

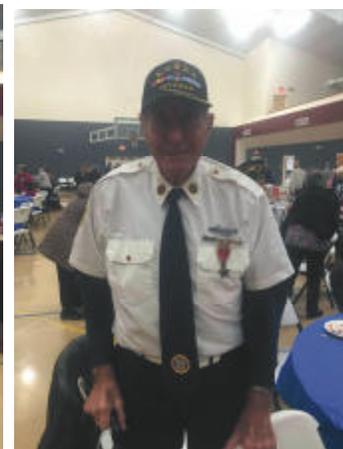


williamston area

Senior Center



“Add zest to your life . . . And pass the joy to others!”



Dec ‘21 - Jan ‘22

Activities & Events Guide

ABOUT THE WILLIAMSTON AREA SENIOR CENTER



Exciting changes happening at the WASC

As you read through the pages of this issue of the newsletter you will note some exciting changes are taking place. We welcome Beth Schrader as the new director of the WASC. Already, she has hit the ground running with several new programs and activities planned for the months of December and January.

There are even some events scheduled for February! Check out the calendar of upcoming events and stop by the center for lunch and some fun activities. We also anticipate expanding the WASC staff to include an assistant director by the end of the year. Keep up to date with the latest information through announcements at the center or our Facebook page.

We also wish you and your family a blessed holiday season. In spite of the economic challenges and shortages of goods that many anticipate will mark this year's Christmas season, we know that the joy of Christmas is best measured not by what is under the tree, but by what is in our hearts.

If you are looking for a place where you will be warmly welcomed and can meet new friends, then the WASC is the place for you.

You are invited to stop by and enjoy lunch and great fellowship!

Weekly Activities

The WASC is open Tuesday-Thursday for lunch each day, provided by the Tri County Office on Aging. Cost for meals is \$3.50. The center is also open on select Mondays for a lunch catered by local restaurants. Additional information is available in the newsletter. Seniors must call the center to make reservations for lunch.

Check out information regarding a current schedule of activities by reading the newsletter or through the WASC website and Facebook page. Seniors may also contact the WASC either by phone or email for more information.

WASC is online

Check us out online for latest updates:



Web: www.williamstonseniorcenter.com

Facebook: *Williamston Area Senior Center*

WASC Mission

The WASC shall be a "go-to" resource where aging adults and their families find support, guidance, educational, and social programs assisting seniors 55 years of age and older, to navigate life transitions, and continue to be active, healthy, and engaged in the community.

Our mission is reflected in our motto:

Add zest to life and pass the joy to others.

WASC Purpose

The WASC shall provide educational, enrichment, health awareness, and social programs; shall serve as a resource for individuals needing assistance with medical and social service networks; and collaborate with other community agencies, local government, and trained professionals to meet the needs of the senior population.

WASC Location

The WASC meets on the third floor of the Commons, 201 School Street in Williamston, Michigan.

Handicap access and elevators are available.



Hello everyone-

My name is Beth Schrader, and I am the new Executive Director of the Williamston Area Senior Center. I come with over 18 years of experience with seniors and working in the non-profit world. I am hugely excited about the role and all the new programs, classes and events I have planned for the coming months. The center is growing by leaps and bounds with adding additional staff and more hours of operations in the near future.

I am inspired daily by my husband, 5 children, 4 grandchildren, and my dog Louie. In my free time, I enjoy camping, crafting and shopping with my daughters. I encourage everyone to stop by the center and check out everything we have to offer.

—Beth Schrader

Mark your calendar for some exciting events happening in February:

- ◆ Winter Olympic Games
- ◆ Super Bowl Sundae
- ◆ Valentine's Day Party
- ◆ Angora Rabbit visit with Jackie McDonald

WASC is participating in the Light Parade

Calling all Seniors!

Please join the Williamston Area Senior Center as we participate in the Williamston Light Parade on December 4th. Please come and walk or ride as we pass out candy on the parade route. Dress warm and then join us at the Senior Center for an After Glow Party!



TCOA Placement Project: WASC volunteers completed 175 placemats to be included with Meals on Wheels lunches during the holiday season. Kudos to our seniors for giving their time in giving back to seniors in the community. Thanks to Karen Spak for heading up the Placemat project.

BOARD, BIRTHDAYS & ROTARY GRANT

WASC Board of Directors

President: Michael Black (2022)

Vice President: Ron Harris (2022)

Secretary: Marilyn Thompson (2023)

Treasurer: Steve Arends (2024)

Trustees

Karen Bollman (2024)

Roxanne Houghton (2023)

Ann Lemmon (2023)

Community Representatives:

John Allen, Wheatfield Township

Tammy Gilroy, Williamston

Wilma Whitehead, Leroy Township

Ex-officio members:

Director: Beth Schrader

Treasurer emeritus: Virginia Taschner

Birthdays

December

Dawn Harris

Lynn Pitlanish

Patricia Goss

Carolyn Schuster

Helen House

Dorothy Rush

Sue Herner

January

Bob Herner

Tom Pike

Phyllis Tomlinson

Nancy Davis

Levi Vogt

Marilyn Thompson

Theresa Baker

January cont.

Douglas Gruschow

Alice Heim

Jan Bowman

John Roy Castillo

February

Mike Black

Mary Holmes

Bob Klausing

Mickie Manley

Rita Pincumbe

Julie Rudd

Bill Tomlinson

Jackie Fortier

Dee Fate



Pictured: Mike Black, James Conroy, John Roy Castillo

Thank you, Rotary!

The WASC is deeply appreciative of the grant received by the Williamston Sunrise Rotary club. The picture shows Rotarian Jim Conroy presenting the check to Michael Black, WASC president, and John Roy Castillo, outgoing WASC director. The grant was for \$1,000, which is in addition to over \$500 received from the Jubilee Duck Race. President Mike Black commented, "We are indebted to the Rotary Club for its ongoing generous support of the WASC.

We look forward to using these funds to make some needed upgrades to office technology to provide additional services to seniors in the community." Thanks, Rotarians, for your generosity to the WASC and devotion to the Williamston Community.



Welcome to our new Director!

The WASC board is pleased to welcome Mrs. Beth Schrader as the new Director at the Williamston Area Senior Center. Beth joined the center in her new position on November 2 after an extensive search by the WASC board. Beth comes to us with extensive experience as the Sr. Center Director in Howell. She worked with the Parks and Recreation Department overseeing the Sr. Center program, among many other responsibilities.

We are looking forward to her energetic personality as she has hit the ground running with programs planned as far ahead as February 2022.

Some of you may recall meeting Beth at the Halloween party on October 28, 2021, where she came dressed as Mary Poppins. I've "heard it through the grapevine" that Ms. Poppins may visit again at a future lunch when the movie Mary Poppins will be the program for the day, at the request of one of our WASC regulars.

While we welcome Beth as the new Director to the WASC, we were indeed sad to say goodbye to John Roy Castillo after five years of faithfully serving as the WASC director. We celebrated John Roy's service with a special cake and cards at the Wednesday lunch on October 27, 2021.

Many of the center members had the opportunity to express their appreciation to him personally, and we look forward to his returning as a participant in the future.

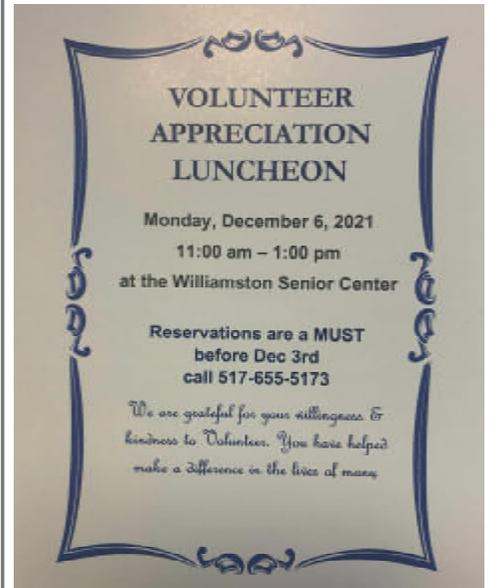
The WASC board decided to do a candidate search for a new director at its June meeting. Considering the updated job descriptions allowing for expanding operations by hiring additional staff (made possible through millage funds from the city and Townships of Leroy and Wheatfield), the board felt that it was in the center's best interests to open the job of Director. We appreciate the board's hard work in reading through the numerous resumes received, in addition to spending several hours in interviews and discussion before making the final decision. The board anticipates a significant expansion of activities both during the lunchtime meals and in various programs at other times during the week to better serve the needs of seniors because of expanding the center's staffing and operations.

If you've not had the opportunity to meet Beth, this is a spe-

cial invitation to stop up on one of the days the WASC is open for lunch and introduce yourself. She would love to meet you. You might check out the enclosed calendar and list of activities included in this newsletter. You may well find something that sparks your interest. If you have an idea for a future program or trip, feel free to contact Beth or one of the board members. We would love to hear from you!

—Mike

Volunteer Appreciation Lunch



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to invite everyone who has volunteered at the WASC in 2021 to join us for an appreciation lunch catered by Jose's Cuban Sandwich and Deli in Williamston. The lunch is Monday, December 6th from 11:00 am — 1:00 pm. Reservations must be received by December 3rd.

Veteran's Appreciation Banquet

The WASC hosted a Veteran's appreciation banquet on November 11 at the Family Life Wesleyan Church corner of M-52 and Rowley Road. Over 25 veterans and their spouses were in attendance in a crowd that exceeded 100, thanks in part to the support of the American Legion in helping to spread the word. In addition, the Williamston Scouts posted the colors for the evening, and several people helped to serve as a part of the program or as volunteers. (Please see the above graphic expressing our appreciation.) Tomato Brothers catered dinner in Howell, and donors provided desserts. The banquet was a simple way the WASC expressed our most profound gratitude for the services of the many men and women who served our nation.



Donations (Jun-Oct 2021)

General:

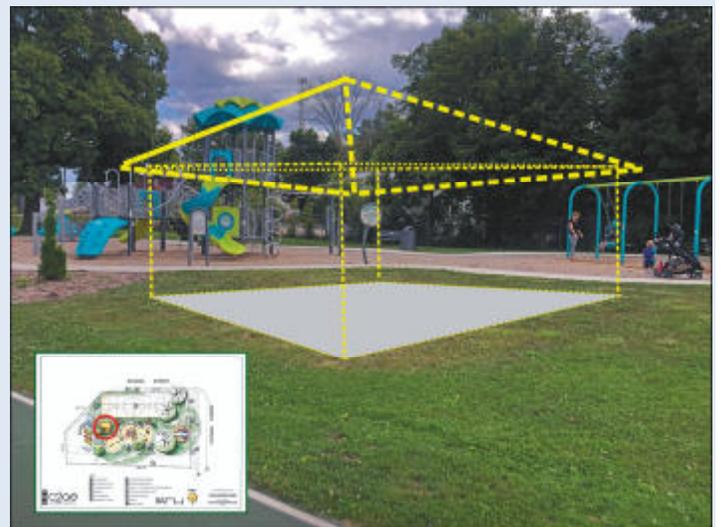
Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club
Virginia Taschner
Steve & Brenda Arnoczky
Beverly Jablonowski
Pine Meadow Codominium Assoc.
Sharon Sodman
Sunrise Rotary
Harvest House Ministries

Memorial:

Memory of Bill Turner—
Violet Lentz
Memory of Patricia Fillwock—
Ron & Dawn Harris
Jerry & Nancy Fillwock
Francis Fillwock
Rhia LeVeque
Betty Lockwood
Russ & Susan Cockerill
Lillian Spratto
Alice Heim
Lewis Fillwock

Thank you Seniors!

The WASC recently received a thank-you letter which stated in part, "On behalf of the Friends of Williamston Parks and the Williamston Area Beautification Fund, thank you to the Williamston Area Senior Center for its support of park improvements in the Williamston area. The \$146 donation will help fund a new picnic shelter and other amenities at Volunteers Community Park in Williamston." Seniors supported the picnic shelter project through a special fundraising raffle held in October. The picnic shelter project will provide the opportunity for many within the community, including the WASC, to enjoy a picnic lunch in the park with protection from the weather. Thanks, seniors, for doing your part in giving back to the community.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Dawn - Don't Go Away

Let me start with slightly modified lyrics from the 1963 Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons hit “Dawn” – “Dawn, don’t go away, you’re so good to us. Oh, Dawn, stay with us; we’ll be good to you. Dawn, please don’t go away.” My apologies to Frankie, but at least you didn’t have to hear me sing this!

Dawn Harris started coming to the WASC in 2016 when her father relocated to Williamston from Canton. She became more involved when she retired from the Department of Education in 2018 after 39 ½ years.

Dawn does so many things for the senior center that it is impossible to list them all in just one newsletter. So, I will highlight SOME of the things that she does:

Technical support for office, presenters, and especially ZOOM during the pandemic shut-down,

Opening and closing when the director is not available,

Working special events, such as the picnics and concessions AND buying all the supplies for events,

Helping shuttle the seniors,

Maintaining the electronic membership data and printing labels,

Providing a listening ear,

Visiting homebound or newly relocated seniors, to name but a few!

I’m tired of just listing all that, but she does it with a smile every day.

Dawn grew up in Garden City. She attended Schoolcraft College and started working for the State of Michigan Department of Education. Ultimately, she was assigned to work in the State Plaza Building in downtown Detroit. She loved working there, just a few steps from the old Tiger Stadium. She would frequently go to a game with coworkers after work and still misses that. They also had excellent viewing for the annual July 4th fireworks from the parking deck. She met her husband-to-be, Ron, in that building, although he worked for another State agency.

Dawn and Ron married in 1987 and were living

in Ron’s house in Pontiac when they decided to move closer to Michigan State University in 1989. (Ron is a HUGE fan and at that time was attending EVERY football and basketball game, regardless of the weather.) They found a home they liked on HARRIS Road (destiny?) and still live there. They were both able to transfer to jobs in Lansing

Dawn has four children, Stacey, Todd, Alex, and Tara, and five grandchildren. She is the quintessential mother and grandmother – hosting the holiday meals and baking a “dozen or so” special Christmas cookies.

She doesn’t have any big travel plans, probably just simple tent camping in the Thumb, where she spent summer with her grandparents.

She’s one busy lady and still finds time for us – Thank You, Dawn.

—Submitted by Karen Spak



Holiday Wish List

Williamston Area Senior Center

1. Coffee-Regular or Decaf
2. Coffee Filters for a Bunn Coffee Maker
3. Napkins and Paper Towel
4. Craft Supplies
5. Lysol Wipes
6. 7oz Cold Cups
7. Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
8. Paper Plates-Plain or Festive
9. Kleenex
10. Germ X Hand Sanitizer
11. Dawn Dish Soap
12. Clorox Bleach
13. Hand Soap in a Dispenser Bottle
14. Paper Placements
15. 8 1/2 by 11 White, 20# Copy Paper
16. No. 10 White Business Envelopes
17. Printer Cartridges-Laserjet HP 32A & Canon 1025N Image Runner
18. Bingo Callers, Singers & Piano Players
19. Gallon Zipper Bags
20. Coffee Mate Coffee Creamer
21. Stamps
22. Gift Cards-Amazon, Meijer & Dollar Tree

But we would also like to wish for you shop AmazonSmile and pick the Williamston Senior Center as your charity!



DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

Check out the following activities at the WASC for the month of December!

Wednesday, December 1st- Euchre from 10am-Noon & Meet the Chief of Police Jim Wolf at 12:30pm

Thursday, December 2nd- Euchre from 10am-Noon & Birthday Bash at 12:30pm

Saturday, December 4th-Williamston Festival of Lights parade

Monday, December 6th – Volunteer Appreciation Lunch at Noon

Tuesday, December 7th – Euchre 10am-12pm and Tai-Chi Chair Exercise at 12:30pm

Wednesday, December 8th – Euchre 10am-12pm, Movie & Popcorn “Christmas in Connecticut” at 1pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

Thursday, December 9th – Euchre 10am-12pm, Christmas Craft & cookies with PALS at 11:15 & Williamston High School Choir at 12:30pm in the gym at The Commons

Monday, December 13th – Monday Lunch from 11am-1pm, -Mostaccioli, Salad, & Bread Stick and Garden Club at 5pm

Tuesday, December 14th - Euchre 10am-12pm, Lunch with the President at 11am, Board Meeting at 1pm and start of Community Puzzle

Wednesday, December 15th – WEAR YOUR PEARLS DAY! Euchre 10am-Noon, Senior Class Band from Noon-1pm, Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm and the TOY DRIVE ends for “Toys for Angels”

Thursday, December 16th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Memorial Lutheran School Performance 11am-Noon and Tech with Drew at 12:30pm

Tuesday, December 21st – Euchre 10am-Noon and Mind Games with the Library at 12:30pm

Wednesday, December 22nd – Euchre 10am-Noon, CHRISTMAS PARTY & CHRISTMAS BINGO at 12:30pm and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

Thursday, December 23rd- Closed

Tuesday, December 28th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Chocolate Day Party and Tai-Chi Chair Exercise with Paul at 12:30pm

Wednesday, December 29th – Euchre 10am-Noon, NEW YEAR’S PARTY at 12:30pm and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm

Thursday, December 30th - Closed

Toy Drive

You are encouraged to participate in the annual "Toys for Angels" drive sponsored by Top Flite Financial Charities and Homeless Angels. This annual Christmas Drive provides Christmas gifts to children through age 17 who live in the greater Williamston community. Would you please bring your unwrapped gift and place it in the collection box in the senior center (see picture)? Donations will be received from November 15—December 15



JANUARY ACTIVITIES

Here is what is happening in January 2022!

- Tuesday, January 4th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Tai-Chi Chair Exercise with Paul at 12:30pm, and Trivia Day
- Wednesday, January 5th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Fire Department Winter Safety at 12:30pm and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, January 6th – Euchre 10am-Noon and Birthday Bash at 12:30pm with DJ Carlson Clarinet Player
- Monday, January 10th – Pizza & Salad Lunch from 11am-1pm and Garden Club at 5pm
- Tuesday, January 11th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Craft at 12:30pm and start of Community Puzzle
- Wednesday, January 12th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Hot Tea Day/Tea Party & Scones at 12:30pm and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, January 13th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Rubber Duckie Day/Rubber Duckie Bingo at 12:30pm
- Tuesday, January 18th – Euchre 10am-Noon and Tai-Chi Chair Exercise with Paul at 12:30pm
- Wednesday, January 19th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Popcorn Day/Movie & Popcorn showing Mary Poppins and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, January 20th – Euchre 10am-Noon and Consumers Energy Workshop at 12:30pm
- Monday, January 24th – Chili & Cornbread Lunch from 11am-1pm
- Tuesday, January 25th – Euchre 10am-Noon and Mind Games with the Library at 12:30pm
- Wednesday, January 26th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Australia Day/Travel to Australia Day at 12:30pm and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, January 27th—Euchre 10am--Noon, Chocolate Cake Day and Tech with Drew at 12:30pm.

December 2021 MENU

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
RESERVATIONS CALL 517-655-5173			1 Wet Burrito, Beans & Rice, Brussel Sprouts, Sugar Cookie, Peaches & Milk	2 Chicken Breast, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Pears & Milk	3	4
FACEBOOK: Williamston Area Senior Center	6 Volunteer Appreciation Lunch at noon	7 Chicken Parmesan, Carrots, Vegetables, Bread, Applesauce & Milk	8 Rosemary Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Roll, Orange & Milk	9 Baked Fish, Butter Squash, Vegetable, Roll, Strawberry Applesauce & Milk	10	11
WEBSITE: www.willamstoncenter.com	13 Mostaccioli, salad, and bread sticks at noon	14 Baked Chicken, Squash, Vegetable, Blueberry Muffin, Applesauce & Milk	15 Sloppy Joe, Bun, Wax Beans, Brussel Sprouts, Pineapple & Milk	16 Grilled Pork Pattie, Spinach, Sweet Potatoes, Wheat Bread, Orange & Milk	17	18
EMAIL: willamstoncenter@gmail.com	20	21 Baked Turkey, Peas & Carrots, Vegetable, Roll, Diced Pears & Milk	22 Meat Loaf, Brussel Sprouts, Mashed Potatoes, Bread, Pineapple & Milk	23 Closed	24 Happy Christmas Eve	25 Merry Christmas
	27	28 Cheese Omelet, French Toast, Potatoes, Vegetable Juice, Orange & Milk	29 Wet Burrito, Beans & Rice, Brussel Sprouts, Sugar Cookie, Peaches & Milk	30 Closed	31 Happy New Year's Eve	

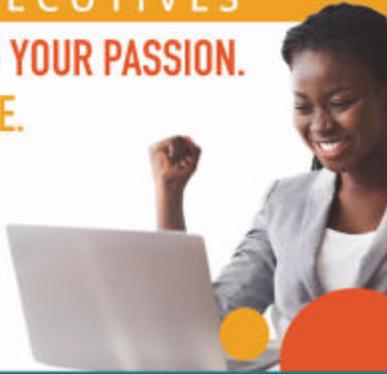
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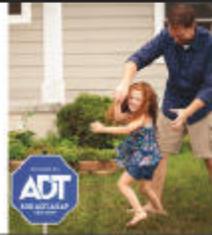
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Williamston Area Senior Center

Director: Beth Schrader

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www.williamstonseniorcenter.com

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WASC Information:

Phone: 517.655.5173.



Please check out our Facebook page or call the center with questions about programs or to make reservations for lunch.

WASC Membership Dues 2021



Cost is \$10/year per person. Please complete the information below and return to WASC along with your payment. **PRINT CLEARLY**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE#: _____

Would You Prefer WASC Information via _____ U.S. MAIL or _____ EMAIL

ARE YOU A _____ NEW MEMBER? _____ RENEWING MEMBER? _____ DONOR?

BIRTHDATE (only if you to want participate in the birthday celebrations): _____

WASC use: Paid: _____ Received By: _____ Date Entered: _____

Please complete form and return with your payment to:

**Williamston Area Senior Center
201 School Street, P.O. Box 343
Williamston, MI 48895**