



SEPTEMBER 2019

### **Moore Road Culvert Update**

As required by the State of Ohio, the City is making an emergency replacement of the culvert that allows Powdermaker Creek to flow under Moore Road. The culvert design has been finalized and the contractor has been hired. However, the existing gas line needs to be relocated and placed under the new structure. The project is on hold until the gas company is able to move the gas line. All Moore Road businesses will be accessible throughout the closure. Thank you for your patience!

### **Seasonal Help Needed**

It is that time of year again to prepare for when the leaves start falling. Removal of leaves from your tree lawn is a free service that City provides to its residents. The City is looking to hire seasonal workers to help with leaf collection at \$10 to \$13 per hour. Applications are available at City Hall and the City website: [www.AvonLake.org](http://www.AvonLake.org).

### **Drain Stenciling Opportunity**

In order to protect our beautiful lake, efforts are under way to stencil reminders on City storm drains to educate the public that only rain should go in the drains. For more information on how your organization can volunteer time to stencil the drains with this important message, please contact Joe Reitz, Public Works Director, at 440-930-4101.

## **Bicentennial Gifts for the City**

The party is over but there are still more gifts for the City. Beyond the fun memories of the Bicentennial events - Fourth of July Kick-off, Alumni Open House, Beer Festival, Community Choir Performance, Scavenger Hunt, Hike Into History, Vintage Baseball Game and the Fourth of July Jubilee - there are some lasting "gifts" for the City.

Of course, we hope you all have your Avon Lake 200 car magnets by now. If the car wash has taken yours, there is still a supply at the Library and City Hall. Though magnets are nice, they are not the legacy gift we are referring to.

Because of the generosity of our businesses, we have Bicentennial sponsorship money remaining. The Bicentennial Committee voted to donate this money to the Renew ALPS Committee. Yes, our City's premier playground, the Avon Lake Play Space (25 years old), is being renovated. Our Committee, and the organizers of the Renew ALPS, agree that the updated playground should be accessible to all children of all abilities. Our donation will be allocated specifically for ADA-compliant playground equipment. The effort to Renew ALPS is being spearheaded by Brian Sabin and Emory Kopin, and they would love to have your input and help. If you want to get involved in this exciting City project, contact Brian at [LetsRenewALPS@gmail.com](mailto:LetsRenewALPS@gmail.com).

Another permanent legacy will be the living garden with a civic memorial and time capsule. This project is the work of City Council, Heritage Avon Lake and the Historic Preservation Commission. They are designing and building a pocket garden that will be located behind the Peter Miller House Museum in Miller Road Park. Read more about this project on page 3.



Avon Lake Community TV (ALC-TV) and the Avon Lake Public Library started an Oral History Project approximately 12 years ago, recording the recollections of people who lived a lifetime in Avon Lake. The ALC-TV team took these interviews and old photos to create a series of Bicentennial documentaries. They include remembrances of the Police Department, Fire Department, Schools, Library, cityscape past & present, church choirs and, still to come, High School state championship sports teams. These can be watched on [AvonLake.org](http://AvonLake.org), by clicking on "Streaming Community Media."

And finally, a common statement we heard at every event throughout the year was, "When you do this next year..." and our reply was, "There is only one bicentennial. However, if your group wants to take the ball next year, we would love to help make it happen." Well, the Avon Lake Athletic Boosters took us up on the offer. The Beer Festival will live beyond the Bicentennial and become an annual event. This year's festivities will take place on September 28th at Miller Road Park. Visit [www.AvonLakeAthleticBoosters.org](http://www.AvonLakeAthleticBoosters.org) for more information. While spending the afternoon enjoying your beer (or wine), give a toast to the City of Avon Lake for a marvelous bicentennial year. ■

DEPARTMENT  
HIGHLIGHTS



## TIPS FROM YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Make certain there is at least one properly installed and functioning smoke detector on each level of your home. We also recommend detectors for each sleeping area.
- Every home should have Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors, ideally one on each level. If only one detector is to be used, the location is to be near the sleeping areas. Carbon Monoxide is produced by any natural gas fueled appliance, wood burning and natural gas fire places, BBQ grills, etc. Even if your home is all-electric but has an attached garage, we recommend installing a CO detector.
- Both smoke and CO detectors should be tested monthly. They have a service life of 10 years, and should be replaced even though the audible alarm can still be activated.
- Batteries need to be replaced twice per year (when clocks are reset for daylight saving). Even if the detectors in your house are hard wired into the electrical system they probably have a battery in the event of a power outage.
- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with the whole family.
- Fall and winter are right around the corner and we recommend that furnaces and fire places including chimneys be cleaned and inspected.

For further information, contact the Avon Lake Fire Department at 440-933-8305.

## Boo by the Woods: A Trail of Haunted Tales

*Saturday, October 19, 4-9 p.m.*

**Family-Friendly Trail (Self-Guided):**  
**4:00-4:45 p.m.**

**Trunk-or-Treat: 4:30-6:30 p.m.**

**Guided Story Trail Open: 5:00-9:00 p.m.**

Do you dare walk the Trail of Haunted Tales? We've called in the Ghostbusters, just in case. BOO by the Woods is a "PG"-rated event, so lots of spook, but no gore. Join our dance party with our DJ, take pictures with a princess, superhero, or characters from a galaxy far, far away. There'll also be pumpkin decorating, face painting, crafts, food trucks on site, a visit from some live creatures of the night from Back to the Wild, and several new activities including a Trunk-or-Treat area. BOO by the Woods is sponsored by the City of Avon Lake in partnership with the Avon Lake Public Library and community partners.

Trail Tickets Required - For more information, visit [www.AvonLakeRec.com](http://www.AvonLakeRec.com). All other activities at BOO! are FREE! 🟡







## Family Highlights Centuries of Service in Memorial Day Parade

by Mike Hammer

This year's Memorial Day events in Avon Lake included ceremonies at American Legion Post 211 and the Lake Shore Cemetery, followed by a parade that began at Avon Lake High School and continued to Veterans' Memorial Park. Mayor Greg Zilka, state and area representatives and many city groups and organizations took part in the day's events.

In the parade was a "Service Through the Centuries" float by Cindy McGuire and her family.

"We wanted to participate in the celebration of Avon Lake's Bicentennial in some way, and a float in the parade honoring past and present military personnel would be our way to do that," said McGuire. "While we listed ancestors and family members, we were honoring all those who served through America's history."

Cindy's family has had a family member serve in the military during almost every conflict in the last 200 years, including each war the United States of America has fought in, from the Revolutionary War

until modern day, except for the Korean War. McGuire found that family ancestor Joel Titus fought in the Revolutionary War, Anson Titus fought in the War of 1812; Philip Beard in the Civil War; Cecil Titus in WWI; Chuck and Glen Beard in WWII; Dale Beard in Vietnam era and beyond; and currently Natalie Christofferson is a Marine.

According to McGuire, and the family research she was able to do, her ancestors Joseph and Hannah Moore settled in the Avon Lake area in the 1830s, their daughter Hannah Moore married Anson Titus and his granddaughter, Malinda Titus, married Charles Beard in 1884. Those were the distant relatives and great grandparents of the "Service Through the Centuries" group and were early settlers in Avon Lake.

Many members of the family currently live in Avon Lake, including Bruce Beard, Sue Gerbick, Karen Pfeiffer, Diane Cover and McGuire. They also had family visit from Michigan to celebrate Memorial Day and the Avon Lake Bicentennial.

The "Service Through the Centuries" float was made with a trailer from Wolf Schindler. Bruce Beard built a frame for it and Gerbick, Pfeiffer, Cover and McGuire finished decorating it with banners and decorations made by some students from Lorain High School.

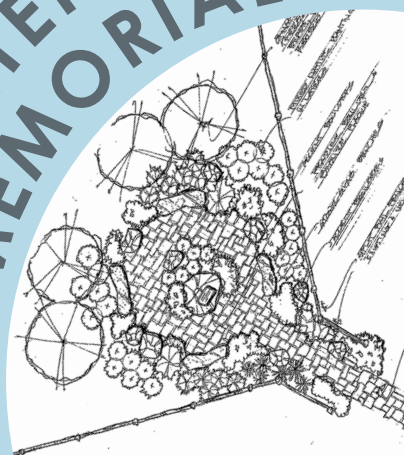
McGuire said the family had a wonderful time participating in the Memorial Day parade and had fun representing her ancestors, as well as honoring all service members. ■

Councilman Rob James had a vision to create a Bicentennial Monument with a time capsule. The concept grew into what is now known as the Bicentennial Garden. It flourished through the partnership of Heritage Avon Lake, Avon Lake Historic Preservation Commission, the Administration and Council.

The Garden will be located in Miller Road Park on the Peter Miller Museum estate. The overall concept will transcend time using historic native plants, sandstone and other natural products. Smaller signs with historic bullet points will be placed along the path as one walks into the garden with a larger sign on a large sandstone boulder. Benches will be placed within the Garden for people to sit for a while, contemplate and enjoy the beautiful views.

Construction of the hardscape will begin this autumn with plantings installed next spring.

**BICENTENNIAL  
MEMORIAL**



## New School Bus Legislation

On August 26, 2019, the Avon Lake City Council unanimously passed legislation increasing the penalties on those that illegally pass stopped school buses. The new law allows the Court the discretion to fine the offender up to \$750, suspend their driver's license and/or impose a sentence of up to 30 days in jail.

It is believed that Avon Lake is the first community in the region, if not the state, to increase penalties on this very serious and potentially deadly violation. City Council took this step after discussions with the police department, Superintendent of the schools and the director of busing for the city schools. All agreed that the safety of our children is paramount and this was needed to combat the rise in illegal bus passings.

Residents of Avon Lake, please remember that the rules of the road say that if a school bus is stopped and its red flashing stop sign has been extended, STOP!!!! Saving yourself 30 seconds of time to illegally pass a bus is not worth possibly striking and severely injuring a child. If you illegally pass now, you could end up with thirty days in jail to think about your actions. ■



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440-933-7677

**Economic Development**  
440-930-4167

**Finance**  
440-933-6141

**Fire**  
440-933-8305

**Human Resources**  
440-930-4127

**Law**  
440-930-4122

**Mayor**  
440-930-4100

**Municipal Court**  
440-930-4103

**Police**  
440-933-4567

**Public Works:**  
**Planning/Engineering**  
440-930-4101

**Service**  
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**Recreation**  
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**Regional Water**  
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**Follow the City  
to find out what's  
happening!**



**www.AvonLake.org**

CONTACT US