



Helping HANDS

MARCH / APRIL 2026

A Publication of the HANDS Foundation

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

PURSES WITH A PURPOSE 2026!

A Night of Compassion, Community and Impact



On February 3, 2026, something truly special happened at Western Reserve Masonic Community. The room was filled to capacity—every chair taken, every space buzzing with energy, generosity, and purpose. The annual **Purses with a Purpose** event once again brought Medina County together for a powerful cause: supporting our local seniors.

Founded by **HANDS Foundation Vice President Devon Diello and President Kimberly Valco**, this beloved event has become a cornerstone of giving in Medina County. Year after year, it unites community members, local businesses, and passionate supporters with one shared goal—to make a meaningful difference in the lives of seniors.



A MISSION THAT MATTERS

This year's event supported **Feeding Medina County's "Senior Staples" program**, a lifeline for many older adults in our community. With over **16% of Medina County's senior population living at an income-constrained level**, the need for assistance continues to grow.

Through this program, seniors receive **monthly deliveries of essential groceries**, including meat, fresh produce, dairy products, and shelf-stable foods—delivered directly to residents in subsidized housing. For many, these deliveries are more than just food; they are peace of mind, dignity, and hope.

A ROOM FULL OF GENEROSITY

The evening itself was nothing short of extraordinary. Guests were welcomed into a beautifully prepared space thanks to the incredible team at **Western Reserve Masonic Community**,

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HANDS Across Medina County Foundation
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Visit us on the Web: HANDS-Foundation.org

who graciously hosted the event at no cost. From the thoughtfully arranged tables to the delicious food prepared in-house, their commitment to going above and beyond was felt in every detail.

The **HANDS Foundation** proudly served as the **wine sponsor**, adding to the warm and celebratory atmosphere.

And then, of course, there were the purses.

Dozens of stunning handbags lined the room - **brand new, gently loved, and many filled with thoughtful gifts**. The selection was nothing short of breathtaking. Each purse told a story of generosity, donated by individuals and businesses who believe deeply in this mission.

AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS

■ A beautiful **Fount bag** generously donated by **Architectural Justice**, a loyal supporter of the event and a **Fount bag** generously donated by **The Avenue at Medina**, another loyal supporter of the event.

■ And perhaps the most exciting moment of all - **two brand new, absolutely stunning Louis Vuitton bags** donated on behalf of the HANDS Foundation by **Pride One Construction** and **BTR Haus**.

BTR Haus, known for their beautiful communities including **The Village at Hinckley Oaks**, **The Villas at Bakers Ridge**, and the upcoming **The Villas at Hidden Lakes**, demonstrated their ongoing commitment to giving back to the community they serve.

THE HEART BEHIND IT ALL

Events like this don't just happen - they are built on passion, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to others. The countless hours, the behind-the-scenes work, the planning, the outreach - it all comes together because of two incredible leaders.

Kimberly Valco and **Devon Diello** are truly the heartbeat of this mission. They give endlessly - mornings, nights, weekends, and holidays - always showing up, always advocating, always leading with compassion. Their impact on Medina County is immeasurable, and their ability to inspire others is nothing short of remarkable.

As they so beautifully shared:

"Because of this amazing community, we were able to raise \$15,100 for Feeding Medina County's Staples for Seniors program! It's because of YOU that seniors will be blessed with groceries and continued support. Your generosity truly makes a difference in the lives of our local seniors."

PURSES



HANDS FOUNDATION

Mailing P.O. Box 868 • Brunswick, OH 44212
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CIRCULATION

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January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, November/December

ABOUT THE HANDS FOUNDATION AND HELPING HANDS NEWSPAPER

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

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

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GET ON OUR MAILING LIST

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Sanctuary Wadsworth News!

CONGRATULATIONS
SANCTUARY ON YOUR

Grand
OPENING

of your beautiful new Dialysis Den

TO SAY I AM GRATEFUL IS TRULY AN UNDERSTATEMENT. LAST NIGHT AT SANCTUARY OF WADSWORTH, WE HOSTED THE GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION OF OUR DIALYSIS DEN, AND THE SUPPORT I RECEIVED WAS MORE THAN I EVER COULD HAVE DREAMED OF.

THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE SHAPED MY CAREER—AND ME AS A PERSON—WERE THERE: MY FIRST MENTOR, A FORMER BOSS, AND EVEN MY MOM. IT WAS A TRUE DREAM COME TRUE.

THIS NIGHT TOOK A VILLAGE TO MAKE POSSIBLE, AND I WANT TO SINCERELY THANK EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO TOOK THE TIME TO ATTEND. TO THOSE WHO CAME EARLY, CONTRIBUTED, AND SHOWED UP FOR ME LEADING UP TO THIS EVENT—THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART. I HAVE NEVER FELT MORE BLESSED OR MORE PROUD TO HAVE COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE BECOME LIFELONG FRIENDS.

FINALLY, TO THE TEAM AT SANCTUARY WADSWORTH: THE HEART, TEARS, AND TIME POURED INTO CREATING THE DIALYSIS DEN AND LAST NIGHT'S CELEBRATION WERE NOTHING SHORT OF INCREDIBLE. I AM AMAZED, HUMBLLED, AND SO PROUD TO SAY THAT I WORK ALONGSIDE THIS TEAM.

-EMILY GIANGIULIO
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
SANCTUARY WADSWORTH

330.335.1558
365 Johnson Road
Wadsworth, OH 44281



Sanctuary Wadsworth

QUICK FACTS GUIDE

1 5 STAR RATED CMS FACILITY

Sanctuary is recognized as a 5-Star CMS facility, reflecting our commitment to excellence, compassionate care, and the highest standards in health and wellness.

2 SPECIALIZED HEALTHCARE

Sanctuary offers long-term skilled nursing, short-term rehab, respiratory & ventilator care, plus in-house dialysis and wound management.

3 DIALYSIS

The Dialysis Den provides personalized care for up to 8 residents, with shorter, 2.5-hour sessions five days a week—giving more time for therapy, activities, and recovery.

4 RESPIRATORY CARE

Sanctuary offers a dedicated skilled nursing unit for individuals in need of ventilator care following a hospital stay. Our community features six private rooms, a licensed nursing team, and on-site respiratory and speech therapy. We are also equipped to provide dialysis services for residents on a ventilator.

5 SKILLED NURSING CARE

Post-operative care, disease & medication management, IV therapy, enteral feeding, pain & wound care, Alzheimer's & dementia support, and in-house dialysis.

6 SHORT-TERM REHAB

Our skilled therapy and nursing teams help you recover from surgery, injury, stroke, and other health events caring for both your body and your well-being.

7 ON-SITE

Audiology, dental, social services, eye care, podiatry, mental health, radiology & lab, respiratory therapy, and hospice care.

8 FELLOWSHIP & ENRICHMENT

Residents enjoy music, prayer, art, and faith-enriching programs, plus quiet moments in cozy sitting areas, the spiritual library, or by the aviary and lounge. We offer pastoral guidance, prayer services, Mass, memorials, volunteer visits, and a chapel and resource library—nurturing faith, worship, and fellowship for residents and families.

SANCTUARYHEALTHNETWORK.COM





PURSES

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

LOOKING AHEAD

The impact of this year's event will be felt for months to come - but the work doesn't stop here.

Mark your calendars: **February 2, 2027**. Next year's Purses with a Purpose will support **Habitat for Humanity of Medina County's Aging in Place program** - an initiative that helps seniors (age 60+) remain safely and comfortably in their homes.

Through this program, critical home modifications - such as grab bars, wheelchair ramps, and walk-in showers - are installed to ensure safety, accessibility, and independence. It's a mission that aligns perfectly with HANDS' unwavering commitment to supporting seniors at every stage of life.

Over the coming year, HANDS will be shining a spotlight on this incredible program - because every senior deserves to age with dignity, safety, and the comfort of home.

A COMMUNITY THAT SHOWS UP

Purses with a Purpose is more than an event. It's a reflection of what makes Medina County so special - a community that shows up, gives back, and cares deeply for its seniors.

To everyone who donated a purse, attended the event, sponsored, volunteered, or simply shared in the mission - **THANK YOU!** Your generosity is changing lives.

And to Kimberly Valco and Devon Diello - thank you for leading with heart, for inspiring action, and for reminding us all what it means to serve.

Because of you... and because of this incredible community... **purpose is being carried forward, one purse at a time.**

CHECK OUT OUR LIST OF AMAZING SPONSORS ON PAGE 12!

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Spring is Coming

to Plum Creek Assisted Living

As the days get longer and the weather begins to warm, there's a sense of excitement in the air at Plum Creek Assisted Living—because we're getting ready to enjoy our beautiful outdoor spaces again!

Our residents look forward to spending time on our inviting back patio, complete with comfortable seating, shaded umbrellas, a cozy patio fireplace, and a built-in grill—perfect for relaxing or gathering with friends.

Our gorgeous sunroom offers a bright, welcoming space year-round, and our enclosed courtyard provides a peaceful and secure place to soak in the fresh air. With spring right around the corner, we're especially excited to get back to planting flowers and vegetables, watching them grow, and making the most of every beautiful day outdoors.

At Plum Creek Assisted Living, it's all about enjoying the seasons, staying active, and creating meaningful moments—both inside and out.

We can't wait to welcome spring—and we'd love for you to experience it with us. Schedule your tour today!

Phone: 330-220-4900
Website: plumcreekseiorliving.com



Discover the Plum Creek Difference

Plum Creek Assisted Living is the only stand-alone, family-owned assisted living community in Medina County — offering personalized care in a home-like setting. Our thoughtfully designed, single-story community means no elevators, no stairs — just easy, accessible living for every resident.

One of the things our residents and families love most about our community is the peace of mind that comes with on-site medical support.

We are proud to partner with Dr. SK Jain, who has been caring for our community since 2009. With his own established practice, communication is seamless—meaning faster responses, better coordination, and truly personalized care.

Even better, his outstanding Nurse Practitioner, Andrew Black, is here at least once a week, bringing consistent, hands-on care directly to our residents.

What truly sets us apart? We bring healthcare to YOU.

Many services can be done right here in the comfort of your home, including:

Blood draws (including Coumadin level checks)

X-rays

EKGs

And more

No unnecessary trips. No added stress. Just convenient, high-quality care when you need it.

A Full Continuum of Care — All in One Place

As your needs evolve, we're here every step of the way with:

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Palliative Care
- Hospice Services

This means you or your loved one can age in place with confidence, surrounded by a team that truly knows and cares about you.

✦ This is more than a place to live—it's a place to feel supported.

At Plum Creek, your well-being is our priority. We understand that managing chronic conditions can feel overwhelming — but you don't have to do it alone.

We're here to help monitor and support residents living with conditions such as:

♥ Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)

✦ Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

♦ Diabetes

● Kidney Disease

♥ Heart Disease

And more!

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AreaAgingSolutions.org

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Aging & Disability Resource Center:
The starting point for information, assistance & counseling.

Family Caregiver Support Program:
Information, respite, counseling & other services.

Older Americans Act Programs:
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PASSPORT Medicaid Waiver Program:
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**Western Reserve
Area Agency On Aging**

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PLUM CREEK NEWS



Senior Valentines!

Residents of Plum Creek Assisted Living Community Receive Personalized Valentines Wishes.

From: BEAT Students from Brunswick

On Sunday, February 8th, over twenty members of the award-winning Brunswick Schools BEAT Video Program (grades 6 through 12) hand-delivered close to 100 personalized, specially designed valentines to residents of PlumCreekAssistedLiving (891 MarksRoad, Brunswick.)

BEAT students are aspiring backpack journalists, who create close to 400 news stories during the school year spotlighting Medina County. This project, which is the BEAT's way of giving back to the community and especially our seniors (who may not have someone in their lives on Valentine's Day), has been a BEAT tradition for over a decade.

Thank You Plum Creek & BEAT Students!



Vino and Vibes for Heart Health with a

WINE TASTING

At The Villas of Bakers Ridge

FRIDAY MARCH 13

21600 Experience Way, Strongsville, OH

5:00PM - 7:00PM
CHECK IN: 5:00PM
TASTING: 5:30PM
DINNER & RAFFLES: 6PM

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 9:30am BP Screening-ComForCare Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong	3 9am Edwina's Exercise 9:30am Painting w/ Taylor* 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	4 9:30am Bingo-Z-Life Care 10:30am Program: Responding to Alzheimer's Related Behavior 11:30am Lunch-Life Care 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	5 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	6 9:30am Bingo-Z-Medina Ctr 10:30am Program: Scotland w/ Robin Swoboda & Great Day Tours 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day & Mahjong 1pm Grief Support Group 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
9 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11am Cooking Demo w/ Amy 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong	10 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Digital Art Class 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook 1:30pm Croissant Class*	11 9am BP Clinic by Samaritan Care Center 9:30am Bingo-Z-Pearlview 10:30am Program: Emotional Freedom Technique 11:30am Lunch-Avenue at Medina 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1:30pm Legal Aid Appts	12 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	13 PARTY-NO BINGO ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong
16 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10am Remembrance Craft 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 12:15pm Movie: Superman 1pm Mahjong	17 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	18 HOLLYWOOD CASINO TRIP 9:30am Bingo-Z-Care Core at Willowood 10:30am Program: Palliative Care vs .Hospice Care 11:30am Lunch-Medina Center 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1pm Friends in Focus	19 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am BP Screening-Serenity Hospice 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Katie's Drawing Class 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	20 9:30am Bingo-Z-Always Best Care 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11am Program: Leo's Jolly Jammers Concert 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day & Mahjong 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
23 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong 1:30pm iPhone/iPad Class	24 9am Edwina's Exercise 9:30am AARP Driving Class 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook 1pm Zentangle	25 9:30am Bingo-Z-Broadway Creek 11am Program: Senior Trivia w/ Brookdale South 11:30am Lunch-Brookdale South 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa*	26 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Paper Crafts w/ Holly 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	27 9:30am Bingo-Z-Jim Richison 10:30am Program: Understanding Your Medications 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day & Mahjong 1pm Book Club
30 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong	31 BIRDS 'N BLOOMS TRIP 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	<h2>March 2026</h2> <p>Z = ZOOM CLASS • * = FEE ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE • BILLIARDS DAILY 8:00 - 4:30</p> 		

MEDINA COUNTY SENIOR & ADULT SERVICES

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <h2>April 2026</h2>		1 MEDINA OFFICES CLOSED FOR BRUNSWICK EXPO "OUT OF THIS WORLD" 	2 9&10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 1:15pm Parkinson's Support Grp 2:30pm BalloFlex*	3 PARTY-NO BINGO 50'S SOCK HOP 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong 1pm Grief Support Group 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
6 9:30am BP Screening ComForCare 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong 1:30pm One-on-One w/ Joe	7 9am Edwina's Exercise 9:30am Painting w/ Taylor* 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	8 RIVERS CASINO TRIP 9am BP Clinic by Samaritan Care Center 9:30am Bingo-Z-Pearlview 10:30am Senior Trivia w/ MCSSN 11:30am Lunch-Avenue@Medina 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1:30pm Legal Aid Appts 2pm Weds. Watercolor Class*	9 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	10 9:30am Bingo-Z-Broadway Crk 10:30am Program: Civil War Talk by Ron Chojnacki 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
13 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11am Cooking Demo w/ Amy 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong 1:30pm Windows Computer Class	14 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	15 9:30am Bingo-Z-Care Core at Willowood 10:30am Program: Guiding Care Through Life's Transitions 11:30am Lunch-Turas Hospice 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 1pm Friends in Focus 2pm Weds. Watercolor Class*	16 9&10am Edwina's Exercise 10am BP Screening-Serenity Hospice 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Katie's Drawing Class 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch	17 9:30am Bingo-Z-MCSAS 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11am Leo's Jammers Concert 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day 12:30pm Mahjong 2:30pm Beginner Line Dance
20 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 12:15pm Movie: Song Sung Blue 1pm Mahjong	21 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	22 9:30am Bingo-Z-MCSAS 10:30am Prevention bingo w/ Cindy McGowan 11am HARM task force w/ Health Dept. 11:30am Lunch-Medina Center 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 2pm Weds. Watercolor Class*	23 CLEVELAND TRIP 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Champion Creek Craft 10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	24 9:30am Bingo-Z-Jim Richison 10:30am Program: Tips for Fall Prevention by Alert Care 10:30am Weights Workout w/Lisa* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Pinochle 12:30pm Game Day & Mahjong 1pm Book Club
27 9:30am Bridge 9:30am Chair Yoga w/ Jackie 10:30am Balloflex* 11:30am Lunch 12pm Euchre 1pm Mahjong 1pm Zentangle Class*	28 9am Edwina's Exercise 10am Card Games 10am Edwina's Exercise 11:30am Lunch 12pm Mind Challenge Trivia 1pm Hook Nook	29 9:30am Bingo-Care Patrol-Z 11am Program: Senior Trivia w/ Brookdale South 11:30am Lunch-Brookdale South 12pm Pinochle 1pm Chair Yoga w/ Lisa* 2pm Weds. Watercolor Class*	30 9&10am Edwina's Exercise 10am Guided Autobiography 10am Hand and Foot Cards 10am Paper Crafts w/ Holly 10am Tai Chi w/ Danny* 11:30am Lunch 2:30pm BalloFlex*	 <p>Z = ZOOM CLASS • * = FEE ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE BILLIARDS DAILY 8:00AM - 4:30PM</p>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>2 11am Munch & Learn "Chinese New Year & Trivia!" Foundations/ Brunswick Pointe Mah Jongg</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>3 8am Cards 10am Book Club 1pm Bingo/ Life Care 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>4 9am Vintage Artists 10am Activities Council 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:30pm Knitting & Crochet- ing</p>	<p>5 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 1pm Bingo/ Alzheimer</p>	<p>6 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:15pm Huntington Bank Program 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>9 9:30am Art Critique Group 11am Munch & Learn "Simplifying Downsizing" Every Step Senior Movers Mah Jongg Culinary Club</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg 1pm Culinary Club</p>	<p>10 8am Cards 1pm Bingo/ SPRY 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>11 9am Vintage Artists 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>12 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 12:15pm Dominoes 1pm Bingo/ Turas Hospice</p>	<p>13 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:15pm Local author Jose Torres "Jose-A Book for Baby Boomers & Their Offspring" 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>16 11am Munch & Learn "The Emerald Isle" Footsteps Travel 12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>17 8am Cards 1pm Bingo/ Plum Creek 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>18 9am Vintage Artists 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>19 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 12:15pm Dominoes 1pm Bingo! Carecore Willowood</p>	<p>20 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:15pm "History of Cleveland in Pictures" w/ Doug Imhoff 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>23 11am Munch & Learn "Home Safety & Safely" Care Patrol & Life Care Mah Jongg</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>24 8am Cards 1pm Bingo w/ Divine Pearlview 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>25 9am Vintage Artists 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:30pm Crafting w/ Patti from Danbury 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>26 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 1pm Bingo/ Medina Meadows</p>	<p>27 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>30 11am Munch & Learn "Estate Planning" & Consultations Joseph Orlando Law Mah Jongg</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>31 8am Cards 1pm Bingo/ Always Best Care 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>March 2026</p> <p>MEDINA COUNTY SENIOR & ADULT SERVICES BRUNSWICK Parks & Recreation</p> <p>ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p>		

BRUNSWICK REC CENTER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>April 2026</p>		<p>1 MEDINA OFFICES CLOSED FOR BRUNSWICK EXPO "OUT OF THIS WORLD"</p>	<p>2 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/Improver Line Dance 1pm Bingo/ Alzheimer</p>	<p>3 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>6 11am Munch & Learn "50 Ways We Care: Synergy Home Care" Mah Jongg</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>7 8am Cards 10am Book Club 1pm Bingo/ Life Care 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>8 9am Vintage Artists 10am Activities Council 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>9 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 12:15pm Dominoes 1pm Bingo/ United Church Homes</p>	<p>10 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:15pm The "Helios Project" w/ Larry Johns 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>13 9:30am Art Critique Group 11am Munch & Learn "Guiding Care Through Life's Most Meaningful Transition" Turas Hospice Mah Jongg Culinary Club</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg 1pm Culinary Club</p>	<p>14 8am Cards 1pm Bingo/ SPRY 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>15 9am Vintage Artists 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:15pm Ken Federer- "The Medina Phenomenon UFO's, Cryptids & the Strange" 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>16 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 12:15pm Dominoes 1pm Bingo! Carecore Willowood</p>	<p>17 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>20 11am Munch & Learn "All About 'Friends in Focus' Low Vision Support Group" Mah Jongg</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>21 8am Cards 1pm Bingo/ Plum Creek 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>22 9am Vintage Artists 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:15pm Mark Vanderau, NASA Engineer/RCAS Warren Rupp Observatory 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>23 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 1pm Bingo w/ Medina Meadows</p>	<p>24 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12:30pm Ladies Pinochle</p>
<p>27 11am Munch & Learn- "Relearn Gravity: Balance & Vertigo" Carecore Willowood Mah Jongg</p> <p>12pm Mah Jongg</p>	<p>28 8am Cards 1pm Bingo w/ Divine Pearlview 6pm Beginner Line Dance</p>	<p>29 9am Vintage Artists 11:30am MCSAS Nutrition 12pm Mah Jongg 12:30pm Crafting w/Pattl from Danbury 12:30pm Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p>30 8am Cards 11:15am Intermediate/ Improver Line Dance 1pm Bingo/ Integrated Providers Homecare</p>	<p>ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2026



50th Anniversary
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
<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
2 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Pinochle 9:00 Paint N Sip 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Diabetes Support 1:00 Easter Décor Demo 2:30	3 Canasta 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 General Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30 Wits Workout 2:00	4 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Blind Truth* 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	5 Mah Jong 9:00 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	6 Bingo Auction 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 WHS Tech Assist 1:00 Genealogy 2:00
9 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Pinochle 9:00 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Waffles w/ WOAF 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Medicare 101* 3:00	10 Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Crafts w/ Windfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Table Talk w/ Dr. Patel* 12:00 Ask an Attorney - by Appt 1:00 Euchre 1:30	11 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Chess 10:00 Summa Health Chat* 10:00 Gentle Exercise 11:00 Homestead Exemption 11:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Trivia w/ Brookdale 2:00	12 Mah Jong 9:00 Plant Powered Plates 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Seniors w/Srs Lunch 11:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wadsworth Library Fun 1:00	13 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00 Veteran Benefits Seminar 2:00
16 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Pain Wkshp 9:30 Bunco 1:00 Blended Families 1:00	17 Canasta 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30 Wits Workout 2:00	18 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 WHS Tech Assist 9:15 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Healthy Living w/Humana* 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	19 Mah Jong 9:00 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Grief Recovery Method 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 County Assistance - by Appt. 2:00	20 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Mind Challenge Practice 1:00 Genealogy 2:00
23 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Pain Wkshp 9:30 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:00 Bunco 1:00 Monthly Bday Party 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00	24 Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:30 Cooking w/ Bev 2:30	25 Tax Preparation - by Appt. 8:45 - 11:15 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Let's Make a Deal 2:00	26 Mah Jong 9:00 Crafts w/ Marilyn 10:00 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 Group 3:00	Easter Party 27 12:00 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
30 Tax Prep - by Appt. Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Pain Wkshp 9:30 Bunco 1:00 Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) What's the Buzz? 2:00	31 Canasta 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Caregiver's Day Out 11:00 Dr. Dan Health Chat 2:00	*ASTERISK (*) PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED BOTH IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM ("HYBRID").	<i>"With every sunrise, we are given a golden new opportunity to create, connect & thrive."</i>	See our online Newsletter for more Details! www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter

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

SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER & CAFE

WADSWORTH

APRIL 2026



50th Anniversary
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
<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
BE SURE TO RSVP TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT! Visit us on our Website: www.WadsworthCity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter *PROGRAMS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) ARE OFFERED IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM (HYBRID).				
6 Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Pain Wkshp 9:30 Bunco 1:00 Diabetes Support 1:00 Wadsworth Tax Levy Info Mtg 2:00	7 Canasta 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 General Caregiver* 12:15 Euchre 1:30	8 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Homestead Exemption 11:00 Seniors w/Srs Lunch 11:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Trivia w/ Brookdale 2:00	9 Mah Jong 9:00 Plant Powered Plates 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Wads. Library Fun 1:00	10 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 WHS Tech Assist 1:00 Genealogy 2:00 Café Open Lunch Only 11:30
13 Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Pain Wkshp 9:30 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Bunco 1:00 Movie at Wads. Library 1:00 Medicare 101* 3:00	14 Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Crafts w/ Windfall 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Table Talk w/ Dr. Patel* 12:00 Ask an Attorney - by Appt 1:00 Euchre 1:30	15 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Healthy Living w/Humana* 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	16 Mah Jong 9:00 Sewing Seniors 9:30 Bridge 11:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 County Assistance - by appt. 2:00	17 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Spring Art & Games @ WHS *RSVP by Apr 6th* 12:30 Genealogy 2:00
20 Pinochle 9:00 Chronic Pain Wkshp 9:30 Bunco 1:00 Diversified Medical Tech. Health program 1:00 Intro to Blackjack 1:30	21 Canasta 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Watercolor 10:00 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Health Checks 12:00 Parkinson's Caregivers* 12:15 Euchre 1:30	22 WHS Tech Assist 9:15 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Craft w/ Joy 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Hall of Fame @ WHS 6:30	23 Mah Jong 9:00 Crafts w/ Marilyn 10:00 Bridge 11:00 Poetry Open Mic 12:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Senior Book Chat 1:00 Grief Support 2:00	24 Bingo 10:00 Claire's Crafty Friends 12:00 Make Me H.H. (Zoom) 12:00 Genealogy 2:00
27 Pinochle 9:00 Ukulele Practice 10:00 Bloom & Grow 10:30 Tech Café w/ MCBDD 11:00 Bunco 1:00 Monthly Bday Party 1:00 Paper Crafting 101 1:00 Intro to Blackjack 1:30	28 Canasta 9:00 Line Dancing 9:00 Bible Study 9:30 Coupon Clippers 10:30 Garden Chat* 11:00 Euchre 1:30 Cooking w/ Bev 2:30	29 Chess 10:00 Gentle Exercise 10:00 Coffee w/ a Cop 11:00 Medication Safety/ Prevention Bingo 12:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00	30 Mah Jong 9:00 Bridge 11:00 Hand and Foot 1:00	Royal Ball - May 7th! Tickets On Sale April 1st - 24th @ SSC \$20 SSC Members \$30 Non-SSC Members

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



RICK DUMPERTH

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR MEDINA COUNTY AUDITOR

- Trusted public official with
impeccable integrity**
- Fiscally conservative Medina County
business professional**
- Long record of nonprofit service
& leadership**



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This year's annual Purses with a Purpose benefits Feeding Medina County

FEEDING MEDINA COUNTY

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Tori Burch
First National Bank
Traditions Health

A Special Thank You To Those Who Provided This Year's Auction & Raffle Items

Angela Ragone	Lori Betz
Avenue at Medina	Pride One/ BTR Haus
Brookdale	Mary Meli
Medina South	Devon Diello
Home Instead	Carol Gatt
Nicole Bertke	Janet George
Plum Creek	Dawn Hopkins
Assisted Living	Ann Bruno
Suncrest Hospice	Nancy Peacock
Remembrance Hospice	Terri Greene
Architectural Justice/ FOUNT	Karen Hooven
Grace Hospice	Marie Edmonds
MODA Gifting	Cristi Schwanke
Champion Creek Health & Rehabilitation	Dawn Hopkins
	Marsha Pappalardo

Medina Meadows
REHABILITATION & NURSING CENTER

We look forward to seeing you again next year!
February 2, 2027




DEVON DIELO



KIMBERLY VALCO

THANK YOU DEVON & KIM! WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO FOR PURSES WITH A PURPOSE!



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FRIDAY-APRIL 24, 2026

RSVP TO 330.220.4900 BY APRIL 17TH

2pm to 4pm

THANK YOU TO THE GIVING PLACE!



The Giving Place

WE ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF THE GIVING PLACE IN MEDINA, AN ORGANIZATION TRULY DEDICATED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THEIR MISSION IS SIMPLE YET POWERFUL-TO SERVE LOCAL CHARITIES THROUGH THE DONATIONS THEY RECEIVE AND RESELL, CREATING A MEANINGFUL IMPACT FOR THOSE RIGHT HERE IN MEDINA COUNTY. AS A NONPROFIT THRIFT AND CONSIGNMENT STORE LOCATED AT 109S NORTH COURT STREET, THE GIVING PLACE PROVIDES AN EASY WAY FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO GIVE BACK WHILE ALSO SELLING GREAT ITEMS AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE. THEY EVEN OFFER FREE FURNITURE PICK-UPS THROUGHOUT MEDINA COUNTY, MAKING IT EVEN MORE CONVENIENT TO DONATE-SIMPLY TEXT PHOTOS OF YOUR FURNITURE TO 330-461-9039 TO GET STARTED. EVERY DONATION SUPPORTS LOCAL PROGRAMS AND NEIGHBORS IN NEED, PROVING THAT SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS GIVING CAN MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE.




MEDINA COUNTY SHERIFF
TERRY GRICE
PROUDLY SUPPORTS

JULIE McNABB

for
MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONER

COMMITTED TO:

- ★ FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY
- ★ SMART ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- ★ STRONG SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Republican Primary Election May 5, 2026

COUNCILWOMAN & SMALL BUSINESS OWNER WITH A PROVEN WORK ETHIC AND COMMON-SENSE LEADERSHIP

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF JULIE McNABB

ELECT JULIE McNABB
MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONER

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FROM YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Latest News from State Representative, Sharon Ray

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of the 66th House District for giving me the opportunity to be their State Representative over the last 5 years; it has been an honor to represent them at the Statehouse. However, I have decided not to run for re-election in 2026. Living out of a suitcase three days a week has become increasingly difficult, and I would like to spend more time working on Medina County issues from my home base in Wadsworth. In addition, this will allow me more time to help transport my grandson to his many activities.

I was thrilled to be the first woman to represent the district in Columbus. I was humbled when my fellow legislators, both Republican and Democrat, elected me to house Leadership in 2023. Passing bills that modernized and streamlined the Adoption process, creating a Community Energy pilot program that will put

additional electricity on the grid—at no expense to the ratepayer—were goals I was able to achieve. In addition, securing millions of dollars in funding for projects like the Next Step Up – Emergency Housing Shelter, the Fire Training Tower at the Medina County Career Center and large awards to the Medina County Park District and the Wadsworth Brickyard project made me proud.

I look forward to serving out the remainder of my term which ends in December of 2026.

On February 4, 2026, I gave Sponsor testimony along with Rep. Rachel Baker on HB# 491 – A modernization for Ohio’s guardianship law.

HB# 491 makes targeted, thoughtful updates to Ohio’s guardianship laws. Guardianship Law involves transferring decision-making authority over personal, medical, and financial matters from an individual to a

court-appointed guardian. The laws governing this process must be clear, modern, and protective of individual rights.



Representative Rachel Baker and Representative Sharon Ray after giving Sponsor testimony on the Guardianship Modernization Bill.

Much of Ohio’s current guardianship framework has developed over decades. While it has served an important purpose, it now includes outdated language, duplicative provisions, and inconsistencies that can make the process confusing for families, guardians, and even the courts themselves. Hb# 491 addresses those issues in many

ways. A simple start is expanding the terms defined in current Guardianship Law to include terms like, “emergency guardian,” “successor guardian,” “interim guardian” and more.

Defining these and other terms is critical to Guardianship Law as it defines the roles guardians play. The interim guardian definition has been widened to include the appointment of said guardian may be extended for up to two subsequent 30-day periods, instead of just one. The definition of successor guardian is extended to make the transition of the previous guardian to the successor guardian more seamless, thus easier for the person who needs said guardian. The bill also includes new and more specific reporting requirements for guardians; particularly those appointed for incompetent adults. This kind of change reflects an emphasis on increased oversight and accountability.

This is especially important when we are dealing with individuals who may be elderly, have disabilities, or otherwise be unable to fully advocate for themselves. Judges and guardians will have clearer legal benchmarks to determine what actions are appropriate when deciding guardianship over another person.

This bill does not fundamentally change the purpose of guardianship. Instead, it focuses on improving how the system functions in practice. House Bill # 491 modernizes Ohio’s guardianship statutes, so they are clearer, more consistent, and better aligned with current practice, while still maintaining the essential protection that guardianship is meant to provide. I look forward to watching the bill move forward.

Sharon Ray is the Representative for the 66th district of the Ohio House of Representatives which includes Medina County.

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Sharon A. Ray
State Representative
House District 66



614-466-8140
Rep66@OhioHouse.gov
77 South High St., 13th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215



COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



County Selects Dynegy as Electric Aggregation Program Supplier

Medina County has selected Dynegy as the supplier for its Electric Aggregation Program. The program's previous supplier, Energy Harbor, was acquired by Dynegy in 2024; therefore, the incumbent supplier has been chosen for the upcoming program.

Enrollment in the program is automatic for eligible residents and businesses — there is no cost to participate, and no switching fees will be charged.

If you have questions or would like to confirm your enrollment, please call 1-888-682-2170.

The previous program's rate, for the term May 2022–April 2026, was \$0.0605/kWh. The upcoming program's rate, for the term May 2026–June 2028, is \$0.0950/kWh.

Electricity prices have been rising in Ohio since mid 2025, when PJM's 2025–2026 capacity auction cleared about 700% higher than the previous year.

There have been two subsequent capacity auctions for 2026–2027 and 2027–2028 since June 2025, with both clearing at the top of the predicted range.

The latest result marked the third consecutive year that clearing prices hit the peak of the range.

Nationwide, and in Ohio in particular, rapid demand growth from data centers and AI loads has contributed to upward pressure on prices.

NEW RATE BEGINS MAY 2026

These facilities require large, steady power draws, and their growth in Ohio has raised the state's peak demand forecast, increasing capacity needs.

Grid planners and PJM have identified data center and AI load growth as a structural upward pressure on prices.

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PROGRAM FAQs

Q: What is an electric municipal aggregation program?

A: It's an opportunity for cities, townships, and counties to negotiate a competitive electricity rate from retail electric suppliers, providing budget stability for their residents and small businesses. When suppliers compete for your business, you end up paying less for electricity and get more choice in contract lengths and other benefits that better fit your lifestyle.

Q: Who will bill me for my electricity? Will I receive two bills?

A: You'll continue to receive one monthly bill from your local utility. That'll include a line item for the Dynegy supply charge, and the delivery service charge from your utility.

Q: Who is eligible to participate in an electric aggregation program?

A: Residential or small business customers located in a participating

community may enroll. Customers enrolled in PIPP (Percentage of Income Plan) are not eligible for the program.

Q: How do I enroll in the electric aggregation program?

A: It's simple and automatic. Residents voted to allow the community to take advantage of this program. Dynegy will send you a letter notifying you of the aggregation opportunity. Unless you opt-out, all eligible customer accounts within your community boundaries will be enrolled. If you're new to the community or are currently receiving service from a retail provider, just contact us to enroll — we're here to help.

Q: Do I have to participate in the electric aggregation program?

A: If you don't want to become a part of the program, simply return the opt-out card or contact us by the deadline date identified in your letter and your account will remain with your local utility.

Q: What if I decide to opt-out of the electric aggregation program after the deadline has passed?

A: If you decide the program isn't for you, contact us and we'll switch you back to your local utility.

Board of Medina County Commissioners



Colleen Swedyk
Board President

Office: **330-722-9212**

Cell: **216-570-9809**

cswedyk@medinacounty.gov



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Board Vice President

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Aaron Harrison
Commissioner

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aharrison@medinacounty.gov

Administration Building • 144 North Broadway Street, Medina



FROM YOUR VETERANS OFFICE



ED ZACKERY

BE AWARE...AND BE WARY!

THE VA BENEFITS OVERPAYMENT SCAM

We've seen several attempts lately where veterans are being contacted by scammers for various reasons. The latest attempt at getting your money was reported by Kim Adams the VA's Program Analyst, Office of Financial Management, Benefits Delivery Protection & Remediation.

NEW SCAM, VA BENEFITS OVERPAYMENT

Clever scammers are targeting Veterans, surviving spouses and family members who receive VA benefits. They pretend to be official VA representatives and use official communication channels to demand repayment for alleged benefits overpayments. Fraudulent letters, emails and texts often include fake VA letterheads and logos, making it difficult to distinguish genuine VA communications from scams.

COMMON TACTICS USED BY SCAMMERS

- Fake VA letterheads and logos: Scammers often use fake VA letterheads, logos and even spoofed phone numbers to make their communication appear authentic.
- Claims of overpayment: Scammers claim you have been overpaid on your VA benefits and now owe money back to VA.

- Pressure tactics: Scammers may pressure you into making immediate payments directly to them instead of through official VA payment channels. Requests for payment via wire transfers, bitcoin, prepaid debit cards, money transfers or gift cards are often signs of a scam.

- Requests for sensitive information: Scammers may ask for sensitive information, such as your VA login credentials, password or financial information.

If you receive a letter or any communication about a VA benefits overpayment, log into your official VA.gov account immediately to verify if you truly owe money. The VA website will provide clear information on whether you owe any money. If you find you do owe money, VA's Debt Management Center (DMC) offers many repayment options.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- Verify the authenticity of the letter: If you receive a letter or communication about VA benefits overpayment, log into your official VA.gov account immediately to verify if you truly owe money.
- Only use official VA channels: If you find you do owe VA money, resolve the debt directly using

VA.gov or by calling VA's Debt Management Center (DMC) at **1-800-827-0648**.

- Never share login information: VA will never ask for your login credentials or passwords.

- Be cautious of unsolicited contact: Be wary of unsolicited emails or texts asking for personal details or directing you to external websites that are not part of VA.gov.

- Do not pay upfront fees: If someone demands an upfront payment to help with your VA debt or claims, it's a scam. VA offers free help with managing debts and claims. You can find a VA accredited representative to assist you at www.va.gov/get-help-from-accredited-representative/find-rep/.

- Avoid clicking on unknown or suspicious messages: Be cautious if you receive an email or text asking for your personal information. Scammers often create fake links or attachments to trick you into downloading malware or malicious code to steal your data. Always review the sender's information carefully and avoid clicking on links or attachments from unknown sources.

- Never share sensitive information: Secure personally identifying information

(PII) and financial information. Never share sensitive information, such as social security numbers, bank account details or credit card information when responding to unsolicited requests.

Being aware of common scam tactics and following recommended precautions can significantly reduce your risk of falling victim to fraud. Always verify information through VA.gov and treat any suspicious communication with caution. Protecting your personal information and

promptly reporting any suspicious activity can help ensure your benefits and personal data remain protected. VA offers a wide range of tools and resources to combat fraud and protect Veterans' benefits. To learn more, please visit VBA fraud prevention page. Stay safe and vigilant!

REPORTING SCAMS

Contact VA: If you have been the target of a scam or suspect of fraudulent activity, contact VA immediately at 1-800-827-1000.



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

BE AWARE... AND BE WARY!
DON'T GET SCAMMED!

Veterans Affairs (VA) has been actively working to protect veterans from various scams. Here are some of the scams that veterans should be aware of and how to protect themselves.

VSAFE.gov or calling (833) 38V-SAFE
If you've been scammed contact:

MEDINA COUNTY SCAM SQUAD 1-877-SCAM-550



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

FROM WRMC

WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY

WHAT IS A BLUE ZONE?



Now is the perfect time to consider Independent Living Apartments at Western Reserve Masonic Community

Independent living at Western Reserve Masonic Community is ideal for those who can still live on their own but want to take advantage of a maintenance-free lifestyle. Now is the time to reserve your apartment before they're gone.

There are only 6 left! Schedule a tour now to learn about all Western Reserve Masonic Community has to offer.



WESTERN RESERVE
MASONIC COMMUNITY

Schedule your personal consultation and tour by contacting

Venetia Rahal at:

(330) 642-3841

vrahal@omcoh.org



Today. Tomorrow. Together.



Have you ever heard the term Blue Zone? In the early 2000s, researchers first identified what are known as Blue Zones, locations where residents have particularly healthy and long lives.

A Blue Zone community is a geographic region with lower rates of chronic disease and higher concentrations of people living exceptionally long, healthy lives (often into their 90s and 100s), characterized by specific lifestyle factors like healthy diets, physical activity, social ties, and a sense of purpose. The original five Blue Zones are Okinawa Japan, Sardinia Italy, Nicoya Costa Rica, Ikaria Greece, and Loma Linda California.

Journalist Dan Buettner, working with National

Geographic, further explored these areas, for the basis of his book *The Blue Zones: Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who've Lived the Longest*. According to his research, Blue Zones have among the world's highest proportions of centenarians. Most residents live seven to 10 years longer than the average American.

Blue Zone lifestyles promote longevity, emphasizing natural movement, whole foods, strong social connections, purpose, and stress reduction. The lifestyle is based on nine principles:

1. Move Naturally: Incorporate natural movement--walking, gardening-- into your daily routine instead of formal workouts.

2. Purpose: Have a clear reason to wake up each morning

3. Down Shift: Develop routines to de-stress, like napping, prayer, or happy hour.

4. 80% Rule: Stop eating when 80% full to avoid overeating.

5. Plant Slant: Eat mostly plants, with beans as a daily staple, and limit meat to small portions. (about 5 times a month)

6. Wine @ 5: Drink 1-2 glasses of wine daily especially with food and friends.

7. Belong: Join or regularly attend a faith-based community, which adds years to life expectancy.

8. Loved Ones First: Prioritize family, keeping aging parents nearby and

invest time in relationships.

9. Positive Pack: Surround yourself with people who support healthy behaviors and have positive outlooks.

Blue Zones are important to older adults because their principles promote longer, healthier lives. These lifestyle habits, offer strategies for better aging and enhanced quality of life.

WHY IT'S CRUCIAL FOR OLDER ADULTS

■ **Combats Chronic Diseases:** Diets and activity levels reduce risks of cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and dementia.

■ **Maintains Cognitive Health:** Active lifestyles and social engagement support mental sharpness.

■ **Boosts Mood & Reduces Loneliness:** Strong community ties and purpose combat isolation and depression.

■ **Supports Independence:** These habits help seniors stay physically and mentally strong enough to live independently longer.

■ **Enhances Quality of Life:** Focuses on vitality, joy, and meaning, not just extending years but improving them.

Have you ever decided to make a healthy lifestyle change but quickly given up, telling yourself that it's too late to learn new habits? It's time to take charge and not let your age stop you, because there's surprisingly not that much difference between an

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

WRMC



18-year-old brain and a 100-year-old brain, says Argye Hillis, M.D., director of the cerebrovascular division in the Department of Neurology at Johns Hopkins Medicine.

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE:
FIVE HEALTHY STEPS AT ANY AGE**

- Get quality sleep--Lack of sleep impacts your memory, emotions and your weight
- Stop smoking--In as little as 24 hours of stopping smoking, there is a decrease in risk of a heart attack.
- Challenge your brain--Your brain loves tackling fresh tasks. Make it a goal to keep learning as you age.
- Improve your diet--A Mediterranean-style diet helps to avoid dementia as well as minimize other health risks. It's high in fruit, vegetables, whole grains, olive oil, and fish, and low in meat, sugar and processed foods.
- Be active more often--Exercise lowers your risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and some cancers. Exercise is also one of the best things you can do to help prevent dementia and other cognitive changes.

There are many similarities between lifestyle factors found in senior living communities and Blue Zones. Both foster a healthy lifestyle through planned activities, accessible environments, communal dining, and purpose-focused programs emphasizing a connection and vitality, making healthy aging an easy, natural choice.

If you are looking for an active lifestyle with a community at the heart of it, a senior living community may be the best option for you. If you are considering moving to a senior living community, consider taking a tour of Western Reserve Masonic Community. Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Ohio offers premier living options with exceptional experiences so older adults can live their best lives.

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

Integrity Home Care:

A Name, A Promise, A Legacy of Care

Since 1993, Integrity Home Care has served Medina, Cuyahoga, Lorain and Summit County seniors with more than healthcare at home. It has served them with its namesake. Integrity.

For more than three decades, integrity has been the foundation of every decision, every visit, and every partnership. It means doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. It means showing up. Listening. Following through. And treating every patient with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Today, Integrity Home Care is proud to be recognized as a Medicare 5 Star rated agency for Quality of Patient Care and has maintained its position as a national leader in timely care, prevention of hospitalizations, and positive patient outcomes. This highest level of recognition reflects what their patients and families already know. Integrity delivers care that is not only clinically excellent, but deeply personal.

Partner Sean Welch explains the philosophy that continues to guide the agency. "We can never give too much of ourselves too often in the spirit of kindness, respect, care and compassion for our patients, their families and for each other. Our goal should be that every touch and every communication by all of us is impeccable and memorable."

This belief lives within every nurse, therapist, and team member. They understand that healing is not just physical. It is human. It is sitting a little longer to listen. It is offering reassurance when it is needed most. It is helping patients regain confidence, independence, and hope.

Integrity Home Care provides healthcare at home including nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, home health aide services, and medical social work. These services help patients recover from illness or injury, safely transition after hospitalization or rehabilitation, manage acute and chronic conditions, and regain strength and independence wherever they call home.

For those who qualify, these services are covered at 100% under their Medicare Part A home health benefit, with no out of pocket cost to the patient. Most private insurance plans also fully or substantially cover home health services, making high quality care more accessible and comfortable. Each patient receives an individualized plan of care, created in partnership with

their physician and supported by a team that is committed to their progress and wellbeing.

Being locally owned and operated, Integrity Home Care is deeply rooted in the community it serves. It's where they work and live. Their patients are not strangers. They are neighbors, friends, parents, and grandparents.

Over the years, healthcare has changed. Technology has advanced. But Integrity's mission has remained the same. Their name is their promise.

A promise to act with honesty and transparency.

A promise to lead with compassion.

A promise to deliver exceptional care.

A promise to make every touch and every communication memorable.

Because at Integrity Home Care, integrity is not just a name. It's who we are.

**To Learn More About Integrity Home Care
Call: (440) 877-2800
Visit: www.integrity-homecareltd.com**

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WORD SEARCH SOLUTION ON PAGE 31

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IN LOVING MEMORY

Gone from Our Sight, but Never from Our Hearts

Ed Elkins

HANDS PAST PRESIDENT

Edward Ray Elkins - known to many as Mr. Ed, Eddie Ray or Poppy - passed away peacefully on January 21, 2026 in Akron, Ohio. He was born on the Fourth of July in 1952 in St. Charles, Illinois, to Wallace and Geraldine Elkins.

Ed lived a life that took him from Illinois to Texas, Oklahoma, Kentucky and finally to Medina, Ohio, where he made his home for almost 30 years. Throughout all these miles, he remained the same man: a friend to all, a tinkerer at heart, and someone who could fix just about anything through the art of "Elkinizing" - his unique ability to solve problems by fastening unusual things together until they worked.

He found joy in the simple things; wood working, coin collecting, watching the birds gather at his feeders, making jokes and settling in for a good old Western. Most of all, he found joy in the people around him.

Ed is survived by his wife of 43 years, Carol; his children, Jeff (Kerri), Jamie (Orion), and Jason (Lexy); his grandchildren Tony (Sydney), Jake, Ella, Ava, and Lex; and his sister Lorena Stearns. He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings Keith, Chris, Gene, Herb, Paul, Ruby, Evelyn, and Bonnie.

Ed was very loved, and that love will continue in all the lives he touched.



May your memory continue to inspire love, peace, and strength in all who knew you. Thank you for your many years of hard work and unwavering dedication to the HANDS Foundation. From your time as a devoted board member to your leadership as President and even celebrating with us at our 30-year anniversary this past August, your support never wavered. You were a true champion of HANDS in every way, and your impact on Medina County—and especially on the lives of its seniors—will be felt for generations to come. Your legacy is one of compassion, commitment, and service, and it will never be forgotten.

- | | | | |
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SPRING CRAFT

Join us for a Spring Craft featuring Joy, Volunteer Coordinator at Remembrance Hospice

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2026

Start Time: 1 p.m.

Soprema Senior Center: 617 School Drive, Wadsworth, OH 44281



MORE ON REMEMBRANCE:

Remembrance Hospice, founded in 2022, was created to provide compassionate, whole-person care for individuals facing life-limiting illness. We support not only our patients' medical needs, but also their emotional and spiritual well-being, ensuring comfort, dignity, and peace throughout the end-of-life journey. Our dedicated team partners closely with families, offering thoughtful, kind, and supportive care every step of the way. With physician oversight and a deep commitment to our community, Remembrance Hospice delivers exceptional hospice and bereavement services in Medina, Ohio—focused on improving quality of life and honoring every moment that matters.

When Medication Mistakes Steal Independence

What older adults and their families need to know

By: **SANDY PINALI, RN, BSN, Patient Advocate**
 Owner, Hand in Hand Patient Advocates



SANDY PINALI



Hand in Hand
 Patient Advocates

Staying independent is one of the most important goals for seniors – seniors want to stay in their own home and make their own decisions, continue to drive, manage their finances and maintain control over their daily life.

Unfortunately, mistakes in medical care and medications can sometimes go unnoticed and it is these mistakes that take that independence away.

Here are some of the most common medical mistakes older adults should be aware of -and how to protect yourself.

MEDICATION ERRORS

Medication management is one of the biggest threats to independence. Common problems include 1) being prescribed too many medications; 2) dangerous drug interactions; and 3) incorrect dosages. Be sure when you receive a new prescription that you communicate that information to all of your healthcare professionals and bring an updated medication list with you to each appointment.

TRANSITION FROM HOME TO HOSPITAL OR FACILITY

Many older adults frequently see multiple specialists, take numerous

medications and transition between hospitals, rehabilitation facilities and home. The transition between home, hospitals and rehabilitation facilities is frequently when medical errors and medication mistakes happen. These medication changes and oversights can lead to falls, hospitalization and the inability to live alone. When you are admitted to a hospital or rehabilitation facility, be sure to not only review medications that are ordered – but also ask your healthcare providers to review the results of any lab work, x-rays or other testing that has been completed. You want to ensure there has not been an oversight and that the results of these tests have been addressed.

DISMISSING SYMPTOMS AS “JUST AGING”

Many times, confusion, weakness or shortness of breath are automatically attributed to aging. Infection, medication reactions, dehydration or metabolic imbalances very often present differently in older adults. For instance – confusion is often the symptom of a urinary tract infection, low blood sugar or pneumonia. Be sure you give your healthcare provider all the pertinent information so you can be

properly treated. If you feel they are not listening to your concerns – speak up – and ask to see another provider if necessary.

IGNORING EARLY MOBILITY CHANGES

Balance problems or weakness are sometimes brushed off as “normal aging”. But early intervention – including physical therapy and a fall-risk assessment – can prevent devastating injuries. Be sure to ask your provider to perform a physical assessment and, if necessary, get an order for the appropriate therapy and/or equipment.

HOSPITAL STAYS AND THE RISK OF DECLINE

Hospitalizations frequently lead to new disability in older adults, even when the original illness is treated successfully. Common problems include: **1.** unclear discharge instructions; **2.** medication changes not fully explained; **3.** no scheduled follow-up; **4.** lack of home support. When you are discharged from a facility, be sure you are having conversations with your medical team and that all necessary prescriptions are written and sent to the pharmacy, follow-up appointments are scheduled, all required medical

equipment has been ordered and delivered and all therapies have been scheduled before you leave the hospital. It is very difficult to get these services once you have been discharged. Do not let the hospital rush you out the door – take the time to get all your questions answered and your needs in place prior to discharge.

ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

The electronic health record is a very important part of healthcare records. It is important for you to sign up for your electronic health record – reviewing your medical records, medications, tests results and clinical notes are all very important parts of ensuring correct communication between you and your providers.

BRING A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND

It is important for you to bring a family member or friend with you to your appointments to be sure you understand all the information and instructions that are provided to you and that all information being shared is correct.

If you find yourself in need of additional support, please feel free to reach out to us at Hand in Hand Patient Advocates.

Sandy Pinali, RN, BSN
 Owner, Hand in Hand
 Patient Advocates

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————— Serving Medina County —————

How Can My Children Help Me With My Finances?

Think twice before adding them to your bank account

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

I am often asked whether a parent should add a child to a bank account to help pay bills. While it may seem like a simple solution, it can create unintended consequences.

When you add a child to your account, you are making them a joint owner. That means they legally own the money just as much as you do. They can withdraw the funds at any time, and the money may be exposed to their creditors if they are sued, divorced, or file bankruptcy.

Joint ownership also overrides your Will. When you pass away, the surviving joint owner automatically owns the account. They are not legally required to use the funds for your final expenses or share the money with siblings, even if your Will says otherwise.

There can also be unintended consequences for your child. A jointly owned account may be counted as their asset for financial aid applications or need-based government benefits.

If your goal is simply to allow your child to help manage your finances if you become ill or unable to handle things yourself, a Financial Power of Attorney is often the better solution.

A Power of Attorney allows someone you trust to access accounts, pay

bills, and manage finances on your behalf — but as your fiduciary, not as an owner. The money remains yours, and they are legally required to act in your best interest.

It is important that your chosen agent keep good records and avoid mixing funds. Proper documentation protects both you and them.

Finally, remember that a Power of Attorney ends at death. At that point, only the Executor named in your

Will has authority to act. However, with proper estate planning, you can also avoid the Probate administration of that account.

Adding a child to your bank account may seem convenient, but it can expose your money to unnecessary risk. A properly drafted Power of Attorney can accomplish your goal while protecting your finances, your estate plan, and your family relationships.

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*Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law
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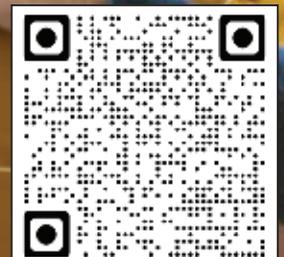


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Brunswick Chapel
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generations
SENIOR LIVING

Pin A Point Audiology

Bringing quality hearing care straight to you.

Hi! I'm Dr. Chelsea Powers, owner and founding audiologist of Pin A Point Audiology. At Pin a Point Audiology, my mission is to bring quality hearing care to individuals through personalized, audiology house calls. This is a 100% mobile practice, which means I come to you for all of your appointments. No more waiting around for a ride, no more asking your child to take a day off of work for your appointment, no more worrying about bundling up to travel in unpredictable Ohio weather.



DR. CHELSEA POWERS

**I come to you
for all your
appointments.**

Available in-home services include but are not limited to: ear wax removal, hearing exams, hearing aid selection and fitting, hearing aid cleaning, and hearing aid adjustments.

I was initially inspired to create a mobile audiology practice because I've personally experienced the challenges with helping a family member get to her

healthcare appointments. My family member is not as mobile as she used to be, and I would take an entire day off of work to help her get ready to go to an afternoon appointment. I remember her telling me she was so glad I was there to help her but she wished she could be more independent. She felt helpless having to have someone else drive her around.

My family member also happened to have hearing aids that I would clean and check when I visited her. Cleaning her hearing aids for her was one less appointment for her to stress about traveling to. She was also much more relaxed because she was in her comfort-zone, at home. I figured, why not do this for other people too?

You deserve to enjoy life and not have to rush around to your appointments. Don't burden yourself with travel arrangements. Let me handle all of those red lights, potholes, and Ohio weather. Stay comfortable in your own home while I help you with your hearing care needs.

Pin a Point Audiology is based out of Brunswick and services Medina County and surrounding communities. If you'd like to learn more about our services and travel radius, visit our website at www.pinapointaudiology.com or give us a call at **440-865-0636**.

A Legacy of Care for 25 Years

Generations Senior Living of Strongsville has quietly built something extraordinary over the past 25 years - a community where care is personal, relationships are lasting, and every resident is treated like family.

That spirit begins with the leadership of the Coury Brothers, who carry forward a second-generation legacy of family ownership and operation. For them, senior living has never been just a profession. It is a calling rooted in compassion, responsibility, and a deep respect for the lives and stories of those they serve.

From the moment residents walk through the doors, they are welcomed not simply into a residence, but into a community shaped by genuine connection. Staff members know residents by name, celebrate their milestones, and provide care with the same attentiveness they would offer their own loved ones. It is this philosophy — family caring for families — that has defined Generation Senior Living of Strongsville since its founding.

Over the years, countless memories have been created within its walls: shared laughter over meals, friendships formed in common spaces, and the quiet reassurance families feel knowing their loved ones are supported with dignity and kindness.

As the community celebrates its 25th anniversary, the mission remains unchanged. The Coury family's dedication continues to guide every interaction, every decision, and every moment of care. Their commitment ensures that Generation Senior Living of Strongsville is not only a place to live, but a place to belong.

After twenty-five years, one truth stands strong: when care is rooted in family, it becomes something truly special.

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SOPREMA SENIOR CENTER *News* Golden Celebrations all Year!

The Soprema Senior Center (SSC) officially kicked off a year of 50th Anniversary celebrations, beginning with seniors “toasting” in a Golden New Year! The festivities continued in mid-January with seniors experiencing the HANDS Foundation’s generous “heart of gold” at the Warm Wishes event. A hot soup lunch with hot chocolate bar catered by the Soprema Café was provided for all, as well as a warm blanket to take home. After the event, HANDS Foundation had “warm wishes”, like new coats and boots, delivered directly to the doors of seniors in need.

February showcased the “golden thread” of friendships and was highlighted with a Valentine Party that saw over 150 seniors in attendance and featured a fabulous friendship game sponsored by Professional Friends. As the year of celebrations continue, here are a couple “golden” events this spring that you won’t want to miss:

THE ROYAL BALL (MAY 7)

Hosted by the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation at the Galaxy Restaurant. This elegant evening features dinner, dancing, professional photos and more. Tickets go on sale April 1 at the SSC or Online.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE (JUNE 12)

You are invited to join us from 11:00am – 2:00pm for our grand Golden Anniversary Celebration. It’s a milestone event half a century in the making! (Watch for more details in the next HANDS issue.)

They can’t WAIT to celebrate 50 GOLDEN years with you! The Soprema Senior Center is a proud department of the City of Wadsworth, offering free membership to seniors 55+ from all over Medina County and beyond. Stop by to see the SSC in action on weekdays from 8:30am to 4:00pm. While you are there, grab a delicious bite in the Soprema Café, which is operated by MCSAS, and is open to the public weekdays from 7:30am – 2:00pm. The Cafe offers delicious food at great prices.



STAY CONNECTED

Don’t miss all the great happenings at the SSC! Check out the April & May calendars in this paper or visit our website at www.wadsworthcity.com/SopremaSeniorCenter. For real-time updates and photos, “Like” & “Follow” the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation on Facebook. If you are interested in learning more about all that the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation Board does, join us for “Waffles with WOAF” on Monday, March 9 at 10:00am.

What an exciting year to be a part of the Soprema Senior Center!

The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation presents...

The Royal Ball

May 7th 6:00 - 9:00pm
Galaxy Restaurant



Tickets on Sale
April 1st - April 24th

\$20 SSC Member
\$30 Non-members

Dinner includes choice of:
Prime Rib, Chicken Marsala, Baked Cod,
Veggie Pasta

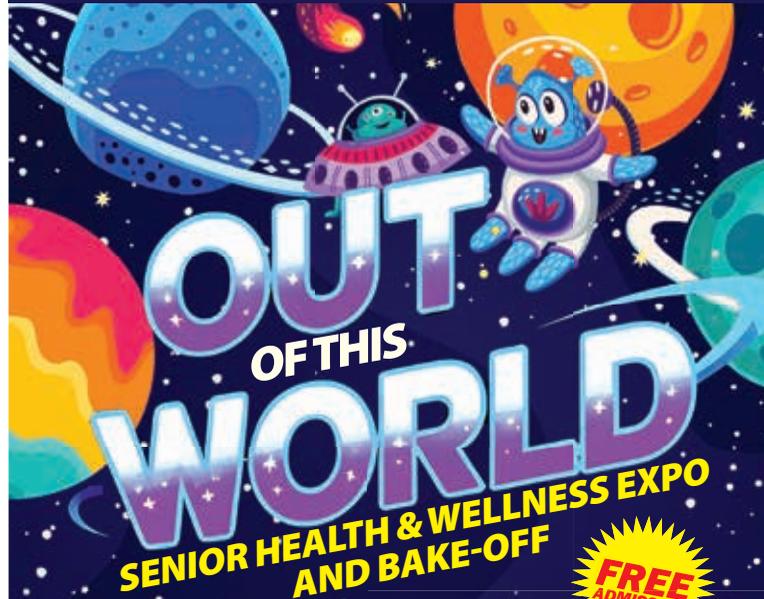
Reservation forms are available at the
Soprema Senior Center.

- Pay in person (cash or checks made out to WOAF)
- Pay by credit card online:



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BRUNSWICK REC CENTER • 3637 CENTER ROAD

HOME HELP

By: JANET GOMMEL, REALTOR, Howard Hanna



JANET GOMMEL



As the chill of winter begins to fade and the promise of warmer days approaches, it's the perfect time to start thinking about early spring maintenance for your home. Tackling these tasks now can help prevent bigger issues down the road and ensure your home is ready for the new season. Here are some essential tips for both the interior and exterior of your home.

INTERIOR MAINTENANCE

1 INSPECT AND CLEAN HVAC SYSTEMS

Your heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system has likely been working hard all winter. Early spring is an ideal time to inspect and clean your HVAC system. Replace filters, check for any leaks or issues, and consider scheduling a professional maintenance check to ensure everything is running smoothly.

2 CHECK FOR LEAKS AND WATER DAMAGE

Winter weather can be harsh on your home, leading to potential leaks and water damage. Inspect your ceilings, walls, and basement for any signs of water intrusion. Pay special attention to areas around windows and doors. Address any issues promptly to prevent mold and further damage.

3 TEST SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

Safety first! Test all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your home to ensure they are functioning properly. Replace batteries if needed and consider upgrading to newer models if your detectors are more than ten years old.

4 DEEP CLEAN YOUR HOME

Spring cleaning is a tradition for a reason. Take the time to deep clean your home, including carpets, upholstery, and hard-to-reach areas. This not only freshens up your living space but also helps reduce allergens and improve indoor air quality.

5 ORGANIZE AND DECLUTTER

Early spring is a great time to declutter and organize your home. Go through closets, drawers, and storage areas to get rid of items you no longer need. Donate or recycle what you can and enjoy the feeling of a more organized and spacious home.

Early Spring Maintenance for your Home

EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

1 INSPECT THE ROOF AND GUTTERS

Winter weather can take a toll on your roof and gutters. Inspect your roof for any damaged or missing shingles and check for signs of wear and tear. Clean out gutters and downspouts to ensure proper drainage and prevent water damage.

2 CHECK THE FOUNDATION AND EXTERIOR WALLS

Walk around the exterior of your home and inspect the foundation and walls for any cracks or damage. Address any issues promptly to prevent further deterioration. Look for signs of pests and take action if needed.

3 PREPARE YOUR LAWN AND GARDEN

As the ground begins to thaw, it's time to start preparing your lawn and garden for the growing season. Rake up any leftover leaves and debris, aerate the soil, and apply a layer of compost or fertilizer. Prune trees and shrubs to encourage healthy growth.

4 INSPECT AND CLEAN OUTDOOR FURNITURE

If you have outdoor furniture, now is the time to inspect and clean it. Check for any damage and make necessary repairs. Clean cushions and surfaces to remove dirt and mildew, and consider applying a protective sealant to extend the life of your furniture.

5 CHECK OUTDOOR LIGHTING AND SECURITY SYSTEMS

Ensure that all outdoor lighting and security systems are functioning properly. Replace any burnt-out bulbs and test motion sensors and security cameras. Proper lighting and security measures can help keep your home safe and secure.

CONCLUSION

Early spring maintenance is an essential part of homeownership. By taking the time to inspect, clean, and repair both the interior and exterior of your home, you can prevent larger issues and enjoy a comfortable and well-maintained living space. Happy spring!



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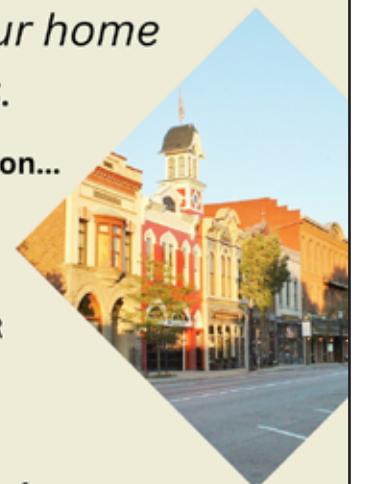
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HOWARD HANNA

REAL ESTATE SERVICES





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

MICHAEL LARIBEE

Keeping residential rental properties safe isn't just good practice for landlords - it is required by Ohio law. Landlords of residential rentals have a statutory duty to maintain properties in a safe and fit condition that is suitable for habitation. They cannot simply collect rent while ignoring serious safety violations. The Ohio Landlord-Tenant Act sets forth the basic obligations related to the condition of rental properties.

LANDLORDS MUST DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- comply with applicable building, housing, health, and safety codes that materially affect health and safety;
- make all repairs necessary to keep the premises in a fit and habitable condition;
- keep common areas safe and sanitary;
- maintain electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems in good and safe working order (when required to be supplied by the landlord;) and
- supply running water, reasonable amounts of hot water, and reasonable heat (unless the dwelling unit is individually metered and the tenant controls those utilities.)

When a landlord fails to meet these duties, Ohio law provides tenants with structured remedies. Tenants are not allowed to simply withhold rent from the landlord until repairs are made. Likewise, tenants cannot simply move out of the premises.

The tenant must first give written notice to the landlord specifying the acts, omissions, or code violations that constitute the noncompliance. The tenant must deliver the notice to the person or place where rent is normally paid. After receiving written notice, the landlord must remedy the condition within a reasonable time (30 days or sooner depending on the severity of the issue.)



Landlord's Duty to Maintain Safe and Habitable Premises

If the landlord fails to correct the problem within the required time, the tenant may then do one of the following:

1. Deposit rent with the clerk of the municipal or county court instead of paying the landlord directly.
2. Apply to the court for an order directing the landlord to remedy the condition. The court will determine whether the landlord is in violation of the Landlord-Tenant Act, if the condition materially affects health and safety of the tenant, and whether the tenant gave the landlord proper written notice of the condition. Minor repairs, routine maintenance items, and cosmetic conditions do not qualify. If these requirements are met, the court may order repairs, authorize a rent reduction, or permit the tenant to use escrowed rental payments to make the required repairs. Generally, a court will not order complete rent abatement unless the premises is uninhabitable.
3. Terminate the rental agreement. Please note that a landlord may dispute the grounds for termination in court.

It is important to note that the tenant's remedies are only available if the tenant is current with all rental payments under the lease. Also, these remedies are not available if the landlord owns three or fewer rental units and has provided notice of that fact to the tenant.

If you believe your landlord has violated the Landlord-Tenant Act, it is wise to consult with a trusted attorney to make sure all tenant remedies are available to you.



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

7 things people with developmental disabilities want Seniors to know

From: The MCBDD

As we celebrate March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, one of the most important questions we can ask is, "What do people with developmental disabilities actually want us to understand?" Their message is heartfelt and refreshingly simple.

1

SEE ME AS A PERSON FIRST

A disability is just one part of someone's life. It doesn't define their personality, talents, humor, faith, interests, or dreams. Many people with developmental disabilities say they want to be known for what they love—music, sports, animals, cooking, friendships—not just for a diagnosis.

2

TALK TO ME, NOT ABOUT ME

If a person uses a wheelchair, communicates differently, or has a support person nearby, it can be tempting to direct conversation to the companion. Self-advocates consistently say: please speak directly to us. Make eye contact. Be patient. Give us time to respond. Respect grows in simple moments of everyday interaction.

3

WE WANT INDEPENDENCE JUST LIKE YOU DO

Seniors understand the importance of maintaining independence. Whether it's living in your own home, managing your finances, or making your own medical decisions, autonomy matters. People with developmental disabilities feel the same way. They may use supports—job coaches, adaptive technology, transportation services—but they want choice and control over their own lives.

4

INCLUDE US

Inclusion doesn't have to be complicated. It might mean inviting someone to join a church committee, a card game, a volunteer group, or a community class. It means assuming capability instead of limitation. Often, people with developmental disabilities say the hardest barrier isn't physical—it's social. Being left out hurts at any age.

5

AGING AFFECTS US, TOO

As life expectancy increases, more people with developmental disabilities are growing older. They face the same aging-related concerns as any senior: health changes, retirement planning, housing decisions, and the loss of loved ones. Compassion and understanding from older peers can make a tremendous difference.

6

LANGUAGE MATTERS

Many self-advocates appreciate respectful, up-to-date language. Terms, such as the

R-word, that were once common decades ago may now feel outdated or hurtful. When in doubt, simply ask what language someone prefers. Most people are happy to share.

7

WE WANT FRIENDS

Friendship and connection are central to a full life. People with developmental disabilities want meaningful relationships, not just paid supports. A friendly conversation, a neighborly chat on the porch, or an invitation to lunch can build real connection.

What people with developmental disabilities want you to know most may be this: we are more alike than different. We want respect. We want purpose. We want community. We want to make our own choices and be treated as adults. Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month isn't just about recognizing services or policies. It's about listening. When we take the time to hear directly from people with developmental disabilities, we move beyond awareness toward understanding. And understanding - especially across generations - builds stronger, kinder communities for everyone.

People with developmental disabilities want to be part of our community. Knowing the best ways to help them feel welcome is important for all of us. For more information about ways to connect to people with developmental disabilities, visit the Medina County Board of DD website at www.mcbdd.org or call **330-725-7751**.

- celebrating ability -





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- Residential Assistance
- Therapy
- Service Funding
- Windfall School
- Training
- Assistive Technology
- Family Support
- Employment
- Health and Safety



MCBDD Website

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WHAT TO DO AFTER A LOVED ONE PASSES AWAY

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



CLAUS MEYER

FAMILY & LIFESTYLE

Take action during an overwhelming time with this quick guide.

When someone close to you dies, the whirlwind of emotions and planning can be paralyzing. And if you're the heir in charge or executor of your loved one's will, decision-making and to-dos are a heavy weight on your shoulders.

You'll need to be up for this huge undertaking, often described as a second job. Don't be afraid to share concerns if you aren't the best fit for the job. Even if you're ready, find helpers such as your loved one's financial advisor and attorney to guide you and put the estate plan into action.

If you accept the role, check in with yourself. What support will you need? Support could look like grief counseling through a therapist or having meals delivered. You may need to include more free time in your schedule for space to cope. Prioritize sleep, healthy foods, and movement to make sure your physical self can keep up with the extra stress you're putting on your body, mind, and soul.

ONE STEP AT A TIME

Breaking down to-dos into steps can help you move forward. First, you'll want to get multiple copies of

the death certificate. Typically, the funeral home will order this. You'll need the certificates to notify various institutions, such as insurance companies, of your loved one's death.

Locate the will to determine if probate is necessary. If there's a will, file a petition for probate. If there isn't a will, the court will select an administrator (You can reach out to family and friends to gauge interest) to manage the estate.

Notify beneficiaries and interested parties of the death as soon as possible. Executors need to let family, friends, heirs, beneficiaries, and any others know. When you find pockets of time, cancel subscriptions and services – phone plans, internet and utilities, car insurance, credit cards and other accounts and services will need to be canceled.

You'll want to gather estate asset records such as bank accounts, vehicle information, retirement accounts, life insurance, investments and stocks, trusts, property titles, business interests, and personal belongings. Recent tax returns can help. Debts and taxes of the estate will need to be paid, including funeral expenses. Once debts are paid, the executor can distribute assets to the beneficiaries

according to the will or the laws of the state.

Even the strongest person may need a helping hand. The passing of a loved one is emotional, and executing an estate plan is highly administrative. The help of financial advisors, accountants, insurance agents, attorneys and supportive family and friends can make the process smoother and less stressful.

ACTION ITEMS FOR THOSE FIRST FEW WEEKS

- Notify beneficiaries and gather important documents such as the will, death certificate, and financial statements.

- File death certificates with the Social Security Administration, other government agencies, and financial institutions as required by the state. Apply for veteran benefits, if applicable.

- Open a bank account for the estate. Contact creditors and other debtors. Begin paying the deceased's final expenses, such as funeral costs and medical bills.

Raymond James and its advisors do not offer tax or legal advice. You should discuss any tax or legal matters with the appropriate professional.

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You finally signed your trust and felt like now you can breathe a sigh of relief; your loved ones are completely protected.

However, that assumption has left families in an unrealistic situation. You need to make sure that your estate plan, which you so diligently worked on, is actually working.

First, let's consider this. Like every person, you are at constant risk of suffering a disastrous accident or illness that may render you incapable of caring for yourselves or your loved ones. This incapacity could be temporary, or it could last until your eventual death. The total cost of incapacity, which may include lost wages and the cost of required medical care, is difficult to calculate. However, the average cost of assisted living is in the thousands per month, and the cost only increases as you require more care.

A revocable living trust protects you by providing instructions for how you and your loved ones are to be financially supported during your incapacity. A revocable living trust also allows you to choose who will handle your finances when you are unable to handle them themselves. Further, there is no better time than now to put a revocable living trust in place because the trust is revocable, which means that you can change your mind at any time and alter your instructions as your life circumstances change, as long as you have the mental capacity to do so.

How to protect yourself and your loved ones when you're planning

By: MARIE EDMONDS, Counselor at Law



A revocable living trust also protects your loved ones. It provides specific instructions for what you want to have happen upon your incapacity or death, which means that your loved ones will not be left guessing what you would have wanted, or worse, have to look to state law to determine who should be given the authority to handle your financial and end-of-life affairs.

Estate administration fees can be very costly. A revocable living trust, however, can avoid probate and the associated probate fees.

Another benefit of revocable living trusts is that they can remain private. Without the instructions contained in a revocable living trust, family members are often forced to resort to public court processes, which means that the court and other nosy indi-

viduals may be prying into your very private matters.

Further, a revocable living trust can provide basic marital deduction planning to provide for your spouse in the way you wish and in a manner that will be best for your spouse and the rest of your family. Finally, using a revocable living trust allows you to protect the money you leave to your loved ones from their creditors, from possible



MARIE EDMONDS

divorces, from mismanagement of money, from inexperience, and for any special needs situations within your family.

In order for a revocable living trust to work, it must be properly funded, which means that your property (e.g., real estate, bank and investment accounts, etc.) must be owned by the trust, or for certain types of property, the trust must be named as the beneficiary. If the revocable living trust is not properly funded, then a probate may be needed. Don't think that just because you signed your trust, your work is done. The trust will only work as you wish if your assets are properly titled.

Because the instructions contained in a revocable living trust are so vital, it is important that they are reviewed periodically. There are always life and family changes in everyone's lives, and some of those changes may require a rethinking of your trust provisions. If changes are needed, or you've obtained new assets and are not sure if they are titled correctly, contact your estate planning attorney, who can help update your revocable living trust so that it works for you and your loved ones during your incapacity and at your death.

Let's face it; that's why you put together your plan in the first place.

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COUNSELORS AT LAW

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WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

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

Marie Edmonds

Ashley Sorgen

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



LIBRARY NEWS

Read it and Reap!

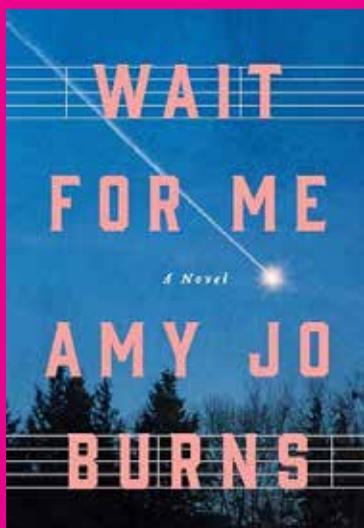
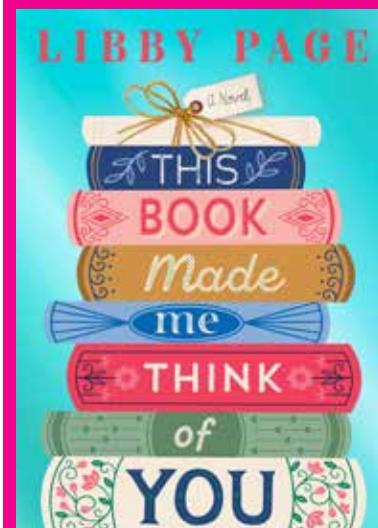
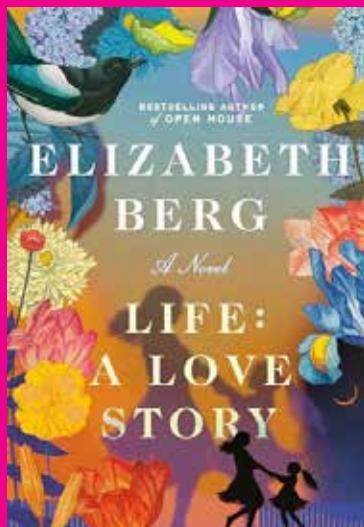
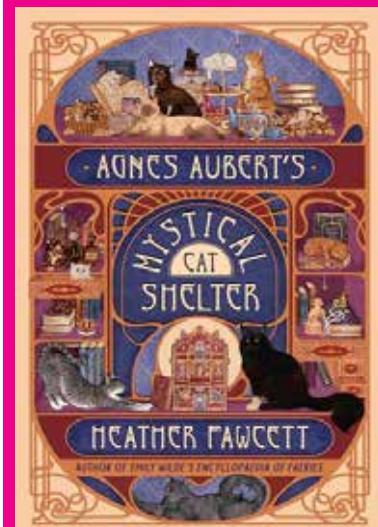
Makerspace & Digital Lab
at Medina Library

mcdl.info/Makerspace



Spring Reading

Some Titles to Check Out!



Popular Children's Author, Max Brallier to Visit Medina Library!

Max Brallier is a number one New York Times bestselling author. He is the author of more than fifty books for children and adults, including *The Last Kids on Earth*, *The Last COMICS on Earth*, *Eerie Elementary*, *Mister Shivers*, and *Galactic Hot Dogs*. He won an Emmy Award as a writer and executive producer for Netflix's adaptation of *The Last Kids on Earth*.

He will be at the Medina Library, Thu., Apr. 23, at 6:30 pm. His event is best suited for kids grades 1 and up and their families.

Max lives in Los Angeles with his wife and daughter. He writes a lot, reads a lot, plays too many video games, watches too many movies, and eats too many nachos.

Book sale and signing to follow. Register at mcdl.info/Readers Presented by MCDL and the Friends of MCDL.

Healthy Home & Lifestyle Events at MCDL

Spring is a great time to recharge your health and MCDL has events to help. From healthy cooking to stress relief to creating a cleaner home environment, we have you covered on your path to rejuvenation!

AFTERNOON TEA CLUB

Brunswick - Wed., 1:30 pm
Mar. 11, May 13 - Share stories, recipes, and ask questions of our certified Tea Master.
Apr. 8 - Pu'erh Tea
No registration required.

COOKBOOK CLUB

Lodi - Thu., 6:00 pm - Try a new recipe, share an old favorite.
Mar. 19 – Appetizers
Apr. 16 - Tea Party
May 21 - Copycat Recipes
No registration required.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

GLUTEN FREE COMFORT FOODS IN AN INSTANT POT *

Lodi - Wed., May 20, 6:00 pm
Learn to make simple, flavorful, healthy recipes with Jeanne Givelekian from Purposeful Eats.
Register at mcdl.info/FoodEvents

MEMORY CAFÉ

Buckeye - Mon., Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 4, 1:00 pm
Come for light snacks, fun activities, socialization, and resources for those living with memory loss along with their care partners. *No registration required.*

SOUND BATH

Brunswick - Wed., Apr. 1, 6:00 pm
Discover the benefits of sound therapy and enjoy a relaxing sound bath. *Register at mcdl.info/HealthEvents*

KEEPING YOUR TEETH HEALTHY

Brunswick - Tue., Apr. 28, 6:00 pm
Dr. Omar Salameh shares how aging adults can care for their teeth and maintain oral health. Attendees have an opportunity to win a waterflosser.
Register at mcdl.info/HealthEvents

CHAIR YOGA

Lodi - Tue., Apr. 28, 6:00 pm
Relax, enhance mindfulness, and reduce stress with yoga movements. *Register at mcdl.info/HealthEvents*

DOWNSIZING & DECLUTTERING

Lodi - Thu., Mar. 12, 6:00 pm - This engaging presentation explores why stuff is so important for some people and teaches practical, easy-to-follow tips on downsizing and decluttering. Presented by AARP Ohio Speakers Bureau.
Register at mcdl.info/HomeEvents

GROWING POTATOES & SIMPLE COMPOSTING

Brunswick - Thu., 6:30 pm - With OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers.
Mar. 19 - Growing Potatoes
Apr. 30 - Simple Composting
Register at mcdl.info/HomeEvents

ORGANIC LAWN CARE

Brunswick - Mon., Mar. 30, 6:30 pm
Keep your lawn lush and green without harsh products.
Register at mcdl.info/HomeEvents

PERENNIAL EXCHANGE

Medina - Sat., May 9, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Bring healthy, labeled perennials to exchange for new varieties, with OSU Master Gardeners on hand to offer expert advice and answer your plant care questions.
No registration required.

RAIN BARRELS

Lodi - Tue., May 12, 6:00 pm - Learn the benefits of rain barrels and how they protect the environment. Attendees have an opportunity to win the demonstration rain barrel.
No registration required.

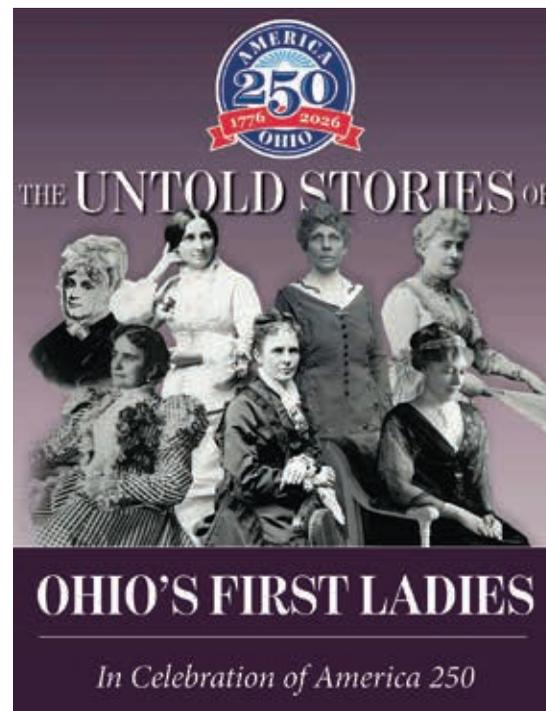


History Events at MCDL. America 250 and More!

From family history research to the history of the Titanic and Rosie the Riveter to Ohio's first ladies and the last time the Indians won the World Series, MCDL offers plenty of history-themed events this spring to keep you intrigued.

AMERICAN ICONS: THE UNTOLD STORIES OF OHIO'S FIRST LADIES

Medina - Mar. 1-31 - Traveling exhibit organized by the National First Ladies Library & Museum (NFLLM) and funded through the America 250 - Ohio Commission.



FAMILY HISTORY SERIES

Sponsored by the Medina County Genealogical Society.
Medina - Sat., Mar. 7, 2:00 pm
- Learn about the records the Medina County Clerk of Courts Office collects and how to access them. Presented by Kim Mihalko, Deputy Clerk of Courts. Optional viewing on Zoom.

Medina - Sat., Apr. 4, 2:00 pm - Discover ChatGPT's potential and how it can be used effectively for genealogical purposes. Presented by Mary Milne Jamba. Optional viewing on Zoom.

Zoom - Sat., May 16, 2:00 pm - Learn to use the resources on the General Land Office (GLO) website and acquire land patents and surveys for cash sales, homesteads, preemption, military bounty, etc. Presented by Peggy Ash. Optional viewing at Medina Library. *Register at mcdl.info/HistoryEvents*

RALLY WITH ROSIE (THE RIVETER)

Buckeye - Tue., Mar. 10, 6:00 pm
Listen to stories of women doing men's jobs during WWII. Presented by Lake County Historical Society. *Register at mcdl.info/HistoryEvents*



**More MCDL
History Events
on Next Page**



>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

GENEALOGY DISCUSSION GROUP

Medina - Wed., Mar. 11, Apr. 8, May 13, 12:30 pm Connect with fellow genealogists to discuss research, share hints, and ask questions.

WOMEN IN HISTORY: JULIA CHILD

Brunswick - Mon., Mar. 16, 6:00 pm - Discover the life and legacy of this famous chef through an immersive performance. Register at mcdl.info/HistoryEvents

HEROES & SPIES OF WWII

Seville - Thu., Mar. 19, 6:00 pm Learn about the women heroes of the SOE (Special Operations Executive) in WWII. Presented by Royally Amused. Register at mcdl.info/HistoryEvents

RAY CHAPMAN & THE CLEVELAND INDIANS

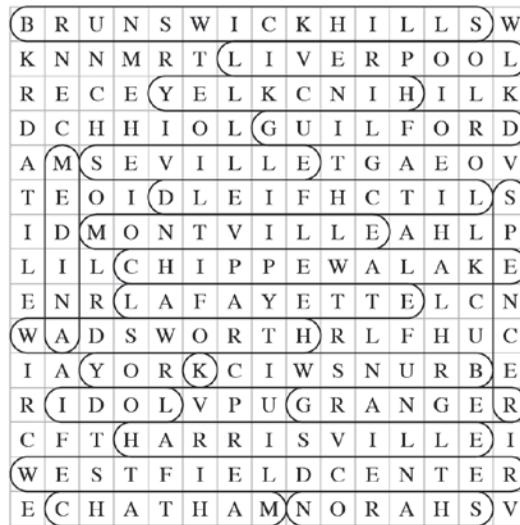
Lodi - Mon., Mar. 23, 6:30 pm The 1920s Cleveland Indians have set their sights on a World Series title, but to get there they will need to overcome an unspeakable tragedy. Register at mcdl.info/HistoryEvents

TITANIC & THE END OF THE EDWARDIAN ERA

Lodi - Wed., Apr. 8, 6:00 pm A Massillon Museum Archivist discusses the Titanic from concept through completion, the sinking, and the passenger stories. Register at mcdl.info/HistoryEvents

GHOSTS OF THE CIVIL WAR: SHADES OF BLUE & GRAY

Buckeye - Wed., Apr. 8, 6:30 pm This two-person, one-act play, featuring ghost stories of the Civil War, along with songs, literary selections and history, is performed by the Largely Literary Theater Company. *No registration required.*



EVERY DOLLAR RAISED FROM THIS EVENT WILL GO DIRECTLY TOWARD SUPPORTING MEDINA COUNTY SENIORS THROUGH OUR SENIOR WISH PROGRAM, HELPING BRING JOY, COMFORT, AND MEANINGFUL MOMENTS TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.

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hands-foundation.org

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MEDINA LIONS NEWS

WE'RE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

As we begin 2026, your Medina Lions Club is in search of new members.

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- Pet Visitation Welcome
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- Religious Support & Services
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