



The Golden Age News

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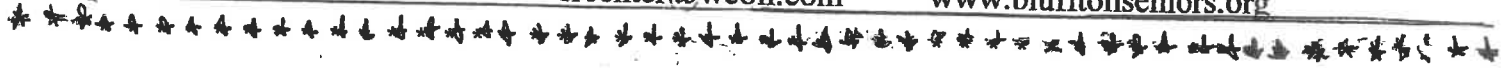
Bluffton Senior Citizens Center

132 N. Main St - Bluffton Ohio - 45817

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www.blufftonseniors.org



May 2020 Newsletter

Hello All,

What a world in which we live! No one knows when life will get back to "normal." Or what that normal will look like. It is tough when your main job in life is planning activities for senior citizens to socialize and no one is allowed to socialize or knows how long all this will last. Thank you all for doing your part and staying safe at home. Please know that the staff is thinking about you and praying for you.

I can share what little I know for sure and what I think might happen. This newsletter will be unlike any I have written in the past and I hope and pray, unlike any I will ever have to write in the future. So, let's start with what I know. Governor Mike DeWine has a press conference almost every day at 2 p.m. I do not recommend watching everyday unless you are a news junkie. It can get overwhelming for some of us. The broadcast can be found on NBC out of Lima or PBS out of Bowling Green. Governor DeWine is always asked when things will begin to open up. He has said that even when the restrictions begin to lessen, large groups will still be off limits. To that end, I have cancelled the Dinner Meetings for May and June and the Community Meals for May and June as they are the biggest crowds that we get. Let's start with what I think it will look like when the restrictions begin to lessen, knowing that the Governor may tell us differently.

Phase one; The staff will come back to work in the Senior Center and members will be allowed in to borrow items from the library, use the exercise equipment and talk with staff.

Phase two; Small groups will be allowed to meet such as cards, dominos, crafts, music Jam session and eventually we will restart exercise class.

Phase three; Dinner Meetings, Community Meals, dances, Bingo, extra classes and special activities like movies will resume.

Phase four; Party Time! When we are in the clear, whenever that may be, I plan to throw a nice big party.

I believe we will still need to take precautions like hand sanitizer and even masks. I am trying to prepare for those possibilities. You may have noticed that trips were not listed yet. Trips have to be evaluated on a case by case basis. Please keep an eye on the trip pages to see which trips are cancelled, postponed or pending.

So, the big question; how will you know when this is going to happen? I think you are just going to have to watch and listen to when the Governor starts to lessen the restrictions and then call us to see if we are open. The rest of this newsletter is filled with information to help you get through these hard times and look toward the future. Stay safe everyone and try to find a little joy in the slower pace of life.

Sincerely,

Tonya Meyer, Director

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Here is a list of phone numbers that you might find useful during the quarantine.

For general questions about COVID 19 1-833-427-5634

If you think you might have COVID 19

In Allen County or surrounding area 419-226-9000

In Bluffton 419-369-2399

In Hancock County 419-423-7890

They will ask you questions and tell you what to do next.

There are a lot of scams out there (see the article on scams). Here are numbers to report scams

COVID 19 Fraud 1-866-720-5721

Better Business Bureau 1-800-462-0468

Bluffton Police non-emergency 419-358-2961

Or call your local police or sheriff if you live outside of Bluffton

If you need emotional support 1-800-567-4673

Or mental health and recovery 419-222-5120

If someone is taking advantage of you, the number for Elder Abuse is 419-999-0251

The Bluffton Food Pantry serves those in the Bluffton School District

For service or to donate (monetary donations only) 419-236-2944

For pharmacy and grocery delivery, call your local store and ask if they deliver or have curbside pick up to avoid going into the store. If you live in the Bluffton area, there is a group of people willing to help. There is a Facebook page called Bluffton Need Help/Get Help. If you contact Tonya, she can find a volunteer from the group to help. Tonya's cell number is 419-358-6727.

PHONE CALLS

Some of you have been called by one of the staff of the Bluffton Senior Center. We have been trying to call every member of the Senior Center to check on the wellbeing and to see if there is anything we can do. If you haven't received a phone call, it is probably because of one of three reasons. 1. We have the wrong number for you or no number for you. 2. We haven't gotten to you yet but we will. 3. We called but you didn't recognize the home phone number of the employee so you didn't answer. If there is something that we can do for you at this time, please don't hesitate to call or email. Sr. Center # is 419-358-8971, Tonya 419-358-6727, email srcenter@wcoil.com.

SCAMS

Some people are trying to take advantage of the virus and stay at home order. One of the scams that I have seen already is a large check that says it is a government relief check. As far as I know, the stimulus checks have not gone out yet and the government will use direct deposit whenever possible. If you get your Social Security Check directly deposited, that is the most likely way you will get any stimulus money. If you try to deposit a scam check, they will most likely try to empty your bank account.

As of the writing of this newsletter, there are no remedies or vaccines or drugs that can protect your from COVID 19. Anyone trying to sell you one is a scammer and out for your money. Testing for the virus can only be ordered by a doctor. You cannot buy one. Anyone who says differently is a scammer. Other claim to be selling masks, cleaners and other supplies. Ask yourself why they are contacting you. Don't buy from anyone you don't know.

AARP also warns of investment scams. People are promoting companies with products that supposedly can prevent, detect or cure COVID 19 and are set to soar in price. Be sure to check with your broker before falling for this scam.

Be aware that emails and websites that have "coronavirus" or "covid" in the domain name are most likely to be malicious. They might plant malware on your computer to get your personal information or set you up for more scam emails. Be careful of what you click on.

There are also reports of individuals going door to door offering to get groceries or other supplies. If you don't know them or asked someone for help, I would not trust them. Please do not give them money or a credit card. It is safer to ask someone you know for help.

These are the few of the scams that I have heard of. If you feel you have been scammed, see the phone numbers on page two to report it. It is important to report scams so they can be tracked and others can be warned.

####

TOENAIL CLINIC

The March and April Toenail Clinics have both been cancelled due to the virus. We do not have a Toenail Clinic in May because of Memorial Day. Our next toenail clinic is set for Monday, June 22 at 10 a.m. If you need help with your toenails before that time, Dr. Kirk has office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. His office number is 419-358-3050. His secretary mentioned that they are very busy, so call sooner rather than later. If you want an appointment for June, call 419-358-8971 and leave a message. I will call you back when I am in the office and have access to the list. You must have an appointment to be seen on that day as he will be overbooked. Cost of the clinic is \$10 due the day of the clinic.

#####

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If this were a normal year, April would be the month that my secretary, Shirley, would be sending out notices to all those members who have not yet paid their dues. The staff is working from home as much as possible in accordance with the Governor's orders so that is not going to happen. If you are not sure if you have paid yet or not, don't worry about it. When we are back in the office, Shirley will send out those notices. Until then, we will just call everyone good.

**COACH TRIPS WITH TONYA
2020**

Oberammergau May 20-30, 2020 CANCELED

Jeanne Robertson and Indiana Amish Country June 3-4 CANCELED

Sauder Village and Archbold Tour June 25 Join us for a driving tour of Archbold, OH including Goll Woods and Lockport Covered Bridge. We will then have lunch at the Barn Restaurant and spend the afternoon at the Historic Sauder Village. Be sure to check out the new 1920s town that should be finished by June of 2020. Cost is \$74.00 and includes lunch. Due May 19. **PENDING**

New England Rails and Resorts September 28-October 6, 2020 This trip (all by motor coach, no planes) includes six train rides and the Baseball Hall of Fame. Price starts at \$2,417. The \$250.00 deposit is due at sign up. See brochures for details. This trip is full. We are taking standby.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS....

We were not open, so no one could join

SENT CARDS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL....

Sorry if we missed someone. We have not heard of any hospitalizations

WE EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF...

- Marilyn Hamilton on the death of her son
- Sharon Essinger on the death of her husband
- Dale Huber on the death of his son

#####

A MESSAGE FROM CRIME VICTIM SERVICES

Along with the added stress of the current COVID -19 quarantine, scammers are working hard and taking advantage of elders who are isolated and have limited contact with resources. Crime Victim Services' Elder Victim Ministry Advocates take calls Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you feel you have been scammed or would just like more information regarding avoiding scams and staying safe, please contact Crime Victim Services at 419-222-8666 and ask to speak with an Elder Victim Advocate.

CLOSURES AND CANCELLATIONS

The Senior Center will be closed on Memorial Day 25. The Arts and Crafts Festival scheduled May 9 has been cancelled. The Annual Fishing Derby scheduled May 3 has been postponed to June 7.

Bus Trip with Debbie

Trace Adkins Live! ~At The Ritz Theatre Moved to June 30th (\$120)

***Dinner at the Pioneer Mill of Tiffin * Trip is full~taking standby
~Due May 29th - Departing@ 4:30pm ~**

Veterans Memorial Museum & Jack Nicklaus Golf Museum (on the OSU Campus)

***Thursday July 9th*~Special Day with Lunch included!! Only \$66!! With \$12 Veterans discount w/proof of Service. ~ A Stop at Graeter's Ice Cream as Well ~ depart @ 8am~
due by JUNE 9th**

Christmas is for the Birds at Cornwell's Dinner Theater ~ Thursday Nov. 5,

2020 Dinner and a show in *Turkeyville USA* in Marshall, Michigan - \$98 (Due Oct.6th) —Farm Fresh food and Homemade Treats! An Exceptional show full of laughs and your favorite Holiday Songs ~ Departing@8am

Wheeling West Virginia Festival of Lights! ~Dec. 1~3rd 2020 (3 Days & 2

Nights) ~ \$555 Single and \$406 Per Person, Double Occupancy. Winter Fantasy Displays *Featuring a Laser Light Show, Model Train Exhibit, Gingerbread Houses, Minature Holiday Village. After your visit, enjoy an evening of Food, Fun and Holiday Entertainment with a Christmas Dinner Show \$25 due July 1st.

!!New!!

Greenville Ohio Food Tour Wednesday Aug 5th Including a stop at the Kitchenaid

Experience! But first a stop at Cloud Nine Café for Coffee & Homemade Scones! -- For Lunch a stop at Maid-Rite for a Signature Hamburger! Then a Chocolate tour at Winan's Chocolates & Coffees!! Yum Yum for our Tum Tums-Come join the FUN!

DEPARTING @ 8:45am Due June 30th

Washington D.C. Rescheduled! New Date will be April 9~12 2021! If you bought trip Insurance please call and cancel and they will send your insurance money back. If you still would like insurance for this trip you can repurchase it at later date. NTA Travel Protection Plan #1-800-388-1470.

Email Address

From time to time we send out updates or information by email. If you would like on this email list, send an email to Tonya at srcenter@wcoil.com. The newsletter is also available by email. Use the same email to receive the newsletter by email. Please state in the email which list you wish to be on.

THE ADS IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO
PRINT AND SEND IT TO YOU FOLKS! Thank you!



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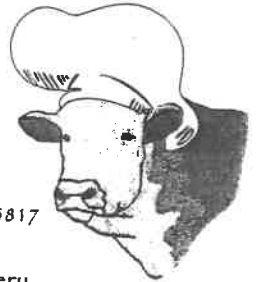
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