



# Helping HANDS

SEPT / OCT 2023

A Publication of the HANDS Foundation

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

## Contessa's On The Lake and the HANDS Foundation Team Up To Help Seniors.



Prepared meals ready for distribution.

Connie & Rich Cieker are a husband-and-wife team filled with immense pride for their community, with a never-ending devotion to supporting the seniors who reside in it.

up to become an executive chef for Giant Eagle.

Rich began his career in the food and beverage industry working for KFC at just fifteen years old, then he took a job in the deli at Giant Eagle. It was there that his passion for the culinary arts fully evolved, and through hard work and dedication he worked his way

Inspired a great deal by Rich's passion for the culinary arts, Connie & Rich always dreamed of opening a family-owned restaurant, and Connie was working at Lodi hospital with the owner of the building they would eventually take out a lease at, allowing them to fulfill those dreams. They opened Contessa's on August 8th, 2018, at 7362

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NON PROFIT  
ORG.  
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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

# INTRODUCING VENTILATOR & RESPIRATORY CARE



## Brunswick Pointe

SKILLED NURSING AND LONG-TERM CARE



*Private Rooms*

- Respiratory Therapist (RT) On-Site 7 Days a Week
- Chest Exams & Treatment Plans
- Full Blood & Lab Work with Adjusted Treatment as Needed
- Pulmonologist & Nurse Practitioner Evaluations
- Nurses Fully Trained in Ventilator Care
- Private Respiratory Care Rooms with Audible Alarms
- BiPap & CPAP Therapy
- Cough Assist with Chest Therapy
- Trilogy Non-Invasive



WE ACCEPT MEDICARE AND MOST MANAGED CARE PLANS



# Contessa's

*Thank You, Connie & Rich!*

» CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Lake Road in Chippewa Lake, Ohio. Contessa means “queen” in Italian, named fondly for Connie, as Rich says, “she’s the queen of the house.” Ever since opening day, Connie, Rich, and their six children have continued to spend time together as a family while serving their community.

Two years after opening Contessa’s, Chrissy Waller, a lifelong resident of Chippewa Lake and the Executive Director of Plum Creek Assisted Living, approached the Ciekers with an idea that would help bring their desire to serve the community to new heights. The idea was Senior Meals, which is a program that would help provide ready-to-eat meals, once every three months, to seniors in need within the community, all funded by the Hands Foundation. Connie immediately fell in love with the idea and decided that the need for this benevolent service was so great that it should be provided every month instead. Connie ensures that Contessa’s sponsors the funding for the other eight months that the Hands Foundation does not by reserving all the tips that they receive for the program.

In addition to sponsoring the Senior Meals program for over 300 seniors eight months out of each year, Contessa’s also extends their goodwill to the community by funding an annual ready-to-eat Thanksgiving Meal as well. The Thanksgiving Meal is provided not only to seniors in need throughout the community, but also to all the employees working the Thanksgiving shifts at the Medina County Sheriff’s Department and the Lodi Hospital, as well as at the Lafayette, Westfield, Lodi, and Seville Fire Departments.



**In addition to sponsoring the senior meals program, Contessa’s also extends their goodwill to the community by funding an annual ready-to-eat Thanksgiving meal as well.**



Kim Valco of Western Reserve Masonic Community with Devon Diello from Carecore at Willowood distributing bagged meals to seniors.

## HANDS FOUNDATION

Mailing ..... P.O. Box 868 • Brunswick, OH 44212  
 Physical . 4274 Manhattan Ave. • Brunswick, OH 44212  
 Office Hours.....Tues, Wed, Thurs, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Office ..... 330-225-4242  
 Fax ..... 330-952-2018  
 Web ..... HANDS-Foundation.org  
 Email ..... OfficeHandsFound@aol.com

## CIRCULATION

Direct mail circulation to Medina County households with additional area distribution throughout Medina County. Published six times a year (bi-monthly)  
*January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, November/December*

## ABOUT THE HANDS FOUNDATION AND HELPING HANDS NEWSPAPER

The HANDS Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping and improving the lives of senior citizens throughout Medina County. Helping HANDS is a publication of the HANDS Foundation and is a go-to resource for Medina County seniors and their families.

The HANDS Foundation reserves the right to edit information published in Helping HANDS. Articles published in Helping HANDS are from independent article submitters and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or beliefs of the HANDS Foundation.

## BOARD MEMBERS/STAFF

Kimberly Valco, Grant Crabbs, Angela Coleman, Chand Manglani, Nancy Hassler, Danielle Shaffstall, Devon Duncan (Diello)

## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Judge James Kimbler, Mayor Dennis Hanwell, Joe Hanna, Dan Ihrig (LNHA), Pete Rademacher

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 Phone: .....330-410-5497  
 Email: .....Gramler@ZoomInternet.net

Ad & Article Deadline for NOV/DEC Issue: 10/16/23

## GET ON OUR MAILING LIST

If you would like to get on our mailing list, please contact Liz Murphy at the HANDS Foundation office at: 330-225-4242 or by email at: OfficeHandsFound@aol.com

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The immense compassion that Contessa's has for the community they call home doesn't stop there. Every year from August 7th through August 21st they collect school supplies for students at Cloverleaf Schools, offering free small pizzas for any school supply donation, and free large pizzas for every backpack donation. Each year, they also collect cookies and candy to include in goodie bags that they give along with each of the Senior Meals they provide during the Christmas season, as well as toys and other donations for local families in need, and Contessa's also provides free chicken dinners every year on Veteran's Day to for all veterans. During COVID lockdowns in the summer of 2020, they created a 1-year program that provided children with free, hot cooked lunches and weekender bags to help shoulder the burden that COVID put on parents within the community. The children's meals were also partially funded by Denzel Ward of the Cleveland Browns.

We would like you to join Contessa's commitment to serving the community, and there are many ways you can help! They accept heavy-duty 3-compartment plastic to-go containers and monetary donations year-round for the Senior Meal program. For their annual Thanksgiving Meal, they accept food donations such as turkeys (the bigger the better!), bread & rolls, corn, pumpkin pies, instant mashed potatoes, and Styrofoam 3-compartment to-go boxes, in addition to monetary donations. During the holiday season they also accept bagged candy and cookies for the goodie bags they provide with the Christmas Senior Meals, in addition to toys and a wide variety of other donations for local families in need.

**If you would like to learn more about how you can help, you can reach out to Contessa's via their Facebook page or by calling the restaurant at 330-441-0449.**



Connie Cieker with HANDS Foundation Executive Director, Chrissy Waller, Vice President, Brandi Provoznik and Executive Assistant, Liz Murphy.

# Personalized Living, Comfort & Wellness.



Each resident at Plum Creek Senior Assisted Living Community will receive dignified, compassionate assistance that is meant not only to help their quality of life, but to enrich it.

- Licensed Nurse on Duty 24/7
- Medication Management
- Full-Service Salon & Barber Shop
- Full Housekeeping & Laundry
- Chapel Services & Library
- Variety of Social Activities
- Private Dining Room
- Supportive Services

**Call today to schedule your personal tour**

891 Marks Road | Brunswick | 330.220.4900  
[www.PlumCreekSeniorLiving.com](http://www.PlumCreekSeniorLiving.com)



All money raised will be donated to the HANDS Foundation-The HANDS Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Medina County Seniors!



Any group, business or organization is invited to form a team of 4 and take part! Bring your co-workers and friends to cheer you on!

# SENIOR CARE FEUD

RSVP TO CHRISSY AT  
[CHRISSY@PLUMCREEKSENIORLIVING.COM](mailto:CHRISSY@PLUMCREEKSENIORLIVING.COM)

LIKE FAMILY FEUD-BUT MORE FUN!  
 Appetizers-Desserts-Wine-Beer

Tuesday  
**OCTOBER**



**17**

FROM 5PM - 7PM

EVENT WILL BE HELD AT  
 WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY  
 4931 NETTLETON RD.  
 MEDINA, OHIO 44256

EVENT WILL BE HELD IN THE  
 NEW GORGEOUS COMMUNITY ROOM

\$50.00 Per Team  
 \$10.00 Per Additional  
 Spectator

Awards (and bragging rights) for Most Points,  
 Best Dressed & Loudest Cheering Section!

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!



**HAPPY 65th,**  
 Tom & Elaine!

Wadsworth residents, Tom and Elaine Rospert, celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on Wednesday, August 16. They celebrated with some tropical fun at the Soprema Senior Center's Hawaiian Luau a few days before. Elaine has been volunteering to help seniors with their Medicare plans at the Soprema Senior Center as an OSHIIP trained volunteer for over 15 years!



**HAPPY 60th,**  
 Jim & Pat!

Medina residents, Jim and Pat Ramler, will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on October 12. Their kids planned a fabulous celebration and gathering of friends and relatives at Blue Heron Brewery and Event Center on July 2nd. Looking forward to the 70th celebration!!



Devon Diello



# PURSES WITH A PURPOSE



Kimberly Valco

*Tying the Community Together to Benefit Seniors*

**Purses with a Purpose was created to boost financial funding for senior organizations within Medina County in a unique way. The luxury purse auction idea stemmed from Devon and Kimberly’s love of fashion, and blossomed into a bustling event sprinkled with pink glitter and excitement for the possibilities it will provide.**

**Built solely on the generosity of the community through monetary donations, new and gently used purse and accessory donations, and a multitude of various services provided at low or no cost, the annual Purses with a Purpose event is able to maximize the funding given to the selected senior organization of the year.**

**The goal of Purses with a Purpose is to continue to promote and support the senior community of Medina County and the organizations that serve them for many years to come.**

**The 2024 Annual  
Purses with a Purpose Event  
will benefit The HANDS Foundation**



**February 6th, 2024 • 4:30-7:30pm**  
Western Reserve Masonic Community  
4931 Nettleton Road, Medina, Ohio

**\$25 per ticket • Cash or Check Payable to The HANDS Foundation**  
**No Tickets Sold At The Door • Contact Devon Diello for Ticket Information • 330.635.7117**

*Presented By*



**CARECORE**  
AT WILLOWOOD



**WESTERN RESERVE**  
MASONIC COMMUNITY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <h1 style="margin: 0;">September 2023</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Office for Older Adults www.medinaco.org</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BILLIARD TABLES OPEN ALL DAY ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p> <p style="margin: 0;">* = FEE REQUIRED Z = ZOOM CLASS</p>				
<p><b>4</b></p>  <p><b>LABOR DAY</b></p> <p>CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 9:00 Lilly's Art Class 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Life Care 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - "Hydration" Angel's Auction 11:30 Lunch - Life Care 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:15 Parkinson's Support Grp. 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - z - OOA 9:30 Ener Chi w/Lisa - Z 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Program: "How to get those Medicare calls to stop" KAZ 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Grief Support Group</p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1:30 DIAL Class: Intro to Chromebooks 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 One-on-One Tech Help</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - TLC Insurance 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - "The Mind Challenge" 11:30 Lunch - Avenue 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1-3 Ask an Attorney</p>	<p><b>14 PRESQUE ISLE TRIP</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 12:30 Bunco 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Brookdale Camelot 9:30 Ener Chi w/Lisa - Z 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 "Diabetes &amp; Your Eyes" Dr. Polizzi 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 12:15 Movie: Champions 1:00 Mahjong 1:30 DIAL Class: Intro to Email 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>19 GERVASI WINERY TRIP</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 9:00 AARP Driving Class* 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tues Windows 11</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Autumnwood 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program: 10 Warnings Signs of Alzheimer's Disease* Alzheimer's Assn. 11:30 Lunch: Medina Center 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1:00 Friends n Focus</p>	<p><b>21 9:00 BP Screen.-Cleve Clinic</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 Katie's Drawing Class 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 1:00 Jammers Jam Session 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Jim Richison Insurance 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Program: TBD 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle</p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1:30 DIAL Class: Internet Basics &amp; Online Safety 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tues Computer Ling</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Falling Waters 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program: "Medicare: What you need to know for 2024" 11:30 Lunch: Brookdale South 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginner's Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Echelon 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program: "New Hearing Aid Tech &amp; The Loop" Dr. Powers 11:30 Hearing Aid Class 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle</p>

SEPTEMBER

# OFFICE OF EVENTS

# CALENDAR

# MEDINA

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1:30 DIAL Class: Content Streaming 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 9:00 Lilly's Art Class* 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Life Care 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program: Local Author Anne Sauter-Leib 11:30 Lunch - Life Care 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginner's Watercolor 1:00 Parkinson's Support 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>  <p><b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED OKTOBERFEST @ MOOSE LODGE</b></p>
<p><b>9</b></p>  <p><b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED COLUMBUS DAY</b></p>	<p><b>10 SENECA TRIP</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook</p>	<p><b>11 SENECA TRIP</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - TLC Insurance 10:00 Painting 10:45 Program: Feel Good Bingo 11:30 Lunch - Avenue 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1:00 Ask an Attorney</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 12:30 Bunco 1:00 Beginner's Watercolor 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo-Z - Broadway Creek 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program: Live Theater: "Blue Geranium" 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle</p>
<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex* 11:30 Lunch* 12:30 Movie: Oppenheimer 1:00 Mahjong 1:30 DIAL Class: Email 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>17 FALLINGWATER TRIP</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 One-on-One Tech with Pleri</p>	<p><b>18 9:30 Bingo - Z - Autumnwood</b></p> <p>10:00 Painting 10:30 Program: "Transitioning to a smaller home" by Jessica Hone 11:30 Lunch: Medina Center 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1:00 Friends n Focus</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:00 BP Screening-Cleve Clinic 9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 10:00 Katie's Drawing Class 1:00 Beginner's Watercolor 1:00 Jammers Jam Session 2:30 BalloFlex*</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Willowood 9:30 Ener Chi w/Lisa - Z 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Program: "Haunted Medina" Brandon Massulo 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle</p>
<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1:30 DIAL Class: Internet Basics &amp; Online Safety 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Class: iPhone/iPad Basics</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Falling Waters 10:00 Painting 11:00 Program: "Paranormal: Are you a believer?" 11:30 Lunch - Brookdale South 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9 &amp; 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 &amp; 12:30 Hand &amp; Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginner's Watercolor 2:30 BalloFlex*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* = FEE REQUIRED Z = ZOOM CLASS</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:30 Bingo - Z - Richison Ins. 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Program - <b>HALLOWEEN PARTY</b> 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle</p>
<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 3:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Class: iPhone/iPad Apps</p>	<p><b>October 2023</b></p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Office for Older Adults www.medinaco.org</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BILLIARD TABLES OPEN ALL DAY ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p>		

OCTOBER

## OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS AND SENIOR CENTER

**MEDINA**


246 Northland Drive  
330-723-9514 • 844-722-3800  
www.mcooa.org



**LAURA TOTH**  
LIToth@medinaco.org

All Senior Center events are listed on the calendar day in which they occur. Any questions about specific events or other details can be directed to the Senior Center.

SOPREMA Senior Center & Cafe  
**September 2023**  
 Center Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4 pm  
 Café Hours: Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 2 pm  
 330-335-1513 · SSC@WadsworthCity.Org · 617 School Drive · Wadsworth, OH 44281


MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT IN THESE GREAT PROGRAMS *PROGRAMS MARKED WITH * ARE IN PERSON AND ZOOM (HYBRID).	JOIN THE WALKING CHALLENGE TODAY! SAVE THE DATE! SENIOR & CAREGIVER EXPO FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH	See our newsletter for a full list of programs and descriptions, available on our website: <a href="http://www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter">www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter</a>		Walking Challenge Kick Off 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy - by RSVP 2:00
Center & Café Closed for Holiday 	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press. Checks 12:00 Euchre 1:00 General Caregivers* 12:15	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Baseball Watch Party 1:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Blind Truth 1:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Mah Jong 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers* 1:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo 10:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy - by RSVP 2:00
A Matter of Balance 10:00 Pinochle 10:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Medicare 101 Hybrid* 3:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Crafts/Puzzles w/ Windfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Table Talk with Dr. Patel* 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Tech Class - Facebook 2:00	Summa Health Chat* 10:00 Gentle Exercise 11:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Aging Gracefully w/ Brookdale* 2:00 Storytime w/ Wade (Zoom) 3:30	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Mah Jong 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Stop the BLEED® 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Seniors w/ Srs Lunchn 11:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00	Fall Festival & Talent Show 12:00 Bingo 10:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy - by RSVP 2:00
A Matter of Balance 10:00 Pinochle 10:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Sept. Birthday Party 1:00 Local Author Talk 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press. Checks 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Parkinson's Support* 12:15 Ask an Attorney - by appt. 1:00 Dr. Dan Health Chat 2:30	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Healthy Living w/Humana* 1:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Mah Jong 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Virtual Bingo (Zoom) 1:00 County Assistance-by appt 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy - by RSVP 2:00 Soprema Café open today for Lunch only.
A Matter of Balance 10:00 Pinochle 10:00 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Bunco 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00 Stop the BLEED® 1:30	Line Dancing 9:00 Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:00 Tech Tuesday 2:00 - 4:00 Cooking w/ Bev 2:30	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Empower Renal Support 1:00 Financial Wellness 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Mah Jong 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 Grief Support 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy - by RSVP 2:00 Energy Efficiency & Utility Assistance 2:00

**SEPTEMBER**  
**CALENDAR**  
**OF EVENTS**  
**WADSWORTH**

SOPREMA Senior Center & Cafe  
**October 2023**  
 Center Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4 pm  
 Café Hours: Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 2 pm  
 330-335-1513 · SSC@WadsworthCity.Org · 617 School Drive · Wadsworth, OH 44281

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pinochle 10:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press. Checks 12:00 Euchre 1:00	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Coffee w/ a Cop 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Blind Truth* 1:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Mah Jong 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers* 1:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy 2:00 Mindfulness 2:00
Pinochle 10:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Bunco 1:00 Medicare 101 Hybrid* 3:00 Soprema Café closed today	Line Dancing 9:00 Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Crafts/Puzzles w/Windfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Table Talk with Dr. Patel* 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Technology Class 2:00	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Aging Gracefully w/ Brookdale* 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Mah Jong 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Seniors w/ Srs Lunchn 11:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00	Senior & Caregiver EXPO 10:00 - 1:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00
Pinochle 10:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Oct. Birthday Party 1:00 Glory Days/64 Browns 2:00	Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press. Checks 12:00 General & Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Ask an Attorney - by appt. 1:00 Euchre 1:00	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Medicare - by appt. 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Healthy Living w/Humana* 1:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Mah Jong 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Virtual Bingo (Zoom) 1:00 County Assistance-by appt 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy 2:00
Feel Good Bingo 10:00 Pinochle 10:00 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:30 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Bunco 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00 Aging vs. Dementia 2:30	Line Dancing 9:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat 11:00 Euchre 1:00 Tech Tuesday 2:00 Cooking w/ Bev 2:30	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Chess 11:00 Beginner Sign Lang. 11:30 Medicare - by appt. 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Pre Planning for Future 2:30	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Mah Jong 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Grief Recovery Class 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 Grief Support 3:00	Bingo 10:00 Flu Shots - by appt. 10:00 - 1:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Genealogy 2:00
Mind Challenge 10:00 Pinochle 10:00 Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00 Hearing Life Program 2:00	Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Euchre 1:00	PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT IN THESE GREAT PROGRAMS *PROGRAMS MARKED WITH AN * ARE IN PERSON AND ZOOM (HYBRID).	See our newsletter for a full list of programs and descriptions, available on our website: <a href="http://www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter">www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter</a>	

**SEPTEMBER**

**SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER & CAFE**  
**WADSWORTH**  
 617 School Drive  
 Wadsworth, OH 44281  
 330-335-1513  
  
 ssc@wadsworthcity.org

All Senior Center events are listed on the calendar day in which they occur. Any questions about specific events or other details can be directed to the Senior Center.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE				
<b>4</b>  <b>LABOR DAY</b> *USA* <b>CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY</b>	<b>5</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo-Crossroads	<b>6</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 10:00 Activity Council 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>7</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo-Altenheim	<b>1</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>11</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:30 Art Critique 10:00 SS Chair Yoga <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - HEARING LIFE CTR</b> 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>12</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo-The Avenue	<b>13</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>14 PRESQUE ISLE TRIP</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba <b>11:00 ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK SOCIAL</b> 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>8</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:00 Create a Better You! 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>18</b> 9:00 SS Classic 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - DR JOEL KELLER</b> Line Dance (Inter) 11:15 Cardio Dance 11:30 Mah Jongg	<b>19</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo-Westwood Place	<b>20</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 1:00 OOA Benefits 12:30 Knitters	<b>21</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 12:00 Ask an Attorney (by appointment only)	<b>15</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>25</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:15 BP Checks with SWG 10:00 SS Chair Yoga <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - KAZ COMPANY</b> Line Dance (Inter) 11:15 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>26</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo-The Avenue 2:30 Tech Tuesday	<b>27</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>28</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo-Spry Seniors	<b>22</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:00 Create a Better You! 12:30 Ladies Pinochle

OF EVENTS

# CALENDAR

# BRUNSWICK

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>2</b> 9:00 SS Classic 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - MY MEDICARE</b> Line Dance (Inter) 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>3</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo	<b>4</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 10:00 Activity Council 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>5</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo - Altenheim	<b>6</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle  <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED FOR MCOOA FALL FESTIVAL</b>
<b>9</b>  <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED COLUMBUS DAY</b>	<b>10 SENECA TRIP</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo - Spry Senior	<b>11 SENECA TRIP</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>12</b> 8:00 Cards 9:30 AARP Driver Course 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>13</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>PARKING LOT BINGO</b> 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:00 Create a Better You! 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>16</b> 9:00 SS Classic 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - CRITCHFIELD</b> Line Dance (Inter) 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>17</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo-Crossroads Hospice	<b>18</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 1:00 OOA Benefits 12:30 Knitters	<b>19</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>20</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>23</b> 9:00 SS Classic 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - MIND CHALLENGE</b> Line Dance (Inter) 11:15 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>24</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo	<b>25</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>26</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 1:00 Bingo	<b>27</b> 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:00 Create a Better You! 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>30</b> 9:00 SS Classic 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN - MC BOARD OF DD</b> Line Dance (Inter) 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>31</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Irish Dance 11:00 Zumba 11:00 <b>HALLOWEEN PARTY</b> <b>NO BINGO TODAY</b>	<b>October 2023</b> 		

OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS

**BRUNSWICK**

**BRUNSWICK REC CENTER**

3637 Center Road  
330-416-3680 • 330-273-8000  
[www.mcooa.org](http://www.mcooa.org)

**LAURA TOTH**  
LToth@medinaco.org

All Brunswick Rec Center activities are listed on the calendar day in which they occur. Any questions about specific events or other details can be directed to the Senior Center.

# OCTOBER

# FROM YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE



# OHIO'S OPERATING BUDGET



FROM LEFT: Commissioner Steve Hambley, Commissioner Colleen Swedyk, State Representative Sharon Ray, County Recorder Linda Hoffmann, Judge Kevin Dunn and Commissioner Aaron Harrison.

By: State Representative, SHARON RAY



**Sharon A. Ray**

State Representative  
House District 66



614-466-8140

Rep66@OhioHouse.gov

77 South High St., 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

One of the biggest responsibilities the Ohio Legislature has is create the State's Operating budget. The Operating budget is developed for the biennial (2-year period) that correlates with the two-year terms of the Ohio House of Representative members. Budget season is an intense whirlwind of activity as legislators review requests from Departments and Social Service agencies, receive input from citizens, advocates and industry professionals and spend a tremendous amount of time trying to determine the best use of the State's resources. The impact of inflation and increased labor costs was reflected in every allocation request.

The State of Ohio is statutorily required to pass a balanced budget by June 30th in odd numbered years. Unlike the federal government, no deficit spending is allowed.

While the budget is primarily a roadmap for state spending, policy decisions are included as well.

This budget included the allocation of the American Rescue Plan monies, which pushed the state budget to \$86 billion over the biennial period.

Some budget highlights include significant tax relief and reform provisions – unprecedented investments in education and continued support for economic development projects.

Income tax brackets flattened from three down to two with Ohioans earning less than \$26,050 paying no income tax, those earning up to \$100,000 will pay 2.75% and everyone earning more will pay 3.5%.

Commercial Activities Tax has been eliminated for 90% of businesses that pay it.

A sales tax holiday week has been proposed. Actual length and dates to be announced.

Provides for indexing the homestead exemption to inflation, ensuring that our seniors and disabled veterans are protected from increases in property taxes.

Allocated \$40 million dollars for a new healthy aging grant program that will help seniors stay in their homes.

A commitment to the Fair School Funding Act to keep our public school systems strong. Provides access for state school vouchers for non-public school education making the voucher program virtually universal. Allocates over \$300 million dollars for career-tech facilities to provide new opportunities for Ohio students to prepare for careers over a variety of fields.

Allocates \$16 million dollars over the biennium to enhance childcare infrastructure – aiming to improve the availability and quality of childcare across the state.

Invests \$750 million dollars in the All-Ohio Future Fund to benefit Ohio by preparing locations throughout the state for large scale development projects like Intel and Honda.

Invests \$500 million dollars to site redevelopment programs like brownfield remediation and building demolition that will revitalize unused or underutilized land creating new opportunities for businesses and job growth.

For more information regarding the budget – you can access it online at [www.legislature.ohio.gov](http://www.legislature.ohio.gov) under House Bill # 33...all 6,198 pages of it.

As with most budgets, there is much give and take throughout the process. At times I wondered if we would finish on time, but in the end it all came together. It passed the House with bi-partisan support by a vote of 67 to 30 on June 30th, 2023.

A FEW INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE BUDGET:

# FROM YOUR TREASURER



JOHN BURKE

## Recognition and Historical Presentation at the 2023 IGO Conference

By: JOHN BURKE, Medina County Treasurer

As Medina County Treasurer, I am required to complete continuing education courses each year to invest public funds. This is very important when you consider that my office is responsible for collecting and safely investing \$570 million annually. Attending conferences and educational seminars helps me to fulfill those continuing education requirements. I recently attended the International Government Officials Association (IGO) in Fort Worth Texas. This national organization fosters excellence in public service through education, innovation, and networking. Some of the IGO seminars this year included: how artificial intelligence is changing our world; and the effect of inflation on investing public funds.

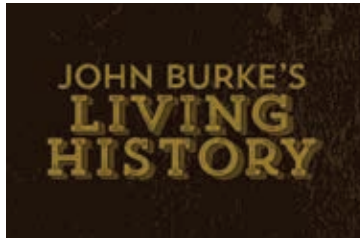
At this year's IGO conference I was awarded the Certificate for Public Leadership. I was also re-elected as the Ohio Delegate Director to the IGO Board of Trustees. Previously, IGO presented me with their National Eagle Award for Innovation and Best Practices in county government for my Medina County Fix-It Fund Program.

This year the IGO President asked me to present one of my living history characters at the conference luncheon. Since we were in Fort Worth, Texas, he wanted me to do a cowboy or Indian historical character. I researched and presented historical figure Montechena, who was a Comanche warrior in the 1870s in Texas.

Montechena was actually a white boy who was captured at the age of 10 by the Apaches. His real name was Herman Lehman. He was adopted by the Apache chief who was later killed by the medicine man of that tribe. Herman killed the medicine man in revenge and was then forced to flee into the Texas Plains where he lived as a hermit for one year.

Herman finally joined the Comanche tribe and was adopted by the famous Comanche war chief Quanah Parker. Herman became a war leader and participated in raids on Texas settlements. He surrendered at Fort Sill with Quanah Parker in 1875. After living on the

reservation for three years he was forced to return to his family and white society. He found it very hard to adjust back to white civilization. He never saw his Comanche family or chief Quanah Parker again. Herman died at age 70 in 1929, two years after he wrote a book about his experience as a Comanche warrior. It is one of the best white captive stories in all of American literature.



John Burke in Comanche clothing he made himself; with past IGO President Michael Wynn at the IGO 2023 annual conference.

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A program of Medina County Treasurer  
**John Burke**  
Authorized by the Board of Medina County Commissioners

# COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



## Medina County Tourism Bureau Hires new Executive Director

Chaired by Bethany Dentler, the Board of the Medina County Convention & Visitors Bureau (MCCVB) has announced the hiring of a new Executive Director to lead the organization that brings tourists and visitors to Medina County.



Starting with MCCVB on Monday, Aug. 14 is Shannon Carter, who most recently served in Holmes County as the Tourism Marketing Manager with Ohio Amish Country.

Under her leadership, the region has become the second top tourist destination in the state.

"Ms. Carter's experience managing the brand and promoting tourism for one of the largest tourist attraction areas in Ohio will serve Medina County very well," said Dentler. "Our local attractions are going to greatly benefit from her wealth of expertise in digital marketing and visitor recruitment for group sales and bus tours."

Carter holds a certificate from the Ohio Tourism Leadership Academy, a graduate program organized by the Ohio Travel Association (OTA).

She is also a member of the National Scenic Byway Foundation and the OTA Public Relations Committee.

"I'm Ohio born and raised, with deep family roots here in Medina County," said Carter. "I'm looking forward to the opportunity to expand MCCVB's message about Medina County's wonderful assets to new and current travelers."

Carter received her Bachelor of Arts in Marketing and an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Ashford University in San Diego, California.

The mission of the MCCVB is to promote Medina County as a visitor destination to area attractions, events, and hospitality and retail establishments and to increase public awareness of historical, cultural, and recreational opportunities in Medina County.

For more information, visit [www.visitmedinacounty.com](http://www.visitmedinacounty.com).

## SIGN UP FOR PROPERTY FRAUD ALERTS



Medina County Recorder Linda Hoffmann urges all county residents to take advantage of a free service offered by the office to help protect against property fraud.

Residents can sign up through the Recorder's website to receive Property Fraud Alerts, an automated database that monitors activity involving land records filed in the Medina County Recorder's Office.

The Property Fraud Alert system notifies individuals when transactions involving their property are recorded in the Medina County Recorder's Office. Participants in the program

can choose to receive their alerts via email or over the phone. Visit [www.PropertyFraudAlert.com](http://www.PropertyFraudAlert.com) to sign up for the feature. Additionally, you can call the Medina County Recorder's office at 330-725-9782 for assistance.

The threat of mortgage fraud and identity theft crimes continue to rise, and all too often victims of these types of fraudulent activities are unaware their homes or identity have been stolen.

While Property Fraud Alert does not prevent fraud from happening, it provides an early warning system for property owners to take appropriate actions should they determine possible fraudulent activity has taken place.

## COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS



Interior renovations to Medina County's 1841 Courthouse on Medina's Public Square have been completed. Renovations began in January 2023 after the construction of the new Courthouse on East Washington Street was completed.

The Domestic Relations Court, which was housed in the 1841 Courthouse, was temporarily moved to the 1969 Courthouse during renovations.

After renovations were completed, the Domestic Relations Court returned to the 1841 Courthouse in August.



Domestic Relations Courtroom



Meeting Room & Lobby



**STEVE HAMBLEY**  
Commissioner

144 North Broadway Street  
Medina, Ohio 44256

(330) 722-9208  
SHambley@ohmedinaco.org

# FROM YOUR VETERANS OFFICE



ED ZACKERY

There was a big push for veterans to file claims under the "PACT Act" prior to August 10th to get their claim backdated one year. This led many veterans to believe that the PACT Act ends on that date, and they could no longer apply, this couldn't be farther from the truth. You can always submit a claim for service-connection to the VA, including PACT Act issues. Please don't think that you missed the date. If you have one of the issues or feel you may be eligible for benefits under the PACT Act then contact our office or the VA to make application. In fact, filing after August 9th does not preclude you from receiving retroactive benefits, it will just change the date you receive them from.

### HERE'S HOW THE LAW WORKS

The PACT Act is what's considered to be a "liberalizing law". That means that a veteran can be entitled to up to one year of additional retroactive benefits regardless of when he or she files.

### HERE'S AN EXAMPLE OF HOW IT WORKS

Veteran files a PACT Act claim for diabetes in December of 2024, and it is granted in February 2025. Veteran was first diagnosed with diabetes in 2021. Because the veteran had diabetes on the date the PACT Act was signed into law, he or she is entitled to an extra year of retro benefits, so the effective date would be December 2023 (one year earlier than the date of filing the claim or Intent to File (ITF)).

On the other hand, if the veteran wasn't diagnosed with diabetes until September of 2022 (AFTER the signing of the PACT Act), he or she would be assigned an effective date of December 2024 because a condition of getting the extra year of retro is that the veteran meets all of the criteria for benefits from the date of signing of the law up until the date the claim or ITF was received by VA. In this case the veteran didn't meet all the criteria because there was no diagnosis of diabetes at the date of signing of the PACT Act (August 10, 2022). The law that covers this is 38 CFR § 3.114.

***There is a special enrollment period for VA Healthcare that will expire on October 1, 2023.***

### AT LEAST ONE OF THESE MUST BE TRUE OF YOUR ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE

You served in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War, or you served in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998.

### AND BOTH OF THESE MUST BE TRUE FOR YOU

You were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013, and you haven't enrolled in VA health care before.

# Veterans Can Still Apply for PACT Act Benefits

We encourage you to apply during this 1-year period so we can provide you with any care you may need now or in the future. Enrollment is free. And your care may be free as well.

## PACT ACT QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about the "PACT ACT" or 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@medinacountyveterans.org or catch us on the web at www.medinacountyveterans.org

## 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.

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Medina County, Ohio  
 Veterans Service Office

210 Northland Dr.  
 Medina, Ohio 44256  
 (330) 722-9368  
 veterans@medinacountyveterans.org

**"PACT ACT" 2023**

**Am I eligible for free VA health care as a post-9/11 combat Veteran?** The VA is expanding VA health care eligibility based on the PACT Act. We encourage you to apply, no matter your separation date. Your eligibility depends on your service history and other factors.

**If you meet certain requirements, you can receive care and enroll during a special enrollment period between October 1, 2022, and October 1, 2023.**

If you would like to know more about the PACT ACT or to apply, contact our office at (330) 722-9368.

*"Service for Those That Served and Their Families" Because - We are Family*



MICHAEL LARIBEE

# TRUSTEE

LARIBEE LAW, LLP

## A Trustee's Duties of Loyalty and Avoiding Conflicts of Interest

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

Jerry owned a beautiful lake house on Lake Erie. He had five children who enjoyed using the lake house during different weeks in the summer. Unfortunately, Jerry's children did not get along. They barely spoke to each other.

Jerry transferred title to the lake house to a revocable living trust in order to keep the peace among his children at his death. He nominated his son Bobby to serve as successor trustee when he died. The trust directed Bobby to divide the assets of the trust equally among the five children.

When Jerry passed away, Bobby took over administration of the trust. Bobby knew the lake house had to be sold since the five children could not amicably own it together. However, Bobby really wanted to keep the beach house for himself. He offered to purchase the lake house from the trust for a value far greater than its current fair market value. His siblings did not agree with his proposal, mostly out of spite. Is Bobby permitted to purchase the house from the trust anyway? The answer is probably not.

Ohio law imposes strict duties upon trustees when they are administering trust assets for others. Probably the most important are the duties of loyalty and avoiding conflicts of interests. Trustees must act solely in the interests of the beneficiaries and follow the terms of a trust. They must always act with disinterested

and independent judgment. Their personal interests may not conflict with their role as trustee. Ohio law provides that trustees may not personally use funds or property belonging to the trust. Likewise, trustees are not allowed to purchase property from a trust unless:

- (1) the transaction is authorized by the terms of the trust;
- (2) the transaction is approved by a court; or
- (3) the beneficiaries consent to the transaction.

The trust beneficiaries must have full knowledge of all the material facts of a transaction to give valid consent. It is the trustee's duty to make sure that the beneficiaries fully understand the terms of the proposed purchase.

Can Bobby avoid the conflict of interest by selling the beach house to his spouse or son? The answer is no. Ohio law states that a conflict of interest still exists if a trustee enters into an agreement with one of the following:

- (1) the trustee's spouse;
- (2) the trustee's descendant, sibling, or parent, or the spouse of a trustee's descendant, sibling, or parent; or,
- (3) an agent or attorney of the trustee.

When administering a trust, it is important to consult with a trusted attorney to understand all of the duties and requirements involved. That way, the trustee will avoid prohibited conflicts of interest.



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*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.*



# NEWS FROM THE OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS

Social Programs Supervisor Sean Parker, ADRC Specialists Diane Faltay, Mindy Baldwin and Tami Dehn and MCOOA Director Laura Toth proudly display the 2022 OSHIIP Team of the Year Award.



## 90+ PARTY

The Medina County Office for Older Adults (MCOOA) held its annual 90+ party on Friday August 11. Honorees invited family and friends to join them in this celebration of their long lives. Each one was presented a certificate by County Commissioner Steve Hambley, with a special nod to Enid Gant, who recently turned 100 years old. Everyone then enjoyed a roast beef lunch served by MCOOA staff, birthday cake and entertainment by Dave Michaels.



Medina County Commissioner Steve Hambley and 90+ honoree Enid Gant.

## Medicare Open Enrollment Starts in October

It's that time of year again! Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15th and runs through December 7th. Medina County Office for Older Adults provides non-biased information to help you make an educated decision about your healthcare needs. Their staff is certified by OSHIIP (Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program) and was recently awarded 2022 OSHIIP Team of the Year honors by the Ohio Department of Insurance. To make an appointment to discuss your options, stop in at the Medina County Senior Center at 246 Northland Drive in Medina, or call 330-723-9514.



Guests enjoying lunch.

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Brunswick resident Dan Weiland models the hat his son gave him to honor his 90th birthday.

# FROM WRMC

WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY

## Take a Close Look at Our New Apartments



The Medina community enjoyed a close-up look at Western Reserve Masonic Community's (WRMC) new independent living apartments on August 10th. Two open houses took place on Thursday afternoon, one for community leaders and another for prospective residents.

You could feel the excitement in the air as prospective residents walked the common areas and their potential new apartments. They saw the new dining room, The Hive, a sandwich shoppe, both having exceptional menu choices, and the workout area with state-of-the-art equipment. They met in the common area and spent time with the leadership of WRMC as well as some of the residents.

Four models were open for guests to tour with a resident ambassador in each one to answer questions. They enjoyed the modern kitchens with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. Tape measures were in hand so guests could plan how their furniture would fit in the new apartment. Others were surprised to see that a king-sized bed would fit comfortably in the bedroom. Everyone was elated as the size of the walk-in closet with a brand-new washer and drier in the entrance to the closet. Convenience was the word you could hear repeatedly, not having to move clothes around the apartment to do laundry. Large bathrooms caused more excitement with comments such as "this bathroom is larger than anything I had ever seen even in my own house."

As the open house was nearing a close, prospective residents were meeting with sales representatives to complete applications and others were setting up times to come back and make final decisions.

If you are considering a move, please call (330) 642-3841 and schedule an appointment today. You will enjoy the amenities as well as making new friends. You will love being the first to live in your new, luxury apartment!

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WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY

FROM WRMC

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## Veterans Take to the Air Over the Skies of Medina

In late July veterans from Western Reserve Masonic Community (WRMC) enjoyed a flight in a Boeing Stearman biplane, departing from Medina Municipal Airport in Medina, Ohio. The program, Dream Flights, is dedicated to honoring military veterans with the adventure of a lifetime. Dream Flights is a non-profit organization established and dedicated to honoring seniors and military veterans. The Stearman biplane is the same aircraft used to train many military pilots in the late thirties and early forties.

The foundation was created in 2011 by Darryl and Carol Fisher and the Fisher family out of their love for seniors and aviation. Generations of friends, members of the community and the family come together to celebrate the achievements and sacrifices made by seniors across the country. Team members working in the senior living industry are vital to the foundation's mission. Without them Dream Flights wouldn't be able to fulfill their mission.

WRMC shared this special day with ten residents. Six residents were able to fly that day, and the others will be taking their flights in the near future. Their pilot was Hunter Stuckey. He has been volunteering with Dream Flights for three years. He flies internationally for FedEx.

One of those residents that took to the sky was 98-year-old World War II Army veteran John Pruchnicki. He served in the European theater, fighting in the Battle of the Bulge from December 1944 through January 1945 in the Ardennes region.

As Stuckey and Pruchnicki came in from their brief trip above Western Reserve Masonic Community and Medina Township, Pruchnicki gave a thumbs up to the standing crowd at the Medina Municipal Airport. After Pruchnicki was helped out of the plane, he turned to Stuckey, thanking him for the experience. "I'm the one who is thankful for you, thankful for all you did for us," Stuckey said to Pruchnicki.

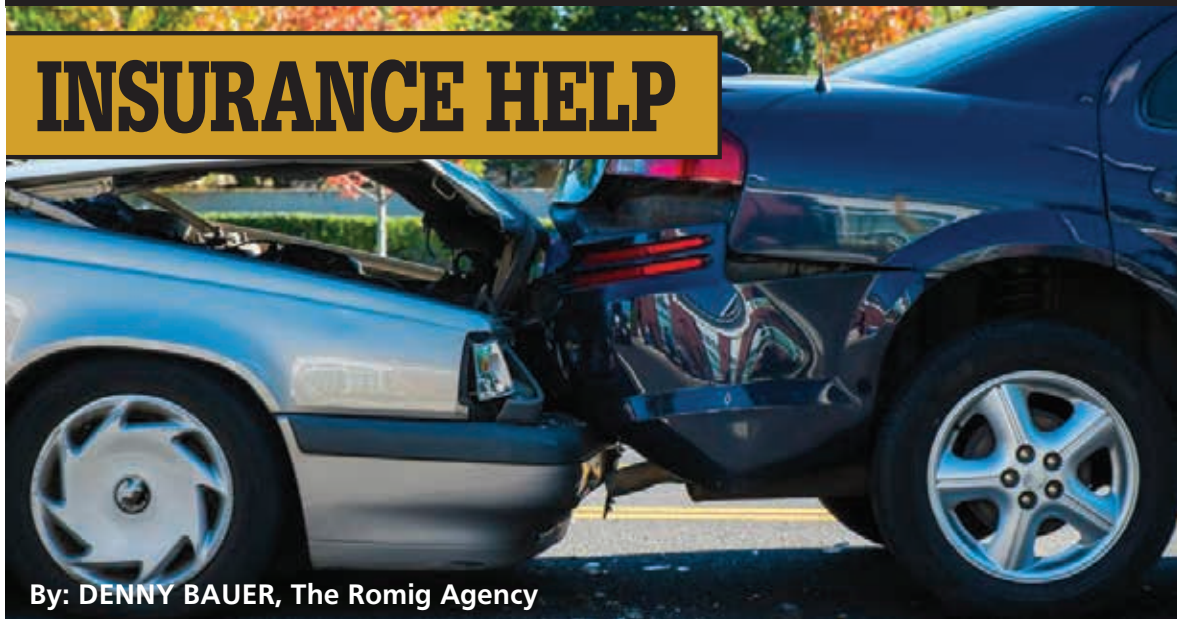


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I like Mike

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By: DENNY BAUER, The Romig Agency

## Guidance for Seniors Navigating Post-Auto Accident Steps

Dear friends, as seasoned travelers on the road of life, we understand the importance of preparedness and resilience. Today, we discuss a topic that we hope you'll find helpful—what to do after an auto accident. While we hope such events never occur, it's crucial to be informed about the steps to take if they do. Our goal is to equip you with the knowledge you need to navigate these situations confidently and ensure your safety and well-being.

### POINT 1:

**Prioritize Safety and Well-Being:** In the aftermath of an accident, your safety and well-being come first. Take a deep breath and assess yourself for injuries. If you're able, check on your passengers and the occupants of the other vehicle. If injuries are serious, call 911 immediately. If not, move to a safe location if possible to prevent further accidents.

### POINT 2:

**Contact Law Enforcement:** Notify the local authorities, even if the accident seems minor. The police can provide a neutral report that might be useful for insurance purposes. Stay calm and provide the necessary information to the responding officers. Remember, it's their role to assess the situation and document the details accurately.

### POINT 3:

**Exchange Information:** After confirming everyone's safety, exchange contact and insurance information with the other driver involved. Be sure to obtain their name, phone number, insurance company, and policy number. Additionally, collect contact information from any witnesses present. These details are essential for the insurance process.

### POINT 4:

**Document the Scene:** If it's safe to do so, take pictures of the accident scene, vehicle damage, and any relevant road signs or landmarks. These photographs will be valuable when filing an insurance claim, as they provide visual evidence of the circumstances.

### POINT 5:

**Notify Your Insurance Company:** Once you're safe and have collected necessary information, contact your insurance company to report the accident. They will guide you through the claims process, ask for details about the incident, and provide instructions on what documents they'll need from you. Keep your policy information handy, as you'll likely need it during this call.

### CONCLUSION:

knowing what to do after an auto accident is a key aspect of maintaining our independence and security. By prioritizing safety, contacting law enforcement, exchanging information, documenting the scene, and notifying your insurance company, you're taking proactive steps to navigate a challenging situation. Remember, you're not alone - there are resources available to guide you through the process to ensure that your well-being remains at the forefront. Stay safe, stay informed, and continue enjoying the journey that life has to offer.



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Please note that the information provided here is meant to be general guidance and may not cover all possible scenarios. It's important to consult local laws, regulations, and your insurance policy for specific guidance.



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# SENSATIONAL SUMMER at the Soprema Senior Center



10th Anniversary Celebration and Open House in June.

Summer 2023 at the Soprema Senior Center in Wadsworth has been more exciting than ever before! Not only have they experienced record growth with over 160 brand new members joining along with dozens of members returning for the first time since 2019, but they have seen record breaking attendance at their programs and events.

The month of June kicked off the summer with the greatly anticipated reopening of the Soprema Café, now operated by the Medina County Office for older Adults. (The café is open to the public Monday – Friday from 7:30am – 2:00pm and is a dining hotspot with great prices, delicious food and friendly staff.) June also held a very special 10th Anniversary Celebration and Open House celebrating 10 years at their current location that was attended by over 300 seniors and community members and featured memorabilia dating back to 1976!

A Cruise-in Car Show was showcased in July (the first one in four years), featuring dozens of cars spanning 100 years from the 1920's to the 2020's. The event was enjoyed by around 300 guests! August ended the summer with a festive Hawaiian Luau, where over 150 seniors were in attendance wearing their tropical best and enjoying special food, steel drum music, and wonderful decor!

Don't worry if you missed out on any of these events because summer fun at the Soprema Senior Center is NOT over! Mark your calendars and plan to attend their HUGE Senior & Care-giver Expo Friday, October 13 from 10:00 – 1:00 featuring a fun "Life's a Beach" theme. Don't pack away your sunglasses and summer wear just yet and plan to ride the wave into wellness with over 75 vendor tables to visit with important information, giveaways, prizes and much more! (See the flier with more information.)

The Soprema Senior Center is open Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:00pm and welcomes seniors 55+ from all surrounding communities with free membership. Visit their website at [www.wadsworthcity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter](http://www.wadsworthcity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter) for more information and to see all of the other amazing happenings going on this fall!



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# SENSATIONAL SUMMER at the Soprema Senior Center



Jim Kiehl showing off his hee-man muscle pose.



Judy Schellin working the "Walk Down Memory Lane" display at the 10th Anniversary Celebration & Open House.



Best Dressed Contest from the June Hawaiian Luau.  
Jim Andrews looking good in his grass skirt.

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From: DANBURY BRUNSWICK

# Getting to Know More About Memory Care

Memory care is a senior living option that is intentionally designed to support those experiencing dementia, Alzheimer's and other memory impairments.

**At Danbury senior living communities, memory care neighborhoods include:**

- 24-hour licensed support in all areas of living, wellness, dining and more.
- Specially trained employees equipped to navigate the effects of memory impairments.
- Specialized programming that meets residents where they're at to ensure comfort while promoting the utmost dignity and personal success.
- Thoughtfully designed elements to combat the effects of memory loss and dementia.

Not only that, but every employee at Danbury communities, from the Executive Director to housekeepers, receptionists, wellness staff and more, is specially trained on how to connect with residents.

They lead with compassion. They lead with patience. And, in addition to caring for residents like they're family, employees know each element of their memory care neighborhood is backed by data from leaders in dementia care.

## EVERYTHING IS DESIGNED TO BRIGHTEN THEIR LIVES

Here's a closer look at a few of the thoughtful elements incorporated into everyday life in Danbury memory care neighborhoods:

### ✓ PRIVATE APARTMENTS

The private apartments in the memory care neighborhood all have scenic views of the surrounding nature. Each apartment also has its own private bathroom with a pullcord for safety.

### ✓ HIGH CEILINGS

Dementia can cause a "shrinking" feeling, and the high ceilings in the memory care neighborhood

help to combat that effect and create a spacious environment.

### ✓ SECURED NEIGHBORHOOD

The memory care neighborhood is secure so that residents can safely and independently move about in a supportive environment.

### ✓ PEACEFUL OUTDOOR SPACES

Residents can enjoy the fresh air and even catch a glimpse of wildlife in the courtyard with peaceful outdoor spaces.



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3430 Brunswick Lake Parkway, Brunswick, Ohio 44212



## QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN TOURING A MEMORY CARE NEIGHBORHOOD

When you're touring a memory care neighborhood, here are a few questions you can ask to help you determine if it could be the right fit for your loved one.

**To get to know more about employees, you can ask:**

- Is the staff available 24/7?
- Will my loved one have the same nurse every day?
- What training do employees complete?

**Regarding care needs, some questions include:**

- Is the community able to meet a wide range of health needs?
- Though my mom or dad will need assistance, will they still have some independence or privacy?
- Can you accommodate wheelchair-bound or bedridden residents?
- How often do you update family members about the residents' well-being?

**When it comes to life at the community, you can ask:**

- Are there planned enrichment activities available each month?
- Does the community hold holiday celebrations throughout the year?
- How often can my mom or dad have visitors?

## DANBURY IS HERE TO HELP

Whatever your unique situation, Danbury is here to guide you to the living option that's right for you. To learn more about what makes memory care and life at Danbury senior living communities so special, give the community a call or stop by for a tour today.

# How do I know what bills and services to keep, or cancel when my loved one dies?



MARIE EDMONDS

By: MARIE EDMONDS, Counselor at Law



We understand how difficult it is when a loved one passes away, and that is before we even think about the many tasks that must be dealt with, such as going through their various accounts and deciding what needs to be done to cancel them, or transfer ownership.

Many of us have multiple digital subscription services in addition to utilities, insurance, medical prescriptions, subscriptions, memberships and other recurring payments. Getting these in order as quickly as possible helps avoid unnecessary charges and protects against identity theft and fraud.

Step one is determining what accounts your loved one had by looking through their mail, email or phone notifications. Look for a list your loved one may have put together as part of their estate plan. Now that you know what accounts were in your loved one's name, you can decide whether to cancel or keep them.

Subscription services are the easiest to tackle first. Unless the service is shared with a family member, it can probably be cancelled. Some examples of these are Netflix, Hulu, Disney+, YouTube TV, Apple TV, and delivery services like Amazon Prime and Walmart+. There are also digital subscriptions to newspapers and magazines, which may be linked to a Kindle account. Don't forget Kindle Unlimited.

You can check bank or credit card statements to find out whether your loved one has any of these.

Utilities may need to be temporarily kept in your loved one's name, transferred to another person, or cancelled, depending on the circumstances.

It's OK to keep the utilities in your loved one's name on a short-term basis while the estate is being administered.

If someone lived with your loved one, the accounts should be transferred to that person's name, or if a family member plans to take over the home, the utilities should be put into that person's name.

Although you can cancel the utilities after the estate has been administered, be careful if the house is being put on the market as you want to keep the utilities on until after closing. Also consider along the same lines any home security system that your loved one has in place.

Do not deactivate your loved one's cell phone service until you have retrieved all of the information you need from the phone.

## OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS MAY BE AS FOLLOWS:

- memberships to gyms, cultural institutions, unions, homeowners' associations, Costco, etc.
- physical newspapers and magazines
- social media sharing sites
- financial advisor, accountant, personal trainer, etc.
- pet-related dues or services
- meal delivery services
- music subscriptions

These are all tasks and items you can handle on your own or with help. Remember that your estate planning attorney can assist with any legal issues you may have or with the administration of the estate if you are named Executor or Trustee.



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Marie Edmonds



Ashley Sorgen

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Marie@MarieEdmonds.com | Ashley@MarieEdmonds.com



CLAUS MEYER

# WHY WORK WITH A FINANCIAL ADVISOR?

By: **CLAUS MEYER, Certified Financial Planner<sup>™</sup>, Retirement Income Certified Professional<sup>™</sup>** with Raymond James

Choosing to work with a financial advisor can make a positive difference in your current and future life – and even for the next generations of your family. Your goals of building and preserving wealth, enjoying a comfortable retirement and leaving a legacy are dependent on how well your financial matters are managed. Let's delve into the details of what an advisor can bring to the table.

## A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP

Establishing a trusted professional relationship with a financial advisor can bring clarity to your financial future, simplify your financial life and bring a newfound sense of confidence regarding all investment matters.

By getting to know you, your aspirations and your current financial situation – and all of its details and complexities – your advisor can be in step with your life, advising you at every transition and turning point you encounter along the way.

Whether it's paying for a child's or grandchild's education, giving to your favorite charities, transferring wealth to the next generation of your family, selling a business or making sure you have the care you need as you age, a personalized plan takes into account all of your goals.

Your advisor can also serve as your sounding board and voice of reason, guiding you in making prudent financial decisions and helping you avoid missteps that could harm your long-term progress.

## SOPHISTICATED STRATEGIES

Financial planning goes beyond just managing your investments. Certainly, your portfolio needs to fit your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, but a comprehensive financial plan considers all aspects of your financial life all the way through and beyond retirement.

Your advisor should have access to a sophisticated suite of products and services designed to address even the most complex financial

needs. They can leverage the insights of professionals from research analysts and investment strategists to specialists in trust and estate planning, charitable giving strategies, cash and lending solutions, insurance protection, business services and more.

Your advisor can also help you identify appropriate financial strategies while collaborating with your tax and legal professionals – designed for a seamless approach to managing and preserving wealth.

Having a real person who you build a trusted relationship with, understands complex financial needs, is in step with your life and empathizes with your goals, needs and concerns is not something that can be easily replicated.

## TAILORED ADVICE

It's important to remember that the advice you receive is personalized to you by an advisor who understands you and your family and cares about your financial well-being. Having a trusted financial partner there to guide you and help make objective recommendations that are in your best interest can prove to be invaluable.

When it comes to the important financial matters in your life, receiving generic advice that could apply to anybody will not serve you well. Your life and wealth needs are multifaceted, and they merit professional guidance that is customized accordingly.

## TIME TO GET STARTED

The professional support provided by an advisor can help you navigate even your most complex financial needs while freeing you to spend time on the things – and the people – that matter most to you. Having an introductory meeting to determine if there is a good mutual fit would be a valuable first step.

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# SHOULD I PULL MONEY FROM MY IRA - OR NOT?

By: ANN SALEK, Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston

Qualified retirement plans such as IRA's, 401k, 403b, SEP, etc are a common part of the average person's "savings." Many people start building their retirement plan accounts while they are working or their employer contributes funds to the plan. The mindset is typically to contribute your pre-tax income to the retirement fund and don't touch it – let it grow and defer taxes. That's a great initial plan. Particularly because most plans penalize an owner for withdrawing funds prior to the age of 59 ½.

However, as you age over 59 ½, you should really consider certain rules surrounding the qualified retirement plan accounts. Let's review some basics. Qualified retirement plan accounts are comprised of funds that have never incurred income tax. The pre-tax funds are invested, grow, and defer taxes until the owner later withdraws the funds. The owner is required to withdraw a minimum amount every year starting at age 72. That minimum amount is calculated based on the owner's life expectancy. However, the owner may withdraw more than that amount.

Any amount withdrawn must be reported on the owner's tax return in the year of withdrawal and the owner must pay taxes on that "income." The amount of taxes to be paid is determined by how much is withdrawn and how much other income the owner has that year. The owner may be retired and at the lowest income earning period of their life. Their tax bracket is



ANN SALEK

likely relatively low and they could withdraw a significant amount of IRA funds without reaching a higher tax bracket.

For example, if the owner has \$45,000 of income, the highest tax percentage they will pay is 22%. That owner will not pay a higher income tax percentage until they reach \$89,075 (in 2022). Therefore, that owner could withdraw \$44,000 from their IRA without hitting the next highest tax bracket.

Let's also review some basics about taxes that must be paid by the beneficiary of an IRA after the owner dies. If the beneficiary is the spouse of the owner, the spouse may "rollover" the IRA and the same ownership rules will likely apply to the spousal beneficiary as to the original owner.

However, if the beneficiary is a child of the owner, that child receives an "inherited IRA" and different withdrawal rules apply. Almost all non-spouse beneficiaries are required to withdraw all of the IRA funds over a 10-year time period and pay income taxes on those withdrawn funds. Oftentimes, a child beneficiary is at the height of their earning capacity and paying taxes at a much higher tax bracket

than their retired parents. Therefore, a retired IRA owner who only withdraws the required minimum distribution may just be deferring taxes for a child to pay at a much higher rate than a retired IRA owner.

IRA owners should really talk with their financial planner and accountant about whether or not it makes sense to withdraw more than the required minimum distribution amount. Keep in mind that even if you withdraw funds from your traditional IRA, you can still invest those funds to try to continue to "grow" the value. In addition, you may be able to use the after-tax withdrawal amount to invest in a Roth IRA that will continue to grow tax-free.

This concept is definitely a different way of thinking for most "savers" out there and it may not be the best option for everyone, but definitely something to think about.



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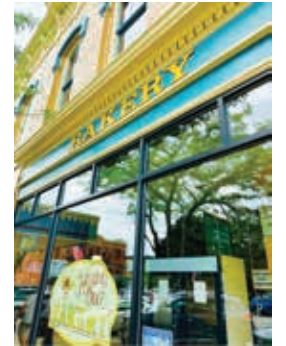
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ALL Community Center Parking Lots are OPEN!

Funded by the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation & a Family Caregiver Grant from the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging

# MEDINA BUSINESS Spotlight

By: MIA DOLAN, BEAT Reporter



Medina's Honey Bee Bakery is a locally owned bakery that specializes in recipes made from scratch. Offering an assortment of gooey cookies, brownies, muffins, scones, decadent french macarons, cupcakes, specialized cakes, decorated sugar cookies, and more, Honey Bee Bakery has something for everyone.

Originally opened in 2015 by Keni Scherbinski and Laura Cavey, the bakery began making its mark in the historic part of the Medina Square (23 Public Square), baking a wide variety of treats including vegan and gluten free options. Kimberly McDonald, current owner since 2021, has continued Scherbinski and Cavey's legacy.

When the bakery began, Scherbinski helped curate many of the vegan and gluten free options with being vegan herself. "When I took over, I didn't want to eliminate any of the vegan bakery options and I wanted to continue to add on from it," said McDonald. "We are different from many other local bakeries because of the vegan and gluten free options we provide and I feel accomplished being able to be diverse in terms of that."

"My favorite bakery items are our scones and muffins," she added. "And, our customers have told us that when comparing our vegan or gluten free options of these to our normal recipes, they cannot even tell the difference. It has been a true compliment from our customers."

All treats are made in house at Honey Bee. Along with many of the regular bakery items, they also offer edible cookie dough flights that are customized by theme such as Harry Potter, and a newly introduced in house cold brew with a variety of 30 different flavors of coffee to choose from.

"We have introduced a new variety of cake flavors as well including a s'mores cake that is made of chocolate cake with graham crackers and marshmallow frosting," said McDonald. "You can also find a new key lime cake that has brought attention from the lovers of the iconic pie and has been selling out quickly. Honey Bee bakers make it with its own homemade lime curd, with a very creamy light buttercream frosting, and additional graham cracker crumbs sprinkled on top."

The decorated sugar cookies at the bakery are also a unique product to find because they have a lot of artistic elements, which can be seen with their recent Barbie movie themed cookies that can be viewed on their Instagram and Facebook pages.

At Honey Bee Bakery, they are up to any challenge for specialty items, including requests. The bakery's goal is to be able to create something special that no regular bakery can offer. McDonald wants to continue to make a mark on her community and involve them at the bakery as much as possible, including a potential idea to make a selfie wall where people can take photos with their friends and family and tag the bakery on social media.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

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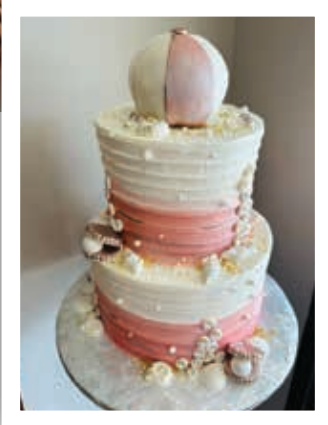
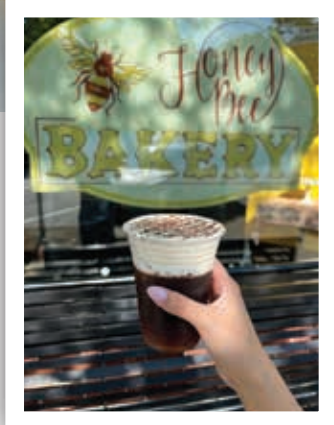
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## MEDINA BUSINESS Spotlight

If interested in placing an order for a personalized item, Honey Bee Bakery needs a one-to-two-week notice, while other baked goods made on the daily can be ordered anytime. For customized cookies and cakes, McDonald asks clients to email them inspiration photos so they know exactly what they are thinking.

Call the bakery's number at 330-725-0912, or use the email [honeybeebakerymedina@gmail.com](mailto:honeybeebakerymedina@gmail.com). Find more information at [honeybeebakerymedina.com](http://honeybeebakerymedina.com), and on their social media platforms.



# MEDINA PARKS NEWS

22nd Annual

## Nature Art Fest



Saturday, November 11  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, November 12  
12 to 4 p.m.

Oenslager Nature Center

Join us for the 22nd Annual Nature Art Fest featuring unique items inspired by nature from professional artists! From paintings to stained glass, you'll find unique holiday gifts for everyone on your list. Bring the family and spend the day in one of the most beautiful parks in Medina County.

All ages are welcome. Free admission.  
No registration is required.



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



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**Family Caregiver Support Program:**  
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**Older Americans Act Programs:**  
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# 8 Welcoming ways to meet a person with an intellectual disability



From: The Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities

There are around 6.5 million people with intellectual disabilities in the United States. Intellectual disability generally appears at birth, and it is typically first seen as learning difficulties and delayed development when compared to the average population. When you first meet a person with an intellectual disability, you may not know how to interact with them. You may feel uncomfortable because you do not always know how to approach them, or help them when needed. Whether you are a business professional who wants to know how to welcome a person with an intellectual disability into your establishment or a curious citizen who wants advice in order to more easily communicate with a neighbor with an intellectual disability, try these tips.

### 1. SMILE!

There is nothing more welcoming than a sincere smile to put everyone at ease when you start a conversation.

### 2. STAY NATURAL

When facing a person with an intellectual disability, the best thing to do is to address them the same way you would anyone. Use a warm tone, and do not express any pity.

### 3. DO NOT INFANTILIZE YOUR CONVERSATION PARTNER

Treat the person the same way you would any other person of their age. Do not treat them as a child. Remain respectful in all circumstances, even if some behavior can seem childish to you.

### 4. BE PATIENT

Take your time to truly listen to the person in front of you and adopt a reassuring attitude. Let the person speak and react at their own pace. Also, be patient when you inform or guide a person with an intellectual disability.

### 5. USE SIMPLE AND CLEAR LANGUAGE

Use language without technical and specialized terms or unnecessary details to help you get your message across in the most effective way.

### 6. ADD OTHER METHODS TO YOUR COMMUNICATION

A written text, an image or even body language can be useful when the person in front of you has trouble understanding you or the information you are trying to share.

### 7. OFFER TO HELP

You can always offer to help, but don't get offended if the answer is "no". A person with an intellectual disability can be very independent based on the situation and their capabilities, so it's best not to impose your help even though you have good intentions.

### 8. DO NOT TAKE OFFENSE

Some behaviors or attitudes can seem strange to you but there's no need to take offense. Sometimes these behaviors are just part of who they are.

Have questions or need additional help or resources? The Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities is the community resource responsible for connecting, coordinating, and funding services for individuals of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We help with everything from early intervention and education opportunities for children to employment and community inclusive living for adults. We are happy to help any family or community members get the information they need to support people with disabilities. Call us 330-725-7751 or visit [www.mcbdd.org](http://www.mcbdd.org) for more information.

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MCBDD Website

330-725-7751 | [www.mcbdd.org](http://www.mcbdd.org)

**KNOW WHAT YOU OWN**

# Important Information When Buying or Living in a Managed Community



SHERRY CASSILY

By: SHERRY CASSILY, Director, Archangels Specialty Home Care

Considering a move to a managed community with all the amenities? However, if you're unfamiliar with homeowner associations there are some things you should know.

Managed communities have homeowner associations (HOAs) made up of member residents. HOA board members serve to maintain grounds, insurance, community utilities, and the overall finances of the building complex or community. It's common for the board to contract with a management company to guide them through the management process since many board members lack the skills to manage a complex community.

The management company and the board attorney serve the board and represent owners' interests. The management company and the board attorney are aware that they have been contracted by the board. Often management companies and board attorneys fail to represent owners' interests to avoid dispute with the HOA board.

Unit owners are required to pay a monthly maintenance charge, and exceptional assessments

may be required to cover substantial community needs. If the HOA Board fails to save for future expenditures, an expensive assessment may be levied.

The Planned Community Act (Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5312) governs HOAs and requires reserve funds. The Act states, "annual budget shall include reserves in an amount adequate to repair and replace major capital items in the normal course of operations without the necessity of special assessments, unless the owners, exercising not less than a majority of the voting power of the owner's association, waive the reserve requirement annually". Frequently, owners innocently waive the necessity to adequately fund the reserves to keep the monthly association fee low. However, this will haunt owners in the future. Buying into an older community that has kept monthly fees low by continuously waiving the requirement to adequately fund the reserves can be costly.

When buying into a managed community, ask for a copy of the annual budget and most recent reserve study. The report from a reserve study will give

associations a timeline and a breakdown of how much the association needs to save on a yearly basis so that funds are available for the repair or replacement when the need arises.

Beware if the Association waives the requirement to adequately fund reserve accounts and fails to conduct a reserve study. Some associations may keep a large cash reserve to pay for maintenance, repairs, or other issues. Others may have lower fees, relying on future special assessments to cover unexpected expenses.

Here's how the assessment route works: When a significant expense, such as repairing an elevator arises and the HOA's reserves are insufficient to cover it, the organization may levy an extra charge on each resident. These fees may total several thousand dollars.

The role of the HOA and unit owners is outlined in the by-laws. Read the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions before purchasing in a managed community since you are required to abide by its provisions. Find out as much



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as you can regarding board meetings, voting, inspections, notices, penalties, and other matters. A HOA board that doesn't interact with the unit owners should be avoided.

A HOA Board is in place to ensure conduct of daily operations and to assist residents with any issues or inquiries. However, a long-term board made up of individuals in their 80s and 90s needs to be avoided. To keep the monthly fees low, older board members have been known to disregard future maintenance needs. Older board members are more concerned with monthly fees than future expenditures.

What should you know about dealing with the HOA in a community? Keep yourself updated

by attending meetings, reading board minutes, studying the budget, reading and re-read the governing documents, become familiar with Federal and State Statutes, cast informed votes, talk with your neighbors, and don't be afraid to challenge the board when concern arises. The By-laws will explain the proper procedure for challenging board actions.

A community is best managed when the unit owners are knowledgeable about the bylaws, the HOA budget, and board activities. Involved owners are the best protection of investment in the community.

## Our Knowledge and Experience Make the Difference!

Members of the HANDS Foundation, the Medina Sunrise Rotary, American Legion, and St. Martin of Tours Parish.

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# Medina Lions Update



It's summertime and that means vacations, barbeques, picnics and working in the yard. Your Medina Lions are doing all those things while continuing to be involved in the community. The Lions hosted their two scholarship winners and hosted the Miracle League Opening Day Picnic and sponsored the beverage cart for their annual golf outing.

In June the Medina Lions were visited by scholarship winner Hailey Weil and her family. Hailey has had to face some difficult and traumatic situations while growing up and attending high school. Through these times Hailey found she does well in leadership and mediator roles. Hailey wants to develop these skills and help others succeed in the workplace and will be pursuing a degree in Human Resource Management. Hailey has earned a head start on college by participating in a program Medina High School has with University of Akron allowing high school students to take college courses and earn college credits while still

in high school. After her first semester this fall Hailey will be a Sophomore. Hailey's grandparents attended the meeting and we discovered they were members of a Lions Club from the Buffalo area. It was a fun conversation as we shared information about different Lion Club activities.



Scholarship winner, Hailey Weil



Scholarship winner, Tergé Miller

July brought a visit from our other scholarship winner Terge' Miller and her family. Terge' will be leaving Ohio in the fall to attend Brigham Young University in Utah. Though her mom would like her to be close there are family members that live within a short driving distance if needed. Terge' was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma a rare form of cancer, as a baby at 20 weeks old and has spent

most of her life coping with related health issues. Terge's parents said she has had over 30 surgeries. These experiences have shaped Terge's goals. Terge' aim is to become a Child Life Specialist, a therapist who specializes in helping children with serious medical ailments. When someone is ill it is not only the medical care that is needed

but the emotional and mental needs as well. This can be especially difficult for children as they try to understand what is happening to them Terge' will be there to help.

We are very excited for both of our scholarship winners and wish them both future success.

## MIRACLE LEAGUE



Bob and Carol Latchney with Pete and Pat Danszczak.

In June we hosted the Annual Miracle League Opening Picnic. The Medina Lions and the Miracle League have had a close relationship going back roughly 20 years. The Lion's Club was instrumental in helping the Miracle League with the initial development of their baseball field and has continued the relationship. The Miracle league of Northeast Ohio is comprised of individuals with mental and/or physical disabilities offering them the opportunity to play baseball. Like previous the Medina Lions cooked hamburgers and hot dogs and provided other picnic

necessities so the teams could enjoy a good meal before taking the field. Lion Pete Danszczak sang the National Anthem and this year's club President had the honor of throwing out the opening pitch.

In July the Medina Lions continued their relationship by sponsoring the beverage cart at the Miracle League Annual Golf Outing and Lions Club President Kent Von Der Vellen sponsored the 17th hole giving away a new car (Hot Wheels) to the best shot.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

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## Medina Lions Update



From the Miracle League Golf Outing: FROM LEFT: Dan Auker and Bob Mieval with Miracle League President, Ken Richardson and wife Jana.

## Rose Sale



Summer is almost over the Medina Lions Club is beginning to turn their focus on the fall and their upcoming Sweetest Day Rose Sale. Keep your eyes open for information on how you can purchase a dozen roses for someone special in your life. The next meeting will be August 22nd at the Medina Eagles building on Lafayette Rd at 6:30 PM. Anyone interested in learning more about Medina Lions Club and the many ways they have support Medina for these past 80 years is welcome to attend.



**CONTACT ANTHONY & ANGELA TODAY!**

**440-387-5180**  
**NCohio.CarePatrol.com**

# Finding the Right Care Community

By: ANTHONY COLEMAN, Certified Senior Advisor

Finding the right care community is simple, right? Having first-hand experience helping my parents navigate eldercare for my grandparents proved to be more difficult than easy. There is no play book or “blueprint” on how to plan, evaluate, and choose the right option. Oftentimes, families get overwhelmed and overloaded with information which makes their decision even more difficult. Here are some tips to help you on your journey.

What should you do prior to looking into senior living communities? You should get your legal affairs in order. Make sure you have advanced directives, living will, and a financial and medical power of attorney in place. This will make things easier if something tragic happens and you or your loved one becomes incapacitated.

Conduct a needs assessment. How much care do they require on a daily basis? Do they need help with meals, laundry, housekeeping, medications, bathing, grooming, ambulation, or toileting? Do they have neurocognitive decline that is making it difficult for them to accomplish their activities of daily living without verbal cueing and support?



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Conduct a financial discovery. Determine monthly income, amount received from pension and social security. How much money is currently in checking and savings? Are there additional financial resources available like a 401k, IRA, annuity, stock/bonds, etc. Is there a life insurance policy? Is this a term policy or a whole life policy that has built cash value? This exercise will help determine the monthly budget.

Now that you’ve laid a good foundation, how do you locate

a senior living community that fits your needs? To start, you need to realize that not all communities are created equal. They charge differently, offer varying levels of care, and take on unique personalities. How a community is staffed with caregivers determines their care capabilities. If your loved one requires light care you will have several options to choose from but if your loved one has high care needs or dementia needs your options will be more limited. Lastly, some communities are private pay only, whereas others allow Medicaid after being able to pay privately for a certain time period.

Having the opportunity to educate and assist several hundred families over the past few years on their eldercare journey has been gratifying. At CarePatrol North Central Ohio we know first-hand how stressful this process can be. We serve our seniors by offering free consulting and placement services. It starts with a needs analysis and then we make recommendations that fit your needs based on your unique circumstances. Contact us at **440-387-5180** if we can be of service.



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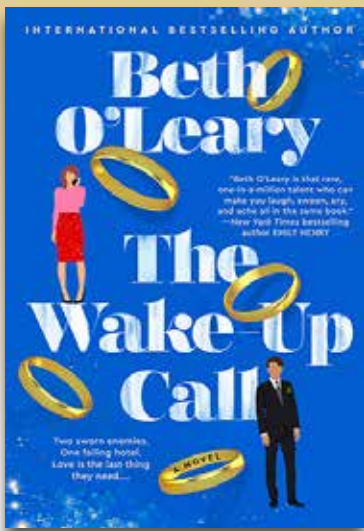
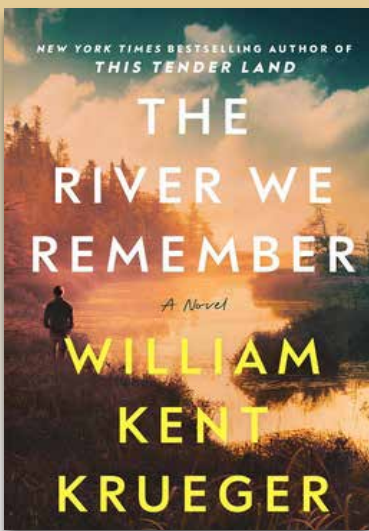
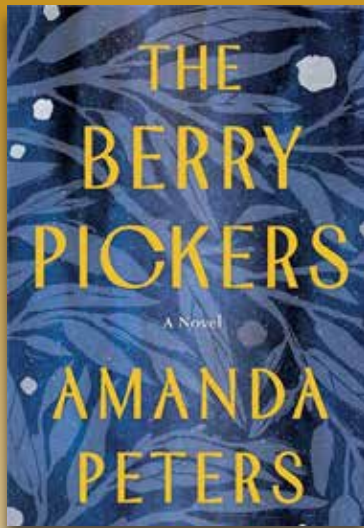
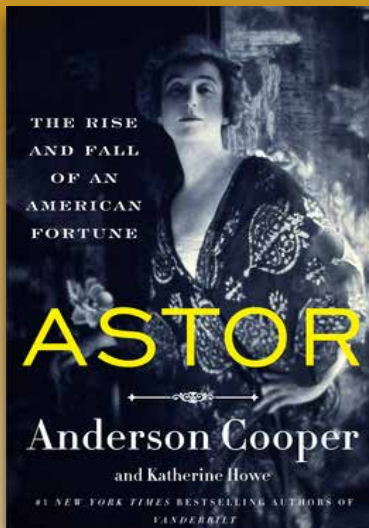


# LIBRARY NEWS

*Read it and Reap!*

## FALL READING Some Titles to Check Out!

From: MARY OLSON, Readers' Advisory Librarian



### Library Card Sign-up Month

Knowledge and entertainment are yours with a Library Card!

Sept. 1-30



Cards are free to new patrons  
[mcdl.info/Card](http://mcdl.info/Card)



Lose your card? Replacement cards are free in September.

Medina County District Library

## Author Visits & Discussions at MCDL



### Viola Shipman

**Tues., Oct. 17, 6:30 pm | Brunswick Library**  
Wade Rouse is the bestselling author of 16 books, including 11 novels and five memoirs. Wade chose his grandmother's name, Viola Shipman, as a pen name to honor the woman whose heirlooms and family stories inspire his heartwarming and inter-generational fiction. His memoirs include Magic Season: A Son's Story. Book sales and signing to follow. **No registration required.**

### BOOK DISCUSSION

**Tues., Oct. 17, 3:00 pm | Medina Library**  
Wade Rouse discusses his latest novel, Famous In a Small Town. **Seating is limited, register at [mcdl.info/Readers](http://mcdl.info/Readers).**



### Mindy McGinnis

**Tues., Sept. 19, 6:30 pm | Buckeye Library**  
Discuss A Long Stretch of Bad Days with Mindy McGinnis, an Edgar Award-winning author. She writes thriller, historical, post-apocalyptic, mystery, fantasy, and contemporary novels.

Although the settings change, Mindy's books always deliver grit, truth, and an unflinching look at humanity and the world around us.

Mindy lives in Ohio. Book sale and signing to follow. **Register at [mcdl.info/Readers](http://mcdl.info/Readers)**



### Haunted Medina County

**Thurs., Oct. 26, 6:00 pm | Medina Library**  
Local author and parapsychologist, Brandon Massullo and genealogist, Lisa Rie neth, discuss researching the locations in his book Haunted Medina County, Ohio. Book sale and signing to follow.

**No registration required.**

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