



# TIMBERLAKE TIMES

73rd Year || 307<sup>th</sup> Issue || April 2020

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The *Timberlake Times* is a monthly publication staffed by volunteer villagers and sponsored by the Village of Timberlake. Please contact the editor with article submissions (*electronic submissions are preferable*).

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### On the web:

[www.villageoftimberlake.com](http://www.villageoftimberlake.com)

### Social:

[www.facebook.com/TimberlakeVillageClub](https://www.facebook.com/TimberlakeVillageClub)

*Follow the Village Club on Facebook to stay informed of current Village Club events, photos, and videos! We actively update it with announcements and reminders!*

## Announcements

### Council Meeting Change

Dear Timberlake Resident,

Due to the continuing COVID-19 protocols, we will be moving our April 21st council meeting to July 21st. There previously was no meeting scheduled in July because it would have been during our usual summer hiatus, however, we feel that the current climate necessitates this move. Our May 19th meeting will remain as scheduled. If the current social distancing measures are still in place, we may hold the meeting electronically in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sub.H.B.197.

Thank you for your understanding during these unprecedented times.

Everyone please stay safe and healthy. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mayor Marra or a member of Village Council.

### Cancellations

The Easter Egg Hunt this year is **cancelled** due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing efforts.

Please watch the Village Club Facebook page for information on our beach clean-up (we will publish any date changes/cancellations).

### Bocce League

I hope everyone is ready to get outside again!! We are NOW accepting sign-ups for the Bocce League. We play on the (newly refurbished) court at the Village Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights at 6:30 and 7:00pm.

Teams play once per week from June through early September. Teams consist of 4 people so sign up as a team, a couple, or a single. You don't need a lot of skill and we have a lot of fun so come and join us and meet some nice people!! Call Fred Bittner at (440) 951-2992 to sign up or with any questions!!



40195 Butternut Ridge Rd. Elyria, OH 44035  
440-458-5191 [republicservices.com](http://republicservices.com)

Timberlake residents,

3/26/2020

We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation to make sure we're doing the right thing for the health and safety of our employees, our customers, and the communities we serve. Our number one priority is safety, and that is at the forefront of every decision we make.

While we are working hard to ensure the highest quality customer service and minimal service disruption, the recent surge in residential waste and unique challenges we face require us to temporarily modify our service offerings to keep your community clean and safe.

**Effective Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> and until further notice, Republic Services will be operating under the following guidelines:**

- We will accept cart contents only. Drivers will not be authorized to leave their vehicle to pick up waste outside the cart
- Yard Waste and Bulk programs are suspended
- We may need to use alternative disposal methods if there are disruptions to recycling processing capabilities or if recycling contamination increases. It's important to keep waste out of your recycling container.

The Republic Services team remains committed to you throughout this crisis. We appreciate your business and wish you all the best during this difficult time. For more updates, visit [RepublicServices.com](http://RepublicServices.com).

We'll handle it from here,  
Republic Services

## Recycling Dates

4/10, 4/24, 5/8, 5/15, 5/29, 6/12, 6/26,  
7/10, 7/24, 8/7, 8/21, 9/4, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16,  
10/30, 11/13, 11/28 (Sat), 12/11, 12/26 (Sat)

## Critical Community Update

The COVID-19 crisis has touched every aspect of American life, including our electoral process. In-person voting on March 17 was suspended due to health concerns. However, the legislature voted to extend the vote by mail option through April 28.

Many of you cast a ballot early, and your vote will indeed count. **If you have not yet cast a ballot, you will be able to vote, by mail, until April 28.** This also means there **WILL NOT be in-person voting on Election Day** for most voters. In person voting will only be available for voters with visual impairments or who do not have a physical address to receive mail.

Voters must request a vote by mail ballot to be sent to their homes. **We highly recommend submitting your request for your ballot as soon as possible**, to allow our Board of Elections enough time to receive and process the application, mail your ballot to you, and leave you plenty of time to receive the ballot, vote, and return it to the Board of Elections before the April 28 deadline.

**Here is an overview of the steps:**

1. **REQUEST A VOTE- BY- MAIL BALLOT** here: <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/lakeelections/>  
**You must print out the form, complete it, and then mail it to:**

*Lake County Board of Elections  
P.O. Box 490  
105 Main St, - Suite 107  
Painesville, OH 44077*

***If you do not have a printer, you can call the Board of Elections to request a vote- by- mail application be sent to your home: (440) 350-2700***

2. **CHECK YOUR MAILBOX EVERY DAY.** After the Board of Elections receives your application, they will mail you a ballot.
3. **ONCE YOU RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT, COMPLETE IT & MAIL BACK IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.** Your ballot **MUST** be **postmarked by April 27** or delivered in person to the Board of Elections by April 28.
4. **CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT** *(at any time)*  
<https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/lake/avlookup.aspx>

This crisis reminds us that it is more important than ever to exercise our right to vote. While this will continue to impact our community and nation, we must do our part to help flatten the curve.

# UNITED WAY OF LAKE COUNTY

## Partner & Human Service Agency Resources

### **Feeling overwhelmed, stressed, panicked?**

Crossroads Health and the Lake County ADAMHS Board are providing free confidential services to help.

### **Crossroads Health Coronavirus Stress-Related**

**Warmline:** 440-754-3340

(Avail. M-F from 8 am - 8 pm)

Virtual Support Groups are also available. For information visit [crossroadshealth.org](http://crossroadshealth.org)

### **Lake County Crisis Hotline:** 440-953-8255

(Free 24/7 help for you or a family member who may be experiencing overwhelming stress that impacts your

### **Lake County Food Pantries**

United Way of Lake County helps support over 40 community food pantries. A list of these can be found at [uwlc.org/food-pantries](http://uwlc.org/food-pantries)

### **Lifeline's 211 Helpline Referral Service**

2-1-1 is a free community service that provides information about health and human services. If, for example, you need confidential referrals or help with housing, shelter, food, utility assistance, clothing or counseling, you can call 211 anytime 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to talk to a real person. Just dial 211 on your phone.

### **Pandemic Approved Child Care Centers for Essential Workers**

A list of pandemic approved child care centers for essential workers can be found on The Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services website, along with who qualifies as an essential worker. There are currently 16 approved centers in Lake County.

Visit <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/index.stm> for this list. Click the yellow button on the right that says, "Family Pandemic Childcare Information." Next, click the link that says, "Centers Approved for Pandemic Child Care."

**The list is updated daily.**

### **Lake County Council on Aging: Resources for Seniors**

The Lake County Council on Aging offers programs for those age 60 and over including: Information and Referral, Social Work Services, Meals on Wheels, In-Home Safety, Homemaker Services, and more. They also serve individuals with disabilities who are age 18 and over. The agency has made many changes to their programs given COVID-19. For the most up-to-date information, visit them online at [lcco.org](http://lcco.org) or call 440-205-8111.

### **Free Prescription Assistance**

The Prescription Assistance Program of Ohio offers free prescriptions. The only charge may be the cost of mailing them to you. They fill prescriptions once a week. For complete details, visit <https://papofohio.com/> or call 440-352-1999.

### **Free Medical Care**

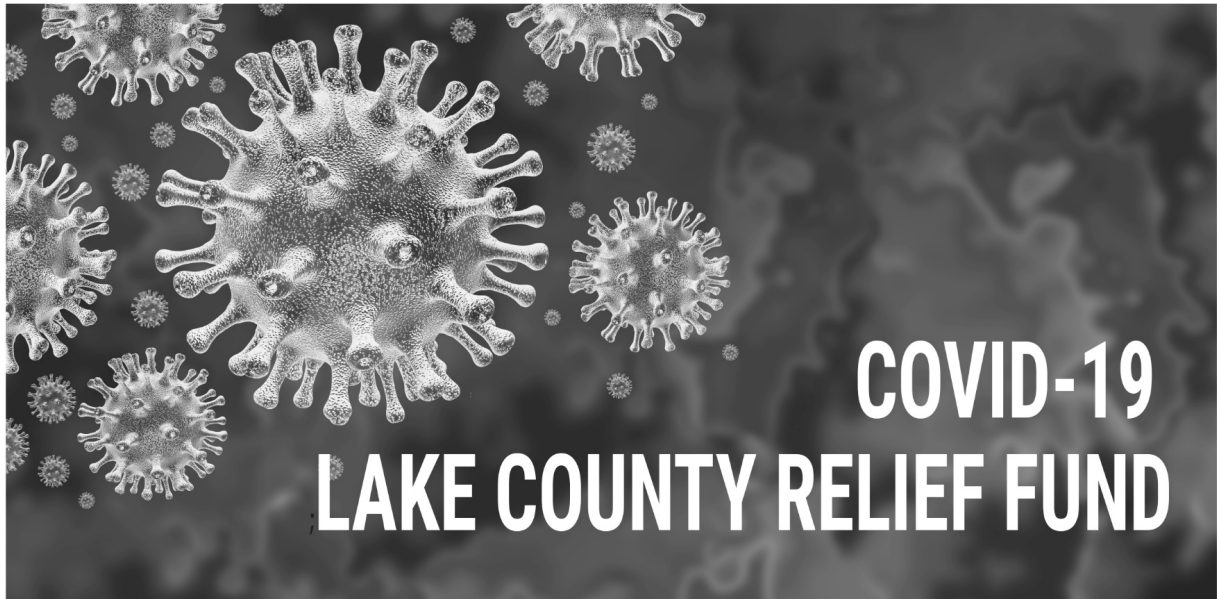
The Lake County Free Clinic provides medical services, but only with an advance appointment. They do not accept walk ins. Call 440.352.8686, ext. 2 to make an appointment. For more information on their services visit <http://www.lakefreeclinic.org/>.

**If you have a medical emergency, call 911, NOT the Lake County Free Clinic.**



**United Way  
of Lake County**

# YOUR GIFT IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER.



## 100% Of Funds Will Be Put Back Into Our Community.

The work we do at United Way of Lake County is solely for the benefit of the Lake County community and residents. And we need your help now more than ever. If you're in a position to do so, please make a contribution to our Lake County Relief Fund now to help our friends and neighbors in need. Our goal is to provide relief where needed as we navigate the COVID-19 health crisis together. Monetary donations from this fund will be used to alleviate unforeseen needs that are rapidly arising in our county due to the pandemic.

## 3 Simple Ways To Give

- Online at [uwlc.org/give](http://uwlc.org/give)
- Text LCR relief to 44321
- Mail a check payable to United Way of Lake County to:

United Way of Lake County  
ATT: Lake County Relief Fund  
9285 Progress Pkwy.  
Mentor, OH 44060

**For More Information, Visit [uwlc.org](http://uwlc.org).**



United Way  
of Lake County

## THE VILLAGE OF TIMBERLAKE: MARCH 2020 MINUTES

**John Marra, Mayor**

**JoAnne Clapp, Fiscal Officer**

### **MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**Sherri Falkenberg   Vince Cronin   Nancy Marra**  
**Ritu Sharma   Shannon Sharma   Kimberly Saba**

### **TIMBERLAKE COUNCIL MEETING March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

The Mayor opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance followed by the prayer at 7:33 PM. He asked for roll call of the officers. All council members were present along with the Fiscal Officer, JoAnne Clapp. The Solicitor, Jeremy Iosue, was also present.

Brian Thunburg presented information on RITA to the council and residents. He stated that RITA is a better agency to administer municipal income tax because of increased collections, governance, customer service, and e-filing. There is a board of trustees that governs the entire agency as compared to CCA, which does not. Any resident from Timberlake can run for their board. They also do not have any restrictions for their e-filing, as compared to CCA, which has 7 restrictions. They also provide customer service to the administration and residents. They have a 24/7 IVR system, so residents can check their information at any time. They also have real-time reporting; therefore the data access is always available. They are also able to increase their collections through the full year, accelerated collections department. The current service provider does not do pay-back plans like RITA does. It also tracks projects for the Village. He stated it takes about 3 years to realize the full impact of the cash-basis. Lastly, RITA charges less than CCA, saving the Village conservatively on average anywhere between \$2300 to \$3300 while generating new revenue for the Village. The way that RITA operates is that they retain at 3% of gross collections; they do a cost of collections at the end of the year. If a taxpayer did not file and pay, but want to be on a payment plan, they get 2 warnings, then become assigned to a collector. They, then, send out notices via phone call and mail to continue arrangements. If they default on their payment plan, there are two options. They can be referred to the legal department to be audited, then proceed to the court. The paralegals go to court on our behalf at \$35/hr. There is also a post-

judgement payment plan option for the taxpayer. The second option is that there is an outside firm that can also handle post-judgement payment. The fee for such an agency is 33-35% on average; the collections company charges RITA at 18%, which is charged back to the taxpayer. Per Brian, no one else can compete with this 18%. The taxpayer will have multiple opportunities to resolve their balance prior to this. There is also another option of sending the accounts back to the administration to collect.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Motion to approve: Falkenberg

Seconded: R. Sharma

Abstain: S. Sharma

Motion carried; Minutes approved.

The Mayor presented Resolution 2020-05, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Regional Council of Governments to provide assistance in the administration of income tax ordinances and other services and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the rules: Cronin

Seconded: R. Sharma

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-05: Marra

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

Please refer to the comments below:

- Sunny presented a public service announcement on the coronavirus, recommending that residents, especially elderly and immunocompromised, avoid heavily-populated public places, wash hands frequently for greater than 20 seconds, and maintain a 6-foot distance when in public in order to reduce transmission rates and mortality risks.



- Frank stated it should be placed on the Times that residents must take safety measures when walking in the direction of traffic.
- Debbie presented a concern by another resident that there is still black soot in the Village.
- A resident stated she noticed mail was being delivered very late, around 6:30 PM or so in the evening. The Mayor said it might be a substitute carrier.
- Debbie asked about if there is an ordinance banning solicitation in the Village. Mr. Cronin said he will look into this.
- Debbie asked about if a permit is needed to conduct tree-cutting on their property. There is no registration for tree-cutters and landscapers in the Village per the Mayor.
- Jen recommended not paying everything up front prior to having the service done in order to not get scammed.
- When will the stairs be done on the beach? The Mayor said they are working on it.
- Debbie asked about the trail. The Mayor is hoping to get grants for this to reduce cost and have it serve as a sidewalk. For the Village to opt-in, it won't cost anything. It can be placed where the Village wants on Lakeshore for the residents.

The Mayor presented Ordinance 2020-02 and placed it on second reading: An ordinance, subject to an election pursuant to ORC 718.04, to amend section 880.01 (b), section 880.03 and any other related sections of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Timberlake in order to increase the income tax rate from one percent to two percent beginning January 1, 2021, and continuing thereafter for the purpose of providing police, fire and emergency medical services, and declaring an emergency. This is being presented in such a manner in order to allow voters the opportunity to hear the ordinance and further discuss it.

The Mayor presented Resolution 2020-02 and placed it on second reading: A resolution declaring the necessity of an election on the question of approving the passage of an ordinance to amend section 880.01 (b), section 880.03 and any other related sections of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Timberlake in order to increase the income tax rate from one percent to two percent beginning January 1, 2021, and continuing thereafter for the purpose of providing police, fire and emergency medical services, and declaring an

emergency. This is being presented in such a manner in order to allow voters the opportunity to hear the resolution and further discuss it.

The Mayor presented Resolution 2020-03 and placed it on second reading: A resolution authorizing the Mayor to take all actions necessary to accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community Grant(s) and declaring an emergency.

The Mayor presented Resolution 2020-04 and placed it on second reading: A resolution authorizing the Mayor to expend funds received from the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community Grant and declaring an emergency.

#### **Finance/Ordinances/Record Retention**

Mrs. Saba has nothing to report at this time.

#### **Service and Parks**

The Mayor presented on the Service department. A service member plowed the roads and the hitch on the gator was fixed. The storm outfall was cleaned out this past month; it was congested with debris due to the rising waters. It was cleaned out for the second time this year and is being watched. The Mayor attended the NOAC meeting and learned about the worsening erosion problem. There is grant money available to help with the maintenance of the trails. The Mayor is looking into grant money for placing a trail on Lake Shore. This will tie the Village with Eastlake, who is going to buy the powerplant and open up the beach to the community in that area.

The Solicitor had nothing to report.

The Fiscal Officer stated she would need payroll on April 6<sup>th</sup> as she will be in the meeting in Columbus that week. She did email the financial reports to the council members; this is available to the public. If they would like a copy, they can email Joanne. Direct Deposit is now available for council members, as well. Ms. Clapp presented the financial report; it can be accessed by emailing [Fiscalofficeroftimberlake@gmail.com](mailto:Fiscalofficeroftimberlake@gmail.com).

The Chief presented the police report for last month. There were 32 calls for service. There were 18 traffic stops, 10 traffic citations, 10 traffic enforcement details, and 1 disabled vehicle. There were 151 house checks and 34 park/beach checks. There was a total of 256 total logged activities.



### **Safety**

Mr. Cronin presented the following letter: Hopefully sharing my tree cutting experience with other residents will be of value. Sat, April 25, Nick Hutter came to my door soliciting work. He claimed to be buying AI Tree Services. He did a nice job at a neighbor's home. I hired him to trim a tree. I paid him cash, as requested. They did the trimming. They removed the brush, but never came back to finish the job of cutting and stacking. When I called him, he said he would try to get his guys out the next day. Unfortunately, that never happened. Over two weeks has passed. He will not return voicemails or texts. He has also left other jobs on Keewaydin unfinished. Please be aware of this. Possibly, we can share other positive or negative tree contractors in our Timberlake Times. Thank you! Janie Key

Mr. Cronin stated it is imperative to register all vendors of the Village, so this does not happen again. He is working with the Solicitor on this issue. He wants to also look into selling permits to allow vendors to solicit in the Village in order to increase the revenue for the Village and reduce the annoyance in the Village.

### **Village Hall**

Per Ms. Falkenberg, the Village Hall is at 20 rentals so far for this year, spanning to September. This information is up to date on the Village website.

### **Recreation/Trees/Environment**

Per Mrs. Marra, there has been a lot of stacked wood in the Village and solicitors should be registered. She met with Mr. Cronin to review the ordinances on this. She requested the Village residents to look into what trees must be removed and to prioritize the removal in order to spend the money appropriately. Trees have been removed before that were not Village trees. She will be going to the government training in Columbus with Ms. Clapp from April 7-9<sup>th</sup>. The wood stacks should be cleaned up and ground out. She is requesting for Village residents to help with beautification projects around the Village.

### **Grants**

Dr. Sharma has been in contact with the Federal Senator's office. She received 10 grants; they offer partial funds reimbursement and subsidized rates. Either the Village will have to pay at least 30%, up to \$500,000

to 1 million dollars. She wants to consult with the council and residents to see if we should pursue this as it is not free money. May 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for one grant, the rest is November or December. The May deadline is for Nature Works. It is for reimbursement up to 75%. If the beach is to remain exclusive, it is a caveat to keep in mind. She requests that if any resident finds other opportunities to please contact Dr. Sharma.

### **Sewers**

Some residents have found water backed up on their private properties. She stated unless the main areas in the Village are blocked, there is not much she can do as it is not the Village property, but rather personal property.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the February 2020 Financial Report.

Motion to approve: Marra

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor.

Motion carried; Report approved.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve Records Retentions Committee RC-2 recommendation to be submitted to the Ohio Historical.

Motion to approve: Marra

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor.

Motion carried; Report approved.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM.

Motion to adjourn: Cronin

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor