



# Helping HANDS

MAY / JUNE 2024

A Publication of the HANDS Foundation

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

## SENIOR EXPO 2024!

### POPULAR ANNUAL EVENT DRAWS LARGE CROWD AT THE BRUNSWICK REC CENTER



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN GALLATIN

**ANOTHER GREAT EXPO!**  
OVER 600 SENIORS AND 62 SPONSORS BOOGIED DOWN AT THE BRUNSWICK REC CENTER.

Over 600 seniors “boogied down” to the Brunswick Rec on Wednesday, March 27th for “Stayin’ Alive,” the disco-themed 2024 Brunswick Senior Expo hosted by the Medina County Office for Older Adults (MCOOA). They gathered a variety of information about services and products geared toward seniors’ health, wellness and quality of life, from the 62 sponsors. After they made their rounds of the sponsor tables, there was a photo booth with a discotheque backdrop, flashing lights and 70’s-themed props to have a little fun posing for pictures. Next to that was the bakery corner, with plenty of delicious baked goods for them to enjoy, provided free of charge courtesy of the sponsors. The sponsors also provided 82 door prizes so there were a lot of lucky winners of gift cards and merchandise. The feedback was positive and all are looking forward to the 2025 Expo. If you have an idea for the 2025 theme, email MCOOA’s activities supervisor Joanne Meincke at [jmeincke@ohmedinaco.org](mailto:jmeincke@ohmedinaco.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](http://HANDS-Foundation.org)





## DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

*In the Independent Living Building Private Dining Room*

**Last Tuesday of the Month**

**May 28 & June 25 • 6–7 p.m.**

Share encouragement and support as we care for those with dementia. Learn tips to help caregivers stay in the moment!

Dinner will be provided.

**RSVP's REQUIRED**

**330-591-2777**

### 2024 DATES

**May 28, June 25, July 30, August 27,  
September 24, October 29**

Independent Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care

**629 N Huntington, Medina, OH**

[EchelonSeniorCare.com](http://EchelonSeniorCare.com)



## Declutter to Downsize Thursday, May 9 ~ 2 p.m.

Join us to learn more about decluttering strategies to help you begin that big change in your life! Smooth Transitions' Kathy Mocarski will share basic tips and tricks to help you declutter to downsize!



**SMOOTH  
TRANSITIONS.  
CLEVELAND**

**RSVP'S REQUIRED**

**330-591-2777**

Independent Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care

**629 N Huntington, Medina, OH**

[EchelonSeniorCare.com](http://EchelonSeniorCare.com)



SAVE THE DATE

# SUMMER BREEZES

LUAU STYLE

**7.11.2024**

5:00P.M.

The Village at Hinckley Oaks Clubhouse

A FUNDRAISER FOR  
THE HANDS FOUNDATION

# Bauer FUNERAL HOME

**Pre-Planning  
Traditional Services  
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Grief Support**

**Mary Ann Bauer  
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# BORN TO HELP OTHERS

**Kimberly Valco, Western Reserve Masonic Community**

By: Sahana Manglani, BEAT Reporter



Picking a career at a young age can be hard. Not everyone knows what they want to do for the rest of their life, let alone something they're passionate about. Unlike many, Kimberly Valco knew what she wanted to do at the age of 15.

Valco has always enjoyed working with senior care industries. From a young age, she found joy in helping others and decided she would continue with it as a career. She currently works with more than 10 organizations within Medina County, including serving as Community Relations/Marketing for the Western Reserve Masonic Community the past 22 years. All the organizations that she is a part of helps seniors, children, those who reside in Medina County, and those in need.

"Since I was 15, I have always enjoyed work in the senior care industry," said Valco. "My education was not at a college. Mine was hands-on working in different areas of nursing homes, corporate training and so forth." This experience led her to find work in multiple areas, while helping others in need.

Valco said that she loves her job because everyone works together and she loves talking to residents about their lives. Valco described how everyone has a story to tell and she wants to be the one to listen to them.

Sahana Manglani, Brunswick Middle School, is one of over fifty student "backpack journalists" (grades 6-12) in the award-winning BEAT Video Program. The program is sponsored by Donut Land, Plum Creek Assisted Living Community, Danbury Senior Living, Baskets Galore, and the Scripps Howard Foundation. Go to <https://www.bcsoh.org/domain/1154> to learn more about the Program, or visit <https://thebeat.viebit.com> to view videos produced by the students.

# A Tribute to Joyce Giles



1953 – 2024

"Our hearts are absolutely broken to hear of the passing of Medina County's own Joyce Giles. As a past HANDS board member, a legend from Medina Hospital and the best to ever do it at The Medina County home - to say she will be missed is a HUGE understatement.

There will NEVER be another Joyce Giles. She will live on through her phenomenal family. Joyce will not only be remembered by her support for the HANDS Foundation but for her dedication to senior care and advocacy throughout her life. Joyce always gave 100% to each thing she did - running full throttle to help others 24/7. I am so blessed to have known her. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Joyce Giles."

**Christina Waller, Executive Director, HANDS Foundation**



## From the Medina County Gazette

Joyce Giles, 71, passed away at 10:50 p.m., Thursday, February 29, 2024 at the Hospice unit in Medina, Ohio. She was born February 11, 1953, in Toledo, Ohio, to the late Enedino and Guadalupe (Martinez) Mireles.

Joyce is survived by her daughter, Natalie Lapossy of Medina, Ohio; and her siblings, Paul Mireles and Marjie Buntzel. She was preceded in death by her brothers, Gilbert and Michael Mireles.

Joyce was a 1971 graduate of Genoa Area High School. She then graduated from the

University of Bluffton with a BSW in 1975 and from the University of Dayton in 1986 with a Master's Degree. She worked for 22 years as a medical social worker for Medina General Hospital, briefly as a director for the Medina County Commissioners and most recently for nine years as a Superintendent for Medina County Home. She maintained responsibilities in a variety of organizations to support her passion of social work and helping people.

*Thank you, Joyce for all you did for our community!*

## Exclusive Living

MEDINA'S BEST KEPT SECRET

**A 55 & OLDER COMMUNITY**

**Town Homes**  
Below Market Rent  
Attached Carport

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

**1 Bedroom**  
All First Floor  
Cable & Internet Included

**FOREST MEADOW**  
EXCLUSIVE LIVING A GERSPACHER COMPANY  
Villas  
ForestMeadowsVillas.com


574 Leisure Lane  
Medina  
330.725.1596  
Managed by GERSPACHER Family




MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <div> <b>May 2024</b>  Medina County  Office for Older Adults  www.mcooa.org  Z=ZOOM • *= FEE REQUIRED  ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE </div>				
<b>6</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1-3 A Matter of Balance 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>7</b> <b>SCIOTO DOWNS TRIP</b> 9 & 10 Edwina's Exercise 9:00 Lilly's Art Class* 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 10:00 14 Card Game 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tuesday	<b>1</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - LifeCare 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - GOHio Mobility 11:30 Lunch - LifeCare 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa*	<b>2</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Parkinson's Support Grp 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>3</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - OOA 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Program: Cinco de Mayo 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong 1:00 Grief Support Group 2:00 Alzheimer's Community Forum
<b>13</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 12:15 Movie: Wonka 1:00 Mahjong 1-3 A Matter of Balance 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>14</b> 9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook	<b>8</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - Medina Center 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - Wits Workout 11:30 Lunch - Avenue 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1:30-3:30 Ask an Attorney	<b>9</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 Hand & Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>10</b> 9:30 Bingo -Z- Broadway Creek 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program- "Beekeeping: Bees & Honey" 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong
<b>20</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1-3 A Matter of Balance 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>21</b> 9 & 10 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 10:00 14 Card Game 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tues	<b>15</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - TBD 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - "The Vietnam War" 11:30 Lunch - Medina Center 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1:00 Friends 'n Focus Low Vision Support Group	<b>16</b> 9:00 BP Screening.Cleve Clinic <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 Hand & Foot 10:00 Katie's Drawing Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>17</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - Brookdale Camelot 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program- "Common Medications" 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong
<b>27</b> <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>28</b> 9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 10:45 OSU Nutrition Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tues	<b>22</b>  <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED FOR SENIOR DAY</b>	<b>23</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 Hand & Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Jammer's Rehearsal 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>24</b> 9:30 Bingo-Z- TBA 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program- Jammer's Concert Memorial Day 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong
<b>30</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 9:30 Pool Tournament 10:00 Tai Chi w/Danny 10:00 Hand & Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>31</b> 9:30 Bingo-Z-TBA 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program- "Growing Strawberries" 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:00 Book Club 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong			

MEMAY

# OF EVENTS CALENDAR MEDINA

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>3</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1-3 A Matter of Balance 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>4</b> 9:00 Edwina's Exercise 9:00 Lilly's Art Class* 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tuesday	<b>5</b> <b>9:30</b> Bingo - Z - Life Care 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - "Partnering w/your doctor" My Medicare Network 11:30 Lunch - Life Care 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 5:00 Tai Chi w/Danny	<b>6</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Hand & Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Parkinson's Support Grp 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>7</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - OOA 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Program: Container Gardens 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong 1:00 Grief Support Group
<b>10</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 12:15 Movie: The Boys in the Boat 1:00 Mahjong 1-3 A Matter of Balance 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>11</b> <b>9:00</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Remembrance Craft 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tuesday	<b>12</b> 9:30 Bingo -Z- Medina Ctr. 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program - "Keeping your senses sharp" 11:00 Auction - Echo Hospice 11:30 Lunch - Avenue@ Medina 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 1:30-3:30 Ask an Attorney 5:00 Tai Chi w/Danny	<b>13</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Hand & Foot 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>14</b> 9:30 Bingo-Z Broadway Creek 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 10:30 Program:Valentine Party 11-1 <b>PICNIC ON THE PATIO*</b> w/Music Men 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong
<b>17</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 1-3 A Matter of Balance 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>18</b> 9:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tuesday	<b>19</b> <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>20</b> 9:00 BP Screening.Cleve Clinic <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Hand & Foot 10:00 Katie's Drawing Class 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Jammer's Rehearsal 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>21</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - Brookdale Camelot 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11:00 Jammer's Concert 11:30 Lunch* 12:00 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong
<b>24</b> 9:30 Chair Yoga w/Jackie 10:00 Bridge 10:30 BalloFlex Fitness* 11:30 Lunch* 1:00 Mahjong 4:30 Floor Yoga w/Lisa	<b>25</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Edwina's Exercise 10:00 14 Card Game 10:00 Trivia Tuesday 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Hook Nook 1:30 Tech Tues	<b>26</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - Medina Meadows 10:00 Painting 10:30 Program:Trivia Party w/Suzanne 11:30 Lunch: Brookdale South 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Chair Yoga w/Lisa* 5:00 Tai Chi w/Danny	<b>27</b> <b>9 &amp; 10</b> Edwina's Exercise 10:00 Hand & Foot 10:00 Director's Roundtable 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Beginners Watercolor* 2:30 BalloFlex*	<b>28</b> 9:30 Bingo - Z - Jim Richison 10:30 Medina Ctr. Exercise 11-1 <b>PICNIC ON THE PATIO*</b> w/Entertainment 12:00 Pinochle 12:00 Book Club 12:30 Game Day 1:00 Mahjong



**June 2024**  
BILLIARDS EVERY DAY 8:00-4:30  
Medina County  
Office for Older Adults  
www.mcooa.org  
Z=ZOOM • \*= FEE REQUIRED  
ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

JUNE

## OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS AND SENIOR CENTER

MEDINA

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



**LAURA TOTH**  
LLToth@ohmedinaco.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.





# MAY 2024



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
<i>Walking Track</i> 12:00 - 2:00	<i>Walking Track</i> 9:00 - 11:00	<i>Walking Track</i> 12:00 - 2:00	<i>Walking Track</i> 9:00 - 11:00	<i>Walking Track</i> 12:00 - 2:00
<b>*PROGRAMS MARKED WITH AN * ARE IN PERSON &amp; ZOOM (HYBRID).</b>	<b>PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE IN THESE GREAT PROGRAMS!</b>	Hearing Scrngs-by appt. 9:00 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Coffee w/ a Cop 11:00 Blind Truth* 1:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 DEEP 10:00 MC Flex Update 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Intro to BlackJack 1:00	Bible Study 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press. Checks 12:00 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Summa Health Chat* 10:00 Gentle Exercise 11:00 Baseball Watch Party 1:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Storytime w/ Wade (Zoom) 3:30	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00 - Black Out Poetry	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 DEEP 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Medicare 101 Hybrid* 3:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Crafts/Puzzles w/Windfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Haiku w/ a Purpose 11:00 Table Talk w/ Dr. Patel* 12:00 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Ask an Attorney- by appt. 1:00 Healthy Living w/Humana* 1:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 County Assistance-by appt. 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 WHS Tech Assist 1:45 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 DEEP 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Monthly B-Day Party 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00	Bible Study 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Lunch & Learn - (Healthy Brain) 11:30 WHS Tech Assist 12:15 Dominoes & Games 1:00 * Soprema Café Closed today *	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 Grief Support 3:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Center & Café Closed for Holiday 	Bible Study 9:30 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Dominoes & Games 1:00 Author Talk w/ Roger Havens 2:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Lunch & Learn - (End of Life) 11:30 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo Auction 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00 * Soprema Café Open Lunch Only *

# MAY

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# WADSWORTH



# JUNE 2024



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

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Pinochle 9:00 DEEP 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Vision Screen'g-by appt. 1:00	Bible Study* 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Pres. Checks 11:30 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Blind Truth* 1:00 Dominoes/Games 1:00 Senior Feud Game 2:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 New Member Meet & Greet 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Sock Hop 11:30 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 DEEP 10:00 Tech Assist w/ MCBDD - Open Tech Help 11:30 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Medicare 101* 3:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study* 9:30 Crafts/Puzzles w/Windfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Haiku w/ a Purpose 11:00 Table Talk with Dr. Patel* 12:00 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Dominoes/Games 1:00 Trivia w/ Brookdale* 2:00 Storytime w/ Wade (Zoom) 3:30	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Red Flags in Real Estate 12:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 DEEP 10:00 Strudel w/Sharon Ray 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Monthly B-Day Party 1:00 Abbott & Costello 2:00	Bible Study* 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Lunch & Learn - (How to Stay in your Home) 11:00 Dominoes/Games 1:00 Ask an Attorney - by appt. 1:00 Healthy Living w/Humana* 1:00 Autoharp w/ Dan 2:30 * Soprema Café Closed today *	Mah Jong 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 County Assistance-by appt. 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:30 Bunco 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study* 9:30 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:00 Cooking w/ Bev 3:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Benefits Connect Internet 12:30 Dominoes/Games 1:00 Scam Squad 2:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 Grief Support 2:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
See our online Newsletter for more Details: <a href="http://www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter">www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter</a>	<b>*PROGRAMS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) ARE IN PERSON AND ZOOM (HYBRID)</b>	<b>PLEASE RSVP TO ATTEND THESE GREAT PROGRAMS &amp; EVENTS!</b>	<b>FRIDAY, JULY 19th</b> <b>*Christmas in July* Car Show &amp; North Pole Crafter Fair</b> 11 am - 2 pm	

# JUNE

## 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
 <b>May 2024</b> Office for Older Adults BRUNSWICK Parks & Recreation ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE		<b>1</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 10:00 Activity Council 11:00 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>2</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo - Altenheim	<b>3</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>6</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>7</b> <b>SCIOTO DOWNS TRIP</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Book Club 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo	<b>8</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 SS Classic 12-2 Ask an Attorney by appt 11:00 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>9</b> 8:00 Cards 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 <b>SPRING-O BINGO</b> 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>10</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 10:00 Program: Kitten Krazy 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:00 Danbury-Create a Better You! 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>13</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:30 Art Critique Group 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>14</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo - Spry Seniors	<b>15</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters	<b>16</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>17</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 10:00 Program: History of Cleveland 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>20</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>21</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo - Crossroads Hospice	<b>22</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knitters <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED FOR SENIOR DAY - NO BRUNSWICK CONGREGATE LUNCH</b>	<b>23</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>24</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 10:00 Program: OWRNC Veteran's Recognition 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>27</b> <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED</b>  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	<b>28</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo - Divine Pearlview	<b>29</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>30</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo	<b>31</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle

May

# OF EVENTS CALENDAR BRUNSWICK

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>3</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>4</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 10:00 Book Club 10:00 Hearing Life Hearing Screenings 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo	<b>5</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 10:00 Activity Council 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 6:00 Garden Club	<b>6</b> <b>GUARDIANS TRIP</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 10:00 SS Classic 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo - Altenheim	<b>7</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>10</b> <b>MOUNTAINEER TRIP</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:00 SS Splash 9:30 Art Critique Group 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 10:00 Canine Companions 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>11</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo - Spry Seniors	<b>12</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 10:00 Activity Council 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>13</b> 8:00 Cards 9:30 Line Dance (Beg) 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 1:00 SS Zumba 12:15 Dominoes	<b>14</b> 9:00 SS Circuit & SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 10:00 Local Author John Corrigan 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:00 Danbury-Create a Better You! 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>17</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>18</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo	<b>19</b> <b>MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>20</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes	<b>21</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:00 Cardio Dance 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
<b>24</b> 9:00 SS Classic 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 11:00 <b>MUNCH &amp; LEARN</b> 11:15 Line Dance (Inter) 11:00 SS Cardio Dance 12:15 Mah Jongg	<b>25</b> 8:00 Cards 9:00 SS Cardio 11:00 Zumba 1:00 Bingo - Divine Pearlview	<b>26</b> 9:00 Vintage Artists 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Classic 11:30 Cardio Dance 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:15 Mah Jongg 1:00 OOA Benefits by appt only	<b>27</b> 8:00 Cards 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:00 SS Zumba 11:30 Line Dance (Beg) 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo	<b>28</b> 9:00 SS Circuit 9:00 SS Splash 10:00 SS Chair Yoga 10:00 Program "Side by Side" Jim & Thelma 11:30 OOA Nutrition 11:30 Cardio Dance 12:00 Danbury Chair Chi 12:30 Ladies Pinochle


**June 2024**  
 Office for Older Adults  
 BRUNSWICK  
 Parks & Recreation  
 ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

June

## 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.





# FROM YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE



## PROPERTY ISSUES

### SQUATTERS RIGHTS

No doubt you have heard some of the horror stories out of New York City dealing with Squatters Rights. For those unaware, Squatters break into a home and just stay there. Unbelievable as it may sound, a couple from New York City purchased a home to renovate and while waiting for the appropriate permits were shocked to find Squatters had moved in. More shocking, they refused to move out. New York City allows tenant protections to kick in after a mere 30 days. The Squatters had fake ID's that listed the address as their own. After a lengthy process of eviction the couple finally got possession of their property, seven months later.

Thankfully, Ohio law states that to make a case for Squatters Rights you must occupy a property for 21 years – and even then, the bar for proving the required elements is high. If someone occupied your property, they would be considered trespassing and local law enforcement could remove them immediately. If there was confusion over a possible rental situation or unclear ownership of the dwelling, a Forcible Entry and Detainer action could be filed with your local Municipal Court. Such an action is straight forward and highly effective, but still overly burdensome when dealing with Squatters.

To that point, I have co-sponsored HB# 480 which would create an expedited process by which a property owner may expel squatters who unlawfully occupy a residential property. Instead of filing a Forcible Entry and Detainer action, the property owner would be able to file a complaint with the county sheriff that would establish ownership and request that all trespassers be removed. The bill includes several clarifications and distinctions to protect

tenants involved in rental disputes along with situations dealing with immediate family members and other issues not related to squatters.

Another concerning property issue is property fraud. Property fraud occurs when someone records a fraudulent document at the County Records office making it look like they are the owner of your property. Lucky for us, Medina County Recorder Linda Hoffmann is promoting a free service that will alert you against possible fraudulent activity committed against your property. It's easy to sign up, just visit [PropertyFraudAlert.com](http://PropertyFraudAlert.com) or call 1-800-728-3858.



### PROPERTY TAXES

Medina County is a wonderful place to live, and we have the hot real estate market to prove it. While your home value keeps increasing, over 25% on average over the last couple of years, so are your real estate taxes. The General Assembly realizes this is a huge problem for many of our residents. In January of 2024, the House and Senate created the Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform. This Bi-partisan committee consists of five Representatives and five Senators and will prepare a report and recommendations to the General Assembly by the end of the year. Hopefully, they will produce solutions to our outdated property tax policy and help us reduce the property tax burden on our citizens.



Sharon, pictured with Astronaut and former Wadsworth resident, Michael Foreman and Wadsworth City Councilman and avid astronomer, Tom Stugmyer.

## SOLAR ECLIPSE

Mother nature provided a beautiful spring day to watch the recent Solar Eclipse. Medina County was in the path of totality and was truly a breathtaking event. I was surprised and amused to see how many Solar Eclipse activities were scheduled around Medina County - from the educational gathering to the Solar Eclipse bar crawl. Bravo to Main Street Medina and Main Street Wadsworth for making this a memorable event for all. In keeping with the theme, Astronaut Michael Foreman – a former Wadsworth resident – spent time appearing at various area events to talk about his NASA experiences. I was able to visit with Astronaut Foreman at a recent fundraiser for Feeding Medina County. Also pictured is Wadsworth City Councilman and avid astronomer, Tom Stugmyer.



**Sharon A. Ray**  
State Representative  
House District 66



614-466-8140

[Rep66@OhioHouse.gov](mailto:Rep66@OhioHouse.gov)

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





JOHN BURKE

## FROM YOUR TREASURER

# Tecumseh's Solar Eclipse of 1808

It had been 218 years since Ohio was shrouded in darkness by a total Solar Eclipse. That event became known as Tecumseh's Eclipse of 1806 and was a major astronomical and cultural event, especially for Native Americans and white settlers on the Ohio frontier.

Ohio had become a state only three years before in 1803. The 1795 Treaty of Greenville had ceded most of Ohio to the United States leaving Indiana and the Northwest corner of Ohio as Indian territory with many tribes being pushed into this area including the Shawnee, Wyandot, Miami, Ottawa, Seneca, and Delaware. Tecumseh, a respected Shawnee warrior, orator, and military leader, had not attended the signing of the Treaty. He recognized the danger of the land-hungry Americans and began to organize a confederation of tribes to unite and resist.

Tecumseh or "Shooting Star" was named for a bright comet seen in the sky the day of his birth in 1768. His younger brother Tenskwatawa ("Open Door"), after receiving a vision from the Great Spirit, became known as the Prophet. He forecast troubles ahead urging Native Americans to return to the old ways. The brothers built a large village at Tippecanoe near Lafayette, Indiana, successfully recruiting many followers who began to impede the white settler expansion.

President Jefferson had appointed General William Henry Harrison as Governor of the Indian Territory. Harrison viewed the two Shawnee brothers and their message as a threat to settlers and sent an open letter on April 12, 1806 to their village at



Tippecanoe. He tried to discredit them and challenged the Prophet to prove his powers by causing the sun to stand still, the moon to alter its course, the rivers to cease to flow, or the dead to rise.

Upon hearing Harrison's challenge, the two brothers deliberated then spoke to a large assembly. The Prophet said he had consulted with the Great Spirit and was told that in "Fifty days from this day there will be no cloud in the sky. Yet, when the Sun has reached its highest point, at that moment will the Great Spirit take it into her hand and hide it from us. ...."

After 50 days on June 16, close to a thousand gathered to see the Prophet's sign. At noon, a solar eclipse covered the earth including Ohio in darkness as predicted. It was a dramatic and awe-inspiring event. Word spread quickly to tribes across the country and Tecumseh and the Prophet gained in prestige and power.

Tecumseh traveled widely recruiting many native tribes to his confederacy. He told them about the black sun prophecy coming true, and to watch for another sign from the Great Spirit, when the earth shakes and swallows up villages, and

the rivers stop and flow backwards. When they saw these signs, they were to send their warriors to Tippecanoe to stop the encroachment of the white settlers.

This second prophecy also proved true with the New Madrid (Missouri) earthquake in December of 1811. It was the largest earthquake in history east of the Rocky Mountains, swallowing up entire Indian villages along the Mississippi which actually flowed backward for several hours.

No one knows how the brothers predicted the solar eclipse and the earthquake. But both accurate predictions and Tecumseh's message of unity and hope brought Native Americans from as far away as Florida and Minnesota to his cause.

Unfortunately, as Tecumseh was traveling to recruit more tribes, General Harrison attacked the village at Tippecanoe on November 6, 1811 defeating the Prophet. Tecumseh returned to find his village burnt and his dream of a confederacy of tribes gone. He marshaled what remained of his followers to aid the British in the War of 1812. Tecumseh was killed at the Battle of Thames on October 5, 1813.



*Treasurer Burke has turned a lifelong interest in history into being an historical reenactor, often presenting depictions of various characters from our history at schools, parks, and community events.*

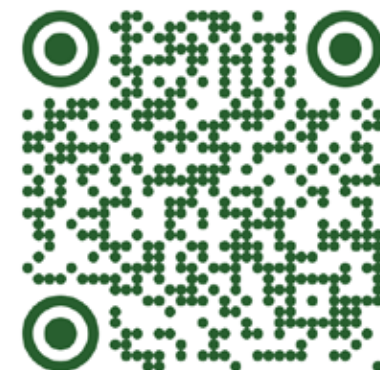
# Help With Home Improvements

As interest rates continue on the higher side, a Fix-It Funds home improvement loan — at fixed rates up to 2% below the bank's current rate — may prove to be a more affordable option to repair or remodel your home.

Since 2015, the Treasurer's office has partnered with Westfield Bank to offer Fix-It Funds loans exclusively to Medina County homeowners. Loans are available from \$5,000 to \$50,000 to qualified homeowners on a first-come,

first-served basis, so be sure to apply soon if you are interested.

To learn more, scan the code to visit the Fix-It Funds page of our website or call any of the numbers listed in the ad below.



Medina County Homeowners  
Does your home need some help?

# Fix-It Funds

Low Fixed Interest Rate  
Home Improvement Loans

**UP TO 2% BELOW**  
the bank's current interest rate  
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*Available through September 2024*

APPLICATIONS AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM  
Medina County Treasurer: 330.725.9746  
Westfield Bank: 330.764.6091, 330.661.6083  
or 330.661.6257

[www.medinacountytreasurer.com](http://www.medinacountytreasurer.com)

A program of Medina County Treasurer  
**John Burke**

Authorized by the Board of Medina County Commissioners



Member  
FDIC



# COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



## Bus Driver Shortage Affects Public Transit, School Districts

ARE YOU RETIRED AND  
LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME JOB?

Finding enough bus drivers to cover routes has proven to be difficult for the Medina County Public Transportation (MCPT) as well as school districts across the County.

According to MCPT Director Shannon Rine, he is still looking to hire several more part-time drivers. Rine encourages anyone who likes driving, helping others in the community, or looking for a part-time job opportunity to apply.

In addition to MCPT's bus driver shortage, school transportation departments across the County are also reporting difficulties in securing adequate numbers of licensed school bus drivers to cover routes.

According to Robert Hlasko, Educational Service Center of Medina County Superintendent, the school bus driver shortage has impacted Medina County Schools — and all schools across the state and nation — since the return from Covid.

"Our schools have worked to find solutions, and fortunately, the majority of our schools are able to staff their main routes, but are in desperate need of substitute drivers to help fill in gaps," he said.

Brunswick City School District Transportation Coordinator Lori Sinick said Brunswick needs drivers to fill main routes as well as substitute drivers.

"Aside from the most obvious purpose of getting kids to and from school safely, our bus drivers are the first ones to greet students in the morning — the impact a school bus driver can have on a student's day is far more significant than many might imagine," Hlasko added.

If driving a transit bus or a big, yellow school bus doesn't sound like something you would feel comfortable doing, the Medina County Office for Older Adults is looking for part-time drivers to deliver meals to senior citizens living in the County.

Meal delivery drivers use their own vehicles and work on routes within Medina County four days per week. Requirements include a high school education or GED, a valid Ohio driver's license and insurance.

Meals are delivered to home-bound senior citizens aged 60 and over who live independently. Hot meals are delivered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. An additional frozen meal is delivered on Tuesday to provide for Wednesday's lunch.

If driving a bus or delivering meals with your own vehicle sounds appealing, please consider contacting the County or your local school district to express an interest in becoming a driver.



**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A DRIVER**  
Below is the contact information for each of the organizations and school districts mentioned:

### MEDINA COUNTY

**MEDINA COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT:** Apply at 6094 Wedgewood Rd., Medina weekdays 8 a.m.—4 p.m., or at 144 N. Broadway St., Medina, Room 202 from 8 a.m.—4:30 p.m. For more information, call 330-723-9670.

**MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS:** Submit applications to Medina County HR; Attn: OOA; 144 N. Broadway St., Room 202, Medina, Ohio 44256. For more information, call 330-723-9514.

### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

**BLACK RIVER:** Download employment application at [www.blackriverschools.org](http://www.blackriverschools.org) and contact the Transportation Office at 419-736-3305 for more details.

**BRUNSWICK CITY:** Complete Online application at [www.bcsch.org](http://www.bcsch.org) under the Employment tab. For more information, call 330-273-0227.

**BUCKEYE LOCAL:** Complete Online application at [www.buckeyeschools.org](http://www.buckeyeschools.org) under Employment Opportunities. For more information, call 330-722-8257, ext. 1019 or ext. 1020.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 >>

## Board of Medina County Commissioners



**Steve Hambley**

Office: **330-722-9214**

Cell: **216-570-6958**

[shambley@ohmedinaco.org](mailto:shambley@ohmedinaco.org)



**Colleen Swedyk**

Office: **330-722-9212**

Cell: **216-570-9809**

[cswedyk@ohmedinaco.org](mailto:cswedyk@ohmedinaco.org)



**Aaron Harrison**

Office: **330-722-9211**

Cell: **330-635-3002**

[aharrison@ohmedinaco.org](mailto:aharrison@ohmedinaco.org)

**Administration Building • 144 North Broadway Street, Medina**



## FROM YOUR VETERANS OFFICE



ED ZACKERY

On March 12th, we finally broke ground on our expansion project on Northland Drive. We have temporarily moved to the lower level of the Medina County Professional Building, located at 124 W. Washington, Suite B-4, Medina, Ohio 44256 (Rear Entrance). Please pardon our dust as we go through this short period to help better serve the veterans and families of Medina County.

# VETERANS OFFICE EXPANSION



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Medina County Commissioners, Aaron Harrison, Steve Hambley and Colleen Swedyk with Medina County Veterans Service Commissioners, Jim Hoessle, Phil Grassa and John Lawrence and Mark Roberts far right. Standing in-between is Medina County Clerk of Courts, Dave Wadsworth.

## Veterans Exposed to Toxins Now Eligible for VA Healthcare

In one of the largest-ever expansions of Veteran health care, all Veterans exposed to toxins and other hazards during military service – at home or abroad – are now eligible for VA healthcare.

### SOME SITUATIONS THAT WILL AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFY YOU FOR VA HEALTHCARE ARE:

- You're a combat Veteran discharged or released on or after September 11, 2001.
- You were exposed to toxins or hazards by working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, X-rays, or other toxins. This exposure could have happened while training or serving on active duty, even if you were never deployed.
- You served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War between August 2, 1990, and November 11, 1998.
- You served at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987.

### OR, YOU MUST HAVE SERVED IN ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR ERA:

- Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from January 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976
- Laos from December 1, 1965, through September 30, 1969
- Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969
- Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off Guam or American Samoa from January 9, 1962, through July 31, 1980
- Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from January 1, 1972, through September 30, 1977
- Republic of Vietnam from January 9, 1962 through May 7, 1975

If none of these descriptions apply to you, you may still qualify for health care based on your income. Find out if you may be eligible for free or reduced cost health care based on your income by contacting our office or going Online at [va.gov/health-care/income-limits/introduction](https://va.gov/health-care/income-limits/introduction)



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

## WE HAVE TEMPORALLY MOVED

ON March 12th, The Medina County Veterans Service Commission along with the Medina County Commissioners and Clerk of Courts Dave Wadsworth broke ground on our building expansion project. We have temporarily relocated to the lower level of the Medina County Professional Building, located at 124 W. Washington, Suite B-4. Medina, Ohio 44256 (Rear Entrance)



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



## COMMISSIONERS' CORNER

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



**CLOVERLEAF LOCAL:** Email resumes to Kathy.Carlton@cloverleaflocal.org. For more information, call 330-302-0402.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OF MEDINA COUNTY:** Interested individuals should fill out an application at [www.medina-esc.org](http://www.medina-esc.org). Scroll down to listings under Transportation Department. For more information, call 330-723-6393, ext. 601560.

**HIGHLAND LOCAL:** Email Transportation Supervisor Frank Lawrence at [flawrence@highlandschools.org](mailto:flawrence@highlandschools.org) with interest in becoming a bus driver. For more information, call 330-239-1901, ext. 1219.

**MEDINA CITY:** Visit the Transportation Department at 1122 W. Smith Rd., Medina to pick up an application. For more information, call 330-636-4360.

**WADSWORTH CITY:** Visit [www.wadsworthschools.org](http://www.wadsworthschools.org) and click on Employment to complete an online application. For more information, call 330-335-1328.





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Since 1902 our family has been serving  
Medina County residents in their greatest time of need.  
It is our goal to consistently help every family experience  
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|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| MEDINA<br>765 NORTH COURT<br>330-723-3229 | BRUNSWICK<br>3300 CENTER ROAD<br>330-225-1770 | <a href="http://WaiteFuneralHome.com">WaiteFuneralHome.com</a> |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|



THE VILLAGE OF  
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SHOWCASE**

FOOD & DRINKS, TOURS AND MORE!

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Locally operated.

The Village of St. Edward welcomes you to  
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communities!

### Fairlawn

May 15th 1:00-3:00 pm

3125 Smith Rd, Fairlawn, Oh 44333

### Green

May 16th 1:00-3:00 pm

3813 Fortuna Dr, Akron, Oh 44312

### Wadsworth

May 21th 1:00-3:00 pm

880 Main St, Wadsworth Oh 44281

✨ Come see our new expanded Assisted Living at Wadsworth! ✨



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800.626.7277  
[AreaAgingSolutions.org](http://AreaAgingSolutions.org)

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



#### Aging & Disability Resource Center:

The starting point for information, assistance & counseling.

#### Family Caregiver Support Program:

Information, respite, counseling & other services.

#### Older Americans Act Programs:

Community-based meal sites & home delivered meals.

#### PASSPORT Medicaid Waiver Program:

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**Western Reserve**  
**Area Agency On Aging**

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



# News FROM THE SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER

## The Great 2024 ECLIPSE



Avid Astronomer, Tom Stugmyer peers through a telescope to capture photos of the eclipse on April, 8 2024. Over 200 attendees watched the event.

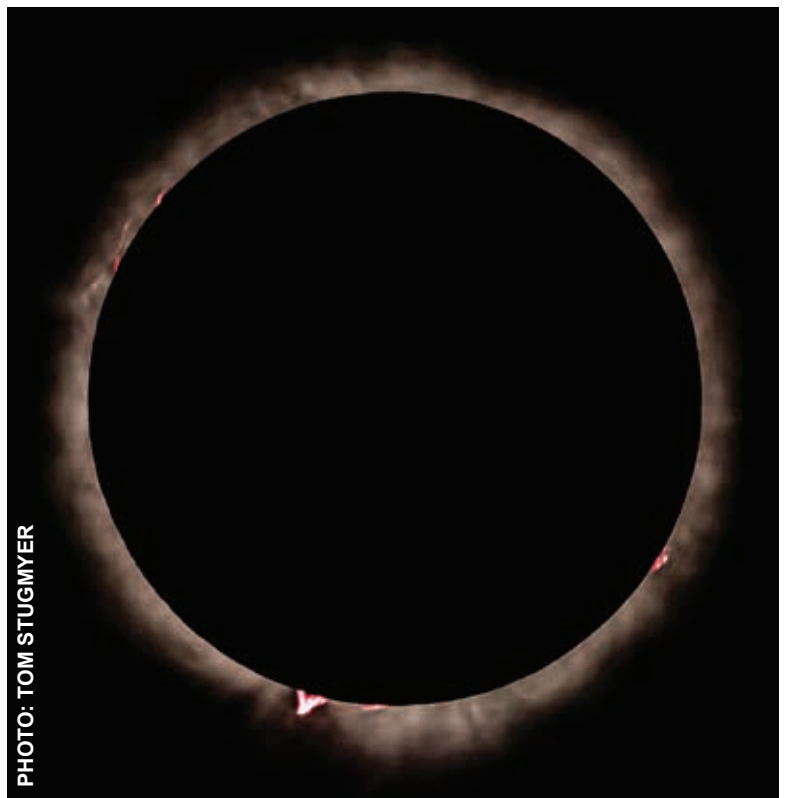


PHOTO: TOM STUGMYER

Rare solar prominences are captured by Tom Stugmyer during the peak of the eclipse which are only visible during a total eclipse. The sun just happened to be at it's 11-year peak where solar activity was at it's greatest for the April 8th event. GREAT JOB, TOM!!

With warm weather and sunny skies, Monday, April 8 was the equivalent to "winning the galactic lottery" for all of Medina County and the Solar Eclipse Watch Party at the Soprema Senior Center did not disappoint! With over 200 in attendance, it was the biggest Solar Eclipse event for seniors in this entire area.

Beginning at noon to avoid any anticipated traffic, seniors were treated to a pizza lunch courtesy of the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation (WOAF), along with themed sides and drinks donated by Professional Friends such as moon pies, cosmic brownies, Milky Ways and "sun themed" drinks. The Eclipse Stringed Duo played festive songs while everyone ate, followed by a lively Eclipse Bingo game. (This game was so popular that it



Barb Dodrill and Ken Miksch enjoying the eclipse watch party at the Soprema Senior Center.

was simulcast into the Activity Room to accommodate more players!) By 2:00, a Galactic Popcorn Tasting Bar was offered for all and live musical entertainment from vocalist Dean Beaty began.

Meanwhile outside by the beautiful pavilion, local astronomer and Wadsworth Radio 97.1 personality Tom Stugmyer set up multiple telescopes that enhanced the eclipse viewing experience for attendees. Eclipse onlookers all had "front row seats" as they spread out to view the phenomenon on the Center's patio and vast lawn space, located in one of the highest points in Wadsworth. As the eclipse reached the spectacular totality and the temperature drop was felt, the "ooh's" and "aahs" from the crowd will never be forgotten as hundreds experienced this "once in a lifetime" event together.

**RIGHT:**  
Eclipse watch party attendees sporting their official eclipse eyewear gaze up to witness the spectacle.

Are you ready to attend the Soprema Senior Center's next big event? Sign up to attend the Sock Hop on Friday, June 7! Enjoy diner style lunch specials in the Soprema Café, music by the beloved Celebration Band and more! Be sure to visit the Center's website at [www.wadsworthcity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter](http://www.wadsworthcity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter) for all the latest happenings and information. Also, like and follow the Wadsworth Older Adult Foundation's Facebook page for news and updates.

The Soprema Café, operated by the Medina County Office for Older Adults, is open to the public from 7:30am – 2:00pm, Monday – Friday and just updated their menu with more delicious breakfast & lunch options...be sure to stop by soon and try them out! The Soprema Senior Center is open Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:00pm and offers free membership to anyone 55+.







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# Major Change for Recipients of Supplemental Security Income

By: MARIE EDMONDS, Counselor at Law



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Marie Edmonds



Ashley Sorgen

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The big change for recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is that the Social Security Administration will no longer count "free food" as income.

But let's start with what SSI is. SSI is a federal public assistance program which offers financial support to people who have very limited resources and income, which monthly thresholds are specified by the Social Security Administration (SSA). SSI recipients receive payments that they can use to help pay for necessities. As of 2024 the maximum per month payment is \$943. If at any time their income exceeds the amount of their monthly SSI award, they can possibly see their benefits decline and possibly lose their benefits altogether.

In the past the SSA has included "free food" in its definition of income for SSI purposes. It has defined income as "anything individuals receive in cash or in-kind that they can use to meet their food and shelter needs." So, if the SSI recipient lives in a household where someone else buys the groceries, the SSI recipient would have to report this "free food" to SSA. SSA would then decrease the amount of their monthly check.

The new SSA rule now states that it will "no longer consider food expenses in its (in-kind support and maintenance) calculations." Instead, it will only consider shelter expenses.

## WHAT DOES THE SSA CONSIDER TO BE SHELTER EXPENSES?

Room, rent, mortgage payments, real property taxes, heating fuel, gas, electricity, water, sewerage, garbage collection services.

This new final rule explains that it included in-kind receipt of food in their calculations in the past because "food helps people meet their basic needs." However, currently this rule is no longer practical.

This rule change will make it easier for the SSA to calculate the monthly benefit as well as make it easier for SSI recipients to adhere to the program rules and requirements. The goal of this rule change is to not penalize an "already vulnerable population when they receive food assistance." Whether the food assistance comes from public or private sources, it will be treated in the same way.

This rule change will also affect what distributions can be made to SSI recipients from trusts that have been established for their benefit. If you are a trustee of such a trust, or the beneficiary of a special needs trust, you may want to get further instructions and clarification from your attorney.



# Local School Districts Explore Unique Ways to Address State-Wide Bus Driver Shortage

By: LUKE REPPA, BEAT Reporter

It's no secret that these are challenging times for Ohio school districts, in terms of transportation. Both school districts and families are faced with the inconveniences of late buses and buses doing double routes, due in large part to the shortage of available bus drivers.

In Brunswick, this problem has been recognized by Heidi Armentrout, Director of the Personnel Office for the Brunswick City Schools. Most bus drivers are retirees who want a part-time job. However, since 2020, the number of applicants from this demographic has declined. As a result, districts like Brunswick are exploring out-of-the-box methods to attract and recruit as many bus driver candidates as possible.

Most recently, on Saturday, March 16th, 2024, Brunswick School recently offered a "Test Drive a Bus" opportunity (in the rear parking lot of Brunswick High School) to individuals who are age 21 and have a driver's license. Curious individuals who were considering becoming a bus driver could actually see if maneuvering a

large vehicle was a good fit for them, before making a commitment.

Actually, students – through their good behavior – can also play a role in helping their schools to attract more bus driver applicants. Simply getting on the bus and behaving correctly is enough to make a bus driver's job much easier. For some, driving a large bus with dozens of kids can appear to be intimidating at first. However, students who display good behavior can help tremendously.

Brunswick High School has an impressive fleet of almost 70 buses. Every day, each bus drives about 60 miles, or 10,000 miles a year. Totalling this up with all 70 buses, that's about 500,000 miles per year, or 93,000 gallons of fuel.

Armentrout believes that, in time, schools can recruit more bus drivers in the coming years and that the bus driver shortage will be lessened. All in all, the bus driver shortage is a state-wide problem that can be taken care of with community help.



Brunswick Schools' has explored several out-of-the-box ways to attract bus driver candidates, such as their "Test Drive a Bus" opportunity on Saturday, March 16th.



## RETIRED? LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME GIG?



# Serving a Mission to Educate Adults in Medina County

By: CHARLIE PISTONE, BEAT Reporter

Project: LEARN of Medina County is an important organization that enhances adult literacy and education for all within the community. This includes supporting both lifelong and new residents to both our community and country. "I've dedicated my career to empowering individuals through education," explained Jennifer Brenner, Project LEARN Executive Director. "Taking the plunge to lead Project: LEARN in July of 2022 was both a thrilling challenge and a natural progression of my commitment to serving others."

Project: LEARN started in the basement of a church where it served those who needed help with literacy. Later, volunteers started to offer their time to educate people with what they knew. "What started as a modest initiative soon blossomed

into a transformative force in the community, touching lives of countless individuals and families," Brenner stated. Today, Project: LEARN thrives to impact the community through education and literacy.

There are many programs that Project: LEARN offers, targeting different educational topics. In their Adult Basic Education classes, they provide the basics of mathematics, writing, reading, and the skills for the workforce. Another program they have is ESL, (English as a Second Language), which includes language instructions, and for those from other countries they offer fostering communication. They also provide a Basic Skills program that includes computer skills, financial management, and simple

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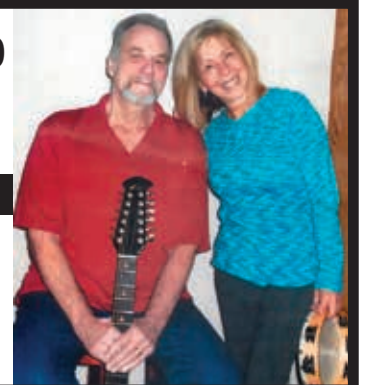
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>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

life skills. Learners can gain confidence in the skills they gain through each of these programs.

The community’s support of Project: LEARN is both needed and greatly appreciated. One way is to volunteer at their

bookstores and buy books from the stores. Project Learn operates in different Bookstores throughout Medina, Brunswick and Wadsworth. All of the funds collected go directly to the organization. Books donated to the bookstores also help in supporting the organization. Also, people

can volunteer as a tutor and share their knowledge with the learners. Furthermore, individuals can help out at fundraisers, organizing events, and raising awareness of the program. If you want to volunteer you can visit their website at: [projectlearnmedina.org/](http://projectlearnmedina.org/).



Solly Sollomy and Debbie Hume volunteering at the Book Shelf in Brunswick, one of Project: LEARN’s stores.

“Project: LEARN’s mission today serves as a testament to the profound impact that can be achieved through education and community support,” Brenner concluded. Support their mission by attending an upcoming event or visiting their stores. It may be the best investment you’ve ever made.

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# ★ HANDS HERO'S ★ HONORING WWII VETERAN, JOHN PRUCHNICKI

By: OLIVIA LaSCOLA, BEAT Reporter

Born in 1925, John Pruchnicki grew up the second youngest of ten siblings in Cleveland, Ohio. He had four brothers, and five sisters, who were always there for him. "If I needed anything, they were there," said Pruchnicki. "They'd stop what they were doing and they would help."

Pruchnicki took classes at Cleveland's East Technical High School, where he was learning how to become an electrician. Five months before he turned 18, his mother passed away. This was a tough time for him, and when Pruchnicki turned 18 in eleventh grade, he was required by law to register for the service. Only four months after registering, he was drafted into the Army in July of 1943, to serve as a soldier in World War Two.

Once drafted, Pruchnicki went to Fort Hayes in Columbus, Ohio. Shortly afterwards, he was taken to Camp Haan in California, where he had gone through military training. He was trained in Radar, Height Finder, and BC Scope, which stood for Battery Commander. His group became Tank Destroyers as John was a member of the Bazooka Recognizance Team. During basic training, he became friends with two men who lived near his hometown. "There were 20 guys about my age, and the rest were older," he stated. "From the older guys, I learned a lot."

He continued to train here until March, which is when he and other soldiers went home, as they were told they would be going on furlough. A few months later, they returned to camp for a few weeks, until Pruchnicki was told that he would be traveling overseas. In late July, he arrived in France, soon after D-Day. "From there we moved from

place to place, wherever they wanted us, because we had big guns," shared Pruchnicki. "They were nine-ton guns, and they were pulled by nine-ton tractors." These guns were large, heavy anti-aircraft guns.

After weeks of frequent traveling, Pruchnicki arrived just outside of Paris, where he stayed for about a month until he was moved to Belgium when the Battle of the Bulge began in late December of 1944. Germany's Airforce, called the Luftwaffe, began to fail, so Pruchnicki and the rest of his troop were told that they would now be tank destroyers. They took out many tanks during the Battle of the Bulge, and they moved all throughout Belgium for weeks, until early December.

Afterward, Pruchnicki was sent out with another soldier for Air Reconnaissance, where they had a radio and moved to Jalhay so that they were able to report back to their troop if anything were to happen. While in Jalhay, they stayed with a family for a few weeks, who Pruchnicki remains in contact with to this day.

After the Air Reconnaissance mission, Pruchnicki continued to travel throughout Germany. While in Germany, he and his troop came across many children. "You talk to people, and although they were the enemy, you know, there were still the kids and stuff," he explained. "I mean, that didn't mean anything to them. They liked to come around us because we were issued rations. You got candy and stuff, and oh, if they knew you had candy they were there! And, we had bananas and fruit which they haven't had for years because of the war."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



John celebrating his 99th birthday in March.



John, left, with fellow soldiers in Germany in November 1945.



John, with fellow veterans at the WWII monument in Washington D.C. in October 2023.

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John with his brother-in-law, Bernie Frygier.



At the WWII monument in D.C.

After years of traveling throughout Europe during the war, Pruchnicki's favorite place was Belgium, although he also enjoyed France as well. While Pruchnicki was in Germany, the war came to an end. He stayed in Germany with his troop until December, when they had left to go on a ship from France to New York. From there, he went through a separation center in Pennsylvania, and he was sent home, arriving back in Cleveland on January 26th, 1946.

Pruchnicki mentioned that the food he had access to while in the Army was good. However, once he went overseas, the quality of the food changed. "We were lucky if we got one hot meal a day," he said. "Otherwise, it was K and C rations." Some of these rations were meant to be warmed up with hot water, such as the rations for meat, beans, and stew. Additionally, soldiers received another can that contained crackers, candy, cigarettes, and toilet paper.

However, Pruchnicki didn't really use the cigarettes he was given. "I think I've smoked maybe about ten cigarettes in my life," he stated. "I didn't smoke when I got in the Army. I looked at the fellas there, the older guys, and they were all smoking so I tried. I don't know, I smoked a few of them, and started coughing. When you woke up in

the morning, all you heard was cough, cough, cough, and the first thing they'd reach for? Cigarette." Pruchnicki stated that they tried to provide hot food whenever they could, however there were some scenarios where it just wasn't realistic, such as during battles.

Sleep was hard to come by during World War Two. Pruchnicki would have to sleep at any opportunity available to him. He and other soldiers often slept inside trucks, or very small, two-person tents. "You had to lay on the ground because we didn't have beds, or cots or anything," he shared. "You just slept on the ground." Sometimes, he and his troop would come across unused barracks, where they had cots that they would get to sleep in. Additionally, they had bed rolls, which would be thrown into the back of the truck during the day, and they would be passed back out later on.

After the war, Pruchnicki started his family. He met his wife at a polka dance, and they married a few years later, on May 14th of 1949. They had two sons, Ron and Ken, who he is very proud of. Now 99 years of age, Mr. Pruchnicki is very grateful for his family, and everybody he has met throughout his life. "My life has been terrific. Real good," he said, smiling. "From the time from when I was a kid until now."

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MICHAEL LARIBEE



# FIDUCIARY FEES IN ESTATES

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

I have previously written about the duties of an executor in an estate. The administration of an estate can be quite complicated and time consuming. Generally, it includes locating the names and addresses of decedent's beneficiaries and next of kin, filing the decedent's last will and testament, gathering and protecting decedent's assets, obtaining appraisals, preparing an inventory of all real and personal property, verifying and paying creditor claims, selling assets, distributing estate property to beneficiaries, filing tax returns, and following all directions and orders from the probate court.

Legally appointed executors are authorized by an Ohio statute to take a commission, commonly known as a fiduciary fee, to compensate them for their efforts. Fiduciary fees are calculated upon the amount of the decedent's personal property, funds in financial accounts, and the value of decedent's real property.

As full compensation for all ordinary services, the Ohio statute provides that an executor may receive a fiduciary fee upon the amount of all the personal property, including any income generated, and upon the proceeds of real property that is sold, as follows:

- (1) For the first \$100,000, at the rate of four per cent (4%);**
- (2) All above \$100,000 and not exceeding \$400,000, at the rate of three per cent (3%); and,**
- (3) All above \$400,000, at the rate of two per cent (2%).**

The fiduciary fee is calculated using the gross sale proceeds for real property and the fair market value of all other property (date of death value) as set forth in the inventory. In the event the decedent's real property is not sold, but rather transferred to the beneficiaries directly, the executor may receive a fee of one per cent (1%) of the inventory value of real property.

Executors are also allowed to charge a fee of one per cent (1%) on the value of certain non-probate assets that are not subject to the probate court estate administration. These assets include joint and survivorship property and assets that have transfer on death designations. Aside from this compensation, the executor may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenditures.

The statute further provides that a probate court may reduce an executor's fiduciary fee, or deny the fee altogether, if it finds that the executor has not faithfully discharged his or her duties. The probate court may also allow a fiduciary fee that is greater than the statutory amount if an executor performs extraordinary services. In that case, the court may adjust the commission so that the total fees fairly reflect the reasonable value of both ordinary and extraordinary services.

Fiduciary fees are given priority for payment in insolvent estates as an expense of administration. Even if there are not enough estate assets to pay all of the decedent's debts, the executor will receive a fee for his or her services before funeral expenses, creditor claims, and other debts.

Sometimes executors will waive compensation as the fiduciary fee ultimately reduces the amount received by the

beneficiaries. However, if they decide to take a fiduciary fee, they must report the full amount received on their individual income tax return and pay taxes on it.

When administering a probate estate, it is important to seek the assistance of a probate lawyer. That way, an executor will successfully navigate the challenging requirements and receive the appropriate fee for his or her services.



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*Michael Laribee is a partner in the Medina law firm of Laribee Law, LLP.  
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# ROTH IRA

## Should You Convert Your Traditional IRA to a Roth? Some scenarios say yes, others say no.

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

### RAYMOND JAMES



CLAUS MEYER

If a Roth IRA conversion means tax-free withdrawals in retirement and a more substantial inheritance for your heirs later on, it sounds like a no-brainer. But converting a traditional IRA to a Roth doesn't make sense for everyone.

Roth IRAs are funded with after-tax dollars, and provided that several criteria are met, qualified withdrawals are tax free. If you're converting funds from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, you'll have to pay taxes on that income upfront. But it may be worthwhile to have access to tax-free money during retirement.

#### SMART MOVE?

Below are a few situations in which a Roth IRA conversion is worth considering:

■ Your tax bracket is expected to be higher in retirement, or your income fluctuates and it's lower this year than it usually is. It's wise to do a Roth IRA conversion in a year that your income is lowest, to minimize income taxes. The amount you're converting will be added to your gross income for the year and could push you into a higher tax bracket.

■ You live in a state with no income tax but will retire to a state with income tax. By

doing the conversion in your current state, you'll avoid the state income tax on withdrawals of the converted funds.

■ You have most of your assets in tax-deferred accounts. Once you make the conversion to a Roth IRA, you'll have access to tax-free money in retirement. Diversifying your accounts by tax treatment will allow you to better manage your tax bracket and help optimize tax planning in retirement.

■ You don't need the money from the IRA in your lifetime and want to maximize the estate you leave to your heirs. Your heirs can eventually access the Roth IRA without tax implications, as long as they follow the guidelines set forth by the IRS.

■ Your taxable income will stay the same but you expect tax rates to go up in the future. If you think tax rates will go up in the future, it might be better to pay the tax liability now when rates are lower.

**But in these scenarios, you might want to think twice about making a Roth IRA conversion, at least for now:**

■ You're nearing retirement and you plan to use your traditional IRA to pay for living expenses. The advantage of the Roth IRA is that qualified distributions are tax free. If you need IRA funds soon, you can't give those funds a chance to grow and compound and you haven't maximized the growth potential.

■ You're currently receiving or are two years away from receiving Medicare benefits. A Roth conversion would increase your taxable income and could impact how much you pay for Medicare Part B and D premiums.

■ You don't have cash on hand to pay for the conversion taxes. If you don't have the cash but want to go through with the conversion anyway by selling assets to pay the taxes, look at assets without taxable gains or those that have a higher cost basis. Best practice is to use funds outside of an IRA to pay for the conversion.

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# FROM WRMC

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Today. Tomorrow. Together.



If you are considering moving to a senior living community you might be feeling nervous or apprehensive. Moving to a senior living community is a big change, and it might be difficult to decide if and when it is the right move for you. Senior living communities offer a wide array of benefits and can be a great choice for older adults. Let's take a closer look at some of the uncertainties you may have when considering moving to a senior living community.

### CONCERN: I'M NOT SURE I NEED TO MOVE.

This can be a common concern, the feeling that I don't need to move yet. I'm not in need of that level of care. You never want to be put in a situation where you have to make a decision during a crisis. Western Reserve Masonic Community (WRMC) is a Continuing Care Retirement Community, commonly called a CCRC. This gives residents the peace of mind to know

that if their health changes and they need more care, it can be handled because they chose a CCRC like Western Reserve Masonic Community as their new home.

When you think you may not want to move, just remember that WRMC has maintenance free living. You will never need to worry about shoveling snow or mowing the grass. If your refrigerator stops working, call maintenance and it will be replaced. Maintenance free living is a great way to live knowing those worries are no longer a worry for you.



### CONCERN: I DON'T WANT TO SIGN A LONG-TERM LEASE.

One of the benefits of living at WRMC is that you will never have to sign a long-term lease. WRMC uses a rental model and if you should need to move, all you have to do is provide a 30-day notice.

### CONCERN: I WANT TO MAINTAIN AN ACTIVE LIFESTYLE.

At WRMC we also want you to maintain an active life, and we provide life enrichment programming that will do just

that. We provide activities that fit all lifestyles. If you like being part of a theatrical group or attending plays or the opera, you can have that at WRMC. Maybe you enjoy bird watching or taking walks, you can also do that at WRMC. Going out for dinners or Wine Down Wednesday are other activities that you can enjoy. If you have an idea for a new activity the life enrichment team will make every effort to give it a try. There is something for everyone at Western Reserve Masonic Community.

### CONCERN: I'M NOT SURE I CAN AFFORD IT.

Senior living costs vary depending on location, type of community, services, and amenities. At WRMC you will have an all-inclusive monthly fee that covers services and amenities. Consider adding up your current monthly expenses and compare them to the monthly cost at WRMC.



You may discover that you will like what you find. For those of you who are golfers, that's included too!

Now that you have learned that you can still live your life in a manner that makes you happy and productive, is there a good time to consider making a move to a senior living community? Yes, there is and it's now. Spring is considered an ideal time to move.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



# FROM WRMC

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

Moving to a senior living community in the spring can be an exciting experience. Spring is a time of renewal and new beginnings making it the perfect season to start a new chapter in your life. One of the benefits of moving in the spring is the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. Many senior living communities are situated in scenic locations that offer easy access to parks, walking trails, and outdoor opportunities. Spring is the perfect time to enjoy these amenities. Moving in the spring allows older adults to get settled in their new home and start building relationships with other residents before the busy summer months begin.

Another benefit of moving to a senior living community in the spring is the opportunity to downsize and simplify your life. Selling your home in the spring can have several benefits such as:

- Beating the competition
- Getting a better price for your home
- Showing off your property
- Taking advantage of the warming temperatures
- Movers are available and less expensive
- Comfortable temperatures for packing and moving
- Enjoying spring in your new home

Many older adults find that they have accumulated a lifetime of possessions, making it difficult to manage their homes and maintain their independence. Moving to a senior living community can provide the chance to streamline your belongings and focus on the things that you really want to do at this time in your life.

Moving to a senior living community in the spring can offer peace of mind for both older adults and their loved ones. Senior living communities provide a range of services and amenities that can help older adults maintain their independence and quality of life, while also providing support and assistance as needed. This can be reassuring for family members who may worry about their loved ones living alone.

If you are considering a move, don't put it off. Western Reserve Masonic Community is the perfect place to call home. Give us a call at 330-642-3841 and schedule a tour today.



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## RAYMOND JAMES

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

■ You plan to give a substantial amount of your IRA to charity. A Qualified Charitable Distribution from a traditional IRA to a eligible charity is a non-taxable distribution for the IRA owner. It's a way to fulfill charitable wishes while minimizing taxes. A QCD from a Roth IRA will also fulfill charitable goals, but you are also unnecessarily paying a tax bill beforehand.

■ If you receive a discount or tax credit for your health insurance through the Health Exchange, a Roth conversion might eliminate the discount you are eligible to receive for your health insurance.

With so many factors to consider, it's a smart move to have a chat with your advisor before deciding whether to do a Roth IRA conversion. Converting a traditional IRA to a Roth doesn't always make sense, but it can be a powerful move for some in preparation of retirement.

### NEXT STEPS

If you're thinking about converting a traditional IRA to a Roth:

- Think about when and how you plan to use the IRA funds.
- Speak to your advisor about your specific situation before initiating a conversion.

If you decide to convert from a traditional to a Roth IRA, there won't be tax on any distributions, however there could be a 10% penalty unless each conversion has a five-year holding period or you meet a 10% penalty exception. E Converting a traditional IRA into a Roth IRA has tax implications. Investors should consult a tax advisor before deciding to do a conversion.

Sources: wells Fargo.com; schwab.com; investor.vanguard.com; investopedia.com; kiplinger.com; fool.com



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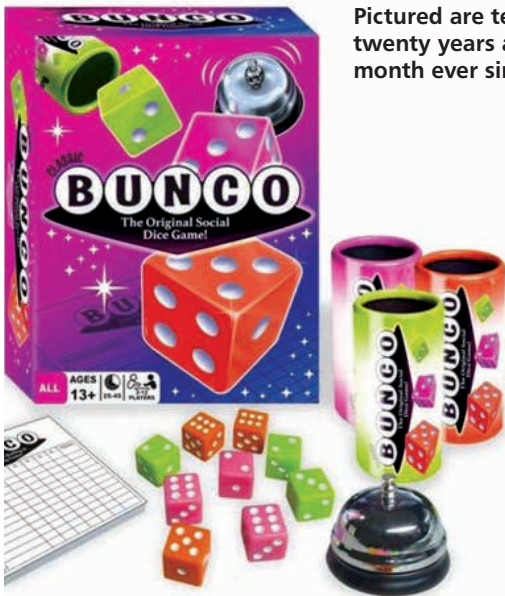
Serving Medina County



LADIES BUNCO GROUP STILL GOING STRONG AFTER 20 YEARS!



Pictured are ten of the original twelve ladies who started their Bunco group twenty years ago. They have been meeting every fourth Tuesday of the month ever since.



Bunco was originally a confidence game similar to three-card monte. It originated in 19th-century England, where it was known as “eight dice cloth.” It was imported to San Francisco as a gambling activity in 1855, where it gave its name to gambling parlors, or “bunco parlors”, and more generally to any swindle. After the Civil War, the game evolved into a popular parlor game. During the 1920s and Prohibition, bunco was re-popularized as a gambling game, often associated with speakeasies. Law-enforcement groups raiding these parlors came to be known as “bunco squads”. Bunco saw a resurgence in popularity as a family game in the 1980s. Members of bunco clubs often take turns hosting, providing snacks, refreshments and the tables to set up the games.

FROM THE HEALTH DEPT.  
**YOU & YOUR HEALTH MATTER**

The Medina County Health Department is honoring Mental Health Awareness Month this May. Every year, the national movement raises awareness about mental health and provides support to the millions of people affected by mental health in the U.S.

Showing up just as you are, for yourself and the people around you is more than enough.

Throughout the month we want to remind you to fight the stigma and as your local health department, we can help!

The Medina County Health Department has an on-site Health Center Social Worker ready to listen and can provide “talk-therapy” based on the individual’s situation. Our Social Worker can also make referrals to additional outside resources within the community.

Mental health can also be affected by physical health, they go hand in hand. Our full medical and dental departments are staffed by healthcare professionals who will listen to your concerns and work with you on your health journey.

Schedule an appointment today and put yourself first. Call 330-723-9688, option 1 or visit our website, [www.medina-health.org/healthcenter](http://www.medina-health.org/healthcenter).

Services are partially funded by your local health levy. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



**YOU AND YOUR HEALTH MATTER.**

Medical. Dental. Behavioral Health Support.  
330-723-9688, option 1

**Your mental and physical health is our top priority.**

Schedule an appointment today to speak with our on-site Health Center Social Worker or healthcare providers to make a plan for improving your overall well-being.



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# Healthy Aging Grant Helps Seniors Sharpen Their Driving Skills

From: THE MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS



The driving skills pad located behind the Medina County Career Center.

Ohio's new Healthy Aging Grants program provides one time funding of \$40 million in support of local aging services focused on helping Ohioans ages 60 and older stay healthy, live longer, and maintain their independence. Because every community in Ohio is unique, Healthy Aging funds are also designed to be flexible – supporting local aging programs making the biggest impact in their area. These grants can be used to promote a number of additional services that align with Ohio's 2023-2026 State Plan on Aging, such as nutrition and physical activity, health insurance enrollment, minor home repairs, caregiver support, transportation, and more. The funds came to the Medina County Commissioners and are being provided through the Medina County Office for Older Adults. All funding must be allocated by September 30, 2024.

In Medina County, one of the ways the Office for Older Adults is using this grant is for seniors to attend a new program to help them sharpen their driving skills. In partnership with the Medina County Sheriff's Department, they have developed a version of the existing "Take Control" Teen Driving Program tailored to seniors. In addition to classroom instruction, "Take Control" puts drivers behind the wheel with certified Medina County Sheriff's Department driving instructors to practice the following techniques:

- The relationship between eye positioning and driving
- Vehicle pivot points in forward and reverse
- Collision avoidance
- Emergency braking

The first Senior Driving Skills class was held on March 28, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with nine seniors practicing those skills at Medina County Career Center's closed driving course. Dedicated in June, 2019 the Medina County Driving Skills Pad is a result of a collaborative effort between Montville Police Department, Medina County Law Enforcement, Medina County Career Center, Ehrbar Angels Foundation, Jessica Lynn Schaffer Memorial Fund, Michelle's Leading Star (Mstar) Foundation, Westfield Insurance, Medina County Probate and Juvenile Court Judge Kevin Dunn, and the State of Ohio Department of Public Safety.

With three participants in each practice car along with an instructor, they took turns driving through an obstacle course practicing correct hand placement on the wheel and road skills. Eileen Pizzino of Medina Township said, "It was very informative.



I'm practicing what they taught me. It was well worth attending and I'd do it again!"

At first Mrs. Pizzino was unsure about how taking the class might impact her driver's license or insurance. She said, "I asked them, what if I fail? Will I lose or get points on my license, or will my insurance go up? They told me that there is no "pass" or "fail," it is simply a course to improve my skills." In fact, taking the course can help some people get a discount on their insurance. Marji Kolesar of Medina said, "It was very educational and I saved 10% on my insurance after completing it." Participants may be eligible for a discount on their car insurance. Some restrictions apply so check with your agent to determine if a discount is offered and if you are eligible.

MCOOA is planning on offering the course again and will announce when it is scheduled on social media. The class is open to seniors age 60-plus with a valid driver's license.



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# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By: SHERRY CASSILY, Director, Archangels Specialty Home Care



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SHERRY CASSILY, DIRECTOR OF ARCHANGELS SPECIALTY HOME CARE

My father, John Cassily, BHS '65, nominated George Britnell, BHS '63, for the Brunswick City Schools Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. He knew George as an upper classman whose blonde hair was the admiration of all the girls in the school.

His artwork was always displayed in the hallway outside of the art room. The art would draw student attention. It always stood out among the other works hanging on the wall. George's art is often a symbol for something that is tangible, a classic automobile, piece of machinery, a landscape, or a portrait. Through his art, he can convey the full spectrum of the human experience. A simple pencil drawing of a piece of machinery turns a steam engine into a range of emotions.

George's creative career started at the age of 7, carving a helicopter out of a block of balsa wood based on an illustration from a comic book. At the age of 14, an older neighbor sold a lathe with no motor to George for \$25. George found a motor and his interest in machining began. At the age of 17, George found a place in Cleveland that sold Stuart Turner Kits. Stuart Models are machined kits to be assembled into a variety of miniature machines. George completed most of the versions that were available to him.

George took college prep classes in high school, attending the Cooper School of Art, with the goal of becoming a commercial artist. Unable to meet the expense of art school, George found himself in the Army during the Viet Nam war. It was in the Army that George's machining skills grew. George joined the machine and maintenance shop, working closely with a German colleague who shared his knowledge and skills with him.

After his discharge, George was offered a Ford Motor Company apprenticeship as a Pattern Maker. It was his job to turn a designer's sketch into a three-dimensional functional object. He used these skills to design and build some of his own miniature engines for which he has offered drawings to others. George also designed miniature sawmills, hay balers, rifles, pistons, and many other small tools and projects.

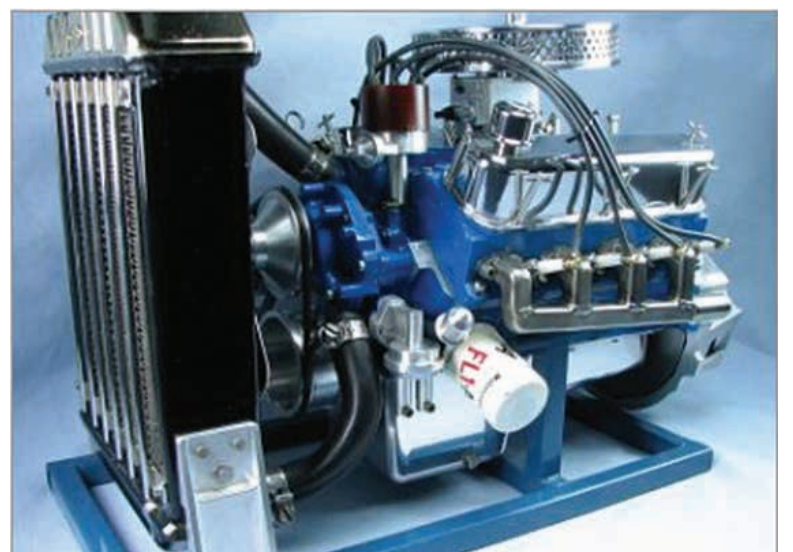
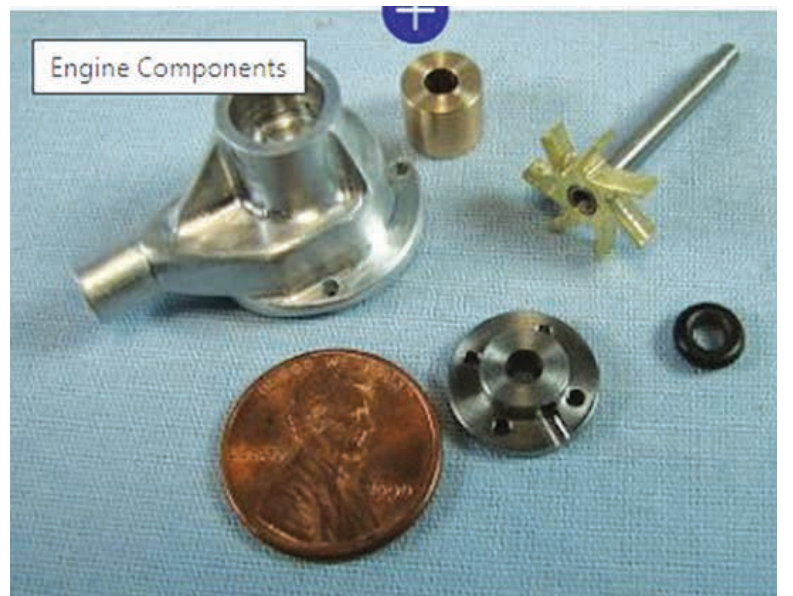
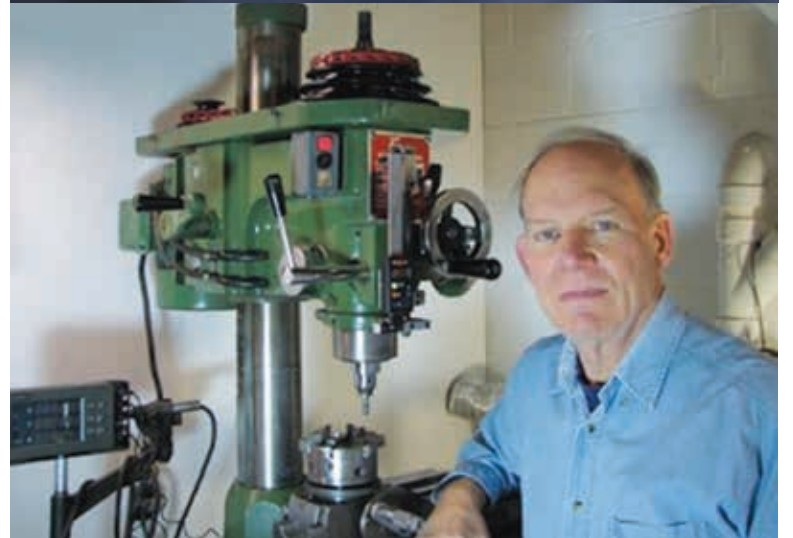
George Britnell was THE 2016 JOE MARTIN FOUNDATION AWARD WINNER, an award to the Craftsman of the Year for a lifetime of work that is head-and-shoulders above that of others in a particular field. George's broad interests take him into many aspects of model engineering, from guns to engines. All his working models share an attention to detail and final finish that puts them a cut above the rest.

He also enjoys making a model and then making another version of it smaller than the first. His wide range of choice requires diverse design, engineering, and craftsmanship skills. George shared a thought about today's computer assisted design and machining, saying, "to me, working metal, wood and glass by hand is more befitting of the term 'craftsman'."

He has distinguished himself and has been recognized by others for a prominent level of achievement in the arts, model engineering, design, and machining. George uses drafting to communicate form and fabrication. Once the drawing is complete, he creates miniature machines by giving form and function to his well-drafted drawings using a block of metal, an old-school lathe and machining. Using watercolor and colored pencils, he has distinguished himself as an artist by drawing cars, machines, portraits, and landscapes.

A talented artist is defined by "How their work makes others feel." A glimpse into what George has created as an artist, model engineer and craftsman will leave you feeling great surprise and wonder. Follow George on Pinterest and YouTube. More details about George's machining work can be found at <https://craftsmanshipmuseum.com/artisan/george-britnell/>.

## GEORGE BRITNELL



### Ford 302 V-8

This project was entirely scratch-built without the use of any CNC machining.

George fashions all engine parts from blocks of metal and a home lathe. His artwork consists of pencil drawings and watercolors. His ability to capture a soft luster on the surface of a vehicle is amazing.



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## Welcome Home to Luxury Senior Living at The Village at Hinckley Oaks



The Village at Hinckley Oaks is an exclusive, neighborhood-style, majority 55+ living, apartment community, perfectly located in Hinckley, OH. These brand-new apartment homes bring a maintenance-free lifestyle to adults who are ready to live actively and peacefully, without the everyday stresses of owning a home. Every bit of The Village at Hinckley Oaks, from the gorgeous interiors to the vibrant community spaces, was designed for you to live a life of comfort, convenience, and connection.

Each of our homes offers modern features, such as keyless and covered front entry, luxury plank flooring, a kitchen island with a breakfast bar, and more. As a resident of our pet-friendly community, you will also have exclusive access to covered outdoor seating areas, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and a private clubhouse, to name a few.

The Village at Hinckley Oaks's ideal location allows you to lead the life you want! With easy access to Route 303 and 130th St, enjoy proximity to all the shopping, dining, and entertainment options nearby Brunswick has to offer. Escape to Hinckley Hills Golf Course or spend time exploring Worden's Ledges knowing unapparelled rest and relaxation is waiting for you at home.

Our senior apartments in Hinckley offer the perfect blend of form and function. The style we provide extends beyond the thoughtfully designed interiors, perfectly sized living areas, and modern fixtures of your new apartment home. Don't forget about our amazing amenities and inviting community spaces for you to enjoy!

Words can only take you so far, so stop by or give us a call today for your personal tour of our irresistible Hinckley, OH apartments!

\*80% of the community must have a lease holder that is 55 or older

1456 RIDAN WAY-HINCKLEY, OH 44233

## Lions Update

### REVERSE RAFFLE

Some say the unofficial start to spring is Mother's Day or Easter, for the Medina Lions it is their Annual Don Malatz Memorial Reverse Raffle. As in years past this year's raffle was held at Guy's Party Center on Waterloo Rd in Akron, OH. Close to 200 people came out to purchase raffle tickets and enjoy some good food and conversation. Guy's Party Center continues to prove they have one of the best venues in the area and club members received numerous compliments on the quality of food and service.

Five finalists chose to split the grand prize of \$2,500 and long-time club member Basil Guild was a surprise winner of the \$1,000 sideboard. Basil and wife, Wendy, went home at the end of the evening thinking they had not been winners. Club President Kent Von Der Vellen called Basil Saturday morning if he had checked his \$10 raffle ticket and if he knew what the last number drawn. Basil said he put the ticket in his pocket and did not think to check it at the end of the evening.

This year the Lions received some help from some high school and college students. Last year's winner Hailey Weil brought her sister Madeline Weil and friend Madeline Stachera to help. Three Medina High School students Olivia Bonitz, Casey Danczak and Jacob Guarnera volunteered their time as well. Our special guests helped sell sideboards, lottery tree, 50/50, Bingo cards and with the pulling and turning the numbers. Bill Nicolay announced the winners for the Lottery Tree and 50/50 raffle and read over the rules before Jill Young and Deb Zimbardi announced the numbers.

The night was a resounding success and funds raised will be used to help those in need in the greater Medina area. If you would like to learn more about the Medina Lions please email club president Kent Von Der Vellen at [vdv@zoominternet.net](mailto:vdv@zoominternet.net).



People with autism are reaching out into their communities to ask for more understanding, acceptance and help. They want their friends, neighbors and the community in general to look for and find new ways to include them into daily life. So, what do people with autism really want you to understand?

## 1 WE ARE ALL INDIVIDUALS

Autism affects everyone in different ways; if you've met one person with autism, you've only met one person with autism. Each of us is unique and different. And we are definitely not the stereotypes you see in popular culture, so please don't make assumptions that we are unfeeling robots, Rainman or savants.

## 2 WE HAVE HOBBIES, NOT SPECIAL INTERESTS

People with autism may hyper-focus on a certain subject and become an expert in it; particularly ones we are comfortable with and interested in. Instead of singling this out, our hobbies should be nurtured (into fulfilling careers if possible), and not treated as just unimportant special interests.

## 3 UNDERSTAND WHY WE STIM

People with autism sense the world differently and may experience sensory overload. In response to this, some people with autism might stim. Stimming is a self-soothing behavior such as rocking, humming and fidgeting, which helps us process our surroundings, reduce anxiety and provide comfort. It is important to be open-minded and flexible when you see a person stimming, we are trying to fit into our community.



From: The Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities

## 4 OUR COMMUNICATION MIGHT BE DIFFERENT

For some people with autism, it is easier if sentences are kept short and simple. Others find it easier when key words and phrases are repeated. Sometimes people with autism do not communicate with words at all. This should never be mistaken for a lack of intelligence. Please be open-minded and try to find different ways to communicate meaningfully with us.

## 5 WE HAVE EMPATHY

Some people think that when you have autism, that you aren't empathetic or can't feel empathy, but this is wrong. In many cases, we actually feel overwhelming levels of empathy and other feelings, but we may not be able to express them in typical ways. Also, most of us prefer to say exactly what we mean and feel, but we might not realize this may upset you.

### BONUS TIP:

We need more autism-friendly environments and understanding - Although each of us experiences the world differently, more can be done to make everyday environments more autism-friendly. Simple adjustments such as low-level lighting or decreasing noise levels can make a difference. The best way you can support the autism community is to be flexible, and remember that everyone is unique with different interests, needs, habits, likes and dislikes.

# 5 Things People with Autism Want You to Really Know

- committed to inclusion -





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

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**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 developmental disabilities such as autism. We help with everything from early intervention and education opportunities for children to employment and community inclusive living for adults. Call us at 330-725-7751 or visit [www.mcbdd.org](http://www.mcbdd.org) for more information.**



## ESTATE PLANNING AND ELDER LAW

# What Does it Mean to "Add" Someone to my Bank Account?



ANN SALEK

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



As clients age, they often want to make sure one of their children have access to their bank account(s) to pay bills if necessary. I often hear from clients that someone at their bank told them, "We can just add your child to your account. That makes it so easy!" However, most people (including the people at the bank) do not understand the consequences of "adding" someone to their account.

When the bank says they will "add" someone to your account, that typically means the person is added as a "joint owner." There are some unintended consequences to making someone a "joint owner." For instance, when one joint owner dies, the surviving joint owner owns 100% of the account. That surviving joint owner can do whatever they want with that account. For example, when Mom dies, she wants all of her assets split equally among her children. Her Will is written to allocate all assets equally among her children. However, Mom "adds" her son to her bank accounts. When Mom dies, the son is the 100% owner of the bank account with no requirement to split the funds equally among his siblings.

Another consequence to "adding" someone to your bank account is that account is now susceptible to the joint "owner's" issues. For example, if that joint owner needs to apply for some type of financial aid (FAFSA) or a governmental benefit (Medicaid), that account is counted as

the joint owners' funds regardless of whether that joint owner contributed anything to the account. Furthermore, the account is subject to the creditors of the joint owners and even the divorce of a joint owner.

An alternative to "adding" someone to your account is to designate someone as the "Power of Attorney" on the account. The Power of Attorney can access the account and use the funds as needed for the owner's benefit. However, the Power of Attorney is not an "owner" of the account. The unintended consequences discussed above are no longer an issue.

I have had clients tell me the bank advised them to just "add" someone to the account rather than a Power of Attorney because that way they can avoid Probate. This is true, the Power of Attorney is no longer valid once the grantor dies. However, there are other ways to avoid Probate than to add someone as a joint owner.

Joint ownership can be a very useful tool in an estate plan so long as you fully understand the consequences of joint ownership. In fact, I often advise clients to hold certain property "jointly." However, that is usually because I have fully discussed with the client what their goals are, I am aware of all the assets they own, and I understand how joint ownership can successfully work in conjunction with their overall estate plan.

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**POWERED BY CONNECTION: MAY 2024**

**From: THE MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS**

Established in 1963, Older Americans Month (OAM) is celebrated every May. Led by a federal agency, the Administration for Community Living (ACL), OAM is a time to recognize older Americans' contributions, highlight aging trends, and reaffirm commitments to serving the older adults in our communities.

This year's theme, "Powered by Connection," focuses on the profound impact that meaningful connections have on the well-being and health of older adults — a relationship underscored by the U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community.

"It's not just about having someone to chat with," said Medina County Office for Older Adults Director Laura Toth. "It's about the transformative potential of community engagement in enhancing mental, physical, and emotional well-being." According to Toth, by recognizing and nurturing the role that connectedness plays, we can mitigate issues like loneliness, ultimately promoting healthy aging for more Americans.

### HOW CAN COMMUNITY GROUPS, BUSINESSES, AND ORGANIZATIONS MARK OAM?

■ Spread the word about the mental, physical, and emotional health benefits of social connection through professional and personal networks.

■ Encourage social media followers to share their thoughts and stories of connection using hashtag #PoweredByConnection to inspire and uplift.

■ Promote opportunities to engage, like cultural activities, recreational programs, and interactive virtual events.

■ Connect older adults with local services, such as counseling, that can help them overcome obstacles to meaningful relationships and access to support systems.

■ Host connection-centric events or programs where older adults can serve as mentors to peers, younger adults, or youths.

What can individuals do to connect?

■ Invite more connection into your life by finding a new passion, joining a social club, taking a class, or trying new activities in your community.

■ Stay engaged in your community by giving back through volunteering, working, teaching, or mentoring.

■ Invest time with people to build new relationships and discover deeper connections with your family, friends, colleagues, or neighbors.

For more information, visit the official website at <https://acl.gov/oam/2024/older-americans-month-2024> and follow ACL on X, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Join the conversation on social media using the hashtag #OlderAmericansMonth.





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# SENIOR DAY

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## Medina County Office for Older Adults Commits to Justice on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15th

From: THE MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS

The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations (UN) launched the first World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15, 2006 in an effort to unite communities around the world in raising awareness about elder abuse. WEAAD serves as a call-to-action for our communities to raise awareness about abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elders, and reaffirm our country's commitment to the principle of justice for all.

When we come together, we can prevent elder abuse from happening. We can put support services in place, and direct community resources toward addressing elder abuse. Our country must reaffirm our commitment to justice and create a sturdy structure of support that will benefit us all as we get older.

Elder abuse is widespread. Every year an estimated 1 in 10 older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. And that's only part of the picture: Experts believe that elder abuse is significantly under-reported, in part because so many of our communities lack the social supports that would make it easier for those who experience abuse to report it. Research suggests that as few as 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse come to the attention of authorities.

In addition to being a clear violation of the American commitment to justice for all, elder abuse is an issue with many consequences for our society. Its effects on our communities range from public health to economic issues.

The good news is that we can prevent and address the issue of elder abuse. There are many ways to strengthen our social supports through policies, services, and programs that keep us integrated in our communities as we age.

■ We can design and equip community centers to work as intergenerational spaces that allow older people to build relationships and participate in the work, play, and life of our neighborhoods.

■ We can think about the role of transportation in reducing social isolation and adjust systems so that we can all continue to move throughout our communities as we age.

■ We can figure out new and better ways to arrange and coordinate the teams, agencies, and programs that work specifically with older people.

■ We can develop programs to educate families and professionals who work with older adults to understand the importance of preventing isolation, how to spot the warning signs of abuse, and what to do to address abuse or neglect.

By doing all that we can to strengthen the social support structure, we can reduce social isolation, protect communities and families against elder abuse, and build a nation that lives up to our promise of justice for all.

If you would like more information about the topic, please contact the Medina County Office for Older Adults at 330-723-9514.



# Happy Father's Day!

*Looking for something special to do with your dad?*

**Check Out the 66th Annual Father's Day Car Show  
at Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens on June 16!**



## **BE PART OF THE FATHER'S DAY TRADITION THAT STARTED IN 1957!**

Featuring the area's finest antique and classic cars, trucks, and special-interest autos, the Father's Day Car Show at Stan Hywet Hall has always been regarded as one of the best car events of the year and is one of the longest running car shows in the country.

By focusing on quality, the show attracts more than 400 of Ohio's very best automobiles as well as over 6,000 spectators. Won't you join the festivities? This is an event that IS NOT to be missed by anyone with a love for great automobiles. Whether you are showing a vehicle or planning to come as a spectator, you can be part of something wonderful!

# Celebrating 15 Years Caring for the Community

*Plum Creek*  
A Senior Assisted Living Community  
Family Owned

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.

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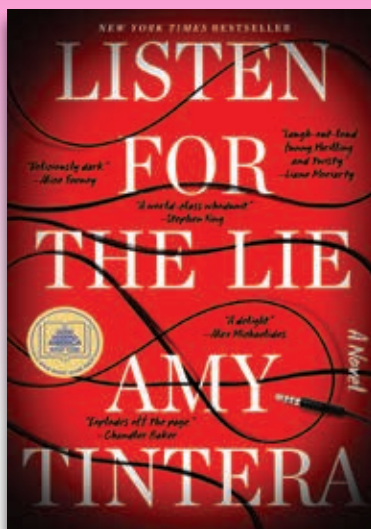
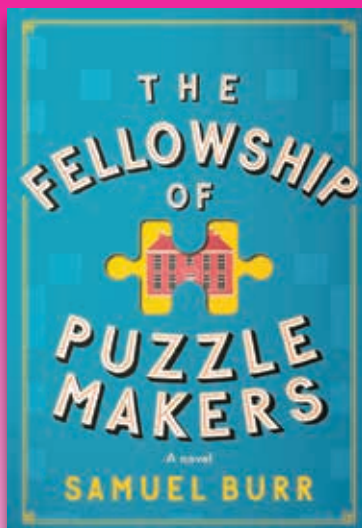
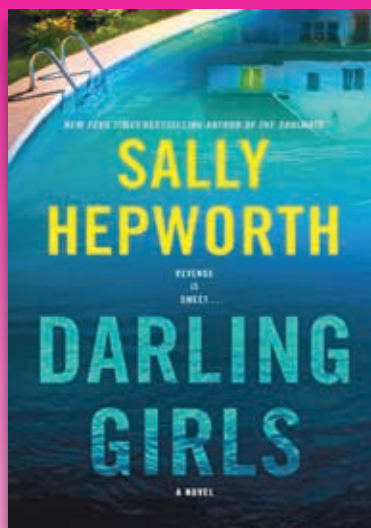


# LIBRARY NEWS

*Read it and Reap!*

## SPRING READING Some Titles to Check Out!

From: MARY OLSON, Readers' Advisory Librarian



## Outreach Services *Bringing the Library to You*



**Have difficulty coming to the library?**

Find out if home delivery service is right for you, call 330-722-2590.

[mcdl.info/Outreach](http://mcdl.info/Outreach)

## MCDL IS ON A ROLL!



This spring the new Book Bike debuts at local community events, festivals, and parades. The Book Bike has an attached trailer, with custom-built enclosed shelves that hold books. Forget your library card? No problem! Make a selection, no check out required. "We will be at festivals, the farmer's market on the square, parades, just about anywhere we can meet new people and get books in their hands," says Christine Gramm, Medina Library Manager.

It's easy to request the book bike for your community or non-profit event. Just fill out the "Request the Book Bike" form at [mcdl.info/BookBike](http://mcdl.info/BookBike)

Staff will get back to you within five business days. We are not able to bring the book bike to private events such as birthday parties. Book Bike books consist of quality donations and library discards. Tax dollars are not used to buy new books for giveaways.



**330-725-0588**  
[www.mcdl.info](http://www.mcdl.info)

### BE AMONG THE FIRST TO SEE THE BIKE AT THESE SCHEDULED EVENTS:

- June 1: ..... Teen Fest on the Square, afternoon hours TBD
- June 13: ..... Pride Picnic and Chalk Fest on the square 6:00-8:00 pm
- July 18: ..... Arts Week event on the Square 6:00-8:00 pm
- Aug. 2: ..... Harry Potter event on the Square 12:00 - 2:00
- Sept. 28: ..... Fall Fest on the Square hours TBD

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to lend a helping hand.*

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