

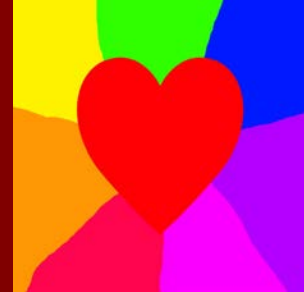


*presents*

## **IMPACT:**

*Information, Motivation, Playing, Activities,  
Connections, Training*

**Summer 2025 Edition**



***A quarterly newsletter for families of children 3 to 12 supported by the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities.***

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### **Like our logo?**

We are thrilled to share that it was created by JC Thompson, a young man supported by our Early Childhood team. We wanted to thank him for his work and share a little about him.

*"JC is super creative and enjoys art, coding and creating with Legos. JC loves all things dinosaurs and enjoys sharing his wealth of knowledge with others. JC has a great memory and amazing attention to details. JC plans to use his interests and strengths to be a software engineer, creating code for new video games."*



# MEET OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD TEAM

Supporting children age 3 to 12



Diane Dodson  
Developmental Specialist  
(Only ages 3-6)



Laura Middleton  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator



Connie Bryant  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator



Christina Rines  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator



Rachel Harper  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator



Tiffany McClain  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator



Hallie Mayabb  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator



Cheree Nelson  
Director of Early  
Childhood Services



Amanda Smith  
Early Childhood  
Service Coordinator





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## Upcoming Family Discussion Group

### Spark of Connection: Redefining Ourselves as Caregivers

*with Alisa Klepser, Executive Director of Re-Wellness Center, Inc.*

Each spark of connection empowers us to shift from autopilot to mindfulness, transforming our lives from patterns of burnout and compassion fatigue into vibrant, productive paths. By embracing purposeful pauses, we ignite meaningful connections with ourselves, laying the groundwork for profound personal growth. This journey builds resilience, enhances emotional regulation, and elevates emotional intelligence, significantly boosting our effectiveness for ourselves and our loved ones.

**Wednesday, June 4.**

**Virtual Session: 12-1:00 p.m.**

**Hybrid Session: 6:30-7:30 p.m.**



Both sessions will cover the same information.

\*Registration is required.\*

Click here to register:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C48A4AF22A1FD0-56642710-spark#/>

## **Summertime is Here!**

### **Buckeye Valley YMCA: Adaptive Swim Lessons**

The Y is offering adaptive swim lessons for children between the ages of 5 to 12 with disabilities. Student(s) are accompanied by a parent or guardian in the water. Swim lessons will take place on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. in June, July and August. The cost is \$30.

To register visit: <https://bvfymca.org/lcf-swim-lessons>



#### **Sports Pass Qualifications:**

- The child is currently enrolled in Medicaid, SNAP or WIC
- The child is between the ages of 4-18
- The sport you are applying for is recreational, not elite or travel
- The sports season lasts at least 4 weeks

### **Every Kid Sports**

Every Kid Sports is an organization that helps millions of kids get to play sports every season. Their mission is to support kids who don't get the chance to play a sport due to the cost. When it comes to every kid having access to sports, they don't play around!

The registration to apply for their 2025 Spring Sports Pass can be found here:

<https://everykidsports.org/every-kid-sports-pass/>

# KIDS EAT FREE!

education.ohio.gov/KidsEat • 866-348-6479

• No Registration • Age 18 or Younger



## SUN Meals: Summer Food Service Program

The Summer Food Service Program meals have a new name- they are now called SUN Meals! All children, ages 1 through 18, are eligible to receive free meals June 2-August 8 at participating program sites.

### Licking County locations:

- Alive Vineyard (7602 Stewart Rd NE) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Buckeye Lake Recreation Center (118 Third St) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Carson Elementary (549 E Main St) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Rockin' Cool Freedom School (1350 Granville Rd) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Coble Park ("Little Texas" Ohio St) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Newark Main Library (101 W Main St) 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
- Newark Townehomes (11 Daugherty Circle) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- The Salvation Army (250 E Main St) 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- The Village Network (14 Sandlewood Dr) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Wright Memorial UMC (745 Mt. Vernon Rd) Tues & Thurs 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

For more information call 1-866-348-6479 or visit

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Food-and-Nutrition/Summer-Food-Service-Program>

The SUN Meals location site map is not yet available.

[Click here to check for updates.](#)

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## Decreasing Screen Time

**Summer is the perfect time to take a break from devices!**

### Things to do:

- Dog Days of Summer: June 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
<https://pataskalagrace.org/dogdays>
- Diggers & Dozers: July 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
[https://www.facebook.com/events/55-s-1st-st-newark-oh-united-states-ohio-43055/dozers-diggers-big-machines-are-back/1216123010036451/?locale=nn\\_NO](https://www.facebook.com/events/55-s-1st-st-newark-oh-united-states-ohio-43055/dozers-diggers-big-machines-are-back/1216123010036451/?locale=nn_NO)
- Licking County Park District: <https://secure.rec1.com/OH/licking->



[park-district-oh/catalog](https://park-district-oh/catalog)

- Farmers Markets: <https://explorelc.org/directory/tag/Farmers+Market>
- Kids Bowl Free: [https://www.kidsbowlfree.com/center.php?alley\\_id=5626](https://www.kidsbowlfree.com/center.php?alley_id=5626)
- Wilson's Garden Center Little Sprouts Events: <https://gardencenterohio.com/upcoming-events/>
- The Works: <https://attheworks.org/calendar-events/>
- Y on the Fly: [Summer Schedule](#)

## Animal Adventures is back!

This program is part of a statewide, 4-H initiative to connect young people with disabilities, who also have a love for animals, with opportunities to get involved with local 4-H programs.

Participants will be paired with 4-H and FFA mentors to learn about an animal of their choice. After a meet-and-greet, they will work together to exhibit or "show" the animal at the 2025 Hartford Independent Fair.

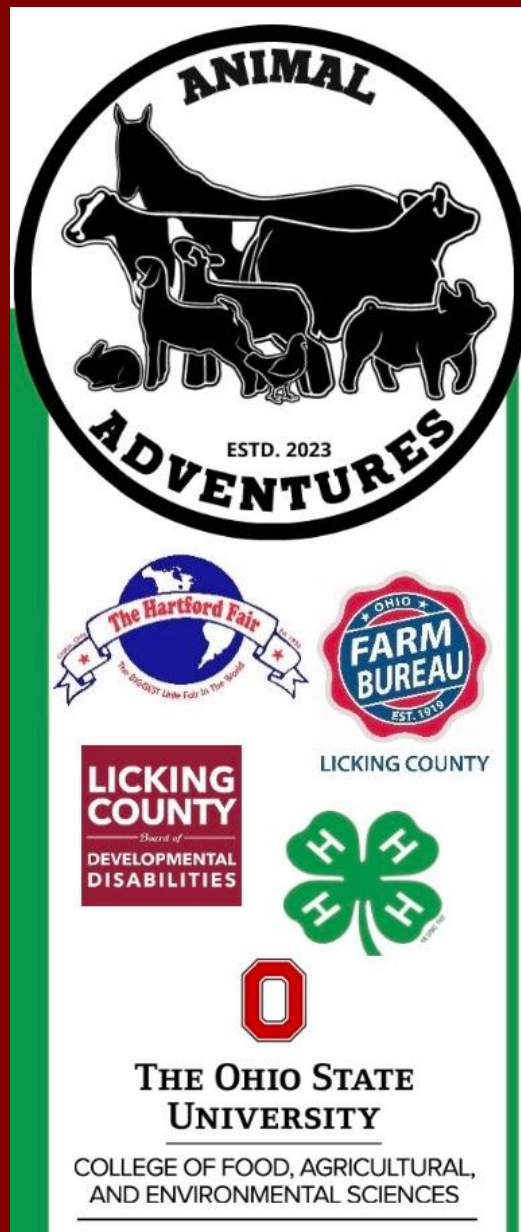
***The show will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 3rd at the B. Carr Pavilion, on the Hartford Fairgrounds.***

Animal Adventures welcomes youth between the ages of 8 and 19. Participants do not have to be supported by LCBDD but must reside within the Hartford Fair District.

Sign up:  
[https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eYfezOjpl6Enoa](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eYfezOjpl6Enoa)

Questions: Contact Adrienne and Lisa (740) 670-5315

*Animal Adventures is made*



### IMPORTANT DATES:

- June 20: Registration Deadline
- July 13: Meet & Greet Session #1 (6:30-8:00 p.m.)
- July 22: Meet & Greet Session #2 (6:30-8:00 p.m.)

possible by financial support  
from Licking County Farm  
Bureau!

- p.m.)
- August 3: Animal  
Adventures Show (6:30  
p.m.)

## Save the date for the Licking Park District's Accessibility Fair!

Mark your calendars from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on June 12 for a Lunch and Learn session at Infirmary Mound Park (Shelter #5), 4351 Lancaster Rd in Granville. Learn about the Licking Park District's new All-Terrain Wheelchair Program. Test rides will be available. While you are there, be sure to check out the new multi-phase Nature Playscape and A.D.A accessible kayak launch and fishing dock. It is FREE to attend and open to everyone! Lunch will be provided by Palumbo's Italian Market. **Registration is required.** Momentum Refresh will be there too, providing an accessible mobile restroom with a universal changing table!

[Click here to register by June 6.](#)

**momentum**  
refresh

**LICKING COUNTY**  
— Board of —  
**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

GO • EXPLORE •



DISCOVER • LOVE



740-587-2535  
[LickingParkDistrict.com](http://LickingParkDistrict.com)

## Unique Lending Items

Licking County Library's unique lending items are a collection of fun and practical items, games, and equipment you can check out with your library card!

*Here are a few of the lending items available!*

**The Dawes Arboretum Pass**  
Pass admits up to six individuals



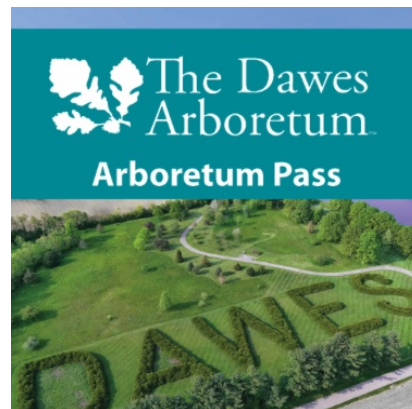
## The Works Museum Pass

Pass admits up to four individuals (adult or child).

- Valid for one visit within seven days of checkout.
- Valid for general admission; excludes special events.
- May not be combined with any discount.
- May not be combined with another Library pass.
- Valid for SciDome admission.
- Lost passes have a \$100 replacement fee.
- More information can be found on [The Works website](#).

(adult or child). Children under 5 receive free admission.

- Valid for one visit within 14 days of checkout.
- Valid for general admission; excludes admission to registered programs or special events.
- Passes cannot be used for entry during the arboretum's member-only hour from 8 - 9am.
- One pass per individual will be issued at a time, allowing for greater availability of passes to the community.
- Library cards do not provide complimentary entry at the gate; a Library Arboretum Pass is required for admission.
- More information can be found on [The Dawes Arboretum website](#).



## Board Games

Find a range of options from traditional card games, classic board games and new family favorites that are housed at the Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock) location. Board games check out for seven days and can be renewed two times if there are no holds. Games can be sent to any LCL location or Mobile Library. For a current list of games, please contact [info@lickingcountylibrary.org](mailto:info@lickingcountylibrary.org).





**To view more items available for lending visit:**

<https://www.lickingcountylibrary.org/books-beyond/unique-lending-items/>

**Learn more about the Licking County Library:**

Engaging a child's desire to learn can be a challenge—that's why Licking County Library offers a variety of resources to foster a child's love of literacy. From access to eResources like Hoopla to specially curated classroom collections, LCL has the tools to encourage children to become life-long learners.

**Dolly Parton's Imagination Library**

Enroll your child in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and they'll send them a FREE BOOK every month until their fifth birthday. If your child lives in Licking County, register for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library [here](#) or at any library location in Licking County. For details on the program or to print a registration form, click [here](#).

**Story Time**

At 10:30 a.m. each day, one of Licking County Library's locations brings early literacy to life!

**Locations and Times**

Enjoy stories, songs and activities for the whole family. Every forth week (and fifth if applicable) will be a special program. [Check the program calendar online for details.](#)

Mondays | 10:30 a.m. | Utica

Tuesdays | 10:30 a.m. | Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock)

Tuesdays | 10:30 a.m. | Downtown Newark (ages 3 - 5)

Wednesdays | 10:30 a.m. | Downtown Newark (Birth through 2)

Wednesdays | 10:30 a.m. | Hebron

Thursdays | 10:30 a.m. | West Newark (Emerson R. Miller)

Fridays | 10:30 a.m. | Buckeye Lake

\*Schedule is based on the school year and is subject to change



# Angelman Syndrome

The Granville Angels Foundation is an organization in Granville, OH dedicated to raising awareness, support and critical

funds for individuals living with Angelman Syndrome. [Click here to learn more about the Granville Angels Foundation, ways to support and future events.](#)

## What is Angelman Syndrome?

Angelman syndrome is a rare genetic syndrome which affects around 1 in 15,000 people. Angelman syndrome is a single-gene disorder caused by a loss of function in the UBE3A gene on the maternal 15th chromosome. "Angels" may experience the inability to speak, sleeplessness, seizures, epilepsy, relationship difficulties, hyperactivity, constipation, sensory needs, and wandering.

Other organizations that support Angelman Syndrome:

### Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics (FAST):

FAST is the leading patient advocacy organization working to cure Angelman syndrome. They are the largest non-governmental funder of Angelman syndrome research in the world. Their goal is to drive forward transformative research and development programs as quickly as possible for those living with Angelman syndrome — regardless of age or genotype. To learn more visit: <https://cureangelman.org/summit>

### Angelman Syndrome Foundation:

The mission of the Angelman Syndrome Foundation is to advance the awareness and treatment of Angelman syndrome through education and information, research, and support for individuals with Angelman syndrome, their families and other concerned parties. To learn more visit: <https://www.angelman.org/>

Source: <https://www.granvilleangels.org/#home>

## Cooking Corner: Ants on a Log!

### Ingredients:

- 1 (6 inch) celery stalk
- 1 tablespoon all-natural creamy or chunky peanut butter
- 6 semi-sweet chocolate morsels

### Instructions:

Fill celery stalk with peanut butter; top with chocolate morsels.  
Serve immediately



## **Craft Corner: Paper Plate Jellyfish**

### **What you'll need:**

- Paper plates
- Tissue paper (any color)
- Glue
- Yarn (any color)
- Googly eyes
- Marker
- Hole Punch
- Scissors



### **Directions:**

1. Cut or tear the tissue paper into small squares
2. Draw a wavy line at the bottom of the paper plate and cut along that line
3. Glue the tissue paper onto the plate
4. Use a hole punch to make several holes along the bottom line of the plate
5. Cut strands of yarn of the same length and thread the yarn through the holes of the plate
6. Tie the yarn once through the holes
7. Glue on googly eyes and use a marker to draw a mouth

**Source:** <https://www.myautism.org/news-features/5-summer-sensory-friendly-crafts>

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**Find the fully accessible mobile restroom,  
Momentum Refresh, throughout Licking County  
this summer!**



# momentum<sup>®</sup>

## refresh

### EVENT SCHEDULE

5/3/25	Summer Kickoff 4-7pm Canal Market Newark, OH
5/24/25- 5/26/25	Utica Ice Cream Festival 11am-7pm (5/24 & 5/25), 11am-4pm (5/26) Velvet Ice Cream Utica, OH
5/30/25- 6/1/25	Newark Strawberry Festival 11am- 10pm (5/30 & 5/31), 11am-6pm (6/1) Downtown Newark, OH
6/12/25	Accessibility Fair 11:30am-1:30pm Infirmary Mound Park Granville, OH
6/28/25	Pataskala Fireworks 12-10pm Foundation Park Pataskala, OH
7/2/25	Granville Fireworks 7-11pm Wildwood Park Granville, OH
7/19/25	Diggers and Dozers 9am-2pm The Works Newark, OH
8/13/25- 8/16/25	Pataskala Street Fair 6-10pm (8/13), 12-10pm (8/14-8/16) Main Street Pataskala, OH

Brought to you by:

**LICKING COUNTY**  
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**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Made possible by ARPA Funds

## Follow us on social media!

- The Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities shares stories, resources and information about community events on its Facebook page. Like or follow us: [@LcountyDD](#).
- LCBDD also can be found on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#): [@lcountydd!](#)
- Check out our Youtube channel: [@LickingCountyDD](#)
- LCBDD also has a Youtube playlist, specifically focused on videos for families of young children. Check it out by clicking [HERE](#).

Licking County Board of DD | 116 N. 22nd St | Newark, OH 43055 US

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