

# Lorain Port Press

As we enter the new year with optimism for one much better than the last, we want to quickly reflect on the highlights of 2020. Despite the many challenges the year brought, 2020 also included a few high points as well. Continue scrolling to catch up on what we've been up to at the Lorain Port and Finance Authority!

## 2020 Highlights

### Ariel on Broadway Hotel, Event Center and Rooftop Opens

**Ariel on Broadway Hotel, Event Center and Rooftop** opened for business in March 2020. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on March 2, 2020, and despite the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the hotel was able to host events including a rooftop dinner for the Independence Day Fireworks Display and a Broadway Rooftop Sunset Series. **Dodie's**



**Dockside**, the restaurant on the ground floor, and **Game On Lorain**, the sports bar in the basement, also opened in 2020. To book a room, click [HERE](#), or visit [www.arielonbroadway.com](http://www.arielonbroadway.com) to learn more about the amenities, event center and how to book a rooftop event.

### Victory Park

Victory Park at the corner of West Erie Avenue and West Fifth Street in Lorain saw a number of improvements in 2020. Work started in March with the removal of trees and the old flag pole. The site then received lawn treatments, three new flag poles and new landscaping around the monument.

The bent utility pole was removed and replaced with underground electricity, and up lighting was added for the trees and flag poles.



## Caren S. Franzini Fellowship, New Title & a Promotion

In March 2020, the **Council of Development Finance Authorities** (CDFA) announced our Assistant Director Tiffany McClelland was one of four women selected for the 2020 Class of the **Caren S. Franzini Fellowship**. Established by the CDFA in 2017, the fellowship recognizes "outstanding women in development finance for their leadership and dedication to the advancement of the industry." Although admittedly biased, we at the Port Authority couldn't think of a person better fitting of the description. Click [HERE](#) for the full press release. Tiffany kept the positive momentum flowing throughout the year as she earned a new title after graduating from the **Development Finance Certified Professional Program** in October 2020. During that same month, Tiffany was able to expand our Energy Special Improvement District (ESID) to Elyria Township, meaning we can now offer **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing** to the township. Recent changes in legislation will soon allow us to offer PACE throughout the county! To close out the year on a high note, Tiffany was promoted to Assistant Director of the Port Authority in December 2020, effective January 1, 2021. Congratulations, Tiffany, on the stellar accomplishments!



## Oasis Marinas First Season in Lorain

**Oasis Marinas at Port Lorain**, 301 Lakeside Ave. #1, opened for its first season under new management on April 17, 2020.



Throughout the year the marina saw improvements such as a new boater's lounge, new gangways on all of the docks and a freshly resealed parking lot. Improvements were also made to the landscaping outside the new marina office located inside the same building as Erie Steak and Seafood Co. Additional improvements are planned for 2021, and **Erie Shore Rentals & Detailing**, 301 Lakeside Ave., recently moved into the former marina office that is in the same parking lot as the

restaurant.

## Cabela's Master Walleye Circuit Tournament

The **Cabela's Masters Walleye Circuit Tournament** returned to Black River Landing on June 5 & 6, 2020. Due to COVID-19, the set-up was altered slightly and walleye weigh-ins were done drive-thru style. Participants from 12 different states competed in the tournament and a total of 832 fish were caught weighing in at 4,072lbs! The fish caught during the two-day event were donated to Second Harvest Food Bank to help families in need. More than \$62,000 in cash and prizes were awarded to the anglers who participated.



## The Summer Market

New to Black River Landing in 2020 was **The Summer Market**. The Port Authority partnered with the nonprofit **Girls Give Back** to bring this event to Lorain after 14 years in Avon Lake. On July 18 & 19, 2020, the one-of-a-kind shopping experience and fundraising event filled the festival grounds with a curated grouping of artists, makers, pickers, collectors, growers and foodies. Other highlights of the event included a Farmer's Market, a Docktail Bar, dining options, free parking and free entry. We're SO EXCITED to have The Summer Market back in Lorain on July 23 & 24, 2021! Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the event, or click [HERE](#) to apply to be a vendor. Applications must be submitted by February 26, 2021.



## Lorain Port and Finance Authority

As you may have noticed on our website and social media pages, our name has slightly changed! As recommended in our **Strategic Plan**, our board of directors voted to change our organization's name to the Lorain Port and Finance Authority in August 2020. The minor change was made to more accurately describe what we do: incentive and financing programs. With the name change came an updated logo, and we're working to update our website URL, too. To learn more about the economic development programs we offer, click [HERE](#) or



## Road, Rails N' Sales at Black River Landing

On September 26, 2020 the Roads, Rails, N' Sales Fundraiser took place at Black River Landing. The event was put together by the Lorain Caboose Committee and included a flea market and car, truck & motorcycle show, as well as food trucks, raffles and 50/50 drawings. The funds raised at the event went toward the ongoing restoration of Lorain's Caboose C-3855. Roads, Rails N' Sales is expected to return to Black River Landing on September 25, 2021. Visit [www.loraincaboose.org](http://www.loraincaboose.org) for more information and updates!

**ROADS - RAILS - n - SALES**  
at Black River Landing  
321 Black River Lane • Lorain, Ohio 44052  
September 26, 2020 10 am—3 pm

**FLEA MARKET  
CARS TRUCKS  
MOTORCYCLES**

Flea Market & Car, Truck, Motorcycle Show; 10 to 3; Flea Market Setup 8 to 10 / \$25  
Show Registration 9 to 12 / \$10; Charity Event; AMMY; Awards; GB 1st 200

**wixy1260** FOOD TRUCKS  
wixy1260.com RAFFLES & 50/50

**OPERATION LIFESAVER**  
Ohio

100% of the proceeds go to continuing the restoration of Lorain's Caboose C-3855!  
3855support@loraincaboose.org  
Lorain's Caboose is a project of  
The Lorain Growth Corp. / Tourism Committee

Show Info: Steve 440-653-6631; Flea Mkt Info: Gail 440-242-8439  
Information & Updates: <https://loraincaboose.org>

## Black River Bikeway Mile Marker 0.0

In November 2020, the **Lorain County Metro Parks** held ribbon cutting ceremonies and officially opened two new links to the Black River Bikeway along the North Coast Inland Trail. We were grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Metro Parks to create Mile Marker 0.0 at Lakeside Landing near the entrance to Oasis Marianas at Port Lorain, 301 Lakeside Avenue. The North Coast Inland Trail now stretches more than 103 miles from Lorain to the Maumee River in Lucas County.



## International Tree & Model Train Display

The **International Tree and Model Train Display** filled the Train Station, 421 Black River Lane, at Black River Landing for the ninth year in November/December 2020. Instead of the typical indoor walk-through display, the 2020 rendition was a window display due to COVID-19 guidelines. Visitors could gaze at the beautifully decorated trees and intricate train displays while walking around the perimeter of the building. Lorain's Caboose C-3855 was also decorated with lights, and an outdoor display of Santa's sleigh



and workshop sat under the picnic pavilion.

## Board of Directors Meetings

### January 2021

The LPFA Board of Directors most recently met for a Financial Planning & Audit Committee and Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2021 via Zoom. The committee met first at 5 p.m. and the full board met after at 5:30 p.m. Click [HERE](#) to watch the meeting that was livestreamed on YouTube.

### February 2021

The next Regular Board of Directors Meeting is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2021. Regular meetings typically take place on the second Tuesday of each month. Due to COVID-19, the meetings are conducted via Zoom and livestreamed on our [YouTube Channel](#). Click [HERE](#) for prior meeting agendas and minutes.



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