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Volume 22 Issue 1

## A Good Look at the Community

**A FREE Publication** 

Winter 2021

**A Quarterly Publication** 



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## **Kenmore Businesses Need Your Support**

by John Buntin Jr, Kenmore Chamber of Commerce President

It has been almost a year since the first shut-down of businesses in Ohio because of the Pandemic, and even though most have reopened, it is still a struggle for many to survive. When the Covid-19 pandemic first hit, there was not much information available to show us how we could still do business and keep our customers safe at the same time. Many of you supported our local stores as best you could, but just as many did most of their purchasing on-line or just went without. But through trial & error, most local businesses have learned how to cope with the new protocols on keeping both their employees and their customers safe.

So with the start of vaccinations, and a much better understanding of how to keep from being infected by the virus, it seems that now is the time for all of us to recommit to supporting our local businesses. Please remember that a thriving business community helps create a thriving residential community, and start by revisiting those stores & groups who have made Kenmore their preferred place of business. Many of the goods and services we need can be found right here in Kenmore, and the Kenmore Chamber of Commerce asks you to consider spending you shopping dollars locally and help keep our community alive and prospering.

The stores, businesses, organizations, and churches of Kenmore say "Thank You" for thinking of us, and please continue to support your local community!

## Get Paid to Improve the Boulevard

by Tina Boyes, Executive Director, Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance

The City of Akron is seeking a paid Ambassador to clean up litter, report safety and infrastructure issues, and offer courteous' assistance to businesses, visitors and community members in the Kenmore Boulevard Historic District.

For more information, please contact betterkenmore@gmail.com or 330-714-9621.

(Photo at left by Jesse Barton)

When shopping in Kenmore, please thank our advertisers for supporting the Kenmore Connection!



The Kenmore Boulevard Historic District

# The Dragon's Mantle is in a New Location to Serve You Better!

by Carrie Acree, Owner

In spring of 2014, **The Dragon's Mantle** opened it's doors on Kenmore Boulevard. Our shop on the Boulevard had become like home to many of our customers, many of which we have come to know on a first name basis. It was home to me, I've lived my entire life in Kenmore, and we raised our children in Kenmore, all just off the Boulevard. Last summer, it became clear that we needed a larger space to accommodate our ever-growing community in the best way possible. One thing was certain though - we HAD TO stay in Kenmore!

**The Dragon's Mantle** is Akron's Premier Shop for your Spiritual, Pagan and Wiccan needs. We carry a vast variety of herbs, resins, essential oils, wind chimes, candles, jewelry, gemstones, books and altar tools, plus all of the accessories you may need for your Spiritual Journey.

Our new location boasts dedicated areas for:

- Private Reiki Sessions by our Reiki Masters.
- Private Psychic Readings with our hand-selected team of readers.
- Classes on topics including alchemy, tarot, wicca, meditation & Reiki Certification.
- An In-House Library for those who wish to study on their own.
- Better accessibility for our handicapped patrons.
- On site parking and larger showrooms for your shopping enjoyment!

We look forward to continuing our relationships with the pagan and Kenmore communities for many years to come. Our doors are always open to you. We wouldn't be here without you.

We are now located at 2433 Manchester Road, and you can find us on Facebook at The Dragon's Mantle, at our website at www.dragonsmantle.com, or give us a call at 330-687-5654 or just stop on in! We are open Monday through Friday 11:00 am to 7:00 pm and Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.



The Dragon's Mantle at 2433 Manchester Road



Hair - Nails - Waxing - Eyelash Extensions

by Charlee Harris

Aletha Harris, the owner of **BrightStart Early Preschool**, would be described by many as a determined, strong, and professional business woman. A love for children is what motivated Harris to start her first daycare and has now been in the Childcare industry for over twenty years, and recently decided to open an additional location on Kenmore Boulevard. The **BrightStart Early Preschool and Daycare** is located at 1069 Kenmore Boulevard, which is a location Harris is very familiar with.

"I love our new location here on the Boulevard, I have been eyeballing this building since 2012 when I used to go to the doctor here".

Harris attended Kenmore High School and has worked and lived in the area for many years. She loves all the recent revitalization happening on the Boulevard; she's happy to be a part and looks forward to connecting with more owners on the Boulevard.

"I noticed all the festivities happening on the Boulevard because for a while it seemed like nothing was happening".

Covid-19 has made having a lot of those activities challenging, still, the **BrightStart Early Preschool and Daycare** was able to host a couple of socially distant events. These events included a trunk or treat last October. Harris opened **BrightStart** during the early days of the pandemic, this allowed her to design her classrooms with CDC recommendations in mind.

"There are sinks in each classroom because this used to be a doctors office, I intended to keep the sinks by the entryway so children can come in and wash hands. We limit what children can bring in and my staff is constantly cleaning and sanitizing. We are keeping classroom sizes smaller and children separated".

Aletha Harris is proud of the way her staff has stepped up during these difficult times but she is most proud of the great reputation she has earned over the years. She frequently gets referrals from Ohio Jobs and Family Service and positive reviews from parents. After years in the business, she has been honored to care for several generations of the same family.

"What people are saying about me, when people say my establishment is awesome, that makes me very proud"

**BrightStart Early Preschool** is open 6:00 am to midnight Monday through Friday and accepts students age 6 weeks to 4 years. For more information, please visit their Facebook page or call 234-571-3003.



Aletha Harris, owner of BrightStart Early Preschool



Storytime at BrightStart Early Preschool



## **Trunk-or-Treat Easter Event**

by Charles L Wilson

The Schlup Pucak Funeral Home and Just A Dad From Akron are working together again on another great Holiday Event. If you came out and enjoyed the Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event then you won't want to miss our Trunk-or-Treat Easter style event.

Join us on Saturday, March 27th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the parking lot of the **Schlup Pucak Funeral Home**, 788 Kenmore Boulevard.

For those interested in being a part of the fun by bringing your vehicle, decorating your trunk and passing out Easter candy, please contact either Charles Wilson at 330-620-3669 or Kenny Lambert at 330-255-9063.

This is sure to be a fun community event for the kids as we all try to navigate through this Covid-19 Pandemic and try to have some type of normalcy.



Trunk-or-Treat at 2020 Halloween Event

## Easter Event at Shadyside Park

by Tugg Massa, Akron Say No To Dope Executive Director

Last year, with the pandemic just starting, **New Beginnings & Akron Say No To Dope Inc** (located at 932 Kenmore Boulevard) gave out over 250 Easter baskets with over 2000 eggs to the children of Kenmore.

This year they hope to do more, and are asking for your help. With a donation of \$20, twenty-five eggs can be prepared with candy, or a donation of \$35 will fill fifty eggs with candy. These eggs will be placed in Easter baskets and given out to children for free at Shadyside Park on Saturday April 3rd, starting at 2:00 pm. All donations must be received by March 26th.

Please find it in your heart to help kids that may not have an Easter without us. For more information please call **New Beginnings** at 234-678-8238.





## West Wilbeth Road Gym

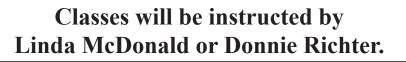
890 W. Wilbeth Road Akron, Ohio 44314 330-592-4224



**Owner operator Linda McDonald** will be offering fit & boot camp classes.

Classes Start Now! Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 am to 6 pm Single classes are \$12 or 12 classes for \$100

**Contact Jeff Patterson at 330-592-4224 or text to setup classes.** 



## **Personal Training**

Bodybuilding Tone Firm Weight Loss Nutrition Measurements Body Fat Reduction Strength Training

Contact to setup Jeff Patterson at 330-592-4224 Donnie Richter at 330-510-7906

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Please send us your articles and news about your Kenmore neighborhood		Bob's Hamburg	
organization, or business. See below for submiss	sion guide	lines. Deadlines listed above	• 1351 East Avenue
General Submission Guidelines and Disclaimer			<b>Carnegie Pantry</b> 986 Carnegie Avenue
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whatsoever. Any information provided in any advertisements represents the opinion of the advertise or any of its members. None of the officers, board members, or newspaper writers provide endorse contacted for repeat or new ads, it is the ultimate responsibility of any previous or new advertiser to co <b>ANNOUNCMENTS:</b> All free announcements are subject to space availability and acceptance. TIF format and must not exceed one quarter page. Copy format announcements must be in We <b>ARTICLES:</b> The Kenmore Connection will only accept what the editorial board considers to sole discretion, reserves the right to refuse submission of any article, advertisement, or announ press release, or announcement represents the opinion of the submitter, and does not necessarily <b>ARTWORK &amp; PHOTOS:</b> All artwork must be submitted in .TIF format and all copy in Wo	er and does not neces ement for any produc ontact the Kenmore Co e by the Kenmore Co ord document or .RT o be "good news" ab accement for any reas y represent the positi ord or .RTF (rich text f they will not be ref	sarily represents the position or opinion of this organization ts advertised herein. Although previous advertisers may be onnection Advertising Coordinator to submit advertisements onnection Committee. All artwork must be submitted in F (rich text format). out the Kenmore Community. The editorial board, in its on whatsoever. Any information provided in any article on or opinion of this organization or any of its members t format), we cannot accept articles that are in all CAPS turned withour a self addressed and stamped envelope.	Financial Empowerment Center 1060 Kenmore Boulevard Kenmore Branch Library 2200 14th Street SW Kenmore Community Center 880 Kenmore Boulevard Lukity's Country Inn 2697 Manchester Road Regina's Pizza

Submit information to: John Buntin Jr at Kenmore Komics & Games 1020 Kenmore Boulevard Telephone: 330-745-5530 e-mail: john@kenmore-komics.com

Mail to: Kenmore Connection C/O Kenmore Chamber of Commerce P. O. Box 15171 Akron, Ohio 44314

**Spin City** 2376 East Avenue

**Subway - Kenmore** 1033 Kenmore Boulevard

## **Councilman's Corner**

## **Public Comments Continue During Covid**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Akron City Council continues to hold virtual meetings, which are livestreamed on Council's YouTube channel. To ensure open access and opportunity for public engagement, Akron City Council has established a voicemail line where members of the public wishing to participate in the public comment period may leave a voice recording. The voicemail is accessible by dialing 330-375-2566.

In accordance with longstanding Council Rules, speakers are provided three minutes to address Council. Remarks should be kept respectful and germane to Council business. Any remarks containing profanity or breaching decorum will not be transmitted during the public comment period. The previous public comment email was retired effective Monday, February 8th, 2021.

We want to hear from our residents about the issues that matter to them and how Council can best serve their needs. Traditionally, members of the public would come to Council meetings on Monday nights and share their comments in person. Since that is not possible during this pandemic, the voicemail option is the best alternative. This gives residents an opportunity to still speak to Council in their own voice. To view City Council meetings or committee meetings, read Council news and information, or access legislative information, please visit www.akroncitycouncil.org.

Stay safe and thank you for allowing me to serve.

Councilman Mike Freeman Ward9@akronohio.gov 330-283-7582

111

VISA

2160 East Avenue

330-753-779

www.ReginasPizza.com

Starting a new business in the Kenmore/Ward 9 area? We want to do an article about you (and it's FREE!). Please contact John at 330-745-5530 for more information.

Hawaiian Style

**Veggie Lovers BBQ** Chicken

**Meat Lovers** 

or **Deluxe Pizza** 

REGINA'S PIZZA, KENMORE. One per visit please. Not valid with any other offer.

Must present this coupon at the time of purchase. Good through 3-31-2021.

## Ward 9 **Councilman's Meetings**

Councilman Freeman holds a public meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at the Kenmore Community Center, starting at 7:00 pm.

Until further notice, the Ward 9 **Councilman's Meetings are cancelled** until such a time as it is considered safe to hold a public meeting!



Must present this coupon at the time of purchase.

Good through 3-31-2021.

### **Kenmore Connection**



## **Kenmore Connection**

## Kenmore Branch Library

### **Children's Book Review**

#### Wednesday, February 17 2021, all day

Tune in to the branch Facebook page to get a review of award-winning and popular juvenile fiction, non-fiction, and picture books. Get some ideas for your next read!

## Poetry as Social Activism With Dionne D. Hunter

#### Thursday, February 18 2021, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Poet Dionne D. Hunter will explore poetry as social activism. Poems will include one on MLK's Letter from Birmingham Jail, and others related to Black History. Includes discussion of process.

### Teen/Tween Program: Virtual Talent Show

#### Tuesday, February 23 2021, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

What is your talent? Can you sing? Touch your nose with your tongue? Play a guitar? Write & recite poetry? Join in Zoom for a showcasing of your special talent! Open to grades 6-12.

### Take It Make It Craft

Wednesday, February 24 2021, All Day

For kids. Grab a craft, take it home and have fun! While supplies last.

### Crystal Magnet Craft Make-It-Take-It

#### Monday, March 1, 2021, 10:00am - 8:00pm

For tweens/ teens. Come grab a kit to make crystal picture magnets for your fridge. Supplies will be available to pick up all day at the front entryway table. One kit per person.

### **Story Time**

#### Tuesdays at 11:00 am

Join Miss Becky for Story Time with books songs and more. Topics include: Dogs, Bedtime, and Dinosaurs!

## 969 Kenmore Boulevard 330-745-6126

www.akronlibrary.org/locations/kenmore

### **Blackout Poetry Teen Program**

#### Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

If you like creating poetry this is a fun program. You will be challenged to create a poem using pages from an old book by blacking out words to reveal a poem inside a page.

#### Sounds of Akron - Angie Haze:

Music as a Tool for Mental Health

#### Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Angie Haze is a local singer songwriter & producer with a story about survival. Her songs provide strength, healing and hope. Tune in to hear how music was key to her journey through mental health.

### Make It & Take It- Bird Feeder

#### Wednesday, March 10 2021, All Day

Grab a pine cone bird feeder to take home.

### Lose Yourself: Poetry Persona Pieces -With Akeem J Rollins

#### Saturday, March 20 2021, 11:00am - 1:00pm

Writing a new piece is hard, but writing a persona poem requires skill. In this workshop, we'll get performance and character building basics as well as story telling and writing approach.

## Trapped in a Video Game: Virtual Escape Room

Saturdays, March 20 and March 27, 2021, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Teen program. Level up fast to break out of this virtual escape room! Work as a group to solve puzzles to get through video game-inspired levels and defeat the final boss. Register to receive a Zoom link.

### Zoom Karaoke

#### Wednesday, March 24 2021, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Children's program. Join your family and friends for an afternoon of karaoke, Zoom-style!

## **The 19th Amendment: Quest for Equality** - With CVNP Park Ranger Pamela Machuga

#### Tuesday, March 30 2021, 6:00pm-7:00pm

The quest for suffrage began long before ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920. Join Park Ranger Pamela Machuga to explore female activists past & present as we explore equality through the ages.



Kenmore Branch

## Monday-Thursday: 10am - 8pm Friday: 12 - 6pm Saturday: 10am - 5pm Sunday: Closed

Library Hours:

Follow us on Instagram @KenmoreBranch for daily updates on new movies, books and more!

Want to become a friend of the library? Stop in and find out how you can join in giving back to your community!

Have a library card? Download our Akron Library Mobile app and utilize our digital media for free!

All programs are virtual, be sure to register to receive a Zoom Link.

Need help with school? Check out our student resources online which offers live homework help,SAT/ ACT practices test and more.

To learn about the remainder of our programs you can visit us or check out our website!

### **Book Club to Go**

#### All winter long!

Pick up a new selection each month. No meetings, no deadlines, just good books! Discussion questions, read-alike lists, and author information are included with each book.

### **Kenmore Connection**

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## **Exercise Classes are in Full Swing at Kenmore Community This Summer**

by Alice Incorvia, Kenmore Community Center Supervisor

Exercise classes are better than ever at Kenmore Community Center. Exercise classes were one of the first programs that were brought back when the community center reopened (after being closed due to Covid-19) on September 21st, 2020. Exercise in its nature is socially-distanced and the community center staff have been doing an impeccable job of disinfecting the center, restrooms and any equipment that has been used by its patrons in order to keep everyone safe and healthy. We are finding that everyone is so excited to just get out of the house and see people again that they are coming to exercise not only to move and feel better, but to socialize as well (safely, of course). It was decided to unofficially call our morning 1 mile walk, "Walkers and Talkers", because they do both equally as well! Our Mind, Body & Balance (Qigong) class just resumed a couple weeks ago and more & more people are feeling confident to come back to exercise. All classes require participants to call ahead to the community center at 330-375-2812 to reserve your spot (no more than 10), wear a mask, have temperatures checked and hands sanitized upon arrival. Classes are as follows:

### Free Video Exercise Classes:

1 mile Walk—Monday thru Friday at 9:00 am Video Exercise—Monday thru Thursday at 9:30 am (different video every day)

#### Live Instructor Exercise Classes:

These classes require participants to sign up and purchase a fitness pass on akron.recdesk.com.

#### Floor Yoga—Tuesday at 5:00 pm

Mind, Body & Balance (Qigong)—Wednesday at 11:30 am Chair Yoga—Friday at 9:30 am

Fitness passes for ages over 65:

12  months = \$65	6  months = \$50	1  month = \$10
Fitness passes for ages under 65:		

 $12 \text{ months} = \$80 \qquad 6 \text{ months} = \$60 \qquad 1 \text{ month} = \$15$ 

All participants are welcome to try the 1st class for free.





## Remote Learning Advice from a KGHS Grad

by Daralee Ghinder

Got the "remote learning" blues? You're not alone. Akron Promise has had limited access to KGHS students, due to the unprecedented pandemic we are currently experiencing. Of the three programs they run at KGHS, only the Student Success Team has been affected. There is still an ACT Boot Camp available online and there are still scholarships to award. Akron Promise is still able to check in with scholarship students at Stark State College, and a few supported at the University of Akron. One such scholar, Leah Stanevich, received ACT support from Akron Promise, which helped her earn the Innovation Generation Scholarship, full tuition at The University of Akron.

Like many others, Leah has been struggling with remote learning. The UA junior is a Geology major, which means many of her classes are labs. Watching experiments online just isn't the same, and far from ideal. She felt a loss of community and disconnected from professors and peers. Certainly this sounds familiar to any student in today's pandemic world. Even with the advantage of less commute time and more sleep, Leah hasn't completely made peace with online learning. However, over the last few months, she's learned a few ways to be more successful in her classes.

The first change Leah made was to decide to just "keep pushing forward". While it's easy to get caught up in the difficulty of staring at a computer, Leah has been able to shift her focus from the difficult to the doable. Remembering that this pandemic is temporary can help lessen the challenge of this mindset.





Leah also recommends staying connected as much as possible. She works with her peers by texting, calling and meeting online. Feeling alone is pretty common for remote learners. Everyone benefits with more interactions, whether it's discussing assignments or just reaching out and checking in with others. Leah highly recommends a support system of friends, family, teachers, and peers.

School administrators often recommend a dedicated study space and Leah would agree. She thinks this has definitely worked to her advantage. Leah's final suggestion is nothing new, but has become her secret weapon: She says, "Use your planner! Your own home is very distracting and a planner will keep you on track". Akron Public Schools provide planners to all K-12 students, and college students can purchase one at their campus bookstore.

Akron Promise understands the challenges students are facing, especially during these uniquely difficult times. Hopefully these tips, from one of their scholars, will help others. The folks at Akron Promise are looking forward to being in the school soon, and working with students to help move them to a successful post-secondary life.

## Attention Kenmore Business Owners Looking for ways to save money on---

Health Insurance Energy Program Costs Workers' Compensation



Managed Care Organization Services Credit Card Services Payroll Processing Services Shipping & Freight Costs Digital Marketing Services and many other business expenses?

Please consider joining the Kenmore Chamber of Commerce and take advantage of the many

benefit programs we offer to our members!

For more information, please contact John Buntin Jr at 330-304-9598



## Hey Kenmore and ALL Current Families and KHS Alumni...

by Phyllis Nicholson

Hello Kenmore Community. The time is quickly approaching that the Kenmore High School as we know it will be closing forever and our Kenmore Kids will be joining their Firestone Park friends in breaking in the new high school currently being built on Brown Street in the location of the Old Garfield High School. The new High School is slated to open Fall 2022 which means at some point this year they will have to decide on a name for the new High School. Both communities have strong ties and strong feelings to what they feel the name should be, including the possibility of a brand new name yet to be determined. As a Kenmore Resident, you do have a voice and should take advantage of the opportunity to let the Akron Public School Board know your feelings about the name of the new school. In the past few years we have heard many people in Kenmore share their views on the name of the school, now is the time to let the powers that be, those who will make the decision, know our thoughts. I can assure you that the Firestone Park Community and the Garfield Alumni have also started letting the school board members know their views on the name of the building.

Here is a list of the current school board members, their positions and contact information:

**N.J. Akbar, Ph.D.** Board of Education President; Specialty Schools and All Wards Liaison 330-761-2872 nakbar@apslearns.org

Derrick Hall Board of Education Vice-President; North Cluster and Wards 1, 2 and 5 Liaison 330-761-287 dhall@apslearns.org

> Bruce Alexander Board of Education Member; East Cluster and Ward 10 Liaison 330-761-7972 balexand@apslearns.org

**Diana Autry** Board of Education Member; Buchtel Cluster and Wards 3 and 4 Liaison 330-761-2874 dautry@apslearns.org

> Patrick Bravo Board of Education Member; Ellet and Ward 6 Liaison 330-761-7977 pbravo@apslearns.org

Lisa Mansfield Board of Education Member; Firestone Cluster and Ward 8 Liaison 330-761-7973 lmansfie@apslearns.org

Valerie McKitrick Board of Education Member; Kenmore-Garfield Cluster and Wards 7 and 9 Liaison 330-761-2871 vmckitri@apslearns.org

Any or all of the board members can take your concern, they are only assigned clusters so all are represented.

## First Friday Headed Back to the Boulevard this Summer

by Charlee Harris

Remember the good old days of hanging out with your favorite food, music and friends? Well, those days are back!

Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance announced that Kenmore First Fridays will resume Friday, June 4th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. These free events will take place throughout the Kenmore Boulevard Historic District, featuring live events with different fun themes, which will be announced in May.

In 2019, each Kenmore First Friday event drew hundreds of people to Kenmore Boulevard throughout the summer. Musical acts spanned such genres as rock, country, hip-hop, jazz and folk. They also shined a spotlight on up and coming artists from Kenmore, the Akron Public Schools, and Dreams Academy Music and Media Center.

First Fridays also garnered positive media attention for Kenmore through outlets like the Akron Beacon Journal, The Devil Strip magazine, 91.3 The Summit, Cleveland.com, Akron Life, and WKSU.

Are you a business looking for new customers? Get the word out by becoming a Kenmore First Friday sponsor! For more information visit www.betterkenmore.org/events. All sponsors will receive a free table, social media promotion, and recognition at the event. To learn about all upcoming Boulevard events, register for KNA's newsletter at www.betterkenmore.org/news.



First Friday Event on Kenmore Boulevard from 2019

## United Way's Financial Empowerment Center is Offering Free Drive Through and Virtual Tax Preparation

by Angela Lowery, Director, Financial Empowerment, United Way of Summit & Medina

United Way of Summit & Medina County is now in our fourth year of operating the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at the Financial Empowerment Center. While the pandemic has created challenges for our program, it has also given us the opportunity to develop creative ways to operate.

If you've driven by the Financial Empowerment Center recently, you may have noticed more cars coming in and out of our parking lot off 17th Street and Kenmore Boulevard. The increase in traffic is a result of the "Drive Through" tax appointments we are now offering through the VITA program. Drive Through tax appointments allow you to make an appointment to bring your tax documents to the Financial Empowerment Center and wait in your vehicle while IRS certified tax preparers complete your return. This is just one of the ways we have modified our program to continue to safely offer free tax preparation services to eligible Summit County residents.

In addition to our Drive Through tax appointments, we also offer a completely remote option for tax preparation. This "Virtual VITA" method allows individuals to use their cell phone to upload their tax documents through a secure portal and schedule a time to talk to a certified tax preparer about their return. Our tax preparers can typically complete the return within the week, and the individual is able to review it electronically before we e-file it with the IRS. By offering a variety of tax preparation options, we hope to make tax time less stressful for working Summit County residents. Our tax services are targeted to individuals with a household income under \$60,000, but any Summit County resident who needs help navigating their finances can always access our free financial coaching services. To make an appointment or learn more, please visit www.uwsummit.org/vita or call 2-1-1.



When shopping in Kenmore, please thank our advertisers for supporting the Kenmore Connection!

## KG Freshman Academy Online Career Expo 2021

by Clayton Cundiff, Academy Coach, Kenmore-Garfield High School

On January 27th, 2021 the Kenmore-Garfield Freshman Academy held the annual Career Expo, but with a virtual twist. As Akron Public Schools continued to be 100% online at the time of the expo, the Freshman Academy decided that this event was so important to students when making their decisions for their pathway decision that "The Show Must Go On".

The day-long event had four separate elements. Block #1 was the kickoff to the event, it included a keynote speaker, a student panel, and set the expectations for the day. Block #2 involved the Kenmore-Garfield business partners hosting 18 online career booths where the students were able to move in and out to learn more about the careers available to them upon graduation. After lunch, we began the third block by talking with our Career Technical Education teachers where students could get any final questions they may have had pertaining to their career pathway. The final Block of the day was dedicated to Academy fun, where we awarded prizes for students that modeled excellent professional student behavior during the event.

We could not have pulled this event off without our fantastic business partners. Thank You to all our Business Partners at the Career Expo - FirstEnergy, Haas, Steere, Fastenal, ACRT, Ohio Carpenters Apprenticeship Program, Home Builders Association of Summit County, Highbridge Construction, GPD Group, US Foods, NEOMED College, Concordia at Sumner, Kyocera SGS Tools, and the US Coast Guard.



## Academy Staff Steps Up

by Aaron DeHart, Academy Principal, Academy of Innovation and Industry

During these times of the pandemic, it would have been easy for our staff and students to "throw in the towel" on education. But they didn't. In fact, they stepped up their game and got better. Not only did the students step up but our staff stepped up as well. Our staff researched and found ways to make a difference in the classroom by finding innovative solutions to teaching in a virtual classroom. Their creativity was off the charts as they found new ways to engage with our students and still maintain a rigorous curriculum while doing so. Whereas we would take our students into the "real world' for job shadowing, "virtual" job shadowing took its place. Our students were still provided opportunities for excellence at every turn during this pandemic and that is because our staff decided not to "throw in the towel" and quit, but find new and better ways to get the job done. When students needed supplies to complete projects from home, teachers came into the building to put together packets for all the students for home completion. If students needed extra help from their teachers in understanding concepts, teachers created student support link meets so they could meet with their students online in a one on one environment, a virtual tutor so to speak. I could go on and on with examples of excellence but I just wanted to highlight a few great things happening at KGHS during the pandemic.



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### **Kenmore Connection**

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## and to support the Kenmore Connection. If there's anything you need, call me.





#### **New Beginnings Boutique and Thrift** 932 Kenmore Boulevard 234-678-8238

We sell gentle used clothing, housewares and electronics as an ongoing fundraiser for Akron Say No to Dope INC to provide placement in detox, treatment & sober living to those who wish to turn from addiction. Our Goal is to see lives changed!



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#### Page 16 OUR FAMILY SERVING YOUR FAMILY rentice Family Owned & **Operated Since 1914** FUNERAL HOME 1154 Kenmore Boulevard 330-753-7721 Remember when the "discount" funeral homes compared their prices to all the area funeral homes? The comparison list has shrunk and the "discount" prices have grown. FACT: Prentice Funeral Home is not on the list. SECRET: We are as affordable or more affordable than the so called "discount" funeral homes. We invite you to compare for yourself! From Our Family To Your Family, Offering the Best Value to All! Preneed Traditional Funerals \* Cremation Celebrations of Life \* 1775 S. Main Street Auto Centra Akron, Ohio 44301 AUTOMOTIVE Phone: 330-724-2772 SERVICE EXCELLENCE REPAIF You Tube O Formerly Eagle Auto & Tire. Under New Ownership! Same Trusted Employees! We Service Foreign & Domestic. AUTO REPAIR COMPUTER BRAKES **OIL CHANGES** ALIGNMENTS TUNE-UPS MUFFLERS No Job Too Big Or Too Small! Engines, Transmissions, Brakes, New Tires, Oil Changes & More... Alignment **10% OFF Oil Change** FREE Starting @ Starting @ Safety Inspection **Any Repair** \$59.99 (Most Cars) **Over \$200** FREE \$31.99 \*Present coupon prior to repair. \*Present coupon prior to repair.

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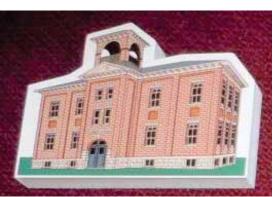
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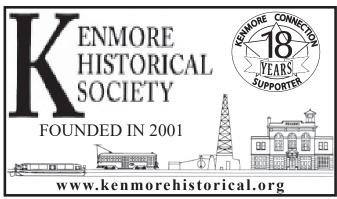
## Kenmore Historical Society News

by Jan Williams, President of KHS

Forever a Cardinal!

The first school in our community that was named Kenmore opened in 1903 on Virginia Avenue (now called 11th Street). All grades were taught in that school. The name of that school was later changed to Central School and eventually Heminger School. (Photo to the right).







In 1917 the high school students moved to attend a new school built on 13th Street (Photo to the left). An addition was added in the 50's that included a new auditorium, cafeteria, and gymnasium. Some offices and classrooms were also added. Those additions are still in use. Then in 1981, after demolishing the older part of the school, a new addition was dedicated (Photo below).

These wooden collectibles, along with several others, are available for purchase from the Kenmore Historical Society. Our address is P.O.Box 3707, Akron, OH 44314. Our website is www.kenmorehistorical.org. Our collectibles can also be purchased at Kenmore Komics & Games on the Boulevard.

Red and Black were chosen to be our school colors, and Pride in Achievement became our School Motto. The Cardinal was selected as our mascot. In the 60's, a student named Calvin Bloom created a new version of our mascot. It was called the Fighting Cardinal and was later nicknamed Tuffy.



Even though the school mascot is no longer the Cardinal, we members of this community will always be Kenmore Cardinals!

Once a Cardinal always a Cardinal!

All of the Kenmore Historical Society's Miniature Wooden Blocks of Historical Buildings (including their two newest blocks - Chestnut Ridge Park & Margaret Park School) can be purchased at Kenmore Komics & Games, 1020 Kenmore Boulevard



**Kenmore Connection** 

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## **NEW PROGRAMS AT THE FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT CENTER**



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Do you have a quick question about your finances? Schedule a 15-minute phone call with a financial coach to answer questions related to stimulus payments, taxes, student loans, filing for unemployment or other financial issues.

### VIRTUAL FINANCIAL COACHING

Professional financial coaches can help you navigate financial challenges, contact your creditors, negotiate payment plans, and develop a plan to stay on track with your finances. Free, one-on-one financial coaching is available by phone or video chat.

### FREE TAX PREPARATION

Does your household earn less than \$60,000 per year? If so, you're eligible for FREE tax preparation services that can be completed remotely or at the Financial Empowerment Center, 1060 Kenmore Boulevard, Akron, Ohio 44314.

### TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT CALL 2-1-1 OR VISIT UWSUMMIT.ORG/FEC



## Schlup Pucak Funeral Home The Home of Sincerity in Service since 1942





Are you or a family member struggling over the loss of a loved one? If so, we invite you to attend our
Grief Support Group every Third Thursday of the month, hosted by Homstead Hospice, from 10 am to 11 am right here at the Funeral Home. This is open to anyone, not just the families we have served.

Coffee and donuts will be provided. Masks required and proper social distancing will be observed.

We Offer Pre-Planning, Traditional, Cremation, Personalized and Celebration of Life Services, Pet Cremations, and Summit County's only Motorcycle Hearse.

Visit our website: schluppucakfh.com, call us at 330-745-3131, or come see us at 788 Kenmore Blvd.

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## **Salvation Station Has Arrived!**

by Kathy Lindeman

Salvation Station is our new Children's Church program at Praise Chapel Assembly. Church starts on Sunday at 10:30 am, and Children's church starts at 11:00 am. It is for children 5 to 12 years old.

There are several activities packed into the morning. The children's favorite is interacting with puppets for skits and songs. They also participate in bible stories, prayer, crafts, science objects lesson, games, memory verses, prizes, videos, coloring, sing-a-longs, snacks and much more.

So come get aboard at Salvation Station this Sunday at Praise Chapel Assembly of God, 1204 McIntosh Avenue. For more information, please contact us at 330-745-4107 or Reg at 330-212-8505.





Children Play With Puppets at the Salvation Station

**Kenmore Connection** 

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## **Kenmore Church Directory**

For corrections, changes, or new additions please call John at 330-745-5530 or john@kenmore-komics.com

## Allenside Presbyterian Church

410 Rexford Street 330-753-6405 Find us on FaceBook @ allenside presbyterian church

#### **Pastor Frances Fischer**

Hours of Service Hours of Service may change due to COVID-19 See FaceBook for Worship Times Church Office Open Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Community Services Offered Yarn donations accepted for lap blankets & Afghans for the VFW and other needy organizations. "Feed the Need" financial contributions accepted for distribution to local food ministries.

## Calvary Open Bible Church

2261 9th Street SW 330-818-6615 email: calvaryobcakron@yahoo.com Find us on Facebook at Calvary Open Bible Akron

Pastor Kirk LaVigne

Hours of Service Sunday School 10:00 am Sunday Morning Service 11:00 am

## First Baptist Church of Kenmore

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

#### **Pastor Joe Grimaldi**

Hours of Service Sunday School 10:00 am Sunday Morning Service 11:00 am Sunday Afternoon Service 1:45 pm Wednesday Evening Service 7:00 pm

Community Services Offered Free Bus Transportation on Sunday

#### Goss Memorial Church 2247 11th Street SW

330-745-5038 www.gosschurch.org

Pastor Kevin Burkholder Youth Director Caleb Nichols

Hours of Service Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am (also available online on the Goss Memorial Facebook page) Please see the website for up-to-date service information for Sunday Evening and Wednesday Programming

## Hope United

Methodist Church 2650 Cory Avenue 330-753-2303 officehumc@gmail.com

Pastor John M. Tsironis

Hours of Service Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am

## Immaculate Conception

of Mary Parish 2101 17th Street SW 330-753-8429 ickenmore@yahoo.com www.ickenmore.org

**Reverend Michael B. Smith** 

Hours of Service Holy Eucharist - Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm. Holy Eucharist Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 am. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) Saturdays 9:00 to 10:00 am. Anointing of The Sick on last Wednesday of each month 5:30 pm Mass. Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) Mondays 7:00 pm (September thru May).

Community Services Offered Food Pantry at Maher Hall -Thursday afternoons 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm requires referral from InfoLine (330-376-4850). Kenmore A.A. Big Book Study at Hitch Hall -Thursdays 8:00 pm & Saturdays 8:00 pm. Kenmore Free Store has suspended operation until COVID 19 Level ONE. Kenmore Community Meal -Free meal served the last Tuesday of the month from 5:00 to 6:30 pm in Waldeisen Hall (partnership with Park United Methodist Church). Bingo Gaming Program has suspended operation until COVID 19 Level ONE.

## 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

Reverend Terry W. Passmore, Senior Pastor Pastor Gary L Kinney, Associate Pastor

Hours of Service Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am Wednesday Evening Children & Youth Services 6:00 to 7:00 pm (Parent or Guardian must come with their children to register them) Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study 6:00 to 7:00 pm

Community Services Offered Please call the church office for an appointment for our food pantry

## King's Way Alliance Church

2500 Kingsport Way 330-848-1403 www.kwachurch.org

Hours of Service Heading and Sunday School 9:30 am

## New Life Pentecostals of Akron

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

#### **Pastor Scott Johnson**

Hours of Service Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am Wednesday Life Bible Study 7:00 pm

Community Services Offered Personal home Bible Studies upon request

New Li

Pentecostals of Akron

**Kenmore Connection** 

## **Kenmore Church Directory**

For corrections, changes, or new additions please call John at 330-745-5530 or john@kenmore-komics.com

### Park United Methodist Church Shoreline Community 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 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study 1:00 pm Wednesday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am Masks required. Social distancing in place.

Community Services Offered Project Learn GED Site Bridges Out of Poverty Getting Ahead Classes Contact Gaile Young at 330-745-3714

### Praise Chapel Assembly of God

1204 McIntosh Avenue 330-745-4107 www.netministry.com

**Pastor Robert Shank** 

Hours of Service Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm

#### **Redeemed Christian Church of God**

966 Kenmore Boulevard 330-776-5196 jesushouseakron@ymail.com www.rccgjh-akron.org

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

#### Hours of Service

Sunday Workers' Prayer Meeting 9:30 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 Monthly Holy Ghost Service 9:00 pm to 12:00 midnight (Every 1st Friday of the month) Saturday House Fellowship 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm (held at different locations)

Community Services Offered Non perishable food items are accepted for food baskets that are distributed to needy families and schools during the holidays. 790 Carnegie Avenue 330-753-9241 office@shorelinechurchakron.com www.shorelinechurchakron.com

Dr. Scott Campbell

Hours of Service Sunday Praise & Worship 11:00 am Sunday Live Stream message begins at 11:25 am Wednesday Live Stream Bible Study 7:00 pm View Live Stream Messages at: www.shorelinechurchakron.com OR https://shoreline-communitychurch.freeonlinechurch.com/live OR

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/Shoreline-Live-Stream-106792170959587/

Community Services Offered Drive Thru Food Pantry Service every Friday Check-in is 10:00 to 10:15 am to receive food.



## The Chapel in Kenmore

943 Kenmore Boulevard (enter through back alley) 330-221-2781 www.kenmore.thechapel.life

Lead Campus Pastor: Ben White

Hours of Service In person worship with masks & social distancing Sundays at 10:30am at 943 Kenmore Boulevard (entrance through the back alley). Online worship available the same day & time at https://kenmore.thechapel.life/watch-now/

Community Services Offered Text or call 330-221-2781 if you want to donate resources or time, or if you or someone you know is in need.

## The Church on the Boulevard

754 Kenmore Boulevard 330-745-8634 www.thechurchontheboulevard.co 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.

Senior Pastor: Ron Mohlmaster II

Hours of Service Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am

Community Services Offered See our Calendar below for a list of Community Services.

### The Church on the Boulevard Calendar of Events

All events are at no cost at 754 Kenmore Boulevard! All events, activities & services are interpreted for the deaf. Social distancing and sanitizing requirements in effect during COVID-19 experience. Please call 330-745-8634 for more information.

> **CoB Grab-and-Go Carryout Dinner:** Every Wednesday, 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

"Praise and Worship" every Sunday Morning at 10:00 am Interpreted for the Deaf, Nursery available, Streamed live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KenmoreChurchBlvd and presented on YouTube later Sunday.
"Celebrate Recovery" every Friday at 6:30 pm
"Alcoholics Anonymous" 7 days a week at 7:00 am
"Narcotics Anonymous" Sunday at 3:00 pm, Monday-Friday at 12 noon; Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Wednesday at 6:00 pm, Friday at 9:30 pm, Saturday at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm

## **Outreach Food Pantry**

(Social distancing and sanitizing requirements in effect during COVID-19 experience.)

Monday Mornings 10:00 am to 12:00 noon February 15th , March 1st & 15th, April 5th & 19th, May 3rd & 17th

## **Outreach Food Pantry**

(Social distancing and sanitizing requirements in effect during COVID-19 experience.)

Monday Evenings 5:30 to 7:30 pm February 22nd , March 8th & 22nd, April 12th & 26th, May 10th & 24th

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## **Kenmore Community Garden**

by Chris Beavers

The Kenmore Community Garden is a cooperation between Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (IC) and Park United Methodist Church, located on the IC grounds, near the Kenmore Free Store. 2021 will be the 4th growing season, and we would like to extend to the Kenmore community an opportunity to have a garden bed this year. The 4' x 8' raised bed, soil, water, plants and the seeds are provided by Crown Point and other donations. Providing your own seeds and seedlings is also an option, should you choose.





If interested, you will need to provide the labor (and at least 3 visits a month), planting seeds & plants, weeding when needed, and watering/ pruning to keep everything growing. Whatever you grow is yours to eat or share with your family and neighbors. Volunteers are also welcome to help maintain the garden and chat with other gardeners and helpers, and share any personal gardening experiences.

Garden hours are Tuesdays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. To request a bed, for questions or to volunteer help or donations, please call the Park Church office at 330-745-3714. Requests must please be in the church office by May 3rd.

## Sharing Good News. Investing in local youth. Serving Akron homeowners.

Project Shine is a unique, hidden gem in the heart of Akron. For 18 years, this grassroots non-profit has shared the Good News with homeowners through basic home improvement while investing in local teens. What started out as two local churches wanting to make an impact in their neighborhood has grown to an area wide initiative to Make Christ Known!

Each spring, the Project Shine volunteer board hosts a silent auction dinner to raise funds for the project week. This is the primary source of funding and it is vital to make the week a success. This year is our 11th Auction, and we are very excited about the event but need YOU to make it happen!

Would you consider helping in one (or all!) of the following four ways below?

## PRAY

SHIN

RVICE PROVIDED

God has been evident over the 18 years in this work and we want to continue to honor him in all we do. Pray for the planning of the auction and project week and all those involved.

## DONATE

Every auction needs great items to be a success. You can donate an item, an experience, a gift card, a themed basket or use your imagination and let us know!

## SPONSOR

New this year is the opportunity for local businesses to sponsor the auction. Ranging from \$100 - \$500 you can have your business and message in front of our supporters.

2021 Project Shine Auction	accep to doni Annual April
	-

We are

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Date:	Friday, April 23, 2021
Time:	6:00pm - 9:00pm
Place:	SYB Party Center 4157 Hudson Drive Stow, OH 44224
Tickets:	Eventbrite or the Project Shine Facebook page

For more information, contact Kim Polatas at 330.524.8452

## ATTEND

The more the merrier! Tickets are on sale now through Eventbrite or on our Facebook page.

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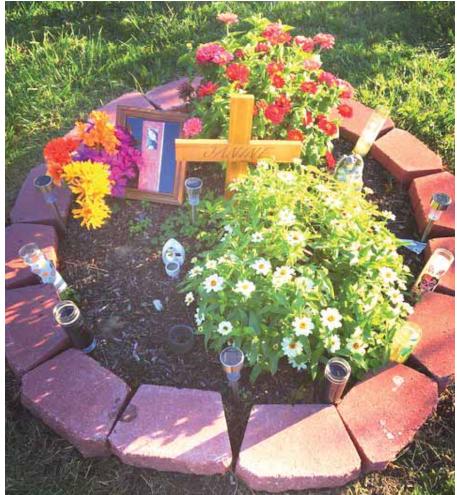
## Kenmore Prayer Garden

by Pastor Ben White

One of the most sacred areas of Kenmore is not a Church Building. The Prayer Garden at the corner of Florida and 18th Street SW was put together by Kimberly Watkins (who we know as "Mama Kimmy"). It's a place filled with beauty, with crosses, candles, angels and flowers.

In the prayer garden there are memorials to many young people in our neighborhood who have lost their lives to violence. It has been a space where those battling addiction, despair, homelessness, and rejection, have felt safe to visit and pray. It has been and will be the location of hip hop concerts (we put one on there in November 2020), cook-outs, and gatherings. Will you take a moment to pray that the Prayer Garden would continue to be an oasis of peace, unity and grace to all who visit it?

> Do you have a reunion, fundraiser, or event to promote in Kenmore? Please contact John at 330-745-5530 for information on how to get your event in the next issue!





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