

ity for those who work different hours.

While their parents are at work, the YMCA gives the children a place to learn, stay safe from the spread of the novel coronavirus, and have fun.

“We are playing games. We are doing crafts with them. They are getting gym time,” Childcare Director Stephanie Herschberger said. “Hopefully, before long, we will be able to go outside, but it’s just your typical activities that we would do for an after-school program or a summer day camp.”

Furthermore, with the YMCA reopening, their summer camps are also tentatively back on schedule. In the past, the YMCA has hosted 10 weeks of summer camps, but due to the COVID-19 crisis and social distancing guidelines, they are forced to scale back the number of camp offerings. Their first of nine sessions will begin on June 1.

“I’m hoping that as summer goes on that they’ll let us add more kids, as they start taking these guidelines away and continue opening up,” Herschberger said. “Hopefully by July, we will be able to add more kids back to our program and finish out the summer strong. We are still planning our activities like we normally would – we will just have to modify the activities as long as we are here.”

The camps run Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and there are also pre-camp and post-camp activities available for campers whose parents have irregular hours. Children can be dropped off as early as 6:30 a.m. and picked up as late as 6:30 p.m.

Children will not be required to wear masks, but all staff and campers will have to take their temperature daily in order to keep everyone safe. Along with that, social distancing guidelines will remain in effect.

“In order to [adhere] to social distancing, they don’t want any more than 10 kids in a classroom at a time,” Herschberger said. “Even though they’ve upped the social gatherings to 25, the state has recommended that childcare keep it at 10. And especially camp – they are still just putting out guidelines for camp. With us, we are able to separate one of our classrooms into two, and so, that will give us enough room for 20 kids, our teen room will have 10, and then our preschool will have 10. That is the main



Steve Wright showing the six feet distance between the machines in the YMCA’s workout center. Photo by Sean Douglas

thing we are doing. We are taking the extra precautions that the CDC has given us for guidance.”

Herschberger admitted that there will still be challenges. They had to cut their numbers back from 65 kids a week to 40, and as of right now, they are unable to utilize many of the resources they have used in the past.

However, she is confident that all their summer services will be back up and running before too long.

“As we continue to open up, and we continue to work with CDC, the state, our local community, I think we will see the light at the end of the tunnel come July,” Herschberger said.

In preparation of the YMCA reopening its door, new interim executive director Steve Wright and his staff have gone above and beyond in the last several weeks, making the necessary adjustments to adhere to all health guidelines.

“When a member arrives, they will come through our front door, and we will actually be taking temperatures,” Wright said.

“Everyone who comes in, we will take a temperature. Once we determine they are safe to come in and are safe for our staff, they’ll come in to work out or walk the gym, whatever they would like to do.”

In the weight room, YMCA employees will be required to wear masks, but members will not be required to do so. Sanitation stations have been set up around the room, giving patrons a chance to constantly wash and clean their hands throughout their workout.

All machines have been set six feet apart, and the YMCA is asking their members to not sit on or use the machine directly next to someone else.

“We had Dr. [David] Moore down here to take a look, and he agreed with everything that we have done-[regarding] social distancing,” Wright said. “Next week, while we are still closed, we are going to be training all of our staff. We are going to do role play... and we want to see how the staff reacts to that and make sure they are getting a feel of how it’s going to be once we open up.”

Along with deep cleaning the weight room, Wright and his staff have done an overhaul on the rest of the building. Both locker rooms and shower areas have been completely rehailed and sanitized, along with the pool area, the hot tub, and the sauna.

“We have done a lot of work when it comes to maintenance and cleaning,” Wright said. “Every piece of carpet in the whole facility has been cleaned. It’s all been stripped and waxed, and we have replaced over 110 lightbulbs.”

Furthermore, the gym has been waxed and refurbished, giving the historic venue a fresh look for the return of their members.

While the YMCA will resume most of its duties on May 26, there will be a few exceptions. There will be no yoga or any other type of classes for the foreseeable future, and members will not be allowed to play basketball either. Wright hopes that both of those activities

will resume as soon as possible.

“We want to adhere to any CDC rules, as well as work with our local health department to make sure that we are not causing the spread,” Wright said. “That’s why we are going at this at a slower pace and wanting to make sure [we are] keeping our staff and members safe.”

For those looking to join the YMCA, there are several different plans to choose from. The normal, two-parent household rate is 52 dollars per month, while single parent households can join for 44 dollars a month.

There is also an adult membership for 36 dollars, a college membership for those with 12 or more credit hours for 23 dollars, a senior membership, also for 23, and a youth membership, which runs for 10 dollars.

Senior, youth, and college

memberships all have a 50 dollar joining fee, while all others have a joining fee of 80 dollars.

For those who want a membership but finances constrain, there is also the Partner for Youth Scholarship, which allows people, if approved, to pay a monthly income-based fee.

“We are not going to turn anyone away,” Marketing Director Libby Root said. “We have some type of opportunity for everyone to get a membership, and we want to make sure that if that’s something that they are interested in and they want that we don’t turn them away.”

It’s been a long road, both for Marion and the state of Indiana.

But with the YMCA fi-

nally reopening its doors to the public, Wright and his staff are ready to continue its mission – to faithfully serve the Marion community.

“I want to thank the membership for sticking with us,” Wright said. “We’ve done the April and May draft and have not had many people complain or ask for their money back. That is because we are more than just a gym. This is a facility that is a community-driven facility. We’ve got childcare for MGH kids. We’ve got a COVID test site going on right now. We have a conversation going on with Hope House where they are taking care of the spiritual and mental illness side of things. That’s more than a gym – it’s a community.”

Indiana History Answers

1. Bedford 2. Wabash River 3. Lake Monroe

RESCHEDULED AUCTION

NO BUYER'S PREMIUM

SAT., MAY 30 - 10:00 A.M.
5243 S. ADAMS ST., MARION, IN

Between Marion & Jonesboro on SR 15 (Adams Street)

We will be practicing social distancing so come early and inspect the offering. We will be selling while viewing the monitors and have chair spacing!

60 Guns - Rifles - Pistols - Ammo - Gun Transfers & Background Check \$15 Per Gun
Lots of Silver Dollar Morgans & Peace - (349) Blanks - 5, 10 & 25 Oz Bars - 41 Standing American Eagles - (22) Holiday Color Rounds - (18) Cased American Eagles
The coins will sell absolute! Due to rescheduling, we are offering the silver but will reserve them for seller's confirmation!

2019 V-Nose Trailer - Zero Turn Mowers - JD Mower - IH 184 Low Boy w/Belly Mower - Geothermal 3 Ton Heat Pump Like New

2019 Hallmark TSV8520T2 8.5 x 20 V-Nose Tandem Axle Utility Trailer w/Ramp, like new - International 184 Low Boy Tractor w/Belly Mower, Nice - Simplicity Cobalt Model 5900819 Zero Turn Mower, 30 HP, 61" Cut, spring cushion ride, only 267 hours - Simplicity Courier Zero Turn Mower, 25 HP, 52" Cut, spring cushion ride, only 60 hours - JD X300 Lawn Tractor, 18 HP Kawasaki engine, 42" Cut Hydro, 192 Hours - 2017 Tempstart 3 Ton Two Stage Geothermal Heat Pump Upflow, Like New!

Photos & Gun Catalog on www.priceleffler.com and auctionzip.com

Plan to spend the day in our comfortable facility with seating, good food, TV monitors for item viewing, and convenient parking. Terms: Cash, Good Check w/photo ID, MasterCard, Visa, Discover. A 3% convenience service fee will be added to buyer total for credit cards. No fee for debit cards. Not responsible for accidents. Food available.



TERRY PRICE
WAYNE PAVEY
AU10300114

PRICE-LEFFLER

AC63003873

COMPLETE SALES SERVICE
5875 S. 700 E., GAS CITY, IN 46933

ERIC DRAPER ROBERT PAVEY DANIEL MATTUCCI
AU10200060 AU11400059 AU11800054



MERV LEFFLER
765-674-4818
AU01016000