

Spirit of Bainbridge

33 Years Serving Auburn and Bainbridge

PRESORT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 104
CHAGRIN FALLS,
OHIO 44023

Boxholder
or
Occupant
ECCR/
WSS
Pre-Sort



Vol. 18 No. 13

For the Community • By the Community

April 12, 2024



KMS Students Connecting with Local Businesses

Eighth graders at Kenston Middle School, in connection with the KMS Career Readiness Class, visited various local businesses which provided a hands-on exploration of potential career paths in our local community. Above, eighth graders Braden Greene and Casimirri Bushnell are shown at MAGNET Corp. in Cleveland. Kenston Schools Photo.



It Takes a Village...

...to put on a fun Easter Egg Hunt for our community, and the smiles are worth the efforts! The Bainbridge Fire Dept. sincerely thanks the following for their donation/participation in this year's event: Chagrin Valley Roller Rink, Fun 'n Stuff, JFD Landscapes, Golf Dome, Akron Rubberducks, Dunkin Donuts, Breezewood Gardens, Sports Clips, Bainbridge Police, Nic's Donuts, Mike from NAPA Auto Parts, Cowboy Food & Drink, Fireside Books, Highway Garage, Giant Eagle, Two Café, Zeppé's, Mazzulo's, Janice Sugarman, Fiscal Officer, Cleveland Dance & Theatrical Supply, Full Time Firefighter's Union, IAFF Local 5390, Bainbridge Township Part Time Firefighter's Union and Bainbridge Township Service Dept.

A Mother's Hands

A testament of her love,
a mother's hands are always tired.
But infinitely strong and capable.

Those hands planted, and prepared, vegetables.
They changed diapers and soothed boo-boos.
They knew the diligent work as a secretary.

And then these hands, her daughter's,
have typed billions of newspaper words,
some of which created a local food pantry.

These hands have planted
thousands of flowers and vegetables,
And bowled that number of games,
some great, some not so much.

They have welcomed three babes into the world,
and buried the eldest of those.

They have held the hand of a dying friend,
and celebrated life and love with many others.

Those hands have held a sobbing child
whose first dog died, and when she suffered bullying.
And that same child, grown, whose first love
turned out to be unkind.

They have driven countless carpools, and
cheered at sports contests as your biggest fan!

Those hands are in the last season of life
but still applaud at rock 'n roll concerts.

They still prepare favorite recipes.
They still plant and weed three seasons out of four.
And, still, they carry on...

Anne E. North
© 2024



TES Installs a Book Vending Machine to Celebrate Reading!

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!" Timmons Elementary School held a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 11, 2024, for their very own book vending machine. The book vending machine, purchased by the Timmons PTO provides an additional opportunity to promote literacy, gives students another avenue to access books at school, and reinforces the school wide system of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) strategies. Each month, two students who display the PEAK trait will be submitted by their teacher to the PTO. From there, students will be entered into a random drawing where one student per grade will receive a book. Timmons looks forward to celebrating the love of reading for years to come.

100+ Women of the Western Reserve

Our organization has been operating successfully since January, 2011. We have raised close to \$600,000 for local charities. One hundred percent of every dollar raised goes to charity. There are four meetings a year, each lasting less than one hour.

Please come to our next meeting, April 23 at 6 p.m. at the Chagrin Falls Township Hall. All are welcome to join or observe a meeting and see how we get this done. Our website explains our organization and showcases all the charities we have helped so far. For more information please go to <http://www.100women.com> or 100+ Women Who Care: Western Reserve.



**Geauga County
Public Library**

Bainbridge Branch Updates

Connect and engage with your community and local library by attending one of Geauga County Public Library's programs. Visit our website, GeaugaLibrary.net, and click on "Programs" to see a full calendar of our upcoming programs. Please include your email and phone number when registering for programs to receive updates about all our programs, as well as what is happening at your local libraries.

Discussion Groups

Monday, April 15 at 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. – *He Said/She Said* by Erin Kelly
Tuesday, April 16 at 7 p.m. – *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card

Protect Yourself from Identity Theft

Friday, April 19 from 2-3 p.m. Join a representative of the Ohio Attorney General's Office and learn how to protect yourself from identity theft and address the effects of identity theft should you become a victim. Registration required.

Puzzle Exchange

Friday, April 26 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Enjoy the library's "piece-ful" atmosphere and exchange your jigsaw puzzles for new ones with other puzzle enthusiasts. It's a basic premise: leave some, take some!

All About Falls

Monday, April 29 from 2-3 p.m. Stop by and learn about the risk factors associated with falling, ways to reduce your risk of falling, and how to identify potential hazards in your home. Registration required.

Train for a Triathlon

Thursday, May 2 from 7-8 p.m. Listen as Jimmy Bagnola, owner of Bike Ohio in Chagrin Falls and a triathlon coach, discusses different ways to train for this multi-sport event. Registration required.

New Passport Fair

Saturday, May 4 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. In need of a passport? You're in luck; we've partnered with the Geauga County Clerk of Courts to provide you with a one-stop shopping experience to easily get you your next passport.

April Activities at Valley Presbyterian Church

* * * * *

Pass-It-On Resale Store Will be OPEN
Friday, April 12, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 13, 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

If you're a bookworm, an avid reader has donated many beautiful books!
For a list of donations accepted or a list of the organizations to whom we donate, check out our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/passit.on.716>, or email us at passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

* * * * *

Take-Out Community Meal

Tuesday, April 16, 4p.m. to 5:30p.m.

This month, we will, again, be preparing dinners to be available for pick-up or delivery. These meals are our gift to the community: to anyone who is in need of an evening of not cooking or the love that goes into making the food.

This month's menu:

Baked Chicken Soufflé, Mashed Potato Casserole,
Romaine & Strawberry Salad and Chocolate Chip Bars

Sign up in this Google form: <https://forms.gle/SJcPzBe86QGtjog98>

For more information, contact the church office at 440.543.1071
or email valleycecommission@gmail.com

Valley Presbyterian Church, 17560 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls
Phone: (440) 543-1071 Email: valleyvpc@netlink.net
Worship Service 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Or join us online



Animal Camp 2024

The Best Camp Ever! Is celebrating its 18th year and we are inviting you.

11 one week sessions

For kids 5 to 13 years old
Camp hours 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Features:

Horseback riding,
playing with rabbits, goats,
chickens, cows and dogs.
Plus crafts and games all
day long.

Visit us at:
www.risingriver.net
Contact Us:
(440) 463-3146
khanimalcamp@gmail.com



Visitation:

Visitation of the Animal Camp will be offered on an individual basis. Visitation must be scheduled, and is of limited availability.

Rising River Farm
6618 Chagrin River Rd
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

SUNDAY Kids Eat FREE
Limit: 2 per table

BAR & MEXICAN FOOD

LUNCH SPECIALS
Starting at \$5.99

Plaza Agave
Natural & Homemade

Natural & Homemade Mexican Food & Bar

SPECIALS!	FRESH Tableside Guacamole	BUY 1 DINNER GET 1 FREE UP TO \$10 VALUE MUST BUY 2 BEVERAGES exp 5/3/24
MONDAY & THURSDAY 3 Tacos for \$5.99		SPEND \$50 GET \$10 OFF exp 5/3/24
WEDNESDAY Chimichangas \$10.99 Margaritas \$6.50	HAPPY HOUR 2:00 - 6:00 EVERYDAY!	SPEND \$25 GET \$5 OFF exp 5/3/24
FRIDAY PITCHERS OF MARGARITAS \$16.99	Delivery available with Grubhub, Doordash and Uber Eats	

8377 E. Washington St. • Bainbridge • 440.543.1186

Check out our website www.PlazaAgave.com for special events & times

Also Available: Private Party Room for up to 30 people & Gift Certificates

No coupons with specials

HELP & HOPE

Care Groups

We offer help and support from a Christian perspective. These groups are free and open to the public.

Grieving With Hope
8-week, In-person group
Meets Thursdays at 7:00pm
parksdechurch.com/grieving

Widows Connection Lunch
Sunday, April 21, at Noon
Theme: God's Perfect Provision
parksdechurch.com/widows

Families Facing Addiction
Monthly in-person meetings
Next meeting: April 28 at 11:45am
parksdechurch.com/addiction

Cancer Support
Meets monthly in-person & online.
Next Meeting: May 5 at 11:45am
parksdechurch.com/cancer

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT parksdechurch.com

PARKSIDE CHURCH
7100 Pettibone Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
440.543.1212

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SERVICES
9am | 10:30am | 6pm
Livestream during the 9am service

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT parksdechurch.com



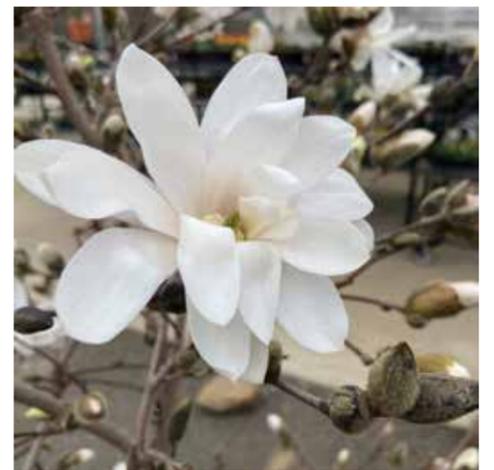
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!

16540 CHILLICOTHE ROAD | CHAGRIN FALLS, OH | 440.543.5123 | 888.543.5123



Celebrate Earth Day

Ever wonder what it looks like behind the scenes of growing at Lowe's Greenhouse? Join Kim and Jerry, our lead growers, Saturday April 20 at 1 pm for our "Meet the Growers" Q&A and tour! Take a peek at what we are growing and how our production greenhouses work! The Earth Day weekend celebrations do not stop there - awesome sales announced soon!



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th!

Order your flowers, planters and hanging baskets now and secure your preferred delivery date. Our new pottery selection has something for everyone. Browse our gift shop for unique gifts that mom, grandma, auntie, sister, and friend will love!



Visit our website for more information

www.Lowe'sGreenhouse.com



Lord of Life Hosts Vacation Bible School June 10-14

Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Bainbridge will host Scuba: Diving into friendship with God Bible School June 10-14. Children ages three (potty trained) through 5th grade will dive into an under the sea adventure that is oceans of fun! The Scuba week will be filled with incredible Bible stories, games, cool bible songs, snacks and more. Children will have a splashing good time seeing that God is their friend!

"It is our prayer that kids will discover that God is their friend in all situations. We are looking forward to a week of learning about God's love and having fun!" says Meghan Emanuel, Director of Children's Ministry.

This fun-filled Vacation Bible School experience is for children ages three years (potty trained) through 5th grade. The fun starts daily at 9 a.m. and ends at 11:30 a.m. Registration is required and will be available online starting April 15. You can register your children for this "Scuba" experience by contacting the church office or at www.loloh.org/VBS2024

Lord of Life is located at 17989 Chillicothe Rd. just south of Rt. 422. For more information regarding Vacation Bible School or any other ministry at Lord of Life, please contact the church office at (440)543-5505 or visit their website www.loloh.org.

Looks Like We Made It!

By Jeff Griff

I have never been a big Bary Manilow fan, but it does seem that this song title (like it or not) suits my current state of being. Admittedly, I can be slow on the uptake so it should come as no surprise that I am just realizing that I am gaining an advanced state of maturity. I hesitate to say I am old... maybe getting old would be a more suitable expression? Think of me as that loaf of bread that is more crusty than it was when freshly baked but not quite turning blue just yet. My Rotary friends will appreciate that "I'm in pretty good shape for the shape I'm in" (inside joke) but regardless, I am feeling the accumulation of my life experiences.

So, what event or incident delivered me this revelation? As with so many things in life it has been a variety of factors that has brought me to this remarkable conclusion... let me explain.

The first ray of light that cut through the clouds of denial was the "turning into your parents" television commercials. You know, the Progressive Insurance ads where the guy is washing his trash cans, struggling to take a selfie or being forced to throw away a collection of gnomes. Yea...that kind of hits home. Of course, there is the obvious change in general conversations we have with our friends and family that once centered around our careers, then (over time) transitioned over to our kids and are now more about our doctor's appointments and medical issues. Finally, the realization that once upon a time I would look forward to celebrating the many accomplishments I could make by working persistently from dawn to dusk and now... I celebrate getting my underwear on without tipping over.

We all know that aging is a one-way street and sometimes it seems like the adversity of maturity vastly outweighs the benefits but then something happens that turns it all upside down. Something that makes it seem like we finally made it... something like a grandchild.

Sorry... I am getting a bit ahead of myself, but I am a grandfather-to-be and am too excited to hold it in! Finally, after years of holding my tongue, biding my time and withholding all opinions and advice, my dream of being a grandfather will be coming to reality this fall. As exciting as this has all been, it is clear to me that I have a long way to go before I am fully prepared to be a grandparent... there is so much I need to learn.

First, you don't ask/expect to know the sex of the child until... actually, I am still not sure when I might know. To be honest, I'm not even sure why but I figure I'll know when I am supposed to and that's good enough for me... I guess? Next, I am told it is up to me to determine what I will be called/referred to. Perhaps this is new or maybe not but glossing myself with a nickname just didn't seem appropriate but, after much deliberation, I have arrived at a proper moniker... Grumpy.

I am just beginning to understand the magnitude of how much the rules of the baby world have changed since the "old days". You don't pick the baby up by the feet to change them anymore... you roll them to the side now. Babies now sleep on their backs (not tummies) and grandparents now need vaccines to be with kids. Whatever... nothing to see here... move along.

So, let's talk about the cost of baby stuff like a \$1500 bassinet or a \$1000 stroller... are you kidding me? Want a more budget friendly shower gift? How about a \$90 sound machine or a \$100 sleeping sack (blanket?). I could go on and on but suffice to say there are clearly more pricey gadgets "needed" to successfully raise a baby in today's world.

I never realized the intensity of pressure I would have being Grumpy. Life is like a book and as the pages turn, the story unfolds and my story is about to get a lot more interesting, a bit more challenging but also a lot more fun.

"Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art." – Eleanor Roosevelt

Now go outside and have fun playing in the dirt!

Poetry Month Speaker:

Jeanne Bryner, Nurse and Poet

In celebration of April 2024 National Poetry Month, Kent State University Geauga will host retired nurse, poet and essayist Jeanne Bryner, who will read from her work and conduct a workshop on healing through writing.

Bryner is the author of several books, including *Breathless*, a Wick Poetry Center Chapbook (1995) and *Tenderly Lift Me: Nurses Honored, Celebrated, and Remembered* (2004), both published by Kent State University Press.

Most recently, she co-edited the award-winning *Learning to Heal: Reflections on Nursing School in Poetry and Prose* (2018), also published by Kent State UP.

Bryner is a graduate of Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing and Kent State University's Honors College. She is the recipient of several writing fellowships, including one from the Ohio Arts Council. Her poetry has been adapted for the stage, performed nationally and at the 2004 Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The public event will take place on April 18 at the Geauga Campus Clark Commons, 14111 Claridon-Troy Rd., Burton, from 12:15-1 p.m. Geauga Student Nurses Association, Media Club, and *The Listening Eye* poetry journal are sponsoring the event. Kent State Geauga offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and a Bachelor of Arts in English.

The Listening Eye, founded by Geauga Professor Emerita Grace Butcher, is in its 54th year of publication. The current open call for poetry, short fiction, nonfiction and artwork is themed around the topic of health. Prospective contributors should make a free account at Submittable.com and search for *The Listening Eye*.

Chagrin Falls Meals on Wheels
We deliver nutritious meals to those who need a little help.

- Both a light and full meal are delivered by noon to your door in a microwavable container for easy preparation.
- Only \$6/day. Choose the days you need up to 5 days per week.

Sign up is simple!
To apply for meal service or to volunteer,
Call: 440-543-1405
Or apply online:
chagrinfallmeals.org/recipients

Meal delivery helps people stay independent in their home.



Donations keep meal costs low.
CVCC 2023 Non-Profit Organization of the Year.



Trinkets and Treasures Sale

Federated Church Family Life Center
16349 Chillicothe Road (Rt. 306) Bainbridge Twp.
Household goods, furniture, toys, games, antiques, tools, books, jewelry, clothes, electronics, sporting goods, art work, linens AND MORE!!
Cash and Credit Cards accepted

FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO BUY
(\$10 admission for this time only)
Wednesday - May 8 • 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday/Friday May 9 & 10
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday May 11 (Bag Day/Half Price)
9 a.m. - Noon
Sponsored by the Federated Church of Chagrin Falls



School Child Advocate:
Retired teacher / School counselor available anytime for assistance with parent / teacher / administration conferences and IEPs at school.

Section 504:
Legal Guide for Educators / case law issues / answers.

Science Teacher grades 7-12 - 1968-2003:
Cleveland Heights University Heights Public Schools / School Counselor / Behavior Intervention Specialist / Adjunct Professor Educational Psychology / Baldwin Wallace University / Notre-Dame College / Lakeland Community College / John Carroll University / Field Supervisor Student Teaching.



If procedures are followed correctly, parents CAN get an Independent Educator Evaluation (IEE) and get the school district to PAY the evaluation fee. If you do not ask for a needed service, your child will likely NOT receive it. All educational services are based on the NEEDS of the child.

Zoom, Facetime, library conference room or phone conferences are available anytime.

440.487.0829 David A. Hancock, MA professordhancock@gmail.com



VALLEY LUTHERAN

87 E. Orange St. (Across from Library)
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022
Tel: 440-247-0390

VALLEYLUTHERAN.ORG

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

9:00 A.M.
Traditional Service

10:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service

Mother's Day, 2024

By Anne E. North

It's easy to write a sweet Mother's Day column. I had a good mom and it's hard to believe she's been gone for more than 20 years now. I wrote her a note when I was seven years old, saying I loved her more than warm buttered toast. Of course, she saved that note for decades.

One of seven children, she instilled values of hard work, good handwriting, good manners and excellent spelling in my brothers and me. She worked as a secretary and couldn't really understand my chosen profession as a writer. In journalism school, I learned to capitalize mom when it stood in place of her name.

I often write about my dad's gardening efforts, but it was my mom who canned the results of those efforts. In those days of no air conditioning, I can remember her perspiring profusely while she filled dozens of Mason quart jars with tomatoes, green beans and beets.

Those vegetables helped sustain our family of five through the fall and winter months when my dad's real estate business lagged.

I probably gleaned my love of music from her—although the genres differed widely. She preferred Big Band music and the soundtracks to those musicals of the '60s—*Camelot*, *My Fair Lady*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Oliver!* And she often sang *Que Sera, Sera* to me as a child. Decades later, I sang that same song to my daughter.

Like most women of her generation, she was confused when my generation fought for equal rights.

My dad called her "a poor man's Phyllis Diller" after the comedienne of their time. Maybe her worst fault was telling a joke and—before anyone had a chance to react—she would explain the punchline! Yep, that was Mom.

Segue to the daughter, now a mom and grandmother. For many years, I have written about the tasks accomplished by a mother's hands. My own hands now look like I remember my mom's. I wonder how many words they have typed, how many kids' boo-boos they have tended, how many dishes they have washed, how many vegetables they have chopped for some of my favorite recipes...



Mother's Day can be difficult for a myriad of reasons. It is difficult for those women who desperately want a child and nature won't cooperate. It is exceedingly difficult for those who have lost a child. It is difficult when your children are grown, live at a distance, and are not mothers/fathers themselves. And at various phases of my life, I have been each of those moms. Yes, Mother's Day can be downright tough.

We said often over the years: They will never understand how much we loved them. They will never know how much we worried about them—especially as they tested their wings to leave the nest! They can never fathom how proud we are of them.

I recently read the memoir entitled *This Place Could Be Beautiful* by Maggie Smith. (Yes, that Maggie Smith, who thanks to a heart wrenching episode of *Madam Secretary*, we all know as the author of *Good Bones*.) Her book is dedicated to her journey of her marriage ending and life continuing onward. Toward the end of the book, she tells of her closeness with her daughter, Violet. And I wanted to scream at the pages, "Don't do it! Don't be smug about that closeness, thinking it will always be!" Been there, done that. The shared music, the girls' trips, the inside jokes. Life shifts like tectonic plates. Things you thought would always be, sadly, no longer are. At some point in life, when children have flown the nest, you make a life decision based on your own needs.

That being said, I think my legacy I have given my children—beyond endless love—is two-fold: the need to volunteer, to give of themselves to their community, and music. Yeah, music. From the Beatles to Joe Cocker, from Dave Matthews Band to movie soundtracks, we have heartily savored music together—listening, singing, attending concerts together.

Finally, I want to commend both Christian and Johanna on how they have "handled things" since their dad's stroke. Chris has helped me keep this newspaper going as well as arrange health services for his dad. All this in addition to his own very busy career.

Jo not only visited her dad from Oregon to give her brother a respite, but also, in her usual efficient manner, assessed a couple of logistical problems and took steps to remedy them. A month later, she flew here, rented a car, and drove to Oregon with her dad's rescue dog, Moxie, thus taking one more burden off both her dad and brother.

Although I will not physically be with my kids on Mother's Day, I hold them in my heart, on that day and every day. And I miss my eldest son, Vince, immeasurably.

And so, this Mother's Day, I stand in solidarity with all women who nurture, who work on behalf of their families, who understand that the soft side of being feminine is tempered with steel and grit.

I recently had a conversation with an old classmate, and told him that it is my belief that if women ruled the world, there would be no more war, because women comprehend the true cost of war, beyond dollars and cents, troops and tanks. He agreed. Imagine that!

May all moms—in our *Spirit* reading area and around the world—hold a measure of peace in their hearts this Mother's Day!

***...who understand
that the soft side of
being feminine is
tempered with
steel and grit.***

Our next issue will be delivered May 3 and will include our salute to Graduates and *Spring Home & Garden Guide*.

Editorial Deadline is April 19.

Advertising Deadline is April 24.

For more information, call us at 440-478-2950.

Ah, Springtime!

By Jess Skoczen

Winter has come and gone. I am not a huge fan of winter, but it does have its moments. Sometimes it can be pretty, while other times it can be cold and windy. Now that the snow has melted, and the sun is shining, spring has arrived, and I could not be happier.

I love going down the ravine in our backyard and listening to the stream flowing from the melted ice and snow. Looking around and noticing the flowers pop out and start to bloom. The ground is covered in soft green moss instead of wet slush and mud. Warmer weather also means that we get to see more animals coming out of their homes. Deer are making beds in the ivy, owls and hawks hiding in the treetops. Cardinals and robins are hopping back and forth to the bird feeder.

Spring is a time to make a fresh start. To shed your heavy winter coat and put on a lighter one. No more layers and layers of clothing to keep yourself warm. You can wear hoodies and lighter clothes that will not weigh you down.

You cannot have spring without Easter. Seeing the colorful decorations, the Easter baskets, candy, and my personal favorite, the food. Every year, my dad makes duck soup. I love watching him make the noodles from scratch and mixing the ingredients into a big boiling pot for the whole family to enjoy. It takes all day to make, but it is worth the wait.

The part of spring I am most excited for is going on our annual family reunion at Pymatuning State Park. All my aunts, uncles, and cousins each rented a cabin for the weekend. We always have delicious food, campfires, and there is plenty of hiking. And when the sun goes down, my dad and my brother pull out their guitars for an all-night jam session.

Springtime always makes me happy. I have many adventures to look forward to and I cannot wait.

Exploring—Inclusively!

Those in the developmental disability community who might like to visit The West Woods Nature Center are invited for some close-up experience with resident amphibian friends and their habitats!

Geauga Park District will host Inclusive Experience: Amazing Amphibians on Tuesday, April 16 from 10:30-11:30 a.m., during which a naturalist will introduce some various amphibians to view, then lead the group on a walk along the trail to discover some more.

Registration is required for all participants school-aged and up at www.geaugaparkdistrict.org under Programs & Events, then April 16 on the calendar, or by calling 440-286-9516. Note that the paved trail and building we will visit are both wheelchair accessible.

"Exploring Nature is a lot of fun, but it can be a little intimidating for some visitors," Naturalist Nora Sindelar said. "That's why we started offering exclusively inclusive programming, which provides a quiet, calm environment to help certain groups of park users join in on the fun. In the past, we've offered these kinds of programs to particular school trips and other groups, but last year we started presenting inclusive programming to the general public. Needless to say, we're having a lot of fun doing these and exploring the different ways we can all learn and explore."

the Bertram
Inn & Conference Center

Mother's Day
May 12TH, 2024

Brunch Extravaganza
11:00AM - 2:00PM

Enjoy an Elegant Buffet

Adults \$35.95
Children \$16.95 (ages 4-12)

For Brunch Reservations
Call (330) 995-0200

600 N. Aurora Rd., Aurora OH 44202

**Spirit of Bainbridge
Mission Statement**

*Our mission at the Spirit of Bainbridge is four-fold:
To enhance the Bainbridge-Auburn area with a positive sense of our shared humanity.
To be a catalyst of community pride for local businesses and assist in publicity for community-minded groups.
To promote the Fourth Estate with truth and trust.
To continue our founding support of Bainbridge Area Food For Friends and A Taste in Bainbridge.*

SPIRIT STAFF

Anne E. North
Editor

Lisa Parker
Editorial Assistant

Anne Ball
Jeff Griff
David King
Kim Lody
Marcia Peiffer
Jess Skoczen
Cecil West
Contributors

Nancy Glende
Mary C. Ryan
Guest Columnists

Laura McCune
Victoria Rovder
The Fontanelle Group
Account Representatives

Sheila Boros
Victoria Rovder
Graphic Designers

Betty Franek
Billing

Anne E. North
John Bauswein
Publishers

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

"Spring is upon us!" by Anne E. North was very perspicacious indeed, as always. It reminded me of a very creative book by S. Theresa Dietz: *The Complete Language of Flowers: A Definitive and Illustrated History*. A compilation of 1001 of your favorite flowers into a beautifully updated guide, complete with colorful illustrations. Some examples that Anne mentioned: Forsythia: SM: Symbolic Meaning: Anticipation. Folklore and Facts: Their blooming at the start of spring presents the cheerful yellow-flowered branches as a welcome sight after winter. Orchids: SM: Beauty, Thoughtfulness, Understanding, Wisdom, Fertility, Love, Affection, Awareness, Psychic ability. Begonias: SM: A Fanciful nature, Balance, Cordial, Beware, Goodness. Rosebuds: SM: Merry, Poetical person, Romance, Beauty, Love, Youth, Vitality, Charming, Grace. Tulips: SM: Declaration of Love, Aspiration, Charity, Imagination, Opportunity, Spiritual awareness, Spring, Sensuality. Trust. Prosperity, Protection.



"Earth laughs in Flowers," which takes its name from Ralph Waldo Emerson's poem *Hamatreya*. In Emerson's work, flowers are amused by our arrogance for refusing to acknowledge our own mortality. To wit, "Earth laughs in flowers, to see her boastful boys/Earth-proud, proud of the earth which is not theirs...."

David Hancock
Chesterland

Editor's note: Thought I'd share a photo of my favorite coffee mug. Yes, the earth does laugh in flowers, David!

We Get Calls....

By Anne E. North

Oh, yes, we get calls, emails and messages. That is the nature of the business we're in. But on occasion, a call is so heartrending that we must share.

A 95-year-old local resident called to tell us how much she enjoys receiving *Spirit of Bainbridge*. That in itself is not unusual, but then she continued, "I live alone. I don't drive and I'm isolated. But your newspaper brings the community to me. And then I don't feel so lonely!"

I have written in several of our *Spirit Senior Guides* that older people feel invisible. This call underscored that feeling. Please, whatever your age, be cognizant of that fact. It only takes a moment to smile or say "Hello!" It only takes 10 minutes to call someone and ask about their day.

And I take this precise moment to say, this is why we do what we do. And we are looking for a buyer for this newspaper who will continue that work. Yes, it is a labor of love, but it is much more. Call us at 440-478-2950 if you're interested. Let's talk!

SPIRIT FACTS

Spirit of Bainbridge is locally owned and operated. The *Spirit* is not responsible for the views expressed by its writers. All Letters to the Editor must be signed and include a daytime phone number. We will withhold signature upon request. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or space considerations. Letters are published in the order received and as space permits.

ADDRESS: 18106 Snyder Rd., Chagrin Falls, OH 44023.

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ALL SPIRIT OF BAINBRIDGE CORRESPONDENCE: spiritofbainbridge@gmail.com

BAINBRIDGE AREA FOOD FOR FRIENDS: Donations of non-perishable food and toiletry items, etc., may be dropped off at Bainbridge Library (lobby bin) or at the pantry (lower level of Bainbridge Town Hall). Cash donations may be made at PNC Bank, Solon. If you or someone you know needs the assistance of the pantry, call 708-9829 (leave a message). Bainbridge Area Food for Friends is **not** affiliated with Harvest for Hunger or Geauga Hunger Task Force.

Community Spirit

Women's Connection Meets April 17

Woman's Connection Luncheon Wednesday April 17 from 12-1:45 p.m. at the Family Life Center 16349 Chillicothe Rd., Chagrin Falls. Guest speaker: Bea Clements, will share her personal journey, and Meghan Connolly, a personal injury lawyer, will speak. Cost is \$16. RSVP cwcchagrin@gmail.com or 440-708-8322 by April 13.

Corridor of Care Roundtable April 18

A collaboration of local practitioners who support physical, mental, emotional health and wellness and will be discussing topics around Clinical Counseling, Holistic Health, Integrative Pain Management, Naturopathy, Yoga Therapy, Osteopathy and Energy Work. These free roundtable discussions are at 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month April through October at ReSet Lounge, 530 E. Washington St., Chagrin Falls. Reservations are encouraged by calling (440) 600-2659. April 18 topic is "The Many Faces of Pain." Pain is excruciatingly confusing and has many faces and can be a symptom of many underlying issues, not just anatomical tissue damage. We will discuss why individual approaches, and addressing underlying causes, are so important to the healing process.

CV Herb Society Meets April 19

The Chagrin Valley Herb Society will meet on Friday, April 19 at the Bainbridge Library, 17222 Snyder Rd.

This month's activities include "Awakening Our Garden" workday at 10 a.m., followed by a soup luncheon, business meeting and "Holden Tree" presentation.

Prospective members can learn about the organization at chagrinvalleyherbsociety.org and on Facebook and Instagram.

Please make a reservation by contacting CVHS at chagrinvalleyherbsociety@gmail.com.

BTHS May Program: Amusement Parks

Ohio Amusement Parks will be the topic of the Bainbridge Township Historical Society's monthly program meeting on Wednesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. at the Bainbridge Library, 17222 Snyder Rd. John Frato, well-known Cleveland carousel expert from the Cleveland History Center, will talk about past and present amusement parks that many of us have experienced. Take a trip back in time to days of exciting adventures at your favorite park. Free program. All are welcome.

"Dewdrops" Gala June 8

Community Life Collaborative Garden Gala: Dancing on Dewdrops on Saturday, June 8 from 6-10 p.m. at the Family Life Center, 16349 Chillicothe Rd, Bainbridge. Join us for a delightful summer evening of dining, dancing to the music by Tweed, special drinks, lively games, unique raffle baskets, silent auction and fun.

Proceeds will support the CLC's mission: To raise awareness, amplify voices and inspire shared action toward a just and sustainable world. Together. For ticket and sponsorship information contact admin@communitylifecollaborative.org or call 440-708-1961 or go to our website communitylifecollaborative.org

A Grateful Goodbye

By Nancy Glende

I have been writing for *Spirit of Bainbridge* for at least seven years. Every time I sent an article to Anne, she thanked me and often offered great praise. I have appreciated her acceptance of my thoughts. Sometimes I was able to give her an appropriate article for the focus of the paper. Many times I simply expressed from my own heart and that was accepted.

I have decided that it is time for me to make a major move in my life and join my family in Oklahoma. Nothing sounds more important to me right now than having meaningful connections with people I love and who love me. I look forward to sharing events with them.

For those of you who have read my articles, I thank you. I was recently told that I touch peoples' hearts. I hope the light set free from you ripples out to many as a beacon of peace on Earth.