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A Good Look at the Community
A FREE Publication

Summer 2023

A Quarterly Publication

Volume 24 Issue 3



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CUT & SAVE!

Celebrate Creativity & Community at Kenmore First Friday on September 1st

by Corey Jenkins, Better Kenmore CDC

The 2023 Kenmore First Friday season has drawn some of the largest crowds in the history of the event and brought some of the region's best musicians, makers, vendors, and creatives to Kenmore Boulevard! The schedule for the final Kenmore First Friday of 2023 on September 1st is packed with live music, food, and fun, and it will be a true celebration of creativity and community unlike any other event this summer.

For starters, Summit Artspace will bring a mini market featuring the works of area artists, Kenmore Girl Scout Troop 90187 will sell sidewalk spaces for kids to decorate with chalk, Let's Grow Akron will bring a sampling of what they offer at their Summit Lake farmer's markets, and Trillium Schools of Music will host performances from the next generation of rock stars in the McCutchan Courtyard.



A Crowd Begins to Assemble on 15th Street before the Band Plays on June 2nd

The September 1st Kenmore First Friday will feature food from Ogarth's Kitchen, Dee's Dogs, House of Tacos, Kitchen 212° and Kona Ice, as well as beer from Magic City Brewing Company in the Kenmore Beer Garden located on 15th Street in front of the main stage.

Kenmore First Friday is presented by Better Kenmore CDC, the Kenmore Chamber of Commerce, and the County of Summit ADM Board, with additional support from Akron Civic Commons, Peg's Foundation, United Way, Apollo Supply, Kenmore Komiks & Games, the City of Akron, and The Summit FM. For a full list of sponsors and a schedule of events, visit betterkenmore.org/first-friday. (**Photos by Shane Wynn**)



The Members of Detention Play During the Kenmore First Friday on June 2nd

Speaking of music, the 15th Street Main Stage will host Glenn Lazear and Church of Starry Wisdom - two of Akron's most unique and original bands, while the Kenmore Branch Library, The Rialto Theatre, and Buzzbin will host additional music throughout the event and into the night.

"Kenmore First Fridays are the perfect opportunity to experience The BLVD in all its glory," said Josh Gippin, Better Kenmore CDC executive director. "My vision for the future is for every day on Kenmore Boulevard to feel as fun and lively as it does on Kenmore First Friday."

New “Movement” and Performance Art Studio Opens on Kenmore Boulevard in Building with Legacy of Dance

by Corey Jenkins, Better Kenmore CDC

The building located at 1015 Kenmore Boulevard is probably best known to Kenmore residents as the longtime home of **Etta Mae Smith Studio of Dance**, which moved into the space in 1964.

However, the building was sold this spring and while the ownership and the name have changed, the space will continue to operate as a dance, yoga, and performance art studio for years to come as **The Center Dance + Yoga Studio**.

“I started dancing at **Etta Mae Studio of Dance** when I was five years old,” said Gina Wilson, owner of **The Center**. “I met two of my best friends here, and one of them is now teaching various yoga and meditation classes here. A dance school like this is such an important thing because it brings people in the community together.”

Rather than operating on a recital or class season type of model, **The Center** operates on a “drop-in” model where anyone can drop-in and pay for a single class as they wish. While this model is not new to the yoga world, it is not as common to dance studios in our area.

Gina hopes **The Center** will eventually evolve into a performing arts hub where performers come to get all of their needs met and is working to add music lessons to the programming.

“I’m also a cellist and a choir director, and with the news of Miller South coming to Kenmore I just really want to offer a center to help serve performing artists of all types,” Gina explained.



Owner Gina Wilson (far left) and Members of The Center Dance + Yoga Studio Team

The Center began hosting regular classes in June, but will celebrate its official grand opening Saturday, October 7th, at noon with a ribbon cutting, raffles, performances, demonstrations, and a silent auction to help raise funds for the renovation and modernization of the studio.

For more information and updates on the grand opening, find **The Center Dance + Yoga Studio** on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/thecenterdanceyoga and view the class schedule at vagaro.com/thecenterdanceplusyogastudio.

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Ohio's First Cat Café and Wine Bar Now Open on Kenmore Boulevard

by Corey Jenkins, Better Kenmore CDC

On Saturday July 15th, Akron-native Nicole Farrell opened **Whiskers & Wine Cat Lounge** at 932 Kenmore Boulevard. It's the first cat café and wine bar to open in Ohio. "We wanted to be in a community that needs the traffic. Where businesses have the opportunity to bring more people in and be lasting," Nicole explained of her decision to bring her cat lounge to Kenmore.

Whiskers & Wine is focused on finding senior, "bottle babies," and paralyzed cats forever homes. Recently, she rescued 20 cats from Central Arkansas that were on a euthanasia list.

Visitors to **Whiskers & Wine** have the opportunity to meet a number of adoptable cats, all of which have been spayed, neutered, vaccinated, and dewormed. There is a \$10 cover charge to visit with the cats and the money goes toward helping **Whiskers & Wine** pay for the care of the animals.

Additionally, **Whiskers & Wine** offers a café space for guests to work, shop, and enjoy free coffee, free tea, or purchase snacks and other beverages. "Since we're technically a bar you have to be 18 or older to come to **Whiskers & Wine**, but we have monthly kid's days," Nicole explained.



Guests Visit with the Cats During the Grand Opening of Whiskers & Wine Cat Lounge

If you find a cat you want to take home, **Whiskers & Wine** uses a simple adoption process that requires you to answer a few questions through conversation with staff. The process ensures you and your home are a good fit for the cat you are hoping to adopt. **Whiskers & Wine** does not accept cats off the street or drop offs, however Nicole hopes to establish a local coalition with other rescues to advocate for cats and their well-being.

Whiskers & Wine is open Wednesday through Saturday from noon until 8:00 pm, Sunday from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm, and is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information, visit whiskersandwine.co.

Kenmore Wrestling Club Sign-Ups

by Ryan Boyes

The Kenmore Wrestling Club invites kids ages 5 to 12 (Kindergarten through Sixth grade) to our open mat and sign up events being held Tuesdays October 10th, 17th and 24th, and Thursdays October 12th, 19th and 26th. These will be held at the Innes CLC, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Come meet the coaches, have some fun and see firsthand how we produce champions.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. We invite businesses, clubs, and individuals to support the Kenmore Youth Wrestling program in our community. For more information, follow us on Facebook @Kenmore Wrestling Club or email us at kenmorewrestlingclub@gmail.com.

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Remembering Smith Elementary School

by Corey Jenkins, Better Kenmore CDC

After standing tall at 941 Chester Avenue for 105 years, Smith Elementary School began to crumble to the ground last week. In the days that followed the wrecking ball arrived to take down what remained of the building and Kenmore said goodbye to a piece of neighborhood history.

Smith Elementary School was constructed in 1918 and named in honor of Fred E. Smith – a leader in the early development of Kenmore who donated the land where the school was built. There were few homes near the school when it opened and some members of the community never expected there would ever be enough children to fill it.

When the school opened it was surrounded by brush, trees, and rock piles and did not have a playground. So in 1923 principal Ralph Myers and some of the older school boys grabbed axes, picks, and mattocks and began clearing away the trees and brush. The clearings they made provided spaces for the children to play and slide down the hill during recess.

Houses began springing up like mushrooms around the school and any doubts the community had about there ever being enough children to fill the school were laid to rest. By 1927 every available room in the school was in use and some classes even had to be taught in the basement. One teacher had 59 students in her classroom, while another was responsible for over 80 first graders.

Several improvements were over the years. WPA workers installed the stone wall around the playground during The Great Depression and in 1955 the building underwent an expansion just as enrollment was reaching 500 students.

Former teacher Alta Williams wrote of an incident that occurred at the school one night during the 1920s. One of the other teachers had decided to stay late only to find herself locked inside when she tried to leave. Not willing to spend the night in the school, she went to the basement, broke a window, and crawled out. She made it home safe that night, but the fur coat she was wearing was damaged during her escape.

Matthew Hines was a student at Smith Elementary School from 1979 until 1986 and has many memories from his years at the school, including his experiences with teachers like Miss Mills who was the first person to ever encourage him to be himself. He also remembers what lunch was like at Smith. “We didn’t have a cafeteria, so for lunch we would go to the gym and purchase cartons of milk and frozen dinners that were then heated up in huge ovens on the stage,” Matthew recalled.

In the early 1990s, Gina Wilson (who now owns The Center Dance + Yoga Studio on Kenmore Boulevard) attended Smith Elementary and remembers loving Mrs. Delac’s art class. “Art class was the best,” Gina said. “One year we made clay penguins and mine turned out so good that it wound up on display in the mayor’s office!”

News arrived in 2015 that Akron Public Schools would close both Smith and Lawndale Elementary schools at the end of the school year. In September 2019, Smith Elementary School was auctioned off for \$44,000. The purchaser never made use of the building and it quickly fell into disrepair.

On April 17th, 2022, Smith caught on fire just three months after a multiple-alarm fire destroyed Lawndale Elementary School. It took firefighters about an hour to get the fire under control and no cause or injuries were ever reported. The school would remain standing for another 15 months until it suffered a partial structural collapse during a summer night in July 2023.



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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.

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Councilman's Corner

City Council Passes Resolution Asking U.S. EPA for Reconsideration of \$200,000,000 Project

On July 18th, the City of Akron has begun a formal dispute resolution process with the U.S. EPA over the city's proposed fourth amendment to the consent decree. The city's proposal would eliminate the need to build an expensive and unnecessary Enhanced High-Rate Treatment Facility (EHRT) next to the Towpath Trail. Instead, Akron has suggested alternative projects which would cost less than the EHRT and more significantly improve the quality of our waterways.

The U.S. EPA and the Department of Justice wants Akron residents and ratepayers to pay over \$200 million to build a facility that would only be used at most three times per year. Akron will already be capturing and treating 99% of all wet weather flows. That means over 2.3 billion gallons of water which previously went unchecked back into our waterways will now be treated. This has been a massive environmental feat and one Akron should be incredibly proud of. But it has come with a cost. The price tag for these improvements is already at \$1 Billion.

The city's modeling data shows that if Akron has to build the EHRT, sewer rates would have to be raised 20% more than if the city is allowed to move forward without the EHRT. The city has offered four alternative projects that would only total about a quarter of the cost of the EHRT.

Please consider sending your own letter of opposition to U.S. EPA Regional Director Michael Regan (see a sample letter to the left). E-mail your letter to regan.michael@epa.gov and carbon copy Mayor Horrigan at mayor@akronohio.gov.

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. Please join him at 880 Kenmore Boulevard to discuss your community and your city! The next meeting is Tuesday September 5th.

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Administrator Regan,

I am writing to you from Akron, Ohio, where the US EPA has said that my city needs to build a remote treatment facility along our Towpath Trail for an outlandish \$209 million that has not been activated for over a year. Building this facility will only have a 0.04% impact on bacteria levels to address recreational uses of the river, but the river is unsafe for recreational use at times that the facility would be activated. Instead of an unnecessary facility along the Towpath, Akron has proposed to eliminate failing septic systems in the watershed that create unhealthy recreational conditions on a daily basis.

Why is EPA insisting on a project that would substantially raise our rates when we can spend much less to ensure clean water every day for all?

Please consider the impact of your decision both on Akron ratepayers and those of us who enjoy the river. I hope you'll join the Ohio EPA in supporting Akron's proposal.

Sincerely,
(Your Name)

Finally, I would encourage you to visit www.akronwaterwaysrenewed.com to increase your knowledge of this massive project.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Councilman Mike Freeman
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Being a Girl Scout

by Aelyse Taylor, Troop 90187

The main part of being a girl scout is how you get involved with different activities, get to be a part of lots of trips, and participate in many community activities. When you are a Girl Scout, you may get to participate in community activities such as a neighborhood clean up, volunteering at the food bank, making sandwiches for the Kenmore Free Store, or a flea market (which helped with raising money for our trip to Alaska next summer). Participating in these things also helps us with our social skills and it teaches us to help others who truly need it.

When we go on camping trips, this helps us get in touch with the beauty of the forest and gives us many places where we can go on hikes, swim and learn other skills, like archery, canoe, and zipline. However when hiking you should make sure to be careful around cliffs.

As a Girl Scout, we are provided with opportunities to work with younger kids. When we did a Parent Night Out fundraiser, we played games and provided treats to the kids while the parents enjoyed a night out without the kids, relaxed and knowing their kids were in safe hands.

We have done many fun activities in our troop, mostly as fundraising for our trip to Alaska, but I will admit my favorite one has to be the Calendar Months Dinner, because we got to show off our creativity by decorating the table in the month we picked and in creating a theme basket for a raffle. We also got to show off our cooking skills. In my time with the Girl Scouts it has been one of the greatest memory making things I have done that I will cherish forever. So as you finish reading this you can see that we Girl Scouts are not just about selling cookies and being sweet, we work to help our community and others who may need help. At the end of the day we feel like sisters and a part of an amazing group.



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Eagle Elementary Nurtures Student Growth Through a Whole Child Approach to Learning

by Diane Kilivris

At Eagle Elementary of Akron, a tuition free public charter school for grades K-5, a whole-child approach to education takes center stage. Recognizing that early childhood education is about more than academics, Eagle Elementary goes above and beyond, meeting each student's physical, emotional, and mental health needs. Eagle Elementary partners with Guiding Point, Families First, Dreams Center, Dreams Academy, TES, and the Summit County Book Mobile to offer comprehensive care to every child.

According to Lisa Cook, Principal of Eagle Elementary, "the mission of Eagle Elementary is to accept, appreciate, nurture, and challenge every student every day. Our community partners work in unison with us as we each share the same message of acceptance of who each student is, but we want to build on what each student can accomplish regardless of the obstacles. We are concerned about making progress and positive gains in the lives of each individual student."

Eagle Elementary recognizes emotional well-being as the foundation for successful K-5 learning. Guiding Point and Families First offer mental health support services to students and their families including counseling and assistance when facing life challenges. Dreams Academy offers supportive services that are built into the character educational component for 4th and 5th grade students. Dreams Academy shares Eagle's vision of helping students see themselves in positive manners while helping them to develop into people who show love of self and others.

Eagle Elementary is committed to ensuring that no student faces barriers to learning due to their physical health. By partnering with TES to provide essential services, students can access speech and occupational therapy, and regular vision and hearing screenings. Proper nutrition is also essential for optimal learning and development. With support from the Dreams Center, Eagle Elementary provides food for weekends, ensuring that every student has nutritious meals beyond the school week.

To foster a love for reading and knowledge, the Summit County Book Mobile drops by every other week to give students and families at Eagle Elementary access to library books. This initiative not only encourages literacy but also promotes the joy of exploration and learning outside of the classroom setting.

Eagle Elementary exemplifies its core values of educating the whole child by harnessing the power of community partnership. By nurturing elementary students' physical, emotional, and mental well-being, Eagle Elementary makes a profoundly positive impact on the lives of their K-5 students and families.



Eagle Elementary
Of Akron

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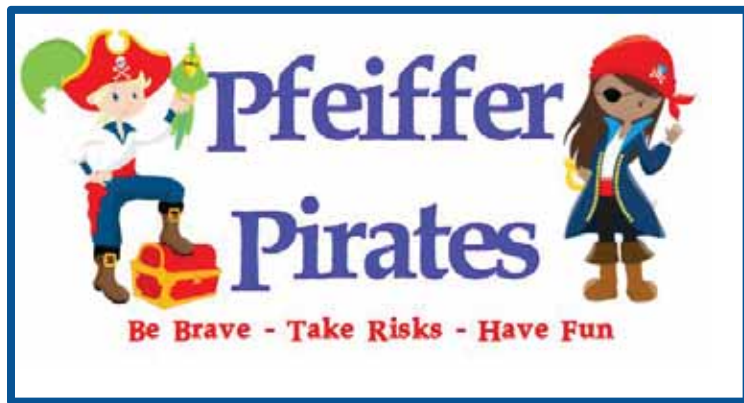
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First Fridays: Empowering Pfeiffer Elementary Students and Strengthening Local Autonomy

In the heart of Kenmore, a vibrant monthly event known as "First Fridays" has been fostering a positive impact on the students of Pfeiffer Elementary School. This community-driven initiative, hosted by the Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance, not only provides students with a fun and engaging experience but also serves as a platform to unveil a plethora of valuable resources that families may not be aware of. With each passing month, First Fridays have become a catalyst for enhancing local autonomy and nurturing a sense of unity within the community.

First Friday Fun: A Vibrant Community Gathering for Pfeiffer Elementary Students and Beyond



Fostering Student Engagement and Empowerment:

First Fridays have emerged as a unique opportunity for the students of Pfeiffer Elementary to actively engage with their surroundings. By offering live music, captivating kid shows, face paintings, and an array of exciting activities, the event captivates the young minds, encouraging them to take part in social interactions, build friendships, and develop essential life skills.

Discovering Hidden Community Resources:

Beyond the entertainment, First Fridays prove to be an enlightening experience for families, as they get to explore a wide range of community resources they might not have known about otherwise. From book mobiles that encourage a love for reading to vendors offering valuable community services, these events expose the community to a wealth of support and assistance, strengthening the local fabric.



"First Fridays" in Kenmore have emerged as a powerful catalyst for the positive transformation of Pfeiffer Elementary students and the wider community. By providing an engaging platform for students to interact, uncovering hidden community resources, and promoting local autonomy, these events nurture a strong and united community. As this monthly tradition continues to flourish, its impact on the students' lives and the growth of the neighborhood becomes increasingly evident, highlighting the significance of community-driven initiatives in shaping a brighter future for all.

By: Lauren Schneider, Pfeiffer Elementary School Counselor

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



Rimer Pride

by Jammie Bryant, Rimer CLC Family Liaison

The 2022-2023 school year was amazing! We had lots of fun and are looking forward to another fun filled year.

Last year we started the Family of the Week and celebrated 14 families. The winners received pizza, popcorn, games, a certificate and their name went on our marquee in front of the school. Make sure you're on time, ready to learn, hard working and kind to be in the running to be one of next year's families.

We also had our Family Gala dance where every student displayed a piece of artwork and the students in attendance sang a song and performed a dance. The entire evening was filled with laughter and lots of dancing.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

- Husky School Store
- Kindness Ball
- Pop Up Bash
- Families of the Week
- Fathers Walk
- Parent Meetings
- Open House and much more!!



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Summer Camps 2023 at Kenmore Community Center a Big Hit!

by Alice Incorvia, Kenmore Community Center Supervisor

Summer at Kenmore Community Center was full of fun, creativity, loads of activities and so much more! Camps ranged from two Art camps, Cooking camps for two age groups, Golf, Music, Outdoor (survival), Movie Magic and Water Week. Kids ranging in ages from 6 to 15 enjoyed these theme camps from June 12th through August 10th with breakfast & lunch provided by Akron Public Schools. Camps were reasonably priced and included breakfast, lunch, t-shirt, supplies, field trips and a summer of fun and memories. Praise Chapel Assembly of God provided bottles of water for field trips and popsicles for the entire Summer. Additionally, during our Kids in the Kitchen camp, campers prepared 175 Peanut butter & jelly sandwiches for the Park United Methodist Church food program for those in need of a meal. See you next Summer!



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Kenmore Community Center Adult Activities

880 Kenmore Boulevard 330-375-2812

Please call the Center for questions and reservations!

**9th Ward
Councilman's Meeting**
First Tuesday of the Month
7:00 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

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 1:00 pm

Penny Bingo
Tuesdays at 12:30 pm
Only a penny a card!
Bring a snack to share.
Everyone welcome!

Card Playing
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Euchre
(Tournament Style)**
Wednesdays at 12:30 pm

Billiard's Table
Call 330-753-4771
to Reserve a Table

Popcorn & Movie
Fridays at 12:30 pm
50 cents per bag of popcorn.

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please contact John Buntin Jr at 330-304-9598




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Kenmore Historical Society News

by Sean Blake, President Kenmore Historical Society

Hello Kenmore!

It is great to talk to you again. I have been very excited lately because there has been a buzz going around the community. Here's the scoop if you haven't heard yet!

The Summit Lake Loop Trail is nearing completion, allowing hikers and bikers to enjoy the beauty of the full lake. If you have not seen it yet, you definitely need to come down and check out the beautiful views of the lake! More improvements are planned for the north shore of Summit Lake, so keep your eyes focused on that area once the trail is complete.

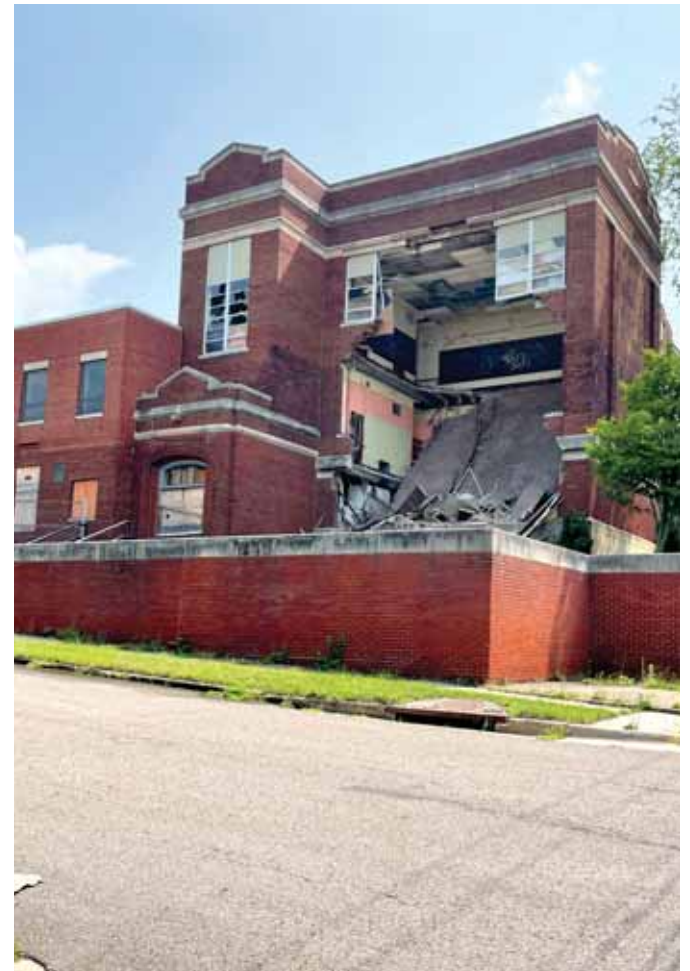
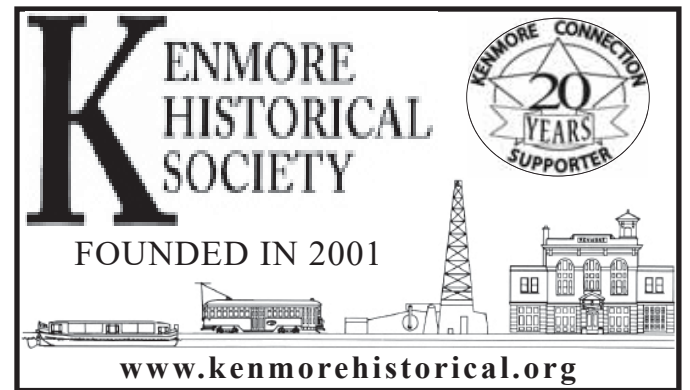
The Akron School Board just recently voted to build a new Elementary School to replace Pfeiffer on the existing Kenmore High School site. They will also move the Miller South School for the Performing Arts into the new building. What does that mean for the existing Pfeiffer Building? I am not sure yet but I will promise that the Historical Society will do what we can to preserve the memory of it and anything that we are able to acquire.

We have had some amazing First Friday events that have attracted a lot of people so far this year! Better Kenmore CDC (formerly KNA) deserves a huge shout-out for their hard work in hosting these events. It has really been a thrill to see lots of people coming to downtown Kenmore and staying for the event. The last First Friday of the year will be September 1st from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. One of my favorite Akron area bands, Church of Starry Wisdom, will be headlining. Afterwards there is a great show at the Rialto featuring Zach & The Bright Lights and Rami Feinstein which is definitely a must see if you are into good vibes.

The Etta Mae Smith dance studio was just bought by a group of local investors. While they do not wish to be named at this time, I can promise you that they are all local and fully committed to keeping the dance studio open. It is already hosting dance, yoga, and Zumba classes under its new name, The Center. Look for more improvements and events to be had there soon!

At the end of July, the old Smith School finally said enough is enough, and gave way. The city immediately started the demolition process on the building. Just like when Lawndale was razed last year we would love to hear any stories about the building from former teachers, students, parents, and neighbors. Please submit them on our website at www.kenmorehistorical.org/contact.

So what has the historical society been up to? We have been very busy. We have a new treasurer, Kellie Brown. I cannot say how grateful I am for Kellie stepping up to help fill an immediate need. Lillian Jolly remains with us as a trustee emeritus. She is a wealth of knowledge and her family has done so much for the historical society so I am super grateful she will still be around. I have also been working on getting some guest speakers to come to our meetings. We have had some scheduling conflicts, but I am hoping on getting something together soon. As soon as they are announced, the event will be posted on our Facebook page, so please stay tuned to that. Our meetings are on the last Mondays on the month at 6:30 pm at the library. Our next one will be August 28th and I would love to see you there! Until then, see you around Kenmore!



A Classroom Collapses in the old Smith Elementary School Building

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!

JOBS Program Needs Mentors

by Diane Kilivris

Jump On Board for Success (JOBS) has been serving the Akron community for almost ten years with one-on-one mentoring and job skills training for women and girls ages 13-35. Over the last two years, the number of participants has increased, while the number of available mentors has not kept up. There are currently 20 young women awaiting female mentors.

“We were fortunate to have two Beacon Journal articles written about the program last year, and with that came more girls,” said Jennifer Herrick, Executive Director. The program also added a social media coordinator to the staff, promoting and attracting more participants.

The role of a mentor is to help build a participant’s life skills like parenting, budgeting and finances, education, setting goals, and more. They act as a cheerleader and trusted advisor. Each mentor is paired with only one participant.

“Mentoring is the heartbeat of our program,” said Herrick. “Each mentor-participant relationship is unique, and we want that relationship to grow organically.”

Mentors are required to communicate with the participant a minimum of one hour per week (phone, text, meet-up, etc) and report those hours to JOBS staff. A participant contract acts as a guide, outlining what each participant wants to work on, or needs guidance with. Mentors receive a resource guide, and JOBS hosts two Mentor Boot camps each year for more focused training.



Karen Freeman, Former Mentor and Recruiter, Passes the Torch to Tiffany Gerke, JOBS’ New Mentor Coordinator

For more information on becoming a mentor please reach out to Tiffany Gerke at mentorcoordinator@jobsakron.org or visit our website at www.jobsakron.org.



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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 Homestead 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.

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Don E. Pucak

Charles L. Wilson, Owner

Hope Church News

Hope Church, formerly the Hope United Methodist Church on Cory Avenue, celebrates its 168th year of ministry by joining the newly formed denomination of the Global Methodist Church. After a year of prayerful consideration, Hope Church chose to join the new denomination because it more closely represents Hope’s historic evangelical theological roots.

The church was formed in 1855 with a small group of German speaking believers who aligned themselves with the Evangelical Association. In 1946 the Evangelical Association joined with the Brethren Church to become the Evangelical United Brethren Church and twelve years later was merged with the Methodist Church to form the United Methodist Church. The current change represents the desire of the members of Hope Church-Akron to return to its roots to better reach out and minister to the community that surrounds it.

The mission of the new church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Its vision is “to join God in journey of bringing new life, reconciliation, and the presence of Christ to all people, and to helping each person reflect the character of Christ.”

If you do not have a church home, we welcome you to visit and allow us to extend the love and grace of Jesus Christ to you. Hope Church is located at 2650 Cory Avenue, and for further information please contact us at 330-753-2303 or officehunc@gmail.com.

Get to Know Your Neighbors – Community Meetings at the Allenside Presbyterian Church

by Carolyn Duvall, Elder of Allenside Presbyterian Church

Come and get to know your neighbors at monthly Community Meetings being held at the Allenside Presbyterian Church, 410 Rexford Street on the third Tuesday of each month.

Starting at 6:00 pm, a free dinner is provided to everyone, followed by a guest speaker. Recent speakers have included a program leader from South Street Ministry’s programs to stop youth violence and a representative from the Summit County Prosecutor’s Office who spoke about avoiding scams.

A community festival was held on July 15th, with food and activities for children and adults.

Upcoming meetings are:

- Tuesday, September 19th, 6:00 pm – Dinner and a speaker to be announced
- Tuesday, October 17th, 6:00 pm – Dinner and a speaker to be announced

All take place at the Allenside Church, 410 Rexford Street. We created a Facebook page named Allenside Neighborhood Community. All of you are encouraged to join this page using the link at www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089156545086.

These events provide a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors! Please join us! All are welcome!



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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 Francie Fischer

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 Meetings – 6:00 pm, 3rd Tuesday
of the Month (excluding August and December)
in the 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.

Community Christian Chapel

2306 18th Street SW
330-488-7855

pastordwaynecummings@gmail.com

Pastor Dwayne Cummings

Hours of Service

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am

Bible Studies on FaceBook Live

Sunday at 6:00 pm and Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Community Services Offered
Spanish Speaking Service Provided

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 1:30 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 Casey Hughes

Youth Leaders: Isaac Craddock, Aaron & Jen Hurd,
and 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)

Hope Church

2650 Cory Avenue
330-753-2303

officehume@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 10:30 am

Immaculate Conception of Mary Parish

2101 17th Street SW
330-753-8429

ickenmore@yahoo.com

www.ickenmore.org

Melissa N. Keegan, Parish Life Coordinator

Reverend Michael B. Smith, Pastor Emeritus

Hours of Service

Holy Eucharist - Monday, Wednesday, Friday 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 noon to 2 pm -

requires referral from InfoLine (330-376-4850).

Kenmore A.A. (at Hitch Hall) Mondays 8:00 pm.

Kenmore A.A. Big Book Study

(at Hitch Hall) Thursdays 8:00 pm.

Kenmore A.A. Saturday Nite

(at Hitch Hall) Saturdays 8:00 pm.

Kenmore Community Meal - Free take-out meal
available the last Tuesday of the month beginning at 4:30
until we run out. Pick-up in front of 2126 16th Street SW
(partnership with Park United Methodist Church).

Kenmore Free Store at 2128 16th Street,
enter back door off 17th and Battles Avenue
(partnership with Park United Methodist Church)

Tuesdays 4:00-7:00 pm, and Saturdays 9:30 am to Noon.

Bingo (at Waldeisen Hall) Wednesdays,
doors open at 9:30 am, games start at 11:00 am.

For questions please call 330-753-8429

between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm weekdays.

Participating member of Kenmore Ministerial Association

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

Pastor Chris Shallenberger, 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

Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

6:00 to 7:00 pm

Office Hours - Monday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Tues-
day & Thursday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Wednesday
10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Friday and Saturday closed,
Sunday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. If no one is available
please leave a message.

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

Pastor Eric Francisco

Hours of Service

Sunday School 9:30 am

Sunday Worship Service 10:45 am

Koinonia Apostolic Faith Church

814 Carnegie Avenue
330-745-5242

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

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

Thursday Intercessory Prayer 7:00 pm

Email koinonia5111@yahoo.com for the Zoom Link

Community Services Offered

Food Pantry

Grief Recovery Classes

Kenmore Church Directory

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

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
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 9:30 am

Community Services Offered
JOBS (Jump On Board for Success) Program
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/channel/UCwVBXqHG0mI9IDm31qSLlr)).

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@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).
Monthly Holy Ghost Service 9:00 pm to 12:00, last Friday of
every month (ON HOLD).
Saturday House Fellowship 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
(virtual).

Community Services Offered
Non perishable food items are accepted for food bas-
kets 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

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://www.shorelinechurchakron.com/Watch-Live>

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

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

Streetlight Community Church

943 Kenmore Boulevard
330-221-2781
<https://streetlight.life/>
<https://www.facebook.com/streetlightcc>
<https://www.instagram.com/streetlightcc/>
[https://www.youtube.com/chan-
nel/UCwVBXqHG0mI9IDm31qSLlr](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwVBXqHG0mI9IDm31qSLlr)

Pastor: Ben White

Hours of Service

In person worship with donuts and coffee,
10:00 am pre-prayer and worship,
10:30 am gathering, outside during warm weather
at 952 Kenmore Boulevard, inside during
rain or cold at 943 Kenmore Boulevard.
Can park at the Library or on Kenmore Boulevard
and enter through Kenmore alley,
or follow the sign and enter through
the entrance on Kenmore Boulevard.
We don't livestream our gatherings,
visit our Facebook, Instagram and Youtube
to see our curated video content!

Community Services Offered
We partner with various allies in our city who are
highly active in the neighborhood and beyond,
see <https://streetlight.life/allies/> to learn more.

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 Service 10:00 am

Community Services Offered
Outreach Food Pantries
1st & 3rd Mondays at 5:30 to 7:30 pm.
Grab-and-Go Carryout Dinners
2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 5:00 to 6:30 pm.
"Celebrate Recovery" Meetings Vary.
"Alcoholics Anonymous" and "Narcotics Anonymous"
meetings can be found online.
"New Generation Youth" and "Kids In Action"
both meet 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 6:45 to 8:00 pm.

Hip Hop In Church With A Hot Dog Man?

by Pastor Ben White, Streetlight Community Church

We love to have fun at Streetlight Community Church, and we love to be innovative! As much as we hold onto the life giving death, resurrection, and teachings of Jesus we also love to experiment with new ways of connecting with people.

That's exactly why days like Sunday, June 25th happen!

On Sunday, June 25th, we had our normal worship gathering in the morning between 10:00 am and noon. We gather in the warmer months when it's not raining at 952 Kenmore Boulevard in Akron. Thanks to the Buzzbin for allowing us to meet in their greenspace!

After our gathering on that day we had what we call "Kenmore Community Cookout". We got out a grill, gathered together a bunch of hot dogs, chips, drinks, sides and desserts, and put the word out to the neighborhood. I put on a hot dog costume just to be silly and give folks a laugh or a selfie opportunity. We had a friend of ours, Plant Kidd, come and do a set of original hip hop music, and I jumped up to play some acoustic covers while we ate food, had conversations, and enjoyed the beautiful day!

We want to infuse not only fun & creativity into the Church, but also to experiment with adding elements of hip hop music into our worship gatherings, along with many other styles of music including rock, gospel, folk, bluegrass, and more. We'd love to have you join us on a Sunday! Learn more at www.streetlight.life.



June 25th Kenmore Community Cookout

Goss Church Welcomes New Pastor

by Isaac Craddock, Youth Ministry Intern
of Goss Memorial Church and VP of KMA

Casey Hughes began serving Goss Church as pastor on Sunday March 5th, 2023, and was officially installed on Sunday April 23rd, 2023. Casey comes to Goss from Grace Church Medina East Campus (MEC), where he served as a Life Group Leader and taught in MEC's Equipping Division. Casey and his wife, Nicole, were born and raised in Connecticut and moved to Ohio from eastern Pennsylvania in 2018. They have three young children, Blaise (6), Blaire (4), and Brock (2). Casey believes wholeheartedly in the message of Romans 1:16, that the Gospel, the good news about Jesus, is the power of God that brings salvation. Casey grew up in an inner city with many similarities to Kenmore and has a passion for participating in Gospel transformation in the urban context.

Casey received his BA in Political Science from Yale University (New Haven, CT). He currently attends Western Seminary (Portland, OR) where he is scheduled to receive his Graduate Studies Degree in the Summer of 2023.



Pastor Casey Hughes and Family

**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!**



Kenmore Free Store News

by Mary Ann Gesaman, Managing Director, Kenmore Free Store



The Kenmore Free Store mission statement is: It is the mission of the Free Store ministry to provide the good news of Jesus Christ, genuine Christian love and fellowship as well as clothing and household necessities to ALL at NO COST or OBLIGATION.

Can you believe it---we are beginning our 10th year as The Kenmore Free Store!!!

Watch this space for upcoming announcements of celebration.

We are blessed by the number of faithful volunteers who come in on Tuesdays or Saturdays to serve our shoppers. We celebrated our volunteers with a luncheon in June. Please see the photo to the right with some of the wonderful volunteers. We would love to see some new faces.

If you are considering volunteering, please call 330-606-2878 for more information, or come in during our open hours on Tuesdays (4:00 to 7:00 pm) or Saturdays (9:00 am to 12:00 noon) to complete an application.

The Kenmore Free Store continues to be very busy place. We see between 60-100 families units each time we are open.

Money donated should be sent to: The Kenmore Free Store, C/O Park United Methodist Church, 2308 24th Street SW, Akron, Ohio 44314.

Please help us continue these ministries that are needed in the Kenmore area.

Hebrews 13:16 "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

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 Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.



Let the Journey Begin ... Welcome Aboard Alicia Hotes!

by Carolyn Duvall, Elder of Allenside Presbyterian Church

Allenside and Firestone Park Presbyterian churches are excited to welcome Alicia Hotes to our stellar line of soloists, which have been hand-picked from Firestone High School's musical arts program. Alicia comes with many talents at such a young age, just as our past gifted soloists have.



She is 16 years old and entering 11th grade. In addition to her vocal ability, she started playing the violin just after her 5th birthday and has been playing with the same teacher ever since. She then started taking piano and vocal lessons at age seven but stopped taking vocal lessons in the 5th grade. Since then, she has picked up the guitar and viola, and most recently started learning to play the harp. She has now resumed her vocal lessons again earlier this year.

Alicia's many other achievements include playing the violin in the pit orchestra for musicals Sunday in The Park with George, The Prom and Tuck Everlasting at Firestone High School. She also sang Brahms Requiem with the Akron Symphony Orchestra. Alicia is also involved with many singing groups at school such as the Firestone Madrigals, Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Symphonic Choir and plays violin in both Concert and Chamber Orchestras. Aside from all the above activities, Alicia's hobbies are knitting, cooking, and playing tennis.

Your writer is personally excited to hear Alicia is learning the harp and looking forward to when she'll feel comfortable giving us her first performance. Our Music Committee this year went on a hunt for a harpist for one of our programs at the church and found them very far and few between and there are many in our congregation who are looking forward to those magical, melodious sounds.

For those of you who don't know, Fiona will continue to be with us, but due to her study schedule at Baldwin Wallace, when she might not be able to be with us on Sunday, she will be collaborating with Alicia to see that each Sunday our pulpit will have a soloist. And, with the great ideas that our soloists have, we may have an opportunity to see a duet or other surprises that a collaboration can present.

We have also been gifted many times with our first Firestone High students, Olivia Roberts and Fiona Coughlin, working with our music program in many ways, whether alone or in tandem. Olivia makes a great effort in coming back from Capital University to work with us on many special occasions, and I can assume that will continue with all three of our soloists when the opportunity presents itself.

These young, gifted women have not only grown in their talents, but also have become family. Alicia, Welcome to Our Family, We Are So Glad to Have You!

The YES Fund was established based on the mission of Akron Recreation & Parks to provide fun, safe and affordable opportunities to enhance quality of life and encourage deeper connections within our community. The YES Fund will assist families with children 18 years and younger, who meet eligibility requirements, with any fee-based Akron Recreation & Parks programming.



The YES Fund makes it possible for the youth in our community to participate and enjoy all the programming our community centers offer, including:

**Art DANCE
SUMMER CAMP
SPORTS**

For more information contact Jeff Mourton at jmourton@akronohio.gov 330-375-2859
Make checks payable to AKRON PARKS COLLABORATIVE at 220 S. Balch St Akron, OH 44302

KENMORE BRANCH

**See what's happening at
Kenmore Branch Library this fall!**



Events Calendar

For more information about the Kenmore Branch, including meeting room reservations and the Friends of Kenmore Branch Library, check out our website: akronlibrary.org/locations/kenmore

THE FALL HIKING SPREE

Free and fun hiking event!

SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30



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330-867-5511 | #SMPspree