



# Seniors INK

DMCSC

1430 N. 22nd Street, Decatur, IL 62526

(217) 429-1239

December 2019 & January, 2020

Published Bi-Monthly

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## UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Remember to look at the Calendar for regular activities

### DECEMBER

- 3 Arbor Rose Sponsored BINGO
- 4 Medicare Part D Enrollment @ Senior Center 9am – 2pm
- 4 Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-3:00pm
- 6 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 6 Medicare Part D Enrollment @ Health Dept. 9am – 3pm
- 7 Final Day for Medicare Part D Special Enrollment
- 10 Evergreen Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 10 Lunch and Program  
Sponsored by Transitions Hospice - Noon
- 13 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 17 Eagle Ridge Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 18 Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-3:00pm
- 18 December Birthdays Celebration  
Sponsored by Northeast Community
- 19 Senior Center Christmas Party Entertainment 11:00
- 19 Senior Center Christmas Party Lunch Served @ Noon
- 19 Christmas Raffle Drawing 2pm
- 20 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 24 Synergy Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 25 Senior Center Closed Christmas Holidays
- 26 Senior Center Closed Christmas Holidays
- 27 Senior Center Closed Christmas Holidays
- 31 Senior Center Closed New Year's Eve

### JANUARY 2020 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- 1 Closed New Years Holiday
- 2 Senior Center Reopens 8am
- 2 Thrift Shop After Holiday Clearance Sale  
Begins 9am -3pm
- 3 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 7 Heritage Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 8 Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am
- 9 Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am
- 10 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 14 Evergreen Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 15 January Birthdays Celebration  
Sponsored by Northeast Community
- 17 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 20 Senior Center Closed – Martin L. King Birthday
- 21 Eagle Ridge Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 21 Senior Center Board Meeting 3:00pm
- 21 Health & Wellness/Craft Class 10:30am
- 22 Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am
- 23 Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am
- 24 Senior Center BINGO 1pm
- 28 Synergy Sponsored BINGO 1pm
- 31 Senior Center BINGO 1pm

## NEARLY NEW CHRISTMAS SHOP NOW OPEN!

The Christmas Shop and the Thrift Shop are open and full of the Christmas spirit! The Christmas Shop is now located in what used to be the pool room. We needed the room! Access to the Christmas Shop is through the Thrift Shop. As always, the Christmas Shop is full of Christmas decorations and gifts to please the most dedicated holiday shoppers! Come on in and check out the special Christmas items we will be raffling off. Raffle tickets are \$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5. The drawing will be Thursday, December 19 at 2pm. You do not need to be present to win. The Christmas Shop will have the same operating hours, 9am to 3pm Monday thru Friday, as the Thrift Shop. The Annual Holiday Clearance sale starts Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 and will last the entire month of January! In January stay warm inside with puzzles, books and other fun items. Snuggle up with a good paperback book from the Thrift Shop! We are open 9am – 3pm Monday – Friday!

## DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are in dire need of winter coats due to high demand. If you have a coat you aren't or haven't been using please consider donating it to the Senior Center. Thank you!



## MEDICARE PART D

Open enrollment for Medicare Part D will end Saturday, December 7, 2019. This means that anyone interested in changing providers for next year will be eligible to do so until December 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are satisfied with your current provider it is not necessary to change. Call us at 429-1239 for an appointment. Senior Center Outreach Counselors will conduct a final all day Medicare Part D Enrollment event on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center from 9am to 3pm. The Macon County Health Department will also host an Open Enrollment event from 9am to 3pm on December 6, 2019. Please call the Health Department at 423-6550 and ask to make an appointment. If you can't make either date, the Senior Center Outreach Counselors are available to assist you in comparing the various Medicare Part D plans to choose from here at the Senior Center on other days during the week prior to December 7<sup>th</sup>. The Senior Center will be taking only Medicare Part D appointments on December 4 when both Outreach Counselors will be available. To make an appointment or for more information on this or any other Medicare questions please contact the Senior Center at 429-1239.



## CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Senior Center's annual Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 19. The musical entertainment will begin at 11:00 featuring Robin Thompson-Piper. Robin entertained us at last year's Christmas Party and wowed everyone with her singing talent. She puts on a wonderful show! Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. Lunch will be catered by Martin's IGA of Effingham and the menu includes fried chicken, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, noodles, coleslaw, green beans, corn, rolls, assorted pies, tea and lemonade. The cost is \$10.00 for members and \$11.00 for non-members. Reservations are required and must be made by Tuesday, December 17, 2019. Tickets are now available. Please call the Senior Center at 429-1239 for more information.

## SENIOR CENTER AND DMCOC HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

DMCOC will be closed and will not be serving lunch from December 24<sup>th</sup> until January 2, 2020. DMCOC is the provider of the noon meals served at the Senior Center. The Senior Center will be closed on December 25, 26 and 27 for the Christmas holiday. The Senior Center will reopen on Monday, December 30, 2019. The Senior Center will be closed December 31 and January 1, 2020 for the New Year's holiday and will reopen for regular business on Wednesday, January 2, 2020.

## BENEFITS ACCESS & BUS PASSES

The State of Illinois' Benefits Access program provides a discounted license plate sticker and/or a Seniors or Disabled Ride Free bus pass for mass transit districts in the state. In order to qualify for the



benefit you must be 65 years of age or older by December 31 of the current year and have an income under \$27,610 for a one person household or under \$36,635 for a two person household or be under 65 and on disability. Applications are only completed online. Approved applications are certified and applicants are provided a notice of certification online. Once approved the certifications are good for 2 years. The Outreach Counselors at the Senior Center are trained to provide assistance with these applications and will print out the certifications for clients. Please call the Senior Center at 429-1239 to set up an appointment.

For those persons who have received their certification and their bus passes expire at the end of December of this year, do not panic. If your Benefits Access Certification notice says 2019 on it, in order to renew your bus pass, all you have to do is take your Certification notice to the Transit Center and renew your bus pass. Please wait until after December 1, 2019 to go to the Transit Center to renew. If you lost your Certification notice or you are not sure when you filed, please call the Senior Center and we can help you.

## TOEING UP FOR HAPPY FEET

The Senior Center is pleased to offer "Pedi-Cares by Gini Smith". Gini is scheduled for multiple days including: December 4 & 18, 2019 & January 8, 9, 22 & 23, 2019. Her hours in December remain from 9am through 3:00pm. Starting in January Gini's hours will be from 9am to 11:30am over 4 days. Those interested in having their toe nails trimmed will need to call or stop by the reception desk to make an appointment for one of these days. Foot maintenance procedures include a therapeutic medicated soak, nail trimming and massage for a fee of \$22 per session. Please note the service will not be able to address chronic medical

problems such as open wounds. Please contact your physician if you have questions. Appointments fill up fast. We ask for your consideration if you are unable to make your appointment. These appointments are booked up in advance so **if you plan not to attend or have to cancel, please call us at 429-1239 and let us know so we can give someone else that appointment.**

## TRANSITIONS HOSPICE EVENT & LUNCH

Transitions Hospice and Palliative services will be addressing common misconceptions and myths about Hospice care during their lunch and learn event on Tuesday, December 10. They will provide free education on what the hospice benefit covers under Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance health plans. They will also discuss the right time to consider hospice services for your loved ones and the benefit that hospice can provide. It's about living! Please call the Senior Center at 429-1239 to reserve a free lunch by Friday, December 6.



## A Shout out of Thanks!

- To Bob Brilley for his long-time support
- The City of Decatur for their support.
- Winnie Brewer, Harriet Sadowski and Mary Margaret Robinson for all of their tireless work in the Thrift and Christmas Shops
- Doris Griffin for calling BINGO, help with Longaberger and everything we ask her to do
- Robin Thompson-Piper for being so talented and entertaining us at our Christmas Party
- Dawn Zigler for calling BINGO
- Mindy Peterson-Lindsay for her delicious lunches for the Seniors
- To the Macon County Health Department for the flu shot clinic held in October.
- To DMCOC for providing the noon meals five days a week
- AARP Income Tax Assistance Volunteers led by Larry Johnson
- Bruce Adams and the NationalAble Title V Program
- Evergreen Supportive Living for sponsoring BINGA and a Longaberger Basket
- Primrose for sponsoring a Longaberger Basket
- Lisa Bergschneider for her excellent calling skills at Longaberger Binga
- All those who supported the Senior Center throughout the year by donating clothing and items for our Thrift Shop and Christmas Shop.
- Northeast Community Fund for sponsoring the monthly Birthday cakes
- Heritage Manor, Eagle Ridge, Evergreen, Synergy, Aspen Creek, Vonderlieth, and Decatur Rehab for sponsoring BINGO throughout the year.
- State Senator Andy Manar and State Rep. Sue Scherer for sponsoring the Senior Information Fair at the Senior Center in the Fall.
- State Representative Sue Scherer for her help and donations at various Senior Center functions throughout the year.
- Tammy Hite and Gini Smith for their respective services for older adults.
- CHELP for working so closely with the Senior Center
- First Presbyterian Church on their on-going financial support.
- Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance for their legal services to older citizens
- The City of Decatur and the Macon County Health Dept. for their financial support.
- WAND TV for their annual Fan Drive at Wal-Mart North.
- Nancy Funk for her devotion to the older residents of Decatur & Macon County
- Ryder Auto Service/Garden Center and Crystal and Lauren for everything.
- All of the local businesses and individuals who sponsored baskets or prizes for the annual Longaberger Binga fundraiser
- Everyone who has donated to the Senior Center during the year.
- The Kiwanianne Club of Decatur for the Fashion Show.
- All of the wonderful volunteers who make the Nearly New Thrift Shop and Christmas Shop the success they are!
- All of the volunteers in the kitchen who prepare and serve the noon meal five days a week!
- All of the volunteers who help put this Newsletter together!
- The Senior Center staff – Elaine, Chuck, Karen, Charles, Dawn, Kay and Yvonne.
- The individuals who volunteer their time and talents to the Board of Directors.
- And last but not least the Members of the Decatur-Macon County Senior Center.

## THE SENIOR CENTER IS VERY THANKFUL TO ALL WHO MADE THE LONGABERGER BINGA EVENT A WONDERFUL SUCCESS!

Decatur Earthmover  
Jeannie Parker  
Charlene Leonard  
Katelyn Smith  
Charles Walker  
Chuck Trusner  
Winnie Brewer  
Primrose Retirement Community  
Margaret Miller  
Ryder's Auto Service/Garden Center - Crystal Ryder  
Decatur Ace Hardware  
CEFCU/Jodie Savant  
Cheddars  
Vonderlieth Living Center  
Synergy Home Care

Tammy Hite/Steplightly Diabetic Shoes  
State Rep. Sue Scherer  
Lisa Bergschneider  
Eagle Ridge  
Walmart North  
Elaine Krause  
Jolene McCoy  
Beverly McClure  
Tanglewood Village  
Karen Rossi  
Joan Meeder  
Doris Griffin  
Harriet Sadowski  
Mary Margaret Robinson  
Joyce Rhodes  
Harbor Lights Hospice/Angie Clawson  
Evergreen  
Lauren Axe

### SOCIAL SECURITY

#### ***Social Security Administration and its Inspector General Announce New Online Reporting Form for Imposter Scam Calls***

Andrew Saul, Commissioner of Social Security, and Gail S. Ennis, the Inspector General for the Social Security Administration, announce the launch of a dedicated online form at <https://oig.ssa.gov> to receive reports from the public of Social Security-related scams. These scams—in which fraudulent callers mislead victims into making cash or gift card payments to avoid arrest for purported Social Security number problems—skyrocketed over the past year to become the #1 type of fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission and the Social Security Administration.

To combat these scams, Social Security and the OIG will use the new online form to capture data that will be analyzed for trends and commonalities. The OIG will use the data to identify investigative leads, which could help identify criminal entities or individuals participating in or facilitating the scams. Ultimately, these efforts are expected to disrupt the scammers, help reduce this type of fraud, and reduce the number of victims.

“We are taking action to raise awareness and prevent scammers from harming Americans,” Commissioner Saul said. “I am deeply troubled that our country has not been able to stop these crooks from deceiving some of the most vulnerable members of our society.”

Commissioner Saul and Inspector General Ennis encourage the public to use the new online form to report Social Security

phone scams including robocalls and live callers, as well as email, text, and in-person scams. The form allows people to create a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN), so if OIG contacts a person about their report, they will know the call is legitimate.

“Awareness is our best hope to thwart the scammers,” said Inspector General Ennis. “Tell your friends and family about them and report them to us when you receive them, but most importantly, just hang up and ignore the calls.”

Social Security employees do occasionally contact people—generally those who have ongoing business with the agency—by telephone for business purposes. However, Social Security employees will never threaten a person, or promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money. In those cases, the call is fraudulent and people should just hang up.

Generally, the agency mainly calls people who have recently applied for a Social Security benefit, someone who is already receiving payments and requires an update to their record, or a person who has requested a phone call from the agency. If a person is not in one of these situations, they normally would not receive a call from the agency.

#### ***Social Security will not:***

- Tell you that your Social Security number has been suspended.
- Contact you to demand an immediate payment.
- Ask you for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

- Require a specific means of debt repayment, like a prepaid debit card, a retail gift card, or cash.
- Demand that you pay a Social Security debt without the ability to appeal the amount you owe.
- Promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money.

If there is a problem with a person's Social Security number or record, in most cases Social Security will mail a letter. If a person needs to submit payments to Social Security, the agency will send a letter with instructions and payment options. People should never provide information or payment over the phone or Internet unless they are certain of who is receiving it.

The Social Security OIG will also continue to take reports of fraud, waste, and abuse in Social Security's programs and operations. A separate online form for those reports remains available [at their website](#).



## **Social Security Benefits Increase in 2020**

*By Ileana Saveley  
Social Security District Manager in Decatur, IL*

Each year, we announce the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). By law, federal benefits increase when the cost of living rises, as measured by the Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Usually, there is an increase in the benefit amount people will receive each month, starting the following January.

Nearly 69 million Americans will see a 1.6 percent increase in their Social Security benefits and SSI payments in 2020.

Other changes that will happen in January 2020 reflect the increase in the national average wage index. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to Social Security payroll tax will increase to \$137,700 from \$132,900. The earnings limit for workers who are younger than "full" retirement age (age 66 for people born in 1943 through 1954) will increase to \$18,240. (We deduct \$1 from benefits for each \$2 earned over \$18,240.)

The earnings limit for people turning 66 in 2020 will increase to \$48,600. (We deduct \$1 from benefits for each \$3 earned over \$48,600 until the month the worker turns age 66.)

In December 2019, we will post Social Security COLA notices online for retirement, survivors, and disability beneficiaries who have a my Social Security account. You will be able to view and save future COLA notices via the Message Center inside my Social Security.

You can log in to or sign up for a my Social Security account today at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount) to get more information about your new benefit amount. You can choose to receive an electronic notification by email, text, or both ways under "Message Center Preferences." Our notification will let you know that a new message is waiting for you. We will not send any personal information in the notification. The Message Center also allows you to go paperless by opting out of receiving agency notices by mail that you can get online, including annual cost-of-living adjustments and the income-related monthly adjustment amount increases. The Message Center is a secure portal where you can conveniently receive sensitive communications that we don't send through email or text.

More information about the 2020 COLA is available at [www.socialsecurity.gov/cola](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/cola).

### ***Medicare***

#### **Question:**

I have medical coverage through my employer. Do I have to take Medicare Part B?

#### **Answer:**

You are not required to take Medicare Part B if you are covered by a group healthcare plan based on either your employment or the employment of a spouse. When your coverage ends, you may contact Social Security to request a special enrollment for Medicare Part B. We will need to verify your coverage through your employer in order for you



# December



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	1:00 pm BINGO Arbor Rose <b>3</b>	Medicare Part D Enrollment @ Senior Center 9am – 2pm <b>4</b>  Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-3:00pm  10:00 am Fitness Class	1:00 Cards <b>5</b>	Medicare Part D Enrollment @ Health Dept. 9am – 3pm <b>6</b>  10:00 am Fitness Class  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	Final Day for Medicare Part D Special Enrollment <b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>9</b>  1:00 Cards	Lunch and Program Sponsored by Transitions Hospice - Noon <b>10</b>  1:00 pm BINGO Evergreen Senior Living Center	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>11</b>	1:00 Cards <b>12</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>13</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>16</b>  1:00 Cards	1:00 pm - BINGO Eagle Ridge <b>17</b>	Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-3:00pm <b>18</b>  10:00 am Fitness Class  December Birthdays Celebration Sponsored by Northeast Community	Senior Center Christmas Party Entertainment 11:00 <b>19</b>  Senior Center Christmas Party Lunch Served @ Noon  Christmas Raffle Drawing 2pm	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>20</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>23</b>  1:00 Cards	1:00 pm BINGO Synergy <b>24</b>	Senior Center Closed Christmas Holidays <b>25</b>	Senior Center Closed Christmas Holidays <b>26</b>	Senior Center Closed Christmas Holidays <b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>30</b>  1:00 Cards	Senior Center Closed New Year's Eve <b>31</b>				
				<b>Center • 429-1239</b> <b>Lunch Reservations • 428-4148</b>		

**HAPPY**  
*New Year*

# January

**HAPPY**  
**NEW YEAR!**

SUNDAY      MONDAY      TUESDAY      WEDNESDAY      THURSDAY      FRIDAY      SATURDAY

			Closed New Years Holiday <b>1</b>	Senior Center Reopens 8am <b>2</b>  Thrift Shop After Holiday Clearance Sale Begins 9am -3pm  1:00 Cards	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>3</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	<b>4</b>	
	<b>Center • 429-1239 Lunch Reservations • 428-4148</b>						
<b>5</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class  1:00 Cards	<b>6</b>	1:00 pm BINGO Heritage Manor <b>7</b>	Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am <b>8</b>  10:00 am Fitness Class	Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am <b>9</b>  1:00 Cards	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>10</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class  1:00 Cards	<b>13</b>	1:00 pm BINGO Evergreen Senior Living Center <b>14</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>15</b>  January Birthdays Celebration Sponsored by Northeast Community	1:00 Cards <b>16</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>17</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	Senior Center Closed – Martin L. King Birthday <b>20</b>	Health & Wellness/ Craft Class 10:30am <b>21</b>  1:00 pm BINGO Eagle Ridge  Senior Center Board Meeting 3:00pm	Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am <b>22</b>  10:00 am Fitness Class	Pedi-Care Nail Trimming 9am-11:30am <b>23</b>  1:00 Cards	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>24</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm	<b>25</b>	
<b>26</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>27</b>  1:00 Cards	1:00 pm BINGO Synergy <b>28</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>29</b>	1:00 Cards <b>30</b>	10:00 am Fitness Class <b>31</b>  Senior Center BINGO 1pm		

# SENIORS INK

Decatur-Macon County Senior Center  
1430 N. 22nd Street  
Decatur, Illinois 62526

Non Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Decatur, IL  
Permit No. 416

ECIAAA

DEC 12 2019

RECEIVED

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Susan Real ECIAAA  
1003 Maple Hill Road  
Bloomington, IL 61704

MERRY CHRISTMAS

12/10



## Seniors INK

Membership dues in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the year 2020 (\$25.00),  
**OR** \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime dues of \$150.00

enclosed for (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(NOTE: Any amount over these amounts will be credited as a donation)*

Please detach and return this stub with your tax-deductible contribution to:  
Decatur-Macon County Senior Center  
1430 N. 22nd Street  
Decatur, Illinois 62526

I would like to support the Seniors of today and tomorrow, with my tax-deductible donation to the Decatur-Macon County Senior Center.

\$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not want your name listed as a donor, please check this box

*In addition to my contribution for supporting the Senior Center and the Seniors they serve, I would like to make an additional contribution that will be used to help retire the debt incurred from capital expenses related to the relocation of the Senior Center.*

Additional enclosed for Debt Retirement Fund \_\_\_\_\_

*Help us keep the lights on for the Seniors of today and tomorrow!!*

*The Decatur Macon County Senior Center and the Seniors they represent. Thank You!*

DECATUR - MACON COUNTY

Senior Center