

# February 2022

Our mission is to help older people live dignified and reasonably independent lives in their own homes for as long as possible.

beets

cherries

cranberries

# **Mercer County Council on Aging**

#### **BLUE & PURPLE**

blackberries blueberries black currants dates egaplants

grapes

plums prunes purple figs

raisins pink grapefruit

#### **RED & PINK**

pomegranates radicchio red radishes red apples red grapes red peppers red potatoes rhubarbs strawberries tomatoes watermelons

The best way to get all of the vitamins, minerals and nutrients you need is to eat a variety of colorful fruits and veggies. Add color to your plate each day with the five main color groups.

#### GREEN

artichokes asparagus avocados bok chou broccoli Brussels sprouts celery collard greens cucumbers green beans green cabbage green grapes green onions green peppers kale

**EAT SMART** 

kiwis leeks limes mustard greens okra

pears peas romaine lettuce snow peas spinach sugar snap peas watercress

zucchini

bananas mushrooms cauliflower onions garlic potatoes Jerusalem parsnips artichokes shallots

# **ORANGE** & YELLOW

orange peppers acorn squash papayas butternut squash peaches pineapples apricots pumpkins cantaloupes summer squash carrots sweet potatoes corn grapefruit tangerines lemons yams yellow apples mangoes yellow peppers nectarines yellow squash oranges



heart.org/HealthyForGood

From the Director's Desk:

Hello Mercer County (and surrounding areas)!

I hope that this letter finds you well. February is usually marked with hearts and flowers and all sorts of romantic gestures. Here at MCCoA we celebrate the love of our fellowman every day. The staff come to work, many with their hearts on their sleeves, and

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience."

- Eleanor Roosevelt.

do everything in their power to help each person that calls or walks through our doors. We are happy to serve you. Thank you for giving us the opportunity.

It seems that the time of uncertainty has not passed and 2022 has started out pretty bumpy. We recognize there are risks in life but we encourage everyone to KEEP LIVING!! It is our goal to continue being a place you can safely spend time with friends. We are in the season of cold



and possible nasty weather so it is important to take note of travel conditions too. If you are uncertain if an event is still happening, give us a call to double check. If you aren't able to get out in the winter please see the Spotlight on Daily Calls Program on the next page. We would be happy to help you stay connected.

Have a happy, healthy February!! Dawn

#### **GARAGE SALE UPDATE**

We have started accepting donations for our next garage sale.

Donations are Tuesdays from 12:00 to 4:00 and Thursdays from 8:30 to 12:00. We will also accept donations Saturday, February 12 from 9:00 to 1:00. The last day for donations before the March sale is Thursday,

March 3. The next sale is March 17 – March 20. As always, if you are

looking for a way to volunteer and want to have some fun, come join

us any donation day or call Tash and she will be glad to get you connected to a great volunteer opportunity!

Here are the earnings for each sale in 2021. Again, THANK YOU, to all our volunteers and shoppers for helping support the seniors of Mercer County!!!

2021 Garage Sale Earnings				
February 2021	3277.86			
May 2021	7712.93			
July 2021	6231.89			
September 2021	7373.82			
December 2021	9426.47			
Total	34,022.97			









In memory of Jim

In memory of Marlene

We would like to send out our appreciation to everyone who has been supportive in our efforts to help the seniors of Mercer County. Many donations have been given as a gift of the heart, some in honor/memory of a loved one. Every donation, no matter how large or small, adds to our ability to touch one more life in Mercer County. Thank you for your generous heart and giving spirit. We couldn't do what we do without you.



# **Spotlight on our Daily Call Program**



We have moved into the time of year when people may stay

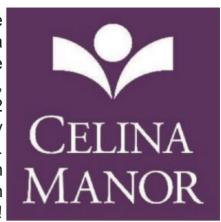
home more than they do in warm weather. Please take a moment to consider our Daily Call Program. We have a group of great volunteers who make calls each morning to check in with people. Would you or someone you know enjoy a cheerful hello each morning! Please feel free to call and ask about the program. We will be glad to send you all the information! Call Tash 419-586-1644.

#### **Crafty Corner**



Join Charlene Guingrich Wednesday, February 9 at 2 pm in the Annex and create a beautiful Valentine's floral arrangement. Cost is only \$12 (bring your \$ to class.) Space is limited so call and register today 419-586-1644.

Join us at the center for a Make 'n Take on Tuesday, March 22 sponsored by Celina Manor. More details in our March newsletter!



#### **Toe Nail Clipping**

**Toe nail trimming,** provided by Community Health Professionals, is the first Wednesday of each month at a cost of \$15.00. It is offered in the Annex beginning at 1:00 pm. First come, first served.



#### **Fitness Room**

Are you looking for a place to exercise?

Have you considered the Fitness Room at the MCCoA??

It is free to residents of Mercer County over 60. Stop by today for a tour!!

Listed below are some benefits of regular exercise:



- Feel Happier
- Helps with Weight Loss
- Strengthens Muscles and Bones
- Increases Energy Levels
- Reduces Risk of Chronic Disease
- Helps Skin Health
- Helps Brain Health and Memory
- Increases Relaxation
- Better Sleep Quality
- Pain Reduction





We play **Bridge** on Tuesdays at 12:30 pm, **Cards & games** on Thursday and Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm and on Fridays **Bid Euchre**, **Pinochle**, **and Bridge** at 12:30 pm. **Texas Hold 'Em** is on the fourth Thursday every month at 6:30 pm. All cards are in the main building. Cost is \$1.00. Everyone must sign in on My Senior Center upon arrival.

#### **Pickleball**

Join us for Pickleball Tuesday, February 1, 8 and 22 at the Spiritual Center in Montezuma, 6731 State Route 219. We play from 9:00 to 11:30 am. Cost is only \$2.00 per person. It makes no difference if you are an expert or just learning, we invite you to come have some fun! Call and register today 419-586-1644.





#### **Line Dancing**

Line dancing is held every Wednesday beginning at 10:00 am. There is no cost. Everyone is welcome, come join the fun! Everyone needs to sign in on My Senior Center.

#### **Chair Yoga**

Chair Yoga with Carla Niblick on Mondays at 11:00 am and Thursdays at 1:00 pm. Cost is only \$3.00 per person. Take advantage of this great class and our wonderful teacher!! Note: No chair yoga on Monday, February 21 in observance of Presidents Day.



# 5 30 36 46 68 2 17 35 58 67 9 27 1 60 70 6 24 31 52 64 13 20 40 47 73

#### **Bingo**

We play **bingo** every Wednesday at 12:30 pm. Only 50 people may attend each session. Call 419-586-1644 to register. Registrations are accepted one week in advance. You may not sign up for an entire month. We use reusable cards and chips. Cards are 2 for \$1.00 with additional cards costing .50 each. You play the same cards for every game. Everyone must sign in on My senior Center, please let us know if you need help.

#### **Blood Pressure Checks**

#### Blood pressure checks are



available the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 pm. This FREE service is provided by Miller Place!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

March 8 - Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia (2 pm)

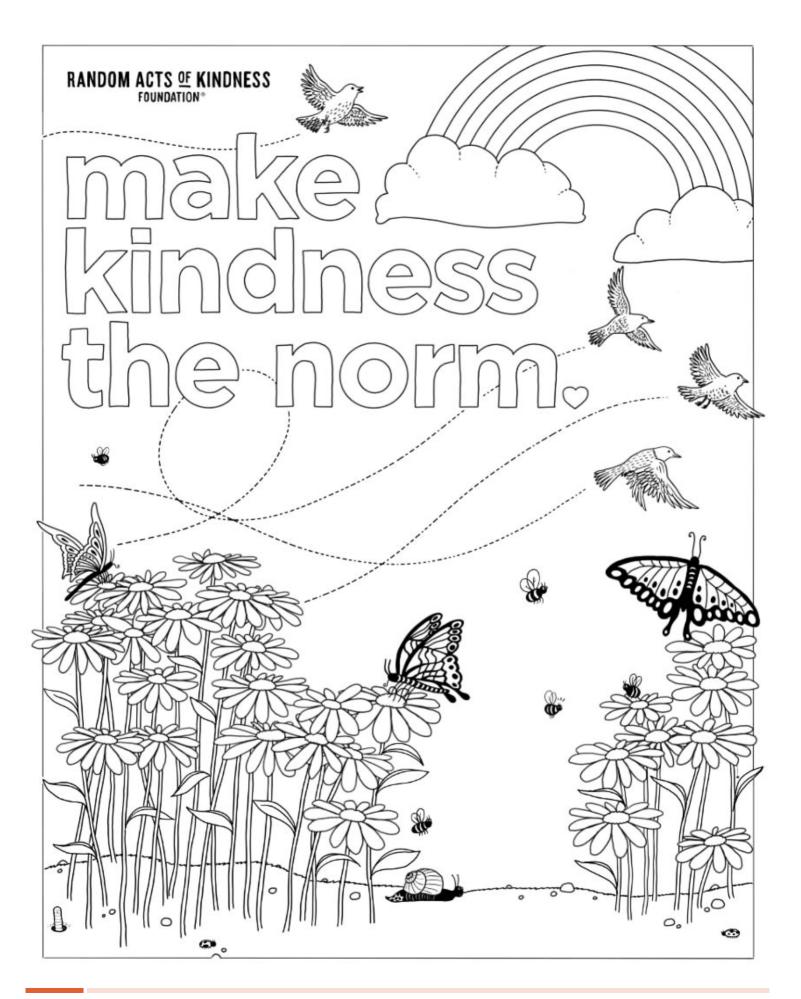
March 14 - Garage Sale (Set up Bldg 4 - furniture)

March 17 to 20 - Garage Sale

March 21 - Garage Sale (Clean Up)

March 22 - Make 'n Take

Check next month's newsletter for more information.



# **February 2022 Activity Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sullday	Wioriday	,		-		
		9:00 - 11:30 Pickleball* - (MSC)	10:00 - Line Dancing	8:30 - 12:00 Donations (bldg 6)	4 12:30 - Cards*	5
		12:00 - 4:00 Donations (bldg 6)	12:30 - Bingo* 6:00 to 8:00	1:00 - Chair Yoga*		
		12:30 - Bridge*	<u>1:00 - Toenail</u> <u>Clipping*</u>	6:30 - Cards* & Games		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6:30 - Cards* & Games	11:00 - Chair Yoga*	FREE Virtual Alzheimer Care	10:00 - Line Dancing	8:30 - 12:00 Donations (bldg 6)	12:30 - Cards*	9:00 to 1:00 - Donations
		Consultations (see below)	12:00 - FREE	1:00 - Board Mtg		(bldg 6)
		9:00 - 11:30 Pickleball* - (MSC)	Blood Pressure Checks	1:00 - Chair Yoga*		
		12:00 - 4:00 Donations (bldg 6)	12:30 - Bingo*  2:00 - Craft Class	6:30 - Cards* & Games		
		12:30 - Bridge*	<u>- Floral</u> <u>Arrangement</u> *			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
6:30 - Cards* & Games	11:00 - Chair Yoga*	12:00 - 4:00 Donations (bldg 6)	10:00 - Line Dancing	8:30 - 12:00 Donations (bldg 6)	12:30 - Cards*	
		12:30 - Bridge*	12:30 - Bingo*	<u>12:30 - Bridge *</u>		
				1:00 - Chair Yoga*		
				6:30 - Cards* & Games		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
6:30 - Cards* & Games	PRESIDENT'S	9:00 - 11:30 Pickleball* - (MSC)	10:00 - Line Dancing	8:30 - 12:00 Donations (bldg 6)	12:30 - Cards*	
	DAY OFFICES	12:00 - 4:00 Donations (bldg 6)	12:30 - Bingo*	1:00 - Chair Yoga*		
	CLOSED	12:30 - Bridge*		6:30 - Cards* & Texas Hold 'Em		
27 6:30 - Cards* & Games	11:00 - Chair Yoga*					

#### CARE CONSULTATION DAY

#### AT THE MERCER COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING



Alzheimer's Association meetings, support groups and events are available virtually. To schedule a meeting, call us, 419-586-1644. We will give your information Marybeth Torsell, who will call you and schedule a meeting. We will provide a place for you to meet (online) if needed.

### **Outreach Reachin' Out:**

February marks Heart Health Month and this newsletter is

FULL of heart healthy tips - so we can keep you around as long as possible! Hopefully, you will learn something that you didn't know that may improve your health in 2022! I know when I was reading these - I wanted to post them on the refrigerator to remind me of what I "should" be eating!

The first Friday of the month, February 4th, is the National Wear Red Day for heart health—so we look to all of you sporting red that day and on Valentine's Day, which is on Monday, February 14th. BUT......if you won't be here on those days then ....we'd love to see you in red any other day......or any other color for that matter! Just as long as you get in here and see us! So, the first tip for strengthening your heart this February is a very easy one - Get your Blood Pressure and Cholesterol Numbers Checked!





# LESS **STRESS.** LOTS OF **LOVE**.

Best Friend Fridays™ celebrate our pet companions who are always there for us — helping us handle stress and boosting our physical and mental health. Having a pet is a Healthy Bond for Life™ that may help you live a longer, healthier life! (And we've got the science to prove it.)



- Deal with stress
- Get more exercise and meet fitness goals
- Feel less lonely and isolated
- Lose weight
- Lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels
- Recover after a health event

PETS get us through hard times.



Owning a dog can help prevent chronic conditions such as **DIABETES** and **DEPRESSION**, and simply petting a dog **HELPS LOWER BLOOD PRESSURE**.

At work or at play, pets are the best.

Take time each Friday to celebrate your pets and all they add to your life and bost a photo or video using #BestFriendFridays! © Copyright 2021 American Heart Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit. Healthy Bond for Life and Best Friend Fridays are trademarks of the American Heart Association. Unauthorized use prohibited. DS17764 5/21

Learn more about Healthy Bond for Life's Best Friend Fridays at



heart.org/pets



#### Is Medicare Giving You a Headache?

Join OSHIIP for Webinars on Medicare and Social Security!

To find classes

Go to: insurance.ohio.gov

Click: Insurance and Medicare Consumers And then click: OSHIIP Medicare Webinars

For a personal consult feel free to call MCCoA and ask for Amy or Gloria!



#### Tax Time

We know it is the time to start thinking about the upcoming tax season. Although, MCCoA will not be able to bring in AARP to assist clients with taxes, there are other resources available to help.

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs offer free basic tax return preparation to qualified individuals. The VITA program has operated for over 50 years, offering free tax help to:

- People who generally make \$57,000 or less
- Persons with disabilities; and
- •Limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.

In addition to VITA, the TCE program offers free tax help, particularly for those who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement-related issues unique to seniors.

VITA and TCE sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations across the country. To locate the nearest VITA or TCE site near you, use the VITA Locator Tool at https://irs.treasury.gov/ freetaxprep/ or call 800-906-9887.

Please note: as of the printing of this newsletter, there were no sites in a 50 mile radius of

Celina, nor do we know if any will.

For fastest service, visit IRS.gov for a variety of online resources and tax help including tax forms, instructions and publications, online payment options and to file with IRS Free File go to https://www.irs.gov/e-fileproviders/about-the-free-file-alliance.





# **HOW TO MANAGE BLOOD PRESSURE**



# UNDERSTAND READINGS

The first step to managing blood pressure is to understand what the levels mean and what is considered normal, elevated, high blood pressure (hypertension) and hypertensive crisis. heart.org/BPlevels



**Blood pressure** is typically recorded as two numbers, written as a ratio like this:

Read as "117 over 76

#### Systolic

The top number, the higher of the two numbers, measures the pressure in the arteries when the heart beats (when the heart muscle contracts).

#### Diastolic

The bottom number, the lower of the two numbers, measures the pressure in the arteries when the millimeters of mercury." heart is resting between heart beats.

BLOOD PRESSURE CATEGORY			DIASTOLIC MM HG (LOWER #)	
Normal	Lower than 120	and	Lower than 80	
Elevated Blood Pressure	120 -129	and	80	
High Blood Pressure (Hypertension) Stage 1	130-139	or	80-89	
High Blood Pressure (Hypertension) Stage 2	140 or higher	or	90 or higher	
Hypertensive Crisis (Consult your doctor immediately)	Higher than 180	and/or	Higher than 120	

# TRACK LEVELS







Change.



Health care providers can take blood pressure readings and provide recommendations.

Check. Change. Control. helps you track your progress in reducing blood pressure.

#### LEARN MORE AT HEART.ORG/MYLIFECHECK AND HEART.ORG/HBP

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### TIPS FOR SUCCESS



#### **EAT SMART**

Eat a healthy diet of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, beans, legumes, nuts, plant-based proteins, lean animal proteins and fish. Limit sodium, saturated fats and added sugars. Limit sugary foods and drinks, fatty or processed meats, salty foods, refined carbohydrates and highly processed foods. heart.org/EatSmart



#### MOVE MORE

Physical activity helps control blood pressure, weight and stress levels. heart.org/MoveMore



#### MANAGE WEIGHT

If you're overweight, even a slight weight loss can reduce high blood pressure. heart.org/Weight



#### DON'T SMOKE

Every time you smoke, vape or use tobacco, the nicotine can cause a temporary increase in blood pressure. heart.org/Tobacco



#### SLEEP WELL

Short sleep (less than 6 hours) and poor-quality sleep are associated with high blood pressure.



# **HOW TO CONTROL CHOLESTEROL**



# UNDERSTAND CHOLESTEROL

Cholesterol is a fat-like substance that comes from two sources: FOOD and BODY.
It is found in foods from animal sources only.
It travels in the body by lipoproteins (LDL and HDL).



#### HDL = GOOD

High-density lipoprotein is known as "good" cholesterol.



#### LDL = BAD

Low-density lipoprotein is known as "bad" cholesterol.

HDL helps keep LDL from sticking to artery walls and reduces plaque buildup. This process can lower the risk of heart disease and stroke. heart.org/Atherosclerosis

#### TRIGLYCERIDES

The most common type of fat in the body.

#### **TOTAL CHOLESTEROL**

HDL + LDL + 1/5th of triglyceride level = total cholesterol level.

# 2 TRACK LEVELS



A health care provider can measure blood cholesterol and help you understand what the levels mean.



Track your cholesterol levels over time and take steps to reduce high cholesterol.

#### LEARN MORE AT HEART.ORG/MYLIFECHECK AND HEART.ORG/CHOLESTEROL

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# 3 TIPS FOR SUCCESS



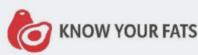
#### **EAT SMART**

Eat a healthy diet of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, beans, legumes, nuts, plant-based proteins, lean animal proteins and fish. Limit sugary drinks and foods, fatty or processed meats, full-fat dairy products, eggs and tropical oils. heart.org/EatSmart



#### **MOVE MORE**

Physical activity helps improve cholesterol levels.
heart.org/MoveMore



The fats you eat can affect your cholesterol levels. Replace saturated fats with unsaturated fats. heart.org/Fats



#### DON'T SMOKE

Smoking lowers good HDL cholesterol and raises your risk of heart disease. heart.org/Tobacco

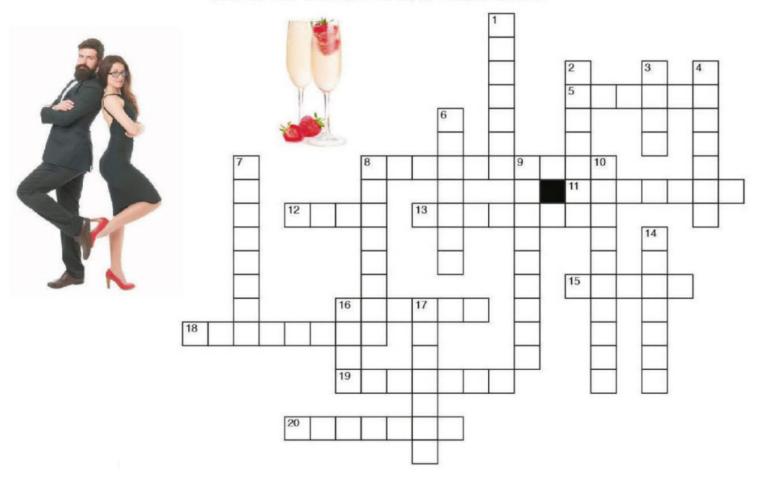


# TAKE MEDICATION AS DIRECTED

Your doctor may prescribe statins or other medications to control your cholesterol levels.

#### Paint the Town Red

There are many ways to have fun and paint the town red this month. Use the clues to fill in the crossword.



#### **ACROSS**

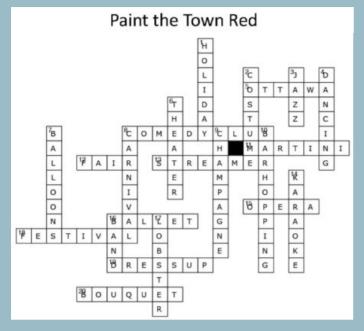
- 5. Canadian city that hosts Winterlude
- 8. Place to watch stand-up
- 11. Served in a V-shaped, long stem glass
- 12. Public gathering with exhibits
- 13. Decorative party ribbon
- 15. Musical drama
- 16. Dance with tutus
- 18. Cultural event
- 19. Put on fancy clothes
- 20. Bunch of flowers

#### DOWN

- 1. Day when banks are closed
- 2. Masquerade necessity
- 3. Club that plays Coltrane
- 4. Disco activity
- 6. Catch a new movie here
- 7. Helium-filled decorations
- 8. Rio's festival
- 9. Bubbly drink
- 10. Going from pub to pub
- 14. Sing-along offering at some bars
- 16. Musical group
- 17. Fancy dinner crustacean

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#### **SOLUTIONS**











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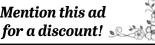
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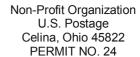
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m) www.mccoa.net



Mon-Fri: 8 am - 4:30 pm Sat & Sun: Closed



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#### THE MERCER COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

is a non-profit organization serving the needs of residents aged 60 and over. We offer a variety of services and programs designed to assist our seniors in maintaining as much independence as possible.

Funding for these services is provided by a county-wide levy, the Mercer County Health Fund, the Mercer County Civic Foundation, the PASSPORT program, Combined Drives, quarterly garage sales, client donations and the hard work of our volunteers.

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

#### **PHONE**

419-586-1644

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Find us at www.mccoa.net

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