



Golden Outlook...a publication for Senior Citizens

Thea M. Guilfoyle, Editor
Community Services Department

Michael S. Procuk, Mayor
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Editor's Message

Spring weather is almost here - the first day of Spring is March 20th! With our roller coaster weather, snow one day and 70 degrees the next, we have to be ready for a snow storm and ready for lawn cutting at the same time. Even though snow is in the forecast, it's time to think Spring and sign up for the Lawn Cutting Program! Please note both articles!!

While you read this newsletter, have your calendars nearby! There's a few events we think you'll be interested in! We have scheduled a trip to the Heinen's Grocery store downtown for lunch and shopping, another trip for a Fish Fry dinner, our monthly grocery shopping and, of course, our senior luncheons. Also scheduled is a Digital Navigation session for assistance with your cell phones and/ tablets. For all events, please sign up early!

A reminder that our food pantry is available to all residents! Additionally, for any senior and/or disabled person, we offer either transportation to and from our pantry or you can complete a grocery checklist, we'll pack the groceries and drop them off to you. We are fortunate to have donations from many sources giving us the ability to keep our pantry well-stocked. Call anytime to schedule or for additional information!

Thea M. Guilfoyle
Director, Community Services



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Office: 739-3702 ~ Email: cmtyservice@brooklynhts.org

Located in the Service Building, 233 Tuxedo Avenue

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (Call first!)

Be sure to leave messages in the General Mailbox, Ext. 0

Old West... Word Search

L L I H T O O B E S R O H W O L P L A
J U D G E K A N S E L T T A R H A S G
O O D O P H H T R T L L E W C R I G H
K O G O C P I E A A R N I A R T R O F
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N E B A N K E R M A M U R R R D I R I
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R E R E N I M D L O G G N V F E I Z L
B T S H O P K E E P E R L E E F S E E

BANKER	FARRIER	LAWMAN	SALOON
BARKEEP	FORT	LIVESTOCK	SHERIFF
BILLY THE KID	FURS	MINER	SHOPKEEPER
BOOT HILL	GOLD MINE	OUTLAW GANG	SITTING BULL
BRAND	GOLD PANNING	PISTOL	STAGECOACH
CAMPFIRE	GRAZE	PLOW HORSE	TELEGRAPH
CATTLE DRIVE	HIRED GUN	POSSE	TRACKER
CHAPARRAL	HOGS	RAILROAD	TRAIL
COAL	HOMESTEAD	RANCH	TRAIN
CORRAL	HOTEL	RATTLESNAKE	UNDERTAKER
COWBOY	JUDGE	RIFLE	WATER TANK
DOC HOLLIDAY	LARIAT	SADDLE	WELL

SNOW REMOVAL WRAP-UP



The Snow Removal program is *almost* behind us!

Remember to call Community Services if your lawn was turfed from the snow plows. The contractor will begin to repair any damage done to the lawns in the Spring.

The last date to report damage caused by the snow removal program is Friday, May 5th, 2023. Reports after this date will not be accepted.

The contractor will also be removing the stakes from your yard. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THEM!! They are the property of the contractor.



LAWN CUTTING PROGRAM

We are happy to have this program in place and equally as happy to have our Service Department cutting the lawns. Thanks to Mayor Mike and our Village Council, the cost is still \$200 for the 2023 program. HEAP recipients will pay \$80. Applications were mailed directly to each senior household that participated last year. Please submit your applications as soon as possible! They can be dropped off at the Municipal Center, mailed to 233 Tuxedo Avenue or dropped off at our office.



AT THE BAR THE OTHER NIGHT

An elderly looking gentleman, (mid-nineties) very well dressed, hair well-groomed, great looking suit, flower in his lapel, smelling slightly of a good aftershave, presenting a well-looked-after image, walks into an upscale cocktail lounge. Seated at the bar is an elderly looking lady. The gentleman walks over, sits alongside her, orders a drink, takes a sip, turns to her, and says, "So tell me, do I come here often?"

SAVE THE DATE!

JOIN US FOR A FISH FRY

We will be taking seniors on

FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH

to St. Michael's Church in Independence to enjoy a Fish Fry dinner.



Dinners are \$15 each and you can choose from:

- ◆ Baked Fish Dinner
- ◆ Shrimp Dinner
- ◆ Combination Plate Dinner
- ◆ Fried Fish Dinner
- ◆ Pierogi Dinner

All Dinners Include:

- ◆ French Fries or Baked Potato (while available)
- ◆ Fresh-made Cole Slaw, Applesauce or Fruit Cup
- ◆ Rolls & Butter, Beverage & Condiments

New item choice this year:

Fish Sandwich or Fish Sticks with Fries & Beverage... \$6.00

Homemade Desserts available to purchase

The deadline to sign up is Wednesday, March 22nd.



SENIOR LUNCHEONS

TUESDAY, MARCH 14TH

Presentation by Doug Kusak from Metro Parks

His talk will be on the history of bridges in the Flats

We'll enjoy a Corned Beef Lunch with all the trimmings!

WEAR YOUR GREEN!!

TUESDAY, APRIL 11th

Presentation by Dennis Sutcliffe on Danny Greene, the infamous Irish-American organized crime figure based in Cleveland

**Lunch is sponsored by Broadview Multi Care
THINK SPRING!! REGISTER BY THURSDAY, APRIL 6th**

All seniors and retirees are welcome and there is no charge. Enjoy lunch with your neighbors and friends.

Transportation is available.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

YOU MUST CALL TO SIGN UP

EVEN IF YOU DON'T NEED TRANSPORTATION!

HEINEN'S SHOPPING & LUNCH

Join us for a trip to Heinen's Grocery Store, downtown at the corner of East 9th & Euclid, in the former Cleveland Trust Building. The building was added to the National Register of Historical Places in 1973 and renovated in 2015. It has an 85-foot high, 61-foot wide dome. Circling the rotunda are 13 murals depicting the evolution of civilization in the Midwest.

You can enjoy a buffet lunch in the rotunda, check out the wine and beer on the second floor or catch the view from the third floor (there's an elevator!). Lunch is on your own and you can purchase groceries too! Must be able to self-carry your groceries.

This trip is scheduled for **MONDAY, APRIL 3rd** at 10:30 am. Transportation is provided and the pick up time will be determined once sign up is complete. Sign up today!



GROCERY SHOPPING

Our next weekly trip for grocery shopping is on

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th



Pick up will start at 8:30 a.m. and we will visit Drug Mart and one other store. You'll have ample time to shop and the driver will assist those in need getting the groceries into your home. We limit grocery shopping to your household and not purchasing for other families. Please call our office to sign up **no later than Friday, March 31st+ by Noon.**



DIGITAL NAVIGATION ASSISTANCE

Trying to understand the use of your cell phone? Want to have an email account? Help is available!

Sponsored by the Cuyahoga County Library, Digital Navigators will help you get the most of your cell phone and/or tablet including

- Signing up for an email account
- Understanding how to use email
- How to text, call and use the camera on a cell phone
- Both flip phone and smart phone assistance
- Safely browsing the Internet and more!

We will schedule three people at a time, for one-on-one, 30-minute sessions on **THURSDAY, APRIL 20th** at the Community Center. The sessions will begin at 1:00 pm through 3:30 pm. There's only 18 spots available! Deadline to sign up is Friday, April 14th at Noon.

**Register
Today!**



GRANDPARENTS STILL TARGETED FOR SCAMS

Better Business Bureau® Serving Greater Cleveland (BBB®) is reminding families to be on alert for scams specifically targeting senior adults. In the past, scammers would claim a grandchild is in trouble with the law or in jail. However, in the post-pandemic era, the scam has taken a new twist. The FTC released a warning advising consumers to be cautious of scammers posing as grandchildren who are sick in the hospital or stranded overseas due to the coronavirus. These communications come with a sense of urgency which panics victims into wiring money under the pretext of paying a hospital bill or making travel arrangements.

"Scammers know how to pull at the heartstrings of grandparents," says Sue McConnell, BBB Serving Greater Cleveland. "When a grandchild is in distress, it's natural for well-meaning grandparents to panic and rush to wire beloved family members the necessary funds. However, it's best to approach these situations with a more level-headed perspective. Simply asking questions, such as asking for a child's middle name or the name of a best friend, may prevent a consumer from falling victim to this scam. The lies may be particularly compelling, but it's better to save money for real family emergencies."

In 2021, Better Business Bureau received over 200 reports of scams taking the form of a family or friend emergency. In these scams, over 35% of consumers reported losing money. Most commonly, this was in the form of an online money transfer or prepaid credit or gift card. Victims were usually solicited through phone calls. BBB wants to remind the public that older adults are susceptible to many types of scams, not just ones specifically targeting grandparents.

BBB also recommends seniors should:

- ▶ Verify the Caller's Identity. Ask specific and targeted questions that a stranger couldn't possibly answer, such as a middle name or the name of an elementary school. Confirm the emergency itself by contacting another family member or friend through a trusted method.
- ▶ Resist the Urge to Act Immediately – It's easy to panic when a family member may be in danger, but staying calm can mean the difference between becoming a victim or remaining a cautious consumer.
- ▶ Don't Send Money – Scammers may ask for cash in the form of cash, money transfers, or gift cards. Don't send funds until you can validate contacts.



STAY INFORMED WITH SOCIAL SECURITY'S TOP FIVE SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

They strive to provide the public with accurate and helpful information. In addition to information they provide on their website at www.ssa.gov, they also engage regularly on social media. They invite you to read their posts and share items of interest. You can:

Subscribe to the blog at blog.ssa.gov. There, they post articles about programs, policy, current topics, and new online services.

Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/socialsecurity.

View and easily share informative videos on YouTube at www.youtube.com/SocialSecurity. The videos cover online services, applying for retirement and disability benefits, Social Security-related scams, and much more.

Join the many Twitter followers at www.twitter.com/socialsecurity. There, they announce new my Social Security features and other service or program changes.

Check out the Instagram page at www.instagram.com/SocialSecurity. There they share stories and resources that can help you. You can check out all the social media channels at www.ssa.gov/socialmedia.



BIRDS OF A FEATHER

I knew that my husband's hearing had deteriorated after our friend - new to the city - asked where he could meet some singles. "Well," said my husband, "I see them in the Kmart parking lot diving for fries." "Dear," I intervened. "Singles, not seagulls."

KATHLEEN KAPUSTA, LISW-S SOCIAL WORKER

SOCIAL SECURITY WEBSITE

On December 6, 2022 the Social Security Administration released a redesigned website, aimed at being more user-friendly. If you have not recently visited the website you may want to do so.

You are encouraged to apply for Social Security benefits online.

For most benefits, people can apply online or at least initiate an application online. In many cases, there are no forms to sign. The agency will review the application and reach out with questions or for more information, if it is needed. Visit www.ssa.gov/onlineservices to apply for retirement, disability, or Medicare.

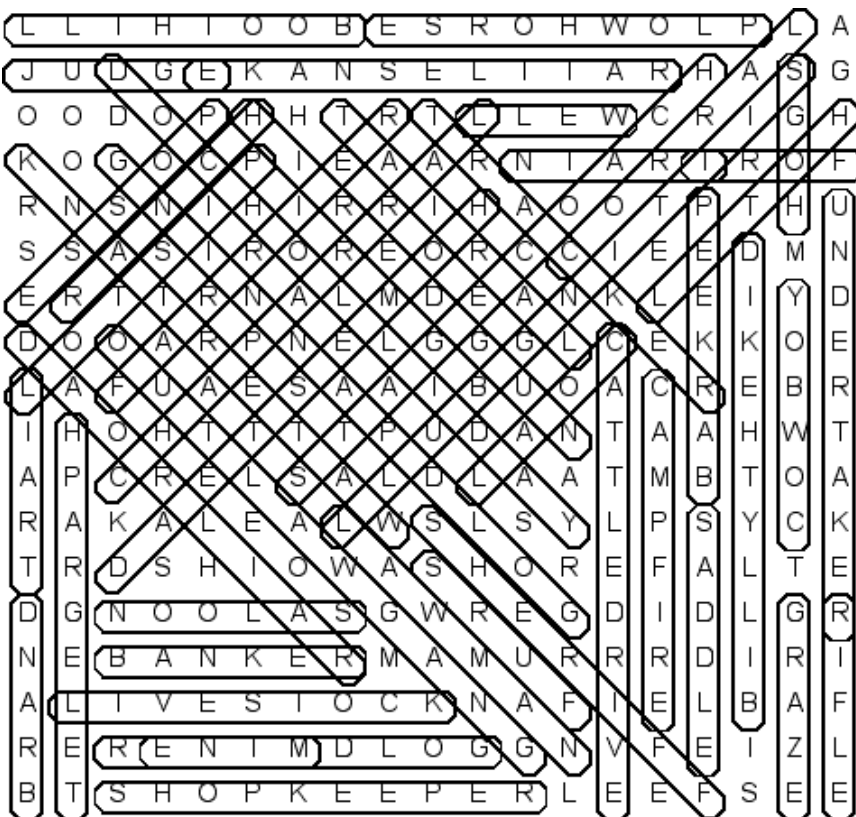
Many Social Security services do not require the public to take time to visit an office. Using a *my_Social Security* account, a personalized online service, people can start or change direct deposit, or request a replacement SSA-1099. For individuals already receiving Social Security benefits, they can print or download a current Benefit Verification Letter if they need proof of their benefits.

People not yet receiving benefits can use their online account to get a personalized *Social Security Statement*, which provides their earnings information as well as estimates of their future benefits. The portal also includes a retirement calculator and links to information about other online services. The agency encourages people without a *my_Social Security* to create one today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount/. *SOURCE: Social Security website*



Remember to move your clocks
AHEAD one hour on
SUNDAY, MARCH 11th.
Best to do it Saturday before
you go to bed!

Old West... Solution



TAX PREPARATION

**File Your Taxes for Free and
Keep Your Full Refund**



Do you want to maximize your tax credits and keep your full tax refund? If so, the Cuyahoga EITC Coalition can help! Individuals and families earning less than \$60,000 a year, qualify for free tax preparation services. There is no catch. You can file for free and keep your full refund.

The Cuyahoga EITC Coalition is part of the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Since 2005, we have been helping hardworking families and individuals in Cuyahoga County make use of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC is a tax credit that may give you money back at tax time or lower the federal taxes you owe. The main requirement is that you must earn money from a job.

Tax sites are available throughout Cuyahoga County for easy accessibility. To learn more or schedule an appointment, visit Refundohio.org.



Hidden Object Puzzle



slice of pizza



radish



slice of bread



doughnut



book



butterfly



watermelon



ring



paintbrush



flag



mitten



musical note



ice-cream cone



cracker



snake



crown