



## ***President's Message—Ted Bertke***

**THANK YOU:** The MCDO would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to Jim Keller for his years of service with the MCDO! Jim was an integral part in the development of Ag Education and Ag Solutions in the area. He helped on many other projects in the community including the expansion of the Industrial Park during his tenure. It is community-minded individuals like Jim who make a difference and continue to keep the Marion Community a great place to live! Thank you Jim and enjoy your retirement!

**WELCOME:** The MCDO would like to welcome Ted Bertke as the new MCDO President! The MCDO appreciates Ted stepping forward and fulfilling this role. Shannon Everman is now filling the role of coordinator and administrator.

**MULTI-USE PATH:** The Marion Township Greenway Founders Brick Club fundraising program is underway. Be part of the foundation of a multi-use foundation and help us raise the remaining \$95,500 of the local funds of the \$305,500. Approximately \$210,000 has been pledged so far! Marion Township has been awarded a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission - Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program...of \$869,500! Pledge letters have been mailed and can be found at [www.marioncommunities.com](http://www.marioncommunities.com). Thank you!

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to the Marion Local Flyers—2019 Division VII Football State Champions!

**MCDO MEMBERSHIP:** The 2020 Membership Drive begins in January. The form is included in the newsletter. Thank you for your continued support with the MCDO!

***The MCDO would like to wish you and your family a Happy, Safe, and Healthy Holiday Season!***

## ***Marion Local Schools—Mike Pohlman***

The first half of the school year is complete and our community has had a lot to celebrate. I would like to congratulate the football team on their state football championship and also our band making another state appearance at Welcome Stadium this past fall. It is very enjoyable to see our students have success after putting in many hours of work. The senior citizens Christmas luncheon was a huge success with approximately 190 guests, and I would like to thank Barb Kahlig for organizing this event, Renee Hartings, Cindy Moeder and the kitchen staff for preparing a wonderful meal, and the Marion Local band and choir that provided entertainment for our guest. It is great to celebrate Christmas with the senior citizens in our community.

At the December Board of Education meeting, we had a discussion with Wes Farno from 29:11 Strategies on the best way to gather information from our community to assist us in making the best possible decisions for moving forward. We are looking forward to working with Wes as we try to gather feedback through potential surveys and focus groups to better understand how to move forward with our facilities. Our Board values feedback and has done a great job collecting it through emails, face to face conversations, etc... The feedback has been valuable, but it is time for us to narrow down and focus on what is truly desired from our community. As we dive deeper into this research, I hope to keep you up-to-date and would appreciate any insight our community is willing to provide as there may be a potential survey in the future.

I would like to thank outgoing Board member Dave Moorman who served our district for eight years and attended his last meeting in December. It has been a joy working with Dave, and I greatly appreciate his dedication to the Marion Local school district. I would like to welcome Shannon Everman who is beginning her first term as a Board member. Shannon and her husband Craig have four children (Daniel, Luke, Adelyn, and Caleb) in the district and we appreciate the knowledge and experiences she will bring to our Board.

It is good to finally begin the winter athletic season, and join me as we cheer on our Flyers!



## ***Zahn Marion Township Library—Juli Berning***

Here's what's happening at the library:

- Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> – Donuts with Dads is back! Stop in 9:30 am – 11:30 am and enjoy a donut with your dad (or mom), make a craft, check out some books and socialize.
- Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> – Penguin family night. Come join us and hear stories about penguins and make a penguin craft. Starts at 6:30 pm, no pre-registration required.
- Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> -- Lego night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Lego nights are held on the third Thursday of every month. No age limit, no pre-registration required. Parental supervision required for younger children as some pieces are rather small.
- Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> - Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to be held Tuesdays January 21<sup>st</sup> thru February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm – 4 pm. DSMP is a diabetes self-management program that has been shown to be successful in helping participants take control of their disease and reduce the risk of complications. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and pre-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call 567-204-6900 or call the library.
- Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> -- Keto? Bullet Proof Coffee? Can these help you meet your New Year's health goals? Come learn why Keto is more than just weight loss and sample Keto foods enhanced with essential oils. Presented by Nancy Kremer.
- Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> - Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to be held Tuesdays January 21<sup>st</sup> thru February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm – 4 pm. DSMP is a diabetes self-management program that has been shown to be successful in helping participants take control of their disease and reduce the risk of complications. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and pre-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call the library.
- Blind Date with a Book. Adults, during the month of February check out one of our wrapped mystery date books. Fill out the "Rate Your Date" slip and return it to be entered for a prize.
- Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> – Take your child to the library day. Stop in 9:30 am – 11:30 am for some library activities and crafts to do with your child.
- Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> - Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to be held Tuesdays January 21<sup>st</sup> thru February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm – 4 pm. DSMP is a diabetes self-management program that has been shown to be successful in helping participants take control of their disease and reduce the risk of complications. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and pre-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call the library.
- Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> - Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to be held Tuesdays January 21<sup>st</sup> thru February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm – 4 pm. DSMP is a diabetes self-management program that has been shown to be successful in helping participants take control of their disease and reduce the risk of complications. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and pre-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call the library.
- Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's day themed family night. Enjoy Valentine stories and make a valentine craft. Starts at 6:30 pm, no pre-registration required.
- Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> - Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to be held Tuesdays January 21<sup>st</sup> thru February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm – 4 pm. DSMP is a diabetes self-management program that has been shown to be successful in helping participants take control of their disease and reduce the risk of complications. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and pre-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call the library.
- Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> - Lego night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Lego nights are held on the third Thursday of every month. No age limit, no pre-registration required. Parental supervision required for younger children as some pieces are rather small.
- Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> - Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to be held Tuesdays January 21<sup>st</sup> thru February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm – 4 pm. DSMP is a diabetes self-management program that has been shown to be successful in helping participants take control of their disease and reduce the risk of complications. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and pre-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call the library.
- Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> – Respiratory Relief—Learn the oils and application method to help with sinus and respiratory support. Presented by Nancy Kremer.
- Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – March family night. Come for stories and a craft. Starts at 6:30 pm, no pre-registration required.
- Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>– Donuts with Dads day. Stop in 9:30 – 11:30 am and enjoy a donut with your dad (or mom), make a craft, check out some books and socialize.
- Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> -- Lego night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Lego nights are held on the third Thursday of every month. No age limit, no pre-registration required. Parental supervision required for younger children as some pieces are rather small.

- Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance will be held every Tuesday from March 24<sup>th</sup> – May 26<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30 pm. Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance is an evidence-based group program that focuses on improving functional ability, such as balance and physical function, to reduce fall-related risks and frequency. You will learn balance skills, good body alignment and coordinated movements in a circular and flowing motion. Who should attend? Older adults who are: able to walk (canes and walkers are okay) and interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength. NO COST to attend. This will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging and re-registration is required. Register at [www.aa3.org/trainings](http://www.aa3.org/trainings) or call 567-204-6900 or call the library.
- Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Bring your stash! Do you have oils that you don't know what to do with? Or want to learn more ways to use them? Come out and share your experiences and learn from others! Samples can be taken home of new oils you'd like to try. Presented by Nancy Kremer.

All dates, times and information on all of our upcoming programs are available on our Face Book page. Just go to [www.facebook/ZahnMarionLibrary](http://www.facebook/ZahnMarionLibrary) and “like” our page. So come into the library today and check us out!

## ***Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics—Don Rosenbeck & Susie Bergman***

Happy New Year from the Shrine! We have some great events planned to nourish and strengthen our community of faith. We look forward to seeing you soon!

- January 26: St. Dymphna Prayer Service
- February 14: Couples Night
- February 25: Shrove Pancake Dinner
- March 15: St. Peregrine Cancer Prayer Service
- March 29: Celebrating Farm Families (Mass with Bishop Joseph Binzer)

In addition to these great events, we also hold a monthly raffle drawing with a \$100 winner. In April we will draw a bonus \$1,000 winner – so be sure to purchase your tickets soon! To schedule a private tour of the Shrine, reserve The Upper Room for your next family gathering, find volunteer opportunities, submit a prayer request, purchase bereavement gifts with funeral home delivery or view up-to-date event information, visit us online at [mariasteinshrine.org](http://mariasteinshrine.org).

## ***The Spiritual Center—***

### ***Robin Goettemoeller***

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land—A Trip of a Lifetime! This 10 day journey will be visiting Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem. The journey will take place January 12—21, 2021. The event is hosted by Father John Tonkin in association with the Spiritual Center Retreat House, Robin Goettemoeller, Coordinator. The total cost of the trip is \$3699 out of the Columbus Airport. The airfare and tour price is \$2999 plus \$700 in taxes and airline surcharges. For more information, please contact Robin Goettemoeller at 419-925-7625 or [robin@spiritualcenter.net](mailto:robin@spiritualcenter.net).



## ***Marion Township Park—Lee Heitkamp***

The Park Board of Marion Township Park meets monthly. We continue to focus on improving and maintaining the park for our community.

Thanks to all that supported the annual chicken and pork chop dinner this fall! The park board has recently winterized the park shelterhouse and planning for 2020 is underway. Renovations to the batting cages were started by the baseball program this fall and the project is expected to be completed before the season begins in the spring.

If you know of someone that would like to become a patron of the park, please have them mail a \$30 donation to PO Box 12, Maria Stein, OH 45860 or contact Jeff Wolters. You will be entered in the monthly drawings and be able to attend the annual soup appreciation party.

If you have suggestions for the park's future, we welcome those discussions. Current Park Board members include: Lee Heitkamp (President – 419-305-8238), Eric Schroeder (419-296-8570), Jeff Wolters (Treasurer – 419-953-6863), Nick “Shaggy” Pavelka (Social media/email coordinator – 419-852-3858), Ryan Stucke (Rentals – 419-852-5088), Jesse Rose (419-305-6695), Kara Ahrens (419-733-7774), and Renee Hartings (Secretary/Concession stand – 419-305-5530).

Please follow us on Facebook (**Marion Township Park**), on Twitter (**@MarionTwpPark**), or email us at [mari-ontwppk@gmail.com](mailto:mari-ontwppk@gmail.com).

Marion Community Development Organization  
PO Box 65  
Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065

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**2020 MCDO Membership Form**

Business Membership \$60.00 _____		Family Membership \$15.00 _____	
Please indicate if you would like a receipt for tax deduction: _____			
Name: _____		Date: _____	
Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: _____		Email: _____ (to be used for minutes distribution)	

***Please make checks payable to: Marion Community Development Organization***

***Please send remittance to: MCDO - PO Box 65 - Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065***