

End of Year Gift: Tax Season is Coming

Remember that your donation to the Madison Senior Center is tax-deductible. While supporting the many amazing programs the Madison Senior Center offers, you can also help yourself by having a few more deductions on your taxes. Don't let the upcoming tax season get you down! Give to the Madison Senior Center; it will even make you feel happier by helping seniors.



Tablets2Go Program Helps Digitally Connect Seniors During Isolated Times

In August the Madison Senior Center kicked off its new Tablets2Go program. Tablet computers can be a great way to check email, communicate with loved ones, and connect with virtual programs online. Unfortunately many folks don't have access to quality computers or tablets. The Tablets2Go program lends tablets to those that cannot afford or don't own a computer. Tablets are available to adults age 55+ who are registered for a Madison Senior Center program.

Donations to Madison Senior Center Foundation helped pay for 12 tablets this summer. Participants have begun renting out tablets for use with our virtual programming. Financial support keeps people connected during these isolated times.

*Make a Planned Gift
to Ensure a Strong
and Vibrant Senior
Center*

Planned Giving can be a powerful tool for donors who are committed to a strong and vibrant future for the Madison Senior Center and a shared belief in promoting successful aging. The funds gained from planned gifts can pay for additional programs, speaker fees, promotion in the community, and educational materials on staying physically healthy. Planned gifts may also provide significant tax benefits for donors.

Donors are welcome to support the Senior Center in the form of a bequest; mutual funds, IRA rollover, stock securities, life income gift; charitable remainder trust; charitable lead trust; a gift of retirement assets or life insurance policy; or a gift of real estate or artwork we have agreed to accept. Please work with your personal tax/legal experts to learn about these potential gifts.

Why Giving Matters

Have you ever wondered WHY Giving Matters? It's not just the name of this report. Giving Matters to the Madison Senior Center because all of the programs, activities and special events are funded by personal and corporate donations, a small amount of participant fees, and the occasional grant. The Madison Senior Center Foundation, a non-profit entity, invests the funds to benefit the Senior Center's participants by financing all of the programs, activities, and special events that occur here. More than 94% of programs are offered at no cost, and if there is a fee involved, it's modest. To ensure equal access for all, the Foundation also offers a Senior Scholarship program to assist those with limited resources.

Will you help us to continue to provide these great services to our community by providing a monetary gift in an amount comfortable for you?

Your response to this request in the enclosed envelope is essential to the quality and quantity of our programs. **YOU MATTER; GIVING MATTERS.** All gifts are appreciated and no amount is too small. Thank you for your gift; it does remarkable things for older people in Madison.

Oak Park Place Senior Open raises almost \$11,000 for the Madison Senior Center

On September 15, 40 golfers, practicing healthy safety measures, took part in the first ever Oak Park Place Senior Open to raise \$10,985 for the Madison Senior Center Foundation. Oak Park Place with additional support from The Golf Affect (a local radio show) sponsored and held the event in support of the Senior Center's efforts to purchase upgrades to the AV equipment in classrooms.

The Madison Senior Center will use proceeds from this fundraiser towards the purchase of audiovisual equipment. Many individuals who utilize our space and participate in programs, activities and classes experience hearing and vision loss. Therefore, it is critical that we have the equipment to make these programs accessible to all. There are plans to purchase large video monitors, new projectors, projection screens, headsets with microphones for facilitators and presenters, well as standalone microphones. All of these AV upgrades will provide increased opportunities for seniors of all abilities to hear and see presentations and to fully participate in programming at the Senior Center.



PGA professional Dennis Tiziani competed with his daughter Nicki Stricker and his granddaughters Izzy and Bobbi Stricker.



Congratulations to the winners of the First Annual Oak Park Place Senior Open: Don Becker, Kevin Ryan, Roman Ryan, and Mike Wells.

Intergenerational Volunteering During Pandemic

It's often difficult to create and maintain friendships, and it is now even harder due to COVID-19. No one faces this challenge more than older adults. As the pandemic drags on the Senior Center is stepping up to provide opportunities for meaningful interaction. The following are just a few ways that folks of differing ages are connecting to increase socialization, learn from each other, and combat isolation.

PEN PAL PROGRAM

The Pen Pal Program began in March of 2020 and has grown in popularity during the course of the pandemic. It is open to anyone over 18 that might enjoy some friendly communication. Begin a friendship via email or regular mail. Participants are paired with a person from a different generation.

NEW TO THE PROGRAM:

If you are under 55 please try and recruit an older adult to sign up with you. This can be a grandparent, parent, or a neighbor and does not have to be the person you will write with.

RN STUDENTS AND SENIORS LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

The University of Wisconsin Madison recruited five older adult volunteers from the Madison Senior Center this past fall for their virtual teaching of RN students. The program involves regular virtual meetings to discuss health topics and assessments. Students complete final written reports describing their

experience, what they learned, and how nurses can promote healthy aging. It is likely that this program will continue in the Spring Semester of 2021.

The Edgewood College RN program has been canceled for the Fall semester. However, in Spring of 2021 MSC and Edgewood College are looking to pair older adult volunteers with students for a series of discussions, zoom (computer) chats, or phone conversations. The topics will expand beyond medical topics to discussions about: nutrition, recreation, and coping with COVID. This program enhances general well-being, increases socialization, and provides an opportunity for a mental health check-in for BOTH the student and volunteer.

PRESCHOOL CRAFT PROGRAM

We continue to work with local elementary school St. James on the PreSchool Craft program. Instead of in-person the older adults are meeting with their children online via zoom. Together they work on a craft project, participate in story time, and interact together. More dates for this are forthcoming so stay tuned and contact the senior center if you are interested.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these Intergenerational volunteer opportunities, please contact John, 267-2344 or Jweichelt@cityofmadison.com.

Giving Tuesday Set for December 1st

Everyone has heard about Black Friday, which is the day when major retailers make much of their revenue for the year as droves of shoppers get an early start on holiday gift buying. However, there is also Giving Tuesday, which always occurs on the first Tuesday after Black Friday. On Giving Tuesday nonprofits urge supporters to give donations to their favorite charities.

Join us Tuesday, December 1st at 1 pm for a FREE virtual performance. This year Madison Senior Center is fortunate to partner with the UW-Madison Wisconsin Singers to thank you for your support throughout the year. During this pandemic we continue to virtually offer quality programs, services and volunteer opportunities; and your generous donations make it possible. Visit www.madisonseniorcenter.org to give online now or to register for the free performance. If you have any technical challenges, email lhunt@cityofmadison.com.



Giving Matters



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NON PROFIT ORG
PRSR STD
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MADISON, WI

Upcoming MSC Events

You can participate in any of the below with a desk top computer, a laptop, a tablet or a smart phone. Most programs are done on Zoom. You must register in advance to gain access to the program. Email or call Laura Hunt at lhunt@cityofmadison.com or 608-267-8650 to register for any of the below.

♥ **November 19, 1:00 pm**

Don Carter - A Kindness Culture Jumpstarted

♥ **November 19, 1:00 pm**

Book Club - Discussing *Educated*, by Tara Westover. Meets 3rd Thursday every month.

♥ **December 1 (All day)**

Giving Tuesday - Give online donation by visiting MadisonSeniorCenter.org

♥ **December 17, 1:00 pm**

Book Club - Discussing *New York 2140*, by Kim Stanley Robinson

LGBTQ 50+ ALLIANCE EVENTS

♥ **November 17, 2:00 pm**

Decluttering - Presentation by Melanie Juedes with Reset: Professional Organizing

♥ **December 9, 10:00 am**

Avoiding Holiday Shopping Scams - Presentation by Tiffany Schultz for the BBB of Wisconsin