Kirtland Senior Center Monthly Newsletter



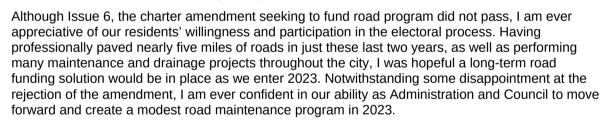






### FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

It's difficult to believe that another year is winding down in the City of Faith and Beauty. As the calendar flips a page one last time, we can reflect and be proud of the many accomplishments and happenings in 2022, as it was a tremendously successful year. The Community and Senior Center became even more alive with the addition of pickleball courts and a new playground. Beyond serving as great additions to our city's recreational repertoire, both projects are a direct reflection of the unending support and generosity from our community. We had countless volunteers and donors offering time and resources to make these goals a reality. Additionally, we received the good news of receiving a grant award toward outdoor bathrooms at the Center. With help from State Senator Cirino's office, our request for funding outdoor restrooms was met with favor, and as a result, we look to make these facilities a reality next year.



2022 also brought more community events and service projects. Just recently, with the help of Divine Word, Boy Scout Troop 286, Kiwanis and the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints, nearly 200 volunteers took to our parks and neighborhoods to assist with projects and vard cleanups for twenty veterans and seniors in our community. I have to say, every year, I become prouder of our residents, businesses, city employees, as well as our Kirtland civic groups for seemingly endless demonstrations of humility and acts of kindness.

Kirtland is truly a special place, and I am humbled and honored to serve as Mayor. As we enter the holiday season, let us remember to take the time to reflect on all that is good in our community and give thanks for the generous spirit that abounds in our great City of Faith and Beauty.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season!

~Mayor Kevin Potter











### **ALL THE THINGS**

As you can see from the picture. I was super excited that the Fire Department was able to join us for last month's Trunk or Treat. I say it so often, but repetition in this case does not dilute the sentiment: we are so fortunate in this City. This community-wide event was a perfect example of how different groups and departments came together to provide an amazing (albeit cold and rainy) night for the littlest residents of Kirtland. From the churches that hosted sites, to the Police and Service Departments down at City Hall with the Mayor, to our Seniors and the Fire Department here at the Center, it was a great evening. I'm so thankful for those who braved the weather to join us here at the Center!



We all came together in thanks as we honored our Veteran's at our annual lunch. It was a gift to have the American Legion with us, and Debbie to lead us in the National Anthem. I love this event, and appreciate both Honeyz' Cafe for providing the meal, and the Senior Board for hosting and subsidizing the lunch. It takes a village to make these activities happen, and we are fortunate to be part of a great one.

Looking at the larger community, thank you to all who came out to vote in November. I love Election Day: even though we have to close the gym, we get to welcome people into the building who we don't get to see often enough. Unofficial results show the almost 75% of the county voted to renew the Senior Services Levy! This is encouraging not only because these monies can continue to support the vital services, including Senior Centers, provided for our Seniors around the county. I also see the overwhelming support as a recognition of this population and the necessity of serving it.

Just a quick note on potential weather complications: if the Kirtland Schools are closed for snow, we are too. I'll update the website (www.kirtlandcommunity.com) and voicemail (440-256-4711) as soon as I can on those days, but that's the most reliable way to find out if we are open. Remember that we cannot issue refunds for classes, meals, trips, or activities unless we are the ones to cancel the event! If the weather looks ominous for bus trips, we will try to make the call at least two days prior.

December is going to be awesome. Those community groups that I was boasting about earlier are signing up quickly to provide Random Acts of Kindness for our members each day of the month. These may be for one person or for everyone. Make sure to come by often so you don't miss the generosity of our area organizations!

Congrats to Eileen V. for her amazing bake-off winning dessert! If you weren't here on Halloween to try the fantastic entries, you certainly missed out. But if you're looking to try her Chocolate Streusel Bars, the recipe is below. Happy baking! ~ Teresa

### <u>CHOCOLATE STREUSEL BARS</u>

1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup sugar

1/4 cup Hershey's Cocoa

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine

1 can (14 oz.) Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)

2 cups (12 oz. package) Semi-sweet chocolate chips, divided

1 cup coarsely chopped nuts

Heat oven to 350. Grease 13x9x2 baking pan. In large bowl, stir together flour, sugar, and cocoa. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add egg; mix well. Reserve 1 1/2 cups. Press remaining mixture onto bottom of prepared pan. Bake 10 minutes. Meanwhile, in medium microwave-safe bowl, place sweetened condensed milk and 1 cup chocolate chips; stir. Microwave on high 1 - 1 1/2 minutes or until chips are melted and mixture if smooth when stirred; pour over crust. Add nuts and remaining chips to reserved crumb mixture. Sprinkle over top. Bake additional 25 to 20 minutes or until center is almost set. Cool completely. Cut into bars. About 36 bars.

Paperwork and

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### SENIOR CENTER MEMBERSHIP

Per calendar year

Resident (first year): Resident (renewal): \$5 information available Non-resident (first year): \$12

\$7 at the front desk Non-resident (renewal):

## KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER

## LY SCHEDUI DECEMBER 2022 WEEKI

For a complete listing of services and classes available, check out our website at www.kirtlandcommunity.com Drop-in activities require NO pre-registration

### MONDAY

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

Knitting Group (drop-in) Strength Training Pickleball (drop-in)

Chair Volleyball (drop-in)

Piano Lessons (December 6, 20) Advanced Pickleball (drop-in) Game Day (drop-in) Pickleball (drop-in) Bingo (drop-in) Aerobics

> 10:00 - 11:00 am 9:30 - 12:00 pm

8:30 - 9:30 am

TUESDAY

11:30 - 2:30 pm

12:00 pm 12:30 pm

## WEDNESDAY

10:00 am – 12:00 pm 10:00 am - 1:00 pm 9:00 - 9:45 am

11:00 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reflexology/Light Therapy Chair Volleyball (drop-in) Pickleball (drop-in) (December 7, 14) Fit Yoga w/ Sue

Strength Training

THURSDAY 8:30 - 9:30 am

Advanced Pickleball (drop-in)

Watercolor Painting

10:00 - 1:00 pm 12:30 - 2:30 pm 9:30 – 11:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am

### FRIDAY

Gentle Yoga 10:00 am - 12:00 pm 10:30 - 11:30 am 9:00 - 10:00 am 10:00 - 1:00 pm 12:00 - 1:30 pm 1:00 - 2:00 pm 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Aerobics (w/ cardio drumming) Massage (December 2, 16) Chair Volleyball (drop-in) Reiki (December 2, 16) Pickleball (drop-in) Chair Yoga

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 7

Tuesday, December 7

Tuesday, December 6

Christmas Party @ Pine Ridge City Offices and Center Closed Sus Trip to Stan Hwyet Senior Board Meeting Mini Mystery Trip Council on Aging Birthday Lunch adies Lunch Hiking Club Podiatrist Attorney Trivia

Monday, December 12

Monday, December 12

Friday, December 9

Wednesday, December 21 Thursday, December 15 Tuesday, December 20 Tuesday, December 13 Tuesday, December 13 December 23 – 26

## COMING IN JANUARY

City Offices and Center Closed Senior Board Meeting Resolution Lunch Casino Bus Trip Birthday Lunch Men's Lunch Hiking Club Podiatrist Attorney Trivia

Cards – Hand and Foot (drop-in)

Pickleball (drop-in)

Chess (drop-in)

Acrylic Painting Beginner Pickleball *(drop-in)* 

1:00 - 3:30 pm

Wednesday, January 18 Vednesday, January 11 Iuesday, January 24 Tuesday, January 24 Monday, January 30 Fuesday, January 17 Tuesday, January 3 Monday, January 9 Monday, January 2 riday, January 13

# DECEMBER CLASS & WELLNESS SCHEDUI REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OR WELLNESS APPOINTMENTS:

Fitness Class	Time	Dates	Cost	Classes	Time	Dates	Cost
erobics Instructor: Cheryl	Tuesday 10:00-11:00	Dec 6, 13 & 20	\$12 Drop-in: \$4	Acrylic Painting Instructor: Connie	Thursday 12:30-2:30	Dec 1, 8, 15 & 29	\$28
Aerobics w/drumming Instructor: Cheryl	Friday 1:00-2:00	Dec 2, 9 & 16	\$12 Drop-in: \$4	Watercolor Painting Instructor: Connie	Thursday 9:30-11:30	Dec 1, 8, 15 & 29	\$28
Gentle Yoga Instructor: Anne	Friday 9:00-10:15	Dec 2, 9, 16 & 30	\$12 Drop-in: \$3	Piano Lessons Instructor: Karen *must register 2 per month*	Tuesday 9:30-1:00	Dec 6 & 20	\$15 per 30 minutes
Chair Yoga Instructor: Anne	Friday 10:30-11:30	Dec 2, 9, 16 & 30	\$12 Drop-in: \$3	Wellness/Other	Time	Dates	Cost
t Yoga Instructor: Sue	Wednesday 11:00-12:00	Dec 7, 14, 21 & 28	\$12 Drop-in: \$3	Attorney Deborah Loughner	Friday 9:00-11:00	Dec 9, Jan 13 Feb 10	FREE 30 minutes
Strength Training Instructor: Nancy	Mon/Wed 9:00-9:45	Nov 30, Dec 5, 7, 12, 14 19, 21 & 28	\$24 (8 classes) \$12 (4 classes) Drop-in: \$3	Podiatry Dr. Kelly Whaley	Tuesday 9:00-12:00	Dec 13, Jan 24 Feb 14	\$25 per 15 minutes
Tai Chi for Wellness Instructor: Eb	Thursday 1:00-2:00	NO December Classes	\$15 Drop-in: \$3	Reiki Anne Owens	Friday 12:00-1:30	Dec 2 & 16	\$25 / 25 minute session
aiJiFit Instructor: Tim	Monday 1:00-2:00	Dec 12 & 19	\$6 Drop-in: \$3	Reflexology or Light Therapy	Wednesday	Dec 7 & 14	\$40 (Reflexology)
Tai Chi Bamboo Fusion Instructor: Tim		NO December Classes		Linda McMahon	10.00-12.00		440 (Light Inerapy)
Workshops	Time	Dates	Cost	Swedish Massage Natalie Lopez	Friday 10:00-3:00	Dec 2 & 16	\$55 per 50 minutes
Knitting Group	Monday 10:00	Every Monday	FREE	Hiking Club *See inside for location	Monday 10:30 am	Dec 12	FREE
Card Making Class Instructor Carol	Wednesday 1:00-3:00	Class Resume in June		Beginner Pickleball Lessons	Thursday 1:00-2:00	Next Session FEBRUARY	FREE

### TAICHI - BAMBOO FUSION

Join us as we experience the flow when the mind and body connect, by following along to the gentle mindful movements of TaiChi. This class you will discover Bamboo Fusion, where we combine TaiChi with standing Yoga poses. Just move, breathe and have fun! If interested in this class, please call the office. The class is offered by Tim Shea.

### **CHAIR YOGA**

Our yoga instructor, Anne Owens, will be teaching a chair yoga class. 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 will cost \$12.

### **CHAIR VOLLEYBALL**

Chair Volleyball includes physical activity, social interaction, competition, and most of all, lots of laughs! The game is played with a beach ball and a five foot high net. More fun than you can possibly stand while seated! We play every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday from 1:00-3:00.

### CHESS CLUB

Are you a chess player? Do you want to learn how to play chess? We will meet weekly on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am.

### 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 (4 classes) will begin on FEBRUARY 2, 2023. This is a FREE class.

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 a bit more competitively. If you join us, get ready for great shots and fast games!

### **Beginner Open Play:**

In December & January, Beginner Pickleball will be on Thursdays from 1:00-3:30. 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 CLOSED for the winter!

### **CARDS & MAHJONG**

Calling all card players! We are looking for anyone interested in playing Hand & Foot on Thursday at 10:30 am.

Looking to start a Mahjong group. If you are interested in playing please contact the office.

Come join the fun. All are welcome!

### **2023 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Registration is now open for next year! If you are a current member or a new member and you renew your membership now, it will be good through December, 2023. Anyone is welcome to join, regardless of where you live. *Please note that your 2022 membership will only go through February of 2023, after that date you will no longer receive our newsletters.* 



### THE SENIOR CENTER WILL BE CLOSED

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
MONDAY, DECEMBER 26
MONDAY, JANUARY 2

### **BUS TRIPS**

### Monday, December 12: MINI-MYSTERY TRIP!

We're pretty excited about this one. Take a few hours out of your holiday planning, and join us for a local mystery tour. We're pretty confident that this will be a new experience for you, and hope you can join us! The bus will leave the Center at 12:15 pm, and arrive back around 3:30 pm. Cost for this trip is \$25, and registration will be open until Monday, December 5. There are a limited amount of seats available, so make sure to sign up soon!

### Tuesday, December 20: "DECK THE HALLS" AT STAN HYWET HALL

From amazing outdoor light displays to inspiring indoor decorations, this is one venue that sure knows how to celebrate the season. Molly's Shop is brimming with unique holiday gift items for everyone on your list. The air in the Courtyard is scented with the irresistible smell of freshly baked gingerbread wafting from the Gingerbread Hut. A hot cookie and cocoa or a pretzel from the Salty Reindeer are a great way to end a perfect trip! We will leave the Center at 1:45 pm and arrive back in Kirtland around 6:30 pm. Cost is \$21 per person which includes admission and travel. Register by **Monday, December 5!** 

### Wednesday, January 11: CASINO TRIP

Save the date for a casino trip in January! More details to come.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY AT PINE RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB



Celebrate the Holiday Season with us at our annual Christmas Party. It will be held on Thursday, December 15 at Pine Ridge Country Club in Wickliffe. Door Prizes, carolers and so much more. Come and join the fun! Doors will open at 11:30 am, and lunch will be served at 12:00 pm. The cost is \$18 per person and you must be a Kirtland Senior

Center member to attend. The menu is Roast Eye of Round Beef, Chicken Piccata, Roasted Potatoes, Cavatelli, Green Bean & Carrots Almondine, Salad, Roll & Dessert. *Please remember that if you have dietary restrictions, let us know so that we may be able to accommodate you better*. Please preregister & pay by December 5 or until the event is full. No registrations will be taken after this day.

### RANDOM ACTS OF KINDESS - ALL MONTH!

Every day during the month of December that we are open we will feature a "Random Act of Kindness" for one or many of our members. Make sure you stop in daily to see what is going on!





### SENIOR CENTER GIVING TREE

This year, we will be gathering gift cards for community members in need. There will be a tree up beginning in November, and we invite everyone to take a tag. Each tag will have a suggestion on it of an appropriate store from which to purchase a gift card. Gift cards will be accepted through the middle of December. These gifts will be included in holiday food baskets for distribution and to the Kirtland Police as they distribute according to need throughout the year.



### Welcome to our new members this month!!!

Donald, Kathleen, Janeen, Lee, Tim, Eileen, Jim, Sylvia Josephine, Gloria, Tom, Stephen, Michalene, Ljubica, Zorka, Zdenka, Linda, Dan, Joan, Riachard, Lynn, Gerald. James, Carol & Russell

### HIKING CLUB

Do you enjoy the outdoors? Do you like to hike? Come gather with us for a leisurely hike at one of the many beautiful parks in our area, enjoy the great outdoors, and get some exercise in while you are at it. Join us for a hike on Monday, December 12 from 10:30 - 11:30 am at North Chagrin Reservation Nature Center. Registration is requested but not required! We hike rain, snow, or shine.....use your best judgment. See you on the trails!



## PCOMING EVENTS



### **TRIVIA**

Join us for Trivia on Tuesday, December 13 at 11:00 am. Be part of a team and this month, test your knowledge of Pop Culture of the 60's and 70's. What does that mean? Great question! Come join us to find out. 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.

### **BIRTHDAY LUNCH CELEBRATION**

December Birthday Lunch is Tuesday, December 6 at 12:00 pm & will cost \$7. Our menu Beef Stew & Rolls. Please RSVP by December 2. EVERYONE is welcome, regardless of your birthdate! Our next Birthday Celebration will be on January 24 and the menu will be a Taco Bar!





### LADIES LUNCHEON

December's ladies lunch will be held Wednesday, December 21 at 12:00 pm and the menu is pork schnitzel with cabbage & noodles. Cost is \$7 and you must RSVP by December 16. Our next Ladies Luncheon will be Wednesday, February 15.

### <u>MEN'S LUNCHEON</u>

Men's Luncheon will be held Wednesday, January 18 at 12:00 pm. The menu is Slovenian Sausage & Sauerkraut. Cost is \$7. Please RSVP by January 12. The next luncheon will be March 15.

### **RESOLUTION DAY**

Last year, we came together at the end of January to encourage each other to keep our resolutions. This year, we'll celebrate at least two of the promises we may have made to ourselves on Monday, January 30. Every fitness class that day will be free, and we will enjoy a salad bar lunch/potluck at 12:00 pm. If you would like to bring a healthy snack, sign up at the front desk. If you would rather just come to the meal, the cost for lunch will be \$5. Please register by January 23.



### <u>PIANO LESSONS</u>

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 (\$30 per month). Next classes will be December 6 & 20 from 9:00-12:30.



### **BINGO**

We are playing Bingo every Tuesday! Come take a chance on winning a gift card, lottery tickets or other great prizes. Bingo will be held in the Sunflower Room at 12:00. There is no cost to play Bingo.



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **COUNCIL ON AGING**

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

### **CHAIR YOGA**

We now offer a chair yoga class on Friday mornings at 10:30 am. 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 will finished with a seated meditation and breathing practice.





### TRASH TO TREASURE

Our next Trash to Treasure Sale will be held from January 23-27. 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 business hours.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### KIRTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY ADULT EVENTS

- Beach Glass Ornament class will be held December 5 at 5:30 pm. Come create a one-of-a-kind Christmas ornament with Lake Erie beach glass. Cost is \$10 per person. Payment must be made at the door and preferred payment method is cash.
- "Cool Man Lewk" book talk will be at 4:00 pm on December 12. Ohio author, Karl Lewkowski will be at the Kirtland Library to regale us with his stories. He will have his book available for purchase as well. Cost is \$20 and cash only. This is a free event, but space is limited. Please sign up at www.kirtland.lib.oh.us.
- For December, we are baking cookies for Kirtland workers! For more information, please contact us at 440-256-7323 & join the Cookbook Club on December 13 at 6:00 pm.

### **2023 LAKETRAN CLOSURES**

Laketran will be closed on for the following holidays in 2023:

Monday, May 29 -- Memorial Day Tuesday, July 4 -- Independence Day Monday, September 4 -- Labor Day Thursday, November 23 -- Thanksgiving Monday, December 25 -- Christmas

Please remember to schedule your Dial-a-Ride trips in advance of the holiday. Rides can be scheduled through Laketran's Customer Service Center at 440-354-6100 or 1-888-525-3872.

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!

### The Lake County Council on Aging





### Meals on Wheels BLIZZARD BAG FOOD DRIVE



### Thursday, Nov 17 – Tuesday, Dec. 13

The Lake County Council on Aging Meals on Wheels program provides daily nutritious meals, companionship and critical safety checks to Lake County's homebound seniors to combat hunger and isolation. Blizzard bags provide 2-3 days of emergency food for use when MOW is unable to deliver due to winter weather or other emergency.

### CAN YOU HELP US?

The Council on Aging is teaming up with Subaru dealers and the Lake County Senior Services Coalition to collect READY-TO-EAT, non-perishable food items for emergency "Blizzard Bags".

Shelf-stable, ready-to-eat food items will be distributed to home delivered meal seniors who are unable to stock their own emergency food pantry.

Single serve containers that may be opened without a can opener are desired.



### Donation Locations:

Adventure Subaru, Painesville and Ganley Subaru, Wickliffe
All Lake County Senior Centers and Lake County Council on Aging

### Suggested Food Items:

- Canned tuna or chicken
- Peanut butter
- Cheese or peanut butter crackers
- Single serving soups
- Single serving canned pasta
- Canned pasta, chili or stew
- Packaged dried fruit, nuts or trail mix
- Macaroni and cheese

- Single serve Protein drinks
- Boxed drinks and juice boxes
- Vienna sausages/Canned meat
- Cerea
- Individual packets of oatmeal
- Canned vegetables and fruit
- Granola and cereal bars
- Applesauce and fruit cups
- Pudding or Jello cups

"Subaru will donate \$250 for every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased from November 17,2022 through January 3, 2023, to four national charities designated by the purchaser or lessee. For every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased during the campaign period, participating retailers will donate \$250 to their registered Charities. Purchasers/lessees must make their charity designations by January 3, 2023.. See your local Subaru retailer for details or visit subaru.com/share. Donations made by Subaru of America, Inc. for Meals on Wheels America will be divided between participating Meals on Wheels organizations, including Lake County Council on Aging.



RESERVE YOUR PICK-UP BY CALLING 2-1-1 OR COUNCIL ON AGING AT 440-205-8111.FREE TO HOUSEHOLDS WITH A SENIOR!



### FROM THE SENIOR BOARD

Wow, what a great November we had here at the center. It is great seeing more new faces at our many events, and some returning faces who spent the summer outside. But, it is sad to say goodbye to the snowbirds (people who spend winter in Florida) as they escape our beautiful winter weather.

I am sure everyone had a great Turkey Dinner during our Veterans Day feast. Thank you to the Barber Williams Post 60

9 for the flag ceremony. It is nice to recognize the service of our veterans. We also should have completed another bus trip to First Energy Stadium to tour where the Cleveland Browns play (or attempt to). There was a lot of excitement about this trip from different people around the center.

This month we hold our annual Christmas party at Pine Ridge. It should be fun and entertaining for everyone. I heard spots were filling up fast. We will also be holding 2 bus trips, one to Akron to see Stan Hywet Hall decorated for the season, as well as a mystery bus trip. Those are always entertaining on a snowy day. Best yet, driven by LakeTran. As well as our usual assortment of weekly activities we always plan.

Remember, the center is closed December 23 and 26 for Christmas holiday. Also, if Kirtland Schools are closed for weather, we are too! ~David

### **ANNUAL SURVEY**

Keep an eye out in next month's newsletter for our annual survey. This is an important way for us to hear from each of you regarding programming, events and activities, comments, and suggestions. Despite our best efforts, we can't please everyone, but we are certainly open to hearing how we can serve you better. Surveys will be available in the newsletters, on-line, and at the front desk.

### **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 2022 Senior Board consists of: David Saywell (President), Junior Orick (Vice-president), Marcia Haymer (Secretary), Penny Everson (Treasurer), Bill Russ, Karin Saywell, Jean LaRiche, Janet Johnson, and Jean Orick.

### <u>SENIOR SPOTLIGHT</u>



It is so easy to merely meet someone here at the Center and believe you know them well. But I have four pages of notes that say you don't know enough about George Milbourn, who manages to be both unassuming and inspiring at the same time. Let's remedy that, shall we?

George plays chair volleyball. He has for years. He's really good at it, and when they do let me play, I like to be seated next to him. It drastically improves my team's chances when I'm removed from the equation. He's really funny, and the comments made quietly have made me miss the ball more than once (because of the laughing, not because I'm terrible). We're

glad to have him here, and I always enjoy seeing him around the Center. But wait, there's more.

George says that he is the luckiest person in the world. No unexpected tragedies have befallen him or his family, and he and his wife had three kids and eight grandkids, all loved and lucky as well. His wife's battle with ovarian cancer was the hardest trial endured, but he was able to spend most of his life married to his college sweetheart. He had work he enjoyed when he needed or wanted it, always had food on the table, and was surrounded by support and laughter. We should all be so fortunate to find love and luck, and are grateful that he has been.

Born and raised in Lake County, he followed in his father's footsteps by going to school at University in Shaker. Eventually graduating from Dennison, he joined the ranks at Coe Manufacturing, where he spent his career of over thirty-five years. I could spend this column talking about his philanthropic work or his business expertise, and I will touch on those, but let's just settle in for just a few of his stories.

I only have room to choose a few, so if you want to hear more, make sure to ask him. To boil his international trips down to a few sentences - his job took him all over the world. From the Philippines to Australia to New Zealand to Tasmania to Finland to Indonesia to Thailand to South Korea to Japan, this imposing gentleman could have racked up enough frequent flyer miles for all of us. The stories from Russia stand out the most. His time there was spent while Russia was trying to figure out how to increase industry while balancing the incredible pollution that infected the country. Although it felt that he was stepping back in time during his trips, he always managed to keep at least one or two of those steps ahead of disaster. Instead of heeding the State Department's warning not to fly the national airlines, he and his colleagues flew to Siberia with a group of locals who had perhaps enjoyed too much of the famous Russian alcohol. The only American passengers, they somehow made it to their destination without engaging in the brawls that erupted around them. On a plane. When they welcomed some of their Russian counterparts in the U.S., they were surprised to learn that the empty suitcases brought by their guests was not for souvenirs, but toilet seats. Apparently this was the hottest commodity when visiting stateside. One of the more important travel lessons he learned was to upgrade to a private cabin on trains, so the literal train bandits didn't rob them at stops. While we hope that times have changed in Russia, we are glad that George made it through with stories instead of scars.

Several people have lists of those they want to meet. George has an equally long list of people he met accidently or through coincidence. As a child, a forced trip to Spring Training brought him in contact with Mickey Mantle. He and his wife allowed Mr. Coffee and Joe DiMaggio to use their house to film a commercial (great guy, but the rule is never to ask him about Marilyn Monroe!). In 1963, a few late night phone calls were made to his father's classmate, somehow giving him access into the rotunda for President Kennedy's funeral. Accepting an unused ticket to an event in Cleveland led George to discuss his golf game with Gerald Ford, and both Arnold Palmer and his bodyguard enjoyed happy hour at their vacation condo in California.

There are too many stories to fit into one measly page, but I speak for all of Lake County when I say we are as lucky as George considers himself. His previous work on the boards on the YMCA, Hospice of the Western Reserve, the Lake/Geauga Fund of the Cleveland Foundation, and the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation and others has impacted the lives of thousands.

I was instructed to "not take this too seriously, because I'm not," and I hope I delivered. George encourages everyone to take accountability for our own thoughts and actions, and not be too quick to throw others under the bus before first figuring out if we may be the ones driving it.



Unassuming? Sure. Generous, adventurous, mischievous, and cunning? Most certainly.

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### **December Bad Dad Jokes:**

What's the difference between an ordinary alphabet and Christmas alphabet?

What did the icy road say to the car?

Answers inside!

### KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER

(440) 256-4711 communitycenter@kirtlandohio.com www.kirtlandcommunity.com 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