

# SELF ADVOCACY SPEAKOUT

June 2021

## Why I Love My Day Program

By Olivia Parker

My name is Olivia Parker and I attend a day program called Siffrin at Kent State University, Trumbull. I spoke up for myself in my meeting and told my guardian and SSA that I want to have a job in the community. My SSA found a program for me that would teach me what I need to know to reach my goals.

At Siffrin Academy I am learning life skills that I'll use in my everyday life and at work. Sarah Chill is my job coach and together we are learning everything I need to find not just any job, but the right job for me. With Sarah's help, I figured out that I want to get a job in a nursing home or at a daycare. When we work together, she teaches me how to prepare for job interviews, how to build a resume, and the skills that I will need to work in the community. I know with Sarah's help I can find a job that I want.



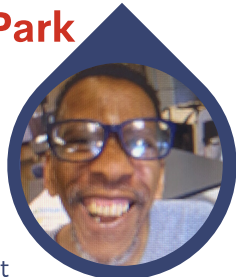
## Cedar Point Amusement Park

By Abraham Wiley

Cedar Park originally opened in 1870 in Sandusky, Ohio. It started out as a bath house and a beer garden. It's called Cedar Point because it has cedar trees and it's on a Lake Erie peninsula. The first rollercoaster that opened at Cedar Point was the Switchback Railway back in 1892. The speed of the roller coaster was 10 mph. Cedar Point also came out with a bird sanctuary in the park in the 1950's. People came in from Detroit, Michigan, and Cleveland, Ohio by steamship to look around.

In 1964, Cedar Point developed a rollercoaster called the Blue Streak, a wooden rollercoaster named after the local high school football team, the Sandusky Blue Streaks. In the 1970's Cedar Point added the Cedar Creek mine Ride, a steel mine train rollercoaster that travels over a lake, and another steel rollercoaster called the wildcat. In 1978, Cedar Point included a racing rollercoaster called Gemini that had red and blue rollercoaster cars.

Cedar Point continued to develop new innovative rides and currently holds the amusement park world record of 71 rides. Six of its 17 rollercoasters are taller than 200 feet and have helped it earn the nickname "America's Roller Coast!"



## Life Before Surgery

By Anja Calior

I had brain surgery when I was younger and I was in a coma after the initial surgery. My parents refused to take me off life support because they had faith that I would wake up. It is such a tragedy, but also a blessing to remember what my life was like before the surgery.

I had everything a little girl could want. I was really pretty and I could do everything - jump, walk by myself, run - but sadly, not anymore. I was also really smart and was in several gifted classes during the summer. I'm still smart, but it's much harder to form thoughts now. I also can't remember anything from the beginning of 6th grade, which is very, very sad.

I used to be a poet and wrote beautiful pieces. When my surgery happened, and went awry, my brain had to switch from using my right hand to using my left, because my right was damaged so badly during surgery. I had many, many corrective surgeries after the initial operation including 4 on my eyes. I can't see as well as I could before and I still experience double vision which makes it harder to function at times. I can't remember every surgery I had to endure, but I can tell you that there were many others on different parts of my body and that they were hard on both my parents and me.

I don't mind talking about what happened to me because it may help others to express their feelings. I am doing much more than the doctors thought I would. They thought I would never be able to talk, walk, eat on my own, or sit up but boy did I prove them wrong. I guess doctors don't know everything. I am so thankful to be alive. Sa' la vie - that is life.



**The Self Advocacy Speakout is published quarterly. The next issue will be released on September 1, 2021.**

**If you want to be a part of the writing team or have something to share for the Speakout Spotlight, please contact TekissaGraham@tcbdd.com**

## 3E Love

By Kayla Walker

Hey guys, it me , Kayla Walker again. Last article I shared with you my love for my Cricut and crafting. This time around I thought I would share with you some information about the company that helped me find my love and inspiration.

What is 3E Love you ask? It is a company started in Chicago by siblings Annie and Stevie Hopkins in 2007. Annie created and used the "Wheelchair Heart Symbol" for a tattoo she got while at the University of Illinois. There she found her calling in life to be an advocate and leader in the community.

Both Stevie and Annie knew that eventually they wanted to make a difference using the symbol. The first step was when they incorporated 3E Love, LLC and legally protected the symbol. 3E Love stands for Embrace Diversity, Educate Community, and Empower Each Other. They began making t-shirts with the symbol and logo and the shirts were selling fast. In January of 2009 Annie Hopkins went into the hospital for a simple procedure and unfortunately had unexpected complications which led to her passing. Annie's work in advocacy had only just begun, and 3E Love had not even taken off yet. Driven with support and love from family, friends, and the Chicago disability community, Stevie knew he needed to continue with the plan he and his sister had started. He knew it would be difficult without her charisma, passion for advocacy, and disability studies education, but he sought to do his best to spread her symbol and accompanying message to embrace, educate, empower, and love of life.

Stevie was able to quickly spread the word about 3E Love through Facebook and disability-related expos across the country. The company has sold tens of thousands of items to customers in all 50 states and over 20 countries. Today the warehouse is stocked and Stevie has a fire lit under him to continue to legacy of Annie's vision! But he knows he cannot accomplish Annie's goals alone.

I had the pleasure of touring 3E Love and meeting Stevie when i took a trip to Chicago to visit family. My family has purchased many items from 3E Love over the years so I included pictures of family and friends that also support the 3E Love motto. I have included the website [www.3elove.com](http://www.3elove.com) and they also have a Facebook page. I encourage you to check out their awesome merchandise and help support Annie's vision to embrace, educate, and empower.



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## How COVID-19 Affected me

By Paul Colla

The year 2020 and part of 2021 has been very difficult for me and I am through with COVID-19! Before the pandemic I participated in Special Olympics and I was on the basketball, track, swimming, and golf teams. Unfortunately, all of the things I enjoyed doing to keep busy came to a halt during the pandemic. I tried to stay positive but I felt very lonely.

During the pandemic, I kept myself busy by keeping the house clean, shoveling the driveway during the winter months, mowing the lawn and planting flowers during spring and summer and going for walks in the neighborhood. Both of my sisters are very close to me and they would take me to the store and to Geneva on the Lake where I was able to keep up social distancing. I also spent some of my time watching the local news. I enjoy seeing what the weather is going to be like for the week.

I called my friends and my SSA a few times a week and we would talk about the things I was going to do for the day and about different TV shows. I enjoy watching shows like Young Sheldon, The Neighborhood, and Mike and Molly. I also watched sports including basketball, baseball, and football although there wasn't as much live sports to watch during the pandemic.

I was very excited to get both vaccines. I knew once I received them I would be able to see more of my friends at the day program. I like talking with my friends, keeping busy, and making money while working at Fairhaven Industries - Niles. I'm happy to be able to participate in community outings again and I'm excited about being back on the Fairhaven Special Olympics newsletter committee. I enjoy being out of the house and I never want to see another lockdown again.





## Bethany and Friends Movie Reviews! with Bethany & Friends Stephanie and Sam



### To All the Boys I loved...Now and Forever:



This is the third and final chapter of the feel good "To All the Boys I Loved Before" series. In the 2 previous movies, Covey wrote love letters to numerous boys. In this movie, her sister sent out the letters Covey wrote to all the boys without her approval. Covey finds out when her friend Peter has her letter she wrote him in his hands which made her very mad. Throughout the story, Covey and Peter try to figure out if they would work as a couple. Peter tries making his current girlfriend jealous by talking to Covey. How does the movie end? We highly recommend this movie to anyone and give it a thumbs up!

### 50 First Dates:



Stephanie chose a funny, romantic, chill movie. This love story is about Henry (Adam Sandler) and Lucy (Drew Barrymore). Henry is a veterinarian in Oahu, Hawaii and just so happens to be having breakfast the the Hukilau Cafe, where Lucy was. The two end up having breakfast together and hitting it off and Lucy invites Henry to breakfast again tomorrow. This is where things get funny and interesting. Unfortunately, when Henry shows up for breakfast the next day, Lucy has no idea who he is, and is mean to him. This is sad and confusing for Henry and he later finds out that Lucy was in a car accident about a year ago and as a result now has Goldfield Syndrome, a memory deficit condition caused by brain damage that takes away Lucy's ability to create new memories. Although she never remembers him, Henry is dedicated to becoming a part of her life. So, they have 50 first dates. You must watch this hilarious comedy and see all that happens on these dates. Does Henry finally win her over?

### All Together Now:



This is definitely one of those tear jerking, feel good movies. Grab someone you love, a blanket, some popcorn and be ready to laugh and cry. Amber is a teenager that is beautiful inside and out. Despite the hardship she is going through, she shares her inner beauty and kindness throughout her community. When life gets challenging for her, the people she has helped and been there for want to be there for her. This was a great movie with great acting and great singing, and we gave it a thumbs up.

**Don't forget to let us know what you think. Did a movie make you laugh, scream, or wish you'd have skipped it all together? Which character do you like the most? You can reach us at [bethany.samchill@gmail.com](mailto:bethany.samchill@gmail.com)**

- Which city in Pennsylvania has 449 barber shops more than any other city in the world?
- Which Ohio amusement park in the 1970's where the 4 TV shows The Partridge Family, The Brady Bunch, Lidsville, and The Banana Splits were filmed?
- Which amusement park in the US is the only amusement park that is in between 2 states? North Carolina & South Carolina.
- Which Pop/R&B/Rock superstar did the Christmas song, Someone In The Dark and narrated The E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial Storybook?
- Which amusement park in California was the setting for National Lampoon's Vacation, Kiss Meets the Phantom of the Park, Rollercoaster movies and the CBS-TV show Way Out Games in the 1970's?



Answers:

1. Philadelphia;
2. Kings Island;
3. Carowinds;
4. Michael Jackson;
5. Six Flags Magic Mountain



### LITTLE KNOWN FACT:

Lake Compounce in Bristol, Connecticut is the oldest amusement park in the United States!



# SELF ADVOCACY SPEAKOUT

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## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EVENTS IN JUNE:

### SHARON SPEEDWAY RACING

June 11 - 26, 2021 : Racing starts at 7:00 PM  
3241 Custer Orangeville Rd.; Hartford  
330-772-5481  
[www.sharonspeedway.com/schedule/full-schedule/](http://www.sharonspeedway.com/schedule/full-schedule/)

### MAHONING VALLEY SCRAPPERS HOME GAMES

June 5 - 6 : June 15 - 20 : June 25 - 27, 2021  
Eastwood Field  
111 Eastwood Mall Blvd.; Niles  
330-550-0000  
[www.milb.com/mahoning-valley](http://www.milb.com/mahoning-valley)

### 7 BRIDGES - THE ULTIMATE EAGLES EXPERIENCE

Saturday, June 12, 2021  
Opener: Northern Whiskey - Modern Country Cover  
Gates Open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
321 Mahoning Ave; Warren  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### OPEN HOUSE MOSS ANCESTRAL HOME

June 13, 2021 : 1:00 - 4:00 PM  
Huge display of American Indian artifacts.  
1499 Burnett St.; Mineral Ridge  
617-710-3187  
[www.mossancestralhome.com](http://www.mossancestralhome.com)

### THE NIELSEN TRUST

Friday, June 18, 2021  
Opener: Nick Perri & the Underground Thieves  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS, A BOB SEGER EXPERIENCE

Saturday, June 19, 2021  
Opener: Invincible - Pat Benetar Tribute  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### OUTDOOR 3D ARCHERY SHOOTING

Sunday, June 20, 2021 : 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
The club hosts outdoor archery shoots monthly throughout the summer.  
Follow their Facebook page for information.  
Conservation League, Inc.  
Home of the Mosquito Bowmen  
2535 McCleary Jacoby Rd; Cortland  
[www.mosquitobowmen.com](http://www.mosquitobowmen.com)

### E5C4P3 THE JOURNEY TRIBUTE

Saturday, June 26, 2021  
Opener: Talk of the Town - Pretenders Tribute  
Gates Open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EVENTS IN JULY:

### THE BRIAN MCKNIGHT 4 AT THE PACKARD MUSIC HALL

Thursday, July 1, 2021 @ 8:00 PM  
1703 Mahoning Ave; Warren  
[www.packardmusichall.com](http://www.packardmusichall.com)

### ZOZO - THE ULTIMATE LED ZEPPLIN EXPERIENCE

Saturday, July 3, 2021  
Opener: Harvest - Neil Young Electric & Acoustic Tribute  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
321 Mahoning Ave; Warren  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

# SELF ADVOCACY SPEAKOUT

## JULY EVENTS CONTINUED...

### MAHONING VALLEY SCRAPPERS HOME GAMES

July 4 - 8 : July 20 - 22 : July 27 - 31, 2021  
Eastwood Field  
111 Eastwood Mall Blvd.; Niles  
330-550-0000  
[www.milb.com/mahoning-valley](http://www.milb.com/mahoning-valley)

### AIR SUPPLY THE LOST IN LOVE EXPERIENCE ROBINS THEATRE

Thursday, July 8, 2021  
Doors open at 7:00 PM - Show at 8:00 PM  
160 East Market St.; Warren  
234-430-0005  
[www.Robinstheatre.com](http://www.Robinstheatre.com)

### ATOMIC PUNKS

Saturday, July 10, 2021  
Opener: The Michael Weber Show -  
Explosive Rock Group  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
321 Mahoning Ave.; Warren  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### SHARON SPEEDWAY RACING

Saturdays in July 2021\* : Racing starts at 7:00 PM  
\*No Racing Saturday, July 3  
3241 Custer Orangeville Rd.; Hartford  
330-772-5481  
[www.sharonspeedway.com/schedule/full-schedule/](http://www.sharonspeedway.com/schedule/full-schedule/)

### VIENNA TOWNSHIP SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

July 11 - July 25, 2021 @ 6:00 PM  
July 11 - Guys Without Ties  
July 18 - The Wrangler Band  
July 25 - Tom Todd "The Amazing One Man Band"  
Concerts held at Bicentennial Gazebo. Bring your  
lawn chairs. Social distance & wear masks.  
Warren Sharon Rd.; Vienna Center  
330-240-4643

### 175th TRUMBULL COUNTY FAIR

July 13 - 18, 2021  
Trumbull County Fairgrounds  
899 Everett Hull Rd.; Cortland  
<https://trumbullcountyfair.com>

### FLEA MARKET & CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, July 17, 2021 : 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Located at the beach area & in the woods of  
Mosquito Lake State Park.  
Improved parking & free shuttle available.  
Concession stand by Friends of Mosquito Lake Group.  
DJ Dandy Dan will be playing your favorites.  
1439 Wilson Sharpsville Rd. (SR305); Cortland  
330-240-3901

### DOUBLE VISION

Saturday, July 17, 2021  
Opener: Huckin' Fillbillys - Redneck Rock n Roll  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### OUTDOOR 3D ARCHERY SHOOTING

Sunday, July 18, 2021 : 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Follow their Facebook page for information.  
The club hosts outdoor archery shoots monthly  
throughout the summer.  
Conservation League, Inc.  
Home of the Mosquito Bowman  
2535 McCleary Jacoby Rd.; Cortland  
[www.mosquitobowmen.com](http://www.mosquitobowmen.com)

### FINS TO THE LEFT

Saturday, July 24, 2021  
Opener: My Drunk'n Uncle - High energy rock n roll  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RickRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RickRockattheAmp.com)

### QUEEN NATION

Saturday, July 31, 2021  
Opener: No Funk No Justice - Your mom's favorite  
cover band  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

# SELF ADVOCACY SPEAKOUT

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EVENTS IN AUGUST:

### SHARON SPEEDWAY RACING

Saturdays in August 2021 : Racing starts at 7:00 PM  
3241 Custer Orangeville Rd.; Hartford  
330-772-5481  
[www.sharonspeedway.com/schedule/full-schedule/](http://www.sharonspeedway.com/schedule/full-schedule/)

### VIENNA TOWNSHIP SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

August 1 - August 15, 2021 @ 6:00 PM  
Sunday, August 1 - Jim Felix "Sounds of Elvis"  
Sunday, August 8 - Take Solo (Bluegrass)  
Sunday, August 15 - Good Question  
Concerts held at Bicentennial Gazebo. Bring your lawn chairs. Social distance & wear masks.  
Warren Sharon Rd.; Vienna Center  
330-240-4643

### MAHONING VALLEY SCRAPPERS HOME GAMES

August 1 : August 10- 13, 2021  
Eastwood Field  
111 Eastwood Mall Blvd.; Niles  
330-550-0000  
[www.milb.com/mahoning-valley](http://www.milb.com/mahoning-valley)

### TRACE ADKINS AT PACKARD MUSIC ALL

Wednesday, August 4, 2021 @ 7:30 PM  
1703 Mahoning Ave.; Warren  
<https://packardmusichall.com/event/trace-adkins/>

### ROCKABILLY RUCKUS AT THE TRUMBULL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

August 6 - 8, 2021  
Friday Noon - 8:00 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM;  
Sunday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Visit their website for more information.  
**\*Reserve campsites by 8/1/2021**  
899 Everett Hull Rd.; Cortland OH  
330-842-0436  
[www.rockabillyruckus.com](http://www.rockabillyruckus.com)

### FACE 2 FACE

Saturday, August 7, 2021  
Opener: Bad JuJu - Music from the 80's, 90's, 2000's  
River Rock at the Amp  
321 Mahoning Ave.; Warren  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### OUTDOOR 3D ARCHERY SHOOTING

Sunday, August 15, 2021 : 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Follow their Facebook page for information.  
The club hosts outdoor archery shoots monthly throughout the summer.  
Conservation League, Inc.  
Home of the Mosquito Bowman  
2535 McCleary Jacoby Rd.; Cortland  
[www.mosquitobowmen.com](http://www.mosquitobowmen.com)

### THE ELO TRIBUTE SHOW

Saturday, August 21, 2021  
Opener: Brass Metropolis - Chicago Tribute  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### CHASE RICE AT PACKARD MUSIC HALL

Friday, August 27, 2021 @ 8:00 PM  
1703 Mahoning Ave.; Warren  
<https://packardmusichall.com/event/chase-rice/>

### DISCO INFERNO

Friday, August 27, 2021  
Opener: 1988 - Tribute to 80's Hard Rock  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### WISH YOU WERE THERE

Saturday, August 28, 2021  
Opener: Unplugged - Chookie Alberini  
Gates open at 5:00 PM - Band on stage at 5:30 PM  
River Rock at the Amp  
[www.RiverRockattheAmp.com](http://www.RiverRockattheAmp.com)

### SELF ADVOCACY MEETING INFORMATION:

Advocacy Wednesday's continue! OSDA is partnering with We Thrive Together EVERY Wednesday to talk advocacy!

OSDA also plans to target its central region with network meetings on the below Wednesday's:

July 14 - September 18 - November 10, 2021

Visit VOICE Self Advocacy NE Ohio's Facebook page where information about upcoming meetings will be shared.