



**Wishing you good times, good cheer
and a memorable new year!**

All of us at the Lorain Port Authority want to thank you for your business, loyalty, and support this past year. We hope to see you again in the new year!

Take a trip with us down memory lane as we recall some of the most memorable moments of 2018.

2018 Highlights

Ariel On Broadway



The historic Broadway Building was buzzing with excitement in 2018, and that momentum is continuing into 2019! Last February, the Port Authority and developer Radhika Reddy announced Cobblestone Hotels would serve as the operator of the 55-room boutique hotel once complete. In June, the Ariel on Broadway project was awarded \$1.75 million in Ohio Historic Tax Credits. (The first project in Lorain to receive historic tax credits!) Then the Construction Kick-Off took place in August, and crews have been hard at work ever since. Brick work, the parking deck, the elevators and the fourth floor are just some of the areas currently underway. Ariel Broadway Hotel by Cobblestone will feature event space as

2017 Pacesetter Award

In April 2018, the Port Authority learned it was one of six ports awarded the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation's (SLSDC) Robert J. Lewis 2017 Pacesetter Award! The award recognizes ports who have increases in international cargo tonnage shipped through the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System. The Port was a proud recipient of the award in 2005. Deputy Administrator Craig Middlebrook with the SLSDC presented the award to the Port Authority Board and Staff during the June 2018 meeting. Click [HERE](#) to read the official newsletter announcing the 2017 award recipients.



Cabela's Walleye Team Tournament



Competitive anglers looking to find the largest walleye in Lake Erie gathered at Black River Landing in May 2018 for an event within the Cabela's Masters Walleye Circuit Team Walleye Tournament. On May 4 and 5, 63 two-person teams competed for the heaviest haul of five fish. A total of 595 walleye were caught and released, resulting in a total weight of about 3,378 lbs. Teams that qualified in 2018 will fish the 2019 championship, which is set for October 3-5, 2019, on Wisconsin's famous Lake Winnebago System. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the 2018 tournament that took place in Lorain.

Ohio Flags of Honor

For the first time since its creation, the Ohio Flags of Honor set up their display in Lorain at Black River Landing. From May 11 through May 13, 2018, the Flags of Honor will be on display at Black River Landing! The Ohio Flags of Honor Foundation was established to honor the men and women from our state who paid the ultimate sacrifice in protecting our freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than 750 US flags will be on display and 293 represent brave Ohioans. The opening ceremony is at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 11 and the closing ceremony is at 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 13.



\$2.5 mil in dredging



At the June 2018 LPA Regular Board Meeting, Nick Turner with US Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur's office announced \$2.5 million in federal funding was dedicated to dredging the Port of Lorain. The process cleans out the bed of a harbor, river, or other area of water by scooping out mud, weeds, and other rubbish. Dredging helps to ensure the shipping channel is deep enough for the large freighters entering Lorain's Harbor.

Roverfest X

Rover, aka Shane French, made his way back to Lorain in July 2018 with Roverfest X! The Cleveland radio personality broadcast his show, Rover's Morning Glory, and the festival live from Black River Landing. Performers included Shinedown, Machine Gun Kelly, Lil' Jon, Big Boi from Outkast, All That Remains and Red Sun Rising. The day-long event also included the Miss Morning Glory Contest and drew thousands of attendees.



Cleveland Dragon Boat Festival and Brewfest

On August 11, 2018, two events took place at Black River Landing. In the morning, the Cleveland Dragon Boat Festival took place in Lorain for the first time in the 12 years since the event was established. Boats raced on the Black River while supporters and fellow racers watched and cheered from Black River Landing. In the afternoon, the fifth annual Brewfest took over the pavilions and Train Station. Roughly 50 craft breweries, cideries and wineries filled the pavilions while food trucks, live music and lawn games filled out the rest of the outdoor space. This year's Brewfest is anticipated to take place August 10, 2019.

Board Membership

Following the September 2018 Regular Board Meeting, Connie Carr announced her resignation from the board. At the October 2018 Regular Board Meeting, the board passed a resolution commending Connie for her commitment and dedicated service. The board also voted to appoint Board Member Matthew Kusznir to vice chair, which was previously held by Connie. The ninth seat on the LPA Board was filled by

Neil Sommers. Neil is the CEO of the School Employees Lorain County Credit Union and he previously served on the board from February 2012 to December 2015. His term will conclude January 8, 2021.



Victory Park

During the November 2018 Regular Board Meeting, board members voted 8-0 to accept the donation of Victory Park from the City of Lorain. The vote took place two days after Veterans Day and about a week after Lorain City Council voted to sell the park. The Port will now maintain the property, which includes a pedestal and statue of Victory. The park was initially dedicated in April 1922 as Lorain's monument to the 42 lost in World War I. At the January 2019 Regular Board Meeting, the Charleston Village Society presented the LPA board and staff with the original documents related to the park.

Strategic Plan 2018

On Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, the Lorain Port Authority, in coordination with the Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA), unveiled its Strategic Plan! The Port engaged CDFFA at the end of 2017 in order to become a stronger economic development and finance authority. It took the majority of 2018 to formulate the plan, and 2019 marks the first year of its implementation. The Board of Directors formally adopted the plan at the January Regular Board Meeting. It's going to be a busy five years, but the Port board and staff are ready for the bright future ahead! Click [HERE](#) to read our Strategic Plan.



Authored by
Council of Development Finance Agencies



Step It Up Challenge Champions

In December 2018, the full-time staff at the Lorain Port Authority attended the Lorain County Wellness Network meeting to once again claim the Lorain County Step It Up



Challenge trophy! During the month of "Step-tember," the Port's full-time staffers managed an average of 12,108 steps per person per day. The Port was among 30 worksites, or 647 walkers, participating.

2018 Best Music Venue

Before the end of the year, the Lorain Port Authority learned it also received a 2018 Readers' Choice Award from the Morning Journal! Readers voted for Black River Landing as the Best Music Venue. We are confident the stellar concert series known as Rockin' on the River had a lot to do with the award, and we are so grateful to be able to work with the group who makes it possible. Kudos to Bob and Sandy Earley for their hard work and commitment to excellence!



Rockin' on the River VIP AND SEASON PASSES remain on sale!



While the countdown to concerts continues, we are actively selling Season and VIP passes for the upcoming series of shows. The Season Pass grants the card holder access to EVERY SHOW in 2019. The VIP Pass grants the card holder access to EVERY SHOW, plus the additional perks of provided seating, upscale drinks, premier parking, stage access and MORE! Passes are available in person at the Lorain Port Authority, 319 Black River Lane, in Lorain, or those looking to buy online can click [HERE](#).

Past/Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings

January 2019

February 2019

The LPA Board of Directors most recently met on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019, for the Regular Board Meeting. Topics of discussion included the formal adoption of the Strategic Plan, the Fairfax Bond Reissuance and Brownfields Grants, among others. All regular meetings are free and open to the public.

The next Regular Board Meeting is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019, at the Lorain Port Authority offices. Regular meetings typically take place on the second Tuesday of the month. Prior agendas, meeting minutes and passed resolutions can be found on our website by clicking **HERE**.

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