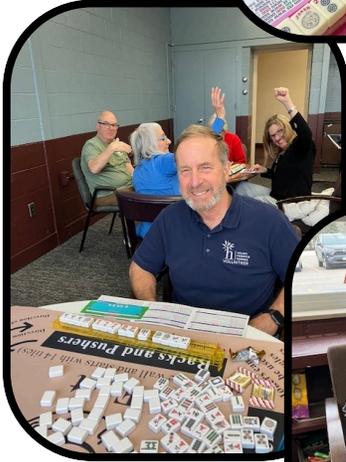


FEBRUARY 2026

GILDERSLEEVE GAZETTE

*Kirtland Senior Center
Monthly Newsletter*



KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER

(440) 256-4711

communitycenter@kirtlandohio.com

www.kirtlandcommunity.com

The Senior Center will be closed the following Monday, February 16th for Presidents' Day

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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

What a January we had! It seemed like it would never quit snowing in the first two weeks of the month and was nothing but cold weather for the remainder of the month. I hope February is easier on us.

The Board elected officers for the 2026 year. Congratulations to Rich Lowery, Vice-President; Janet Johnson, Secretary; Penny Everson, Treasurer; and I will remain President. If you have any suggestions for the officers, or board members please talk to us directly. The other board members are Theresa Ventresca, Karin Saywell, and Marcia Haymer. We are always willing to listen to your suggestions, concerns, or anything else you want brought to the administration.

We currently are holding a candy fundraiser. The money is used to support our sponsored lunches, as well as general expenses around the center that the city does not pay. Candy bars will be sold for \$1 each and can be purchased directly from Marianne. Please consider supporting us by purchasing a bar.

The next big activity scheduled is our St Patrick's Day lunch. It is limited to the first 75 people that sign up and has consistently sold out. We have already reached out to Slyman's (downtown) to get the corn beef, sides, and condiments. Don't wait to get your reservation in, or you may be too late.

I hope this finds you well and warm. If you haven't been here in a while stop in and have a cup of coffee and catch up. Don't forget membership should be renewed for 2026. ~ David

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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 2026 Senior Board consists of: David Saywell (President), Richard Lowery (Vice President), Janet Johnson (Secretary), Penny Everson (Treasurer), Karin Saywell, Theresa Ventresca, and Marcia Haymer.



KIRTLAND KINDESS - VOLUNTEER GROUP



FEBRUARY COLLECTION:

This month, we will be collecting supplies for Big Hearted Blooms; "At Big Hearted Blooms, we deliver joy through recycled flowers. By bringing bouquets and personal moments of connection, we boost the emotional health of those facing a variety of life challenges."

We will be collecting vases or glass jars 10 inches tall or less. Monetary donations are also accepted, to help alleviate the cost of pick-up, transport, and flower repurposing.



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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, MARCH 18

Join the men for fried chicken, cole slaw OR macaroni salad. **Cost is \$10. Please RSVP by March 13.** Our next luncheon will be May 13th and will have hamburgers and potato salad.

BIRTHDAY LUNCH CELEBRATION - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

We will enjoy cheese or sausage calzones. **Cost is \$10. Please RSVP by February 20.** 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 March 31 and will serve fried bologna sandwiches.

ST.PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH-THURSDAY MARCH 12

Join us for Slyman's corned beef sandwiches and fixins to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. **Cost is \$20** per person. Member's only

MEALS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH!
 LAUREL, CARL, KEVIN, NADA, LAUREL, GARY, MICHELLE, SUE, TOM

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

TRIVIA TUESDAY,
February 17th @ 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
Thursdays 11am-5pm

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.



WII BOWLING IS BACK!!!

Set your teams with the office and get bowling. We will again bowl for 12 weeks, ending in early May.



MARCH 2026 EVENTS

Volunteer Meeting	Thursday, March 5
Hiking Club	Monday, March 9
Podiatrist	Tuesday, March 10
Senior Board Meeting	Wednesday, March 11
BUS TRIP - Botanical Gardens	Wednesday, March 11
St. Patrick's Day Lunch	Thursday, March 12
Trash to Treasure	March 16 - 27
Trivia	Tuesday, March 17
Men's Lunch	Wednesday, March 18
Attorney	Friday, March 20
Birthday Lunch	Tuesday, March 31
BUS TRIP -	

BREAKING NEWS

In the event of inclement weather, Senior Center closings will be broadcast on Fox 8 News

FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING AND CLASSES

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

	<p>JUST A REMINDER TO CHECK IN FOR ALL EVENTS ON MYSENIORCENTER. THANK YOU!</p>			
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<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Knitting 10-10:45 Balance 10-1 Pickleball 1-2 TaiChi 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 11-1 Reflex/Light 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Strength 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>6</p>
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<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Knitting 10-10:45 Balance 10-1 Pickleball 1-2 TaiChi 1-3 Chair Volleyball 2 Hiking Club</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Attorney 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>13</p>
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CLOSED										
		<p>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</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Strength 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>20</p>	

<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Knitting 10-10:45 Balance 10-1 Pickleball 1-2 TaiChi 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>8:30-9:30 Adv. Pickleball 9-1:30 Piano 10-1 Pickleball 1-2:30 Begin. Line-dance 2:30-3:30 Adv. Line-dance</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>9-9:45 Strength 10 Sewing 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Fit Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>9-10:15 Gentle Yoga 10-1 Pickleball 10:30-11:30 Chair Yoga 1-3 Chair Volleyball</p>	<p>27</p>
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HIKING CLUB - Monday, February 9

Join the hiking club for a hike on Monday, February 9, at 2pm at North Chagrin Nature Center, 401 Buttermilk Falls Pkwy, Willoughby Hills**NEW this season, the Moreckis have added a senior hike under the lights at 6:30 pm at Chapin Forest, Hobart Rd. Meeting date is 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 fantabulous 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 and cardio drumming class continues on alternate Thursdays at 10:00 am. 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 and Sandy Appledorn 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 February 3 & 17 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, February 9

We will be discussing, "Dark Maestro" by Brendan Slocum. Suspenseful story of a man's sacrifices for his father's misdeeds. In March we will be discussing "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. Please note the new meeting time is 11:30 am.

MAH JONGG

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, February 20th 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, February 10th. \$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.

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.

ORCHID RODEO @ CLE BOTANICAL GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Orchid Rodeo is ridin' into Cleveland Botanical Garden, bringin' a bold western twist to nature's flashiest blooms. It's where true grit meets fine beauty—vibrant orchids settin' up shop alongside rugged cacti, lush greenery, and landscapes that look kissed by the desert sun. Follow your nose to the fragrance stations, then tip your hat and strike a pose beneath bigger-than-life blooms and rodeo-ready backdrops made for one mighty fine keepsake. Food can be purchased in the cafe. We will leave Kirtland around 9:15am and return around 1:45pm. **Registration - \$16, military \$11, Holden members \$3. Registration closes March 4.**

MYSTERY LUNCH - THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Join us for a delicious surprise luncheon. We will leave Kirtland around 11:30am and return around 2:00pm. **\$5 Registration - does not include meal.**

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CLEVELAND - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland is a national historic landmark and stands as a monument to the craftsmanship of the post World War I era. A guided tour will give us an insider's view of the building architecture and a look at the operations of a U.S. Central Bank. The tour will include the historic main lobby, the old vault, and the cash lobby. Members will need to bring a photo ID and pass through a metal detector. It is suggested members refrain from bringing purses or bags. We will leave Kirtland around 12:15pm and return around 3:30pm. **\$5 Registration. Registration closes March 18.**

MONSTERS HOCKEY - DYNGUS DAY - MONDAY, APRIL 6

Celebrate Dyngus Day at Rocket Arena with us as the Cleveland Monsters take on the Rochester Americans. Souvenirs, food and beverage can be purchased within the arena. We will leave Kirtland around 5:30pm and return around 10:30pm. **\$29 Registration. Registration closes March 5th.**

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.

UPCOMING BUS TRIPS



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



**Monday, 2/2
6:00pm
Knit & Crochet**

Open to anyone who enjoys knitting, crocheting or is interested in learning these skills. Bring your own supplies, drop in and get hooked.

**Saturday, 2/7
9:30am-1:30pm
Used Book Sale**

The Friends of the Kirtland Public Library are hosting their quarterly book sale at the Library. Small bags are \$5, and large bags are \$8. Cash and credit cards are accepted. Head to the back door to find some treasures.

**Monday, 2/2
6:00pm
Community Read:
Anxious
Generation**

Join in the first Community Read at Kirtland Hornet Hall for a discussion of the book *Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. Local police, Library, Kirtland school faculty and Kirtland PTA members will be on hand to engage in conversation. Books will be available at Kirtland Public Library.

**Friday, 2/13
1:30pm
Jewelry Paper
Quilling Craft**

Do you love unique crafts? Come on in and learn paper quilling with us. A fun and relaxing craft that can be transformed into any number of items, possibly including jewelry. If you love it, we even have a kit that can be checked out from our Library of Things. **Registration Required**

**Monday, 2/2
2:00pm
Chair Yoga**

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.

**Tuesday, 2/17
6:00pm
Knit & Crochet**

Open to anyone who enjoys knitting, crocheting or is interested in learning these skills. Bring your own supplies, drop in and get hooked.

**Tuesday, 2/3
4:00pm
Quilling Class -
Flower Bouquet**

Attendees will learn the basics of quilling. They will use these basics to quill flowers and create a paper bouquet. This class is designed for beginners; no previous experience is necessary. All supplies will be provided.

**Monday, 2/23
1:30pm
No Pressure Book
Discussion**

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!

**Wednesday, 2/4
6:00pm
Carl Jara Sand
Sculptures**

Have you seen his artwork on the shores of Lake Erie? Carl Jara will discuss his art form and how he creates such marvelous works of art from sand. Join us for this enlightening talk with the award-winning and world traveling Carl, who resides right here in Ohio. **Registration requested**

**Tuesday, 2/24
6:00pm
Cookbook Club**

Do you want to expand your kitchen skills? Bring your own place setting and beverage. The theme for February is any Rachael Ray cookbook, your choice. Make one dish for the group to share and enjoy an evening of food and fun.

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

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Willoughby, OH

GARDEN CLUB OF KIRTLAND

The Garden Club of Kirtland will meet
Thursday, February 5th at 6:00pm.
Contact Mary at:
GardenClubofKirtland@gmail.com



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

LAKETRAN 2026 CLOSURES

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

- 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 Laketrans' Customer Service Center at 440-354-6100 or 1-888-525-3872.



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*