses for the coffee, Acme Fresh Market for the delicious donuts, Main Street Gourmet for the mini muffins, the Akron Zoo for providing zoo passes, and 7th Floor Clothing for the awesome volunteer t-shirts. And thank you to Leah Heiser from the City of Akron for closing out our cleanup by planting a beautiful buckeye tree at Prentiss Park, a perfect way to keep the celebration going into Arbor Weekend!

We're especially grateful to Akron City Councilwoman Tina Boyes for kicking things off and spending the entire morning alongside us. Thank you as well to the City of Akron, Ohio - Mayor's Office sanitation team for their continued hard work and for supporting us today by following our routes and collecting litter. Special thanks to Deputy Chief Laughlin, Officer Aaron Brown, and the Akron Police Department Community Engagement Team for helping keep our volunteers safe and jumping in to lend a hand throughout the cleanup.



This event wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our volunteers and a community that takes pride in where they live. What a powerful way to kick off Clean Up Akron Month, celebrate our 45th anniversary, and take part in Keep America Beautiful's Greatest American Cleanup as we honor America's 250th birthday. Keep America Beautiful!



Class of '96 Kicks in Their 30th Reunion

by Nick Korora

It's still hard to believe that it's been 30 years since we were driving Geo trackers looking for payphones to answer a page from a beeper on our way to Rolling Acres, but it's really been 30 years for the Kenmore High School Class of 1996. Because of COVID, we were unable to have a 25 year reunion.

Old 97, located at 1503 Kenmore Boulevard, is excited to be hosting the first annual Kenmore Reunion Night. All Kenmore graduates are welcome to attend, but the class of '96 will have its own section. This is a private party event. You will need a ticket to get in. The ticket is \$20, which includes Showcase Meats chicken & jojo's and Regina's Pizza, a ticket for one free drink, or if you don't want the free drink we will give you a ticket for half off appetizers at Old 97 for another day.

You can buy tickets on Eventbrite or go to Old '97 Cafe and buy your ticket. On Facebook, the Kenmore Class of '96 Group, Old 97, and the Kenmore Cowbell will all be providing information as well. Hope to see you there on what we think will be a new tradition in Kenmore for so many of us who enjoyed our high school years as a fighting Cardinal.



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Material World Art Camp

June 8-11

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

An art camp for curious creators.

\$50 | Ages 11-15

Fairway Finders Golf Camp

June 15-18

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Learn & improve your golf skills.

\$50 | Ages 9-15

Game Changers Camp

June 22-25

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Interactive games & non-stop fun!

\$50 | Ages 6-12

Whisk Takers Cooking Camp

June 29 - July 2

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sharpen your culinary skills.

\$60 | Ages 11-15

Flutterby Fun Fairy Camp

July 6-9

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Magical fun for young dreamers.

\$50 | Ages 5-9

Adventure Camp

July 13-16

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Explore, create, cook, & discover.

\$50 | Ages 6-12

Pursue Your Passion Camp

July 27-30

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Hands-on career exploration.

\$50 | Ages 8-12

Water Warriors Camp

August 3-6

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Make waves with water adventures!

\$50 | Ages 6-12

Visit Akron.RecDesk.com for more info & to register



YES Youth Empowerment Scholarship

The YES Fund is available to financially assist families with children 18 years and younger who meet eligibility requirements with any fee-based Akron Recreation & Parks programming. Contact **Robert Dowdell**: RDowdell@akronohio.gov for complete details.



2026 Kenmore Easter Event...A Huge Success!

by Alice Incorvia, Kenmore Community Center Supervisor

The 2026 Kenmore Easter Event saw over 300 participants to the Kenmore Community Center on Saturday, March 28th. Both young and the young at heart enjoyed doughnuts & juice, crafts & coloring, balloon headpieces, coloring books & crayons, pictures with the Easter Bunny & Easter Duck, and socializing with so many in our neighborhood. Four lucky winners walked away with beautiful Easter baskets stuffed with toys, prizes and a gift card donated by Prentice Funeral Home. Children were also given toy-stuffed eggs sponsored by the City of Akron before bunny hopping to Schlup-Pucak & Wilson Funeral Home for an eggciting Trunk or Treat!

Along with the many volunteers that made this event possible, we would like to thank the following sponsors: Kenmore Chamber of Commerce, the City of Akron, Kenmore Community Center, Just A Dad From Akron, Prentice Funeral Home, and Schlup-Pucak & Wilson Funeral Home, who all organized & sponsored this hoppy day!



Reeves Cake Shop & the Amazing Dolores Reeves

After 50 years in business here in Kenmore, Reeves Cake Shop will be closing at the end of the year for a well earned retirement (please see the announcement below). The Kenmore Connection would like to thank Dolores Reeves for the many decades she has been on the Board of Directors of the Kenmore Chamber of Commerce (publishers of the Kenmore Connection), and hopes she will still bring a delicious desert to our monthly Board meetings. Thanks Dolores!



Kenmore Alumni, including Dolores Reeves (third from left) at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for Miller South/Pfeiffer School



Dolores Reeves Making Sugar Flowers

Reeves Cake Shop Announcement:

We're thrilled to be celebrating 50 memorable years in business. As we mark this golden anniversary, we're also sharing news of our upcoming retirement at the close of 2026.

Through the years, we have had the honor of baking for more than 10,000 weddings, countless birthdays, holidays, and special occasions. Our custom-designed cakes, cookies, and pastries are made from scratch using family recipes passed down through four generations and over 100 years of baking tradition. Over the decades, our customers have become friends, sharing milestones, traditions, and festive moments with us.

You can still count on us for the same quality and delicious creations you've always enjoyed, as we will be baking with you all the way thru December 24th.

If you are interested in the opportunity to own a bakery, please contact us – we would love to discuss this potential with you.

Thank you for being such an important part of our story. We are forever grateful for your loyalty, friendship, and support.

With heartfelt appreciation,

The Reeves family



Many Gather for the Cake Tasting Event at Reeves Cake Shop on April 29th



Teacher Spotlight

2026 Teacher of the Year: Ms. Brenza



Being a good teacher takes commitment and unwavering patience. Fortunately for her students, Ms.

Brenza has both! Her favorite part of the day is seeing her students, hearing about their lives, and learning alongside them. A 12 year veteran of Akron Public Schools and having spent 4 of those years at Pfeiffer, she is honored to be selected as Teacher of the Year and can't wait for the new building!!

Scholar of the Year: Piper Blue



This year, staff and administration at Pfeiffer were tasked with selecting a "Scholar of the Year" out of this years fifth grade

students. Piper Blue was the unanimous selection. She excels academically, receiving all As and Bs, as well as being a member of Student Council and Student Ambassadors! Keep it up, Piper!!!

Pfeiffer Elementary School

2081 9th St. SW Akron, OH 44314
330-761-1510



Groundbreaking for new Pfeiffer / Miller South Building By Matthew Brooks, School Counselor

In March, citizens from the community gathered at the site of the former Kenmore High School to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new Pfeiffer and Miller South. This building will ensure that students in our neighborhood will have a school they can be proud of starting in 2028!!!

Mrs. McIntyre and the staff from Pfeiffer Elementary are extremely excited about the opportunity to move into a new building. This building will reflect the advanced and innovative teaching and learning taking place for the students in the neighborhood, providing bright and fresh learning spaces and common areas where 200 Pfeiffer students can thrive.

They are also excited to share the space with nearly 400 students from Miller South, serving grades 4 through 8. Miller South has art programs for whatever students might be interested in, including orchestra, band, vocal, dance, theatre, piano, and visual arts. Mrs.. Anderson, the building principal, and Mrs.. Appleby, the Assistant Principal, are excited to have spaces that support their students reaching their utmost potential academically and artistically.

Both schools will be able to take advantage of state of the art technology, collaborative spaces, and functionality to promote the creative and educational experiences for all students! We can't wait for 2028!





Rimer CLC Celebrates “Family of the Week”

By Jammie Bryant, Rimer CLC Family Liaison

At Rimer CLC, student success is more than grades—it’s about growth, character, and the support systems that help students thrive. Each week, the school proudly highlights a “Family of the Week,” recognizing families whose children demonstrate outstanding effort, leadership, or meaningful improvement.

Teachers and staff nominate students who embody the values of respect, responsibility, and safety. From there, we review nominations and select a family whose story represents encouragement, teamwork, and commitment to student success. Our ‘Family of the Week’ program allows us to celebrate not just the student, but the entire support system behind them. We know that when families are engaged and supportive, students are more confident, motivated, and successful.

Stay tuned each week as Rimer continues to honor the families who make a difference!



Pictured Left to Right: Aniyah Grier & Isabella Kinsey

By: Lauren Schneider, Rimer CLC School Counselor

Rimer CLC

2370 Manchester Rd, Akron, OH 44314
(330) 761-7905



Rimer CLC Scholar of the Year

By Lauren Schneider, Rimer CLC School Counselor

Camille Cook was selected as Scholar of the Year for her outstanding character, leadership, and commitment to the Rimer community. Cam consistently demonstrates kindness, respect, and genuine consideration for others. She is willing to work with anyone and intentionally helps create an inclusive environment where all voices are heard. Cam is respectful, responsible, and dependable—someone both students and staff can rely on for support.

Cam is a dedicated leader within Rimer, serving as Student Council Vice President and as a Student Ambassador. She plays an active role in delivering the morning announcements and consistently arrives at school early to ensure she is prepared. Beyond her own responsibilities, Cam takes initiative in training younger scholars to confidently lead the announcements, demonstrating patience, mentorship, and leadership. Camille Cook truly embodies the qualities of Scholar of the Year.



Pictured Above: Camille Cook, 5th Grade Scholar of the Year



Akron Zips Bring Reading to Life for Young Learners

By Tracy Donohew, Rimer CLC Kindergarten Teacher

Students in grades K–2 were involved in a special opportunity to combine literacy with mentorship through the reading event hosted by the Akron Zips football program. Designed to inspire a love of reading while building confidence.

During the event, students engaged in meaningful, hands-on activities that go beyond traditional reading time. Each child was able to practice introducing themselves to an adult, helping to build confidence and communication skills at an early age. In addition, students had the chance to form positive connections with male role models, reinforcing the importance of supportive relationships in their development.

A key highlight of the event is shared reading time, where students and volunteers read stories together. This interactive experience not only strengthens literacy skills but also fosters a sense of enjoyment and connection around books. School staff see this event as more than just a reading activity. It represents an opportunity to support students’ social-emotional growth while reinforcing the value of community partnerships. By bringing together young learners and positive role models, the Akron Zips reading event aims to leave a lasting impact—one story at a time.



Pictured : Kindergarten reading with Akron Zips

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Future Leaders Take the Stage: The Amazing Shake at Sam Salem

by Jennifer M. Torrence, Principal Sam Salem CLC

The hallways of Sam Salem were buzzing with a different kind of energy this week as our 5th-grade students stepped out of their comfort zones and into the spotlight for “The Amazing Shake”. This unique competition isn’t just about winning; it’s a master class in manners, discipline, and the art of the “soft skill.”

What is The Amazing Shake?

Originally inspired by the Ron Clark Academy, “The Amazing Shake” is designed to teach students the nuances of professional interaction. Our 5th graders spent weeks preparing for this moment, practicing everything from the perfect firm handshake to maintaining consistent eye contact during high-pressure conversations.

Navigating “The Gauntlet”

The heart of the event was a series of fast-paced challenges known as “The Gauntlet”. Students rotated through different stations, each presenting a unique social or professional scenario:

- * The Formal Introduction: Meeting a “CEO” and introducing themselves with confidence.
- * The Interview: Answering unexpected questions with poise and clarity.
- * The “Work” Dinner: Demonstrating proper etiquette and polite small talk.
- * Problem Solving: Handling a difficult customer or a surprise hurdle with grace.

Local community leaders, College and Career Academy Sponsors & volunteers served as judges, providing real-world feedback that our students took to heart.

Beyond the Competition

While the competition was fierce, the real victory was seeing the transformation in our students. We watched quiet learners find their voices and saw a surge of mutual respect as peers cheered each other on.

The skills honed during “The Amazing Shake” — confidence, resilience, and effective communication — are tools these students will carry with them long after they leave Sam Salem. We couldn’t be prouder of their hard work and the professional “shakers” they are becoming!



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Kenmore Historical Society News

by Sean Blake, President Kenmore Historical Society

Hey Kenmore,

There has been a lot of great vibes rolling around the neighborhood lately and we are proud to be a part of them! We have had guest speakers at two of our first three meetings this year. They included Bridget Ambrisco, from Akron Parks Collaborative, who gave us an update on the exciting improvements at Prentiss Park, and Dan Rice, from the Ohio and Erie Canalway Coalition, who gave us an update on the North Shore improvements at Summit Lake. Both of these are exciting projects going on in the community! Our next speaker is Allen Pfenninger, who will be giving us the history of the Northern Ohio Traction & Light trolley system, with an emphasis on the Kenmore lines. We meet the last Monday of every month (but will not meet in May due to the holiday) at 6:00 pm in the Kenmore Library's meeting room. Our next meeting (which Allen is speaking at) will be on June 29th.

In addition to that, we are proud to be a sponsor and partner for the BLVD Block Party on June 6th! Every runner in the Kenmore Cowbell 7K will get an acai bowl from Sandy Bottom Bowls courtesy of us. The race starts at 8:00 am on June 6th. We are also thrilled to be working with Better Kenmore CDC to bring back the Kenmore Parade this year. Last year's parade was a success, and we are thrilled to be back again this year with more units. The parade will be at 11:00 am and will start at the Kenmore Community Center (Kenmore & 11th Street SW) and proceed west down Kenmore Blvd to the American Legion (Kenmore & 18th Street SW) where it will terminate. There will be a stage at 15th Street SW announcing the parade participants. I hope to see everyone at the parade that day.

In addition, if you still know of groups who would want to participate in the parade, they can still sign up on betterkenmore.org. Also, a huge thanks goes out to everyone who joined us or supported us at the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Akron back in March. Lastly, we are very close to finalizing a deal with the Summit County Land Bank to close on the Lawndale Schoolhouse property. I am optimistic we will have a deal in place by early May. I would like to thank our donors who helped make this happen. As always feel free to reach out to us at kenmorehistorical.org. We always love to hear from you, and still have collectibles for sale.

Until next time, take care Kenmore!





K

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SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 2001

www.kenmorehistorical.org

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\$3⁰⁰ - Hamburger \$3⁵⁰ - Cheeseburger

\$2²⁵ - Taco or 3 for \$6⁰⁰

Wednesday Specials

\$8⁹⁹ - Gyro with Fries

\$3⁰⁰ - ¼ lb Hotdog \$1⁰⁰ - Wings

Thursday Special

\$2⁵⁰ - Hotdog

For more information contact **Charlie Shook** at 330-697-6971

Kenmore Community Center Adult Activities

880 Kenmore Boulevard

330-375-2812

Please call the Center for questions and reservations!

9th Ward

Councilperson's Meeting

First Tuesday of the Month

6:30 pm

Salvation Army Meals

Mondays thru Fridays

11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Meditative Coloring

Wednesdays 12:30 pm

FREE Coloring,
Coffee & Conversation.
Materials provided.

One Mile Walk

Mondays thru Fridays

Starting at 9:00 am

Balloflex

Tuesdays at 4:00 pm and

Fridays at 10:35 am

Fitness pass required.

Mind Challenge

Trivia for the new majority

2nd Monday of the month

at 1:00 pm

Chair Yoga

Mondays at 9:30 am

Fridays at 9:30 am

Fitness pass required.

Floor Yoga

Tuesdays & Thursdays

5:00 pm

1st & 3rd Saturdays

10:00 am

Fitness pass required.

Video Exercise

Mondays thru Thursdays

9:30 am

Zumba

Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

Fitness pass required.

Crochet Club

Wednesdays at 12:30 pm

Book Club

3rd Monday of the month at

1:00 pm

Penny Bingo

Tuesdays at 12:30 pm

Only a penny a card!

Bring a snack to share.

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Card Playing

Monday and Thursday

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

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Kenmore Community Church Directory

For corrections, changes, or new additions please call John at 330-304-9598 or john@kenmore-komics.com

Allenside Presbyterian Church

410 Rexford Street
330-753-6405

Find us on FaceBook @ allenside presbyterian church

Pastor Lisa Zimmerman

Hours of Service

Every Sunday 10:30 am

1st & 3rd Sundays: Allenside Church Building

2nd & 4th Sundays: Firestone Park Presbyterian
Building, 275 S. Firestone Boulevard

All services broadcast via Zoom.

See Facebook for Zoom Link and Worship Times/Locations
Church Office Open on Request – Please Call or E-mail

Community Services Offered

Community Meeting and Free Dinner - 6:00 pm,
3rd Tuesday of the month throughout the year
in the basement Fellowship Hall of the Church.

“Mad Hatters” Knitting Group meets at the church
Wednesdays 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Join us to knit hats and make blankets for those in need.
Donations of yarn and fleece gratefully accepted.

First Baptist Church of Kenmore

2330 East Avenue
330-745-3619
church@fbckok.com
www.fbckok.com

Pastor Joe Grimaldi

Hours of Service

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Morning Service 11:00 am

Sunday Afternoon Service 1:30 pm

Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 pm

Community Services Offered

Free Bus Transportation on Sunday

Goss Memorial Church

2247 11th Street SW
330-745-5038
www.gosschurch.org

Pastor Tom Showalter

Youth Leaders: Aaron & Jen Hurd, Derek & Bre Boyes

Hours of Service

Sunday School 9:15 am

Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am

(also available online on the Goss Memorial Facebook page)

Mid-Week Ministries (ages 4-12th grade)

runs September thru April.

Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

Hope Church

2650 Cory Avenue
330-753-2303

officehopechurchakron@gmail.com

Pastor John M. Tsironis

Hours of Service

Sunday School 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am

Monday Christian Service Brigade 6:30 pm

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Cleveland

2124 16th Street SW
Akron, OH 44314

Community Services Offered

Food Pantry (at Maher Hall)

Thursday afternoons 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm.

Appointment needed - Please call 330-848-2803

Tuesday or Wednesday between 10:00 am & 12:00 Noon.

Kenmore Community Meal - Free take-out meal
on the last Tuesday of the month, January through
October, from 4:30 pm until we run out.

Meals are distributed in front of Waldeisen Hall
on 16th Street SW at Catholic Charities,
in partnership with Park United Methodist Church.

Kenmore Free Store at 2128 16th Street SW,
enter back door off 17th and Battles Avenue,

Tuesdays 4:00 to 7:00 pm,

and Saturdays 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon, in
partnership with Park United Methodist Church,
please call 330-745-3714 for questions.

Donations may be dropped off in front of
2128 16th Street SW during store hours ONLY.

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Kenmore Community Church the of Nazarene

2025 12th Street SW
330-745-7720

kenmorenazarene@gmail.com

www.kenmorenaz.org

Facebook - Kenmore Community Church of the Nazarene

Hours of Service

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Wednesday Evening Children & Youth Services

6:00 to 7:00 pm

Office Hours - By Appointment Only.

King's Way Church

2500 Kingsport Way
330-848-1403

www.kwachurch.org

Pastor David Yoder

Hours of Service

Sunday School 9:30 am

Sunday Worship Service 10:45 am

Koinonia Apostolic Faith Church

814 Carnegie Avenue
330-808-9247

www.Koinonia5111@yahoo.com

Pastor Gary L. Foreman

Hours of Service

Sunday School 9:30 am to 11:00 am

Sunday Worship Service 11:30 am

God is Good Testimony Tuesdays 7:00 pm via Facebook

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm

Thursday Intercessory Prayer 7:00 pm via Zoom

Email koinonia5111@yahoo.com for the Zoom Link

Community Services Offered

Food Pantry 3rd Tuesday of the month via
appointment only - Call Prayer Line at 330-999-2398.

Grief Recovery Classes.

Back To School Book Bag Giveaway

August 15th, 2026 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Movement Church

2500 Kingsport Way
Movement Church
3680 Manchester Road
234-738-2372

lifecchange@movementchurch.com

Pastor Jeff Shapiro

Hours of Service

Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am

Small Groups (varies)

Sundays also Stream on FaceBook and Link
at Movementchurch.com

Kenmore Community Church Directory

For corrections, changes, or new additions please call John at 330-304-9598 or john@kenmore-komics.com

New Life Pentecostals of Akron

859 Witner Avenue
330-208-5441
pastorsmj@gmail.com

Pastor Scott Johnson
++

Hours of Service

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

Wednesday Life Bible Study 7:00 pm

Follow us on Facebook for livestreaming @ New Life POA

Community Services Offered

Personal home Bible Studies upon request.

Park United Methodist Church

2308 24th Street SW
330-745-3714

parkchurch@sbcglobal.net
www.akronparkumc.org

Pastor Dave Haydu

Hours of Service

Sunday Traditional Worship 9:00 am

Children's Church 9:00 am

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study 1:00 pm

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 9:00 am

Community Services Offered

Cub Scout/Boy Scouts

Check out our weekly service on line via Facebook
(Akron Park United Methodist Church)
and/or YouTube ([akron park um church](https://www.youtube.com/akronparkumchurch)).



Redeemed Christian Church of God

966 Kenmore Boulevard
330-776-5196

jesushouseakron@gmail.com
www.jesushouseakron.org

Pastor Enoch A. Adeboye (General Overseer)
Pastor Yisa Sunmonu (Parish Pastor)

Hours of Service

Sunday Workers Prayer Meeting 10:00 am to 10:30 am

Sunday School 10:30 am to 11:00 am

Sunday Service 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Thursday Bible Study 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
(virtual).

Saturday House Fellowship 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
(virtual).

Community Services Offered

Non perishable food items are accepted for food
baskets that are distributed to needy families
and schools during the holidays.

Shoreline Community Church

790 Carnegie Avenue
330-753-9241

office@shorelinechurchakron.com
www.shorelinechurchakron.com

Pastor Dr. Scott Campbell

Hours of Service

Sunday Praise & Worship 11:00 am

View Our Sunday and Wednesday Messages at:
<https://www.youtube.com/@shorelineeccakron>

Community Services Offered

Drive Thru Food Pantry Service every Friday
9:00 to 10:30 am to receive food.

For corrections, changes,
or new additions please
call John at 330-304-9598
or john@kenmore-komics.com

Streetlight Community Church

Streetlight Community Church
943 Kenmore Boulevard
<https://streetlight.life/>
<https://www.facebook.com/streetlightcc>
<https://www.instagram.com/streetlightcc>

Pastor: Kemp Boyd

Hours of Service

Sunday Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Worship Gatherings
at 943 Kenmore Boulevard,
First Glance's building, 10:30 am.

The Church on the Boulevard

754 Kenmore Boulevard
330-745-8634

www.thechurchontheboulevard.wordpress.com
www.facebook.com/kenmorechurchblvd

The Church on the Boulevard is a Christian church with
a heart for the city of Akron and the neighborhood of
Kenmore. Our vision is to be a Biblical community
where the Gospel of Jesus Christ transforms lives,
renews the city and impacts the world.

Pastor Robert Hale

Hours of Service

Sunday Morning Service 10:00 am

Wednesday "Kids in Action" at 6:45 pm

2nd and 4th Wednesday "New Generation Youth" at 6:45 pm

Wednesday Bible Study Discipleship 7:00 pm

Community Services Offered

Various Meetings (A.A., N.A., and other groups)
Please call for dates & times.

Sunday - Women 2 Women (N.A.) 3:00 pm

Tuesday - Come as you Are (N.A.) 6:00 pm

Thursday - CoB Recovery Study (All Welcomed) 5:00 pm

Thursday - Overcomer Life Recovery Group
(All Welcomed) 6:15 pm

Friday - Spirituality in Progress (N.A.) 9:30 pm

Saturday - New Freedom (A.A.) 11:00 am

Saturday - Progress not Perfection (N.A.) 2:00 pm

Saturday - Kenmore Group (A.A.) 8:00 pm

Monday thru Friday - Noon Dignity (N.A.) 12:00 noon

Every Day - Morning Meditation (A.A.) 6:30 am

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Kenmore Free Store News

by Mary Ann Gesaman, Managing Director, Kenmore Free Store

Hello Kenmore Connection Friends!

Spring is here!!! The Kenmore Free Store is open for shoppers looking for spring and summer items. We are also taking donations of spring and summer clothing, toys, game equipment at the donation door located at 2128 16th Street, SW.

We are planning to open our Community Garden that is located on 16th Street, next to the donation side of the Kenmore Free Store. We have a few returning gardeners, but do have 6 raised gardens that are open to anyone. If you would like a raised garden, please call Mary Ann at 330-606-2878 to get a garden bed in your name by May 30th. As a community gardener know that your responsibilities will be: 1) Planting and maintaining your own garden plot - we will provide extra soil and fertilizer if needed. You supply the seeds and we will attempt to supply tomato plants. 2) Helping with the community plots. These are plots that are grow produce for the Free Store to distribute shoppers. 3) Taking **YOUR** turn watering all the garden plots **at least once a week** throughout the summer until the harvest is finished. This is where the community gardeners help each other. Watering the other gardener's plots is a service each provide to others so that ALL gardens grow successfully.



The Kenmore Free Store received a **\$5000 grant from The Bath Volunteers for Service**, which was used to purchase new blankets and towels. These were available in the store during the months of February and March.

The Kenmore Free Store will have a booth at the First Friday events on Kenmore Boulevard in July, August and September. Come see us.



We are thankful and grateful for every person who comes through our doors. Maybe you come to get clothing or toys you need, or maybe you are one of the ministry partners, or are you one of the people who donate financially to our store. If you are, know that you are a blessing to so very many people.

We are open Tuesdays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm and Saturdays from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. **We will be closed May 23rd for Memorial Day and on July 4th for Independence Day.**

We NEED volunteers who could help us sort clothing and items donated to the store. We have students who complete their community service hours at the store. Do you belong to a club that could use a community activity or need to get out of your house to see some other people? Please be a volunteer! To begin volunteering, just come to our store during open hours, complete an application, and we will gladly get you started serving.

God's blessings to each of you!

Mary Ann Gesaman, Managing Director, phone: 330-606-2878
2101 17th Street SW, Akron, Ohio 44314
Hours: Tuesdays 4:00 to 7:00 pm, Saturdays 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

The Free Store is a partnership of Park United Methodist Church and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Cleveland.



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