

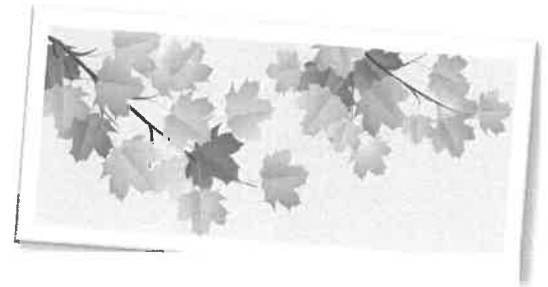
# October

2021

Bluffton Senior Center

## FALL

What a beautiful and busy time of year. We have a lot going on here at the Senior Center. If you have any questions about an activity, don't hesitate to call.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Dominos 9:30	2
3 New England tour leaves 8:15	4 Exercise 1:30	5 Dulcimers 1 Dance 3	6 Crafts 9:30 Exercise 1:30	7 Closed until noon Bowling 9:30 Euchre 1 Community Meal 6 pm	8 Dominos 9:30	9
10	11 Exercise 1:30 Bingo 2:30 New England returns	12 Line Dance 11 Dulcimers 1 Dance 3	13 OVAL 10 Exercise 1:30 Jam session 2:30	14 Brunch in Lima 8:30 Bowling 9:30 Euchre 1 Square Dance 7	15 Dominos 9:30	16
17	18 OVAL 10 Exercise 1:30	19 Dulcimers 1 Dance 3	20 School breakfast 8:30 Crafts 9:30 Exercise 1:30	21 OVAL 10 Bowling 9:30 Euchre 1 Community Meal	22 Dominos 9:30	23
24	25 Toenail Clinic 10 Exercise 1:30	26 Line Dance 11 Dulcimers 1 Dance 3	27 OVAL 10 Exercise 1:30 Jam session 2:30	28 Bowling 9:30 Euchre 1 Square Dance 7	29 Dominos 9:30	30
31						



# The Golden Age News

Published monthly by:

## Bluffton Senior Citizens Center

132 N. Main St - Bluffton Ohio - 45817

419-358-8971

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[www.blufftonseniors.org](http://www.blufftonseniors.org)

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### OCTOBER

Forest Gump said "Mama always said, life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." My mom always said "Life is not fair, it's a circus." Neither quote quiet sums up the pandemic but we are learning to go with the flow, turn on a dime, roll with the punches and make lemonade from spilt milk. In other words, we have been able to restart most of our programs and have had very few cancelations. Thank you all for trusting us to keep the Senior Center a safe and fun place to be and for helping us do that by staying home when necessary. The only big change for October will be no Monthly Dinner Meeting because of staff vacations. We hope to be back in November with a great program and delicious meal. We also plan to make our famous Peanut Brittle in November (read about it in this newsletter.) In the meantime, October is packed full of activities to stretch your mind, your muscles and keep you entertained so come and join us.

### HOBBY CENTER

Steve and Jane Shaw's collection of woodworking tools was quite impressive. I hope you had a chance to see it. Thank you, Jane and Steve, for sharing. In October, Jean King will share her coffee cup collection. If you have a hobby, collection or artwork that you would be willing to share, please let Tonya know.

### MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

October 15 to December 7, 2021 is Medicare Open Enrollment. Checking your plan could save you money. Plans change and if you have had changes in your medication, a different drug plan may save you money. Make an appointment with your insurance agent or check with your County Council on Aging. Allen County Council on Aging's phone is 419-228-6135.

### TOENAIL CLINIC

Monday, October 25 will be the next toenail clinic with Dr. Kirk at 10 a.m. An appointment is needed and the cost is \$10 due at the time of appointment. Call 419-358-8971 to make an appointment.

## OVAL

**Our Version of Adult Learning** classes are open to everyone. They are meant to stimulate the mind and entertain the senses. You are welcome to call the office at 419-358-8971 to sign up for classes. Come and enjoy. There is no cost to attend so bring a friend.

**Wednesday, October 13 at 10 a.m. Carolyn Rich** will present "Nepal, It's People and Culture." Discover this exotic country through the eyes of someone who has been there. More than a travelogue, learn about the people and culture of this important country.

**Monday, October 18 at 10 a.m. Sarah Rish** from the Allen County Historical Museum will present "What is it? Tidbits of History." Come and see if she can stump you as she shows items from history and tells of their uses.

**Thursday, October 21 at 10 a.m. Fran Core** will present "Around the Tip of South America." Come see photos of the tip of South America from a cruise ship. Sailors at one time thought it was impassable. Fran can tell you otherwise.

**Wednesday, October 27 at 10 a.m. Daniel Hodges** from the Appleseed Metro Parks will speak. Topic to be announced.

## COMMUNITY MEALS

The First Mennonite Church will serve the Community Meal on Thursday, October 7. The Community Meal on October 21 will be served by the First United Methodist Church. Meals are served at 6 p.m. Meal will be served inside as long as the church in charge is okay with the arrangement. We have told the cooks that some people are still leery of eating inside so they should have take-out containers available.

## BINGO

Good Samaritan has to suspend its Bingo game with us until the COVID cases calm down. They apologize and will be back as soon as they are able. Check with Tonya if you want to be notified of their return or continue to check here. The Mennonite home Bingo will go on as before on the second Monday of the month.

## SNOW BIRDS

If you are heading south for the winter, your newsletter cannot follow you unless we have your winter address. We mail the newsletter third class so it does not get forwarded like other mail. Please let us know of any address changes so we can continue to get you the latest news. You also have the option of paying for your 2022 dues before you go. Just stop into the Senior Center.

### ACTIVITIES

Activities at the Senior Center will continue as normal. Unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to wear a mask while in the Center but we are not regulating mask wearing. Reservations are no longer required (with the exception of the Monthly Dinner Meeting) but feel free to call if you have questions about an activity. Here is a list of activities. Hope you find something interesting.

<b>Crafts</b>	<b>Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Dances</b>	<b>Tuesdays at 3 p.m.</b>
<b>Dominos</b>	<b>Fridays at 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Dulcimers</b>	<b>Tuesdays at 1 p.m.</b>
<b>Exercise Class</b>	<b>Monday and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Bowling</b>	<b>Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at Southgate Lanes</b>
<b>Euchre</b>	<b>Thursdays at 1 p.m.</b>
<b>Bingo</b>	<b>Monday, October 11 at 2:30 p.m. sponsored by MHCO</b>
<b>Line Dance Class</b>	<b>October 12 &amp; 26 at 11 a.m., \$2 members, \$3 non-members</b>
<b>Jam Session</b>	<b>October 13 &amp; 27 at 2:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Western Square Dance</b>	<b>October 14 and 28 at 7 p.m., \$2 members, \$3 non-members</b>

### NOVEMBER FUNDRAISERS

Peanut Brittle will start Monday, November 1 at 8 a.m. and continue every Monday thru November. We need at least 30 volunteers to make the candy and some of our volunteers from two years ago are no longer able to help. We are looking for NEW PEOPLE to come and help. Please let Tonya or Roger Edwards know if you are able to help even if only for one week. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We missed it last year. We hope to make up for it this year.

Friday, November 12 and Saturday, November 13 will be are Annual Christmas Garage Sale. If you have any clean, usable Christmas items that you wish to donate, please bring them to the Senior Center by Thursday November 11 so we can price them for the sale. Volunteers are needed on November 11 at 9:30 to help set up for the sale and Saturday, November 13 at noon to help clean up from the sale. Please let Tonya know if you can help.

**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ....**

Ken and Ruth Graber, Bluffton

Randy and Deb Becker, Bluffton

Colleen Ingalls, Bluffton

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

Bob Town

Linda Sommer

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

Russel Suter

Renee Caskie on the death of her son

**READING MATERIAL**

We have a couple members who miss coming in and reading the Bluffton News in our lounge area. We have purchased the Lima News for a short time to see if it will be a welcomed replacement. Check it out in the lounge on the coffee table any time we are open.

**COVID – 19 Trip Policy**

Masks are optional while on the motor coach but please bring a mask with you as many of the stops that we visit may require them. If someone is not willing to wear a mask, they should not sign up for a trip.

Vaccination or tests will not be required to travel with the Senior Center but is strongly encouraged. We trust that everyone traveling with us is adult enough to monitor their own health and not get on the motor coach if they are sick in any way.

Exiting the coach will be from the front to the back to avoid contact with others. Please note that if you are in the back, you will be the last off.

Refund policy has not changed. If the Senior Center has to cancel a trip for any reason, full refunds will be given. If a traveler cancels a trip before final payment is due, a full refund is given. If a traveler cancels after the final payment date, a refund will be issued only if we sell their seat or we are able to get refunds from the vendors.

For travelers who are not members, the Senior Center will need their name, phone number and address in case of contract tracing.

When we are traveling with a paid tour company, their COVID-19 policies trump ours.

**COACH TRIPS WITH TONYA**

**New England Rails and Resorts October 3-11, 2021** Don't forget your masks. If you plan to leave your car in the parking lot for the duration of our tour, please give Tonya your name and license number. We give the info to the police department to keep an eye on our cars.

**RTA TRIPS**

We have been taking people to Lima on the RTA bus to show how easy it is. This is a great way to learn the ropes or just to say you rode the bus.

Thursday, October 14 Debbie will take a ride to Lima to have brunch at Bob Evens. Depart at 8:45 and return 2:45.

What you need to know:

Masks must be worn on the RTA bus. It is a Federal law.

The cost varies but you can buy a 24-hour pass for \$3 and it will get you there and back. The RTA bus does not give change so exact change is best.

**BUS TRIPS WITH DEBBIE**

**La Comedia- A Christmas Story (the Musical)** November 10<sup>th</sup> Featuring Broadway-style show along with a famous mouth-watering buffet. A Christmas Story The Musical is the hilarious account of Ralphie’s desperate quest to ensure that this most perfect of gifts ends up under his tree this Christmas! Bus departs @9:00a.m. Cost is \$80.00 due Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>.

**DANIEL O’ DONNELL *Christmas & More*** – Blue Gate Dinner Theatre Shipshewana, Indiana. Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> \$123 (due Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>) This show is sold out but we are taking standby. We will enjoy fine Amish dining for our afternoon meal before the show! Departing time @ 8:30a.m. from behind the Bluffton Senior Center.

**BOWLING SCORES**

(Yes, bowling is back!)

9-16-21

**Men’s High Score**

Jerry Cupples	181
Walter Paxson	143
Allan Eversole	133
Gary Graham	116

**Men’s High Series**

Jerry Cupples	338
Walter Paxson	271
Allan Eversole	262

## Our Trip to the Northwoods of Wisconsin with Country Travel Discoveries

August 28<sup>th</sup> – September 3, 2021

By Barb Deeds

What a wonderful week spent in the **Northwoods of Wisconsin**. With **Tonya** as the coordinator, **Ann** as our tour guide, and **David** as our bus driver, we couldn't have asked for a better team to be a part of our adventure.

We started out the first day and traveled to Fond du Lac where we had a welcoming dinner and stayed at the historic Hotel Retlaw.

After a wonderful breakfast at the hotel, we began a busy Sunday. Our first stop was a peaceful cruise on **Waupaca's Chain of Lakes** and lunch at their dockside Clear Water Harbor Boat House. We visited the **Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum** where they were showcasing a quilt display. Outside they had a garden area with several metal sculptures. Later we visited with **Jim Harris** who has traveled to **Laos and Cambodia** many times to help dismantle unexploded devices. He has collected many things over the years and has a museum filled with items and pictures that depict the lives of those living in the region. A group he is associated with continues to help war victims in numerous ways.

The third day, after breakfast, we started out with a guided bus tour of **Rib Mountain** which peaks at 1,942 feet. The State Park consists of 1600 acres and has an outdoor amphitheater, trails, shelters, rock formations, and a 60-foot observation tower. Our next stop was a tour of a farm that grows ginseng – it takes approximately 5 years for the roots to reach a marketable size and growing areas require 70- 85% shade. The root is used in Asian medicines. We received samples of ginseng candy and tea. Our next stop was to the only easily accessible 45 X 90-degree point in the world. The other three are located in the **Pacific Ocean, China, and the Indian Ocean**. The marker is in Marathon County in a farmer's field. A quarter of a mile walking path has signs and benches and a monument to mark the spot. We each received a commemorative coin for joining the 45 X 90 club. We ate lunch at **Billie Bob's**, a local grill and pub. During the afternoon we visited the **Dr. Kate Museum**. **Dr. Kate Pelham Newcomb** is remembered as "**The Angel on Snowshoes**" for her dedication in reaching patients during winter months. She spear-headed a movement to build a hospital in the tiny town of Woodruff. Local students sought to collect a million pennies for **Dr. Kate's** hospital. **Dr. Kate** was featured on a segment of the television show – **This Is Your Life**. The highlight of the evening was attending a snowshoe baseball game at Lake Tomahawk between the Snowhawks and celebrities from a local television channel. Volunteers served sandwiches, drinks, and their famous pie. During the game we watched for a painted cantaloupe to be thrown in place of the oversized baseball they use for the game. We stayed in our new home for three nights – the Best Western Plus Concord Inn.

Day four started with breakfast and a trip to **Bartling's Manitowish Cranberries**. Their crop is grown in low lying areas. Water is used for irrigation, frost protection, winter flooding for weather protection, and harvesting. The fruit is harvested in the flooded marsh to gently remove the berries from the vines. The cranberries are processed at the farm and sold to Ocean Spray. We received some samples before we left. Our next stop was **Stormy Kromer**, where they make iconic railroad caps manufactured since 1903. Our first visit for the day was made to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to see the picturesque **Bond Falls** on the Ontonagon River. We spent a relaxing evening on our own.

On Wednesday, after breakfast, we stopped at the **Oneida County Courthouse** which was built in 1906 and has a beautiful stained-glass dome. We were introduced to the Hodag there. Next, we went to the **Northwoods Petroleum Museum** which is filled with vintage petroleum equipment. We had some free time and lunch in downtown Eagle River. During the afternoon we went to **Fred Scheer's Lumberjack Show** – an interesting and fun competition between 2–man teams. They did some sawing, climbing, log rolling, and relays. That evening we had dinner at a traditional supper club (**Little Bohemia**) where **John Dillinger's gang** had a shootout. In an upstairs area of the supper club, there are bullet holes that have been preserved along with articles about the historic event.

Thursday we were treated to a wonderful breakfast prepared for us by a caterer. We visited the **Pioneer Park Historical Complex in Rhinelander** where we learned more about the Hodag, a local legend since 1896. Some say that the Hodag is the fiercest, strangest, most terrifying monster ever to set razor-sharp claws on the earth. Others describe it as a reclusive woodland creature, misunderstood by many and only wanting to be left alone. When something out of the ordinary occurs, people will say, "I think it was a Hodag." Touring the historical complex, we saw a sawmill, a schoolhouse, a Civilian Conservation Corps exhibit, fire equipment, antique outboard motors, a logging display and a railroad display. Lunch was at a local grill and pub called **BB Jack's**. We visited **Mepp's Fishing Lures Factory** and found they buy squirrel tails to use in their lures. We toured **Twig's** a producer of unique sodas and flavors including their best-known flavor **Sundrop**. We had a farewell dinner at our hotel on the **Oneida Reservation** (Radisson Hotel and Conference Center). A casino, which some of us visited, is connected to the hotel. The artwork in the rooms and in the hallways and lobby reflects the culture of the **Oneidas**.

On our last day, we had a delicious breakfast at the hotel and toured the beautiful **Green Bay Botanical Gardens**. They were featuring **Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea**. There are 8 sea animal sculptures made from trash and debris found in bodies of water as a way of helping people learn more about plastic pollution. We headed to **Mars Cheese Castle in Kenosha** where we had lunch and a chance to buy Wisconsin cheese curds and other goodies before heading home.



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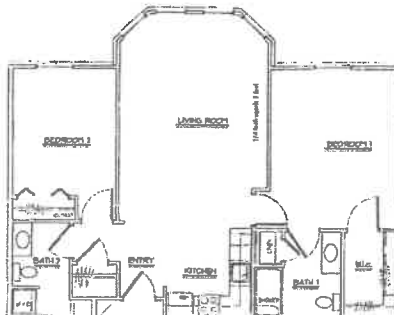
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