



E-NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 198, FEBRUARY 7, 2025

Welcome to our new E-newsletter subscribers!

Please encourage others to join by sending an email request to:

NEWSLETTER@WILLOUGHBYHILLS-OH.GOV

MAYOR HALLUM'S REPORT

Good Afternoon! I found myself in Punxsutawney, PA last Sunday for Groundhog Day. Fortunately, I didn't get stuck in a time loop. I can confirm that it was very cold that day and that Punxsutawney Phil did see his shadow. When we returned to Willoughby Hills later that morning, we were greeted with a small snow storm as a punctuation on the groundhog's winter prediction. Our crews did a great job of clearing the snow and making the roads safe.

A reminder that the Finance Committee will be meeting next week at 6:00 p.m. on February 11th to review the 2025 Budget with Police and Service. They will meet again at 6:00 p.m. on February 18th to review with Fire and Administration. If you have any questions for the department directors, please send them to the [Council Clerk](#) well in advance of the meeting to give them time to prepare a response. The budget must be passed by March 31, 2025.

The recent thawing has caused some minor flooding on Milann, so be careful if you're travelling near that area. The ice damming is in several places on the river spanning approximately 2 miles. According to the Fire Chief, the Hydrologist Meteorologist from the National Weather Service expects that we will see the damming for about another week. Depending on which parts of the dam break up first (up the river versus here in Willoughby Hills, as well as the volume of water), we could have different outcomes when they break up. Be on the lookout and let our Fire Department know if you see any flooding on our roads.

Last night the Planning Commission met with Dollar General representatives who were requesting preliminary approval for their project on Chardon Road just east of Fowler Road on the north side of the road. This made it the third meeting with their representatives. Commission representatives, the City Engineer, and residents expressed concerns about the location of the project, traffic and safety issues, and the quality of the building being proposed. It was also discovered that Dollar General would not be the owner of the property, but a tenant to the developer. We were also made aware that the developer has a hands-off approach to the property once it's turned over to Dollar General. The developer often sells the property to another investor after completion. All of these concerns resulted in the Planning Commission denying Dollar General's request for preliminary approval. If Dollar General still wishes to build in this location, they will have to start the process over with the City and make drastic changes before we would be interested in working with them again. Thank you to all of the residents and business owners that communicated with us about this project and to those of you who came to the meeting to provide comments and feedback.

Have a great weekend.

CITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 10, 2025

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING
HOUSING COUNCIL MEETING (immediately following Working Comm. Mtg.)
6:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

February 11, 2025

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (1 of 2) (Police & Service)
6:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

February 11, 2025

BZA MEETING
8:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

February 13, 2025

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

February 17, 2025

PRESIDENT'S DAY—CITY HALL CLOSED

February 18, 2025

SENIOR LUNCHEON
11:30 a.m.—Community Center / Senior Room

February 18, 2025

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (2 of 2) (Fire & Admin.)
6:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

February 18, 2025

TRIVIA NIGHT
7:00 p.m.—Community Center / O'Ryan Room

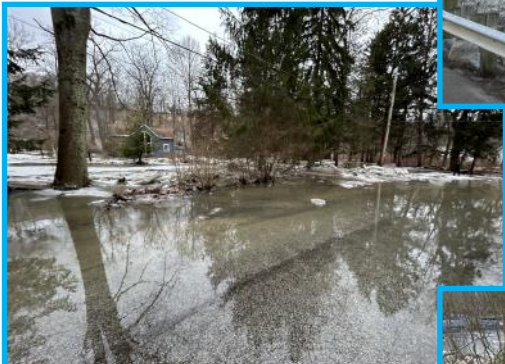
February 20, 2025

PC-ABR MEETING
7:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

February 24, 2025

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 p.m.—Council Chambers

A week of ice jams & flooding on the Chagrin. Thank you to our Fire, Police, and Service Departments for your assistance!



Council will be holding their Finance Committee meetings to discuss the 2025 Budget.

Meetings will be held on:

Tuesday, February 11th (Police & Service Depts.)

Tuesday, February 18th (Fire & Admin. Depts.)

at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

If you have any questions for the Department Directors, please be sure to email them to the [Council Clerk](#) in advance.

Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend the meetings. They can also be viewed on the cable channel or on the City's Facebook page.

2025 Construction Notice



Anticipated to begin construction in March 2025 and lasting through at least October 2025, Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is planning to replace the superstructure of the Chardon Road (US-6) bridge over the Chagrin River.

The bridge will be closed to all traffic during construction and traffic will be detoured to I-90.

The City authorized cooperation by Council Ordinance 2023-053. The project was awarded to Ruhlin Company in August 2024 for approximately \$4,082,008.

A detour map and project updates can be found [HERE](#).

The project is being administered by ODOT so questions & feedback should be directed to them.



RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SPRINKLER PROGRAM

It's almost time to start thinking about Summer! Did you know that Willoughby Hills has authorized a program for eligible homeowners which could reduce the costs paid for sewer charges each year during the months of May through September?

With your water bill you are charged sewer fees which are based on your total use of water. With the Summer Sprinkler Program, if you use more water during the summer months for sprinkling and other seasonal usage, your summer water bill will reflect a lower sewer usage based on a prorated consumption taking into consideration the difference between your usage in the winter months. This program applies to sewer charges only. You must still pay the Lake County Water Department for all water used.

There is a one-time administrative fee of \$20 payable by cash or check (payable to City of Willoughby Hills) which must be submitted with the completed [Summer Sprinkler Program Application](#). Applications with payment must be received by April 30, 2025.

Key things to note with the program:

- Available to **residential customers only** who own one, two, three, or four unit dwelling excluding condominiums and apartments.
- Residents who are tapped into the sewers.
- Residents who water gardens and lawns in the summer will see the biggest benefit.
- Once a resident enrolls in the program, they are enrolled for as long as they own the property.
- Enrollment after the April 30th deadline will not be effective until the following year.
- Resident will not begin to receive the reduced summer rate until they have been in the property for one year. This is a Lake County Department of Utilities (LCDU) requirement necessary for determining "normal" levels of usage.
- If a resident is filling a swimming pool, it is most financially beneficial to them to contact a vendor who provides bulk water sales as this water rate is generally cheaper than the LCDU rate and the resident will have no sewer charges to pay on the bulk water purchase.





BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS FOR THE 2025 SEASON
CONTINUE!

CHECK OUT THE [YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUE'S WEBSITE](#) AND GET
REGISTERED TODAY!

- THERE ARE NO RESIDENT RESTRICTIONS! -



Cleveland Metroparks will be continuing their deer management program this winter to establish and maintain a balanced ecosystem. From noon to 6:00 a.m. the following morning, portions or all of North Chagrin Reservation will be closed to the public on several days from January 21st through March 13th, 2025.

Safety remains the number one goal of the Metroparks' natural resource management team and their highly skilled and trained marksmen. The Willoughby Hills Police Department will be notified prior to the initiation of management within North Chagrin Reservation. The reservation will be posted/signed and closed completely during the management program. All shots will be fired from elevated positions using noise-suppressed rifles.

In addition to posted closure signs, residents who own property adjacent to Cleveland Metroparks property will be sent a letter informing them of the program. Specific closures will be posted on [Cleveland Metroparks Alerts and Closures](#) page by 6 p.m. on the evening prior to an area's closure. This announcement will give details about reservations and sections of the parkway that will be closed between noon and 6 a.m. the following morning.

Cleveland Metroparks has worked hard to ensure that the deer management program is safe, humane and effective. As in past years,

**AREA
CLOSED**

AROUND THE COUNTY...

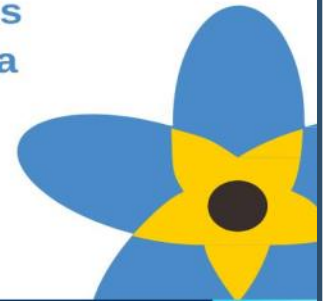


Dementia Friends

Saturday, February 15 11 am

Registration required

You can become a Dementia Friend by attending this one-hour session to learn about living with dementia and simple things you can do to support someone living with the disease. We will also have our Memory Kits available for exploration and check-out.



MORLEY LIBRARY

184 Phelps St. Painesville, OH 44077

440-352-3383 www.morleylibrary.org



For more information and to register for this event, please click **HERE**.

LAKE COUNTY MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

RESERVE YOUR PICK-UP BY CALLING 2-1-1

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE 60 YEARS OF AGE AND CERTIFY ANNUAL GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS AT OR BELOW \$30,120 FOR A HOUSEHOLD OF 1 AND \$40,880 FOR A HOUSEHOLD OF 2. INCOME IS SELF-DECLARED - VERIFICATION IS NOT REQUIRED.

DISTRIBUTIONS ARE TUESDAYS FROM 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**LAKE ERIE
CHURCH**
300 HUBBARD RD.

OCTOBER 1
NOVEMBER 5
DECEMBER 3
JANUARY 7
FEBRUARY 4
MARCH 4

**NEW HOPE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
428 JACKSON ST.

OCTOBER 8
NOVEMBER 12
DECEMBER 10
JANUARY 14
FEBRUARY 11
MARCH 11

**WICKLIFFE
SENIOR CENTER**
900 WORDEN RD.

OCTOBER 15
NOVEMBER 19
DECEMBER 17
JANUARY 21
FEBRUARY 18
MARCH 18

**MENTOR
PARK-N-RIDE**
8650 MARKET ST.

OCTOBER 22
NOVEMBER 26
DECEMBER 31
JANUARY 28
FEBRUARY 25
MARCH 25



*NO DISTRIBUTIONS: OCTOBER 29 AND DECEMBER 24

**THANK YOU TO OUR
COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**



Greater Cleveland
Food Bank



Senior News

Board Member's Corner

BY NANCE WHITE

As we get older it is a known fact that motor functions can slow down, eye sight and hearing may deteriorate. For these reasons it is even more important for us to practice driver safety.

I am listing a few things you may not be aware of:

- It is a law that when using wipers you must have your headlights on.
- When turning left you are not to pull up under the traffic light. This obstructs traffic, and many can't tell when the light turns red. This ultimately is considered running a red light.
- When turning onto a 4 lane highway you are to turn into your closest lane. (IE if turning right you must turn into the curb lane, turning left you go in the lane

closest to the center lines). You then may use your turn signal to merge into the lane you wish.

We all know someone with a handicapped placard. It specifically states to remove before driving! You can be fined if pulled over for another reason for this. Lastly, drive smart, and be safe.



HELPFUL NUMBERS

Police (Non-Emergency)*	(440) 942-9111
Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency)*	(440) 942-7207
Willoughby Hills City Hall	(440) 946-1234
Recreation Office	(440) 975-3540
Willoughby Hills Service Dept.	(440) 918-8740
Lake County General Health District	(440) 350-2543
Lake County Council on Aging	(440) 205-8111
Laketran (Dial-a-Ride)	(440) 942-1300
Social Security	(800) 772-1213
Veterans Concerns	(440) 350-2567
Medicare	(800) 633-4227
AARP	(888) 687-2277
Ohio Benefits Info	www.benefits.ohio.gov
Willoughby Hills Public Library	(440) 942-3362

***For emergencies, call 911.**

Thinking Spring



Exciting news! The City is adding a new pickleball court this spring by converting one of the tennis courts at Campbell Park. We are also looking into offering instructional classes and developing a new court schedule. **Stay tuned for more details!**

This week's Featured Pet:

 **Mabel**



Mabel is a 9 year old Vizsla who loves socks, snuggling, and treats of any kind.

Submitted by: The Mehollin Family

Did you know: Nine dog years equals approximately 60 human years, making Mabel a fellow senior :)

If you are interested in submitting your pet, please call, email or stop by the recreation office with your photo: (440) 975-3540 or recreation@willoughbyhills-oh.gov

This monthly mailed newsletter is partially funded by the Lake County Senior Levy and the City of Willoughby Hills.

In case you missed it... Meet our board

DAVE REICHEL | CHAIRMAN

I am a Cleveland Area native and have lived in Willoughby Hills for 27 years. I've had an interesting and diverse background that includes 10 years as an ambulance EMT and police officer in Summit County (Akron area), 15 years as the owner of a wireless communications business in Highland Heights, and 15 years as a technology consultant in the field of public-safety communications during which I designed and implemented dozens of 9-1-1 dispatch centers throughout Ohio. From 2004 through 2013, I served as a Willoughby Hills City Councilman and Council President and this is where my interest in our senior center really began. After retiring from City Council, I have remained involved in the improvement and upkeep of the Community Center and City Hall buildings and I'm excited about the prospect of remodeling and improving our Senior Center. Over the years, our predecessors have put lots of effort into our Senior Center and I feel it is now our obligation and opportunity to maintain that momentum and make it a vibrant offering for our City's senior population.



NANCE WHITE | VICE CHAIRWOMAN

I am Nance White, a 50 plus on and off resident here. I am residing in the home that my grandfather designed and helped build on White Road. Ever since I was young, I had a huge respect for seniors and enjoyed working with them. For 20 years I worked with many of our diabetic seniors helping to properly fit shoes and working with their insurances to help them get such. For the past year I have been a care taker for a senior with dementia. I want to see our senior center grow and be a safe place for our seniors to meet, to learn and to enjoy others.



MARY CIHULA | TREASURER

I was born in Cleveland & moved to Willoughby Hills when I got married in 1965. We've been on Dixon ever since. I worked for Ohio Bell in the Secretary/Treasurer's Office.



When Flo & Mort were organizing the Senior potlucks, Frank & I helped them. After Mort passed away, we assisted Flo with the potlucks and newsletters. Frank would print out the labels, we would put the labels and stamps on each one, and take them to the post office. When Flo went into assisted living, we took over providing the meal and setup for the potlucks. That all came to a close with the arrival of COVID-19.

LAURIE FELTHAM | SECRETARY

As a lifelong resident of Willoughby Hills for 66 years, I have witnessed its evolution firsthand. I deeply value our community and am particularly dedicated to supporting our older adult population.



My professional background includes a 42-year career as a Registered Nurse in medical and psychiatric settings with experience at institutions like University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic, Laurelwood, and Ridgecliff Hospitals. Prior history included work as a dental assistant, cashier/staff at Lakeland College, and salesperson at Great Lakes Mall. I maintain a nursing license.

I am actively engaged in community life, serving as the Secretary for the Willoughby Hills Seniors, Inc. board and volunteering at various local events. I recently received a letter of appreciation from Mayor Chris Hallum for my volunteer efforts. I also regularly attend City Council meetings.

Beyond my professional and community roles, I am a Eucharistic Minister and Altar Guild Director at Church of the Good Shepherd in Lyndhurst.

LAURA O'DONNELL | RECREATION COORDINATOR

I was born in the Cleveland area and spent 7 formative years living in the Netherlands, graduating from the American School of the Hague in 1988. My professional background includes 17 years at IMG, a global sports marketing company, where I began my working career as an Administrative Assistant, exiting the company as a Senior Art Director.



Our family moved to Willoughby Hills in 2014, where I worked as a freelance graphic designer while raising my children, Harry (17) and Tillie (16) alongside my husband Tim (retired EFD). I have a strong commitment to community service, and served on the City's Recreation Commission, then as Council Clerk, and currently hold the position of Recreation Coordinator.

I am dedicated to working collaboratively with the community to explore innovative ways to improve our community & senior center and expand senior program offerings, ensuring a robust and inclusive environment for all.

Our Senior Board serves as an advisory committee to the City of Willoughby Hills.



Mind Challenge is back!

If you are interested in playing for a Willoughby Hills team, contact the Mayor's Office at (440) 918-8730. Teams are composed of 4-6 players. That means that you can play the game with 4, 5 or 6 players. For more information, go to www.themindchallenge.com

What is Mind Challenge?

Come to our potluck lunch on 2/18 to find out.

Be on the lookout: New Senior Center web page coming soon.

WILLOUGHBY HILLS SENIOR NEWS | FEBRUARY

We're exploring fundraising options for the Community & Senior Center, including a spaghetti dinner with band, and/or a bingo night!

Have ideas or want to volunteer?

Contact the Recreation Department at (440) 975-3540
or recreation@willoughbyhills-oh.gov

WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS FRESH PRODUCE MARKET



**FREE AND OPEN TO THE
COMMUNITY**

**Open from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM on the
following dates:**

Thursday, September 5th	North High School
Thursday, October 3rd	South High School
Thursday, November 7th	North High School
Thursday, December 5th	South High School
Thursday, January 9th	North High School
Thursday, February 6th	South High School
Thursday, March 6th	North High School
Thursday, April 3rd	South High School
Thursday, May 1st	North High School
Thursday, June 5th	South High School
Thursday, July 3rd	North High School
Thursday, August 7th	South High School
Thursday, September 4th	North High School

North High School
34041 Stevens Blvd.
Eastlake

LOOK FOR THE SIGNS

South High School
4900 Shankland Rd.
Willoughby



SPONSORS



The school district is a distribution site for free
produce for the Willoughby-Eastlake community.



Downsizing or Decluttering after the holidays?

Donate your gently used Christmas decorations
and decor to our new Christmas Shop!
Proceeds benefit the Senior Center. Contact
Laura O'Donnell at (440) 975-3540 or
recreation@willoughbyhills-oh.gov to donate.



Share your crafting talents and support a great cause!

We are hosting a fundraising table at the **Willoughby Hills Spring Craft Show** on **March 22**. Help us
by donating a handmade craft. Drop your items
at the Recreation Office by **March 21**. Contact
Laura O'Donnell at (440) 975-3540 or recreation@willoughbyhills-oh.gov with any questions.
Proceeds benefit the Senior Center.



COVID test kits are still available at the
Recreation Office, courtesy of the
Lake County General Health District.



Judy Rogers,
Instructor

Come to Judy's Classes

**Stretch Yoga | Mondays at 11:00 AM;
Historical Room**

Experience the roots of yoga with Hatha, the
original discipline. Our classes harmonize with
the universe, flowing through sequences that
reflect the lunar cycle (full and new moons) and
the sun's energy through salutations. **\$8 per class**

It's Essential; Fit & Strong | Fridays at 10:00 AM; Senior Room

Build bone density, maintain muscle, and improve core stability
and balance with our free weights program. We utilize free weights,
resistance bands, and bodyweight exercises to enhance health and
wellness. Our goal is increased joint range of motion and improved
movement. The last Friday of each month features a Hatha yoga
class focusing on stretching muscles that support joint stability and
flexibility. **\$8 per class**

What to bring: Yoga mat, comfortable clothing & a water bottle

WILLOUGHBY HILLS SENIOR NEWS | FEBRUARY



To become a member of the Willoughby Hills Senior Center, please fill out the enclosed application and return the form with your payment (\$7 individual | \$10 couple) to the Recreation Office at the Community Center & Senior Center. If office is closed, please leave in the lock box or door mail slot. **Thank you!**

POTLUCK SPEAKER: Become a world explorer! Join us for a potluck lunch on **February 18th** and hear **Mary Bajorek**, a Road Scholar ambassador, discuss exciting educational travel programs. Learn about domestic and international tours, cruises, outdoor adventures, and more!

The Community & Senior Center is CLOSED for President's Day on February 17.

Please note: The Senior Board meeting has been moved to the 3rd Friday of each month.

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1 Pinochle 6-9PM
We are working on a contact system to relay canceled events and alerts. Until this is finalized, please follow the Willoughby Eastlake School District closing: If schools are closed due to weather, our programs will be cancelled. Thank you.						
2	3 Yoga 11AM	4	5 Bridge 12-3PM Virtual Cycling 11:00AM (wk3) (O'Ryan Room)	6 Knit/Crochet 10AM -12PM	7 Exercise 10AM Mahjong 1PM Pinochle 6-9PM	8 Pinochle 6-9PM
9	10 Community Quilts 9:30AM Yoga 11AM	11	12 Bridge 12-3PM Virtual Cycling 11:00AM (wk4) (O'Ryan Room)	13 Knit/Crochet 10AM-12PM Wildwood Basketry 5-9PM Podiatrist (by appointment) call (216) 229-0292	14 Exercise 10AM Mahjong 1PM 	15 Pinochle 6-9PM
16	17 CLOSED No scheduled activities. 	18 Potluck Lunch 11:30AM (Main: Pizza) Speaker: Mary Bajorek Trivia Night 7PM (O'Ryan Room)	19 Bridge 12-3PM Virtual Cycling 11:00AM (wk5) (O'Ryan Room)	20 Knit/Crochet 10AM -12PM Quilt Guild Mtg. 7PM	21 Exercise 10AM Mahjong 1PM Senior Board Mtg (1:30PM O'Ryan Room)	22 Pinochle 6-9PM
23	24 Yoga 11AM Sacerich Sews 12PM (closed)	25	26 Bridge 12-3PM Virtual Cycling 11:00AM (wk6) (O'Ryan Room)	27 Knit/Crochet 10AM -12PM	28 Exercise 10AM Mahjong 1PM	

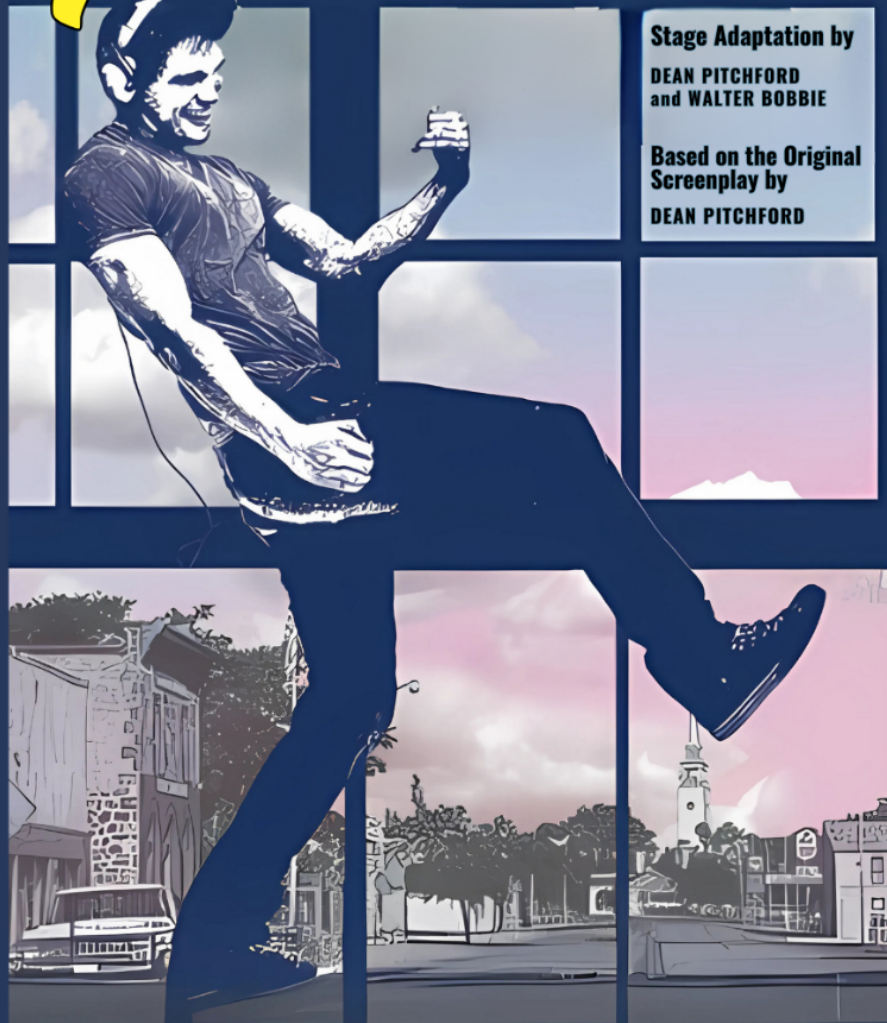
To view city meetings and coming events on your cable channel, please visit: SPECTRUM: 1024 or AT&T U-VERSE: 99



WILLOUGHBY SOUTH DRAMA PRESENTS

Footloose

THE
musical
(90 Minute Version)



Stage Adaptation by
DEAN PITCHFORD
and **WALTER BOBBIE**

Based on the Original
Screenplay by
DEAN PITCHFORD

Music and Lyrics by
TOM SNOW
DEAN PITCHFORD

Additional Music by
ERIC CARMEN
SAMMY HAGAR
KENNY LOGGINS
and **JIM STEINMAN**

Directed By: Evan Boerner

Stage Managed By: Jojo Bilson



Tickets



SHOW DAYS

Friday, February 14th, 7:00pm
Saturday, February 15th, 2:00pm & 7:00pm
Sunday, February 16th, 2:00pm

10TH ANNIVERSARY
DAZZLE
AWARDS
PRESENTED BY PNC AND LOUIS CHAPMAN
SUPPORTED BY PNC



LOCATION

Eastlake North High School Performing Arts Center

34041 Stevens Boulevard, Eastlake, OH 44095

Southdrama@weschools.org

FIRST COVENANT CHURCH

WEDDING SOUP **TO-GO** **FUNDRAISER**



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

CURBSIDE PICK-UP:
NOON – 2 PM

Wedding soup, baguette bread
salad, and dessert

Cost with reservation:
\$12 each or 2 for \$20

Please help support our efforts to continue
to serve the community with luncheons
and great presentations by raising money
to replace flooring in our Fellowship Hall.

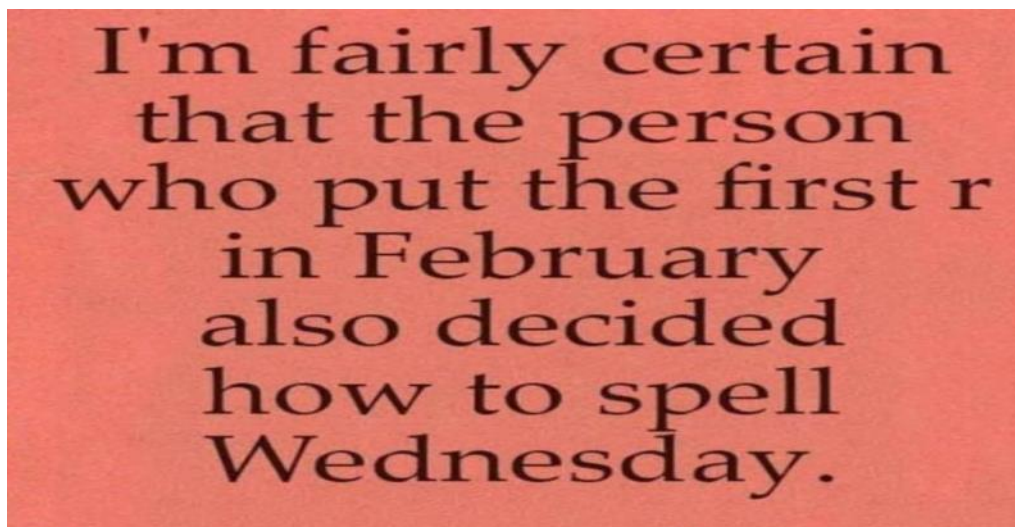
FIRST COVENANT CHURCH
29400 Chardon Rd
Willoughby Hills, 44092

ORDERS: Call Vicki Otto at 440-781-1555 or email vlojo11301@me.com

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR CHILI BEFORE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 ♥



Are you a senior (50+) who enjoys trivia? We'd love to have a second trivia team to represent our City for this year's Mind Challenge competition! Teams consist of 4 to 6 players and there is no cost to play. The tournament begins on April 21st and will take place at a variety of senior centers across Northeast Ohio. For more information, click [HERE](#). If you're interested in creating or joining a team, contact the Mayor's office at 440.918.8730 or email WHCommunications@WilloughbyHills-OH.gov.



If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out:
City of Willoughby Hills, 35405 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
440-946-1234 and ask for Mayor Hallum's Office.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK!

