



# Williamston Area Senior Center



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



# Mar - Apr '22

## Activities & Events Guide

## ABOUT THE WILLIAMSTON AREA SENIOR CENTER



### Spring is Coming?!

Despite the cold weather and blowing snow, the calendar is turning to March which can only mean—Spring is just around the corner! The coming of Spring promises warmer weather and the return of new life after the dormancy of a long and frosty Michigan winter. It also provides the opportunity for you to venture out and enjoy the many activities available at the Williamston Area Senior Center. Read through the pages of this newsletter and you will discover that the WASC is bursting with opportunities for you to engage with other seniors in fun activities that will add zest to your life and allow you to pass the joy to others. If you are new to the WASC or haven't been to a lunch in a while, this is your invitation to come and check things out. You will find a warm welcome awaits you.

### Lunch Program

The WASC is open Tuesday-Thursday for lunch provided by the Tri County Office on Aging with a suggested donation of \$3.50 per meal. The center is now open on Mondays for lunch catered by local area restaurants. Please call a day in advance to make reservations for lunch at 517-655-5173. For additional information please check out the WASC newsletter or website.

### Where to find the WASC

If you are looking for current and future activities continue reading the newsletter or check out the Facebook page and website. If you have any questions please call or email for more information.

Website: [www.williamstonseniorcenter.org](http://www.williamstonseniorcenter.org)

Facebook: Williamston Area Senior Center

Phone: 517-655-5173

Email: [williamstonseniorctr@gmail.com](mailto:williamstonseniorctr@gmail.com)



### Hours of Operation

Mondays — Thursdays 9:00 am — 2:30 pm

### WASC Location

The WASC meets on the third floor of the Commons, 201 School Street in Williamston, Michigan 48895.

*Handicap access and elevators are available.*

### WASC Mission

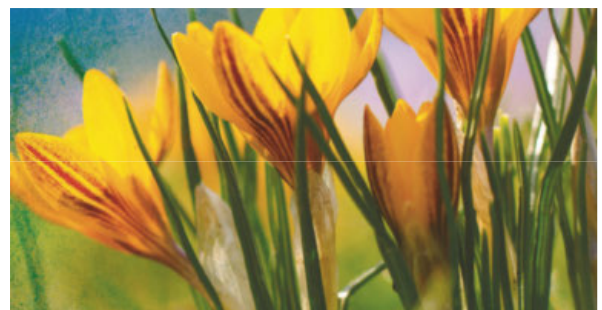
The WASC shall be a “go-to” resource where aging adults and their families find support, guidance, educational, and social programs assisting seniors 55 years of age and older for navigating life transitions, and continuing to be active, healthy, and engaged in the community.

Our mission is reflected in our motto:

*Add zest to your 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 shall collaborate with other community agencies, local government, and trained professionals to meet the needs of the senior population.





### The Director's Corner

With “spring” right around the corner and this being the time of the year when things start to re-emerge, the center is experiencing a lot of new growth with the hiring of Assistant Director, Julie Rudd, Kitchen Coordinator, Mickie Manley, and Administrative Assistant, Dawn Harris. The staff is not the only thing growing—so is our programming and events. We now offer monthly crafting, guest speakers, entertainment, and trips & travel.

Thank you again for all our volunteers, instructors, and community partners that help us to continue to grow!

-Beth Schrader  
Executive Director  
wascdirector01@gmail.com

### The President's Post

As the WASC continues to grow under new leadership and with expanded programming, a question I've been asking is, “How can we more effectively market the WASC?” Immediately, I ventured to the bastion of information, the internet, to discover some solutions. My search was instantly rewarded with numerous web pages such as, “18 Powerful Marketing Strategies that You Should Steal in 2022”, “10 Marketing Strategies to Fuel Your Business Growth”, and “Marketing Strategy: The Secret Behind the World's Top Brands.” Thinking I would get back to the insights provided by these marketing gurus and glean some tips we might utilize, I stopped by the Senior Center for lunch and happened upon the best marketing strategy of all. Gary introduced his new friend he met while riding the bus and told me this was the second person he invited to the Senior Center who came as his guest. It was then that the obvious sunk in. Marketing is not so much about finding the perfect mix of customer service, advertisement, branding, and strategic thinking. The best marketing is done through word of mouth by those who enjoy the benefits of participating in the senior center. As I enjoyed the opportunity to gain a new friend and celebrating with Gary his successful marketing acumen, a question hit me squarely between the eyes— “When was the last time I invited someone to stop by the senior center?” Thanks Gary for this great reminder of how each one of us can help to make the WASC a “go-to” resource for seniors in our community. And by the way ... when are you free for lunch as my guest at the WASC?



## STAFF, BOARD, BIRTHDAYS & THANKS

### Staff

**Director:** Beth Schrader

**Assistant Director:** Julie Rudd

**Kitchen Coordinator:** Mickie Manley

**Administrative Assistant:** Dawn Harris

### 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)

Karleen Dimick (2022)

### Community Representatives:

John Allen, Wheatfield Township

Tammy Gilroy, Williamston

Wilma Whitehead, Leroy Township

### Birthdays

#### March

Betty Jason

Brenda Arnoczky

Sharon Basil

Elden "Gus" Gustafson

Salvatore Giuliano

Vilet Lentz

Ronald Murphy

Harold (Buzz) Sodeman

Bobbie Sweeney-

Hamelink

Virginia Taschner

#### April

Claudette Frame

Sharlyn Gates

Harold Heier

Beverly Jablonowski

Bob Johnson

Jacqueline LaForge

Janet Peckens

Charles Rogers

Kathe Sodeman

Karen Spak

Beth Schrader



## MARCH ACTIVITIES

*Check out the following activities at the WASC for the month of March!*

**Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Fat Tuesday, Paczki Day, Mardi Gras Party, Chair Exercise 12:30pm, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm

**Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Tea Wheel Craft 12:30pm, Mexican Train 1pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

**Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, February & March Birthday Bash, and Birthday Bingo 12:30pm

**Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Cereal Day, Name that Cereal & Rice Crispy Treats, and Tammy Gilroy, Mayor of Williamston 12:30pm

**Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, International Women’s Day, Lunch with the President 12pm, Board Meeting 1pm, Knitter Group 1pm-3pm, and Culvers Fundraiser 5pm-9pm

**Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Barbie’s 63<sup>rd</sup> Birthday Party 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

**Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Popcorn Lover’s Day, and More than Magical Magic Show 12:30pm

**Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, PI Day Party 12:30pm, and Michigan Gardening: Why it’s a Great Place to Grow 6pm

**Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** - Euchre 10am-Noon, Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop 12:30pm, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm

**Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Giant Panda Bear Day Party 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

**Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, St. Patrick’s Day Party with Red Cedar River Boys 12:30pm

**Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and March Madness Party 12:30pm

**Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Euchre 10am -Noon, Mind Games with the Library, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm

**Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Euchre 10am-Noon, National Puppy Day with Dog Demo by Cherar Dog Training, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

**Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** - Indoor Garage Sale 9am-2pm, Euchre 10am-Noon, Blockbuster Movie Game 12:30pm and Mexican Train 1pm

**Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Oscars Party “Walk the Red Carpet” 12:30pm

**Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Chair Exercise 12:30pm, Tour of the Library at 1pm, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm

**Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Olympic Games Day 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group

**Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Crayon Day, and Card Making with Diane Hill from “Bring Smiles to Seniors” 12:30pm



## APRIL ACTIVITIES, GIFTS & MEMORIALS

*You won't want to miss what is happening in April!*

- Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Make Your Own Glass Suncatcher hosted by The Ceramic Studio 12:30pm
- Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Chair Exercise 12:30pm, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm
- Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Used Purse & Jewelry Sale 9am-2pm, Mexican Train 1pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Caramel Popcorn Day, Birthday Bash, and Birthday Bingo 12:30pm
- Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Charlies Angels & Ukaladies 12:30pm, and Garden Club 5:30pm
- Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Licorice Day, Lunch with the President 12:30pm, Board Meeting 1pm, and Knitter Group 1pm
- Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, International Plant Appreciation Day with a presentation from the Garden Club 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Easter Party 12:30pm, and wear your Easter Bonnet
- Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Music Bingo 12:30pm
- Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Succulent Plant Day 12:30pm, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm
- Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Chair Exercise 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Travel Expo Great Trains & Grand Canyons by Premier World Discovery 12:30pm
- Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Decorate Your Own Apron 12:30pm
- Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Pretzel Day, Mind Games with the Library 12:30pm, and Knitter Group 1pm-3pm
- Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, Babe Ruth Day, Retro Candy Party 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm
- Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>** – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Paint by Numbers

TRIPS & TRAVELS	
MARCH 29, 2022	Tour of the Library *Did you know you can check out and watch movies at the Library? Come join us on a guided tour with Jackie McDonald! Free
MAY 13, 2022	Bus Trip to Holland Tulip Festival *Visit to Windmill Island Garden, Plated Dinner at The Trestle Stop, and The Texas Tenors Concert \$60 per person
SEPT 25, 2022	Great Trains & Grand Canyons 6 Days *Grand Canyon, Old Town Scottsdale, Jerome, Sedona Trolley Tour, and much more!
OCT 15, 2022	The Magnolia Trail & Heart of Texas 5 Days *Dallas City Tour, Waco City Tour & HGTV Series Sites, Southfork Ranch, and much more!
NOV 29, 2022	Music Cities Christmas 6 Days *Graceland, Beale Street Dinner, Nashville City Tour, Holiday Dinner, and much more!

### Donations (Nov '21-Jan '22)

#### General:

Jane E. Reagan  
Barb Upleger  
Douglas & Ingrid Risdon  
Elden & Jolene Gustafsan  
Brad & Lou Sharp  
Steven & Brenda Arnoczky  
Williamstown Township  
David Jones

#### Memorial:

Memory of John Barkham—Violet Lentz  
Memory of Patricia Fillwock—Fillwock family  
Memory of Christine Gruschow—Janet Card, Mary Erbele, Russ & Susan Cockerill

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



### **If You Knew Susie...**

You would know that Susie started volunteering about 11 years ago because “she baked too many Christmas cookies.”

When she brought them into the Senior Center, the Director said that we could use some help in the kitchen—and a volunteer was born.

Susie has since served on the WASC Board for six years (President for two years and Secretary for two years) and continues to work one day a week in the kitchen and babysit our plants (even during the pandemic and other times when we have been closed for services). In addition, she was one of the driving forces in getting the millage proposals on the ballots and passed. Susie always helps sewing for our annual Christmas Meals on Wheels placemats. And, if there is ever a call to bake something, she is one of the first to volunteer, and often she just shows up with goodies – unrequested (much to the delight of my mouth and dismay of my waistline!)

Susie was born in Williamston and attended a one-room school. She graduated from Central Michigan University with a degree in Education. Her first teaching job was in Flint (ironically, one of our members, Bob Bement, was the principal there at the time!) and then moved to Williamston High School to teach home economics and later became a guidance counselor. She spent 34½ years in the field of Education.

Susie’s hobbies are vast: knitting, quilting, sewing, gardening, biking, and traveling, to name but a few.

She takes these hobbies seriously—to the extreme sometimes. For example, she just made a new memorial quilt for the Senior Center – very nice, very “normal.”

But let’s talk about this one bike trip of hers... in 1998, she took a self-contained trip from Seattle, Washington, to Stillwater, Minnesota. This crazy woman and a riding partner rode their bicycles 70 - 80 miles a day (each pulling a trailer) halfway across the United States! And they loved it! She said they spent one night a week in a motel where they would shower and wash their clothes. Otherwise, they would pitch a tent and camp out. WOW! And I think staying in a hotel without room service is roughing it!

She has since changed her traveling habits, including a 7-day raft trip through the Grand Canyon. She said that was probably her favorite trip. She has also been to Costa Rica, Panama, and taken a 5-day Road Scholar bike trip through Pennsylvania, to mention a few destinations. And in 2019, Susie and her husband Russ went for a long vacation to Hawaii. Yes, that even included indoor accommodations and airline reservations!

Susie and Russ have two sons: Eric and Mark, and four grandchildren: Lia (17), Abby (14), Rory (11), and Harlow (8). Unfortunately, they all live out of state, so Susie does not see them nearly enough. Her goals for the Senior Center include attracting the younger seniors and finding a location that will allow the center to provide additional services. Now you know Susie like I know Susie – she’s pretty amazing! And we are lucky to have her.

—Submitted by Karen Spak

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT & WISH LIST

### What Can YOU Say About Tina?



We really have to thank bowling for bringing Tina Maurer to volunteer at the Williamston Area Senior Center for more than 12 years. Yes, it is a rather curvy road, but she loves to bowl, and her bowling partner for many years was Luella Ballenger, a long-time member and volunteer at the center. Luella said she needed some kitchen help on Tuesdays and it just so happened that Tina was retiring from the US Postal Service.... and a volunteer was born.

Tina's role as a volunteer has grown tremendously since then to include: serving on the Board for 8 years; planning activities and outings; deep cleaning the center; driving the van (I didn't ask if she ever left anyone behind!); baking specialty items; coordinating potluck dinners or other special events; to name but a **few** of the roles that she has undertaken.

As I said earlier, Tina likes to bowl. Although, she admits, she would never make the pro circuit, she did bowl a 600 series and has the ring to prove it! She said she likes rustic camping – I question her sanity on this (I personally like indoor plumbing), but.....

Tina also likes to bicycle and thinks that helped keep her sane during the worst of the pandemic shutdown. She gives a big shout out to the nature biking trails we have in the area, as she is not a big fan of riding on the roads.

When I asked her "What keeps you coming back to the Senior Center?" She said "The people, the friendships, feeling welcomed every day, the feeling of belonging, it's like a family."

Tina grew up in Lansing and graduated from O'Rafferty Catholic High School. She didn't move to Williamston until she took the position with the Post Office in 1992. She has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. I think we can blame this upcoming snowstorm on her, as her family is coming in from Florida and she promised them snow and sledding!

That's about all I can say about Tina other than a great big THANK YOU!

--submitted by Karen Spak



WILLIAMSTON AREA SENIOR CENTER

# WISH LIST

- Clorox Bleach
- Stickers for Card Making
- Germ X Hand Sanitizer
- Batteries AA, AAA & 9V
- Hand Soap in a Dispenser Bottle
- A2 Envelopes
- 8 oz & 12 oz Styrofoam Coffee Cups
- Small To-Go Containers
- Bottle Water
- Stamps
- Coffee Mate Coffee Creamer
- Glue Guns & Glue Sticks
- Gift Cards-Amazon, Meijer, Walmart, & Dollar Tree
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- Singers & Piano Players
- Printer Cartridges for Color Laser Jet MFP M477fdw

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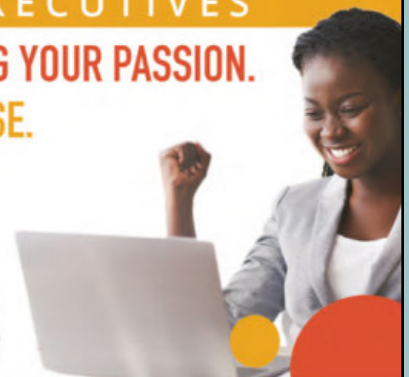


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WILLIAMSTON AREA  
SENIOR CENTER

**Williamston Area Senior Center**

*Director: Beth Schrader*

201 School Street, PO Box 343

Williamston, MI 48895

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.*



WILLIAMSTON AREA  
SENIOR CENTER

**WILLIAMSTON AREA SENIOR CENTER  
MEMBERSHIP DUES 2022**

**Cost is \$12/year per person.** Please complete the information below and return to WASC along with your payment. **PRINT CLEARLY**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWING MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ OR DONATION \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE (*only if you want to participate in the birthday celebrations*): \_\_\_\_\_

I GIVE THE WASC MY PERMISSION TO USE ANY PHOTOS/VIDEOS TAKEN OF ME: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

WASC use: Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete form and return with your payment to:*

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