

GILDERSLEEVE GAZETTE

Kirtland Senior Center Monthly Newsletter



FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

The month of May and all the enhancements it brings our local landscape is here again! The spelling and even quite melodious sound of the fifth month in the Gregorian calendar makes me think, how incredibly interesting the English language is. That a slight pause and change to one's inflection between two syllables can make all the difference. For instance, May Day versus mayday. May Day has its origins from ancient European Spring festivals celebrating flower blooms and better weather, while mayday is an internationally known cry for help. To further make the point of how odd our language can be, I'd point to my youngest daughter and yet another version of the homophone (word credit goes to Carol Clutter – 6th grade English). The youngest Potter girl, Mae, was born on May 30th, and she of course calls that Mae Day. But remembering, this monthly update is supposed to have some piece(s) of useful information, I'll move on to a few current happenings and considerations here in Kirtland.

Recently, Marous Development Group LLC presented a conceptual plan to the city for mixed use development on City Hall property. The proposed development features retail, business offices, and residential living. This type of development is consistent with the Historic Town Center planning and Comprehensive plans completed in 2012 and 2022. Over the course of the next weeks and months, we look forward to engaging residents to hear thoughts and ideas concerning a potentially exciting infusion of energy into our downtown district.

The month of May, in addition to the expectation of beautiful weather, also gives us a chance to honor those that paid the ultimate price so that we may enjoy the freedoms inherent to life in this country. This year, our Memorial Day ceremony will again be held at Kirtland City Hall and I'm proud to announce that our speaker will be U.S. Army Veteran and Lieutenant of the Kirtland Police Department, Jamey Fisher. Please join us on this most important day.
~ Mayor Potter



Riddle Answers*:
Because they're really good at it; An irrelephant

*The fact that there were two elephant jokes was completely unintentional.

ALL THE THINGS

This past week, my best friend decided she wanted to go hear "pretty music." I happened to have that particular night off, so I went online and found \$25 tickets to see the Cleveland Orchestra perform Mahler's Titan on opening night. From the second row. Not just an excuse to turn my phone off for two hours, this was an amazing opportunity to hear one of the best orchestras in the world for the cost of a dinner. We decided that we have been remiss in not taking advantage of what Cleveland has to offer and that, when they are in season, we will plan to attend at least once a month. It was an awesome reminder to me of just one of the opportunities that we have in this region to experience culture and entertainment whenever we want to at a reasonable price. How fortunate we are! My challenge to you this month is to take one of those chances to go out and see something new. It doesn't have to be expensive and it doesn't have to be extensive, but sometimes it's good for all of us to try something new and go outside of our comfort zone.

In the same vein, I took two of my favorite people on a "surprise adventure" this past month. Little did they know that we were sojourning down to Akron to attend the annual "Buckeye State Button Society" show. I happened to overhear a conversation between two of our members a few weeks prior, and it turns out that Laurel, one of our very own members, is president of the club. It was so much fun getting to learn more about this super interesting hobby; the only downside being that others who heard about the trip were disappointed they weren't "invited." I love hearing about the lives of our Seniors outside of these hallowed halls, and am constantly amazed by the stories and experiences you all bring to our community. Thank you Laurel, for the tour and the awesome information!

I admit, I am completely biased. But I do believe that one of the best and most affordable experiences we have in Cleveland is baseball. You will notice that we will be focusing some of our trips in the next few months on America's past-time, starting with a June tour of the Baseball Heritage Museum at League Park. We will do our best to help you find those opportunities within our area, and are always looking for suggestions! I try to keep our trips at or under \$30, and they generally last about four hours or less. A big thank you to our attendant Cindy, who works hard on taking my trip ideas and making them a reality.

It was so much fun watching the Guardian's first day game here on the big screen, and the Senior Board has agreed to do so throughout the season. You may notice in my picture this month that I am wearing a baseball shirt, but no one could translate it. Extra points to you if you understand what it means!

A hearty welcome to our new members! Since January 1 of this year, we have about 80 brand new friends amongst us. I'm sure I've said it before, but I have such respect for those who come into the Center knowing a few others or none at all. No matter your age, it's never easy making new friends, and I thank the veterans of the Senior Center for going out of your way to be welcoming and gracious. We were all new here once!



Check out the remainder of this newsletter to find out more info about some of our upcoming events including: two new bus trips, our first pickleball tournament of the year, the resumption of card making class, info about our annual New Member lunch (open to all!), Senior Day at the Mall, and activities available throughout our local community.

I turned on my air conditioning yesterday. It is currently snowing. You can blame me for the yucky weather. Pretty sure because we have our bus trip to the zoo scheduled tomorrow, and those in the know really wanted everyone to visit the indoor Rainforest. I do apologize. ~ Teresa

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SENIOR CENTER MEMBERSHIP

Per calendar year

Resident (first year): \$10

Non-resident (first year): \$12

Resident (renewal): \$5

Non-resident (renewal): \$7

Paperwork and information available at the front desk

KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER
MAY 2023 WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY

9:00 – 9:45 am
10:00 – 1:00 pm
10:00 am
1:00 – 2:00 pm
1:00 – 3:00 pm

Strength Training
Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Knitting Group (*drop-in*)
TaiJi Fit
Chair Volleyball (*drop-in*)

TUESDAY

8:30 – 9:30 am
10:00 – 11:00 am
9:30 – 12:00 pm
11:30 – 2:30 pm
12:00 pm
12:30 pm
2:30 – 3:30 pm

Advanced Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Aerobics
Piano Lessons (*May 2, 16*)
Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Bingo (*drop-in*)
Game Day (*drop-in*)
Beginner Pickleball (*drop-in*)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 – 9:45 am
10:00 am
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Strength Training
Mahjong (*drop-in*)
Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Reflexology/Light Therapy
(*May 10, 17, 24*)
Fit Yoga w/ Sue
Chair Volleyball (*drop-in*)

THURSDAY

8:30 – 9:30 am
9:30 – 11:30 am
10:00 am
10:00 – 1:00 pm
10:30 am
12:30 – 2:30 pm
1:00 – 3:30 pm
Commitment

Advanced Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Watercolor Painting
Chess (*drop-in*)
Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Cards – Hand and Foot (*drop-in*)
Acrylic Painting
Beginner Pickleball (*drop-in*)

For a complete listing of services and classes available, check out our website at www.kirtlandcommunity.com

Drop-in activities require no pre-registration

FRIDAY

9:00 – 10:15 am
10:00 – 1:00 pm
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
10:30 – 11:30 am
11:45 – 12:45 pm
12:00 – 1:30 pm
1:00 – 3:00 pm

Gentle Yoga
Pickleball (*drop-in*)
Massage (*May 5, 19*)
Chair Yoga
Aerobics (*w/ cardio drumming*)
Reiki (*Contact the front office*)
Chair Volleyball (*drop-in*)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hiking Club
Gym Closed
Gnome Painting Workshop
Bus Trip to Produce Auction/Yoder's
Mind Challenge Trivia
Senior Board Meeting
Bus Trip to Brown Bag Concert
Attorney
Men's Lunch
Senior Day @ the Mall
Book Club
Trash to Treasure
Birthday Lunch
New Member /Memorial Day Potluck

Monday, May 1
May 1 – 2, 8, 15, 22
(see newsletter for details)
Wednesday, May 3
Friday, May 5
Mondays: May 8, 15, 22
Wednesday, May 10
Wednesday, May 10
Friday, May 12
Wednesday, May 17
Wednesday, May 17
Thursday, May 18
May 22 – 31
Tuesday, May 23
Wednesday, May 31

COMING IN JUNE

Free Holden Week for Kirtland
Card Making Class
Council on Aging Visit
Bus Trip to B.A. Sweeties
Attorney
Hiking Club
Trivia
Podiatrist
Senior Board Meeting
Hearing Screening
Book Club
Trash to Treasure
Pickleball Tournament
Ladies Lunch
Birthday Lunch
Bus Trip to League Park

June 6 – 11
Wednesday, June 7
Wednesday, June 7
Thursday, June 8
Friday, June 9
Monday, June 12
Tuesday, June 13
Tuesday, June 13
Wednesday, June 14
Wednesday, June 14
Thursday, June 15
June 19 – 28
June 19 and 20
Wednesday, June 21
Tuesday, June 27
Friday, June 30

MAY CLASS & WELLNESS SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OR WELLNESS APPOINTMENTS:

Fitness Class	Time	Dates	Cost
Aerobics Instructor: Cheryl	Tuesday 10:00-11:00	May 2, 9, 16, 30	\$15 Drop-in: \$4
Aerobics w/drumming Instructor: Cheryl	Friday 11:45-12:45	May 5, 12	\$8 Drop-in: \$4
Gentle Yoga Instructor: Anne	Friday 9:00-10:15	May 5, 12, 19, 26	\$12 Drop-in: \$3
Chair Yoga Instructor: Anne	Friday 10:30-11:30	May 5, 12, 19, 26	\$12 Drop-in: \$3
Fit Yoga Instructor: Sue	Wednesday 11:00-12:00	May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	\$15 Drop-in: \$3
Strength Training Instructor: Nancy	Mon/Wed 9:00-9:45	May 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 31	\$24 (8 classes) \$12 (4 classes) Drop-in: \$3
TaiJiFit Instructor: Tim	Monday 1:00-2:00	May 1, 8, 15, 22	\$12 Drop-in: \$3
Workshops	Time	Dates	Cost
Knitting Group	Monday 10:00	Every Monday	FREE
Card Marking Class		RESUMES IN JUNE	
Mahjong	Wednesday 10:00		FREE
Chess Club	Thursday 10:00 am		FREE

Classes	Time	Dates	Cost
Acrylic Painting Instructor: Connie	Thursday 12:30-2:30	May 4, 11, 18, 25	\$28
Watercolor Painting Instructor: Connie	Thursday 9:30-11:30	May 4, 11, 18, 25	\$28
Piano Lessons Instructor: Karen <i>*must register 2 per month*</i>	Tuesday 9:00-1:30	May 2, 16	\$17 per 30 minutes
Wellness/Other	Time	Dates	Cost
Attorney Deborah Loughner	Friday 9:00-11:00	May 12 June 9	FREE 30 minutes
Podiatry Dr. Kelly Whaley	Tuesday 9:00-12:00	May 9 June 13	\$25 per 15 minutes
Reiki Anne Owens	Friday 12:00-1:30	Contact the front office	\$25 / 25 minute session
Reflexology or Light Therapy Linda McMahon	Wednesday 11:00-1:00	May 10, 17, 24	\$40 (Reflexology) \$45 (Light Therapy)
Swedish Massage Natalie Lopez	Friday 10:00-2:00	May 5, 19	\$65 per 50 minutes
Hiking Club <i>*See inside for location</i>	Monday 10:30 am	May 1	FREE
Beginner Pickleball Lessons	Thursday 1:00-2:00	NO LESSONS IN May	FREE

MAHJONG

We asked, and you answered! If you are interested in playing or learning Mahjong, come out on **Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am.**

CHAIR YOGA

Our yoga instructor, Anne Owens, teaches a chair yoga class every Friday. This class is a gentle yoga class with an emphasis on stretching and strengthening movements while seated in a chair. A portion of class will provide instruction on the option to use a chair for support with select standing postures. This class finishes with a seated meditation and breathing practices. It will be on Fridays at 10:30 am and costs \$12 for the month.

CHESS CLUB

Are you a chess player? Do you want to learn how to play chess? We meet weekly on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. All levels are welcome and no registration is necessary!

CARDIO DRUMMING

Our fantastically fun (and sometimes loud) cardio drumming class continues every Friday. Due to popular demand and thanks to the flexibility of our instructor Cheryl, **the class has been moved to 11:45 am.** As always, if you have never tried a class, the first is free.

BINGO

We are playing Bingo every Tuesday! Bingo will be held in the Sunflower Room at 12:00. There is no cost to play and everyone is invited.

PIANO LESSONS

Sounds Inspirations Music Therapy provides 30 minute individual private piano lessons. Tailored to the learning styles of the adult students. Students are welcome to bring their own music to lessons for evaluating it as a useable resource. **You must sign up for two classes a month. The cost is \$34 per month. Please note the slight increase. Next classes will be May 3 and 17 between 9:00 am - 1:30 pm.**

BEGINNER PICKLEBALL LESSONS

New to Pickleball? Need to learn the basics? We got you covered with the ins and outs of pickleball. Lessons are on Thursday from 1:00-2:00 pm. **Our next session (four classes) will begin in the fall.** These are FREE classes, but fill up incredibly quickly.

If you have already taken the class, we ask that you be put on a wait-list. With the popularity of pickleball rising, we want to make sure to give everyone an opportunity to learn how to play correctly and safely. If you are not able to come to every class, please consider waiting for another month to allow others to participate.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Make sure to wear tennis shoes and comfortable clothes you can move in!

EXPANDED PICKLEBALL HOURS**Advanced Pickleball:**

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 - 9:30 am. This is an opportunity for our more seasoned players to play more competitively. If you join us, get ready for great shots and fast games!

Beginner Open Play:

Beginner Pickleball will be on **Tuesdays from 2:30 - 3:30 pm and Thursdays from 1:00 - 3:30 pm.** If you want to start playing, get some practice, or work on your game, this is a great time to do it!

Outdoor Pickleball:

The Outdoor Courts are OPEN for the season! Please note that the courts are available on a first come-first served basis. If there are people waiting to play, please be courteous and share the courts. Senior Center members have priority from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm each weekday.

GREETING CARD MAKING

Make your own greeting cards! Come to enjoy creating three original cards and have fun socializing while stamping, coloring, and gluing. We will do an assortment of cards during each monthly classes. Cost is only \$10 per class and that includes all the paper, stamps, ink, die cuts, and embellishments. All you need to bring is a pair of scissors and adhesives. Our first class will be Wednesday, June 7 at 1:00 pm and then will be held the first Wednesday of each through October. Class is limited to 10 per month. Registration is required.

THE SENIOR CENTER WILL BE CLOSED

Monday, May 29

THE GYM WILL BE CLOSED

**May 1 (after 10:30 am), 2 (all day),
8, 15, 22 (until 12:30 pm)**



BUS TRIPS

Geauga Growers Association Produce Auction and Yoder's - Friday, May 5

Add this to the list of things you may not have known existed! We will be headed down to the Produce Auction in Middlefield on Friday, May 5. Leaving the Center at 9:00 am, we will travel down and see what is growing in Geauga County. Please note that everything is sold in bulk, so plan on going in with some friends if you see something you like! We ask that if anyone has a truck or SUV with cargo space, they follow the bus down to help transport anything we may win. Cash or check only for those lucky ones who place the highest bids. If you don't want to bid on anything, this will still be an awesome day and a new experience for most of us. We'll continue the day with lunch on your own at Yoder's, and return to Kirtland around 2:00 pm. If you are taking the bus, the trip is \$5/person. If you are driving yourself, it is free! RSVP were due by April 28, but let us know if you are interested.

St. Hubert's and Brown Bag Concert @ Trinity Cathedral - Wednesday, May 10

On Friday, May 10, we will load the bus at 9:00 am here at the Center, and head on down to St. Hubert's in Kirtland Hills. If you've never been to this beautiful church, you will not want to miss this! Pastor Dan will lead us in the tour of the building, and give us a bit of local history. Before we head downtown, we will assemble our brown bag lunches at St. Hubert's. May is Bach Fest (violin and organ) month for the Trinity Cathedral Brown Bag Concert Series, which begins at noon. We expect to be back in Kirtland around 2:00 pm. Cost per person is \$15, which includes both the bus and lunch. RSVP by Wednesday, May 3, or until spots are full.

B.A. Sweeties - Thursday, June 8

Embrace your sweet tooth on our trip to B.A. Sweeties! We'll start on their amazing mini-golf course and continue with shopping on your own in their huge candy warehouse. The Soda Shoppe will also be open and available! We will meet at the Center at 12:00 pm, and return around 4:00 pm. The cost is \$5/person for the bus; all activities and purchases are on your own. RSVP by Thursday, June 1.

Baseball Heritage Museum @ League Park - Friday, June 30

"To better understand America, study baseball." The mission of the Baseball Heritage Museum is to preserve and present the stories of diversity in baseball by entertaining, educating, and enlightening visitors about the multicultural heritage of baseball and the values it represents. We will be meeting at the Center at 12:30, and head down for an hour-and-a-half led tour. The bus will return to the Center around 3:30 and the cost is \$15/person.

**Please remember that all of our bus trips are for Senior Center members only.
No reservations will be taken after the cut-off date.**

PAYMENT IS DUE AT THE TIME OF THE RESERVATION



ART WORKSHOP WITH CONNIE WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

LOOK AT THE CUTE LITTLE GNOME!!! Let's celebrate spring, and create your own at a special painting workshop this May. Let us know by Thursday, April 27 if you are planning on joining us from 10:00 - 12:00. Cost is \$10/person.

HIKING CLUB - MONDAY, MAY 1

Join us for a hike on **Monday, May 1 from 10:30 - 11:30 at Penitentiary Glen. We will meet at the Nature Center parking lot. Registration is requested but not required!** We hike rain or shine... use your best judgment and dress for the weather. See you on the trails!

HEARING SCREENING - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

It is medically recommended to have your hearing tested annually, just like your blood pressure or cholesterol. Adults with untreated hearing loss are more likely to develop dementia. Hearing loss is not just an ear issue, it is also a quality of life issue, a health issue, and safety issue. Hearing loss can occur naturally due to age, but it can also be caused by other health reasons that may surprise you. The Hearing Center will be conducting **FREE** hearing screenings on June 14 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Registration is required.

Welcome to our new members this month!

Gladys, Linda, Judy, Alyson, Mark, Josie, Barbara, Lee, Kathleen, Rosella, Beth, Janet, Linda, Sharon, Alex, Regina, Stella, Mary, Karen, Dale, Jerry, Jocelyn, Sandy, Anne, Gene, Jayne, Susan, Ellen

BIRTHDAY LUNCH CELEBRATION - TUESDAY, MAY 23

New this year - join us for YOUR birthday month & lunch is on us! Our May Birthday Lunch is Tuesday, May 23 at 12:00 pm. **The cost is \$8.** Our menu is bratwurst sandwiches and tator tots. Please RSVP by May 18. EVERYONE is welcome, regardless of your birthdate! Our next Birthday celebration will be on June 27 and the menu will be a wrap and chips.

**LADIES LUNCHEON - TUESDAY, JUNE 21**

June's ladies lunch will be held Wednesday, June 21 at 12:00 pm and the menu* is a salad with either steak or chicken. **Cost is \$8. Please RSVP by June 15.** Our next luncheon will be August 16 and the menu is hamburgers with fixins' and potato salad.

**Pretty sure we published the wrong menu for this meal in previous newsletters. Apologies.*

MEN'S LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Men's Luncheon will be held Wednesday, May 17 at 12:00 pm. The menu is grilled burgers and potato salad. **Cost is \$8. Please RSVP by May 10.** The next luncheon will be July 19 and the menu includes fried chicken, cole slaw, and macaroni salad.

All menus are set in advance. If you have a specific dietary need, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you.

TRIVIA - TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Join us for Trivia on Tuesday, June 13 at 11:00 am. Come join us and be a part of a team this month and put all your random (or useless) knowledge to good use! Most of the questions are multiple choice, and it's **FREE** to play! We meet in the lobby to form teams and then the fun begins. No registration necessary. We are taking the month of May off to give Teresa's brain a rest and to participate in Mind Challenge (see below).

MIND CHALLENGE

You've been practicing all winter, and the time is finally here for the 2023 Mind Challenge sponsored by Scores Communication. To qualify for this we must have at least 3 teams of 4-6 players. Once teams are formed then the real competition begins! Kirtland Senior Center will be hosting the "Knockout Round" on Monday, May 8 at 9:30 am and then on Tuesday, May 15, we host the East Region "Smart Sixteen." Come see us at the front desk to register!

**NEW MEMBER LUNCH AND MEMORIAL DAY POTLUCK - WEDNESDAY, MAY 31**

Come join us for a Memorial Day Picnic and New Member Lunch on Wednesday, May 31 at 12:00 pm. We will supply the main meat dish, and you supply the rest! This potluck will be an awesome way to kick off the summer. Let us know at the front desk if you are planning on bringing a dish to share. For those who want to come to just eat, the cost is \$5. All new members from November 2022 on are **FREE!** We will be sending out invitations to the new members. Join us for this great way to get to know some new faces and enjoy some good grub. Hang out and play some corn hole, bocce, pickleball or just sit and relax and be with friends. RSVP by May 24.

COUNCIL ON AGING - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Council on Aging will be here in the lobby on Wednesday, June 7 from 10:00 - 11:00 am. They will be bringing information from the Council of Aging and other information on services they can provide. If you have something specific you would like to talk about, please feel free to stop by and ask.

SMILE! YOU'RE ON CAMERA

As part of the funds received through the County, we have also installed cameras throughout the building. These cameras will **ONLY** be used for safety and security purposes, and access is restricted to authorized personnel only. Coverage includes the gym, fitness center, and all outdoor facilities.

While signs are posted, we wanted to give you a heads up!

UPCOMING EVENTS

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT - JUNE 19 AND 20



Our first 2023 pickleball "Luck of the Draw" tournament will be held on Monday, June 19 and Tuesday, June 20. There will be one session each day with 18 players in each. **Monday will be a more competitive competition and Tuesday will be a more casual competition.** You can sign up for a session on either day, but please only choose one. Each days session will be from 9:00-11:00 am. Everyone will be assigned a number that will be used to "draw" your partner and opponents for each game. We will be using the indoor court and three outdoor courts for the day. Each person plays in six games with one bye. If you must cancel, we ask that you let us know 24 hours in advance. Cost to compete in the tournament is \$5. **SPACE IS LIMITED!!!!** You must be a member to participate and you must pre-register. If you have won a tournament in the past, please consider being an alternate or being on a wait-list to give others an opportunity.

GYM EVENTS CANCELLED

On the following dates, the gym will be closed due to various events:

Monday, May 1: They will be coming in to set-up voting machines around 10:30 am. Strength Training will still be held in the gym. Indoor pickleball will be cancelled for the day. Chair Volleyball will be moved to the Violet Room.

Tuesday, May 2: There will be voting all day in the gym. Indoor pickleball will be closed, and Aerobics will be held in the Violet Room.

Monday, May 8, 15, 22: We are hosting the regional Mind Challenge Trivia and will be setting up the gym for the event. Trivia should be over by noon, and the gym will reopen at that time for regularly scheduled events.



GUARDIANS DAY GAMES - WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 24

We had so much fun watching the game on the big screen in the lobby this month that the Senior Board has decided to do so every month. Join us for the 1:10 games on May 10 and 24 to root on the home team. No RSVP necessary.

BOOK CLUB - THURSDAY, MAY 18

Our book selection for May is "The Man who Died Twice" by Richard Osman. This is the second installment of the "Thursday Murder Club" series. If you liked the first one, I'm pretty sure you'll enjoy this one too. If you haven't read the first one, you'll still like it. Probably. Murder, mystery, and mayhem solved at a Senior Living community? What could go wrong? The next Book Club is set for June 15 at 11:00 and we will be discussing "The Reading List" by Sarah Nisha Adams.



TRASH TO TREASURE

Our next Trash to Treasure Sale will be held from May 22 - 31. Drop off any household items you would like to donate for our sale. No personal items, clothing or electronics please! We will be accepting items during normal business hours. If you have any donations, please bring them to the front office rather than putting them on the table. All proceeds go to the Senior Board.

Just a reminder to sign in whenever you come into the Center, unless you are registered for a class or event. Also, please make sure to sign-in for ALL the activities that you will be doing that day. Thank you in advance for your help!

COMMUNITY NEWS



COMMUNITY GARDENS

It is never too early to think about red, ripe tomatoes! Kirtland Kiwanis and the Garden Club of Kirtland are once again promoting the Kirtland Community Gardens. The gardens are located across from the Temple on Rt 306. There are 32-8'x4' raised beds, two of which are high rises for those who have trouble getting down on their knees. The garden is fenced against critters and there is a handy water supply as well as a shed for your gardening equipment.

The cost of rental for the season is \$20.

For information contact
patriciaballo@hotmail.com or
 440-256-1341.

SENIOR DAY AT THE MALL WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Senior Day at the Mall is BACK! Thanks to collaboration with the Great Lakes Mall and the Senior Services Levy Coalition, we will be gathering from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm on Wednesday, May 17. From Bingo to breakfast munchies to Elvis to giveaways to vendors to Senior of the Year awards, this will be a great day to come out and party with other Seniors from around the county! Tickets are \$1 each and will be available at the front desk starting the first week of May! You can also purchase tickets at the door. If you are able to, we ask that you bring a taxable item to donate to Project Hope.

PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE - FRIDAY, MAY 26

Our city will be celebrating the start of National Public Works Week with an Open House at our Service Department on Friday, May 26 beginning at 5:00 pm. All are invited for refreshments, tours, and to see what really happens behind the scenes. We are fortunate to have a wonderful dedicated Public Works team, led by Mr. Joe Fornaro, and are grateful that they are opening their doors to us! Ever wanted to see what road salt ACTUALLY looks like? Come find out; we promise there is a lot to learn!



KIRTLAND KIWANIS FOUNDATION RUMMAGE SALE / GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE

Back and better than ever! Hope to see you at this year's annual rummage and plant sale! Sponsored (respectively) by Kiwanis and the Kirtland Garden Club, this event is a great way to support two of our important local groups.

The 2023 sale will be held from May 11 - 13, starting at 10:00 am and ending at 6:00 pm at the Pumpkinville Barn (9337 Chillicothe Road). Kiwanis is always looking for contributions! During your spring cleaning, grab anything you think is worthy, and donate it from May 8 - 10 (12:00 - 6:00 pm). They cannot accept TVs, any chemical, upholstered furniture, or tires.

If you have any questions, or need items to be picked up, call Mike Sams at (216) 244-7335.

SAVE THE DATES: FREE KIRTLAND WEEK @ HOLDEN ARBORETUM

We are excited to partner with Holden Arboretum to offer a free week for all Kirtland residents. This new collaboration will feature a free week every single year. From June 6 - 11, all you have to do is show proof of residence, and enjoy all that Holden has to offer! Additionally, every Tuesday offers a discount for any seniors of \$12.



CONCERTS

Concerts at the Gazebo sponsored by the Friends of the Kirtland Library are back! Mark your calendars for the following dates:

Wednesday, June 28 - "City" Night: Chardon Polka Band

Our City departments will be providing hot dogs and hamburgers for a donation, and local businesses will be joining us for this fantastic evening of polka!

Wednesday, July 12 - "City" Night Take 2: Perfect Choice

Our City departments will be providing hot dogs and hamburgers for a donation, and local businesses will be joining us for this fantastic evening of super fun music!

Wednesday, July 19 - "Faith" Night: Pop Tarts

Local churches and faith communities will be coming out for this awesome night of pop music! Food will be available for purchase.

Wednesday, July 26 - "Beauty" Night: Prime Time Big Band

Who doesn't love Big Band music? Come hang with our local parks as we dance the night away. Food will be available for purchase.

Wednesday, August 2 - "Dog Days of Summer:" Debbie Gifford

Our very own Debbie Gifford will serenade us (and our dogs!) for the evening. Local animal groups will join us and food will be available for purchase.

SENIOR BRUNCH

This year's annual Senior Luncheon sponsored by the Kirtland Area Service Council will be held on Wednesday, May 24 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at Tall Oaks Event Complex Barn. The light lunch will include: assorted sandwiches, tomato bisque, fruit parfait, and chips and dip. The cost per person is \$5 to help fund the Stuff the Bus Project, and reservations are due by May 15. You can drop off your money to the Community Center or mail to the Kirtland Area Service Council (9301 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, OH 44094.

SENIOR BOARD

Our Senior Board serves as an advisory committee to the Director and sponsors meals and events while fundraising to help subsidize these meals & events. If you have any issues or ideas, please see one of the board members to pass along. Our 2023 Senior Board consists of: David Saywell (President), Junior Orick (Vice-president), Marcia Haymer (Secretary), Penny Everson (Treasurer), Bill Russ, Karin Saywell, Janet Johnson, and Jean Orick.

FROM THE SENIOR BOARD

Spring has arrived! As I am writing this, the first warm day is just ending. How great it feels to have the furnace off and windows open. I know the cold weather isn't over, but it sure felt good today.

We had our first Guardians party of the season this week .If you missed it, we served grilled hot dogs, cracker jacks, popcorn, and Panera cookies. We watched the game in the lobby and unfortunately those dang Yankees pulled it out in the ninth inning. We hope to do it again at the next 1:00 pm game, so stay tuned.

We also had 2 bus trips this month. Did you participate? Everyone who has been on a trip talk about the fun they had. If you haven't been, consider a May bus outing. We are visiting the Middlefield Produce Auction on May 5, the brown bag concert, downtown on May 10. Both are filling up fast so make your reservation soon.

Senior Day at the mall is May17th. This event showcases activities for seniors, companies that offer senior services, and a chance to meet seniors from across Lake County. Please mark your calendar and join us.

Finally, on May 31, we will have a new member lunch. This lunch is for new and old members to talk about our events at the center. Join us and learn about what you are missing.

I hope this finds you well and able to enjoy the sunshine. Remember, if it gets too hot, we are air conditioned too!

Best, David Saywell

For this month, I'm going see how many of you are paying attention and start our story at the present time. Just when you think I'm gonna zig, I zag! Then when you think I'm gonna zag, I do zag just to keep you on your toes!

Laura Lupica-Seketa is a relatively new member of the Senior Center and a relatively constant presence in the recent history of Kirtland. She is the Welfare Consultant for the Kirtland Area Service Council, and has the dubious honor of dealing with me every month at our local Minister and Leader lunch. I think I may have bugged her enough and she finally agreed to join us here at the KSC. While her dance card is generally pretty full, she does manage to find some time to be with us, including making fantastic paintings in the watercolor class (I assume. Have not examined her work yet, but every time I go in there, I'm amazed by the talent of everyone in the room). Her position with the Service Council was tailor-made for her as she is in charge of caring for families and individuals in need within Kirtland. Some choose to spend their time relaxing, but this one has chosen to never sit still. Luckily for our community, a good chunk of that time is spent helping others. She and her partner John are beekeepers, chicken-raisers, and hydroponic strawberry-growers. If you happen to be on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, you just might run into "Elf Laura," bringing cheer to all (see photo inset). I presume that this is only around the holidays, but you never know. An elf never gives up their secrets.



I could go into significant more detail about now-Laura. However, the past helps form us into who we are, so let's step back a bit. Her bucket list includes trips to the Florida Keys, Savannah, and Charleston. And I'm pretty sure that may be the extent of the list. Most of us have hundreds of places we would like to see someday, but that lady has already seen them all. Almost literally. Her love of travel began at a young age, and was amplified as a teen. Laura and her father bonded over their mutual love of National Geographic (because who doesn't love NatGeo?). When she was a junior in high school, she wrote a "very naïve" letter telling them, "I don't know anything and I don't have any money, but I'm yours for the summer if you want me." You know. Like one does. I'm assuming because they could sense the awesomeness that was Laura through a mere letter, she ended up spending the summer in Peru on an archeological dig. When I was seventeen, I was trying to figure out how to stop my CDs from skipping while I was driving. We all had something, right? This remarkable adventure became the first chapter of many in her travel log, and led to a lifelong love of ancient history, archeology, and adventure.

I only have space for a few of my favorite stories that she shared. When you've been to 68 countries, you've got some tales. She just happened to be at Mt. Everest basecamp in 1982 when the Canadians were summiting for the first time. Hanging out with Sir Edmund Hillary. You know, LIKE YOU DO! Sometimes she would join a tour in her travels, but usually she trekked solo on these voyages. For example, after everyone left Everest to journey home, she went to motorcycle around India for five weeks. I'm deathly afraid of heights, but I assume that Laura is not. If she was, then her hobbies of hot air ballooning over the Alps (among other places) and skydiving in Dubai (among the rest of the places) were probably ill-advised.

This mighty beekeeper has more than an arsenal of stingers in her corner. A brown belt in karate, she ended up working for the Police Chief at the University Hospital System. I promise those two things are connected, but you will have to ask her how. Unrelated to her professional work, her sensei (head karate-guy/gal at a karate-place) was contacted about assisting with security for a musician visiting Cleveland, and Laura was assigned to the team along with two of her other female colleagues. Thus began her day of helping to guard Elvis from the people who were crazy about Elvis. I haven't seen any news otherwise, and am therefore assuming she performed her job admirably.

Okay, last story - can't resist this one. As a teenager, Laura loved Joan Baez, and knew that she would be performing in a field in New York State. She and a few friends had just graduated high school and she told her father that they would head back home as soon as they could. Stop me if you've heard this one. Madame Baez didn't take the stage until the wee hours, and by the time they got back to their car, hundreds of others were trying to do the same. Stuck in the line, they were forced to live in said car for two days. Obviously, they eventually made it home from Woodstock, otherwise this would have been a shorter story. She rightfully insists that she was honest with her parents and that she did, in fact, get home as soon as she could.

We can probably all agree that if you are from Kirtland, you are familiar with the Lupica name. Her parents created a world of greenhouses, animals (a monkey, Mr. Lupica?! Not to mention the cockatiel who was fired from the show Baretta), hard work, and adventure. They instilled in her a love of her heritage and to this day, Laura is a national officer for the Italian Sons and Daughters of America.

If you see a tiny little car driving around town, that's probably Laura. If you see a hot air balloon or a parachute floating from the sky, that may be her as well. If you need assistance, she'll probably be there. If you're trying to swarm Elvis, she may stop you. How does she do it all? An elf will never reveal their secrets.

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The Kirtland Senior Center serves adults aged 55 and over with quality, affordable programming to provide opportunities for social interaction, recreation, fitness, and minor health and wellness services close to home. The aim to keep adults active, motivated, and engaged in their community for an optimal quality of life. Don't be misled by the term "senior!" Our programs are for the youngest Baby Boomers through those in their Golden Years. Become a member at any time!

*Funding provided by the City of Kirtland Recreation and Senior Levy
and the Lake County Commissioners Senior Citizens Levy*