



Helping HANDS

NOV / DEC 2025

A Publication of the HANDS Foundation

HELPING TO ASSIST AND INFORM OLDER ADULTS AND SENIORS IN MEDINA COUNTY

PLUM CREEK ASSISTED LIVING

A Tradition of Service and Compassion



Thank You, Dan and Plum Creek!

Plum Creek Assisted Living is a veteran-owned and operated community located in the beautiful Brunswick Hills area. Opened in April 2009, the community is owned and led by Dan Ihrig, LNHA, who brings over 40 years of experience in senior care and a lifelong commitment to serving others. His leadership reflects the same core values of dedication, integrity, and service that guided his time in the military.

These values are deeply woven into every aspect of life at Plum Creek. The community strives to provide residents with the compassion, respect, and personalized care they deserve. Many of Plum Creek's residents are veterans themselves, creating a strong sense of camaraderie and shared purpose throughout the community.

Plum Creek proudly hosts many Veterans events throughout the year, taking the time to honor each veteran for their service to our country—the greatest act of sacrifice and devotion one can give.

This is a celebration that Dan takes to heart. Taking the time to say “thank you” and to salute those who have served is an honor he treats with the utmost respect.

For many years, one resident; himself a proud veteran, sat on a couch just outside the dining room. Each day, he and Dan would exchange a salute, a simple but powerful gesture of mutual respect and shared service that captured the very spirit of Plum Creek.

Over the years, countless team members who have worked under Dan Ihrig have expressed gratitude for the lessons they learned - strong work ethic, true leadership, teamwork, and an unwavering commitment to residents. While the healthcare industry continues to evolve and the workforce landscape has changed, many of the most respected healthcare leaders and caregivers in Medina County began their careers under Dan's guidance.

If you're looking for a warm, caring, and values-driven home for yourself or a loved one, Plum Creek Assisted Living is a place where service, respect, and compassion come first.



NON PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT #1737

A PUBLICATION OF THE HANDS FOUNDATION
HANDS Across Medina County Foundation
P.O. Box 868 | Brunswick, Ohio | 44212
Visit us on the Web: HANDS-Foundation.org



PLUM CREEK ASSISTED LIVING



A Tradition of Service and Compassion

Plum Creek Assisted Living, located in Brunswick Hills, Ohio, is proud to be Veteran owned and operated. When given the honor of leading the Pledge of Allegiance for Fox 8 News, the Plum Creek team and residents came together to make it a truly special morning dedicated to honoring Veterans.

Dressed in red, white, and blue, the Veterans gathered alongside owner Dan Ihrig, LNHA (a military Veteran), and care team member Marc Davis (also a Veteran) to salute and recite the pledge. They were joined by residents, members of the Plum Creek care and leadership teams, and special guests from the Northern Medina County Chamber of Commerce - Executive Director Debbie Boehmke and Executive Assistant Heidi DeBolt.

The celebration was made even more meaningful by the presence of Veterans from the American Legion and VFW, who joined in the ceremony. Under the direction of Linda Samsoky, the group proudly sang God Bless America, and the morning concluded with a moving trumpet performance as the Legion and VFW members marched behind the Plum Creek Veterans - a powerful moment of unity, pride, and gratitude.



*Congrats
to all the
Plum Creek
Veterans
That Were
Honored!*

*Thank You
For Your
Service!*



Plum Creek Assisted Living is a family-owned and operated assisted living community that has proudly served residents since 2009. Over the years, we have developed the best multidisciplinary team to ensure our residents receive exceptional care and enjoy the highest quality of life. Our dedicated team of nurses and resident assistants provide compassionate care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Other services include:

Physical Therapy	The Dentist	Ultra-Sounds
Occupational Therapy	The Podiatrist	Urinalysis
Speech Therapy	The Hearing Aid Specialist	EKG's
Cognition Therapy	X-Rays	COVID Testing
Mental Health Services	Blood Draws	Geriatric Specialist Doctor
Wound Care Management	PT-INR's/ Coumadin Management	2X Weekly Nurse Practitioner
Chronic Care Management	Hospice Care	Catheter Care
Nutritional Oversight	Palliative Care	Diabetic Management

Phone Number: 330.220.4900

Website: plumcreekseiorliving.com

Plum Creek
A Senior Assisted Living Community

**VETERAN
OWNED
AND
OPERATED**





The HANDS Foundation was honored to grant many heartfelt wishes throughout September and October — helping seniors across Medina County and surrounding communities find safety, comfort, and peace of mind. Each wish reflects the compassion and care that defines our mission, and we are deeply grateful to our community partners who help make this possible.

COMFORT & HOME ESSENTIALS

■ **74-year-old from Wadsworth (MMHA referral):** Received a complete bedroom transformation including a new platform bed frame with headboard and footboard, mattress, bedding set, mattress protector, and pillows after this senior's old bed had completely fallen apart. This senior was sleeping on a mattress on the floor that was falling apart and had a large indent in the middle.

■ **73-year-old from Brunswick (Love INC referral):** Granted a new queen mattress, mattress protector, sheets, pillowcases, comforter, and pillows to replace this seniors worn-out bedding.

■ **65-year-old from Medina (Adult Protective Services referral):** Received a new dresser and bedding as this senior prepared to move into assisted living for safety reasons.

■ **65-year-old veteran from Medina County (Homeless shelter referral):** Transitioning out of homelessness — received a mattress, bedding, sheets, and a microwave to help set up this seniors new home.

■ **65-year-old from Homerville (MCSAS referral):** A wish that would provide food for the senior and the seniors dog (the seniors only companion), along with plastic totes. This senior had to quickly move out of their home as they could no longer afford due to a series of unfortunate events which took what money they had.

REST & WELLNESS

■ **65-year-old from Wadsworth (MCSAS referral):** Granted grounding sheets, grounding pillowcase, sheet locks, a baking set, and a griddle to support wellness and comfort at home.

■ **72-year-old from Medina (homebound senior) (MCSAS referral):** Received undergarments, a DVD player, leggings, matching loungewear sets, and sweaters to bring comfort and joy to days at home.

Senior Wishes!

HANDS Foundation September & October Senior Wish Update

SAFETY & INDEPENDENCE

■ **78-year-old from Westfield (MCSAS referral):** After a serious fall left the senior on the floor for 18 hours, this senior received a medical alert button to ensure help is always within reach.

■ **74-year-old from Medina(MCSAS referral):** Granted a medical alert system for personal safety and peace of mind.

■ **68-year-old from Medina Township(MCSAS referral):** Granted an advanced medical alert system to promote safety and independence.

■ **74-year-old from Sharon Center (MCSAS referral):** Provided a potty chair with liners, a tilting over-the-bed table, and a walker tray to improve mobility and comfort and of course safety.

■ **85-year-old from Brunswick (Adult Protective Services referral):** Received a rollator and other household items to support her transition into assisted living.

■ **77-year-old from Brunswick (Adult Protective Services referral):** Provided a shower bench, two grab bars, and installation for safe bathing.



■ **74-year-old from Brunswick(Adult Protective Services referral):** Granted a shower chair/transfer bench (so she can safely get in and out of her shower), bar stool for kitchen use (so she can rest while cooking), and a non-slip mat. Our intern personally assembled the transfer bench for this senior.

■ **72 year-old from Lodi (MCSAS Referral):** A senior's lift chair, which they spend the majority of their time in, broke. They rely on this chair for safety, comfort, and mobility. We granted their wish by providing a new lift chair and also sent Dycem to help ensure they do not slip from the chair.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & OUTREACH

■ **The Next Step Up Shelter:** Donated 25 laundry baskets for individuals (ages 50 and older) transitioning out of homelessness and into permanent housing. National data shows that older adults now make up nearly half of the total homeless population — a dramatic increase in recent years.

■ **St. Martin Food Pantry, Valley City:** In response to a public request for help, we donated six cases of assorted soups (many easy to microwave) and one case of individual cracker packs. This donation supports the growing number of seniors relying on food pantries — now representing 22.5% of all pantry visits, up from 14.24% a decade ago (being delivered on 11/5).

Each wish granted is a reflection of compassion in action — helping local seniors live with dignity, comfort, and hope. We are proud of the impact made throughout September and October and grateful to everyone who supports The HANDS Foundation's mission to serve seniors in need.

GRANTING WISHES
IMPROVING LIVES

The HANDS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit devoted to improving the quality of life for seniors in Medina County. Every day, we see the difference a simple wish can make — a new bed, a safe chair, or even just a small comfort that brightens a senior's day.

We rely entirely on the generosity of people like you. We receive no government funding, no grants, and have no other source of revenue. Every dollar you give goes directly back to Medina County seniors who need it most.

If your heart moves you to help, there are several ways to donate:
Online: hands-foundation.org
By mail:
HANDS Foundation
P.O. Box 868
Brunswick, OH 44212
Via email: hands.seniorwish@gmail.com — we can send you a secure invoice link.

HANDS Foundation is a true community foundation. All trustees and officers serve without compensation. Donations may be directed to specific programs or our general fund, and every gift is tax-deductible. Your support stays right here in Medina County, helping seniors live safer, more comfortable, and happier lives. Together, we can make sure no senior is forgotten.

Thank You, Supporters!



THE VILLAGE AT HINCKLEY OAKS

55+ Single Story Luxury Apartment Homes

Maintenance Free Living

Experience true maintenance-free living this winter –
no plowing, no shoveling, no stress!
Secure your new home before the snow starts to fall.



WHY CHOOSE US?

- Attached Garage
- In-Home Washer & Dryer
- Curb Side Trash Pick-Up
- 2 & 3 Bedroom Floorplans
- Pet Friendly

Ask us about our
Hometown Heros Discount!

CONTACT INFO:

 thevillageathinckleyoaks.com
 (330) 632-3223

1456 RIDAN WAY ROAD-HINCKLEY, OH 44233

SAVE THE DATE!

you are invited to
THE VILLAGE AT HINCKLEY OAKS
1456 Ridan Way-Hinckley



All events are open to the residents of
The Village at Hinckley Oaks and those 55+ from the public!
RSVP TO: (330) 632-3223

November is packed with fun, food, and community and we invite you to
join in the fun! Join us in our beautiful clubhouse!

Nov 6 @ 12-Noon
Chili Bar & Bloom Bar
Guest Speaker: Sandy Panili from Hand in Hand Patient Advocates
Sponsored by Generations Senior Living

Nov 10 @ 10 AM
Coffee, Donuts & Seated Yoga!
Yoga led by Jennie Pettry from Hospice of the Western Reserve
Coffee & donuts provided by The Hands Foundation

Nov 19 | 4-6 PM
Taco 'Bout Downsizing!
Tacos, margaritas, and guest speakers from Smooth Transitions, Integrity
Home Care, Generations Senior Living, and KW Elevate.

Nov 21 @ 12-Noon
The History of Cleveland
Presented by ILR-Reach (Institute for Learning in Retirement at Baldwin
Wallace University)
Lunch provided by Medina Meadows

Dear Mayor Hanwell,

I can only imagine the mix of emotions you're feeling on this Election Day. As your time in office comes to a close (you still have a few months of hard work left), I want you to know how deeply you are loved, admired, and appreciated - not just for the many years of dedication you've given to our city and county, but for the way you've carried yourself with integrity, humility, and true servant leadership.

I am proud to know you, proud to look up to you, and honored to have had the privilege of working alongside you. Seeing your name not on the ballot really makes it hit home: this chapter is ending, but the impact you've made will last far beyond your years of service.

One of the things I most admire about you is how you see people for who they truly are. I recently read a book about the beauty of being color blind - about recognizing the person first, without labels - and that is exactly how you've led. You've never let politics define your relationships or your actions; your focus has always been on people and on doing what is right.

Your leadership, kindness, and commitment have left an indelible mark. Though your official duties may soon pause, I know your influence and guidance will continue to inspire those of us who have had the honor of knowing you. And yes, after a little well-earned rest, I fully expect to come calling for a little help with hands.

Thank you, Mayor Hanwell, for everything - for your heart, your wisdom, and the extraordinary example you've set.

With deep admiration and gratitude, *Christina Waller*





Festival OF TREES

Presented by The HANDS Foundation

Date: Friday, December 5th

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: The Echelon of Medina Independent Living

Kick off the holiday season at this magical community event — all while supporting two wonderful causes!

This year's Festival of Trees will raise funds for:

The Brunswick Optimist Club – empowering local youth through volunteerism and community programs.

Hope Recovery Community (Medina) – supporting vital children's programming.

Join us for a night of giving, joy, and holiday spirit — and help make a difference for children in our community.

Admission Price is: 10.00/ person and includes food and drinks!

RSVP TO:
chrissywallerhandsfound@gmail.com



Donate a Tree, a Wreath or Sponsor the Event!

TREE DONATION

Donate a decorated tree of any size or theme. All donated trees will be raffled off during our Festival of Trees. Trees should be set up the week of November 17th–21st (Monday through Friday). As a thank-you, each tree donation includes four free tickets to the event, along with your family or company name featured in the event program.

WREATH DONATION

Donate a decorated wreath of any size or theme! All donated wreaths will be raffled off during our Festival of Trees! Wreaths should be set up the week of November 17th–21st (Monday through Friday). As a thank-you, each wreath donation includes two free tickets to the event, along with your family or company name featured in the event program.

SPONSORSHIP

Our sponsorship levels offer increasing recognition and benefits for your support. At the **\$100** level, sponsors receive their company name listed in event programming along with one free event ticket.

The **\$250** level includes company name recognition in programming, a shout-out on all social media platforms, a shout-out in the Helping HANDS paper, and two free event tickets. At the **\$500** level, sponsors receive company name recognition in programming, shout-outs on social media, an advertisement in the Helping HANDS newspaper, and four free event tickets.

If you are interested in any of the above- please email chrissywallerhandsfound@gmail.com!



PURSES WITH A PURPOSE

An event to benefit
Feeding Medina County



FEBRUARY 3, 2026

4:30pm - 6:30pm

WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY CENTER
4931 NETTLETON RD., MEDINA OHIO

\$30 per ticket • Cash, Check or Money Order

No tickets will be sold at the door

Pay by mail or contact Devon Diello 330.635.7117 for more information

PRESENTED BY

Medina Meadows
REHABILITATION & NURSING CENTRE



Tying the community together to benefit Seniors



PURSES WITH A PURPOSE

An event to benefit Feeding Medina County



FEBRUARY 3, 2026

4:30pm - 6:30pm

WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY CENTER
4931 NETTLETON RD., MEDINA OHIO

\$30 per ticket • Cash, Check or Money Order

No tickets will be sold at the door

Pay by mail or contact Devon Diello 330.635.7117 for more information

PRESENTED BY

Medina Meadows
REHABILITATION & NURSING CENTRE



Tying the community together to benefit Seniors



PURSES WITH A PURPOSE

Yes, I want to support our Senior Community!
Please make my reservation(s) to Purses with a Purpose

Number of tickets _____ x\$30 = _____

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Invoice

Payable to: Feeding Medina County

Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

*Jeeps & Jingle Bells:
Christmas Open House*

DECEMBER 18, 2025

5:00P.M.-7:00P.M.

THE HANDS FOUNDATION IS THRILLED TO BE INVITED TO MEDINA MEADOWS TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH A FESTIVE TWIST ON OUR BELOVED STUFF THE RANGE ROVER EVENT—THIS YEAR WE’LL BE STUFFING TWO POWER WHEEL JEEPS, AND YOU’LL EVEN HAVE THE CHANCE TO WIN THEM! JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF HOLIDAY CHEER FEATURING A CHILDREN’S AREA WITH A VISIT FROM SANTA AND A FUN CHRISTMAS CRAFT, DELICIOUS APPETIZERS AND A SPECIALTY HOLIDAY COCKTAIL PREPARED BY CHEF CHYENNE, AND LIVELY HOLIDAY BINGO. THIS JOYFUL EVENT IS OPEN TO PROFESSIONALS, SENIORS, FAMILIES, THE RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES OF MEDINA MEADOWS, AND OF COURSE ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL EMPLOYEES AND THEIR LOVED ONES—WE CAN’T WAIT TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU!

RSVP TO
DDIELLO@LUXORHEALTHCAREGROUP.COM

HOSTED BY:

Medina Meadows
**550 MINER DR.
MEDINA, OHIO 44256**

Congratulations to Judge Joyce Kimbler!

The HANDS Foundation would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Judge Joyce Kimbler, who was honored yesterday with the C.J. McLin Award at the 38th Annual Conference of the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections. The award was presented during the Alliance's annual awards luncheon, recognizing her outstanding dedication to justice and rehabilitation.

The Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC) works to educate elected officials, the media, law enforcement, and the public about the critical role of community corrections in our criminal justice system.

Judge Kimbler received this prestigious award for her impactful work with her Drug Court a specialized docket focused on treatment and recovery. She also oversees a



Mental Health Court, further demonstrating her commitment to restorative justice and support for those in need.

The awards luncheon featured moving quotes from individuals who successfully completed Judge Kimbler's Drug Court. One participant shared: "Instead of getting the proper treatment, I self-medicated and it took me down a rough road which landed me in a position where I got placed in front of a wonderful woman named Judge Joyce Kimbler of Medina County."

We also congratulate Chief Probation Officer Veronica Perry and the entire Medina County Probation Department, whom Judge Kimbler credited in her remarks for holding participants accountable and supporting their progress every step of the way.

Well done, Judge Kimbler! Your work continues to change lives and inspire communities.

SENIOR CARE FEUD

A HUGE thank you to everyone who came out to Senior Care Feud — what an incredible night full of laughter, friendly competition, and heart!

Together, we raised money for Contessa's Free Thanksgiving Meal, which helps feed hundreds of people in our community. There's nothing better than having fun and making a difference!

Special shoutouts to:

CareCore at Willowood (Brunswick) who swept the awards with:

- Grand Champion
- Loudest Cheering Section
- Legacy of Support Award

Western Reserve Masonic Community — who won Best Costume with the sweetest Care Bears we've ever seen!

And a warm welcome to Buckeye Hospice, who joined us for the first time — we're so glad you came!

Shoutout to Grant Crabbs, LNHA of Pride One Construction, for being our amazing judge—and to Ryan Boulton from BTR Haus for channeling his inner TV host and keeping the show rolling!

Thankyouagain to every team, supporter, and volunteer who made this event such a success. We can't wait to do it again next year!



At Buckeye Hospice Care, our mission is simple: to ensure every patient experiences comfort, dignity, and peace in life's final chapter. Our team of nurses, aides, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers work hand-in-hand to provide holistic care—addressing the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of each individual and their family.

We don't just provide care-- we bring peace, honor legacies, and walk families home with grace, empathy, and love.

Proudly serving Medina County and surrounding communities
440-377-6037
buckeyehospicecare.com



THE FREEDOM OF DOWNSIZING

Why Active Adults Are Choosing The Village at Hinckley Oaks

As we move through life, our priorities evolve - and so does our vision of "home." For many active adults, downsizing isn't about giving something up; it's about gaining freedom, simplicity, and connection.

At The Village at Hinckley Oaks, we've created a community that embodies this next chapter of living—where comfort meets convenience, and every day feels a little easier (and a lot more enjoyable).

WHY DOWNSIZING MAKES SENSE FOR ACTIVE ADULTS

1. Less Maintenance, More Living

Large homes come with endless to-do lists—yardwork, repairs, snow removal, and cleaning unused rooms. At The Village at Hinckley Oaks, those worries are gone. Our maintenance-free rental homes allow you to spend your time doing what you love, not taking care of a house.

2. Financial Flexibility

Owning a home comes with ongoing costs—repairs, taxes, and upkeep. By choosing to rent at The Village at Hinckley Oaks, you can say goodbye to property taxes, home maintenance expenses, and surprise repair bills. Instead, enjoy predictable monthly costs and the freedom to use your savings for experiences, travel, and fun.

3. Safety and Accessibility

Every home at The Village at Hinckley Oaks is single-story, offering comfort and accessibility without stairs or tight spaces. Each layout is thoughtfully designed for ease of living—so you can age gracefully in place without sacrificing style or convenience.

4. Simplified Living, Elevated Comfort

Downsizing isn't about doing with less—it's about doing more with what you have. Each villa features:

- Attached garages for convenience in every season
- In-unit washers and dryers for easy everyday living
- Spacious 2- and 3-bedroom layouts that give you the perfect amount of space to live and entertain comfortably

A LIFESTYLE THAT FITS YOU

At The Village at Hinckley Oaks, your home is just the beginning. This active adult community is designed for connection, recreation, and well-being. Here, every amenity encourages you to live life to the fullest:

- Golf Simulator – Practice your swing or play a round with friends—rain or shine.
- Clubhouse – The heart of the community where neighbors become friends through events, games, and social gatherings.
- Pickleball Court – Stay active and have fun with one of the most popular sports for all ages.
- Fitness Center – Keep your wellness routine simple and accessible.
- Beautiful Outdoor Spaces – Enjoy walking paths, relaxing seating areas, and plenty of green space to connect with nature.
- Walkable Neighborhood Design – Whether it's a morning stroll or an evening chat, the community is designed for connection and convenience.

SMOOTH TRANSITIONS
Some Heart. New Home.

KWELEVATE
KELLER WILLIAMS

generations
SENIOR LIVING

INTEGRITY HOME CARE
OUR NAME DEFINES US

THE VILLAGE AT HINCKLEY OAKS INVITES YOU TO:

TACO BOUT'

DownSizing

NOVEMBER 19TH 4:00P.M.-6:00P.M.

1456 RIDAN WY, HINCKLEY-OH 44233

As we move through life, our priorities evolve—and so does our vision of "home." For many active adults, downsizing isn't about giving something up; it's about gaining freedom, simplicity, and connection! Join us to "Taco" bout' downsizing while enjoying yummy Tacos and margaritas!

Please RSVP: (330) 818-9404

RIGHT-SIZING FOR THE LIFE YOU WANT

At The Village at Hinckley Oaks, downsizing doesn't mean compromising—it means right-sizing your life. Enjoy all the comforts of home without the burdens of ownership. This maintenance-free, tax-free rental lifestyle gives you the freedom to focus on what matters most—living well, connecting with others, and enjoying every day to the fullest.

Discover The Village at Hinckley Oaks where freedom, comfort, and community come together for active adults ready to embrace their best years yet.

We'd be delighted to give you a personal tour of our beautiful community!
Contact us at (330) 632-3223
or visit 1456 Ridan Way Road, Hinckley, OH 44233.
Explore more at thevillageathinckleyoaks.com

HEALING MADE EASY!

The Benefits of Outpatient Therapy on The Villas at Bakers Ridge Campus



The Villas at Bakers Ridge

When it comes to staying active, independent, and living life to the fullest, sometimes a little extra support can make all the difference. That's where Absolute Rehabilitation and Consulting comes in - bringing high-quality outpatient therapy services directly to residents within their own Independent Living community at the Villas at Bakers Ridge.

For many, the idea of "outpatient therapy" may sound clinical or distant, but in reality, it's all about convenience, comfort, and personalized care. Outpatient therapy allows residents to receive physical, occupational, or speech therapy without ever having to leave the campus. Whether it's regaining strength after a surgery, improving balance, or maintaining mobility to keep up with favorite activities, therapy happens right where life happens - close to home.

Having access to therapy on the Bakers Ridge Campus also means less stress for residents and families. There's no need to worry about scheduling transportation, battling traffic, or missing appointments. Instead, residents can focus on what matters most: their health, recovery, and independence.

The therapists from Absolute Rehabilitation and Consulting work one-on-one with each person to create a plan that meets their individual goals - whether that's walking a little steadier, improving hand strength, or simply feeling more confident moving around the community.

In addition to convenience, therapy provided by Absolute Rehabilitation and Consulting is covered by most insurance plans, including Medicare Part B. That means residents can receive high-quality care with little to no out-of-pocket cost, depending on their individual coverage. The team can assist in verifying benefits and helping residents understand what services are included before therapy begins, offering peace of mind along with personalized care.

Outpatient therapy isn't just about recovery - it's about maintaining an active lifestyle and preventing future setbacks. Many residents choose to participate proactively, using therapy as a way to build strength, stay mobile, and continue doing the things they love, from gardening to walking with friends to keeping up with grandchildren.

With Absolute Rehabilitation and Consulting providing services right on Bakers Ridge campus, residents can enjoy all the benefits of expert care in a familiar environment - one that supports comfort, convenience, and confidence every step of the way.

Because at the end of the day, therapy shouldn't be a burden - it should be an opportunity. An opportunity to move better, feel stronger, and continue living life to the fullest, right where you call home.

To learn more about our services starting December 1, 2025 contact Absolute Rehabilitation and Consulting,

Jason Musni, at
330-316-4713 or
jdmusni@absttherapy.com



ABSOLUTE
Rehabilitation & Consulting Services, Inc.

Enhancing Quality of Life
Since 1994

Move Better, Live Better!



Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapy

Outpatient Services in Senior Living Communities

- Wellness Programs
- Pain Reduction
- Complimentary Exercise Classes
- Personalized Recreational Training
- Preventative Screening
- Balance & Strengthening
- Insurance Authorization & Coverage Assistance
- Memory Care

Let's Absolutely Connect!



Tonya Moore
PTA, VP Absolute Rehabilitation and Consulting Services, Inc.
Phone: 330-704-9018
Email: tonya.moore@absttherapy.com



Kelly Rose Stallard
Director of Marketing and Business Development
Phone: 330-704-3419
Email: kelly.rose@absttherapy.com

Follow us on  

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
November 2025				
Z = ZOOM CLASS • * = FEE • ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE • BILLIARDS DAILY 8:00 - 4:30				
3 9:30am BP Screening-ComForCare 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Mahjong	4 9am Edwina's Exercise 9:30am Painting w/ Taylor* 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Pieri	5 9:30am Bingo-Z-Life Care 10am Painting 10:30am Program: "Scams" presented by the Better 11:30am Lunch-Life Care 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	6 HOCKING VALLEY TRIP 9 & 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Free Craft-Remembrance 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Jam Session 1pm Watercolor Class* 1:15pm Parkinson's Support 2:30pm BalloFlex*	7 9:30am Bingo-Z-Medina Ctr 10:30am Weights Workout 11am Veterans Concert by Leo's Jammers 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong 1pm Grief Support Group 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
10 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:15am Card Stamping Class 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Mahjong 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Joe	11 MCSAS OFFICE CLOSED VETERANS DAY 	12 9:30am Bingo-Z-Pearlview 10am Painting 10:30am Program: Auditor's Ofc: Homestead Exemption 11:30am Lunch-Avenue at Medina 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1:30pm Legal Aid Appts	13 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Watercolor Class* 2:30pm BalloFlex*	14 9:30am Bingo-Z-Broadway Crk 10:30am Program: "The Underground Railroad in Medina 10:30am Weights Workout 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong
17 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12:15pm Movie: Mission Impossible: Final Reckoning 1pm Mahjong	18 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook 1pm Zentangle Class* 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Pieri	19 WHEELING/OGLEBAY TRIP 9:30am Bingo-Z-Devoted 10am Painting 10:30am Program: Health Dept: HARM 11:30am Lunch-Medina Center 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1pm Friends in Focus	20 9 & 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am BP Screening-Serenity Hospice 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Katie's Drawing Class 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Watercolor Class* 2:30pm BalloFlex*	21 9:30am NO BINGO "THANKSGIVING FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN" PROGRAM 10:30am Weights Workout 11:30am Lunch/Volunteer Apprec. 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day & Mahjong 1pm Book Club 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
24 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Mahjong	25 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook	26 9:30am Bingo-Z-CarePatrol 10am Painting 10:30am Program: Senior Trivia w/ Suzanne-Brookdale 11:30am Lunch-Brookdale South 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	27 MCSAS OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING 	28 MCSAS OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

CALENDAR

OF
EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 9:30am BP Screening-ComForCare 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch: 11:30 1pm Mahjong 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Joe	2 9am Edwina's Exercise 9:30am Painting w/ Taylor* 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Pieri	3 JACK CASINO TRIP 9:30am Bingo-Z-Life Care 10am Painting 10:30am Program: Habitat for Humanity Programs 11:30am Lunch-Life Care 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	4 9 & 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 10am Champion Creek Craft 10:30am Cooking Demo w/ Jenny 11:30am Lunch 1pm Watercolor Class* 1:15pm Parkinson's Support Grp	5 9:30am Bingo-Z-Medina Ctr 10:30am Program: "Dementia"-Alzheimer's Assn. 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong 1pm Grief Support Group 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
8 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch: 11:30 1pm Mahjong	9 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook 1:30pm Croissant Class* 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Pieri	10 BINGO STARTS LATER DUE TO SSN MEETING 9:45am Bingo-Z-Pearlview 10am Painting 10:45am Program: Fall Prevention 11:30am Lunch-Avenue at Medina 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1:30pm Legal Aid Appts	11 9 & 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Champion Creek Craft 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Jam Session 1pm Watercolor Class* 2:30pm BalloFlex*	12 9:30am Bingo-Z-Broadway Creek 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11am Program: Holiday Concert-Leo's Jammers 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong
15 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12:15pm Movie: A Boy Called Christmas 1pm Mahjong 1:30pm One-on-One Tech Help w/ Joe	16 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook 1pm Zentangle Class*	17 9:30am Bingo-Z-Devoted 10am Painting 10:30am Hearing Screening 10:45am Program: Holiday Wits 11:30am Lunch-OSU Ext 12pm Lunch-Medina Center 12pm Pinochle 1pm Friends n Focus 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	18 9 & 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am BP Screening-Serenity Hospice 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Katie's Drawing Class 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Watercolor Class* 2:30pm BalloFlex*	19 9:30am NO BINGO 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11am UGLY SWEATER HOLIDAY PARTY 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day & Mahjong 1pm Book Club 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
22 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Mahjong	23 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook	24 9:30am Bingo-Z-CarePatrol 10am Painting 10:30am Program: Holiday Sing-a-Long 11am Lunch-MCSAS CENTER CLOSSES AT NOON	25 	26 9:30am Bingo-Z-Jim Richison 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong
29 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 1pm Mahjong	30 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 1pm Hook Nook	31 NO BINGO 9:30am Painting 10:30am NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	December 2025 Z = ZOOM CLASS • * = FEE • ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE BILLIARDS DAILY 8:00AM - 4:30PM	

HANDS Foundation Celebrates 30 Years! 1995-2025

CONGRATULATIONS HANDS FOUNDATION!

HANDS FOUNDATION

Medina Meadows

REHABILITATION & NURSING CENTRE

DISCOVER EXCELLENCE IN CARE

Right Here in Medina

- ▶ Only facility in Medina with 5-Star Quality Measures
- ▶ 4-Star Overall CMS Rating
- ▶ All-Star Therapy Team Dedicated to your Recovery
- ▶ Beautiful park just steps away for peaceful visits & strolls

Schedule Your Tour Today!
 (330) 725-1550
 550 Miner Drive, Medina
www.medinameadows.com

YOUR MEDICARE INSURANCE PLAN SHOULD SUIT YOU!

We can help find plans that fit your needs, lifestyle and budget! Appointments available 7 days a week, and walk-ins are always welcome!

CALL OR EMAIL TAMI OR KATHY TODAY!

TAMI GLOVER (EX 1)
 LICENSED INSURANCE AGENT
TAMI@MAOHIO.COM

KATHY WARNER (EX 2)
 LICENSED INSURANCE AGENT
KATHY@MAOHIO.COM

THERE IS NEVER A FEE FOR OUR SERVICES AND NO OBLIGATION TO ENROLL

Medi Advisors

319 South Court / Medina
MediAdvisorsOfOhio.com
330-247-4111
 (TTY: 711)

This is an insurance solicitation

NEXT TO LIFE'S TREASURES THRIFT STORE

NOVEMBER 2025

SOPREMA
Senior Center
& Café

CENTER HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4 pm
CAFÉ HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 2 pm

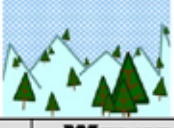
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:30 Reflecting with Rep. Sharon Ray 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Diabetes Support 1:00 Ukulele Class 1:30	Canasta 9:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30 Wits Workout 2:00	Hearing Screenings - by Appt. 9:00 - 1:00 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Transit Update 11:30 Medicare - by appt. 1:00 Blind Truth 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	Mah Jong 9:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00 Veterans Recognition Event 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:30 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Ukulele Class 1:30 Medicare 101* 3:00	Center & Café Closed for Holiday 	Chess 10:00 Summa Health Chat* 10:00 Gentle Exercise 11:00 Medicare - by appt. 12:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Trivia w/ Brookdale* 2:00	Mah Jong 9:00 Hearing Loss & Brain 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Seniors w/Srs Lunch 11:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00 - Canning Ring Sundowner	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00 Walking Challenge Reveal 1:00 *Soprema Café Open Lunch Only
Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:30 Chat w/ Matt 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Crafts w/ Marilyn 1:30 Ukulele Class 1:30	Canasta 9:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Crafts w/ Windfall 10:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30	WHS Tech Assist 9:15 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Dance Party 11:15 Medicare - by appt. 12:00 Healthy Living w/Humans* 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	Mah Jong 9:00 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 County Assistance by Appt. 2:00 Grief Support 2:00	Thanksgiving w/ Swingin' Along Concert 12:00 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Decoration Assembly 10:00 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:00 Bunco 1:00 Monthly Bday Party 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00 Ukulele Class 1:30	Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:30 Cooking w/ Bev 2:30	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Medicare - by appt. 12:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	Center & Café Closed for Holiday 	Center & Café Closed for Holiday 
 PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT IN THESE GREAT PROGRAMS!	*ASTERISK (*) PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM (HYBRID).	 Get your 12 Days of Christmas Gift Card Raffle tickets! Drawings start Dec. 1st!	 Scan this QR code to purchase WOAF 12 Days Tickets!	

330-335-1513 · SSC@WadsworthCity.Org · 617 School Drive · Wadsworth, OH 44281

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

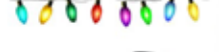
WADSWORTH

SOPREMA
SENIOR CENTER
& CAFÉ

DECEMBER 2025

SOPREMA
Senior Center
& Café

CENTER HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4 pm
CAFÉ HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 2 pm

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Decoration Assembly 10:00 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Diabetes Support 12:00 Bunco 1:00 Ukulele Class 1:30 Holiday Decor Tree Demo 2:00	Canasta 9:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30 Wits Workout 2:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Arm Chair Travel 1:00 Blind Truth 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	Mah Jong 9:00 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00 - Wood Snowman Ornament	Bingo Auction 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H. H. (Zoom) 12:00 WHS Tech Assist 1:00 Genealogy 2:00
12 Days of Christmas Daily Drawings: Tune into Wadsworth Radio 97.1 each weekday at 8:45 am from Dec. 1 thru Dec. 11!				
Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Ukulele Class 1:30 Medicare 101* 3:00	Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Crafts w/ Windfall 10:00 Dance Party 10:15 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Euchre 1:30	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Trivia w/ Brookdale* 2:00	Mah Jong 9:00 Bridge 11:00 Seniors w/Srs Lunch 11:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00 - Wood Snowman Ornament	Final 12 Days Drawing 12:00 & Emily Dorland Concert Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Bunco 1:00	Canasta 9:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30 Wits Workout 2:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Healthy Living w/Humans* 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	Mah Jong 9:00 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 County Assistance by appt 2:00 Grief Support 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:00 Bunco 1:00 Monthly Bday Party 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00	Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Music in Café (Harp) 11:30 Euchre 1:30 Cooking w/ Bev 2:30	Center & Café Closed for Holiday 	Center & Café Closed for Holiday 	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Bunco 1:00	Canasta 9:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Euchre 1:30	New Year's Eve Party 1:30 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT IN THESE GREAT PROGRAMS!	Spread some Holiday Cheer! Check out our Holiday Card Station in the Café - or - pick a tag from the Giving Tree (gifts due back to SSC by Dec. 10)

330-335-1513 · SSC@WadsworthCity.Org · 617 School Drive · Wadsworth, OH 44281

America's Choice in Homecare

VisitingAngels®
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES



THE CARE YOU NEED, AT HOME, BY ANGELS



330-723-0300

Whether you're finding it harder to handle certain daily tasks as you get older, or you have a loved one who has recently been diagnosed with dementia, Visiting Angels® Medina-Strongsville offers the quality at home care required for you or your loved one to face these challenges right at home. With our custom home care plans, you have the power to choose a compassionate, skilled caregiver you trust to provide senior care services for your exact needs and situation.

Providing 4 hours to 24/7 Care
Short term respite care also available

WE ALSO SERVE
NORTH ROYALTON / BROADVIEW HTS. / BRECKSVILLE / RICHFIELD

VisitingAngels.com | CALL US 24 HOURS A DAY!

Exclusive Living
MEDINA'S BEST KEPT SECRET

A 55 & OLDER COMMUNITY



Town Homes
Below Market Rent
Attached Carport

2 Bedroom Villas
All First Floor with Lake Views
Washer/Dryer Connection

1 Bedroom
All First Floor

Cable & Internet Included



FOREST MEADOW
EXCLUSIVE LIVING Villas
A GERSPACHER COMPANY

574 Leisure Lane
Medina
330.725.1596
Managed by GERSPACHER Family

ForestMeadowsVillas.com



FROM YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE



A MEDINA COUNTY LEGACY

Medina County's Fire Training Tower

By: State Representative, SHARON RAY

In 1985 the firefighters of Medina County expressed the need to have a Fire Training Tower that would allow Medina County's firefighters to train with high-altitude and smoke-filled fire simulated drills. A letter was sent from Martin Rooy – at the time, the President of the Medina County Fireman's Association, co-signed by the Medina County Fire Chiefs, to the Medina County Career Center asking for their help. The request was made with the knowledge that the Career Center was intricately involved in providing education and training to Medina County Fireman.

At the time, the Chief's estimated the Tower would be utilized approximately 248 times per year in the training of some six hundred firefighters. After much discussion it was decided to reach out to the state to pursue a Capital appropriation.

With the leadership of State Representative Bill Batchelder III, a grant was secured, and the Medina County Fire Training Tower was constructed. The Fire Training tower

served the Career Center and the Fireman of Medina County well for 35 years. Unfortunately, the Fire Training Tower failed its inspections in 2021 and was rendered inoperable.

In 2022 LCJ Engineering; Medina County Career engineering technologies students – Lin Askew, Catie Thomas and Mary (Jojo) Hrouda took on the task of designing a new modern Fire Training Tower. With the help of mentor, Travis Crane, these three students fully designed the new four-story Fire Training Tower. Medina County Career Center Superintendent, Steve Chrisman then made it his mission to find funding necessary to make the design a reality. If you have ever worked with Superintendent Chrisman, you know his passion and dedication to all things associated with the Career Center is contagious. When he reached out to my office to inquire about any potential State funding available, I was more than happy to help. Medina County is very lucky to have many volunteer firefighters who spend countless hours dedicated to

serving their fellow Medina County residents. The importance of having a well-trained Fire Department is critical. Providing them with the tools they need to prepare them for the challenges they face is a well spent investment. It was not lost on me that Representative Batchelder made this a priority in 1986, and I made it a priority in 2024. While I was able to secure \$ 1 million dollars for the project, other funding sources donated as well. The Career Center covered the remaining cost, and construction began in the spring of 2025.

On August 19, 2025, an official ribbon cutting was held for the Medina County Career Center's new Fire Training Tower. Surrounded by representatives of several Fire Departments and the Career Centers Firefighter students, elected officials, and the students that designed it, the Fire Training Tower was officially opened. A very special guest, Federal Judge Alice Batchelder, Representative Bill Batchelder III's widow, was able to celebrate the new facility's opening.

It is not often in government that we get to see projects through from start to finish; especially one as important as the Fire Training Tower. From the engineering students design, our local Fire Departments dedication and the perseverance of Superintendent Chrisman, Medina County pulled together on a project that will benefit us all. A legacy we can all be proud of.

On August 19, 2025, an official ribbon cutting was held for the Medina County Career Center's new Fire Training Tower.



FROM LEFT: Engineering technology design student Mary (Jojo) Hrouda, Judge Alice Batchelder, State Representative Sharon Ray, and engineering technology student Lin Askew.



Sharon A. Ray

*State Representative
House District 66*



614-466-8140

Rep66@OhioHouse.gov

77 South High St., 13th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



New Natural Gas Supplier

County selects Archer Energy as new natural gas supplier for aggregation program



Medina County has selected Archer Energy as the natural gas supplier for the next aggregation contract, effective November 1, 2025, through March 2027.

Customers will continue to receive uninterrupted gas delivery, billing, and customer support from their existing utility, Enbridge Gas Ohio or Columbia Gas of Ohio throughout the contract term.

Importantly, customers are automatically enrolled in the gas aggregation program. This is done at no cost to the customer. Eligible customers will receive a letter with details and instructions on how to opt out if they prefer not to participate.

Most residential and small business customers within the unincorporated townships of Medina County who receive natural gas from Enbridge Gas Ohio or Columbia Gas of Ohio are eligible for the program.

Customers who are already enrolled with another supplier would need to opt in once their existing and separately negotiated contract expires.

RATE DETAILS

For Enbridge Gas Ohio Customers:

■ November 2025 – April 2026: NYMEX Last Day settlement price + \$0.469/Mcf. (Currently 6% below Enbridge's Standard Choice Offer adder)

■ May 2026 – March 2027: Guaranteed 2% discount off Enbridge's Standard Choice Offer adder
For Columbia Gas of Ohio Customers:

■ November 2025 – April 2026: NYMEX Last Day settlement price + \$3.05/Mcf. (Currently 6% below Columbia's Standard Choice Offer adder)

■ May 2026 – March 2027: Guaranteed 2% discount off Columbia's Standard Choice Offer adder

KEY PROGRAM FEATURES

- Automatic enrollment for eligible customers
- No enrollment or cancellation fees
- Continued eligibility for budget billing and utility assistance programs
- Continued service from your current gas provider

ABOUT ARCHER ENERGY

Archer Energy, founded in 2014, serves over 350,000 customers and manages more than 150 aggregation programs across Ohio.

Archer's clients include school districts, municipalities, and organizations such as the Indianapolis Colts and Marietta College.

QUESTIONS?

Residents and businesses can contact Archer Energy Customer Service at 1-844-795-7491 or visit the County's Gas Aggregation website www.medinaco.org/gas-aggregation-program/faqs/

Big News, Medina County!

COMING SOON!

Turning food scraps into 'Black Gold'

The Medina County Solid Waste District is excited to announce a new partnership with Rubber City Reuse — bringing community composting to Medina County!

Starting soon, residents will be able to drop off household food waste at the Medina County Recycling Center, making it easier than ever to reduce landfill waste and give back to the earth.

Instead of sitting in a landfill, your banana peels, coffee grounds, and veggie scraps will be transformed into nutrient-rich compost — "black gold" that helps nourish local soil and support a healthier environment.

ACCEPTED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Bread, grains, and pasta
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Plant trimmings
- And more!

Together, we can keep Medina County green, clean, and thriving.

Board of Medina County Commissioners



Aaron Harrison
Board President

Office: **330-722-9211**

Cell: **330-635-3002**

aharrison@medinacounty.gov



Colleen Swedyk
Board Vice President

Office: **330-722-9212**

Cell: **216-570-9809**

cswedyk@medinacounty.gov



Steve Hambley
Commissioner

Office: **330-722-9214**

Cell: **216-570-6958**

shambley@medinacounty.gov

Administration Building • 144 North Broadway Street, Medina

FROM YOUR VETERANS OFFICE



ED ZACKERY

LATEST NEWS from the Veterans Service Office



MEDINA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE



VETERANS AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

Need help applying for your veterans' benefits?
Want to know what you're eligible for?
We can help you apply for the benefits you have earned.

OUR SERVICES ARE FREE

(Accredited by the Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) to assist veterans and their dependents)



210 NORTHLAND DRIVE | MEDINA | 330-722-9368
Email: Veterans@MedinaCountyVeteransOH.gov



SUICIDE PREVENTION HELP

If you are a Veteran having thoughts of suicide—or you are concerned about one—free, confidential support is available 24/7. Call the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, text to 838255, or chat Online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat.

VETERANS DAY MESSAGE

This Veterans Day, let us remember that our military men and women have been protecting our freedoms for two hundred and fifty years. With the Army, Marine Corp, and Navy celebrating their 250th birthday this year and the Coast Guard, their 235th. All the men and women who have served in the branches of our military, to include their younger siblings the AirForce and SpaceForce, have held steady since our very existence as a free country.

Veterans Day isn't a day to mourn; it's a day to reach out and thank those who have served our nation and defended it from tyranny and those that wish to do us harm. The men and women of the armed forces come from every nook and cranny of our country, from all walks of life, all colors, all religions, and many different beliefs.

As a Veteran, it's hard not to think of those we served with and those we may have lost. But I encourage you this Veterans Day try to reflect on the good we have accomplished and share those times with friends, families, and possibly even a stranger. Share your own story as a veteran, America needs to hear it.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, THERAPY PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT GROUPS

As we roll into this holiday season, let's not forget that it may not be full of cheer for everyone. If you or a veteran, you may know one in need, let them know about our services. Whether it's financial or maybe just the need to get out of the house, we can possibly help.

Our financial assistance program is here to help those that find themselves a bit behind due to unforeseen circumstances.

One of our holistic therapy programs can get you out and introduce you to new people and projects. These options help veterans of all ages maintain a sense of community in a relaxed setting.

Meanwhile, the Vet Center counseling and the Veterans coffee group create safe spaces where individuals can share their experiences, support one another, and rebuild social connections that may have been lost post-service.

COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING VETERANS

The Medina County Veterans Service Office remains committed to supporting veterans and their families while being fiscally responsible to local taxpayers. In the first half of 2025 alone, we assisted 1,172 clients and continue to develop innovative programs to serve those most in need. From January through June 2025 MCVSO had 242 VA claims filed, 1,049 Medina County Public Transit rides, \$175,210.03 provided in financial assistance and more than \$118 Million in VA Benefits for CY2024 for the veterans of Medina County.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

If you have any questions about any of your veterans benefits, feel free to contact us at the Medina County Veterans Service Office at (330) 722-9368

or email us at:

veterans@MedinaCountyVeteransOH.gov

or catch us on the web at:

www.MedinaCountyVeteransOH.gov

FROM WRMCMC

WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY



The Importance of Socialization for Older Adults



Socialization is vital for older adults to combat loneliness and isolation, leading to improved mental and physical health. Let's take a look at the many benefits socialization can have for older adults.

MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL BENEFITS

- Reduces Loneliness and Isolation--Social connections provide a sense of belonging and purpose.
- Boosts Mood and Self-Esteem--Interacting with others can improve overall mood.
- Decreases Stress and Anxiety--Talking through concerns offers older adults ways to manage stress and combat depression.

COGNITIVE BENEFITS

- Enhances Mental Sharpness--Socializing stimulates the brain through conversation and shared activities.
- Improves Memory--Social interaction is linked to memory retention and mental alertness.
- Slows Cognitive Decline--Social engagement can slow age-related cognitive issues.

PHYSICAL BENEFITS

- Promotes Physical Activity--Social activities involve exercise, which helps older adults stay active and maintain fitness.
- Increases Lifespan--The positive impacts on mental and physical health contribute to longer, healthier lives.
- Strengthens the Immune System--Healthy social interactions can boost the immune system.

Social isolation has negative effects on both mental and physical health. Factors like chronic illness, loss of loved ones, and limited mobility can contribute to isolation, creating a cycle

where health issues make social engagement harder, impacting overall well-being. Let's take a closer look at some of the negative effects of social isolation.

MENTAL AND COGNITIVE HEALTH EFFECTS

- Depression and Anxiety--Social isolation is a risk factor for depression, with prolonged loneliness leading to worsening mental health.
- Cognitive Decline--isolation impairs the ability to think, learn, and remember, and is linked to higher risk of dementia.

PHYSICAL HEALTH EFFECTS

- Cardiovascular Issues--Social isolation can cause increased risk of heart disease, stroke, and high blood pressure.
- Weakened Immune System--Chronic loneliness can increase the risk of chronic diseases and obesity.
- Premature Death--Research indicates that prolonged social isolation can increase the risk of early death.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO ISOLATION IN OLDER ADULTS

- Health and Mobility--Chronic illness, vision or hearing impairments, and lack of mobility can limit your ability to participate in social activities.

Snowbirds got one thing right.
SNOW IS FOR THE BIRDS!

Beat the snow with us at Western Reserve Masonic Community!



WESTERN RESERVE
MASONIC COMMUNITY

Find out how
by calling
(330) 642-3841

Prefer to schedule an in-person consultation and tour online? Scan this QR code for our calendar.



Today. Tomorrow. Together.



- Loss of Social Network--Death of a spouse or friends, children moving away, and retirement can diminish social interaction and increase loneliness.

Why is social isolation a problem as we age? Social isolation can be a result of the decline in one's health, loss of loved ones, reduced mobility, and societal factors such as lack of transportation. Retirement can also lead to a smaller social circle.

While there are different causes of social isolation, remember there are ways to combat these causes. By checking on loved ones, we can help prevent feelings of loneliness and isolation. Whether you give them a call, stop by to visit, or assist them in getting out of the house, you're doing your part to keep their lives happy, healthy, and feeling loved.

HERE ARE IDEAS TO HELP STAY CONNECTED

- Find an activity that you enjoy, restart an old hobby, or take a class to learn something new.
- Schedule time to stay in touch with family and friends in person, by email, social media, a phone call, or text.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

WRMC

TALK WITH PEOPLE YOU TRUST AND SHARE YOUR FEELINGS

- Sending letters or cards is good way to keep up friendships.
- Use technologies such as video chat or smart speakers to keep connected.
- If you're not tech-savvy, take a class to help you learn to use email or social media.
- Consider adopting a pet if you are able to care for one.
- Stay physically active. Find ways to exercise with others.
- Introduce yourself to your neighbors.

Senior living communities combat social isolation by providing group activities such as clubs, fitness classes, and art programs, to foster social connections. These communities also offer a welcoming environment with shared spaces, easy access to peers, and transportation that reduces barriers to social interaction. Consider these opportunities that senior living communities provide.

STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

- Interest-Based Groups--Communities organize clubs for book lovers, gardeners, artists, and more, allowing residents to bond over hobbies and develop new friendships.
- Fitness and Wellness--Group exercise classes, like walking clubs, and low-impact fitness, promotes health while providing opportunities for social interaction.
- Arts and Culture--Programs in music, dance, and arts and crafts cater to resident's interests, encouraging engagement and providing an outlet for them to connect with others.

COMMUNAL ENVIRONMENT

- Shared Spaces--The very nature of a community with private apartments and communal spaces encourages interaction, making it nearly impossible to remain isolated.
- Welcoming Atmosphere--Thoughtfully designed common areas and a supportive staff creates an atmosphere that promotes social interaction and a sense of community.
- Regular Social Events--From holiday gatherings to scheduled weekly social events, these get-togethers provide an opportunity for residents to make connections.

SUPPORT FOR ENGAGEMENT

- Transportation Services--Many communities provide transportation to help residents attend appointments, run errands, and participate in activities outside the community, thereby reducing isolation.
- Reduced Planning Burden--With activities and social opportunities regularly organized by the community, residents can focus on participating without the stress of planning.
- Volunteer Opportunities--Many senior living communities offer volunteer programs that allow residents to give back to their community, providing a sense of purpose and a chance to meet new people.

If you or your loved ones are struggling with social isolation, it might be time to consider a move to a senior living community such as Western Reserve Masonic Community.

Western Reserve Masonic Community, located in Medina, Ohio, offers premier senior living options so you can live your best life and thrive. As a Continuing Care Retirement Community,

Western Reserve Masonic Community offer multiple levels of care on one campus that include independent and assisted living, memory care, as well as rehab and skilled nursing. With care that adjusts as your individual needs do, you don't have to worry about moving if your health needs change.

If you are interested in learning more about Western Reserve Masonic Community, give us a call at 330-642-3841 or visit www.wrmcoh.org.



Senior Movers With Heart

As a Senior Move Manager with the National Association of Senior Move Managers, we provide you the most professional care and proven excellence in our methods and planning. Your dedicated Smooth Transitions team has the tools to help you and your family decide what to keep, recycle, donate, sell, and move to your new home.

Whether you are downsizing from a 5 bedroom house to a 1 bedroom apartment or simply moving from one community unit to another, we can help.

Work With Smooth Transitions

Our partners and community relationships ensure a smooth transition from your current home to your new home. We oversee every single step, and we are bonded and insured to give you the peace of mind that everything will be taken care of with the utmost care.

Our Services

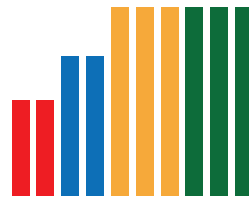
- Move Planning
- Local Moving
- Professional Packing
- White Glove Unpacking
- Recycling and Disposal Services
- Floor Planning
- Asset Dispersal and Relocation
- Selling of Items/consignment
- Estate Sale Planning
- Item Donation and Charity
- Home Cleaning and Sale Preparation
- Long-distance Moving

QUESTIONS? paulette@armbrustermoving.com
Phone: (216) 381-7418

(216) 381-7418
cleveland.smoothtransitions.com
Cleveland, OH

MENTION THIS AD TO
CLAIM YOUR **FREE 1 HOUR**
MOVING CONSULTATION!

MCSAS



NEWS

MEDINA COUNTY SENIOR & ADULT SERVICES

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Adult Protective Services help those age 60 or older who are in danger of harm, are unable to protect themselves, and may have no one to assist them. APS Specialists investigate and create case plans to help ensure senior safety in the community. They assess the risk to the adult in their living situation, determine the appropriate intervention and offer services to enable the adult to remain independent in the community.

If you suspect that a vulnerable older adult may be a victim of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, do not hesitate to call the Adult Protective Services Hotline at **330-661-0800**.

AGING & DISABILITIES RESOURCE CENTER

ADRC Services are available for older adults and any adult with a disability

What is the ADRC?

The Aging & Disabilities Resource Center is the starting point for answers to questions about community services and supports that can help when your independence is challenged.

Who does the ADRC service?

Through the Medina County Senior and Adult Services Office, any older adults ages 60+, as well as those ages 18+ with a disability can be helped through the ADRC.

Services provided by the ADRC INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

An Information and Assistance Specialist can assist with identifying your needs and preferences, while providing current and unbiased information.

OPTIONS COUNSELING

An Options Counselor is available to talk with you, your family members, caregivers and/or significant others about community services and support to fit your needs and preferences and to guide you through what can be a difficult and complicated decision process.

BENEFITS ASSISTANCE

A Benefits Specialist can screen for your eligibility for public benefits and guide you through the application process.

MEDICARE: WE CAN HELP GET YOU ON THE RIGHT PATH!

Medicare open enrollment runs through December 7. Medina County Senior & Adult Services offers free, unbiased assistance with navigating the Medicare maze. Appointments to help you with open enrollment are available. Call 330-723-9514.



HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: AUDITOR'S OFFICE VISITS MCSAS TO DISCUSS THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 12, at 10:30 am, a representative from the Medina County Auditor's Office will be at the Medina Senior Center, 246 Northland Drive, for a discussion of the Homestead Exemption Program. This program provides property tax relief to eligible seniors, people with disabilities, and disabled Veterans, helping reduce the financial burden of home ownership.

In Brunswick, on Wednesday, November 5 and Friday November 21 at noon, the representatives will be in the lobby of the Rec Center, 3637 Center Rd., on with an information table that will include applications for the Homestead Exemption program.

AARP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AARP Tax-Aide is searching for friendly and service-oriented people to join their volunteer team. In addition to tax preparers, Tax-Aide needs people who can provide technical and communications assistance, interpreters, and program leaders. You will receive training and support, learn new skills, and feel great while helping others. You can make a difference in your community. Please register at: aarpfoundation.org/TaxaideVolunteer

MCSAS SERVICES: WE OFFER MORE THAN BINGO! *MCSAS Congregate Meals*

Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging congregate meals provide safe and nutritious meals, in addition to social interaction and activity at nutrition sites such as senior centers and community focal points. In Medina County, meals are served at the Brunswick Rec, 3637 Center Rd., on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:30am for those signed up with SAS in advance. Meals are served at the Medina Senior Center, 246 Northland Drive, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30am. In Wadsworth, we offer a voucher program at the Soprema Senior Center, 617 School Dr. Contact us at 330-723-9514 to set up an appointment to fill out your paperwork. All are welcome; this program is not income-based. Suggested donation is \$2.00 per meal. This is an age 60+ program.



Because caregiving shouldn't mean going it alone.

At **Hospice of the Western Reserve**, we walk alongside families facing serious illness – offering care, guidance and comfort tailored to your needs. Whether at home, in a care facility or in one of our hospice care centers, our team is here to help you focus on what matters most.



800.707.8922 | hospicewr.org





MEDINA LIONS UPDATE



Latest news from the Medina Lions following their successful Reverse Raffle in the spring. To start the summer, the Lions awarded 7 scholarships to graduating seniors from Medina High School. This year's scholarship winners are Isabelle Romanao, Joel DeSario, Sadie Hill, Laurel Briggs, Landon Briggs and Lincoln Briggs. Lions' members were excited to host

these new college students and hear about their goals. We wish them luck in pursuit of their new endeavors.



From the Miracle League Golf Outing: (L-R): Joe Arellano, Gary Cerasi, Sandy Sampsel, Kent Von Der Vellen and Paul Chidsey.



During June the Lions continued their partnership with the Miracle League of Northeast Ohio by sponsoring their opening day picnic. Everyone had the opportunity to enjoy a hot dog, sunshine and baseball. The Lions were back in August to celebrate the unveiling of the new Medina Lions Miracle League Field sign at Sam Masi Park.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

As we enter the winter months your Medina Lions Club is in search of new members.

If you believe in supporting your community and want to get involved with an organization that has been part of Medina since 1943 contact Kent Von Der Vellen at **330.421.0863** or at vdv@zoominternet.net.



Loss is difficult enough.
The service should be easy.

Ask us about pre-planning your final wishes today. Call **(330) 723-3229** or scan the code with your phone to get started.



WAITE

GATHERINGS | FUNERALS | CREMATIONS

Medina Chapel
(330) 723-3229
765 N. Court St.
Medina, OH 44256

Brunswick Chapel
(330) 225-1770
3300 Center Road
Brunswick, OH 44212



What should I tell my children about my finances and estate plan

By: ANN SALEK



Every family relationship is unique. Some people are completely open and comfortable telling their family anything about their finances and estate plan; while others are very guarded and are not comfortable divulging any information. Depending on your comfort level, consider at least some level of communication in order to make future situations easier and more streamlined for your loved ones.

If you become sick and unable to manage your finances, you hopefully have documents in place to give someone else the power to access and manage your finances (i.e. power of attorney or appointment of a successor trustee). The more that person knows about your finances, the easier it will be for them to help you. Ideally, you could give the person a copy of your documents and a list of your assets (bank accounts, investment accounts, IRA's, insurance policies, etc.) with account numbers.

Consider contacting any financial institution with whom you have accounts and inform them of who you have appointed as your power of attorney or successor trustee. Consider communicating that information to your financial planner and accountant as well. If you do this while you are healthy, it will ensure that the financial institutions accept your documents and if they have a problem with the documents, you can correct the problem while you are healthy. It is really difficult if the financial institution has a problem with your documents but no one knows that until you need to use the documents (when it can be too late).

Likewise, when you pass, that level of communication will also make your post death administration easier. The person handling the administration will be fully aware of your finances and how to access them. The person should also then be aware of any outstanding debt that may need paid.

While this level of communication may be ideal, not everyone is comfortable divulging this information. Oftentimes, a power of attorney is immediately effective and you may not be comfortable with someone knowing they have that power while you are still competent. In such case, I recommend you at least compile all of your estate planning documents in one place. In addition, make a list of your assets and any outstanding debts. Include any account numbers, names of your financial planner, accountant and attorney.

Keep this information in a safe place, ideally in a fire-proof safe (be careful using a safe deposit box as the people who may need to access the safe deposit box will likely need the documents in the box in order to access the box). Notify your family of where they can find this information in the event you are incapacitated or you are deceased. This way, you may maintain your privacy while still providing the necessary information to your loved ones when it is needed.

Regardless of your level of comfortability in communicating private information about your finances and estate plan, some level of communication is imperative.

CRITCHFIELD

Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston, Ltd.

Elder Law and Estate Planning

Asset Protection * Medicaid Planning * Veteran Benefits * Wills & Trusts * Capacity Assessment
Conservatorship & Guardianship * Probate

Empowering our clients is our primary goal.



For assistance, contact attorney
Ann Salek*
*Certified Elder Law Attorney
*Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law
salek@ccj.com
330.723.6404

4996 Foote Road, Medina, Ohio, 44256
www.ccj.com



24/7 NURSING CARE
HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE
FULL-SERVICE THERAPISTS
RESPIRE CARE
UPSCALE AMENITIES
ALL PRIVATE ROOMS
REHABILITATION GYM

A PLACE THAT FEELS LIKE HOME

AVENUE AT MEDINA CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

Avenue

ACCEPTING LONG TERM CARE PATIENTS!



699 EAST SMITH ROAD | MEDINA | 330-721-7001 | AvenueAtMedina.com

WELCOMING RESIDENTS



NOW TAKING MEDICARE, MEDICAID & MEDICAID PENDING!
Long-Term Care Private Suites Available for Medicaid & Medicaid Pending!

Our all-Private, 99 bed center, located in Montville Township, Medina County, just South of Medina's historic square, features an array of amenities: Ensuite Bathrooms; Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation; Restorative Nursing; Wound Care; IV Antibiotic Therapies; Registered Dietician; Community Outings and Activities AND MUCH MORE!

We are proud to be Ohio Homegrown, with a strong commitment to our communities we serve, providing a Culture of Care, in addition to exceptional nursing and rehabilitation.



CALL TODAY TO LEARN ABOUT CHAMPION CREEK!

Contact Monica Bruggeman at: 216-965-8177 | Monica.Bruggeman@Champion-Creek.net

Visit our website at www.Champion-Creek.net
Like us on Facebook to follow updates re: *the center and news*



Record-Breaking Year at the Soprema Senior Center! 2025 EXPO! EVEN BIGGER THAN LAST YEAR!

The Soprema Senior Center is experiencing its best year ever! We've welcomed over 650 brand new members in 2025 (with two months to go!) and have also set new records in program attendance. Some examples include:

SENIOR & CAREGIVER EXPO (OCTOBER 10)

Our record-breaking event featured 116 vendor tables! Well over 600 senior attendees embarked on a safari-themed adventure and "explored" the extensive wealth of resources available in Medina County and beyond.

"CHRISTMAS IN JULY" CAR SHOW & CRAFT FAIR:

This became the most-attended summer event to date, drawing well over 400 attendees.

SENIOR WALKING CHALLENGE (SEPT 1 - OCT 31)

With over 250 seniors registered, this initiative represents a new record for participation and has generated the largest senior fitness "movement" in Medina County this season. Stay tuned for the final results (the combined goal was 28,000 miles)!





Romig Finnium Insurance
Our Policy Is Your Protection

Denny Bauer, CLU ChFC

HOME • AUTO • LIFE • BUSINESS

CALL FOR A QUOTE! 440-935-6479
Dbauer@RF-ins.com

———— Serving Medina County ————

Soprema Center News Continued

Want to be part of the excitement?

The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation (WOAF), our 501c3, invites the community to support what we do by purchasing a 12 Days of Christmas ticket! Each \$10 ticket gives you 23 chances to win over \$200 in gift cards to local businesses, and directly supports the seniors we serve.



Retired WOAF Board Member Cathy Hall and current Members Anita Monroe, Tom Stugmyer and Jim Dull (Wadsworth's Famous Christmas elf!)

The drawings will take place from December 1 – December 12 and you do not need to be present to win. Tickets can be purchased online via the QR code on our flyer or November calendar, both located in this paper. You can also email us at ssc@wadsworthcity.org for a link, or simply stop by in person.



(L-R): Wadsworth Mayor, Robin Laubaugh with Soprema Senior Center staff Amy Ruch-Smith, Lori Wilkinson & Tammy Reddish.



Representing Foundations Health Solutions: Rebecca Moore from Timberland Ridge Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation, and Sandy Kaczur from Champion Creek Health & Rehabilitation.

Keep up on Soprema Happenings

Keep up with all the great happenings by liking and following us on Facebook: Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation. You can also check out our website for current information at www.wadsworthcity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter.

The Soprema Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Membership is free for anyone 55 or better. The Soprema Café, operated by MCSAS, is open from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm, serving breakfast, lunch, coffee and more at great prices.

Be sure to add visiting the Soprema Senior Center & Café on your holiday "to-do list"... you will be happy you did!

216.621.0303
800.626.7277
AreaAgingSolutions.org



Western Reserve
Area Agency On Aging

Providing choices for people to live independently in the place they want to call home.

Call our resource center to learn about our programs and services including:

- Aging & Disability Resource Center:**
The starting point for information, assistance & counseling.
- Family Caregiver Support Program:**
Information, respite, counseling & other services.
- Older Americans Act Programs:**
Community-based meal sites & home delivered meals.
- PASSPORT Medicaid Waiver Program:**
Long-term support with in-home services to older adults.

--- SERVING ---
CUYAHOGA, GEAUGA,
LAKE, LORAIN AND
MEDINA COUNTIES

WADSWORTH OLDER ADULTS FOUNDATION

12 Days of
Christmas
Gift Card Raffle

TO BENEFIT THE SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER

EACH \$10 TICKET ENTERS THE PURCHASER INTO A DRAWING FOR ONE OF 23 PRIZES CONTAINING GIFT CARDS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES!!

PRIZE VALUE \$200 EACH
FINAL PRIZE \$400 VALUE!

TWO WINNERS WILL BE DRAWN AND NOTIFIED WEEKDAYS DECEMBER 1ST - 12TH, 2025

ON WADSWORTH COMMUNITY RADIO 97.1

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER 617 SCHOOL DRIVE

ORDER ONLINE: WADSWORTHCITY.COM/295/WOAF OR SIMPLY SCAN QR CODE




HOME HELP



JANET GOMMEL



FALL & WINTER MAINTENANCE



It's that time of year when our thoughts go to how we can save money on our heating bills and what else might need to be looked at before winter really sets in.

YOUR FURNACE IS A HIGH PRIORITY

When did you last have the system inspected by a professional? According to Medina Heating and Air Conditioning: "Today's HVAC systems generally outlast their predecessors thanks to technological advances. Modern air source heat pumps can last 15+ years, compared to older models that might fail after around a decade. Energy efficiency improvements mean new systems run less frequently, reducing wear and tear. Digital thermostats provide more precise temperature control, preventing the system from overworking.

Current manufacturing standards have improved component durability significantly. However, older systems were often simpler mechanically, sometimes making them easier to repair.

The trade-off comes in energy costs, as a 15-year-old system might still run but cost considerably more in monthly bills than a new HVAC system with higher efficiency ratings. Modern central air conditioning units with variable-speed technology put less strain on the system during startup, potentially adding years to their lifespan."

WINDOWS AND DOORS

When was the last time you looked at your windows, really looked. Looking at the caulking, the area around the window frame, the seals. On the doors, check the weather seal, does the door close properly (especially the ones you don't use often). Since the weather is closing in soon, you may want to take out your screens, clean them and the window sills and store the screens in a safe place.

FIREPLACES AND CHIMNEYS

If you use your fireplace or wood stove, fall is the time for cleaning. It should be cleaned before the first use in the fall. During the spring and summer, we sometimes have birds, bugs and other life take up home in our stacks. It is important to have these cleaned so it doesn't create a fire or back up of smoke into the house. Also, the exterior of a chimney needs to be checked. Is the cap secure, does the mortar need to be tuckpointed. If you have a gas fireplace what does the manufacturer say about maintenance? Does it exhaust properly?

BASIC EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

Make sure you clean your gutters and downspouts. Make sure that the dirt around your foundation grades away from your home not towards it to ensure water will flow away and not towards the house. Look for wear and tear on painted surfaces or cracks in brickwork, mortar or stucco.

Buying and Selling a Home? Contact the Best!

A house is a building, a home is your haven. You need a REALTOR® who will listen and communicate effectively. Someone who is dependable and patient as well as knowledgeable and willing to give you honest opinions so that you can sell or purchase with confidence. The REALTOR® that will offer you the best tools to keep you paramount in the market place.

I am that
REALTOR®. Call
for all of your
Real Estate needs!



Real Estate Services



Janet Gommel

Top 3% in homes sold
Mega Million Dollar Producer

janetgommel@howardhanna.com

330-242-2020

BUYING AND SELLING A HOME? CONTACT JANET TODAY!

As a Senior Real Estate Specialist, helping buyers and sellers maneuver through the intricacies of selling and or buying a home is my passion. Many Baby Boomers and The Greatest Generation have not bought or sold a home in decades. I am the first call to make to make this the smoothest transition possible. My specialty includes an initial consultation with my clients and/or their families.

During our initial conversation we will discuss every detail, identify which other resources are needed before, during, and after the sale or purchase of a home. Communication is key. Being part of the Medina County Senior Services Network has given me insight into other specialists in their fields. This is an important asset for all my sellers and buyers. Creating a seamless transition alleviates stress. This is my goal for everyone.

I believe that my clients are the most important part of every sale. My team takes pride in delivering personal and professional service to each individual we represent.

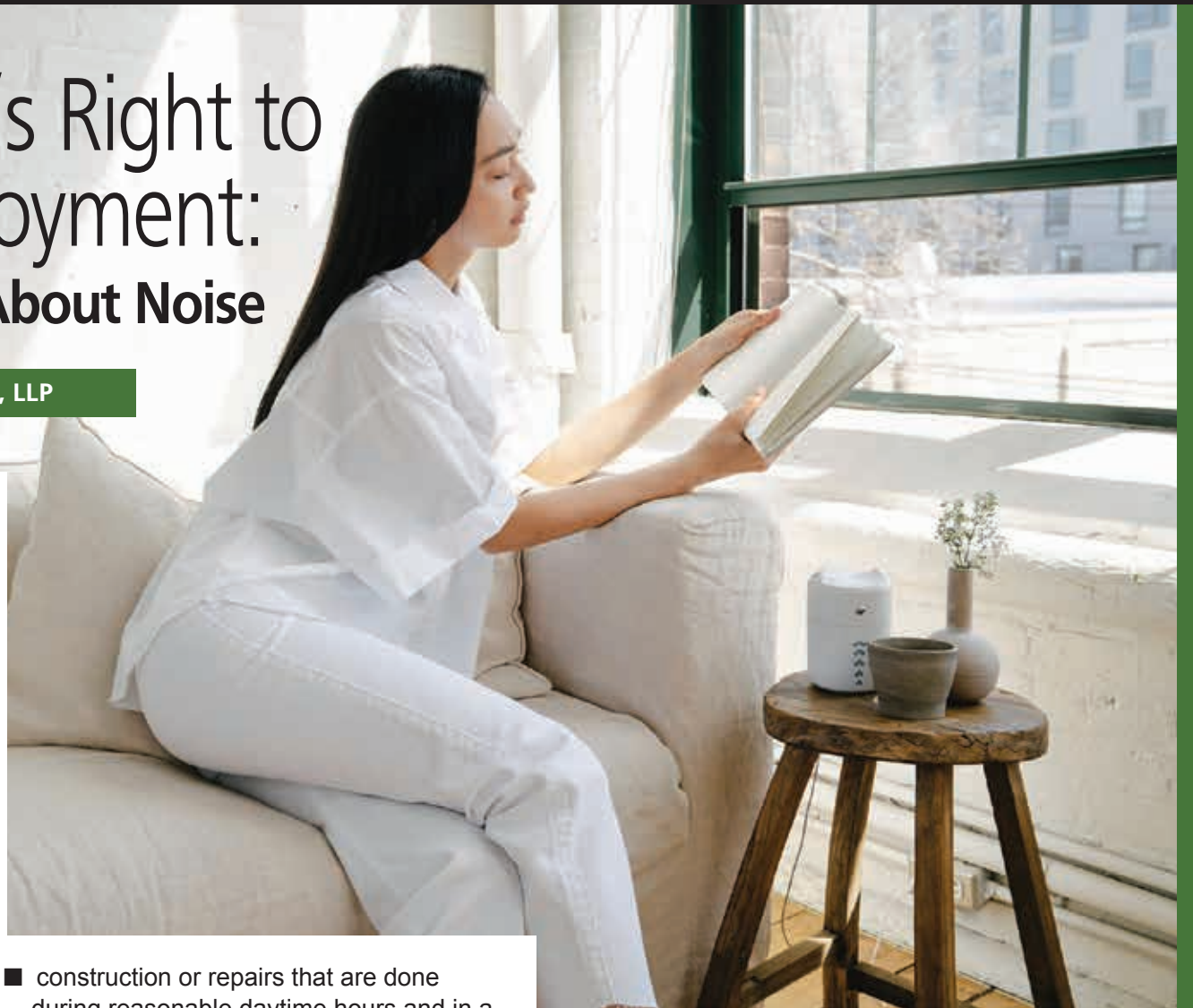
Licensed in 1998 as a sales agent, and 2003 as a Broker, plus I achieved the Accredited Buyer Representation certification, I was trained by the National Association of Realtors as a Mediator for the Board of Realtors, I have an ePro designation as well as proudly being a Senior Real Estate Specialist.



MICHAEL LARIBEE

A Tenant's Right to Quiet Enjoyment: Not Always About Noise

By: MICHAEL LARIBEE, Esq., Laribee Law, LLP



The covenant of quiet enjoyment is a longstanding principle in landlord tenant law and a fundamental right granted to tenants in residential leases. But quiet enjoyment doesn't mean that a tenant is entitled to live in absolute silence. Most often the legal principle doesn't relate to noise volume around a rental unit. Instead, it is a legal guarantee that a tenant can occupy the leased premises without substantial interference from the landlord that undermines the tenant's legal use of the property.

Some typical examples of actions by a landlord that violate a tenant's right to quiet enjoyment:

- locking the tenant out of the rental unit despite the tenant paying rent;
- repeatedly entering the rental unit without notice or legitimate reason;
- shutting off utilities or other services to the rental unit;
- harassing the tenant regarding petty matters that are not prohibited by the lease;
- allowing the rental unit to fall into disrepair that limits a tenant's use;
- permitting landlord's contactors to harass tenants;
- allowing construction that unreasonably limits access to the rental unit or makes the premises uninhabitable;
- allowing third parties to use any part of the leased premises that is leased exclusively to the tenant; and
- permitting tenants in a multi-unit building to disturb or harass other tenants.

However, the legal principle does not place an unreasonable burden on a landlord to prevent every minor inconvenience to a tenant. Here are some examples that do not violate a tenant's right to quiet enjoyment:

- landlord's entry into the rental unit for legitimate purposes and with reasonable notice;
- noise from outside that is beyond the landlord's control;
- general wear and tear of the rental unit;

- construction or repairs that are done during reasonable daytime hours and in a customary manner (even if noisy); and,
- reasonable noises and activities of other tenants in a multi-unit building.

The right of quiet enjoyment is often listed explicitly in lease agreements. However, the right is implied by Ohio law and granted to a tenant even if it was not included as a specific provision in the written lease.

It should be noted that the Ohio Landlord-Tenant Act also places an obligation on tenants to conduct themselves in a manner that will not disturb their neighbors' peaceful enjoyment of the premises.

If a tenant believes that their landlord is violating their right to quiet enjoyment, they should keep detailed records documenting the incidents, including dates and times. Tenants should send a written demand to the landlord to stop. In some extreme cases, tenants may have a claim for constructive eviction – that the landlord's actions have effectively caused the tenant to vacate the unit. In that case, the tenant may seek legal remedies and monetary damages in court.

The right to quiet enjoyment is an essential protection for tenants. It ensures a stable and undisturbed living environment. If you are experiencing difficulties with your landlord, it is wise to consult with a trusted attorney to see if your rights of quiet enjoyment have been violated.



LARIBEE LAW, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
SERVING MEDINA SINCE 1938

Estate Planning / Probate Administration
Real Estate / Contracts / Civil Litigation

325 North Broadway | Medina, Ohio 44256
330.725.0531 | www.LaribeeLaw.com

Michael Laribee is a partner in the Medina law firm of Laribee Law, LLP. This article is intended to provide general information about the law. It is not intended to give legal advice. Readers are urged to seek advice from an attorney regarding their specific issues and rights.

5 TIPS

for celebrating the holidays with those with developmental differences



From: The MCBDD

The holiday season is a time of joy, gatherings, celebrations and shared traditions. It is often a cherished opportunity to connect with children, grandchildren, extended family, friends and neighbors. If someone in your family or friend circle has a developmental difference, you may be wondering how to ensure they feel comfortable, welcomed, included, and celebrated during the holidays. Here are a few helpful tips and thoughtful adjustments you can make that make a big difference—and benefit everyone.

CREATE A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

People with developmental differences, such as autism or Down syndrome, may experience sensory sensitivities. Loud music, crowded rooms, flashing lights, or unfamiliar routines can sometimes be overwhelming. Consider offering a quiet room where anyone can take a break if needed. Keeping things calm and predictable can go a long way in helping everyone enjoy the celebration.

MAINTAIN ROUTINES WHERE POSSIBLE

The holidays often bring changes in schedule, which can be stressful for anyone, and especially for those who rely on routine. Try to keep meals and activities around the same times as usual. If you're hosting,

check with caregivers or parents in advance to help understand the person's preferences or needs.

ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION

Everyone enjoys feeling useful and included. Invite people to help set the table, hand out napkins, stir the cookie batter, or choose a holiday song to play. Tailor the activity to their ability and interest, and celebrate their contributions. Also remember, some individuals may have difficulty understanding abstract language or fast-paced conversation. Speak slowly, use simple phrases, and be patient. Eye contact and smiles can go a long way. Ask questions directly and allow time for a response.

RESPECT INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Not everyone shows joy or excitement in the same way. A child or adult with a developmental difference may not respond to gifts or greetings as expected. That's okay. Appreciate their presence, and avoid putting pressure on them to act a certain way.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

If you're unsure about how to include or support someone with a disability, it's okay to ask. Parents, caregivers, or the individuals themselves (if they're able) are usually happy to share what works best.



You don't have to leave home for world-class care.

Our personalized in-home care services empower your family to live life with peace of mind.



home instead.

(330) 576-6800 | homeinstead.com/181



License #0666HIN
Each Home Instead® office is an independently owned and operated franchise of Home Instead, Inc., an Honor company. © 2024 Home Instead, Inc.

- Helping People Succeed in Our Community -



Helping with everything from early intervention and education opportunities for children to employment and community inclusive living for adults.



330-725-7751 | www.mcbdd.org

The holidays are about love, inclusion, and togetherness. Including people with developmental differences doesn't just help them—it helps everyone. By showing a little patience, flexibility, and understanding, you can make your celebrations truly joyful for everyone who attends—no matter their age or ability.

For more information about ways to help people with developmental disabilities enjoy more community inclusion opportunities during the holidays, visit the Medina County Board of DD website at www.mcbdd.org or call 330-725-7751.

Protecting Your Social Security Payout

To handle payments for a disabled senior, it's not enough to put powers of attorney, medical directives or guardianship arrangements in place.



By: **CLAUS MEYER**, Certified Financial Planner,TM Retirement Income Certified ProfessionalTM with Raymond James

RAYMOND JAMES



CLAUS MEYER

One in three seniors will die with dementia.¹ It's a sobering statistic, and when you consider it alongside increasing longevity, it's easy to see why planning for the potential impact of diminished capacity on your or a loved one's future finances is critical.

An estimated 6.5 million Americans ages 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's, and more than 11 million Americans are providing unpaid care for someone struggling with dementia.¹ Numbers like these prove that planning for the possibility of long-term care and considering who will make decisions if you can't is not simply smart, it is necessary. And that planning now – before you have the need or are unable to share your wishes – is essential.

PROTECTING YOURSELF

When it comes to handling Social Security payments for a disabled senior, establishing powers of attorney, medical directives or guardianship arrangements may not be enough. The Social Security Administration (SSA) requires a special designation known as representative payee.

A representative payee is someone who acts on behalf

of another person who is incapable of representing themselves and is responsible for directing payouts exclusively to meet a beneficiary's needs. The SSA may determine that an individual is incapable of managing or directing someone else to manage his or her benefits and would then appoint a representative payee. Family members may also consult the SSA if they believe their family member necessitates a representative payee. Generally, a family member or friend serves as representative payee. If friends or family are not able to serve as payees, the SSA will look for qualified organizations to be representative payees.

The SSA requires that all legally incompetent adults and most minor children (a disabled child or young adult entitled to Supplemental Security Income, for example) have a representative payee. In most cases, the person in this role cannot be paid for the work they do on behalf of the

incapacitated person. And the SSA requires them to keep careful records.

A critical thing to keep in mind about the responsibilities of acting as a representative payee is that the permissions that accompany the role do not extend to other facets of your affairs. Making medical decisions or signing legal documents on your behalf will still require that someone be granted powers of attorney or guardianship.

PROTECTING A LOVED ONE

If you assume the role of representative payee, the SSA offers a range of resources via ssa.gov, including a series of training videos, a downloadable guide and a frequently asked questions page. The process will likely require a trip to a Social Security office and a completed SSA-11 form explaining why the beneficiary needs assistance and why they have selected you for the job. Recall, too, that this designation will be in addition to any other legal or medical role you might be playing for your loved one. It's one piece of the larger whole that, with forethought and planning, can help ensure your loved one's – or your own – future is secure.

RAYMOND JAMES

Investing involves risk, and you may incur a profit or loss regardless of strategy selected. Raymond James financial advisors do not render advice on tax matters. You should discuss any tax matters with the appropriate professional. Every investor's situation is unique, and you should consider your investment goals, risk tolerance and time horizon before making any investment or withdrawal decision. The cost and availability of Long Term Care insurance depend on factors such as age, health, and the type and amount of insurance purchased. Guarantees are based on the claims paying ability of the insurance company.

Raymond James financial advisors do not provide legal, or tax advice. You should consult your legal and/or tax advisors before making any financial decisions. There is no assurance any investment strategy will meet its goals or be profitable. Investing involves risk, and investors may incur a profit or a loss. Withdrawals from tax-deferred accounts may be subject to income taxes, and prior to age 59 1/2 a 10% federal penalty tax may apply. Asset allocation and diversification do not guarantee a profit nor protect against a loss. Raymond James is not affiliated with Janus Henderson Investors and Fidelity.

¹ Alzheimer's Association, "2022 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures"

COMPLETE
COMPASSIONATE
care

Skilled Nursing & Rehab
Alzheimer's & Dementia Care

Call 330.483.3131 to schedule a personal tour.



2400 Columbia Rd.
Medina, OH 44256
LifeCareCenterOfMedina.com



★ HANDS HERO'S

**THANK
YOU**
FOR YOUR
SERVICE



★ SALUTING VIETNAM VET, JACK FORSTER ★



Jack Harold Forster, Jr. was born in 1948 in Cleveland at Navy Park. His family relocated to Parma Heights when he was about five or six years old. A recent conversation with him focused on how his service contributed to the development of his career.

Jack's father passed away when Jack was fifteen years old. Subsequently, he attended school during the mornings and maintained full-time employment at a grocery store. After four years, he enlisted in the Marine Corp and



headed to Paris Island on his 19th birthday in June of 1967. He underwent Infantry and guerrilla warfare training and by December 1st he arrived in Vietnam. Jack explains, "I served the Northern part of Vietnam, just below the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone). Our unit traveled all the time, and I spent most of my time in the jungles of Vietnam."

Jack's service ramped up during the Tet Offensive in January 1968, when North Vietnamese (Viet Cong) and South Vietnamese guerrilla forces

launched coordinated attacks on every U.S. base during Vietnam's traditional New Year holiday. Engaging a regiment of North Viet Cong that was four times as large as Jack's battalion had left his battalion depleted causing his troops to be either killed or wounded.

On May 17, 1968, his unit was going to take an enemy position near Khe Sanh but his unit's machine gun malfunctioned resulting in a lack of suppressive fire to protect his unit. Jack explains, "I told the guy on my right (I was on the far-left flank) to cover my front. Within a couple of seconds, I heard him take a shot and about 20 feet in front of me he dropped a Viet Cong enemy soldier, and we hit the deck. The next thing I know I had multiple Chicom grenades coming at me." It knocked Jack out, causing wounds to his hip and leg and severely injured his foot. A corpsman pulled him into a bomb crater until he was medevacked out. Jack spent two months in



Guam recuperating, however his injuries ensured that he would not be able to function in combat.

Returning to the United States, Jack continued his recovery as an outpatient at Bethesda Hospital. It was there that he married his wife, Kathleen, whom he had met during high school and dated since he was sixteen and she was fifteen. He served for about another year at

Camp Lejeune then went into the civilian workforce.

Jack realized factory work was not his calling, so he studied math and computers, earning a college degree in Computer Science and Management. He started at Key Bank in 1971 and worked for several companies until retiring in 2009. Just some of

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



Jack's career highlights include:

- Consulting for British Petroleum.

- Senior Computer Analyst for Arthur Young.

- Built a fully automated warehouse system for Pioneer Standard Electronics, reducing 27 warehouses down to one.

- While working for Scientific Application International Corporation, Jack headed up the Y2K project for British Petroleum and then traveled to Venezuela to work with Petróleos de Venezuela's Y2K Project. The project was estimated at \$120 million and required consolidation of 13 Oil Companies in to one. The project finished \$10 million under budget with zero Y2K glitches.

Jack attributes his career success to the motivation and work ethic gained from military service. His commitment to serving others continued beyond retirement. Jack continues to contribute actively as a volunteer within the community. Annually, Jack volunteers to work with high school boys through the American Legion Boys State. This comprehensive, seven-day program offers top high school juniors a unique, hands-on experience in how government works. He is also very active with Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), helping to build access ramps and providing wheelchairs for Veterans, among other things.

When advising young people about military service, Jack points out that, "the military offers many careers. You can pursue medical, engineering, electronics and many other fields. People look at the military as only being fighting soldiers. The reality is, for every combat soldier there are 10-15 soldiers supporting them. The military gives you an ability to work with a team and understand how camaraderie and dedication can be focused on your career and life. You come out much more motivated no matter what career you choose."

Jack and Kathleen reside in Medina and have one son and two grandsons, for whom he expresses great pride.

Shotwell Gardens Opens to the Public



The amphitheater at Shotwell Gardens.

As part of its 60th anniversary celebration, Medina County Park District (MCPD) has opened a third brand new park area in 2025 built on land donated to the district in recent years.

Shotwell Gardens at Lake Medina opened Saturday, October 25. It was made possible through a generous donation of 25 acres by the Shotwell family. This new MCPD site, located at 4581 Foote Road in Medina Township, at the corner of Weymouth (State Route 3) and Foote roads, offers visitors another way to enjoy Lake Medina. It features accessible paved trails, two garden ponds, a small amphitheater, restroom, interactive outdoor musical instruments, swinging benches, native gardens, a bike repair station, and 45 parking spaces.

"Countless individuals have commented on how quickly we've transformed this property into something special,"

MCPD Director Nathan Epink said. "That's a testament to our planning department and our contractors. It's been amazing to watch it come together since Labor Day."

Design and construction services were completed by Davey Resource Group and Marks Construction. JTS Landscaping built the bridge between the two garden ponds. Snider Recreation provided and installed the musical instruments. Stone for the amphitheater was purchased from Cleveland Quarries. Northwoods Cabin Company constructed the shade structures at the amphitheater. MCPD staff installed the amphitheater's front porch-style benches and the bike repair station.

Funding for Shotwell Gardens has been partially provided by a state capital grant. The amphitheater and swinging benches were funded by

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

BAUER

FUNERAL HOME

2089 Columbia Road • Valley City
www.BauerFuneralHome1943.com

[SINCE 1943]

Pre-Planning | Traditional Services | Cremation
Urns & Caskets | Military Honors | Grief Support

330-483-3300 • Mary Ann Bauer / Charles Bauer - Funeral Directors

How do You Want to Leave Your Money Behind?

By: MARIE EDMONDS,
Counselor at Law

Although we are living longer and spending more time in retirement, many of us want to leave an inheritance for our children or grandchildren. Although the amount we will be able to leave them can vary greatly, even a small amount can be meaningful. It can help set up a child, or grandchild, for long-term financial success, if they are ready to handle it, which may not be the case.

Most of us also do not discuss wealth transfers with our children to ensure that they are prepared for an inheritance. Parents (and grandparents) need to decide how they want to pass along their assets to their beneficiaries so they can plan this gift in a way that fits their goals and their abilities to manage their inheritance. This wealth transfer process involves deciding whether to leave our children their inheritance outright or in a more “controlled” manner.

So, what should it be? According to a June 2024 survey published in USA Today, 76% of Americans receiving an inheritance say they plan to save it or invest it, 40% say they will pay off debt with this money, and 21% want to leave this money to their children.

Of course, the “easiest” way to transfer your wealth is by outright distribution to your beneficiaries. It’s fast, simple and less costly than other methods. No strings are attached usually. Your beneficiaries can do whatever they want with the money.

However, that may not be the best method for your beneficiaries, depending on their individual

circumstances. If someone is truly unable to handle an inheritance, the money you leave them may not really solve their financial problems. In fact, it could worsen them. Although they may say they will budget and invest it, it may in fact be used on impulse purchases, risky investments or financial scams.

Another downside to outright distributions is exposing your beneficiary’s inheritance to their creditors. Although they may wish to use the money to pay off their debt, they should be able to do that in a manner of their choosing.

If any of your beneficiaries are minors, or legally incapacitated, they cannot legally receive an outright distribution, which means a resulting guardianship.

As you can see from just these few examples, whether outright distribution makes sense depends entirely on your beneficiaries’ personal circumstances. Some children are perfectly capable of handling their inheritance, while others may not be for any number of reasons. You may need to protect your children from their own bad habits.

When you are in the process of deciding what method of distribution is best for your children or grandchildren – an outright distribution or a distribution in trust – it may help to know their current financial situation and their own short and long-term financial goals. Gathering this knowledge begins with a family discussion about wealth transfer. You will be glad you did it.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony at Shotwell Gardens.

Friends of Medina County Parks, Inc. through its endowment fund. The Medina Sunrise Rotary Club awarded its 2025 Impact Grant to MCPD and Friends to underwrite the cost of the musical instruments and bike repair station. The Davey Tree Expert Company, through its Birdies ‘Fore’ Trees partnership with The Kaulig Companies Championship, paid for and planted 50 trees at Shotwell Gardens in the week leading up to the site’s opening. Davey Tree will plant an additional 36 trees at a later date. Sponsors of the native gardens include Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston and First Financial Bank. Additional support was received by Akron Children’s and Ravago. Sponsorships are still available - contact Natalie Peacock at Medina County Park District at **330-722-9364**.

Becky Shotwell reflected on her family’s longtime connection with the park district, noting that it has provided places for hikes, company picnics, meetings, celebrations, education, and more over the years. “We were honored to donate the property and feel fortunate to have a park district with the vision and leadership to preserve land and expand services for future generations,” she added.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Shotwells, park commissioners, MCPD staff, elected officials, and contractors took place on Friday, October 24.

Previous openings on donated land in 2025 include the Zachary A. Weber Riverside Park in Valley City (July 4) and Riven-dell Nature Preserve in Westfield Center and Westfield Township (September 20).



EDMONDS SORGEN

COUNSELORS AT LAW

WILLS | TRUSTS | ESTATES | ELDER LAW

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

Our team spends quality time with every client inquiring about family dynamics and listening to clients’ concerns. We strive to explain difficult concepts in understandable terms and to make ourselves accessible to answer questions. It is our mission to provide premium estate plans that accomplish appropriate personal goals for our clients and their loved ones.



Marie Edmonds



Ashley Sorgen

807 EAST WASHINGTON STREET | SUITE 200 | MEDINA
PH: 330.725.5297 | FAX: 330.722.5932
Marie@MarieEdmonds.com | Ashley@MarieEdmonds.com

Recognized as one of the
best nursing homes 5 years straight



CARECORE

AT WILLOWOOD

Our dedicated professionals work together to deliver excellence in skilled nursing care in a comfortable atmosphere designed to make residents and their family members feel at home.

BEST

NURSING HOMES

U.S. News

SHORT-TERM REHABILITATION

2025



1186 HADCOCK ROAD
BRUNSWICK / 330-225-3156

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
MAY 31, 2026

The Ohio Department of Development and Medina County Senior & Adult Services (MCSAS) want to remind older Ohioans that assistance is available to help with their home energy bills. The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps Ohioans at or below 175% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of up to seven members and 60% of State Median Income for a household of eight or more members to pay their heating bills.

Applied directly to the customer's utility or bulk fuel bill, the benefit can help manage heating costs. Older Ohioans may go to their local Area Agency on Aging office for help with assembling the required documents and completing their HEAP application. They may also visit www.energyhelp.ohio.gov to apply online or to download a copy of the application.

When applying, individuals need to have copies of the following documents:

- Most recent utility bills.
- A list of all household members (including birth dates and Social Security numbers).
- Proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members (12 months for certain income types).
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members.
- Proof of disability (if applicable).

HEAP benefits are applied to an individual's energy bill after Jan. 1. Applications for the HEAP program must be received by May 31, 2026. For more information or assistance with applying for a HEAP benefit, contact MCSAS at 330-723-9514.

To be connected to your local Energy Assistance Provider, call (800) 282-0880 (hearing impaired clients may dial 711 for assistance) or visit www.energyhelp.ohio.gov.

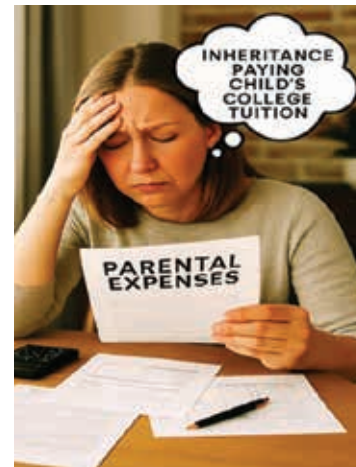
The Adult Child POA Dilemma Balancing Parental Finances and Future Inheritance

By: SHERRY CASSILY, Archangels Specialty Home Care

As populations age and families navigate the complexities of later life, more adults are called upon to serve as Power of Attorney (POA) for aging parents. This responsibility presents a unique dilemma: how to ethically manage a parent's finances, ensuring their well-being and legal rights, while also contending with the potential impact on one's own future inheritance. The intersection of duty, trust, and self-interest creates a challenging landscape that requires clarity, empathy, and careful judgment.



SHERRY CASSILY



UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

A Power of Attorney is a legal document granting someone authority to manage another person's financial or health-related affairs. In the context of aging parents, an adult child may be appointed to oversee bank accounts, pay bills, manage investments, and make important financial decisions if their parent becomes incapacitated. This role is rooted in trust—a parent entrusts their child to act in their best interests, even when those interests may conflict with the child's personal desires or expectations.

THE CARE VERSUS INHERITANCE DILEMMA

At the heart of the POA dilemma there is a tension between the fiduciary duty to act solely for the benefit of the parent and the natural awareness that every dollar spent on care could reduce the size of a future inheritance. For some, fears about long-term care costs, assisted living, or medical expenses can be overwhelming, especially when family wealth is modest or declining. The emotional

weight of watching a parent's assets diminish, coupled with questions about what will ultimately be left behind, can lead to anxiety and, in some cases, conflict among siblings.

OPEN COMMUNICATION AND ADVANCE PLANNING

To avoid pitfalls, families should prioritize open conversations about finances, care expectations, and inheritance wishes long before a crisis arises. Clear documentation and regular reporting can help maintain transparency, minimize misunderstandings, and ensure that fiduciary duties are upheld. In some cases, involving a neutral third party such as a financial advisor or elder law attorney can provide added safeguards and peace of mind.

PROTECTING RELATIONSHIPS AND LEGACIES

Ultimately, the greatest legacy a POA can protect is the trust and harmony within a family. By acting with honesty, compassion, and respect for their parent's wishes, adult children can honor both the letter and the spirit of their role. In the delicate balance between managing a parent's funds and considering future inheritance, integrity must remain the guiding principle.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND LEGAL BOUNDARIES

Legally, the agent under a POA must always act in the best interests of the parent, not themselves or other potential heirs. This means ensuring that parents have access to the resources and quality of life they need, even if it means there will be little or nothing left to inherit. Using parental assets to "protect"



Home Care Services by Angels on Earth

We provide personal support care for people who are elderly, ill or need help with daily tasks. Our duty is to make sure our clients are comfortable, safe, and enjoy emotional and physical well-being.

Valley City, OH. 44280
Phone: 833.ARCHCARE (272-4227)
wecare@archangelshomecare.com
Website: archangelshomecare.com

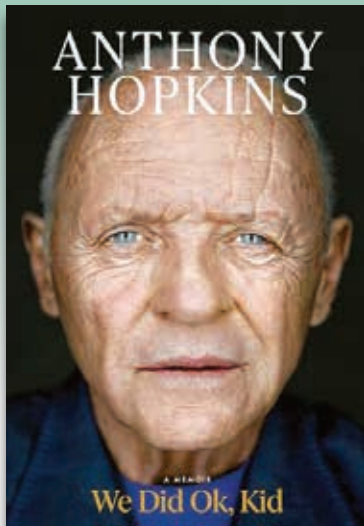


LIBRARY NEWS

Read it and Reap!

HOLIDAY READING Some Titles to Check Out!

From: MARY OLSON, Readers' Advisory Librarian



Accessibility Services at MCDL

A major focus of Medina County District Library's three-year Strategic Plan (2023 – 2025) was to make our libraries more welcoming and accessible to patrons of all abilities. We worked with the Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities to review our facilities for ways to better serve patrons. MCDL has a new awareness, a suite of services, and an ongoing desire to serve patrons' needs at every level. Here's a sampling of what is now offered.

MEMORY CARE

Memory Café Events

Buckeye Library offers fun activities, chances to socialize, and resources to those living with memory loss and their care partners. Upcoming schedule at mcdl.info/MemoryCafe

READING-2-CONNECT

These books are modified to compensate for a reader's visual or cognitive deficits while maintaining the integrity of the writing. They help aging adults remember, express themselves, and connect with others. Available at all MCDL locations.

MEMORY KITS

■ Stay Sharp Kits are for early to middle stages of memory loss and contain books and activities focused on a theme.

■ Memory Care Kits are for middle to later stages of memory loss. They contain picture books, a music CD, and activities focused on a theme as well as books and self-care information for caregivers. Available at all MCDL locations.

DEMENTIA INCLUSIVE LIBRARY

MCDL is committed to providing dementia-inclusive resources to allow for continued participation in library activities, and resources for maintaining the skills and interests of all involved in the dementia-health experience. Medina County is a member of the Dementia Friendly America® network.

330-725-0588
www.mcdl.info

Audio-Visual Needs

MAGNIFIER KITS

Decide what works best for you with a kit full of quality reading magnifiers. Kits check out for two weeks and include multiple styles and magnification strengths. View contents and reserve a kit online or by calling 330-723-2463.

TALKING BOOK PROGRAM

Free recorded books, magazines, and playback equipment are available by mail to eligible Ohio residents who are blind, visually impaired, physically disabled, or reading disabled. Download the application online or call 330-722-2590 to have a library staff member assist.

HEARING LOOP

This technology sends the speaker's voice from the microphone directly to hearing assistive devices, eliminating ambient noise. It works with cochlear implants and hearing aids equipped with a T-coil. Medina Library is equipped with Hearing Loops in Community Rooms A and B, the Medina Room, and at the Customer Service and Reference Desks. Reserve a meeting room at mcdl.info/MeetingRoom.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN OUR LIBRARIES

All MCDL locations offer a bin of noise canceling headphones for use at any time. They don't need to be checked out, just use them as needed. Our public computers offer stations with large print keyboards and a trackball mouse.



Magnifier Kit

Reserve a Meeting Room



Meeting Rooms at MCDL

can accommodate a variety of activities, from large events to small meetings.

mcdl.info/MeetingRoom

