

Lew-Port: Community education includes programs for both teens and parents

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gardening; learning and leisure programs, tech and more.

She credits the program's growth to the popularity of Lew-Port's offerings – available to county residents beyond Lew-Port's borders and with appeal to literally all interests.

"After going through online-only classes due to COVID-19 last spring, our fall program rebounded stronger than ever, surpassing our expectations," Muzzi said. "It was apparent that the community was ready to participate in fun educational classes once again. It was heartwarming to see classes sellout multiple times over."

Of the 125 programs listed, 71 of are classes offered for both teens and parents. What's more, there are more than 50 new class topics this semester with such interests as sewing, an exploring beyond series, face yoga, and homesteading.

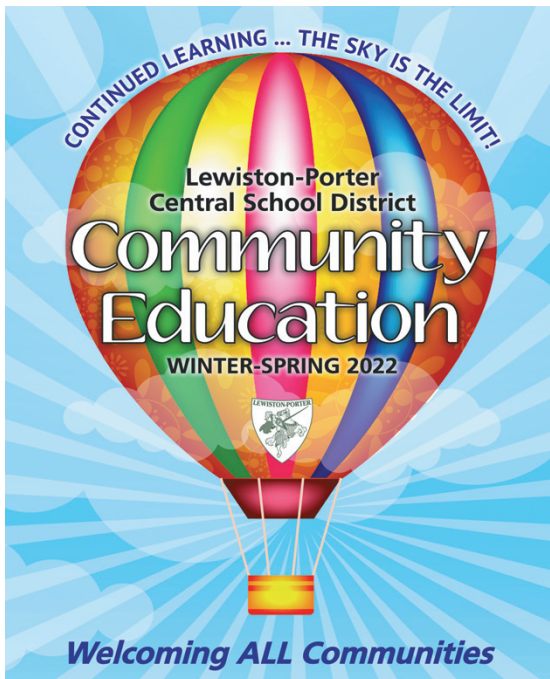
Of particular interest is Lew-Port's offering of 21 classes that school-aged children can take with their parents. Among the

"what's new for spring" programs, there's one that's called "Munchkins, Music and Me."

"This class is a specially designed music program for children 6 months to 2 years," Muzzi said. "We are also hosting a 'Snow Sisters Frozen Fun,' one-day interactive event where each child (aged 3 and up), parent or guardian will meet their favorite Snow Sisters and have an opportunity to take photos. The Snow Sisters will lead the guests in singing, dancing, games and story time."

Muzzi said much of the course scheduling in the winter/spring program is purposely tailored for the convenience of residents.

"New to our program are 'Early Bird' classes," she said. "They're specifically designed for those who have their daytime hours



free and would like to get their day off to a great start."

Speaking of getting things in order, Muzzi pointed to a number of helpful financial programs offered – all intended to better steer residents in their dealing

of oftentimes-difficult challenges. "We continue to offer a wide selection of free financial classes to the community. These classes include estate planning, Medicare, and personal finance just to name a few."

Muzzi noted many of these programs continue to be taught by "the experts" in their field – a feature that makes Lew-Port's community education offerings stand out in the area.

"As in years past, the district has partnered with local businesses that have opened their doors and expertise to us. The Brickyard Brewing Company is one such business," Muzzi said. "The smoking class they provide is second to none. Where else would you get a morning with their pit master going over the basics and then some?"

"Partnerships like these are a win-win for the community and the district."

"Our program has been build-

ing over the years into one of WNY's largest community education programs. We have opened our doors to the entire region. This has allowed us to attract instructors from all over WNY, thus giving us the ability to offer unique class topics to the community."

Muzzi said the door remains open for more community interest in the future. "We are currently recruiting instructors for our fall 2022 session."

Hobbyists, instructors and experts in their field can contact Muzzi at amuzzi@lew-port.com for more information on becoming part of the team.

In the meantime, she invites residents to check out the vast number of program listings and explore community education this semester. To view or register for course offerings, visit www.lew-port.coursestorm.com.

"If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office at 286-7265," Muzzi said.

'In the Loop': Music takes over Lew-Port

BY DANIELLE MULLEN

President, Lewiston-Porter Board of Education

Now that we have passed 20 weeks, the Lewiston-Porter school year is half over! It's hard to believe it is time to start planning schedules and courses for next year's high school students.

Students will be meeting with their guidance counselors to start planning for the 2022-23 school year. Eighth grade students and their families have been invited to attend an orientation night at the high school from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23. The goal of this evening is to help students and families become comfortable in the high school and to introduce students to all of the academic and extracurricular activities that are offered. The academic departments will have information tables set up to visit outside of the auditorium from 5:30-6 p.m.

This will be the first of many opportunities for next year's ninth graders to become more familiar with the high school. Any questions about orientation night can be directed to the middle school guidance counselors.

Meanwhile, the music department has been busy at work in various capacities across the campus. IEC music ensemble students recently performed – and for some students this was the very first time participating in a live concert!

On Jan. 27, the fourth grade beginner band and orchestra concert was held. The performance was a great way for students to showcase the new skills they are learning for their families. Instructors Mrs. Spinnegan and Mrs. Carere like to refer to this performance as an "informance," because they are able to highlight the foundational skills the students have been working on in between pieces.

Chorus concerts took place for third grade students on Feb. 1; and on Feb. 2, multiage third grade, fourth grade and fifth grade chorus students performed on stage. Recordings for all of these performances are available for viewing on the "Lewiston Porter Music Program" page on Facebook, or on Twitter under the handle "Lew-Port Music."

Lew-Port's older music students have been working hard preparing

for their upcoming kaleidoscope concerts. The kaleidoscope concerts are a unique way to bring together music students in grades 5-12, and for instructors to be able to showcase the progress of their musical ability as students grow in the program. The kaleidoscope concert dates and times are listed on the district's calendar.

In other music news, the high school is excited to be bringing back a live musical performance. This year's production is "Little Shop of Horrors," with shows in the high school auditorium on Feb. 18-20. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, and \$7 for students and children under 18. Call 716-286-7262 for tickets.

Come see a live theater performance and support our talented students!

Mr. Marinaccio's eighth grade fall 2021 music production class was recently highlighted on the music department's social media, with 19 creative tracks created by middle school students for all to enjoy. The videos made by the students incorporate many different skills and talents. You can also find them on the "LPMS Music Channel" on YouTube.

Upcoming Dates

√ Tuesday, Feb. 15 – Early release day: secondary students will be dismissed at 1:14 p.m. and elementary students at 2:25 p.m.

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