

Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Winter 2011/2012 Schedule of Events
Chronological Order

Public Contact:

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www.nps.gov/cuva/ or www.dayinthevalley.com

Thursday, December 1

CVSR Polar Express

Enjoy a reading of The Polar Express™ as we journey to the North Pole. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas. Cookies and hot chocolate are served. Information on how to purchase your tickets online is available at www.cvsr.com.

Thursday, December 2

CVSR Polar Express

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Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Saturday, December 3

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for December:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Akron Northside Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for December:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Akron Northside Station, 11:35 a.m.

CVSR Christmas Tree Adventure

Ride to Peninsula and visit Heritage Farms to pick out your Christmas tree. Tree cost is not included in train ticket. Fee: \$26 adults, \$14 children ages 3 - 12. Rockside Station, 10 a.m. Akron Northside Station, 11:35 a.m. To register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

CVSR Mr. Jingeling's Holiday Express

Young and old alike will enjoy this holiday trip as a special and beloved holiday character joins CVSR. Fee: \$20 adults, \$12 children ages 3 - 12. Rockside Station, 10 a.m. Akron Northside Station, 11:35 a.m. To register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

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Winter Sports Center Opens

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Park Place Santa Visit

Kids, come visit Santa! His elves can help you make a special present. Afterwards, climb up to our kids-only Tree House for stories and cookies. Park Place in Peninsula, 1 - 3 p.m.

Winter Geology and Geography Hike

Reading the landscape and the underlying rock is much easier when the trees are bare and the forest floor plants have died back for the season. Enjoy a brisk hike and learn about the geography and geology of Virginia Kendall Park. Ledges Shelter, 2 - 4 p.m.

Lantern Tours

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Sunday, December 4

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CVSR Polar Express

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Winter Warm-up Hike

Warm up with this biweekly hiking series as you explore CVNP's more challenging trails. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. 4.5 miles of the moderately difficult Salt Run and Lake trails. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Park Place Pop-in - Winter Is Here

This December, pop in to the Conservancy's Park Place in Peninsula store for family fun! Activities range from crafts and stories to games and conversation about the day's special topic. Park Place in Peninsula, noon - 4 p.m.

Park Place Santa Visit

Kids, come visit Santa! His elves can help you make a special present. Afterwards, climb up to our kids-only Tree House for stories and cookies. Park Place in Peninsula, 1 - 3 p.m.

Monday, December 5

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Tuesday, December 6

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Wednesday, December 7

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Thursday, December 8

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Cuyahoga Valley Photographic Society – Holiday Party

CVPS sponsors monthly presentations by local, regional, and national photographers. Join us for our first holiday pizza party. CVPS will provide the pizza; members and guests are invited to bring beverages. Spend time socializing and spreading holiday cheer with fellow photo enthusiasts. Free. For more information contact CVPS at info@cvps.org or the Conservancy at 330-657-2909. Happy Days Lodge, 7 - 9 p.m.

Cuyahoga Valley Contra Dancing

Become part of a living tradition in Cuyahoga Valley—contra dancing. Caller Carol Kopp leads dancers while the band *Hu\$hmoney* plays lively jigs, reels, and tunes. Comfortable clothing and shoes recommended. Fee: \$6. Boston Township School House, 7 p.m. instruction, 8 - 10:30 p.m. dancing.

Friday, December 9

CVSR Polar Express

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Lantern Tours

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Heritage Series Concert - Robin Spielberg's American Tapestry

The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. This series is sponsored by 89.7 WKSU, Cable 9, Courtyard Marriott of Akron/Stow, and the Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation. *Robin Spielberg's American Tapestry* delights audiences with generations of music that have been woven into the fabric of American culture. From the Civil War to the great wave of immigration of the 20th century, these songs chronicle journeys, hardships, and loves as they celebrate the beauty and majesty of America. The group will also play original arrangements of holiday-themed music for piano, cello, guitar, and fiddle. Joining Robin (piano, vocals) are Kate MacLeod (fiddle, guitar, vocals), and Catherine Bent (cello). Admission, unless otherwise noted: \$17 adults, \$12 Conservancy members, and \$5 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on the Friday for that weekend's show by calling 330-657-2909 or stopping by Park Place in Peninsula. You can create your own subscription series—enjoy three great Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series concerts for one low price! No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged up to 10 days before the concert. Series prices: \$45 adults, \$30 Conservancy members, and \$15 children ages 3 - 12. All concerts are held at Happy Days Lodge and begin at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Saturday, December 10

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Canal Explorer:

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Bird Watching - December Birds

Despite cold temperatures and limited food supplies, there are several permanent residents and northern visitors this time of year. Join Park Volunteer Dwight Chasar to search for wintering birds along the 3.5-mile Boston Run Trail. Happy Days Lodge (north parking lot), 8:30 - 11 a.m.

Junior Ranger Bird Watching

Bird watching is not as hard as you think. Join a park ranger for these free adventures to see and hear what you've been missing! Each month we explore a different birding hotspot. For ages 7 and older. Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center, 9 - 11 a.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Mustill Store Holiday Open House

Join Cascade Locks Park Association's annual holiday open house at the Mustill Store. We'll serve holiday treats and beverages, have authors on hand to sign their books, and offer lots of great gift items for history buffs and Towpath trekkers. Mustill Store, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Check our website for gift-wrapping dates at www.cascadelocks.org. For more information call 330-374-5625.

Park Place Santa Visit

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Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll

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through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Full Moon Hike

Explore your national park by the light of a full moon! Listen to night sounds, look for night animals, and experience the darkness without a flashlight. Trek 3 miles from Boston north to the Jaite Mill site and back along the Towpath Trail. Boston Store Visitor Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 11

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Park Place Pop-in – Holiday Ornaments

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This December, pop in to the Conservancy's Park Place in Peninsula store for family fun! Activities range from crafts and stories to games and conversation about the day's special topic. Park Place in Peninsula, noon - 4 p.m.

Holiday Mini Concerts

Join us at the historic Bronson Memorial Church in Peninsula for holiday sing-a-longs! Merry voices are accompanied by our 1880s Estey pump organ and by flute. Free. Bronson Memorial Church, noon - 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.peninsulahistory.org.

Park Place Santa Visit

Kids, come visit Santa! His elves can help you make a special present. Afterwards, climb up to our kids-only Tree House for stories and cookies. Park Place in Peninsula, 1 - 3 p.m.

Cross-Country Ski Program - Ski Preparation

Whether you have waxable or non-waxable skis, there are certain preparation methods that can help protect your skis and allow for maximum performance. Join Park Ranger/Certified Ski Instructor Paul Motts and discover the important aspects of cross-country ski preparation, with a chance to prepare your own skis. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 1 - 3:30 p.m. To register call 800-257-9477. Must have at least 6 inches of snow.

Cuyahoga Valley House Concert

Violinist/fiddler Ed Caner serves as both musician and host for this series of intimate house concerts. The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* called Caner "one of the most versatile musicians on the planet." During the past 15 years, he has performed as a sideman for over 50 major acts. Each month Ed invites different guest musicians to perform with him. Admission: \$8 general public, \$6 Conservancy members. Hines Hill Conference Center, 7 p.m. Seating is limited. The facility is not wheelchair accessible. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Monday, December 12

CVSR Polar Express

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Tuesday, December 13

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Wednesday, December 14

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Thursday, December 15

CVSR Polar Express

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Friday, December 16

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Festival of Lights/Dinner in the Valley

Come light up one of the darkest days of the year at CVNP and learn why many cultures observe seasonal days of celebration during December. We will be highlighting some new holidays this year. Take a magical stroll through our candlelit woods, sample the holiday traditions of many cultures, learn the science behind the winter solstice, and share a delicious dinner! Reservations required. Fee: \$25 per person ages 12 and older, \$20 Conservancy members, \$7 children ages 5 - 11. Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center, 5:30 - 9 p.m. Dinner is served at 6 and 7:30 p.m. For more information and to register call 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Saturday, December 17

CVSR Polar Express

Enjoy a reading of The Polar Express™ as we journey to the North Pole. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas. Cookies and hot chocolate are served. Information on how to purchase your tickets online is available at www.cvsr.com.

Off the Beaten Path Hike - Forests at Rest

Explore the lesser-seen side of CVNP on these rambling walks off the beaten path. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy waterproof shoes, and bring drinking water. Join Park Ranger Rebecca Jones on the final International Year of Forests hike, exploring the woods during winter's rest. This easy 1.5-mile hike will take us through established deciduous forest and planted evergreen forest. Oak Hill Trailhead, 9 - 10:30 am.

Countryside Winter Farmers' Markets

Come enjoy the local, seasonal bounty at the Countryside Conservancy's producers-only farmers' market. Throughout the winter, our indoor market offers fresh produce from high tunnel greenhouses and cold storage, meat, cheese, baked goods, confections, artwork, and more! Old Trail School, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information call 330-657-2538 or visit www.cvcountryside.org.

Winter Sports Center

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Park Place Santa Visit

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Tree Farm Snowshoe Hike

Imagine taking a tractor-drawn wagon through evergreens to select your favorite tree for Christmas. What evidence of the past can you find? Discover the historical tree farm story on this 2.75-mile snowshoe hike. A park ranger will give a brief lesson on how to snowshoe before each hike. Bring water and dress for an active outdoor outing. Space is limited. Fee: \$5 per person for snowshoe rental. When snow is less than 4

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inches, programs are conducted as hikes without snowshoes and are free. No advance payment is required. Locations will be provided upon registration. To register call 800-257-9477. 2 - 4:30 p.m.

Lantern Tours

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Sunday, December 18

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Christmas Bird Count

Annual counts help monitor bird populations, establish which species are in the area, and alert scientists to unusual changes. Participate as a park volunteer, counting birds in the southern portion of CVNP for the Greater Akron Audubon Society. Optional donation of \$5 helps to defray result preparation and publication costs. Kendall Lake Shelter, 7:30 a.m. - noon.

Winter Warm-up Hike

Warm up with this biweekly hiking series as you explore CVNP's more challenging trails. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. 5.5 miles of the moderately difficult Stanford and Brandywine Gorge trails. Boston Store Visitor Center, 9 - 11 a.m.

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Holiday Mini Concert

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Park Place Pop-in – Hibernating Animals

This December, pop in to the Conservancy's Park Place in Peninsula store for family fun! Activities range from crafts and stories to games and conversation about the day's special topic. Park Place in Peninsula, noon - 4 p.m.

Park Place Santa Visit

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Music by Nature Concert - Singers Companye

It's a feast of holiday music followed by an old-fashioned family sing-a-long, accompanied by hot mulled cider, holiday cookies, and visitors from the North Pole. *The Singers Companye*, directed by Sam Gordon, is a group of professional singers from Northeast Ohio who have performed internationally. Presented by the Conservancy and the National Park Service, the popular new concert series Music by Nature returns this winter. Admission: \$20, \$17 Conservancy members (includes a dessert reception after each concert).

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Monday, December 19

CVSR Polar Express

Enjoy a reading of *The Polar Express*TM as we journey to the North Pole. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas. Cookies and hot chocolate are served. Information on how to purchase your tickets online is available at www.cvsr.com.

Tuesday, December 20

CVSR Polar Express

Enjoy a reading of *The Polar Express*TM as we journey to the North Pole. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas. Cookies and hot chocolate are served. Information on how to purchase your tickets online is available at www.cvsr.com.

Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Wednesday, December 21

Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Thursday, December 22

Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Cuyahoga Valley Contra Dancing

Become part of a living tradition in Cuyahoga Valley—contra dancing. Caller Carol Kopp leads dancers while the band *Hu\$hmoney* plays lively jigs, reels, and tunes. Comfortable clothing and shoes recommended. Fee: \$6. Boston Township School House, 7 p.m. instruction, 8 - 10:30 p.m. dancing.

Friday, December 23

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Lantern Tours

Make this your annual holiday tradition at Hale Farm & Village. Take a 90-minute lantern-lit trip to see, hear, and smell the holidays as experienced in the 19th century. Visitors embark on an evening stroll through the village, where it is Christmas Eve, 1861. Fee: \$18 per person, \$15 for WRHS members. Group rates are available for 15 or more people. Hale Farm & Village. Tours depart every 20 minutes. First tour starts 6 p.m.; last tour is at 8:20 p.m. For reservations call 330-666-3711.

Saturday, December 24

No events scheduled.

Sunday, December 25

No events scheduled.

Monday, December 26

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Beginning Children's Ski Workshop: Ages 7 - 9

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at this beginning workshop. Free ski time will follow approximately 1.5 hours of instruction. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Must have at least 6 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 9. 1:30 - 3 p.m. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: \$15 per child including rental equipment, \$10 with your own equipment and for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. Dress for the weather. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Tuesday, December 27

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Beginning Children's Ski Workshop: Ages 10 - 12

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at this beginning workshop. Free ski time will follow approximately 1.5 hours of instruction. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Must have at least 6 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 9. 1:30 - 3 p.m. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: \$15 per child including rental equipment, \$10 with your own equipment and for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. Dress for the weather. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Wednesday, December 28

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Winter Tracks Snowshoe

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Although you may not see certain animals when you visit the park, you can tell who was here earlier from their tracks. Snowshoe a section of the Cross Country Trail and discover the animals living in the upland evergreen forests. Must have at least 4 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 12. 10 - 11:30 a.m. Dress for the weather. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: snowshoe programs are \$8 per child including rental equipment, \$5 for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Thursday, December 29

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Friday, December 30

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Saturday, December 31

Beginning Cross-Country Ski Workshop

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at the beginning workshop, held with or without snow. Free ski time will follow approximately 2 hours of instruction. There must be at least 6 inches of snow. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Fee: \$10 with own equipment, \$15 with 3-hour rental. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Kids' Snowshoe Workshop

Come out and enjoy the park this winter! We'll learn about snowshoes and experience what it's like to go snowshoeing as we take a short hike to discover who else is out and about on this winter day. Must have at least 4 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 12. 1:30 - 3 p.m. Dress for the weather. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: snowshoe programs are \$8 per child including rental equipment, \$5 for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Sunday, January 1

No events scheduled.

Monday, January 2

No events scheduled.

Tuesday, January 3

No events scheduled.

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Wednesday, January 4

No events scheduled.

Thursday, January 5

No events scheduled.

Friday, January 6

Junior Ranger - Sledding By Moonlight

While using your night vision, enjoy sledding the Kendall Hills and listening for owls and coyotes. Enjoy hot chocolate and stories, too. Bring your own sled and be sure to register, as space is limited. Free. For ages 7 - 12. 6 - 8 p.m.

Lantern Hike

Join Park Ranger Mike Kosmos to explore the wonders of CVNP by lantern light. Afterwards, enjoy hot chocolate around a roaring campfire. 2.2 miles along the Ledges Trail, Ledges Shelter, 7 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, January 7

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Bird Watching - January Birds

Wintering birds such as purple finches, red-breasted nuthatches, and white-throated sparrows often feed along the hardwood forest edges. Join Park Volunteer Dwight Chasar to search for northern birds along the trails surrounding Oak Hill. Oak Hill Trailhead, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Cookie Burner Hike

Burn off the holiday calories in this 11-mile loop along the Buckeye and Valley trails. Wear sturdy shoes and appropriate cold-weather gear. Pack a lunch to eat along the trail. NPS Park Headquarters, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Evergreen Forests Snowshoe Hike

Discover what it is like to snowshoe through large stands of eastern white pine. Their long, soft, green needles are a lovely contrast to white snow. Join us on this 2.5-mile moderate snowshoe hike over hills and along a scenic plateau. A park ranger will give a brief lesson on how to snowshoe before each hike. Bring water and dress for an active outdoor outing. Space is limited. Fee: \$5 per person for snowshoe rental. When snow is less than 4 inches, programs are conducted as hikes without snowshoes and are free. No

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advance payment is required. Locations will be provided upon registration. To register call 800-257-9477.
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Beginning Children's Ski Workshop: Ages 7 - 9

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at this beginning workshop. Free ski time will follow approximately 1.5 hours of instruction. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Must have at least 6 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 9. 1:30 - 3 p.m. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: \$15 per child including rental equipment, \$10 with your own equipment and for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. Dress for the weather. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Sunday, January 8

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Winter Warm-up Hike

Warm up with this biweekly hiking series as you explore CVNP's more challenging trails. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. 5.5 miles of the moderately difficult Buckeye and Deer Run trails. Ira Trailhead, 9 - 11 a.m.

Beginning Cross-Country Ski Workshop

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at the beginning workshop, held with or without snow. Free ski time will follow approximately 2 hours of instruction. There must be at least 6 inches of snow. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Fee: \$10 with own equipment, \$15 with 3-hour rental. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to

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confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Cross-Country Ski Program Handling Hills

Join Park Ranger/Certified Ski Instructor Paul Motts to learn the important skills needed to cross-country ski on hills and novice trails. Dress for outdoor instruction and bring your own equipment. If there is not enough snow, this workshop will be rescheduled based on instructor availability and favorable snow conditions. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. on 1/8 and 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on 2/5. To register call 800-257-9477.

Monday, January 9

Full Moon Hike

Explore your national park by the light of a full moon! Listen to night sounds, look for night animals, and experience the darkness without a flashlight. Take a moderate 3.5-mile round-trip stroll from Canal Visitor Center to Lock 39. Canal Visitor Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 10

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, January 11

Winter Camp-in Pre-Trip Meeting

Enjoy your national park in its quiet season as few can—through winter camping. Participants must attend an evening session on Wednesday, January 11 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Boston Store Visitor Center to prepare for the frosty overnight. At the start of the camp-in, the group will hike a short distance to a secluded area for this special park experience. Bring your own camping equipment. Saturday 4 p.m. to Sunday 11 a.m. Space is limited. To register call 800-257-9477. Additional information will be e-mailed upon registration.

Thursday, January 12

Cuyahoga Valley Contra Dancing

Become part of a living tradition in Cuyahoga Valley—contra dancing. Caller Carol Kopp leads dancers while the band *Hu\$hmoney* plays lively jigs, reels, and tunes. Comfortable clothing and shoes recommended. Fee: \$6. Boston Township School House, 7 p.m. instruction, 8 - 10:30 p.m. dancing.

Friday, January 13

No events scheduled.

Saturday, January 14

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

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Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Countryside Winter Farmers' Markets

Come enjoy the local, seasonal bounty at the Countryside Conservancy's producers-only farmers' market. Throughout the winter, our indoor market offers fresh produce from high tunnel greenhouses and cold storage, meat, cheese, baked goods, confections, artwork, and more! Old Trail School, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information call 330-657-2538 or visit www.cvcountryside.org.

Beginning Cross-Country Ski Workshop

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at the beginning workshop, held with or without snow. Free ski time will follow approximately 2 hours of instruction. There must be at least 6 inches of snow. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Fee: \$10 with own equipment, \$15 with 3-hour rental. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Heritage Series Concert - Mountain Heart

The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. This series is sponsored by 89.7 WKSU, Cable 9, Courtyard Marriott of Akron/Stow, and the Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation. *Mountain Heart* has fearlessly revolutionized the way acoustic and bluegrass music can be presented and played. Since the group's creation in 1999, their musical virtuosity, unmatched energy, and keen sense of entertainment dynamics have helped them forge a unique sound and stage show. The band or its members have won or been nominated for GRAMMYs, Academy of Country Music Awards, Country Music Association Awards, and several International Bluegrass Music Association Awards. *Mountain Heart* has appeared on the revered stage of the Grand Ole Opry more than 125 times. Admission, unless otherwise noted: \$17 adults, \$12 Conservancy members, and \$5 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on the Friday for that weekend's show by calling 330-657-2909 or stopping by Park Place in Peninsula. You can create your own subscription series—enjoy three great Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series concerts for one low price! No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged up to 10 days before the concert. Series prices: \$45 adults, \$30 Conservancy members, and \$15 children ages 3 - 12. All concerts are held at Happy Days Lodge and begin at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Sunday, January 15

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

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Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Cross-Country Ski Program - Intermediate Workshop

Join Park Ranger/Certified Ski Instructor Paul Motts for this workshop designed for intermediate skiers with a good wedge or snowplow. Learn a variety of intermediate skiing techniques and come prepared with your own equipment, ready for outdoor instruction. If there is not enough snow, this workshop will be rescheduled based on instructor availability and snow conditions. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Cuyahoga Valley House Concert

Violinist/fiddler Ed Caner serves as both musician and host for this series of intimate house concerts. The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* called Caner "one of the most versatile musicians on the planet." During the past 15 years, he has performed as a sideman for over 50 major acts. Each month Ed invites different guest musicians to perform with him. Admission: \$8 general public, \$6 Conservancy members. Hines Hill Conference Center, 7 p.m. Seating is limited. The facility is not wheelchair accessible. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Monday, January 16

Junior Ranger Jr. - Hibernation Happens

When the weather turns cold and snow blankets the ground, where are the animals? Find out who is sleeping and where they may be hiding in the pond, meadow, and forest. Be prepared for a short hike. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children. Dress for the weather. For children 4 to 6. Free. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Afternoon Stroll

Stroll through the park with a Metro Parks naturalist to learn about local animals and their tracks. Hampton Hills Metro Park / Main Entrance, 1 p.m. For more information call 330-865-8065 or visit www.summitmetroparks.org.

Junior Ranger - Kids' Snowshoe Workshop

Come out and enjoy the park this winter! We'll learn about snowshoes and experience what it's like to go snowshoeing as we take a short hike to discover who else is out and about on this winter day. Must have at least 4 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 12. 1:30 - 3 p.m. Dress for the weather. Program locations are given

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upon registration. Fees: snowshoe programs are \$8 per child including rental equipment, \$5 for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Tuesday, January 17

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, January 18

No events scheduled.

Thursday, January 19

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Program Open House

Join us for an open house to learn about becoming an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist. This program involves 40 hours of combined classroom and field-based instruction along with a requirement to complete 40 hours of volunteer service. Volunteers maintain certification by completing eight hours of continuing education and 20 service hours annually. Program begins in March. Open house is free; program fee is \$250. Hines Hill Conference Center 7 - 8 p.m. This program is administered by O.S.U. Extension, Summit County, in cooperation with CVNP and the Conservancy. For more information and to register, contact Connie Dages at 800-642-3297 ext. 100, or e-mail cdages@forcvnp.org. Applications will be accepted starting the evening of the open house. Spaces are limited.

Cuyahoga Valley Photographic Society – Members' Show

CVPS sponsors monthly presentations by local, regional, and national photographers. This show gives members an opportunity to present up to five digital images. An optional critique will be offered by professional photographers. Guests are welcome to attend. Visit www.cvps.org and click "Gallery" for digital image requirements. For more information contact CVPS at info@cvps.org or the Conservancy at 330-657-2909. Happy Days Lodge, 7 - 9 p.m.

Friday, January 20

Lyceum Lecture - Kerry Gunther: Grizzlies!

Times have changes since the days when visitors at Yellowstone National Park climbed onto bleachers to watch bears compete for trash dump scraps. As head of the park's Bear Management Team, Wildlife Biologist Kerry Gunther helped modernize Yellowstone's approach to managing its bears. A top priority is trying to ensure that bears and visitors don't hurt each other. Learn about grizzly bear behavior, resource management and educational techniques, and the challenges still facing park staff. Admission: \$6 adults, \$3 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available by calling 330-657-2909. Happy Days Lodge, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. On lecture days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Saturday, January 21

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

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Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Junior Ranger Bird Watching

Bird watching is not as hard as you think. Join a park ranger for these free adventures to see and hear what you've been missing! Each month we explore a different birding hotspot. For ages 7 and older. Cuyahoga Kendall Lake Shelter, 9 - 11 a.m.

Junior Ranger Jr. - Hibernation Happens

When the weather turns cold and snow blankets the ground, where are the animals? Find out who is sleeping and where they may be hiding in the pond, meadow, and forest. Be prepared for a short hike. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children. Dress for the weather. For children 4 to 6. Free. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

CVSR "Grape Escape" Wine-Tasting Train

Enjoy an evening presentation of choice wines with a selection of appetizers while experiencing the beauty of winter by rail. Ages 21 and older. Reservations required. Fee: \$55 per person coach. For winter wine themes and to register, call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com. Rockside Station, 2 - 4 p.m.

Winter Camp-in Starts

Enjoy your national park in its quiet season as few can—through winter camping. Participants must attend an evening session on Wednesday, January 11 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Boston Store Visitor Center to prepare for the frosty overnight. At the start of the camp-in, the group will hike a short distance to a secluded area for this special park experience. Bring your own camping equipment. Saturday 4 p.m. to Sunday 11 a.m. Space is limited. To register call 800-257-9477. Additional information will be e-mailed upon registration.

Campfire Tales - Silly Stories and Songs

CVNP invites you to join us for a fun evening around a roaring fire as we share stories of America. Happy Days Lodge, 7 - 8 p.m.

Sunday, January 22

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

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National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Winter Warm-up Hike

Warm up with this biweekly hiking series as you explore CVNP's more challenging trails. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. 7 miles of the moderately difficult Ledges and Cross Country trails. Ledges Shelter, 9 a.m. - noon.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Winter Camp-in Ends

Enjoy your national park in its quiet season as few can—through winter camping. Participants must attend an evening session on Wednesday, January 11 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Boston Store Visitor Center to prepare for the frosty overnight. At the start of the camp-in, the group will hike a short distance to a secluded area for this special park experience. Bring your own camping equipment. Saturday 4 p.m. to Sunday 11 a.m. Space is limited. To register call 800-257-9477. Additional information will be e-mailed upon registration.

Winter Marshlands Hike

Explore what is happening at the Beaver Marsh in winter. Join a park ranger for this 1.5-mile walk along the Towpath Trail. Ira Trailhead, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Monday, January 23

Dinner in the Valley

Chef Larkin Rogers creates a delightful meal hosted at one of CVNP's Extraordinary Spaces. For pricing and reservations, call 330-657-2909 ext. 129 or visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org. Join us for a homemade pasta-making demonstration followed by a delicious pasta dinner. Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, January 25

No events scheduled.

Thursday, January 26

Cuyahoga Valley Contra Dancing

Become part of a living tradition in Cuyahoga Valley—contra dancing. Caller Carol Kopp leads dancers while the band *Hu\$hmoney* plays lively jigs, reels, and tunes. Comfortable clothing and shoes recommended. Fee: \$6. Boston Township School House, 7 p.m. instruction, 8 - 10:30 p.m. dancing.

Friday, January 27

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No events scheduled.

Saturday, January 28

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Cross-Country Ski Program - Ski Preparation

Whether you have waxable or non-waxable skis, there are certain preparation methods that can help protect your skis and allow for maximum performance. Join Park Ranger/Certified Ski Instructor Paul Motts and discover the important aspects of cross-country ski preparation, with a chance to prepare your own skis. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 1 - 3:30 p.m. To register call 800-257-9477. Must have at least 6 inches of snow.

Heritage Series Concert - Dala

The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. This series is sponsored by 89.7 WKSU, Cable 9, Courtyard Marriott of Akron/Stow, and the Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation. Nominated as 2011 Touring Artist of the Year by the Canadian Arts Presenting Association, Amanda Walther and Sheila Carabine of *Dala* have come a long way in a short time. After meeting in high school, they wrote their first song together in 2002. Since then they have released five albums and toured extensively across North America. The duo is now poised to bring their fresh brand of acoustic pop music to the world. Drawing upon influences like the Beatles, Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, and Bob Dylan, *Dala* writes songs that are both catchy and insightful. Amanda's ethereal soprano voice blends seamlessly with Sheila's velvety alto, creating the lush harmonies that have become their trademark. Admission, unless otherwise noted: \$17 adults, \$12 Conservancy members, and \$5 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on the Friday for that weekend's show by calling 330-657-2909 or stopping by Park Place in Peninsula. You can create your own subscription series—enjoy three great Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series concerts for one low price! No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged up to 10 days before the concert. Series prices: \$45 adults, \$30 Conservancy members, and \$15 children ages 3 - 12. All concerts are held at Happy Days Lodge and begin at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7

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p.m. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Sunday, January 29

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

CVSR Hike Aboard

Journey through CVNP aboard CVSR and then hike 4 miles back along the challenging Buckeye Trail. Fee: \$3 per hiker. Boston Store Visitor Center, 10:15 a.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Beginning Children's Ski Workshop: Ages 10 - 12

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at this beginning workshop. Free ski time will follow approximately 1.5 hours of instruction. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Must have at least 6 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 9. 1:30 - 3 p.m. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: \$15 per child including rental equipment, \$10 with your own equipment and for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. Dress for the weather. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Monday, January 30

No events scheduled.

Tuesday, January 31

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, February 1

Ohio Winter Special Olympics

Once again, CVNP and Ohio Winter Olympics have partnered to help Special Olympians make their dreams come true. Cheer on these fine athletes as they brave freezing temperatures to compete. Cross-country events are at Ledges Shelter (weather permitting), downhill skiing is at Brandywine Ski Resort, and

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ice skating is at Kent State Ice Arena. Special Olympics is an international organization dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become productive, physically fit, and respected members of society through sports training and competition. There is no charge to participate or to watch the Special Olympics. For volunteer opportunities and an event schedule, call 216-524-1497 ext. 225.

Thursday, February 2

Ohio Winter Special Olympics

Once again, CVNP and Ohio Winter Olympics have partnered to help Special Olympians make their dreams come true. Cheer on these fine athletes as they brave freezing temperatures to compete. Cross-country events are at Ledges Shelter (weather permitting), downhill skiing is at Brandywine Ski Resort, and ice skating is at Kent State Ice Arena. Special Olympics is an international organization dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become productive, physically fit, and respected members of society through sports training and competition. There is no charge to participate or to watch the Special Olympics. For volunteer opportunities and an event schedule, call 216-524-1497 ext. 225.

Friday, February 3

Lantern Hike

Join Park Ranger Mike Kosmos to explore the wonders of CVNP by lantern light. Afterwards, enjoy hot chocolate around a roaring campfire. 1 mile along the Lake Trail, Kendall Lake Shelter, 7 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, February 4

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Bird Watching - Early Waterfowl

Despite the harsh winter weather, several aquatic birds are starting to appear in the Cuyahoga Valley. Join Park Volunteer Dwight Chasar to look for common mergansers and other early returning waterfowl along the Cuyahoga River. Red Lock Trailhead, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Countryside Winter Farmers' Markets

Come enjoy the local, seasonal bounty at the Countryside Conservancy's producers-only farmers' market. Throughout the winter, our indoor market offers fresh produce from high tunnel greenhouses and cold storage, meat, cheese, baked goods, confections, artwork, and more! Old Trail School, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information call 330-657-2538 or visit www.cvcountryside.org.

Beginning Cross-Country Ski Workshop

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Learn the basics of cross-country skiing at the beginning workshop, held with or without snow. Free ski time will follow approximately 2 hours of instruction. Dress for the weather. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment; a limited supply will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Fee: \$10 with own equipment, \$15 with 3-hour rental. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Park Ambassadors Orientation

Interested in learning more about the park and sharing it with others? Park Ambassadors volunteer at visitor centers, Conservancy stores, special events, drop-in stations, speakers' bureau programs, and more. Orientations are Saturday, February 4 at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m. For more information and for registration, contact the volunteer office.

Sunday, February 5

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Cross-Country Ski Program - Handling Hills

Join Park Ranger/Certified Ski Instructor Paul Motts to learn the important skills needed to cross-country ski on hills and novice trails. Dress for outdoor instruction and bring your own equipment. If there is not enough snow, this workshop will be rescheduled based on instructor availability and favorable snow conditions. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. on 1/8 and 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on 2/5. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

CVSR Sunday Matinee: Lessons in Traveling an Underground Railroad

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Do stories of love, danger, triumph, and despair pique your interest? Board the train to learn lessons for safe travel on the Underground Railroad. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m. Rockside Station, 1:30 p.m. To register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Monday, February 6

No events scheduled.

Tuesday, February 7

Full Moon Hike

Explore your national park by the light of a full moon! Listen to night sounds, look for night animals, and experience the darkness without a flashlight. Enjoy a crisp, 2.75-mile hike along the easy-to-moderate Tree Farm Trail to renew your mind, body, and spirit. Horseshoe Pond, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8

Heart-healthy Hike

A Metro Parks naturalist answers your nature and history questions on these steady strolls along two popular trails. 1.2 miles on the Quarry Trail. Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park, 10 a.m.

For more information call 330-865-8065 or visit www.summitmetroparks.org.

Thursday, February 9

Cuyahoga Valley Contra Dancing

Become part of a living tradition in Cuyahoga Valley—contra dancing. Caller Carol Kopp leads dancers while the band *Hu\$hmoney* plays lively jigs, reels, and tunes. Comfortable clothing and shoes recommended. Fee: \$6. Boston Township School House, 7 p.m. instruction, 8 - 10:30 p.m. dancing.

Friday, February 10

Lyceum Lecture - John Hartig: Reviving Burned Rivers

Dr. John Hartig, refuge manager of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, shares true stories of triumph over environmental tragedy. His book, *Burning Rivers: Revival of Four Urban-Industrial Rivers that Caught on Fire*, chronicles the damage done to the Rouge, Cuyahoga, Buffalo, and Chicago rivers. At various times, pollution was so severe that these important Great Lakes waterways burst into flames. Hartig also tells how everyday people, working alone or in concert with others, mounted successful efforts to restore the rivers to better health. Admission: \$6 adults, \$3 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available by calling 330-657-2909. Happy Days Lodge, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. On lecture days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Saturday, February 11

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

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Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Junior Ranger Bird Watching

Bird watching is not as hard as you think. Join a park ranger for these free adventures to see and hear what you've been missing! Each month we explore a different birding hotspot. For ages 7 and older. Cuyahoga Red Lock Trailhead, 9 - 11 a.m.

Cross-Country Ski Program - Intermediate Workshop

Join Park Ranger/Certified Ski Instructor Paul Motts for this workshop designed for intermediate skiers with a good wedge or snowplow. Learn a variety of intermediate skiing techniques and come prepared with your own equipment, ready for outdoor instruction. If there is not enough snow, this workshop will be rescheduled based on instructor availability and snow conditions. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger - Sledding By Moonlight

While using your night vision, enjoy sledding the Kendall Hills and listening for owls and coyotes. Enjoy hot chocolate and stories, too. Bring your own sled and be sure to register, as space is limited. Free. For ages 7 - 12. 6 - 8 p.m.

Campfire Tales - Love in the Valley

CVNP invites you to join us for a fun evening around a roaring fire as we share stories of America. Happy Days Lodge, 7 - 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 12

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Winter Warm-up Hike

Warm up with this biweekly hiking series as you explore CVNP's more challenging trails. Dress for the

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weather and wear sturdy shoes. 7 miles of the difficult Perkins and Riding Run trails. Everett Road Covered Bridge, 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Cross-Country Ski Program - Advanced Workshop

This ski class is designed for very experienced intermediate cross-country skiers wishing to develop advanced techniques used on narrow and steep trails. You must be able to wedge or snowplow, turn well, and have an effective diagonal stride to take this class. Come prepared with your own equipment, ready for outdoor instruction. If there is not enough snow, this workshop will be rescheduled based on instructor availability and snow conditions. Fee: \$10. Kendall Lake Shelter, 9:30 a.m. - noon. To register call 800-257-9477.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Music by Nature Concert - Aron Duo

Specializing in the ballads and humorous ragtime repertoire of the great vaudeville tradition, Stephen and JoNell Aron feature the most romantic songs of the period in this Valentine's Day program. Hines Hill Conference Center. Presented by the Conservancy and the National Park Service, the popular new concert series Music by Nature returns this winter. Admission: \$20, \$17 Conservancy members (includes a dessert reception after each concert). Subscription series prices vary. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on Friday for that Sunday's show by calling 330-657-2909 ext. 100. Hines Hill Conference Center, 3 p.m. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Monday, February 13

No events scheduled.

Tuesday, February 14

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, February 15

Dinner in the Valley

Chef Larkin Rogers creates a delightful meal hosted at one of CVNP's Extraordinary Spaces. For pricing and reservations, call 330-657-2909 ext. 129 or visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org. Join us for our second annual "All Things Chocolate" dinner. After a short Chocolate Chat, enjoy fabulous chocolate-themed dishes and mingle by a cozy fire. Hines Hill Conference Center, 6 p.m.

Park Ambassadors Orientation

Interested in learning more about the park and sharing it with others? Park Ambassadors volunteer at visitor centers, Conservancy stores, special events, drop-in stations, speakers' bureau programs, and more. Orientations are Saturday, February 4 at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m. For more information and for registration, contact the volunteer office.

Thursday, February 16

Cuyahoga Valley Photographic Society – Jim Roetzel: From Field to Frame

CVPS sponsors monthly presentations by local, regional, and national photographers. Nature photographer Jim Roetzel will do a live edit of his work, explaining his workflow and his reasoning when selecting the keepers. Jim will also demonstrate his process for saving images and bringing them into Adobe Photoshop—with special emphasis on the raw converter. Free. For more information contact CVPS at info@cvps.org or the Conservancy at 330-657-2909. Happy Days Lodge, 7 - 9 p.m.

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Friday, February 17

CVSR “Grape Escape” Wine-Tasting Train

Enjoy an evening presentation of choice wines with a selection of appetizers while experiencing the beauty of winter by rail. Ages 21 and older. Reservations required. Fee: \$55 per person coach. For winter wine themes and to register, call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com. Rockside Station, 7 - 9 p.m.

Heritage Series Concert - Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem

The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. This series is sponsored by 89.7 WKSU, Cable 9, Courtyard Marriott of Akron/Stow, and the Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation. What’s a *daisy mayhem*? It’s wicked grooves, sublime lead singing, great harmonies, sparkling original songs, and a deep repertoire that spans 200 years of American music. It’s four people who share an irresistible chemistry on stage. It’s an unusually gleeful string band that celebrates both tradition and improvisation and stumps the categorizers. Are they an agnostic gospel band? A homeopathic bluegrass band? Are they crazy? One thing is for sure, they are worth seeing. Admission, unless otherwise noted: \$17 adults, \$12 Conservancy members, and \$5 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on the Friday for that weekend’s show by calling 330-657-2909 or stopping by Park Place in Peninsula. You can create your own subscription series—enjoy three great Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series concerts for one low price! No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged up to 10 days before the concert. Series prices: \$45 adults, \$30 Conservancy members, and \$15 children ages 3 - 12. All concerts are held at Happy Days Lodge and begin at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Saturday, February 18

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Countryside Winter Farmers’ Markets

Come enjoy the local, seasonal bounty at the Countryside Conservancy’s producers-only farmers’ market. Throughout the winter, our indoor market offers fresh produce from high tunnel greenhouses and cold storage, meat, cheese, baked goods, confections, artwork, and more! Old Trail School, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information call 330-657-2538 or visit www.cvcountryside.org.

Evergreen Forests Snowshoe Hike

Discover what it is like to snowshoe through large stands of eastern white pine. Their long, soft, green needles are a lovely contrast to white snow. Join us on this 2.5-mile moderate snowshoe hike over hills and

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along a scenic plateau. A park ranger will give a brief lesson on how to snowshoe before each hike. Bring water and dress for an active outdoor outing. Space is limited. Fee: \$5 per person for snowshoe rental. When snow is less than 4 inches, programs are conducted as hikes without snowshoes and are free. No advance payment is required. Locations will be provided upon registration. To register call 800-257-9477. 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Winter Family Fun

Drop by with your family for fun in the snow! Test your skills at winter challenges such as snowball making and throwing, fort building, sled pulling, and more. Challenge others and yourself in snowshoe games. Dress for the weather. Enjoy hot chocolate by a roaring fire within Ledges Shelter. No snow? No problem! If the weather does not cooperate, we'll have other outdoor games to play. Ledges Shelter, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Junior Ranger, Jr. - Starlight Star Bright

Nighttime in the park may seem scary, but nature has its own night lights. Explore those twinkling stars with a park ranger and learn more about the night sky through activities, stories, songs, and a hike. 6 - 8 p.m. For children 4 to 6. Free. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children. Dress for the weather. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Sunday, February 19

CVSR Winter Excursions

CVSR operates regular excursions on Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 to 11 and January 7 to February 26. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children ages 3 - 12 in December. In January and February, enjoy special Cabin Fever pricing—tickets are \$12 adults and \$9 children ages 3 - 12. Fees include the audio tour. Note: Akron Northside Station is not accessible in early 2012 due to a construction project. Passengers can board instead at Botzum Station. For details and to register call 800-468-4070 or visit www.CVSR.com.

Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Evergreen Forests Snowshoe Hike

Discover what it is like to snowshoe through large stands of eastern white pine. Their long, soft, green needles are a lovely contrast to white snow. Join us on this 2.5-mile moderate snowshoe hike over hills and along a scenic plateau. A park ranger will give a brief lesson on how to snowshoe before each hike. Bring water and dress for an active outdoor outing. Space is limited. Fee: \$5 per person for snowshoe rental. When snow is less than 4 inches, programs are conducted as hikes without snowshoes and are free. No

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advance payment is required. Locations will be provided upon registration. To register call 800-257-9477.
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Cuyahoga Valley House Concert

Violinist/fiddler Ed Caner serves as both musician and host for this series of intimate house concerts. The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* called Caner “one of the most versatile musicians on the planet.” During the past 15 years, he has performed as a sideman for over 50 major acts. Each month Ed invites different guest musicians to perform with him. Admission: \$8 general public, \$6 Conservancy members. Hines Hill Conference Center, 7 p.m. Seating is limited. The facility is not wheelchair accessible. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Monday, February 20

Junior Ranger - Winter Tracks Snowshoe

Although you may not see certain animals when you visit the park, you can tell who was here earlier from their tracks. Snowshoe a section of the Cross Country Trail and discover the animals living in the upland evergreen forests. Must have at least 4 inches of snow. For ages 7 - 12. 10 - 11:30 a.m. Dress for the weather. Program locations are given upon registration. Fees: snowshoe programs are \$8 per child including rental equipment, \$5 for Conservancy members. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children at no charge. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Tuesday, February 21

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, February 22

Heart-healthy Hike

A Metro Parks naturalist answers your nature and history questions on these steady strolls along two popular trails. 1.6 miles on the Spring Hollow Trail. Hampton Hills Metro Park / Main Entrance, 10 a.m. For more information call 330-865-8065 or visit www.summitmetroparks.org.

Thursday, February 23

Cuyahoga Valley Contra Dancing

Become part of a living tradition in Cuyahoga Valley—contra dancing. Caller Carol Kopp leads dancers while the band *Hu\$hmoney* plays lively jigs, reels, and tunes. Comfortable clothing and shoes recommended. Fee: \$6. Boston Township School House, 7 p.m. instruction, 8 - 10:30 p.m. dancing.

Friday, February 24

Hope on the Slopes

This unique snow-sports event benefits local pediatric patients facing life-threatening illnesses. Includes silent auction, freestyle competition, 12-hour team skiing, and refreshments. Fee. The Cardboard Box Race

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is at Polar Blast on Friday evening. Other events are at Boston Mills Ski Resort on Saturday. For details call 800-875-4241 or visit www.hopeontheslopes.com.

Junior Ranger, Jr. - Starlight Star Bright

Nighttime in the park may seem scary, but nature has its own night lights. Explore those twinkling stars with a park ranger and learn more about the night sky through activities, stories, songs, and a hike. 6 - 8 p.m. For children 4 to 6. Free. A parent or guardian is required to attend with participating children. Dress for the weather. To register call the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center at 800-642-3297 ext. 100

Heritage Series Concert - Harmonia

The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. This series is sponsored by 89.7 WKSU, Cable 9, Courtyard Marriott of Akron/Stow, and the Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation. *Harmonia* presents the traditional folk music of Eastern Europe, from the Danube to the Carpathians. Its repertoire reflects the cultures of this region: Hungarian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Romanian, Croatian, and Gypsy. Performing on authentic folk instruments and styled after turn-of-the-century Eastern European Gypsy bands, *Harmonia's* music is drawn from both the urban and rural traditions of Eastern Europe. Admission, unless otherwise noted: \$17 adults, \$12 Conservancy members, and \$5 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on the Friday for that weekend's show by calling 330-657-2909 or stopping by Park Place in Peninsula. You can create your own subscription series—enjoy three great Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series concerts for one low price! No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged up to 10 days before the concert. Series prices: \$45 adults, \$30 Conservancy members, and \$15 children ages 3 - 12. All concerts are held at Happy Days Lodge and begin at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. On concert days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Saturday, February 25

CVSR Winter Excursions

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Canal Explorer:

Ride to the Canal Visitor Center to learn about the Ohio & Erie Canal. Following a 40-minute layover, climb back aboard for the return trip. Peninsula Depot, 12:10 p.m.

National Park Scenic:

Enjoy an excursion through CVNP to view wildlife and scenery. Recommended for those who want to relax and enjoy the park in style. This is a three-hour round trip. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Hope on the Slopes

This unique snow-sports event benefits local pediatric patients facing life-threatening illnesses. Includes silent auction, freestyle competition, 12-hour team skiing, and refreshments. Fee. The Cardboard Box Race is at Polar Blast on Friday evening. Other events are at Boston Mills Ski Resort on Saturday. For details call 800-875-4241 or visit www.hopeontheslopes.com.

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Off the Beaten Path Hike - Forgotten Village of Botzum

Explore the lesser-seen side of CVNP on these rambling walks off the beaten path. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy waterproof shoes, and bring drinking water. A thriving village once bustled at the intersection of Bath and Riverview roads. What was this village like? Search for answers on this easy hike, less than 1.5 miles, among the remaining trees. Botzum Trailhead, 9 - 10 a.m.

Winter Sports Center

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

Winter Sunset Hike

After hiking 1.5 miles among sandstone cliffs, wish the day goodbye from the Ledges Overlook. The winter scenery is especially lovely along our route. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes or boots, and bring a camera or sketch pad to capture the beauty of a Cuyahoga Valley sunset. Ledges Shelter, 5 - 7 p.m.

Campfire Tales -Love Stories of the Underground Railroad

CVNP invites you to join us for a fun evening around a roaring fire as we share stories of America. Happy Days Lodge, 7 - 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 26

CVSR Winter Excursions

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Canal Explorer:

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National Park Scenic:

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Peninsula Explorer:

Ride the rails, hike the Towpath Trail, and enjoy lunch or shopping in the historic Village of Peninsula. **Schedule for January and February:** Rockside Station, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Botzum Station, 11:35 a.m.

Winter Warm-up Hike

Warm up with this biweekly hiking series as you explore CVNP's more challenging trails. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. 7 miles of the difficult Buckeye and Valley trails. NPS Park Headquarters, 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Winter Sports Center's Last Day

The center, located within Kendall Lake Shelter, will only be open when there are at least 4 inches of snow. It may be open additional days during heavy snowfall. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call (800) 257-9477 to confirm snowfall. Equipment rental for adults and children is available. There must be at least 6 inches of snow for ski rental. Fees: snowshoe rental \$5 (full day); ski rental \$15 (full day) and \$7.50 (3 hours).

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Winter Marshlands Hike

Explore what is happening at the Beaver Marsh in winter. Join a park ranger for this 1.5-mile walk along the Towpath Trail. Ira Trailhead, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Monday, February 27

No events scheduled.

Tuesday, February 28

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, February 29

No events scheduled.