

JANUARY 2026

# GILDERSLEEVE GAZETTE

*Kirtland Senior Center  
Monthly Newsletter*



## KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER

(440) 256-4711

[communitycenter@kirtlandohio.com](mailto:communitycenter@kirtlandohio.com)

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

The Senior Center will closed the  
following dates:

**New Years Eve - December 31<sup>st</sup> at noon**

**New Years - January 1 & 2**

**Martin Luther King Jr. - January 19**

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## SENIOR CENTER MEMBERSHIP

Per calendar year

Resident (first year): \$10

Non-resident (first year): \$10

Resident (renewal): \$10

Non-resident (renewal): \$10

Paperwork and  
information available  
at the front desk

## WELCOME BACK

We want to begin 2026 in gratitude. There is so much to be thankful for at the Kirtland Senior Center and the Kirtland Community at large. Witnessing unprecedented community support this past year has made our holiday and the city a great place to experience. A heartfelt thanks to our Public Works Department and the leadership of Joe Fornaro, which allows our city to not only function smoothly but look festive. The generosity of Kiwanis and the Kirtland Area Service Council who provide much needed support to community members during the Christmas holiday and throughout the year. The generous support of LDS with their volunteer spirit has made not only the Senior Center more beautiful but the City Hall Parade of Trees wonderful. A big thank you to our Senior Board for their creative lunches and valuable guidance which helps us to navigate and plan engaging events for our members. And lastly, we are grateful for all our members, whether we see you occasionally or you are one of our "frequent flyers". You are what makes the center great and know how valued you are.

Best, Julia and Marianne

### SENIOR BOARD MEMBERS

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 2025 Senior Board consists of: David Saywell (President), Marcia Haymer (Secretary), Penny Everson (Treasurer), Karin Saywell, Rich Lowery, Theresa Ventresca, and Janet Johnson.

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that Christmas season is over. Now we have 3 months of winter to look forward to. Although, December was already cold enough for me.

If you were one of the lucky ones you attended a great Christmas party. Julia and Marianne planned a fun event. Between games at the tables, pictures at the Christmas Tree, and many drawings, the day flew by. Make sure you get a reservation in next year if you missed it.

The board now begins planning for 2026. If you have any suggestions let a board member know. We will be selling candy bars for Valentines Day, starting in January. Also, we will begin planning for the St. Patrick's Day/Slymanns lunch. This is in addition to all the regular lunches we support. Remember to renew your 2026 dues too.

I hope this finds you well, and out and about. Come in and take a class or two. The coffee is on, and we are nice and warm. Stop in and say hello.

David



**All lunches will be held at 12 NOON, unless noted otherwise.  
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.**

### LADIES' LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Join the ladies for cheese quesadillas. **Cost is \$10. Please RSVP by February 13.** The next luncheon will be April 22, and will serve chicken parmesan.

### MEN'S LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Join the men for a sausage sandwich, sauerkraut and potatoes. **Cost is \$10. Please RSVP by January 16.** Our next luncheon will be March 18th and will have fried chicken, cole slaw OR macaroni salad.

### BIRTHDAY LUNCH CELEBRATION - TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

We will enjoy a breaded chicken focaccia sandwich. **Cost is \$10. Please RSVP by January 23.** If it is your birthday month, then lunch is on us (RSVP is REQUIRED)! Everyone is welcome... regardless of your birthdate! Our next birthday celebration will be February 24 and enjoy cheese or sausage calzones.

### INSTRUCTOR APPRECIATION LUNCH-MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Joins us at the Kirtland Senior Center to show your appreciation to our wonderful instructors. **Cost is \$10** per person and enjoy a salad bar. Instructors eat for free!!

**MEALS**

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH!**

NEDA, MELISSA, PALA, JOHN, SUSAN, DEBORAH, VICTORIA, MARK,  
MARK, BETCE, SUSAN, DONALD, SHIRRA

**JANUARY 2026 EVENTS**

CLOSED - New Years Day	January 1 & 2, 2026
BUS TRIP - Pier W Luncheon	Tuesday, January 6
Volunteer Meeting	Thursday, January 8
Hiking Club	Monday, January 12
Podiatrist	Tuesday, January 13
Senior Board Meeting	Wednesday, January 14
Attorney	Friday, January 16
CLOSED - MLK Jr. Day	Monday, January 19
Senior Night Hike	Monday, January 19
Trash to Treasure	January 19-30
Trivia	Tuesday, January 20
Men's Lunch	Wednesday, January 21
BUS TRIP - Presque Isle	Thursday, January 22
Birthday Lunch	Tuesday, January 27

**TRIVIA TUESDAY,  
January 20th @ 11AM**

Come join us and be a part of a team this month. Put all your random (or useless) knowledge to good use! Most of the questions are multiple choice, and it's **FREE** to play! We promise, this is low-pressure and the stakes are NOT high. Winning team chooses the next month's theme. We meet in the Sunflower Meadows room to form teams and then the fun begins. No registration necessary.

**TECH TRAINER APPOINTMENTS  
11AM-5PM**

Beginning in January, Tech Trainer days, with Sophia, will move from Wednesdays to Thursdays. You can call the Reference desk to make a half hour to one-hour appointment for help with your laptop or smart phone questions. This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the State Library of Ohio.

**KIRTLAND  
KINDESS -  
VOLUNTEER  
GROUP****JANUARY COLLECTION:**

This month, we will be collecting supplies for Birthright; they provide compassion and care for women, nurturing and supporting their children with love, dignity, and respect. We are dedicated to creating a community where every woman feels empowered, every child is cherished, and every family is supported.

**FEBRUARY 2026 EVENTS**

Instructor Appreciation Lunch	Monday, February 2
Volunteer Meeting	Thursday, February 5
Hiking Club	Monday, February 9
Podiatrist	Tuesday, February 10
Senior Board Meeting	Wednesday, February 11
BUS TRIP - Edwin's Lunch	Wednesday, February 11
CLOSED - Presidents' Day	Monday, February 16
Trivia	Tuesday, February 17
Trash to Treasure	February 17-27
Ladies' Lunch	Wednesday, February 18
Attorney	Friday, February 20
Birthday Lunch	Tuesday, February 24
BUS TRIP - Auto Show @ IX Center	Thursday, February 26

JANUARY PROGRAMMING AND CLASSES

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
.	JUST A REMINDER TO CHECK IN FOR ALL EVENTS ON MYSENIORCENTER. THANK YOU!	.	1	2
9-9:45 Strength 10 Knitting 10-10:45 Balance 10-1 Pickleball 1-2 TaiChi 1-3 Chair Volleyball 2 Hiking	5 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9-1:30 Piano 10-1 Pickleball 12 BINGO 1-2:30 Begin. Line-dance 2:30-3:30 Adv. Line-dance	7 9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 11-1 Reflex/Light 1-3 Chair Volleyball	8 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9:30-11:30 Watercolor 10-11 Aerobics 11:30 - 1 Pickleball 12-1:30 Reiki 12:30-2:30 Acrylic 1-3:30 Begin. Pickleball	9 9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Strength 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball
9-9:45 Strength 10 Knitting 10-10:45 Balance 10-1 Pickleball 1-2 TaiChi 1-3 Chair Volleyball 2 Hiking Club	12 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9-12 Podiatry 10-1 Pickleball 12 BINGO 1-2:30 Begin. Line-dance 2:30-3:30 Adv. Line-dance	14 9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball	15 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9:30-11:30 Watercolor 10-11 Aerobics 11:30 - 1 Pickleball 12:30-2:30 Acrylic 1-3:30 Begin. Pickleball	16 9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Attorney 1-3 Chair Volleyball
CLOSED	19 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9-1:30 Piano 10-1 Pickleball 12 BINGO 1-2:30 Begin. Line-dance 2:30-3:30 Adv. Line-dance	21 9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball	22 8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9:30-11:30 Watercolor 10-11 Aerobics 11:30 - 1 Pickleball 12:30-2:30 Acrylic 1-3:30 Begin. Pickleball	23 9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Strength 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball
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**HIKING CLUB - Monday, January 12**

Join the hiking club for a hike on Monday, January 12, at 2pm at Strawberry Picnic Area. We will meet in the parking lot at the Buttermilk Falls PKWY\*\*NEW this season, the Moreckis have added a senior hike under the lights at 6:30 pm at Chapin Forest, Hobart Rd. Meeting dates are January 19 and February 16, 2026. We hike in all weather... use your best judgment and dress for the weather. A special thanks to Sue and Bob Morecki for leading us on the journey!

**STRENGTH TRAINING**

Our fantastically fabulous Strength Training instructor, Nancy, holds class at 9 am on Mondays and Wednesdays, and select Fridays of each month at 10:30. Check the calendar for dates.

**TAIJI FIT**

Join us as we experience the flow when the mind and body connect, by following along to the gentle mindful movements. Anyone can do it, no experience necessary. Just move, breathe and have fun! This class is offered by Tim Shea on Mondays at 1pm.

**CARDIO DRUMMING & AEROBICS**

Our awesomely fun aerobics class continues on Thursday at 10:00 am. Cardio drumming class is postponed until further notice. Come join the fun!

**BALANCE**

Come improve your balance and flexibility, helping you prevent falls and injuries and build greater confidence to enjoy your life. We will be doing exercises that improve bone density, strengthen muscles, legs, and core that help improve your stability. We will also do warm up stretching exercises to improve posture, performance, and range of motion which enhances and prepares you for your yoga and strength exercises. You can modify this class to your unique needs. Class is held Monday mornings at 10:00am.

**LINE DANCING**

Join instructor Tina Foster to learn the basics of line dancing.

**Basic Beginner classes**, held Tuesdays from 1:00pm-2:30pm, you will learn the steps and terminology, along with different dance rhythms.

Different genres of music will be used to make this a fun-filled class. All you need is a comfy pair of shoes that have slick bottom and can't be kicked off while dancing. An older pair of tennis shoes or bowling shoes are perfect examples. Please, no "slip-on sandals/flip flops" or "high-heels". This is for your safety.

**Advanced Beginner/Improver classes**, held Tuesdays from 2:30pm-3:30pm. This class is for those ready to take line dancing to the next level. You should have completed at least 3-6 months of one of the Basic Beginner classes or are already experienced in line dancing. Great class for those who are just making their way back to line dancing or just want to keep it nice and easy. This class moves along a little faster than the Basic Beginner.

**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 the lesson. You must sign up for two classes a month. The cost is \$30 per month. Please contact the front office if you are interested in lessons. The next lessons will be held on January 6 & 20 between 9:00am-1:00pm.

**BEGINNER, OPEN, AND ADVANCED PICKLEBALL**

Everyone is always welcome to drop-in to pickleball, but here are a few guidelines to help you out.

Our schedules are set for a reason, and we ask that you **DO NOT ENTER the gym** until the assigned time. Additionally, we ask that you **LEAVE the gym** at the scheduled time.

**Open Pickleball** is every weekday. Check the calendar for times. We ask for patience as you wait for your turn to play! This is open to ALL levels.

**Beginner Pickleball** is for those who are just starting out or would enjoy a more comfortable level of play. While anyone can come, expect that the competition level will be more casual. More experienced players are welcome to come out and offer some wisdom and guidance! Beginner hours are Thursdays from 1:30 - 3:00 pm.

**Advanced Pickleball** is held 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!

**BINGO**

We are playing Bingo every Tuesday (unless there is another event scheduled at that time)! Bingo will be held in the Sunflower Room at 12:00. There is no cost to play and everyone is invited.

**CHESS CLUB**

Are you a chess player? Do you want to learn how to play chess? Please leave your name at the front desk and you will be contacted. All levels are welcome and no registration is necessary!

**SEW WHAT**

Join Sherrie and her home economics knowledge as she leads our sewing group. Bring your own projects, materials, machines, and questions every week. This is a drop-in group; no registration necessary. We will meet every Wednesday at 10:00 am to whenever you feel like leaving. Ask the front desk if you have any questions.

**BOOK CLUB - Monday, January 12**

We will be discussing, "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See. Based on a true story, it is about a female physician during the Ming Dynasty. In February we will be discussing "Dark Maestro" by Brendan Slocum. Please note the new meeting time is 11:30 am.

**MAH JONG**

Mahjong is a Chinese strategy game where you make sets and pairs of tiles. Join us as we play the American version. You will need to provide your own National Mahjong League Card (it can be ordered online). We meet every Thursday at 12:30pm. All levels are welcome!

**ATTORNEY**

Meet with Deborah Loughner, Esquire on Friday, January 16th for a FREE 30-minute legal consultation. She provides legal aid for issues like estate planning, healthcare, and consumer protection. Schedule with the front desk.

**PODIATRY**

We are thrilled that Dr. Kelly Whaley continues to serve our seniors every month. She will be at the Center on Tuesday, January 13. \$30 payment is due to Dr. Whaley in cash on the day of the appointment.

Please remember that all of our bus trips are for Senior Center members only.

To the best of our ability, bus trips will be advertised two months out.

Registration for all bus trips must be completed in person with full payment.

New trips will open for registration at 9:00am on the First Tuesday of the month.

# UPCOMING BUS TRIPS

## PIER W LUNCHEON - TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Join us for an afternoon of upscale dining at this Cleveland landmark restaurant known for its unique architecture resembling a ship's hull, panoramic views of Lake Erie and the Cleveland skyline. Lunch will feature a chicken or fish option with a delectable chocolate dessert. We will leave Kirtland around 11:00am and return around 3:00pm. **\$35 Registration - includes lunch. Tip on your own.**

## PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS & CASINO - THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Part of the Churchill Downs Incorporated family, Presque Isle Downs & Casino is your best bet for excitement every time you play! Take a spin on over 1,500 of the latest and greatest slots or try your hand at over 30 thrilling table games including Roulette, Blackjack and Craps. Plus, watch and wager on all the big game sports action on our big screen TVs at our TwinSpires Sportsbook featuring our self-serve sports betting kiosks! Lunch on your own at the casino. We will leave Kirtland around 10:15am and return around 5:30pm. **\$5 Registration.**

## EDWINS @ OLD NIGHTTOWN LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Join us for an evening of fine dining in the iconic Nighttown space, where the owner of Edwins has created distinctly different dining venues while preserving Nighttown's architectural legacy, right down to the signature glass panels featuring the hulking fedora-topped figure. We will leave Kirtland around 4:45pm and return around 8:30pm. **\$5 Registration.**

## AUTO SHOW @ IX CENTER - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

The Cleveland Auto Show traditionally marks the start of the spring automotive selling season in Northern Ohio. Featuring pre-production and production vehicles from the world's auto manufacturers, the show also includes an array of entertainment including sports and celebrity appearances. Lunch on your own. We will leave Kirtland around 11:00am and return around 4:00pm. **\$12 Registration.**

**If for some reason you have to cancel your reservation, please contact the front office.  
Refunds are not guaranteed.**

**We are always open to ideas and requests for bus trips. Please let the front office know if there is somewhere or something you would like to experience this year.**



**THIS MONTH AT THE KIRTLAND LIBRARY:****CALL 440-256-7323 TO REGISTER**

<b>Monday, 1/5</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>Knit &amp; Crochet</b>	Open to anyone who enjoys knitting, crocheting or is interested in learning these skills. Bring your own supplies, drop in and get hooked.	<b>Tuesday, 1/20</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>Knit &amp; Crochet</b>	Open to anyone who enjoys knitting, crocheting or is interested in learning these skills. Bring your own supplies, drop in and get hooked.
<b>Tuesday, 1/6</b> <b>4:00pm</b> <b>Bullet Journaling</b>	Join us and explore the basics of bullet journaling. Attendees are welcome to join us for just the presentation, or they can bring their own journal and pen if they would like to work on their journal during the program.	<b>Tuesday, 1/20</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>Owls of Northeast Ohio</b>	It's owl season. Join local nature photographer and artist Aimee Pierson on a photographic journey to learn about the nature and habits of these secretive Northeast Ohio raptors. You'll learn about the seven different species that can be found in the area, as well as an intimate look at behaviors such as migration, hunting, nesting, and rearing young. <b>Registration requested.</b>
<b>Monday, 1/12</b> <b>2:00pm</b> <b>Chair Yoga</b>	Gentle chair yoga led by Anne Owens. All levels are welcome to this free event sponsored by the Friends of the Kirtland Public Library. Please register for this event.	<b>Thursday, 1/22</b> <b>4:00pm</b> <b>Cricut Monogrammed Bookmarks</b>	Attendees will create a unique bookmark on the library's Cricut. This class is designed for beginners; no previous experience is necessary. All supplies will be provided by the library.
<b>Tuesday, 1/13</b> <b>4:00pm</b> <b>Canva &amp; Cricut Stickers</b>	Join us to create custom stickers using Canva and the Cricut. This class is designed for beginners; no previous experience is necessary. All supplies will be provided.	<b>Monday, 1/26</b> <b>1:30pm</b> <b>No Pressure Book Discussion</b>	Ready for some new book suggestions? Bring any recommendations for good books you have read and get some new ideas too. Bring a bag lunch if you like. Just drop in!
<b>Wednesday, 1/14</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>Tutus, Touring &amp; Other Terrors</b>	Join Nigel Burgoine, former principal dancer with the London Festival Ballet, and award-winning artistic director, as he gives insight to touring the world with a professional ballet company. <b>Registration is required.</b>	<b>Tuesday, 1/27</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>Cookbook Club</b>	Join us for our annual Cookie swap for First Responders in Kirtland. <b>Registration requested</b>
<b>Friday, 1/16</b> <b>1:30pm</b> <b>Vision Boards</b>	Need to organize your thoughts and create visual goals for your future? Let your creativity shine by decorating cardboard to give yourself a visual reminder of what you want for your life. If you have any specific craft "notions" you would like to use (buttons, ribbon, etc.) please bring them, as our supplies will be limited. Sign up and let's make a visual representation of your goals for years to come.	<b>Wednesday, 1/28</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>American 250</b>	Brandy Gleason is the CEO of Gleason Media, LLC., chief writer at Gleason Family Adventure, and creator of the Ohio Road Trips Facebook group. She will engage us with travel stories and trip ideas for places to visit to celebrate the 250th birthday of America for our own adventures.

**KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER**  
**7900 EUCLID-CHARDON ROAD**  
**KIRTLAND, OH 44094**

**PRESORT STD.**  
**US. POSTAGE PAID**  
**Permit No. 164**  
**Cleveland, OH**

**GARDEN CLUB OF KIRTLAND**

The Garden Club of Kirtland will meet  
Thursday, January 8 at 6:00pm.

Contact Mary at:

**GardenClubofKirtland@gmail.com**



**LAKETRAN 2026 CLOSURES**

Laketran will be closed on for the following holidays in 2026:

Thursday, January 1 - New Year's Day

Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day

Saturday, July 4 - Independence Day

Monday, September 7 - Labor Day

Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day

Friday, December 25 - Christmas Day

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.

**KIRTLAND KIWANIS**

We are updating our book of veterans and need information on any vets in the area. We need: name, branch, rank, dates served and photo. We also need to know where you served.

**Please contact: Bill Wright**  
**@ 440-463-4800 OR**  
**wjwright@roadrunner.com**



**2026 MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN**

Anyone is welcome to join, regardless of where you live. All members must renew annually in order to participate in the fun programs and continue receiving the newsletter! If you are unsure if you renewed, just call or stop by the front desk. New members and renewals are \$10.

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*