



Giving Matters

DONOR NEWSLETTER OF THE MADISON SENIOR CENTER FOUNDATION, INC.

FALL, 2015

Holiday Time at the Senior Center



THE FESTIVAL OF WREATHS

The Festival of Wreaths is a yearly event that showcases holiday wreaths and decorates the Senior Center beautifully. The display of artificial wreaths, embellished in many styles, is hung for viewing and available to purchase from late November through December. (Pick up your wreath by December 4 for the holidays.)

Great smelling fresh wreaths in several types are also available to order by calling (608) 266-6581 until November 13, with pick up on November 24. Send a live wreath to friends and family for only \$30!

CLASSIC ENGLISH TEA

On Friday, December 4 at 2 pm, enjoy our delightful Classic English Tea, featuring tea service and treats in three courses: sweet, scones, and savory. There is plenty of time for laughter, discussion and quality time between courses, so bring your pals. Classical and seasonal music performed by the Yahara String Quartet provides the perfect ambiance. Tickets are \$25 per person and are non-refundable. Space is limited. New for 2015 is a menu of tea flavors from which to choose. Reservations accepted through Monday, November 30 by calling (608) 266-6581. Call TODAY!



Hats are welcome at the Tea Party!

Please consider supporting and attending the Festival of Wreaths and the Classic English Tea. These efforts raise funds for Senior Center programs and activities.

Preschool Intergeneration Program

Once a month the wonderful sounds of children laughing, singing, and playing can be heard at the Senior Center. Local preschools have partnered here to provide a unique opportunity for intergenerational awareness, understanding and FUN.

Senior volunteer Debbie says, "It warms my heart and brings me so much joy to see the children laughing and playing. I live far away from my grandkids and this program gives me a chance to be a role model for the little ones." Preschool student Marissa said, "I love making posters with my buddy!"

Your donations pay for art supplies so that the seniors and children can work on a craft project together. The children take finished projects home to show their families. They are proud of their accomplishments and enjoy learning from their adult friends.



TM DeWitt and his buddy are all smiles on Craft Day!

You are the Madison Senior Center

The Senior Center offers a variety of programs and activities throughout the year. Here's a profile of people who use the Senior Center weekly. Y

TOM, AGE 63

I have been playing ping pong with my brother since we were 7 years old; in fact, now I am better than my brother! Playing ping pong at the Senior Center keeps me active and helps me stay healthy. I compete in tournaments and competitions in Madison, Milwaukee, Illinois and even the Senior Olympics in Minneapolis. I have 11 medals from various tournaments.

I love coming in and playing ping pong every day with people similar to my skill level. I have a great time playing with my brother every week, too.



Tom is ready to play.

JAMES, AGE 63

I used to be homeless and the Senior Center was a place where I could be warm for a few hours. Now that I am old enough, it is a great place to hang out on Fridays to play Wii Bowling! For me, it is all about companionship. I love spending time with my friends playing a fun game once a week.



James loves Wii Bowling.

hat benefit Madison and Dane County residents.
Your donations keep folks here active and engaged.

ARLENE, AGE 71

It's hard to pick one program, but for me the *Meet the Author* Series is a great chance to visit with authors from Madison and learn about their books. I also love Jim Lamal's video classes with discussions about history and science.



Arlene, a great learner

The variety of classes and different programs are remarkable. Whether you go to a class, watch a movie, eat lunch, or just sit and read a book, you can find something you'll enjoy. The Senior Center is accessible and so close to the bus stop.

The Senior Center is my home away from home. It is near businesses, the library and the farmer's market. I can do errands and come here before or afterwards. Air conditioning is also a plus in the summer because I don't have it at home. I volunteer at the Senior Center because I think everyone should give back to their community. I just think that the Madison Senior Center is a GREAT senior center.

Rectrac Sign-In System Makes Checking In Easy

If you've been to the Madison Senior Center lately, you may have noticed that we've improved check-in at the front desk. Our new touch screen computers provide a great way for you to register. The Rectrac system automates our statistical information and the count of participants, programs, and facility usage. New participants can get a quick orientation and regular participants can ask for assistance, if needed. With so many new programs here, it was time for an upgrade in our systems to include all participants.



Presentation on the Beatles: YEA, YEA, YEA!

Aaron Krerowicz has a Master's Degree in Music Composition and is one of two professional Beatles scholars in the world. This summer he was at the Senior Center to talk about the Beatles influence in the 1960s. He stressed that February 1964 was a pivotal month in their career; Beatlemania was in full swing with performances on The Ed Sullivan Show, which established a strong fan base in America. Comparisons between the JFK and the Eisenhower eras identified changes in culture in the 1960s, which highlighted the interest in, and dedication to, the Beatles and their music.

The speaker provided an amazing 60-minute multimedia presentation which engaged over fifty seniors in fun reminiscences about the Beatles' music and popularity. Krerowicz's presentation brought back a lot of memories for participants. Sue said, "I remember listening to the Beatles non-stop in high school." And scenes from Beatles movies brought much laughter. Jane told her story of winning tickets to see the group in Chicago. Participant David said, "The Beatles are my 'go-to' band when looking for great music."

Funding from donations and your contributions provided this exciting program. Look for more programs with a hip 60s vibe.

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*in the heart
of Madison*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events for You



- ♥ Friday, November 13: **Wreath Reception for Donors and Volunteers**
1:30-3 pm
- ♥ Friday, December 4: **Classic English Tea**
2 pm
- ♥ Tuesday, March 22: **Helen Keller Impression**



Actress Jessica Michna portrays Helen Keller