



GSP Member

Events, Announcements and Updates

December 4, 2025

Member Newsletter Submissions

Member updates will be shared through our monthly newsletter. Member events can also be found on our website on the [Community Calendar](#).

Members, please note, if you have an addition to the newsletter, it should be 8.5"x11" and shared as either a png, jpg or PDF file. Newsletters will be sent monthly. Please send your flyers to Alissa Fisher, Director of Marketing, at afisher@greatersandusky.com.

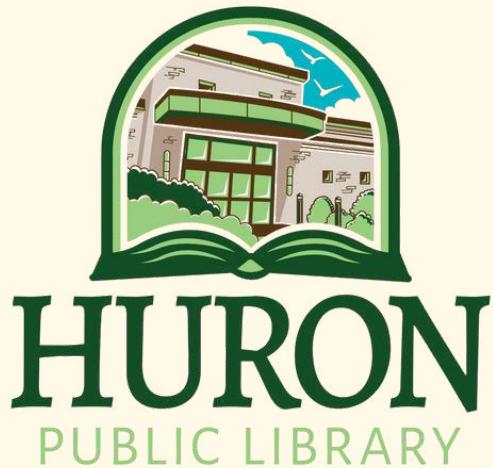
Not yet a member? Join GSP today as a [Business Member](#), [Community Partner](#), [Individual Member](#) or [NCYP Member](#)!

[**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**](#)

[**MEMBER APPLICATION**](#)



greatersandusky.com
info@greatersandusky.com
419-625-6421



UPCOMING DECEMBER COMMUNITY EVENTS

ALL MONTH LONG ELF ON THE SHELF & ART IN THE GALLERY: HURON ART CLUB

8

**MON
DEC**

ALL DAY: Take and Make Craft: Winter Animal Friends
Twine Craft
11:30 AM - Mahjong Mondays
6:00 PM - Mystery Book Club: Death Comes to Pemberley

9

**TUES
DEC**

11:00 AM - Art Club: Still Life
2:00 PM - Virtual Author Talk: The Legacy of Julia Childs Kitchen

10

**WED
DEC**

12:00 PM - Real Estate Basics for Seniors
5:00 PM - Rocking Readers Book Group
6:30 PM - Euchre Night

11

**THURS
DEC**

12:00 PM - Lunchtime Program: Winter Holiday Traditions from Around the Globe
6:00 PM - Dangerous Toys of the 20th century

VIEW ALL PROGRAMS & EVENTS ONLINE!



**14th ANNUAL VACATIONLAND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
TOY DRIVE AND WRAP UP EVENT**

Saturday, Dec. 13th - 12pm - 4pm

12pm - 2pm

1pm - 3pm

2pm - 4pm

12pm - 4pm

Caricature Artist

BAS Broadcasting LIVE remote

Glitter Tattoo Artist

Craft & coloring for the kiddos! While supplies last.



We're collecting new, unwrapped toys NOW through Dec. 13th -

for children up to 18-year-olds in Erie and Huron Counties.
Simply drop off your donation(s) to the Information/Security Booth,
Mall Office or any of the five VLFCU branches.



PICTURES WITH SANTA & SANTA'S HOURS

Nov. 22nd - Dec. 24th

**Santa Arrives on Nov. 22nd
and will be available for
pictures every day
until Christmas Eve!**



Pet Photos – All Day Every Monday

Nov. 24th – Dec. 22nd

Sensory Santa

Wed., Dec. 10th 11am - 12pm

Wed., Dec. 17th 11am - 12pm

Nov. 22nd - Dec. 18th:

Mon. – Thurs.: 12pm - 6pm

Fridays: 12pm - 7pm

Saturdays: 11am - 8pm

Dec. 19th - Dec. 23rd:

Friday, Dec. 19th: 11am - 8pm

Saturday, Dec. 20th: 11am - 8pm

Sunday, Dec. 21st: 12pm - 6pm

Mon., Dec. 22nd: 11am - 8pm

Tues., Dec. 23rd: 11am - 8pm

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th:

11am - 4pm

FOR SANTA PACKAGES AND PRICING: Visit SanduskyMall.com/Events



SUPER SATURDAY

Saturday, Dec. 20th

2pm - 4pm The Harmonica Man

3pm - 5pm Make Your Own Trail Mix Station

5pm - 8pm "I Am Tha DJ" Desmond Carter



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Sat., Nov. 29th 4pm - 6pm Huron Valley Mennonite Church

Sat., Dec. 6th 2pm - 3pm Sandus-Keynotes/Handbell Choir

Sun., Dec. 21st 2pm - 3pm Vermilion Community Concert Band

ERIE COUNTY
SENIOR CENTER

LUNCH BREAK

- \$3.50 -

MONDAYS | WEDNESDAYS | FRIDAYS

11:30AM - 12:15PM

**WITH ACTIVITIES
TO FOLLOW!**

620 E. WATER ST. | SANDUSKY, OH 44870

MONDAY-FRIDAY | 8:00AM - 4:00PM

WWW.ERIESENIOR.ORG | 419-626-2560

NATIVITY FEST



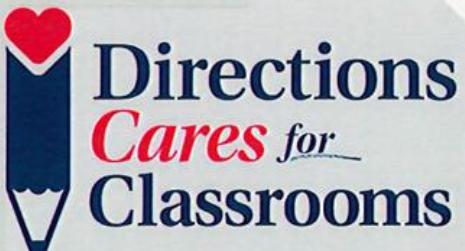
Join us for our Nativity Fest event!

FREE ADMISSION

Sunday, December 7th | 12:00–3:00 PM

Christ Community Church
2401 Columbus Ave
Sandusky, OH





CLASSROOM GRANTS 2025 - 2026 SCHOOL YEAR



Supporting Educators in Our Communities

Directions is proud to champion the incredible work you do every day in the classroom—and we're here to help bring your boldest ideas to life!

We know that teachers often go above and beyond, even reaching into their own pockets to make learning magical. That's why we're thrilled to announce our Cares for Classrooms Grants—a special initiative to support the creativity, passion, and dedication of K-12 educators in the communities we serve.

Here's the exciting part:

We're awarding up to \$15,000 in total grants during the 2025–2026 school year, with individual grants of up to \$500 available to fund classroom dreams big and small.

Whether you need:



New books to spark imagination



Art supplies to unleash creativity



Lab Materials for hands-on discovery



Math manipulatives to make numbers come alive



Software or AV equipment to enhance engagement



Any other resource that supports student learning

...we've got your back!

If you're a K-12 educator in a community served by Directions, we encourage you to apply and let us help you make a difference—one project, one student, one classroom at a time.

Let's build something amazing together. We can help turn your classroom vision into reality!

HOW TO APPLY:

**COMPLETE THE ONLINE
APPLICATION AT:**

<https://directionscu.org/cares-for-classrooms/>



Online & Mobile



APPLICATION WINDOW:

FALL 2025

8/25/2025 through 9/30/2025

Winners will be announced on or before November 3, 2025.

WINTER 2026

12/1/2025 through 1/31/2026

Winners will be announced on or before March 2, 2026.

TROUBLE AFFORDING CHILD CARE?

The Erie County Tuition Assistance Program Can Help!!

Covers
licensed &
unlicensed
care

Must meet 2 of these:
1. Live in Erie County
2. Work in Erie County
3. Child care is in Erie
County

Funds
granted for
up to one
year

For children
6wks-12
years of age

Receive 1:1
support from
CCRC
Specialist

Employers can
contribute to
help
employees
succeed!

Is My Family Eligible?

Family Size:



Income Limit:

\$2,383/month

\$3,004/month

\$3,625/month

\$4,247/month

**Made possible through the Dorn Foundation, Mylander Foundation, and
supported by the Erie County Community Foundation.**



Apply Now!

Questions? Contact Tiffany Felter:

440-242-0413 ext. *251 or

tfelter@ccrcinc.com





Invites the community to a FREE performance

“I Have a DREAM” Speech

Mon. Jan. 19, 2026 Reception 12:30 pm Speech 1:10 pm – 2pm

Sandusky High School Theater/Auditorium, 2130 Hayes Ave.



**The performance of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
is funded by The Lange Trust**



Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and relive the momentous “I Have a Dream” speech. Dr. Rev. John H. McCants, St. Paul AME Methodist Church in Canton, portrays Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Partner with Us to Strengthen Business and Child Care Together

My Faith Learning Center is partnering with local employers to create a sustainable solution that benefits both businesses and families. Through a state funded Business Partnership Grant, businesses can:

- Reserve guaranteed child care slots for their employees
- Contribute directly to child care tuition support
(additional discounts with the preferred employer plan)

This partnership aligns business needs with dependable, high-quality child care for working families. By joining us, your organization helps build a stronger workforce, supports employee well-being, and invests in the long-term growth of our community.

We invite your business to be part of this collaboration and help shape a model that works for employers, employees, and children alike. Each business partner will be encouraged to participate in the first year of the project to receive foundational support that will help them implement the needed plan for long-term employee support implementation through their fiscal and human resource infrastructure. Support from the state grant will be provided in tiers: 75% in the first year, 25% in the second year, and phased out entirely by the third year, at which point no state support will be provided. The grant will provide support and a "runway" for businesses to update HR policies, rework fiscal investments and support new and existing employees with their child care needs. Child care supports offer a meaningful benefit that reduces absenteeism and improves retention for any business that invests.

To partner and take advantage of this grant opportunity you will:

1. Sign a MOU between the child care program and business
2. CCRC will assist the business with creating a rollout or pilot run of the program
3. Data will be collected from both the child care program and partnering business
4. Quarterly meetings will be held with the child care staff, HR staff and if there are parent groups we will meet with them as well.

If you are interested in a discussion or to begin partnering today contact Jennifer Dodge at 440-242-0413 ext. *231 or email at jdodge@ccrcinc.com .

Thank you



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Erie MetroParks Awards \$57,878 to Local Parks Through Their Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program in 2025

Huron, OH, December 2, 2025- Erie MetroParks has completed the 2025 Local Park Capital Improvement Grant program and awarded eight Erie County political subdivisions a total of \$57,878 for infrastructure improvements to their local parks.

Executive Director, Melissa Price, stated that “The Board and I believe that investing in our local parks is an investment in the health and vibrancy of our local communities. Through Erie MetroParks capital improvement grant program, we desire to ensure that all Erie County residents have access to safe and welcoming outdoor spaces.”

Funding for this Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program (LPCIGP) comes from the Erie MetroParks general operating fund. Since its inception, Erie MetroParks has distributed \$723,378.00 to grant recipients to maximize each county resident's tax dollar by assuring accessibility to quality and safe recreational areas in their own backyard.

The 2025 award recipients were:

The Village of Bay View, \$7,680 for the removal of leaning electric pole and wires, relocating on at the shelter at Orshoski Park.

The Village of Berlin Heights, \$10,000 for the resurfacing and leveling of their tennis and basketball courts. Also, the painting of pickleball lines on the tennis courts at the Berlin Community Park.

Groton Township, \$2,283 for a movable pitching mound at the Groton Township Park.

The City of Huron, \$4,717 for the replacement of two accessible beach mats at Nickle Plate Beach.

The Village of Kelleys Island, \$9,457 for the purchase of wheelchair accessible convertible picnic tables/benches for the pavilion at the Kelleys Island Community Park.

Margaretta Township, \$9,153 for the installation of water bottle refill stations at the restrooms and permanent homerun fencing at Field A at Castalia Lions Park.

Oxford Township \$6,300 for the replacement of an old swing set at Oxford Township Park.

Perkins Township, \$8,288 for the replacement of picnic tables and trash cans at Fairview Park.

“Because our Park Board is not directly funded, we rely entirely on grants from the Erie MetroParks program. Thanks to this support, over the years we have implemented landscaping projects, planted new trees, and updated park equipment such as wheelchair accessible benches, picnic tables and a water fountain. These enhancements have made our parks more welcoming and accessible. Now, everyone can participate in recreational activities, regardless of physical ability.” -Marvin Robinson, Kelleys Island Park Board Member.

Political subdivisions of the State of Ohio (cities, villages, and townships) are eligible to apply for funding, provided the agency is responsible for outdoor park and recreation facilities and is located in all or part of Erie County. Those eligible will be contacted and sent applications in early 2026.

[Learn more about the Erie MetroParks Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program](#)

MORE INFO



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**2026 DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE IN ERIE
AND OTTAWA COUNTIES**

SANDUSKY, OHIO, November 14, 2025--- Shores & Islands Ohio, the Destination Marketing Organization for Erie and Ottawa counties, announces the availability of the Destination Development Grant Program for 2026. The Destination Development Grant Program has been created to assist organizations and businesses in the Shores & Islands Ohio (S&IO) region in developing projects that will attract and engage visitors and residents, serve and educate regional tourism partners, and generate economic growth for the community through travel and tourism development. 29 grants were awarded in 2025 for a total of \$584,000.

Over the past four years, more than \$2 million in Destination Development Grants have been distributed to local businesses to help them better serve their customers and enhance their communities, as well as the region overall.

Organizations do not have to be a S&IO partner to apply, however, if an award is granted, partnership with Shores & Islands Ohio is required. Partnerships will be discussed at the grant award meetings, April 1- 3 and 6-8, 2026. Applicants could include, but are not limited to, local governments, for-profit enterprises, and non-profit organizations. Organizations with active projects funded through the Destinations Development Grant or other Shores & Islands Ohio funding streams are not eligible to apply until the previously funded project is complete and all requirements have been fulfilled.

SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO

CEDAR POINT • SANDUSKY • PUT-IN-BAY

Projects should align with Shores & Islands Ohio's mission and strategic plan and increase the likelihood of visitation from outside the area. Projects should target the development of quality-of-place amenities, attractions, and facilities that enhance the visitor and resident experience and foster connectivity within the specific community and Erie/Ottawa County. Some grants require at least a 50% match while others provide full project funding. The full grant informational packet provides details on eligible and ineligible projects.

New this year, grant applicants are required to attend an informational meeting before they are allowed to apply. These meetings will detail the grant, eligibility, application process and reporting requirements. Interested parties, or anyone who wants more information about the process, may attend one of these scheduled meetings at any location, regardless of which county the applicant is applying from. Additionally, there will be a virtual option for those who cannot attend in-person. If unable to participate in any of the sessions, either in-person or virtually, the applicant must schedule a one-on-one review with Amanda Smith Rasnick before applying. Email amanda@shoresandislands.com with questions regarding the info sessions or to schedule a personal review.

- Friday, November 21, 2025 at 10 am and 3 pm - S&IO West (770 S.E. Catawba Rd., Port Clinton)
- Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 9 am and 2 pm - S&IO East (125 E. Water St., Sandusky)
- Monday, December 8, 2025 at 10 am and 3 pm - S&IO East (125 E. Water St., Sandusky)
- Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 9 am and 2 pm - S&IO West (770 S.E. Catawba Rd., Port Clinton)

Application proposals are being accepted now and will be due by 12 pm on Wednesday, February 25, 2026. Grant finalists will be notified by March 31, 2026, with grant award meetings taking place from April 1-3 and 6-8, 2026. For more information on the grant process or to receive an application, please contact Shores & Islands Ohio Destination Engagement Director, Amanda Smith Rasnick, at amanda@shoresandislands.com or 419.625.2175.



CIVISTA BANK NAMED ONE OF 2025'S BEST BANKS TO WORK FOR

Sandusky, Ohio (November 14, 2025) – Civista Bank has been named one of the **2025 Best Banks to Work For**. American Banker has partnered with Best Companies Group to identify banks that excel at creating positive and supportive workplaces for employees.

This year 90 banks earned a spot in the ranking of **Best Banks to Work For**, based on an anonymous employee survey and a thorough review of the benefits and perks offered. The full list of the 2025 **Best Banks to Work For** will be featured at www.americanbanker.com on Nov. 10.

"The banks recognized as Best Banks to Work For are institutions employees want to join and stay," said Chana Schoenberger, editor-in-chief of American Banker. "They understand how to give workers reasons to find purpose in their jobs."

On the 2025 list of top banks, Civista Bank earned the No. 26 spot in the \$3 billion to \$10 billion asset category. The survey and awards program identifies and celebrates banks that cultivate exceptional cultures dedicated to employee growth and success.

Determining the **Best Banks to Work For** involved a two-step process. The first consisted of evaluating each participating bank's workplace policies, practices, and demographics. This part of the process was worth approximately 25% of the total evaluation. The second consisted of employee surveys aimed at assessing the experiences and attitudes of individual employees with respect to their workplace. This part of the process was worth approximately 75% of the total evaluation. The combined scores determined the final ranking.

To be considered for participation, banks had to have at least 50 employees working in the U.S. and been in business for a minimum of one year. Best Companies Group managed the registration and survey process and also analyzed the data to determine the final ranking.

MORE INFO

SANDUSKY BAY

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Be *Thankful*



citylifestyle.com/sanduskybay
hailee.sage@citylifestyle.com

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for Senior Living?**

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KINGSTON
R E S I D E N C E
of VERMILION

Keep It Simple Self Defense

Awareness & Preparedness

**FREE CLASSES
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
1st Monday of the Month
1:30pm**

Course Outline:

- Lines of Defense
 - Home Security
 - Transportation Security
 - Individual Security
 - Facility Security
- Defensive Mind
 - Natural Process
 - Conditioning
- Awareness Training
 - Open Eyes
 - Open Ears
 - Open Mind
- Preparedness Training
 - Alert Posture
 - Individual Defense
 - Pro-Active & Re-Active
 - Hand to Hand Defense
 - Continued Practice



**WHITE TIGER
MARTIAL ARTS**

NORTH COAST

**Sr. Martial Arts instructor:
Master Dennis White
(6TH degree Black Belt)
Ph/Text: (419)357-7874
Email: DWhiteTiger@bex.net**

**Held at the
Erie County Senior Center
620 E. Water St.
Sandusky, OH 44870
Monday-Friday |8am-4pm
419-626-2560**

EXERCISE ROOM

Free to use!

60 AND OLDER

MONDAY-FRIDAY
8AM-4PM

Erie County
Senior Center
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