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AN ADVOCATE OF INDEPENDENT LIVING IN LATER YEARS

Van Wert County Council on Aging

220 Fox Rd., Van Wert, OH 45891

Phone: (419)238-5011

www.vwcouncilonaging.com

Kevin Matthews, Executive Director

January – March 2015

Happy New Year Wish

My Happy New Year wish for you
Is for your best year yet,
A year where life is peaceful,
And what you want, you get.

A year in which you cherish
The past year's memories,
And live your life each new day,
Full of bright expectancies.

I wish for you a holiday
With happiness galore;
And when it's done, I wish you
Happy New Year, and many more.



Golden Buckeye Card

We have received many calls reference the Golden Buckeye Card, you must be at least 60 years of age to apply for the Golden Buckeye Card and you can get an application right here at the Van Wert County Council on Aging plus at the following locations: Brumback Library Willshire Branch, Brumback Library Wren Branch, Brumback Library Convoy Branch, Brumback Library Middle Point Branch, Brumback Library Ohio City Branch. Several local businesses will offer a discount for a Golden Buckeye Card. You need to ask local businesses to see what and if they give a discount.

Free Legal Aid

February 13, 2015 Rebecca Steinhauser with Legal Aid of Northwestern Ohio will be at the Van Wert County Council on Aging. Rebecca will be taking appointments in the morning for clients that are in need of legal aid. You must call to sign up for an appointment if you would like to speak with Rebecca. Please call the Van Wert County Council on Aging at 419-238-5011 to schedule your appointment. Then at 11:00 Rebecca will be giving an informational talk over lunch on papers you should have available at a moment notice if needed and an overview of the services legal aid provides. If you would like to enjoy lunch while Rebecca talks please call the COA by 3pm on Thursday February 12, 2015 to order your lunch.



Time Change March 8, 2015 Daylight Savings Time begins. So turn your clocks ahead one hour.

Easy Peach Cobbler

Ingredients:

- 1 large 29oz can of sliced peaches drained
- 2 sticks or 1 cup butter melted
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups milk
- 2 tsp baking powder

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour drained can of peaches into a 9x13 baking dish. Pour melted butter over peaches. Mix sugar, flour, milk, and baking powder together to form batter. Pour batter over peaches and butter, bake for 30-45 minutes until top is golden brown and edges are crispy. Remember you can use any fruit you wish.



Holiday Closing's

- January 1, 2015 New Year's Day center closed
- January 19, 2015 Martin Luther King Day center closed
- February 16, 2015 President's Day center closed

Special Days

- February 2, 2015 Groundhog Day
- February 12, 2015 Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14, 2015 Valentine's Day
- February 16, 2015 Washington's Birthday
- March 17, 2014 St Patrick's Day
- March 20, 2015 First Day of Spring
- March 29, 2015 Palm Sunday

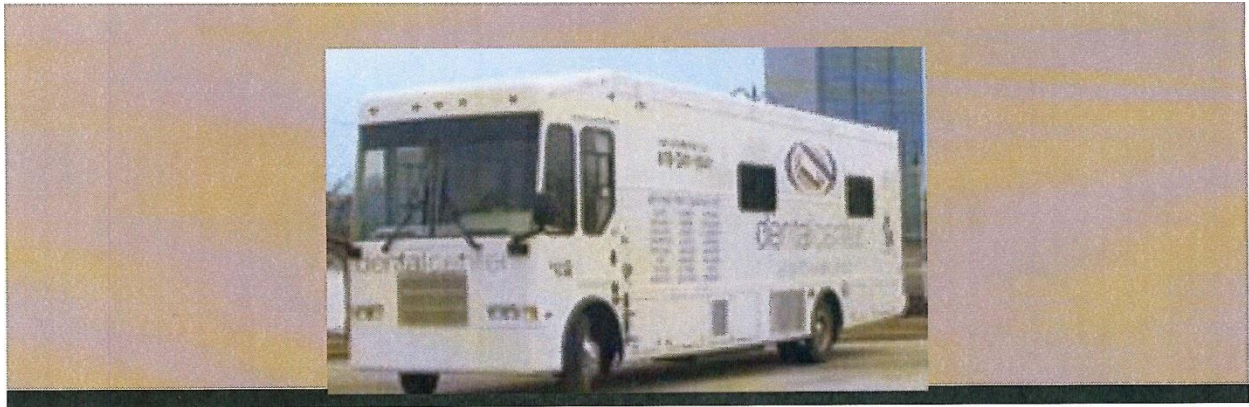


Weather Closing

It is that time of year when you wake up in the morning and to your surprise there is either snow or ice on the roads. Should the Van Wert County Council on Aging close due to weather it will be announced on the following locations: Van Wert County Council on Aging website: vwcouncilonaging.com, radio channel 99.7, Hometown Station channel 35 Lima, Indiana's News Center channel 21 or 33 Ft Wayne. Remember you can always call the Van Wert County Council on Aging before you head out to make sure we are here at 419-238-5011.

Lunch & Learn

- January 21, 2015 Van Wert Highway Patrol talking on winter driving.
- February 13, 2015 Rebecca Steinhauser with Legal Aid talking on what documents you should have.



Got Dental Care?

Quality, affordable dental care for children and adults

♥ Accepting:

- ♥ State Medicaid
- ♥ Paramount Advantage
- ♥ Buckeye Community
- ♥ United Health Care
- ♥ Private Insurances
- ♥ Reduced fixed rate fee for uninsured patients
- ♥ Care provided by licensed professionals
- ♥ Full service dental care

Regular visits to Van Wert!



Call toll free 1- 866-378-6965
for eligibility, appointments & locations

HEAP Assistance Program

It is not too late to receive assistance with your heating costs for the remainder of this winter! Worried about your heating costs this winter after the cold winter for 2013? Worry no more! Applying for HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) has proved to help many seniors afford their heating bill during the winter months. If you have not applied for the 2014/2015 season, as you must apply for assistance each year, here are the requirements for eligibility:

Size of Household	Total Household Income 12 Months
1	Up to \$20,422.50
2	\$27,527.50
3	\$34,632.50
4	\$41,737.50
5	\$48,824.50
6	\$55,947.50
7	\$63,052.50
8	\$70,157.50

For households with more than eight members, add \$7,105 for each individual. If interested in applying for HEAP, please contact Shellie Ralston to schedule an appointment to complete the application and submit all the correct documentation. When fulfilling the appointment time, please bring the following items:

- Proof of income for everyone in the home (Social Security Benefits Letter, W2's, Paystubs, etc.),
- Proof of citizenship for everyone in the home (birth certificate or passport),
- Copies of most recent heating and electric bills.

Have you already applied but have not received your benefit, ask Shellie to check on the status of your application to see if it had been received and if determination has been made.

Don't be cold this winter due to heating costs, make an appointment by stopping by the front office or calling 419-238-5011.

Monday Nite Bingo

Can you help? We are looking for donations of desserts for Monday Nite Bingo. We appreciate all of you that come to Monday Nite Bingo and those that help. In the months of January and February many of our weekly dessert makers go to Florida where it is warm, so if you are baking and would like to make an extra cake or dessert we would love to take it off your hands. Also we are also looking for volunteers to help with Monday Nite Bingo, so if you are interested in helping please let us know.



Van Wert Council on Aging and AARP offers free tax service

The Van Wert County Council on Aging in conjunction with AARP is offering free Tax-Aide to help low and moderate income taxpayers, with special attention to those 60 and older, file their personal tax returns. All AARP Tax-Aide Counselors have been certified by the Internal Revenue Service. The service will begin Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at the Van Wert Senior Center

located at 220 Fox Rd. Tax-Aide representatives will be at the Van Wert County Council on Aging on Wednesday of each week thru tax season. Tax-Aide representatives are able to prepare Federal 1040, 1099, Schedule C, State and School returns, as well as a variety of many other tax forms. The complete list and guidelines can be found at the Council on Aging website (www.vwcouncilonaging.com). Clients must bring photo Identification and Social Security card, and last year's 2013 return. Walk-ins will not be available. To schedule your appointment contact the Council on Aging at 419-238-5011. Call early as the appointments fill up fast.

Senior Dining Program Participant Update thru Area Agency on Aging 3

The Senior Dining Program is a program thru Area Agency on Aging 3 in Lima that provides vouchers for area restaurants to allow Seniors to enjoy a meal out.

The Senior Dining Program **will not** be holding the annual reapplication in January, 2015. Instead, those currently on the program will continue through September, 2015. The Annual reapplication for the Senior Dining Program will be held the month of July, 2015.

- During the month of July 2015, all current participants and anyone else 60 and older that want to apply for the Senior Dining Program **MUST** fill out a new application.
- Those applications will be processed in August and September and a new list of participants will begin October of 2015.
- No one is guaranteed to remain on the program from year to year.
- All applications must be in by July 31st by mail or dropped off at the Area Agency on Aging 3 office in Lima.
- Any applications received on August 1st or after will be processed and put on the waiting list.

Current Senior Dining participants and those on the waiting list will receive an application in the mail. On July 1, 2015 the new applications will be available at the Council on Aging office. The application will be posted on Area Agency on Aging 3 website at www.aaa3.org. October 1st, participants will either get Senior Dining certificates in the mail or a post card saying they are on the waiting list.



Transportation Services

Transportation is a very important thing to all of us. Think about how your life would be if you could no longer drive and what would you do. For many people, they call on the Council on Aging, for their trips to doctor appointments, grocery, bank, and of course the Council on Aging. How do we do this you may ask? Well it takes team work, from the client

calling in to the Council on Aging all the way to the driver. On top of the team work it takes money for gas and upkeep of the vehicles. We would like to thank all of you that graciously donate to our transportation fund. Without your donations we could not do what we do. So from all of us we say Thank You! Remember there is no donation too small to help. Remember you will not be turned away if you cannot donate as long as there is room in the schedule we will do our best to help you with your transportation needs.

West Ohio Food Bank

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Senior Citizens Food Box – CSFP is a federal funded program for people who are 60+ years of age and whose household income is 130% or less of the federal poverty guidelines. Each month West Ohio Food Bank provides a 32-40lb box of nutritious food to 1404 seniors throughout WOFB's 11 county service area. For more information you may call the West Ohio Food Bank at 419-222-7946 or you can get an application (that would need mailed to the West Ohio Food Bank). Applications are available at the Van Wert County Council on Aging.

The Van Wert COA Memorial Fund

When a loved one passes, keeping their memory alive is a way of honoring their life and finding comfort in your own life as a survivor. Your gift toward the Memorial Fund helps to ensure that additional services for older generations are able to be provided. Monies raised by our memorial funds are distributed toward seniors in need.

Please Consider Your Gift to the Van Wert COA Memorial Fund. No gift is too large or too small. The Memorial Fund is managed by the VW COA Board of Directors. Gifts can be made directly to the Van Wert COA or can be bequeathed in one's will or trust. For more information contact Kevin Matthews, Executive Director at the Van Wert Council on Aging.

VAN WERT COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING
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Van Wert, OH 45891

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The mission of the Van Wert County Council on Aging is to assist older adults, age 60 and over, to live their lives with independence and dignity for as long as possible in the environment of their homes. The Van Wert County Council on Aging operates the Van Wert Senior Center.

The Van Wert County Council on Aging is supported by the Senior Services Tax Levies from Van Wert County, Title IIIB of the Older Americans Act administered by PSA3 Area Agency of Aging, United Way of Van Wert County, the Van Wert County Foundation, Transportation Contracts, Donations and Contributions.

The Van Wert County Council on Aging serves clients without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex or disability. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Services provided by the Van Wert County Council on Aging include: Chore Services, Outreach, Information & Referral, Socialization, and Transportation.