



**July 2026**

## 2nd Annual Mental Health Symposium at Cenovus

We launched into May, National Mental Health Awareness Month, with another amazing symposium event hosted by Lima Cenovus Refinery. Year 2 brought another great speaker, this time all the way from Hawaii! Andrew Siepka brought the energy, the experience and the knowledge to inspire our over 70 attendees to consider how they could make an even greater impact around Mental Health Awareness in our community. As a vet himself, his discussion focused on how to support those in our workplaces who may be suffering from PTSD or other traumas- Veteran or not- and how we are work together to provide support within a workplace setting. Activate Allen County is grateful for the ability to bring these types of events and speakers to Lima. This year, we also partnered with Warrior's Way, and hosted a knife making activity for those interested the evening before the symposium. Warrior's Way is a veteran focused non-profit to support mental health, prevent suicide and strengthen reintegration into civilian life after service. They are a wonderful community partner and we are thankful they opened their doors for this activity!



# Activated School Challenge Awards Luncheon

Our **Activated School Challenge** awards are always a highlight of our year! Seeing so many students and ideas come to life to help create healthy school environments is so meaningful to be apart of! This year, we awarded 13 schools: Allen East High School, Heir Force Community School, Bath Middle School, Shawnee Elmwood, Spencerville Local Schools, ACE Academy, St. Mary's East Primary School, Waynesfield-Goshen Local Schools, St. Anthony of Padua, Columbus Grove Local Schools, Leipsic Local School District, New Bremen Elementary School, and Ottawa Elementary School between \$2,000-\$2,500 for their wonderful work!



# Activated Faith Challenge Awards Luncheon



Our **Activated Faith Challenge**, with partner Mercy Health, was once again a huge success this year! We provided 11 awards to: New Life Christian Ministry, New Creation Lutheran Church, Ottawa, Elm Street Church of the Nazarene, Thunderbird Youth Sports, Greater Christ Temple, Family Promise of Lima/Allen County, Kairos Torch, Mission of Hope Services, Wayne Street Church, St. Paul United Church of Christ, Wapakoneta, and Spencerville Trinity United Methodist Church

## Double Your Produce Buying Power at the Lima Farmers Market!



Sponsored by Cenovus  
Energy and Activate  
Allen County

**cenovus**  
ENERGY

Lima  
Refinery



**2026 CALENDAR**  
Saturdays 9 AM - 12PM | May 30 - Sept 26

**LOCATION:**  
UNOH Racers Station | 1365 N. Cable Rd.

| MAY                                     | JUN                                     | JUL                                     | AUG                                     | SEP                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 21 3rd Thursday Downtown 5-8pm Main St. | 6 Car Show @ the Market                 | 4 No Market - Happy 4th of July         | 1 Touch A Truck @ the Market            | 5 Labor Day Grill Raffle                |
| 30 Opening Day Celebration              | 13 Dog Days @ the Market                | 11 Market                               | 8 Market                                | 12 Market                               |
|                                         | 18 3rd Thursday Downtown 5-8pm Main St. | 16 3rd Thursday Downtown 5-8pm Main St. | 15 Market                               | 17 3rd Thursday Downtown 5-8pm Main St. |
|                                         | 20 Market                               | 18 Farm Day                             | 20 3rd Thursday Downtown 5-8pm Main St. | 19 Market                               |
|                                         | 27 Market                               | 25 Market                               | 22 No Market - Allen Co. Fair           | 26 Johnny Appleseed Day                 |
|                                         |                                         |                                         | 29 No Market - Allen Co. Fair           |                                         |

MERCYHEALTH  
St. Rita's Medical Center

Nutrien  
Feeding the Future

Lima Chamber of Commerce

Activate Allen County

UNOH  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH OHIO

- MARKET HIGHLIGHTS**
- Local Farmers & Vendors
  - Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
  - Artisan Crafts
  - Food Trucks
  - Baked Goods
  - Family-Friendly Activities
  - Live Music
  - Local Honey
  - Kids' Activities

Check out the **Lima Farmer's Market** on Saturday's from 9am-Noon! For more info, please follow their social media pages!

# South Jackson Garden to Host Education Series

## SOUTH JACKSON COMMUNITY GARDENS *Education Series*

JOIN ACTIVATE ALLEN COUNTY & CENTRAL  
STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION THIS SUMMER  
FOR A 4 PART GARDEN EDUCATION SERIES

*May 9<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

We will be learning about growing for food insecurity and budgeting. How your garden can reduce costs at the grocery store!

*June 13<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

This class will be focused on pollinators and beneficial insects. What is good and bad for your garden and organic ways to prevent insects you don't want.

*July 11<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

Soil Health & Regenerative Gardening, Composting, cover crops, mulching strategies, natural fertilizers, soil testing and water usage management.

*August 15<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

Canning! Discover how to safely can and preserve fresh produce so your garden's abundance can nourish your family beyond the growing season.

📍 200 South Jackson St. Lima, OH 45804

☎ 419-222-6045

🌐 [activateallencounty.com](http://activateallencounty.com)

**FREE! NO  
REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED**

PRESENTED BY:





Our **South Jackson Community Garden** now has a covered pavilion and restrooms and we want to use this space for community education! **Activate has partnered with Central State Extension to provide 4 FREE, open to the public, education opportunities that we hope you take advantage of.** Dates include: May 9, June 13, July 11 and August 15 all from 11am-Noon. For garden location and more information, check out the **event page:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/1CE5pYMs7m/>

# Activate out in our Community!



We have enjoyed being in **Bluffton** for a recent plant swap, at **Safety City** for a fun **Bike Rodeo** and many partners have assisted at our **South Jackson Gardens**- with weeding, sharing expertise and conducting our monthly educational sessions!



## Dates to Note

July 11th- **South Jackson Garden Education Series #3**, 11am-Noon, FREE, Open to all, Families welcome!

August 15th- **South Jackson Garden Education Series #4**, 11am-Noon, FREE, Open to all, Families welcome!

September 24th- **House Plant Swap, Bluffton Public Library**, 6pm, bring a houseplant and join the fun

September 26th- **South Jackson Community Garden Block Party**, 11am-1pm- FREE food, resources and the opening of our new kids area

November 21st- **Annual Healthy Families Expo**, 10am-1pm, Civic Center, Downtown Lima



# 2026 Newsletter, July

Link to Mercy Health St. Rita's recent Community Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan: [Community Health Needs Assessment | Giving Back | Mercy Health](#)



**YOU Are Activate!** Please follow us on Facebook if you have not already done so! Website: [www.ActivateAllenCounty.com](http://www.ActivateAllenCounty.com)  
These avenues are great ways to stay up to date with what is happening!

**Have a community success story to share?**

**facebook**

[facebook.com/ActivateAllenCounty](https://facebook.com/ActivateAllenCounty)



**Interested in more information about Activate Allen County and how to get involved? Please contact us today!**

Contact us: 419-222-6045 • Email: [kmonfort@activateallencounty.com](mailto:kmonfort@activateallencounty.com)