

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

# SUMBREALS 2004



HANDS Foundation's Summer Breezes Event Raises Funds for Seniors on July 11th at Hinckley Oaks.

attended Summer Breezes, the major fundraiser for the HANDS Foundation, which took place on Thursday evening, July 11, at The Village of Hinckley Oaks Senior Living Community in Hinckley.

According to HANDS Executive Director Chrissy Waller, the event offered the guests

Around 100 excited quests

tive Director Chrissy Waller, the event offered the guests an opportunity to enjoy a delightful evening in a scenic, quaint setting on the beautiful outdoor patio.

Guests were treated to a wonderful dinner while attendees participated in a variety of silent auction activities. A special thank you goes out to The Village of Hinckley Oaks for hosting such an amazing event. THANK YOU!!!

In addition, guests took chances on the sideboards, and bid on a variety of decorative baskets filled with amazing items.

Hands Foundation Executive Director, Chrissy Waller shared the history of the Foundation established almost 30 years ago by the late Don Simpson, reminding the audience of its mission to care for those seniors who once cared for us.

We'd also like to thank all of the guests who attended and all the wonderful folks who provided auction items.



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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









# Mayor Hanwell Receives the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award

Last night my dad received the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award for his lifetime of service and leadership in the community. He made his way through the ranks at Medina City Police Department, is in his fourth term as Medina City Mayor, he is actively involved in several charitable organizations, community groups and his church, and he has still managed to be the best husband/dad/grandpa that our family could ask for. I have always admired his hard work, dedication, and integrity when it comes to his professional life, yet astonished that he has the energy to come to almost every event, game, birthday or just-because get together we have. I could not be more proud to call him my dad, and this honor is beyond well-deserved.

Love you!! - Nicole Baisden (Hanwell)





# SPECIAL THANK YOU!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU SHOUT OUT TO THE LADY EAGLES FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATION TO THE HANDS FOUNDATION!



HANDS Executive Director, Chrissy Waller with HANDS President, Brandi Provoznik and Treasurer, Grant Crabbs.





Awards (and bragging rights) for Most Points, Best Dressed, and Loudest Cheering Section! \$50 per team \$10 per additional spectator

Appetizers • Desserts • Wine • Beer



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

Event will be held at:

Western Reserve Masonic Community in the Community Center 4931 Nettleton Road, Medina, Ohio 44256



RSVP by September 23 to Chrissy at: chrissywallerhandsfound@gmail.com

# SAVETHE DATE!



Register Now!

# Northeast Ohio Aging & disABILITY Summit

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 | 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM **Cleveland Marriott East** 

**ENGAGE WITH EXHIBITORS** VIRTUAL OPTION EARN UP TO 6.5 CEUS

\$90 Professionals

\$30 Retirees & Students



# **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

# Dr. James Campbell

Director of the Geriatric Center, The MetroHealth System Professor of Family Medicine, **Case Western Reserve University** 













Save the date for the 2024 Northeast Ohio Aging and disAbility Summit!

Join us on Friday, September 27th as we commemorate 30 years of progress: Reflecting on the past and embracing the future.

This milestone event will spotlight cutting-edge innovations and best practices addressing the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities.

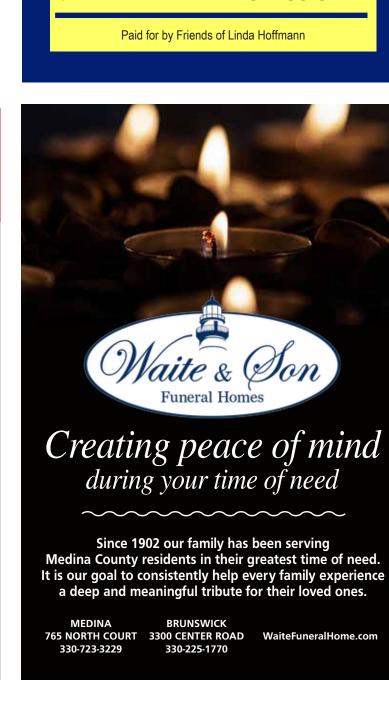
Last year's event saw over 400 attendees. including professionals, older adults, and caregivers, engaging in enriching discussions and presentations. This year, we are excited to celebrate 30 years of the summit with an even bigger and better event!

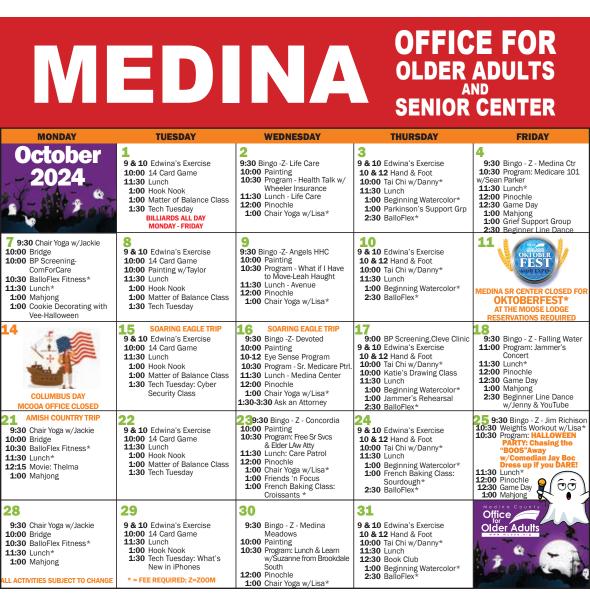
Attendees can look forward to innovative presentations on the evolving care of older adults, public health challenges contributing to premature death and disability in Cleveland, and strategies for adopting behaviors that promote a longer. healthier life. Esteemed professionals and experts in the field of aging and disability will share their insights.

For details, call 216-698-2562 or email agingsummit@jfs.ohio.gov.



# CALENDAREVENTS







- **♦ FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE**
- **♦ DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT**
- EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL





CENTER HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4 pm

CAFÉ HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 2 pm

Mausay	Burchay	WEDNESDAY	Euunen av	Eninav
Монрач	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Valking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2
Center & Café Closed for Holiday	Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press, Checks 12:00 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Centerpiece Assembly 1:30 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 Mithod 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 1 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 1 Genealogy 2:00
Ninochle 9:00  A Matter of Balance 10:00  Ukulele Practice 10:00  Bunco 1:00  Movie at Wads, Library 1:00  Medicare 101* 3:00	Behavior Management for Weight Loss 10:30	Gentle Exercise 11:00 Baseball Watch Party 1:00 - Pregame w Ray Horner 12:30 Dominoes/Games 1:00	Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Seniors w/Srs Lunchn 11:00	Fall Festival & HoeDown 1200 - Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 1 Genealogy 2:00
inochle 9:00 Matter of Balance 10:00 Junco 1:00 Ionthly B-Day Party 1:00	Coupon Clippers 10:30	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Protecting Info Online 11:00 Dominoes/Games 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 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 1 WHS Tech Assist 1:4 Genealogy 2:00
Pinochle 9:00  A Matter of Balance 10:00 Fech Café w/ MCBDD 11:30 Bunco 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00		Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 WHS Tech Assist 12:15 Dominoes/Games 1:00 Autumn Hat Craft 2:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Grief Recovery Meth'd 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 Grief Support 3:00	Vaccination Clinic - by appt. 12:00 - 3:0 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends Make Me H.H. (Zoom) Genealogy 2:00 Autoharp w/ Dan 2:30
Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Disease 9:45 Bunco 1:00	"PROGRAMS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (") ARE OFFERED IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM (HYBRID).	Visit us Online for more Information: WWW.WadsworthCity.com/ SopremaSoniorCenter & On Facebook: Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation	PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT IN THESE GREAT PROGRAMS !	Join the Fall Walking Challer Sept. 1 - Oct. 3

# CALENDAREVENTS

# WADSWORTH SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER & CAFE



Medicare - by appt. 9:00

Coupon Clippers ID Theft 10:00

Pinochle 9:00

Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:45 Tech Café w MCBDD 11:30

Bunco 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00 SOPREMA
Senior Center
&Cafe

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY				
Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00	Walking Track 9:00 - 11:00	Walking Track 12:00 - 2:00				
PLEASE RSVP TO THESE GREAT PROGRAMS   "PROGRAMS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (") ARE OFFERED IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM ("H'BRID).	Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press, Checks 12:00 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00 Wits Workout 2:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Coffee with 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 Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:45 Croissants w Congressman Miller 10:00 Bunco 1:00	Line Dancing 9:00 8 Crafts/Puzzles wWindfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Table Talk w/ Dr. Patel* 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Feel Good Bingo 2:00	Dominoes/Games 1:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Seniors wiSrs Lunchn 11:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00 - Fall Luminari Craft	SENIOR & CAREGIVER EXPO 10:00 - 1:00				
Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:45 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Medicare 101* 3:00 * Soprema Cafe Closed Today *	Medicare - by appt. 9:00 (S) Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Blood Press, Checks 12:00 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:00 Wits Workout 2:00	Gentle Exercise 10:00 Medicare - by appt. 12:00	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	Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 WHS Tech Assist 1:45 Genealogy 2:00				
Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Disease Mgmt 9:45 Bunco 1:00 Monthly B-Day Party 1:00 Silver Sneakers' Benefits 2:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Medicare - by appt. 9:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:00 Cooking w Bev 3:00	Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Medicare - by appt. 12:00 WHS Tech Assist 12:15 Dominoes/Games 1:00	Mah Jong 9:30 Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Grief Recovery Meth'd 1:00 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. (200m) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00				

Chess 10:00
Gentle Exercise 10:00
How to Host a Zoom Mtg 10:30
Medicare - by appt. 12:30
Halloween Party 12:30

Guided Autobiography 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Hand and Foot 1:00



## THE CARE YOU NEED, AT HOME, BY ANGELS



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

## **Providing 4 hours to 24/7 Care**

Short term respite care also available

#### **WE ALSO SERVE**

NORTH ROYALTON / BROADVIEW HTS. / BRECKSVILLE / RICHFIELD

VisitingAngels.com | CALL US 24 HOURS A DAY!



	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY
	LABOR DAY  USA  DA OFFICE CLOSED  SWICK REC CLOSED	8:00 1:00 6:00	Cards Bingo Beginner Line Dance	10:00 11:30 12:00 12:00	Vintage Artists Activity Council OOA Nutrition Brain Games w/Sue Mah Jongg Knit & Crochet	9:30 12:15	NO BINGO TODAY  Cards Beginner Line Dancing Dominoes T.O.P.S. CONCERT "See You in September"		OOA Nutrition Ladies Pinochle
11:15 12:00	11:00 MUNCH & LEARN Brunswick Pointe, Trivia/ Lunch Line Dance Intermediate/ Improver Mah Jongg Culinary Club	1:00	Book Club SPECIAL PROGRAM: Tracy Stout & 3 Therapy Dogs Bingo - Spry Srs Beginner Line Dancing	10:00 11:30 12:00 12:00	Vintage Artists SPECIAL PROGRAM: Remembering 9/11 Ofcs. Ceccaci & K9 Koda OOA Nutrition Brain Games w/Sue Mah Jongg Knit & Crochet	8:00 9:30 12:00	ESQUE ISLE CASINO TRIP Cards Beginner Line Dancing SPECIAL PROGRAM: "Doggone Bingo" w/ Medina Odd Fellows Dominoes "The Importance of Pets" - Hospice of WR. w/Therapy Dog	11:30 12:00	10:00 SPECIAL PROGRAM Dog Stars & More Mark Vanderau Richland Cty Astronomical Soc. OOA Nutrition Danbury-Create a Better You! Ladies Pinochle
11:00 M L 11:15 L	Art Critique Group  MUNCH & LEARN  Hinckley Oaks/  Lunch  Line Dance  ntermediate/  mprover  Mah Jongg	1:00	Cards SPECIAL PROGRAM: USBank Trivia & Games Bingo Beginner Line Dancing	12:00 12:00 12:15	9:00 Vintage Artists OOA Nutrition Brain Games w/Sue Mah Jongg AUTHOR CHAT DAVID EDMONDS "Unveiled Love" Knit & Crochet OOA Benefits by appt	9:30 10:00	Cards Beginner Line Dancing SPECIAL PROGRAM: Apples Treats & Trivia w/KAZ Dominoes		OOA Nutrition Ladies Pinochle
11:15 L	L1:00  MUNCH & LEARN  Vietnam War  Col. Dave laylor, Ret. US Army/Snacks Line Dance ntermediate/ mprover Mah Jongg	1:00	00 Cards SPECIAL PROGRAM: Medicare 101 W/Sean Parker Bingo - Divine Pearlview Beginner Line Dancing	9:00 10:00 11:30 12:00 12:00 12:30	Vintage Artists SPECIAL PROGRAM: All About Bees Part 2 OOA Nutrition Brain Games w/Sue Mah Jongg Knit & Crochet Grief Support	9:30 12:15	Cards Beginner Line Dancing Dominoes Bingo- FallingWater	12:00	OOA Nutrition Danbury Chair Chi Ladies Pinochle
11:15 L	MUNCH & LEARN Plum Creek Irivia & Lunch .ine Dance ntermediate/ mprover Mah Jongg	*/	ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO	CHANGE BRUNSW	Sep	ote	embei	2	024

# CALENDAREVENTS

# BRUNSWICK BRUNSWICK REC CENTER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
October 2024 ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE	1 8:00 Cards 10:00 Book Club 1:00 Bingo 6:00 Beginner Line Dance	9:00 Vintage Artists 11:30 Cardio Dance	8:00 Cards 9:30 Beginner Line Dancing 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Bingo - Altenheim 1:00 Matter of Balance	9:00 SS Circuit 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
7 11:00 MUNCH & LEARN Footsteps Travel Germany & Oktoberfest/ Snack 12:00 Mah Jongg 11:15 Line Dance Intermediate/ Improver	8:00 Cards 10:00 Book Club 1:00 Bingo - Spry Srs 6:00 Beginner Line Dance	9 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 Activity Council 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:00 Mah Jongg 12:00 Brain Games w/Sue 12:30 Knit & Crochet	10 8:00 Cards 9:30 Beginner Line Dancing 12:15 Dominoes 1:00 Matter of Balance	12:00 Danbury-Create a Better You! 12:30 Ladies Pinochle  MCOOA OKTOBERFEST AT MOOSE LODGE MCOOA OFFICES CLOSED
9:30 Art Critique Group 12:00 Mah Jongg 11:15 Line Dance Intermediate/ Improver  COLUMBUS DAY MCOOA OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 Cards 1:00 Bingo - Spry Seniors 6:00 Beginner Line Dancing	9:00 Vintage Artists 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:00 Mah Jongg 12:00 Brain Games w/Sue 12:30 Knit & Crochet	### 130 Cards    9:30 Beginner Line	18 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:30 Ladies Pinochle
21 AMISH COUNTRY TRIP 11:00 MUNCH & LEARN Carlson Funeral Home Program/ Lunch 11:15 Line Dance Intermediate/Improvet 12:00 Mah Jongg	8:00 Cards 1:00 Bingo 6:00 Beginner Line Dancing	23 9:00 Vintage Artists 11:30 OOA Nutrition 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 12:00 SPECIAL PROGRAM Medina Phenomenon UFOs & More 12:00 Mah Jongg 12:30 Knit & Crochet 1:00 OOA Benefits		11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:00 Danbury Chair Chi 12:30 Ladies Pinochle 12:30 AUTHOR CHAT JOHN CORRIGAN "The Witch's Fleet"
28 11:00 MUNCH & LEARN Lorraine Scott, Ghost Hunter/ Snacks 12:00 Mah Jongg 11:15 Line Dance Intermediate/ Improver	8:00 Cards 1:00 SPOOKY Bingo - Divine Pearlview 6:00 Beginner Line Dancing	30 9:00 Vintage Artists 10:00 Brain Games w/Sue 11:30 OOA Nutrition 12:00 Mah Jongg 12:00 SPECIAL PROGRAM Neptune Society 12:30 Knit & Crochet 6:30 Grief Support	9:30 Beginner Line Pancing 11:30 HALLOWEEN PARTY: Chasing the "BOOS"Away W/Comedian Nancy Abraham Costume Contest	Office Older Adults



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

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





## **Janet Gomme**

Top 3% in homes sold Mega Million Dollar Producer

janetgommel@howardhanna.com

R 🗈

330-242-2020

# BUYING AND SELLING A HOME? CONTACT JANET TODAY!

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

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

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

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



# FROM YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# **OHIO'S CAPITAL BUDGET**

On June 26th, 2024, the Ohio General Assembly passed HB 2 – the Capital Budget bill. The Capital budget, passed in even years, makes significant investments in projects that benefit not only local communities, but the State as a whole. This Capital budget for 2025-2026 was the largest in history. This was the result of one-time strategic funding combined with traditional Capital budget allocations. Capital budget projects are selected for their ability to directly impact the citizens of the state. create economic development activity, and improve quality of life for Ohio's citizens.

This budget included \$ 133.5 million dollars in Mental Health Support - \$ 397 million dollars in Higher Education and Workforce Readiness -\$ 130 million dollars in Youth Services - \$ 600 million dollars in K-12 Schools - \$ 63 million dollars in Ohio's History and Culture - \$ 196 million dollars in Ohio's State Fair and Expo Center - \$ 255 million dollars in Rehabilitation and Correction - \$ 23 million dollars for an Ohio Fire Academy - \$ 50 million dollars for Local Jail supports throughout the state - \$ 7 million dollars for an Ohio State Highway Patrol Crime Lab and \$ 298 million dollars for Ohio's Parks and Natural Resources.

Medina County did very well during this budget process, with our district receiving over \$ 7 million dollars for new projects. I was thrilled with the submissions we received for this funding; and the quality of the projects made them easy to advocate for. Projects that received funding are:

The Medina County Career Center received \$ 1 million dollars for a new Modular Fire Training Tower – replacing the current tower which was constructed in 1986 and condemned last year. This Training tower is used by all of the Fire Departments in Medina County and will ensure our Firefighters receive training in modern firefighting procedures.

A new Medina County radio tower to be in Seville received \$ 350,000 – this new tower will eliminate a radio "dead spot" in our Medina County's southern tier that has existed for many years. This new addition will ensure radio communications for all our first responders when operating in that part of the county.

The Medina County Park District received \$ 1.5 million dollars for enhancements/improvements to Lake Medina. These will include an additional park entrance off Foote Road – done in conjunction with a gift by the Shotwell family of Medina County. An ADA accessible trail, restrooms, a small amphitheater, fishing platform and paddle craft launch. There will also be improvements to seating, signage and stairways accessing the lake.

The City of Wadsworth received \$ 2.5 million dollars for improvements for the new Brickyard Athletic Complex and Fixler reservation. This former industrial site includes 77 acres dedicated for a new athletic complex and 130 acres

for passive recreational pursuits. The 130 acres includes vistas, ponds, meadows, and unique terrain which accommodates hiking, mountain biking and fishing.

The Medina County Historical Society received \$ 250,000 to construct a museum interpretive center on the grounds of the McDowell-Phillips house museum. This 3200 square foot building will be used for educational programs and functions and archive displays.

The Village of Seville received \$ 250,000 to construct a walking trail and inclusive playground.

The Recovery Center of Medina received \$ 65,000 for roof repairs to the Serenite Restaurant and Culinary Institute.

The Weymouth Preservation Society received \$ 25,000 to replace the HVAC system in the historic school building.

The City of Medina received \$ 396,000 to connect the Medina County Park districts paths to the City Uptown loop – this will function as the hub of the trail network.

While this is not a list of all the projects that received funding it is a good cross section of the improvements included in this year's Capital budget. I am confident Medina County residents will see years of benefits because of these improvements.





Brian Feron from the Medina County Historical Society chats with Sharon regarding new projects including a museum interpretive center on the grounds of the historical McDowell-Phillips House.



Emergency Housing Shelter and Communication Towers used by the Sheriff's Department to name a few

Parks, Medina County Career Center Fire Training Tower,

Paid for by Sharon Ray for Representative

Sponsored the Adoption Modernization Act - passed

Brought over 5 million dollars back to the district for

unanimously by the House

# FROM YOUR TREASURER

JOHN BURK

# Treasurer Burke Continues to Help Residents Find Unclaimed Funds

More than 250 people who attended the Medina Countv Fair were assisted by my staff and me to find unclaimed funds held by the Ohio Department of Commerce. We are able to connect directly to the Department of Commerce online data base and check information on any unclaimed funds for any person by searching their name and address. If there is a claim, we set that person up to complete the claim and retrieve their money from the State through email communications.

It only takes a minute or two to search the entire State of Ohio database for any person. My staff always encourages people to search for family members too. This year at the fair one person was surprised to find 27 claims. Many of the unclaimed funds found were in excess of \$100. But the largest amount found was \$10,000.

The Treasurer's Office has been providing this free service to the public since 2001. Over the years my office has found over \$3.5 million for more than 7,500 Medina County residents. The largest claim we have found to date for an individual was \$264,000.

Once a year the Ohio Department of Commerce publishes the names of individuals who have missing money valued at \$100 or more in local newspapers. But this annual published list only contains new unclaimed funds from the last year and not older funds that have remained unclaimed. My staff can check the entire database of unclaimed funds held by the State of Ohio for any individual.

These unclaimed funds are typically checks or other assets that have been unclaimed for a period of 3 to 5 years and are turned over to the State until the rightful owners claim it. Forgotten utility deposits, checking or savings accounts, unpaid wages, uncashed dividend checks, insurance refunds, and rebate checks are among the most common.

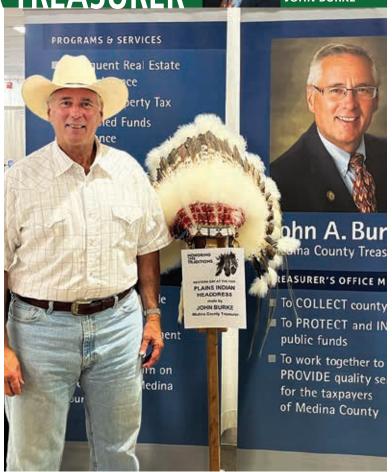
I believe we are the only county out of 88 counties in Ohio that actively tries to help people collect their unclaimed funds. The State of Ohio currently has about \$3 billion in unclaimed funds. That money is safeguarded by the State perpetually until it is claimed by the owner. Or a the person is deceased,

an heir may claim the money. Currently over \$16 million in unclaimed funds is owed to Medina County residents.

I urge people to be careful of companies or individuals that may offer to assist people collect their unclaimed funds for a fee or percentage of the collect claim. There is no fee or charge involved in collecting Ohio unclaimed funds.

If you want to search for unclaimed funds or have found your name on a list and need assistance in claiming your missing money, you can contact the Treasurer's Office at 330-725-9745 or by going to our website www.medinacountytreasurer.com and look for the "Unclaimed Funds" tab.







# **COMMISSIONERS' CORNER**



The Medina County Courthouse is now equipped with hearing loops in its courtrooms and several meeting rooms. Funding for the project was through the use of the Healthy Aging grant program as well as the Courthouse Construction fund.

A hearing loop is a special type of sound system for use by people with hearing aids. The hearing loop provides a magnetic, wireless signal that gets picked up by the hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.

It is the only assistive listening technology that can broadcast directly to a wide range of hearing aids, making them the most popular option for accessible audio in public spaces.

The hearing loop consists of an audio source, connected to an amplifier which processes the signal, which is then sent through the final piece, the loop cable.

In its simplest form this is a wire placed around the perimeter of a specific area, for example, the courtrooms, a church or a small meeting room, but can be a specially designed layout to cover more complex areas.

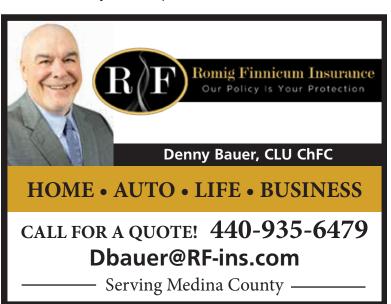
The audio input for a hearing loop is often a microphone to pick up the spoken word but can be any sound source, from a TV set in your living room, to announcements in an airport or the sound system in a theatre.

For those who do not have a hearing aid, but have difficulty hearing, can request headphones at the courthouse that work with the hearing loop.

#### WHY USE A HEARING LOOP?

- No need to use a receiver / headset if you have compatible hearing aids
- Sound goes directly into the hearing aid
- Can be used by anyone with a compatible hearing aid
- Cost effective
- Any number of users can use the system
- Can cover any size of space





# Hearing Loops Installed in Medina County Courthouse

#### **USER BENEFITS**

Some of the many reasons hearing loops are the preferred assistive listening system by the majority of people with telecoil-enabled hearing aids and cochlear implants, and streamers:

**EASY TO USE:** To hear clearly, individuals simply switch their devices to the telecoil program and automatically receive clear customized sound. There is no need to arrive early, stand in line, or wait to return equipment after an event or meeting.

**QUALITY SOUND:** A hearing loop sends sound directly to the telecoil receiver in a user's hearing device. The system eliminates most background noise and greatly improves understanding of speech and music. Additionally, the sound received is customized by each user's unique hearing instrument.

**DISCREET:** Being able to hear well with a loop is inconspicuous; users do not stand out as being hard of hearing which encourages participation and inclusion.

**BETTER HYGIENE:** For people with hearing aids and cochlear devices, there is also no concern over the sanitation issues associated with wearing headsets or ear buds provided by venues and worn by other users.

**VERSATILE:** Hearing loops provide effective, seamless communication across the broadest spectrum of environments—from auditoriums, theaters and places of worship, to meeting and class rooms, pharmacies, ticket counters and even in users' homes.

**TRANSIENT SOLUTION:** A hearing loop enables clear sound for a person with hearing loss at pharmacies, information desks, subway ticket counters, and taxis, or when passing through airports and train stations.



# FROM YOUR VETERANS OFFICE





ticed we have been in a temseveral months at 123 W. Washington St. Medina, Ohio 44256. Our permanent building located at 210 Northland Drive in Medina is undergoing a major renovation and expansion project.

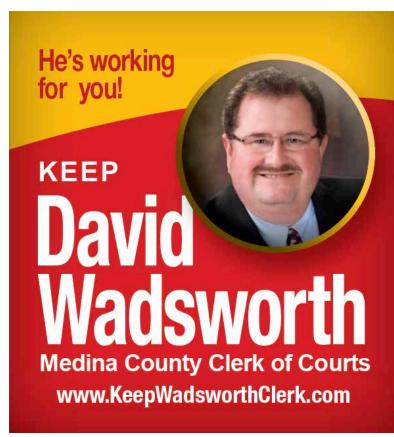
Why expand one might ask? Well, the demand for our services has risen drastically over the past several years and we have just outgrew the existing space, and our current staff just can't keep up with the caseload we have. Along with that, we want to be able to expand our services and provide a more holistic approach to reaching out and serving our veterans.

So, what is on the horizon? At first, you'll notice a larger expanded waiting room for our clients. We have divided the existing boardroom into two additional offices which will be for new service officers. The garage that was in the current building became office space as well. In the end there is space for 3-4 new employees.

The new addition has a three-vehicle garage for our fleet of vehicles as well as storage space. This was important in order to be able to maintain the fleet during inclement weather. We also added a new vehicle with a bus recommended for the service we provide and after we had the first one, the feedback we received was we should just appropriate another like it.

Behind the garage in the new additions there is a community room which can accommodate forty people seated nicely. We are in the process of hiring and training a Community Outreach Specialist/

be responsible for coordinating different programs but also reaching out into the community at various events. We are currently working with various groups to program different types of therapy and life enriching workshops for veterans and their survivors. Everything from music therapy to writing workshops as well as workout sessions.





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



Don't forget to get your Medina County Veterans ID card, available at the Medina County Recorders Office at: 144 N Broadway St #117, Medina, OH 44256 | PH: (330) 725-9782

- You will need an original or certified original copy of your discharge in order to be eligible for a ID Card.
- If you do not have one you can come into our office and we will assist you in requesting an original copy. You will need a valid Drivers License or State ID card also with your application.

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



Fall is on its way and bringing with it cooler temperatures, fall gatherings, and family events. These cooler months also mark the beginning of respiratory virus season due to the spread of flu, COVID-19, and RSV.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that usually causes cold-like symptoms. However, young children Ç adults are at higher risk for severe illness from RSV. Older adults (60 and over) can talk to their healthcare provider about RSV vaccinations.

COVID and flu can have serious complications for some people, especially for the elderly. The best way to reduce your risk is to get vaccinated.

#### OTHER PREVENTION **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Wash your hands often
- Stay home if you are sick to prevent the spread to others
- Wear a well-fitting mask when needed

COVID, Flu, and RSV vaccines are available at the Health Department. Call us at 330-723-9688, option 1 to schedule an appointment with our health center. You can also schedule an appointment at one of our community vaccine clinics using option 2. The Health Department accepts private insurances, Medicaid, Medicare, and no insurance.

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





# FROM WRMC WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY

# **SENIOR LIVING:** DEBUNKING THE MYTHS

Most of us have our own ideas about what senior living communities are like. Many believe that senior living community is interchangeable with the term nursing home, but they are in fact two very different options for older adults. While many leading senior living communities do provide higher level healthcare services and assistance found in traditional nursing homes, they offer older adults so much more than simply age-related support.

Senior living communities today focus on the ideal senior lifestyle. Often, it takes a family visiting a community to actually debunk the myths they've believed about a community lifestyle. Most often families are thrilled to see that the senior living community far exceeds their expectations.

Some of you, unfortunately, may have had less-than-ideal experiences with communities, so take the time to look closely at a number of different

communities and find the one that is the best fit for you or vour loved one. During the touring process you might be surprised to find some of your pre-conceived notions about senior living communities aren't what you thought!

#### MYTH 1 **SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITIES FEEL INSTITUTIONALIZED**

Reality - When some picture a senior living community, images of long, white hallways and bright fluorescent lighting emerge, giving way to associations with hospitals. In reality, though, senior living communities are often homelike, comfortable and more closely resemble a resort than a hospital.

### MYTH 2 I'M NOT OLD ENOUGH TO MOVE TO A **SENIOR LIVING** COMMUNITY

Reality -Most senior living communities are open to anyone over the age of 55! Senior living communities are



# Now is the perfect time to consider moving to **Western Reserve**

# **Masonic Community**

It hasn't even been a full year since the brand-new independent living opened at Western Reserve Masonic Community. The new apartments have been very popular and 93% of them are already occupied. There are only 4 left. There's never been a better time to consider moving to Western Reserve Masonic Community. Now is the time to reserve your apartment before they're gone.



Schedule your personal consultation and tour by contacting

Jen Orr at:

(330) 947-4559

JOrr@omcoh.org

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**5** 🖳 🕸

designed for active older adults who have a passion for living life to the fullest. Residents enjoy daily recreational, leisure and even educational activities that keep them rejuvenated and engaged. It's never too early to start looking and explore your option.

#### MYTH 3 I'LL LOSE MY INDE-**PENDENCE AT A SENIOR LIVING** COMMUNITY

Reality - Many confuse living independently with living on their own. While you may no longer own your own home, life at a senior living community can be as independent as you want it. Residents aren't limited to where they can go or what they can do. In fact, many seniors find that letting go of the responsibilities of homeownership allows them the freedom to finally live the way they've always wanted to. Most communities are filled with amenities and activities that give you countless opportunities for fun and relaxation.

#### MYTH 4 I'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP **MY FAVORITE HOBBIES**

Reality - Actually, the opposite is true. Without the time-consuming tasks of home-upkeep, you'll have nothing but time to spend on the things you love to do. Do you enjoy carrying a camera around? Find other residents who share the same passions and plan a time to take photos together. Additionally, you'll have the chance to try new things and discover new hobbies.

### MYTH 5 **PAYING FOR SENIOR LIVING IS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN** LIVING AT HOME

Reality - Some families looking into senior living are often surprised by the sticker shock of monthly rates. While cost varies depending on apartment size or levels of care, the average cost of senior living is often comparable or even less than receiving the

same services and support at home. Even for those who have paid off their mortgage. homeownership is still costly. Consider insurance, taxes, upkeep and repairs, utilities, and emergency expenses. At a senior living community, everything is included in one convenient rate - not to mention the convenience of having entertainment, social events, housekeeping services and medical support if every needed right in your community.

#### MYTH 6 I WON'T BE ABLE TO **SEE MY FRIENDS AS FREQUENTLY**

Reality - Senior living communities like The Ohio Masonic Communities are quite visitor-friendly. Both common areas and private residences accommodate guests, family get-togethers and even parties. Friends are always welcome to join in an activity or stop by for lunch. Just because your residence changes

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE** >>



#### >> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

doesn't mean your social life has to. Actually, many choose to move to a senior living community because they desire to have a more active social life. Making new friends is one of the best parts of moving to a senior living community!

# MYTH 7 MEALS ARE PLAIN AND UNAPPETIZING

Reality – One of the most overlooked benefits of senior living is the consistency of multiple nutritious meals each day. The food is anything but boring! Dining selections vary every day, created with the best and freshest ingredients. Plus, less time spent preparing meals means more time spent doing the things you love!

# MYTH 8 I WON'T HAVE ANY PRIVACY AT A COMMUNITY

Reality - Residents have the choice of how much or how little time alone they want each day. Private villas and apartments are comfortable and accommodating, and you can choose to spend the whole day reading in your favorite armchair if you wish. Privacy is respected, and when you do feel like socializing, all you have to do is step outside. You have the best of both worlds when it comes to spending time how and with whom you want.

# MYTH 9 I WON'T BE ABLE TO PERSONALIZE MY SPACE

Reality – While it's true that a community probably won't want you to paint the walls or refinish the bathroom tiles, most communities encourage residents to decorate their homes with personal items and pictures and bring along their own pieces of furniture. Downsizing to a smaller home can be a difficult task, but most

senior living communities won't make you give up your style in the process.

### MYTH 10 I SHOULDN'T MOVE UNTIL I NEED HELP TAKING CARE OF MYSELF

Reality - Many have the idea that senior living communities are only for those who require assistance with daily activities. However, many older adults are making the choice to spend their healthy retirement years at a senior living community. Not only does community living come with convenience and a full, carefree lifestyle, but moving while you are still healthy allows you to stay in control of vour choices. Waiting until an illness or health crisis occurs may rush the moving process and leave you wishing you had more options and time to pick the right community for you. In addition, many independent living communities also have higher levels of care, including assisted living and memory care services, that residents can take advantage of without the worry of moving again.

#### **IN CONCLUSION**

The senior living industry has changed extensively over the past few decades, choosing to meet the needs of baby boomers.

Meaningful connection has been proven to decrease the feelings of loneliness that can often accompany living alone at home. One of the wonderful facets of living in a senior living community is there is almost always someone to chat with. Spaces throughout communities are built to encourage socialization. Common areas abound in most senior living communities and are the perfect places to meet new neighbors and make friends. The dining room is a great place to spend time with peers as well as enjoy a good meal.

If you need personal support or care, you'll certainly find that at a senior living community like Western Reserve Masonic Community, but the fact is that many older adults move to independent living because they want daily opportunities for recreation and social interaction, like a full activities calendar where you can meet new friends while learning or pursuing an exciting new sport or hobby.

Some senior living communities, such as Western Reserve Masonic Community. are known as continuing care retirement communities. (CCRCs), They offer different levels of care, such as independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing and memory care. Skilled nursing offers a higher level of specialized senior care that helps older adults who have serious health conditions or are recovering from a major health event. However, most older adults join these communities as independent living residents so they can enjoy all community life has to offer. It's great to know that care is there if they need it,



but they choose the lifestyle because of the resort-like amenities and activities.

If you or a loved one is interested in a continuing care retirement community, consider taking a tour of Western Reserve Masonic Community. You can learn more about our community by visiting our website, wrmcoh.org, or giving us a call at 330-947-4559.



# Board of Medina County Commissioners



Steve Hambley
Office: 330-722-9214
Cell: 216-570-6958
shambley@ohmedinaco.org



Colleen Swedyk

Office: 330-722-9212

Cell: 216-570-9809

cswedyk@ohmedinaco.org



Aaron Harrison
Office: 330-722-9211
Cell: 330-635-3002
aharrison@ohmedinaco.org

Administration Building • 144 North Broadway Street, Medina

**MORE INFO** 

Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00

p.m. Dates: Tues-

days/ Sep 3, 2024, 10th, 17th, 24th

October 1st, 8th,

15th, and 22nd.

**Medina County** 

Office for Older

Adults, 246

**Northland Dr** 

(Ground Floor)

Class meets



A Matter of Balance (MOB) is designed to reduce the fear of falling and improve activity levels among older adults. The program includes eight two-hour classes presented to a small group of 8-12 participants led by trained coaches. The program enables participants to reduce the fear of falling by learning to view falls as controllable, setting goals for increasing activity levels, making small changes to reduce fall risks at home, and exercise to increase strength and balance. Curriculum includes group discussions, mutual problem solving, role-playing, exercise training, assertiveness training, and a few homework assignments.

Learn about the importance of exercise in preventing falls and practice exercises to improve strength, coordination, and balance. Participants also conduct a home safety evaluation and learn to get up and down safely. ComForCare will be presenting the program beginning September 3 at the Medina County Office for Older Adults. You can make your reservations at (330) 725-9177.



**SENIOR CONNECTIONS DAY** 

Friday Sept 20, 1-4pm Free Event at the Office for Older Adults 246 Northland Dr Ground Floor

#### Workshops

Technology / scams

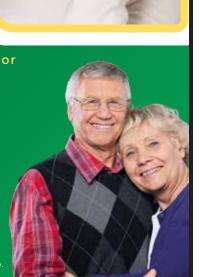
Medina, OH 44256

- End of life planning
- Food / grocery assistance / SNAP
- Transportation
- Home repair / maintenance / cost reduction
- Social Security / Medicare / Medicaid

\*Scan the QR code to register or go to https://zionvc.org/ and click on Senior Connections Day. Call 330-483-3873 for info

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# Love Boat Cruise At the Movies: Lights, Camera...Aging Well SAVE THE DATE! FALL FESTIVAL AND HOEDOWN! Kick off the fall season "hoedown style" on FRIDAY, SEP-

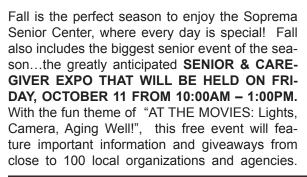
Love was in the air at the Soprema Senior Center's "Love Boat Cruise Party" in August. Well over 100 senior "cruisers" were greeted with a lei, enjoyed delicious themed food in the Soprema Cafe, had the opportunity to ride on the Wadsworth Grizzly Pedal Bike, enjoyed music by David Zuder, and had themed photos taken thanks to the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation and many Professional Friends of the Soprema Senior Center!







down style" on FRIDAY, SEP-**TEMBER 13 FROM 12:00** - 1:30 AT THE SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER'S FALL FESTIVAL & HOEDOWN. Enjoy square dancing music and demos, great lunch specials in the Café, prizes and giveaways! If you have not visited the Soprema Senior Center yet, we promise you will "fall in love"...just like hundreds of other seniors have! Membership is free for anyone aged 55 or better and includes lots of great perks. Open Monday thru Friday, the Senior Center is open from 8:30 - 4:00 and the Soprema Café is open from 7:30 - 2:00, offering great breakfasts, lunches, coffees, etc. at great prices! We hope to meet you soon!



We're always here to lend a helping hand.

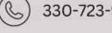
Willowood's in-house physicians are well recognized for clinical excellence

and commitment to quality patient care.

Dr. Yatish Goyal, MD

While at the event, seniors also have the opportunity to get COVID and/or Flu vaccinations from the MCHD, Medicare Check Ups from OS-HIIP volunteers, join exercise demos from the YMCA, and much more! Family caregivers of seniors are VIP guests courtesy of a family caregiver grant from the WRAAA. Plan to enjoy a delicious lunch special in the Soprema Café at a great price...did we mention free popcorn? Don't miss it...be sure to mark your calendars now!







330-723-9688 medinahealth.org

Flu, COVID-19, and RSV vaccinations are available at the Health Department, Locations in Medina & Wadsworth.

Schedule an Appointment Today

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AT WILLOWOOD

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# First the "Secure Act" and Now We Have "Secure 2.0"

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

# CRITCHFIELD Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston, Ltd.

#### **Elder Law and Estate Planning**

Congress passed the "Secure Act" effective January 1, 2020, which drastically affected qualified retirement plan accounts such as IRA's and qualified employer retirement plans such as 401k and 403b. Just before their 2022 vear-end holiday recess, Congress passed "Secure 2.0 Act" effective January 1, 2023 which is widely considered a "follow-up" to the first Secure Act. The Secure 2.0 Act includes a long list of new provisions affecting contributions and withdrawals to retirement accounts. This article will highlight a few of the provisions most meaningful to individuals.

One of the most meaningful provisions of both the Secure Act and Secure 2.0 affects the beginning date to start required minimum distributions ("RMD's") from qualified plan accounts. Prior to January 1, 2020, the beginning age to start required minimum distributions was 70 1/2. The Secure Act increased that beginning age to 72 starting January 1, 2020 (only to be further confused with the CARES Act providing COVID relief provisions waiving the RMD's in 2020). Secure 2.0 now increases the beginning age for RMD's to 73 starting January 1, 2023 and then 75 starting January 1, 2033. Therefore, if you turn 72 in 2023, you do not need to start your RMD's until 2024.

Retirement account owners can still elect to make Qualified Charitable Distributions starting at 70 ½. Generally, a qualified charitable distribution is an otherwise taxable distribution from an IRA owned by an individual who is age 70½ or over that is paid directly from the IRA to a qualified charity for a tax free distribution. There is an annual limit of \$100,000 for a Qualified Charitable Distribution and the Secure 2.0 allows that limit to be adjusted for inflation starting in 2024.

Secure 2.0 also increases "catch-up" contributions to certain retirement plan accounts. A catch-up contribution provision allows an individual over the age of 50 to make additional contributions to their employer retirement plan (\$7,500 in 2023) or IRA (\$1,000 in 2023). Secure 2.0 allows individuals age 60-63, starting in 2025, to increase their catch-up contribution to \$10,000. However, Secure 2.0 adds a caveat regarding catch-up contributions. If you earned more than \$145,000 in the prior tax year, any catch-up contributions must be made toward a Roth-type account using after-tax dollars which can grow tax free.

Secure 2.0 includes several provisions meant to promote work place retirement contribution plans. For example, employees may designate any



employer "match" be made to a Roth plan rather than a traditional 401k plan. Such contribution would be taxable income to the participant in the year of contribution but that contribution will grow taxfree and future withdrawals from the plan would be taxfree. In addition, beginning in 2024, employees paying off student loans can elect to treat a qualified student loan payment as a retirement plan contribution when determining eligibility for an employer matching contribution program. Also beginning 2024, RMD will no longer be required for participants in a Roth 401k plan. This will match the existing treatment for Roth IRA's.

Secure 2.0 does not have the sweeping affect of the original Secure Act. However, there are a laundry list of provisions that add a caveat or nuance to retirement planning that will likely affect individuals in some fashion.

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For assistance, contact attorney

Ann Salek\*

\*Certified Elder Law Attorney \*Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law salek@ccj.com 330.723.6404

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



# **SENIOR SPOTLIGHT**

# Local Artist, Craig Staufer

By: SHERRY CASSILY, Director, Archangels Specialty Home Care

It has been written that art is a difficult term to define. Art elicits feelings and memories, records history and culture while giving aesthetic value to everyday objects.

Local artist Craig Staufer grew up on a farm, graduating from Highland H.S. He "lived and restored" an 1834 farmhouse near Lodi but three years ago he moved to Medina to a 1930's house, a 100-year upgrade! In the mid-1970's, his parents took on the enormous task of moving a 1697 historic home, board by board, from Massachusetts to Weymouth.

He is the product of a family that found beauty in a lifestyle and everyday objects. It has been said that the Staufer family elevate everyday objects and save history that would otherwise go unnoticed by the masses. They cultivate an appreciation in rising generations that is critical to the survival of historical artifacts.



His mother, Marjorie Ann Staufer, was a nationally known antique dealer and his father, Alvin F. Staufer, was a famed author, artist, and rail historian. His father instilled his inspiration in the early 1960's art students at Brunswick H.S. Craig's sister, Joan, is an antique dealer, abstract painter, and former interpreter at Hale Farm and Village. As you can tell, history and art are deeply rooted in the family.

Craig has worked as a factory worker, carpenter, musician, with a forty-year career in sales. However, art has been a pursuit of Craig's his entire life. He studied at Kent State and Akron University, as well as expanding his skills with many other artists over the years. He has illustrated books published by his father on New York Central, Pennsylvania, and New Haven railroads.



# He is the product of a family that found beauty in a lifestyle and everyday objects.

A rural upbringing and love of history have always been a heavy influence on Craig's art. Craig loves to depict local nature, historic settings, and architecture. His style is to take his painting gear out on location and create a piece in one setting. Craig said, "When I am out in nature, I get feelings that come from beneath the surface of whatever environment I am in."

In 1968, 16-year-old Craig Staufer was asked to paint a mural at a gas station where he lived in the village of Weymouth. The owner had a large cinder-block wall where he wanted to record the community's history. The store was a mix of auto shop, restaurant, and bar. The mural is a depiction of wooded Weymouth as it looked in the 1850s. Staufer said he was paid in \$200 cash and hamburgers.

In 1986, new owners spruced up the property at a point

when the mural had become quite deteriorated. Large chunks spanning over a foot in some spots were missing or in the process of peeling off. "It had been my dream for years to get this mural restored," owner Marlene Shurell said.

In 2019, enlisted for the restoration was Medina-area artist, Janet Baran, a retired art teacher. Collaborating with Staufer and reviewing old photos of the mural, Baran was able to put the visual back together after 85 hours of work. Thinking about the restoration, Craig said, "I was proud that those efforts were still being recognized."

The Staufer family see beauty in objects, machinery, architecture, and the rural environment. It is in their DNA. If interested, find Craig Staufer's Fine Art to view and/or purchase, at: www.craigstaufer.com



# **CLERK OF COURT**

Keeper of the County Archives

By: DAVE WADSWORTH, Medina County Clerk of Courts

There is a little-known area of the Clerk of Court's office that is a bountiful source of information if you are searching for old records. The Clerk of Court's Archives contains records dated from 1818, when Medina County was founded.

Before there were typewriters or computers the Clerk and his or her employees hand wrote all the entries with a pen dipped in ink! These beautiful handwritten books are but one example of some of the treasures that can be found in the archives. There was a time, an old hand cranked drum was used to draw the names of the prospective jurors. The names were written on a piece of paper and pulled individually.

In recent years, newspaper reporters and authors have looked through the old books and records researching information about the history of Medina. These stories include several murders dating back to the 1800's.

Archives is also home to Naturalization records from 1833 thru 1962. Most of the early records are from 1834 to 1860. These records have been microfilmed and shared with the main branch of the Medina County Library. They have been scanned so we now have electronic/digital images. The Clerk's office is in the process



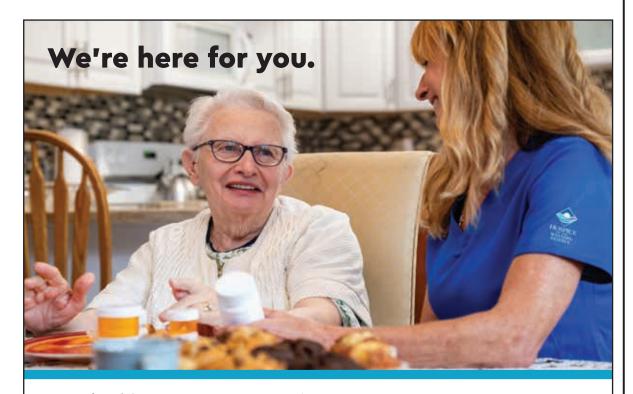
**DAVE WADSWORTH** 

ofpreservingtheoriginal copies of these records. Some have the individual's handwriting, while others have an original picture of the person.

All closed Civil and Criminal files within the last 5 years, 18 years of Domestic and 3 years of Court of Appeal files are stored in the Archives. The files through 2007 are microfilmed; many of those have also been scanned. All files after 2007 are computer imaged.

All records are retained according to the Rules of Superintendence of the Supreme Court of Ohio and the Ohio Historical Society. A copy of the microfilm is stored in the office and the original roll is stored in an underground facility in Pennsylvania. The facility is compliant with the strict security standards required by law and the records are stored in a precise climate-controlled area.

Many old files are stored at an off-site facility until they reach the age they may be destroyed. This helps reduce the cost of storing records at a facility and makes the files more accessible.



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f in O D

# Medina Summer Reinforcement Program Honored for 50 Years of Service





The Medina Summer Reinforcement Program and its two long-time directors were recognized by Mayor Dennis Hanwell and the Medina City Council on July 8, 2024. A proclamation was presented to co-directors Jane Langol and Kim Love in honor of the program's 50th year of providing academic reinforcement of classroom skills to students in Medina County. Jane Langol and Kim Love are celebrating 45 years as the program's co-directors.

The Summer Reinforcement Program (SRP) began 50 years ago as an outreach of the Association of Children with Learning Disabilities. It was started by Garfield Elementary School master teacher Dorothe Finna who directed the program with the assistance of special education teacher Carol Menon.

When Ms. Finna and Ms. Menon stepped down, Ms. Langol and Ms. Love assumed the roles of co-directors. They continue in those positions to this day. SRP was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1989, through the efforts of Langol and Love.

SRP is a tutoring program open to any child in Medina County from preschool to age 14. Instruction is provided in a classroom setting with an emphasis on reading and math. Music, speech therapy, group play, and visits by the Medina County Library Bookmobile are components of the five-week schedule. Medina City Schools and Feeding Medina County provide valuable services as well.



# Can I Get a Witness? (actually two) Properly Executing a Last Will and Testament

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

Taylor was a musician. Her touring schedule kept her on the road for weeks at a time. As her success grew, so did her earnings. Before embarking on the next leg of her tour, she decided to quickly draft a last will and testament in the event something happened to her during her travels. She found a sample form on the internet and tailored it for her use. She named her new boyfriend, Travis, as the sole beneficiary of her fortunes. Her assistant tour manager was a notary public, so he notarized her signature on the document. Did Taylor properly execute her will? The answer is no (bad news for Travis).

Ohio law provides that last wills and testaments must be signed at the end of the document by the testator (the person making the will) and must be attested and subscribed in the conscious presence of the testator by two or more competent witnesses. In other words, two or more people must watch the testator sign her will or hear the testator say that the signature on the will is actually hers.

Then, the witnesses must sign the will under the observation of the testator. Contrary to popular belief, last wills and testaments do not need to be notarized. A notary public may serve as one of the two witnesses, however.

The Ohio statute defines "conscious presence" as within the range of any of the testator's senses, excluding the sense of sight or sound that is sensed by telephonic, electronic, or other distant communication. There are many cases in Ohio in which courts have thrown out wills because the witnesses never saw the testator sign. Likewise, courts have invalidated wills when the testator did not see or hear the witnesses sign the document.

Interestingly, Ohio law states that all persons are competent witnesses for wills except those of unsound mind and children under ten years of age who appear incapable of understanding what they are signing. For obvious reasons, it is best not to use minor children to witness wills in the event the witnesses must testify in court. Also,

individuals who are named as beneficiaries in the will should not sign as witnesses. While it does not invalidate a will, the bequest to the witness beneficiary will be deemed null and void. While it may be tempting to create a last will and testament on your own, it may not end well. It is important to seek the

assistance of an experienced estate planning attorney to make sure that the contents of the will and its execution comply with applicable law.



# LARIBEE LAW, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SERVING MEDINA SINCE 1938

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

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

Michael Laribee is a partner in the Medina law firm of Laribee Law, LLP.
This article is intended to provide general information about the law.

It is not intended to give legal advice. Readers are urged to seek advice from an attorney regarding their specific issues and rights.

\*\*\* St. Edward



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INDEPENDENT & ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE | NURSING CARE



# 1. Not Checking Out Furniture Items in Person

It might seem like a hassle or an extra step in the decorating process, but it's always worth taking the time to visit a furniture showroom or a brick-andmortar store to see a piece or product brand in real life before buying it online. Products don't always look like the pictures on a website. Seeing a product in person or requesting a fabric or finish sample can prevent this mistake from happening. Samples are specifically helpful in the situation of visualizing the product with the rest of the elements in the space before the purchase.

# 2. Not Testing Paint Colors in Different Lighting and Room Situations

Whether it's sunlight streaming into your windows or the color of your light bulbs, lighting can alter the color of your paint. For best results, you should test paint on all of the walls you plan on painting in a given room or rooms before committing to a color. Remember to look at swatches at different times of day so you can see how the sun, shadows and artificial lighting will impact the look of the color.

#### 3. Deciding on a Paint Color Only From a Small Color Swatch

The small color swatches you grab at a paint store can help guide you in the right direction

with paint colors but making a final decision based only from that tiny swatch can turn out to be a big flop. Once you have a pretty good idea of the color from a swatch, it's recommended buying a small, inexpensive color sample container of paint to try out (they're typically around 15 oz.) Paint a small wall or various wall sections that have different lighting conditions to see how the color will appear. Do not paint a wood

board to create a larger swatch; that's not going to work. Test the color on an actual wall. This way you're not purchasing a gallon or more of paint based on a tiny color swatch to find out the color isn't going to work.

# 4. Using Small-Pattern Wallpaper in Big Rooms

Installing wallpaper with a small-pattern or print in a large room can be a costly mistake. Beautiful textures and prints

wind up getting lost in the space and appear as solid color from a distance. Small-pattern wallpapers are better suited for bathrooms or small entryways.

# 5. Not Measuring Furniture Before Buying It

Nothing is worse than falling in love with a furnishing only to discover that it's the wrong size for your space. Take out that measuring tape and take notes or make sketches to map out the exact dimensions of your desired new purchase to help you understand how it will work in your space. Informed decisions save money and the hassle of returns. If you don't have a specific piece in mind, measure the spot on your floor and wall. That way, if you're shopping for a piece at a store, you won't have to guess at what a proper sized piece would be.

# 6. Leaving Your Design Plan Up in the Air

Sure, you may be head-overheels in love with an expensive sofa, but blowing your entire budget on a single piece of furniture isn't a very smart ideaparticularly if you haven't taken the time to make a design plan before you start shopping. Make a plan and budget for your space before you start decorating. Your design plan doesn't have to include a fancy drawing or mood board. It can be as simple as a Pinterest board, a list of items you need, and a figure that you need to stay under for the entire project that's itemized out for particular furnishings, etc.

# 7. Skimping on Window Treatments

Every window has different dimensions, thus, you can't buy one size to fit all your windows. Investing money in custom window treatments, versus prefabricated panels, ensures you get

>> CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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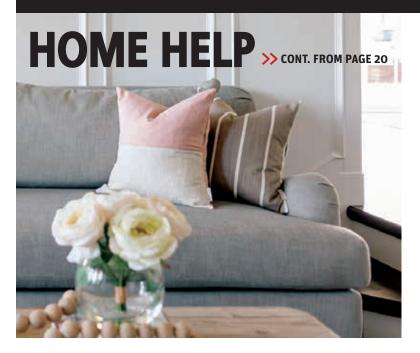
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the perfect look and fit so you won't have to replace them later.

# 8. Overdoing Designer Goods

If you aren't mixing both high and low budget furnishings into your decor scheme you're missing out on an opportunity for true variety in your space. People oftentimes make the mistake of thinking that in order to get a luxurious feel in their homes, they have to splurge on every item within each room. The best way to create balance in your home—and your budget—is to purchase one or two statement pieces in each space such as a sofa, bed, or dining set, and then you can add in playful, personal accent details and accessories that won't break the bank such as art, vases, greenery, and pillows.

# 9. Failing to Pad a Wallpaper Order

When it comes time to dress up the walls of your home, not ordering enough wallpaper can be a simple but expensive mistake. Even if you order more of the exact same wallpaper, sometimes the colorways won't match. Always have the installer give you an estimate, as they typically do this for free. In addition, a good rule of thumb is to order about 10 to 20 percent more wallpaper than you actually need to complete your job. That way, your dye lots will definitely match should you have measured wrong, and you'll have extra paper should a mistake be made in install. If all goes perfectly, having an extra roll or so means you'll also have the ability to replace a panel or two or use for an accent wall in a bathroom or laundry room.

# 10. Ignoring Your Room's Scale

When investing in quality furniture, it's essential to make sure the scale of a piece is proportionate to the size of the room. A huge sectional in a small room will feel cramped, no matter how luxurious or beautiful the piece of furniture may be. On the other hand, if you have a spacious room, do not skimp out on a small sofa or loveseat. It will feel as if it's floating in a sea of emptiness. Furniture pieces need to be proportional as they relate to one another.

# 11. Not Measuring the Legs of Your Dining Chairs

Always measure to make sure the legs of your dining chairs fit between the legs of your table. While you're at it, be sure that the chairs you are picking are also high enough for the table and not too high either. Generally, chairs fall into a standard range, but sometimes there are outliers. Measure twice here, too, since it's better to be safe than sorry.

# 12. Filling up a Space Quickly Just to "Finish" It

No matter how enticing the price tag on an inexpensive

piece of furniture may be, getting overzealous and pulling the trigger on a bunch of cheaper or poorly made furnishings just to complete your room almost always ends in regret. Restrain yourself and pause on that cheap chair or lamp if it is not absolutely necessary. This will not only save you money, but you will start to curate a collection of items you adore.

Article from Online source courtesy of Caroline Biggs.

Caroline Biggs is a writer living in New York City. When she's not covering art, interiors, and celebrity lifestyles, she's usually buying sneakers, eating cupcakes, or hanging with her rescue bunnies, Daisy and Daffodil.

# PROUD TO SERVE MEDINA

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# MORE ON DOOLEY GEMBALA

The Dooley Gembala McLaughlin Pecora law firm was founded in 1931 in northeast Ohio. Today our Firm serves clients near and far from our three offices: Medina, Sheffield Village, and Vermilion, Ohio.

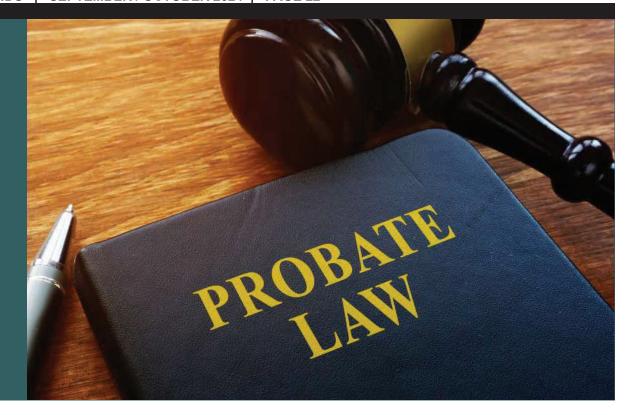
The Medina office is managed by attorney Marc Hertrick. He has been practicing in the legal field for nearly 20 years since he followed his father, Paul Hertrick's footsteps, a respected longtime attorney serving northeast Ohio.

In spring 2024, associate attorney Matthew Aberegg, previously a Judicial Attorney in the Medina County Domestic Relations Court, joined the Medina office. Together, Marc and Matthew manage mid-market acquisitions and business transactions and provide legal counsel for large corporations, and flourishing startups, high-networth individuals, and real estate developers. In addition, they assist with succession planning, estate planning, marriage prenuptial and post-nuptial agreements, mediation and marriage dissolution.

# I Want to Avoid Probate. What Should I Do?

By: MARIE EDMONDS, Counselor at Law





I hear all the time that clients want to "avoid probate." But do they even know exactly what that is?

In its simplest terms, Probate is the legal process that occurs after a person's death. It involves: Validating the deceased person's will; administering their estate; settling debts and distributing assets to beneficiaries; and resolving disputes related to the estate. The reasons I hear for why someone wants to avoid probate is the cost and the time involved. Those are both legitimate reasons but let's discuss ways to avoid probate, and why, in some circumstances, you may not want to avoid probate.

What goes through probate upon a person's death and is therefore controlled by the deceased's will is whatever is solely in the deceased person's name. If there is a joint owner or a "payable on death" designation on the asset, it will not pass through probate but rather be distributed to the surviving owner or beneficiary. If an asset is title in a trust, it will not go through probate either but rather the trust instructions determine to whom it will be distributed.

There are pros and cons to several probate avoidance strategies. Let's talk about joint and survivor property. Yes, it will not pass through probate upon the death of one of the owners, and will belong then entirely to the survivor. However, what is one of the joint owners faces financial difficulties? Do you want that person to be able to access and use these funds? What if that same joint owner is sued? If those are your funds and not the joint owners, it doesn't matter; they will be exposed to that owner's creditors.

Naming a beneficiary on an asset will also avoid probate. However, if that beneficiary is a minor, a special needs person,

or in the middle of a divorce or lawsuit, the funds are not only unprotected, but subject to court intervention (in the case of the minor) or can disqualify a special needs beneficiary from benefits they may be currently receiving. If one of the beneficiaries needs their share held in trust because they have drug or alcohol problems, that will not happen. If real estate has a transfer on death designation to more than one person, it too avoids probate court. However, if the intention is that the beneficiaries sell that property, all married

beneficiaries must have their spouses sign off on the sale as well, which may or may not be a problem.

Perhaps having property owned by a trust is the answer. It can certainly solve many of the problems I just described. It is more expensive to establish and fund than having just a will and naming beneficiaries. In some circumstances, a trust may be more than what you need for a simple situation, with only one or two beneficiaries, with none of the problems I've described. However, as we know, things

change over time. While all your beneficiaries may be fine now, what happens in the future when they are faced with health issues, financial difficulties or a possible divorce? What if you'd like to provide for your minor grandchildren and dictate what the funds should be used for? Wouldn't it set your mind at ease to know that you have planned to protect them from those potential problems and can guarantee your grandchildren will be provided for as you wish?

Sometimes a simple solution is the best, but it makes sense to discuss all of your options, and their pros and cons, with your estate planning attorney.



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## WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

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



**Marie Edmonds** 



**Ashley Sorgen** 

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From: The Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Imagine this: You come home and your front door, sensing your presence, automatically unlocks for you. You walk in carrying bags of groceries and as you enter the kitchen the lights turn on. You put your groceries away and realize that you forgot an item, so you send a request to your grocery store for a delivery using a touchscreen built into your refrigerator. You sit down in your living room to watch television and the thermostat automatically senses a chill in the air and increases the temperature of your home to keep you comfortable. When you go to bed at 10:00 pm, you pull the covers up over your head and your bedroom lights automatically dim. As you listen carefully, you can hear the click of your doors automatically locking for the night.

Does this sound like a scene from a futuristic sci-fi movie? Believe it or not, this smart home technology already exists. Some of the greatest opportunities that smart home technology offers are for the elderly and people with disabilities, for whom living at home can pose daily struggles.

Smart home technology can allow seniors and other adults with disabilities live in their own homes with less fear or restriction, giving them a sense of freedom and confidence. The impact that such conveniences can have is maybe felt greatest for those that suffer from age-related or developmental disabilities. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it's estimated that one out of every five adults in the United States is living with a disability. The most common disabilities include: hearing and visual difficulty, speech or language difficulty, cognitive difficulty, walking difficulty, arthritis, and self-care difficulty like dressing or bathing. For each of these difficulties, life-simplifying smart-home technology advancements are allowing individuals to remain comfortably, and safely, in their own homes—where they most want to be.

Today budget-friendly technology that nearly anyone can afford is able to be retrofitted into almost any home with the expertise of the right contractor or solution provider. From a homeowner perspective, a smart home provides comfort, security, safety, accessibility, energy efficiency, and convenience through the use of appliances, lighting, electronic equipment, heating and cooling systems, entertainment systems, and home security solutions. In a smart home. all such devices can be controlled remotely by a computer

or mobile device with Internet access, or preset using a schedule. Many smart home solutions can also accept voice commands for the ultimate in-home convenience. They can even be customized on a room-by-room basis.

In Medina County, the Medi-

na County Board of DD has a Smart Room that has a host of smart home technologies that people are able to try out to see if what works for an individual situation. The room is a mock "home" set up to demonstrate a wide variety of technologies available to help a person be more independent within their home. Some of the technologies include a remote monitoring system, smart kitchen devices, Alexa, remote-controlled doors, and much more. To schedule a visit or ask questions about the MCBDD Smart Home, please contact the MCBDD Assistive Technology Office at 330-725-7751 ext. 243.









# LIBRARY NEWS Readit and Reap! Special Fall Events at MCDL

## **Keep on Truckin'**

Sat., Sep. 21, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Buckeve Library (rain or shine!) Children of all ages can climb aboard and explore work vehicles up close, including the Bookmobile! Enjoy vehicle related activities and more in the library:

- Nate the Great balloon creations
- Create your own vehicle workshop
- Friends of the Library book sale 11:00 am, 11:30 am, 12:00 pm

## **An Enchanted Affair**

Sat., Oct. 5, 12:00 - 3:00 pm Seville Library

Drift through our spooky soiree, complete with magical mocktails, fantasy-inspired selfie stations, and other mystical activities. Costumes encouraged; Teens welcome! Featuring:

- Face Painting with EnchantaRoo
- Greg Feketik of Tri-C Ghost Hunters
- Brandon Massullo author of Haunted Medina County Ohio Book sales and signing at event.

## **Medina County Fall Foliage Tour**

Oct. 12-13, 12:00 - 5:00 pm Buckeye Library is a stop on the Medina CountyFall Foliage Tour, a drive-it-yourself tour of agricultural, educational, or historical stops.

- Pumpkin painting
- Button making
- Kids' activities
- Tour Buckeye Library
- Shop the Friends of the Library book sale
- Enjoy donuts holes and apple cider.



# **Technology & Computers**

Register at mcdl.info/TechnologyEvents

#### **CAMP WIRED**

Medina - Every Thu., 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Learn or brush up on your computer skills and software with Sherri. Call for topics. No session Nov. 28.

#### **GRANDPARENTS' DAY KEYCHAINS**

Medina - Mon., Sep. 9, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Bring a printed or digital photo and make a sublimation keychain. While supplies last. Children welcome, with adult.

#### **MAKERSPACE DEMO**

Medina - 1:30 pm - Watch equipment demonstrations.

Wed., Sep. 18 - 3D Printer: Software, hardware, and materials.

Mon., Sep. 23 - T-Shirt Tools: Overview of the Cricut, sublimation printer, and embroidery machine. Please register



#### **TECH CLASSES**

Learn new computer and technology skills with Pieri.

Medina - Wed., 6:30 pm

Sep. 18 - Manage & Organize Photos

Oct. 23 - Cybersecurity Awareness

Nov. 13 - File folder Management

Brunswick - Thu., 1:00 pm

Sep. 26 - ABCs of Using the Cloud

Oct. 24 - Cybersecurity Awareness

Please register

## **ONLINE DATABASE TRAINING 101**

Highland - Mon., Sep. 30, 6:30 pm Get a glimpse of all that is offered – crafting, driver's tests, legal forms, Consumer Reports, and much more. Teens welcome.

#### PAPER LUMINARY

Medina - Wed., Oct. 2, 1:30 pm Create an autumnal paper luminary while learning to use the Cricut. Supplies provided. Please register

## PRESERVING DIGITAL MEMORIES

Medina - Wed., Nov. 20, 6:30 pm Have you digitized your family photos, videos, or other memorabilia? Learn to use the 3-2-1 backup system to keep your digital files safe and secure. Please register

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### **Aging & Disability Resource Center:**

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