ELDER NEWS

MARCH/APRIL 2025

JOIN US AT PANCAKE FEST & SENIOR EXPO

Friday, April 4 | 7 am - 12 pm | O'Connor Senior Center | 611 Winona St. in Knoxville

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Come one, come all to O'Connor Center's sweetest fundraiser. Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, milk, juice, and coffee for just five dollars. Gluten-free, heart-healthy, and sugar-free options will be available. As always, we will have very special guests volunteering to flip pancakes - media personalities, local celebrities, and elected officials.



GET YOUR TICKETS Tickets are available online at knoxseniors.org or at the door on the day of the event.

Proceeds benefit the John T. O'Connor Senior Center

Pancake Fest is more than just pancakes. Be sure to check out the Senior Expo, where companies and organizations will have information on programs and services for older adults in Knox County. You can also peruse the Artisan Fair, where local artists and crafters will have handmade items for sale. And if pancakes, celebrities, and crafts aren't enough, we will have live music and entertainment throughout the day to get your toes tapping.

GET IT TO-GO!

In a hurry and can't stay for Pancake Fest? Call ahead to pick up an order to go. Why, you might even want to pick up an extra for a neighbor, or a round of pancakes for your office. **Call 865-523-1135 to place an order to-go.**

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Pancake Fest sees almost 1,000 attendees throughout the day. Would you like to join the Senior Expo and talk to people about your products and services? Sponsorships are available and space is limited, so contact us now to reserve your table. **Call 865-523-1135 or visit knoxseniors.org/pf2025 for more information.**

Snowflake Ball 2025 Royal Court

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VIEWS

The Senior Companion Program's Snowflake Ball Ambassadors raised \$104,631 at this year's event. *Read more on page 2.*



[L to R] Brian Hornback, Ryan Ritter, Tim Wheeler, Dr. Colin Booth, Courtney Cox, Rebekah McCulloch, Kindle Petteway, and Hannah Hood.

ELDER NEWS

Snowflake Ball 2025 continued



King Colin Booth and Queen Courtney Cox

Prince Tim Wheeler and Princess Rebekah McCulloch

It was a night of records for the Senior Companion Program and its eight Ambassadors who competed for the titles of Snowflake Ball King and Queen. Ambassadors spent the past several months hosting fundraisers and collecting donations for the Senior Companion Program. Those who raised the most funds won the 2025 titles.

More than 400 attendees enjoyed dinner and danced to the Swing Time Ensemble while anticipating the crowning of this year's King and Queen. Altogther, the Ambassadors raised a whopping \$104,631 for the Senior Companion Program. And finally, the big moment! The King, Queen, Prince, and Princess were announced...

Our Queen this year is Courtney Cox, King is Dr. Colin Booth, Princess is Rebekah McCulloch, and the Prince is Tim Wheeler.

The Senior Companion Program would like to thank all of our Ambassadors for their support!

THE MISSION OF THE SENIOR COMPANION PROGAM

The Senior Companion Program engages those age 55 years and older in volunteer service to provide companionship and support to older adults who are experiencing loneliness, isolation, and barriers of aging. This volunteer program allows older adults to build meaningful relationships with one another in adult day facilities and in-home settings.

Make an online donation to the Senior Companion Program at knoxseniors.org/support-companions.





GRANDPARENTS AS PARENTS Parenting the 2nd Time Around Conference Embracing Hope: Sowing Seeds of Encouragement for the Future

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025 8:30 am – 1:30 pm Bridgewater Place 205 Bridgewater Road (37923)

Grandparents, Relative Caregivers and Professionals Welcome (Open to the Public)!

Cost: \$15 Scholarships available for relative caregivers. Light breakfast and lunch included.

Reservations required. Call 865-524-2785 to RSVP. Transportation from the CAC Ross Building provided.



UT Office of Community Engagement & Outreach

Grandparents as Parents (GAP) is a program of the CAC Office on Aging. GAP addresses the unique needs of grandparents and family caregivers raising children whose parents are unable to care for them.

Learn more at knoxseniors.org/grandparents



HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Read the Office on Aging's **2023-2024 Impact Report** online at knoxseniors.org/report.

MARCH/APRIL 2025

ELDER NEWS VIEWS

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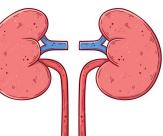
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The Council on Aging presents

KIDNEY SMART

with Hector Rodriguez-Padilla

Thursday, March 13 2:30 pm O'connor Senior Center 611 Winona St.



In honor of World Kidney Day, our Council On Aging program speaker, Hector Rodriguez-Padilla, will discuss Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), 5 stages of CKD, taking control of CKD, and preparing for treatment.

Mr. Rodriguez-Padilla has been a Registered Nurse working in dialysis for 25 years. He has worked 15 years in ICHD (in-center hemodialysis), with 2 years in Facility Administration, and 8 years in peritoneal dialysis. He will also share his personal story of becoming a kidney donor to a family member in 2020.

This program is free and open to the public!



SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 13

Rothchild

Conference

Center

DRUM ROLL, PLEASE

ANNOUNCING THE 2025 JOHN J. DUNCAN, SR. AWARD FOR SENIOR ADVOCACY NOMINEES

> Professional Award Susan Long

Volunteer Award Greg O'Connor

Business Award Knoxville Bar Association Barristers

Watch for more details and information in the May/June issue of *Elder News & Views*!



The CAC Office on Aging is addressing the digital divide with Tech Smart Knox Seniors. Through Tech Smart, individuals 60+ will receive digital training and access to digital tools to gain the skills and confidence needed to navigate technology.

Upcoming Tech Smart Knox Seniors class locations and dates:

March 17-21 10 am-1 pm, Ross Building, 2247 Western Ave. March 24-28 9 am-12 pm, Covenant South, 7625 Chapman Hwy. April 21-25 9 am-12 pm & 1 pm-4 pm, O'Connor Center, 611 Winona St.

Call 865-524-2786 or email techsmart@knoxseniors.org.

MARCH COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION

What are commodities?

Commodities are a shelf-stable food program with food resources provided by USDA. Each household will receive two bags of food.

Who is eligible to receive food items?

Any low-income Knox County resident providing proof of residency with name and address (ID card, KUB bill, etc.) upon pick-up. One distribution per household.

How do I sign up?

No sign-up necessary. Just go to the pick-up location with your proof of Knox County residency and self-declaration of income will be required.

SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD

CENTER 522 Maryville Pike **Monday, March 24th** 10:30 am - 12:30 pm O'CONNOR SENIOR CENTER 611 Winona St. Monday, March 24th 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm MOBILE MEALS KITCHEN/ MALCOLM MARTIN PARK 1747 Reynolds St. Tuesday, March 25th 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Commodities Distribution is a program of CAC Nutrition Services. This project is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee.

ELDER NEWS **VIEWS**



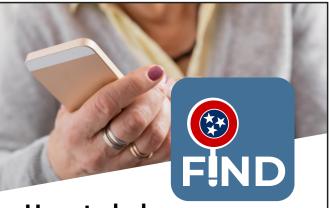
For more information about the Senior Employment Service, call 865-524-2786 or visit us online at knoxseniors.org/employment.



Learn the warning signs of a social media scam and what to do if you're a victim.



An outreach of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, in cooperation with the East Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability.



Here to help. Just in case.

Introducing the TBI Find app.

Silver Alerts, vital resources, and how best to prepare for a missing persons emergency.

We hope you'll use it, but never need it.



SENIOR CENTER OUTREACH

Stop by and get answers to your questions from staff at Information and Benefits!

Carter Senior Center March 26, 10 am-12 pm April 30, 10 am-12 pm

Corryton Senior Center March 11, 10:30 am-12:30 pm April 8, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

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Halls Senior Center March 17, 10 am-12 pm April 21, 10 am-12 pm



Karns Senior Center March 5, 10 am-12 pm

April 2, 10 am-12 pm O'Connor Senior Center March 20, 10 am-12 pm

April 17, 10 am-12 pm

South Senior Center March 6, 9 am-11 am April 3, 9 am-11 am

West Senior Center March 10, 9 am-11 am April 14, 9 am-11 am

Call Information & Benefits at 865-546-6262

The Information & Benefits office is located in the Ross Building at 2247 Western Avenue in Knoxville.

ELDER NEWS **VIEWS**

O'CONNOR CENTER'S MARCH & APRIL SCHEDULES



Add life to your years

Classes are subject to change. Please visit our Facebook page (facebook.com/ oconnorseniorcenter) or call us at 865-523-1135 for a list of current programming as activities may have been added after the time of calendar submission for this publication.

The O'Connor Senior Center will be closed on Friday, April 18, for the Spring holiday.

PHYSICAL FITNESS - HEALTH EDUCATION - HEALTH SCREENING

Blood Glucose Checks: Thursdays, \$1.50. A 12-hour fast is recommended to ensure a correct reading.

Blood Pressure Checks: Monday-Friday, 10:30 am-11:30 am.

Exercise – Arthritis Foundation: Tuesdays and Thursdays. Designed for anyone with arthritis or related health issues. Reduce pain and stiffness, maintain joint range of motion, improve muscle strength, endurance, balance, and coordination. In addition to exercise, the O'Connor friendly nurse ensures the class meets your daily requirement of fun and fellowship.

Advanced Class has good physical exertion; **Basic Class** offers seated exercise with limited physical exertion.

SAIL Exercise Class: Learn about how this exercise curriculum can improve your balance and strength. Classes meet every Monday and Thursday at 12:30 pm. Registration is required.

AARP Foundation Tax Aide appointments.

Wednesdays at O'Connor Tax-Aide volunteers will provide free tax preparation assistance. Schedule your appointment online at www. volsintax.com or call 865-229-4429 for an appointment.

Artist and Crafter's Window: Members have a love for expressing through all types of art; including – crafts and upcycling or making old items new again. Join our group if you are interested in sharing your creative side, sharing ideas, and a time to socialize. Membership is \$3. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for more information.

NEW! Acrylic Folk Techniques with Jacquie Bell begins March 24th from 9:00 to 10:30 am. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 to reserve your spot today.

Artists Trading Cards: These miniature works of art are created and traded all around the world. All experience levels welcome. Join us the 4th Monday of every month at 1 pm. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for more information. **Billiards:** Come and play a friendly game of billiards. Bring a friend to shoot some pool with us!

865-643-6148.

appointment.

Bingo: Enjoy this friendly game on Mondays at 1:00 pm. Bingo hosts are needed. Call 865-523-1135 to find out how to get involved.

Cards & Games: The game room is always open! Enjoy a game of cards, Rummikub, or a relaxed table game with new friends.

Concert Band: Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Pick up and dust off your old instrument because we are looking for new members! Trumpet, trombone, tuba, clarinet, and flutes, etc. are all welcome. Call group leader Linda at 865-640-1856 for more information. Also see "Jazz Band."

Creative Writers Workshop: These classes are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday from 9:30 am until 11:30 am Classes for aspiring and experienced writers. There is a story in all of us. Volunteer needed for the Creative Writers Workshop Facilitator. Call 865-523-1135 for information.

Darts: Come play a friendly game of darts with our new dart board. Bring a friend and enjoy!

Dance:

Tai Chi Set Practice: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 am. Instruction

Tai Chi for Arthritis: Mondays at 10:00 am. Improve balance, reduce stress and obtain arthritis pain relief through slow, gentle movement.

breathing techniques, along with focused attention, to improve health,

Thursday Walkers: This group meets in the community at parks and

greenways to get in their exercise, enjoy the outdoors, and fellowship.

Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays. For more information, call Katy O. at

Toenail Clipping Clinic by Appointment Only: Cost is \$12. March 5th,

12th, 26th and April 9th and 23rd. Call 865-523-1135 to schedule an

Qigong: Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Integrate physical postures and

unavailable at this time for Taoist Tai Chi.

healing, and increase flexibility and balance.

Intro to Line Dance: Tuesdays. For those with no line dance experience.

Social (Ballroom) Dances: Monthly Social Ballroom Dances on the 2nd Friday at 1:00 pm. Live bands providing wonderful music include the Al Curtis Band and Mood Swing.

Beginner Ballroom Dancing:

Instruction available on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 2:30 pm. Gaberial Akers, Professional Ballroom Instructor from Timeless Ballroom, teaches this fun class. Put on your dancing shoes and join us! Suggested donation of \$3/class.

Beyond Ballroom Dancing: For those who know the basics but would like to learn more technique; available on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Gaberial Akers, Professional Ballroom Instructor from PAGE 6

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MARCH 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
3 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	4 9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg/Adv Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 12:30 Open Sewing 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Beginner Ballroom	5 9:00 AARP Tax Aide*(Appt only) 9:00 Toenail Clipping Clinic 10:00 Qigong 10:00 Concert Band 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Genealogy 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 11:00 German Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Beginner Guitar	9:00 Yoga 9:00 Wood Carvers 10:00 Mandolin 10:30 Silver Stage Players 11:00 Violin 11:00 Advanced Spanish 1:00 Fun Film Friday 1:00 Jam Band	7
9:30 Creative Writers 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 11:30 Lunch & Learn: Aging with Independence 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	12:30 SAIL Exercise 12:30 Open Sewing 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Beyond Ballroom	9:00 AARP Tax Aide* (Appt only) 9:00 Toenail Clipping Clinic 10:00 Concert Band 10:00 Qigong 10:00 Legal Aid* (Appt only) 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 11:30 Artist & Crafters Window 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 11:00 German Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Beginner Guitar 2:00 Council on Aging Meeting	9:00 Yoga 9:00 Wood Carvers 10:00 Mandolin 10:30 Silver Stage Players 11:00 Violin 11:00 Advanced Spanish 12:00 Flower Lover's Club 1:00 Social (Ballroom) Dance 1:00 Fun Film Friday 1:00 Jam Band	14
17 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	18 9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg/Adv Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 12:30 Open Sewing 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Beginner Ballroom	19 9:00 AARP Tax Aide*(Appt only) 10:00 Concert Band 10:00 Qigong 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Genealogy 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	20 9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 11:00 German Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Beginner Guitar	9:00 Yoga 9:00 Wood Carvers 10:00 Mandolin 10:30 Silver Stage Players 11:00 Violin 11:00 Advanced Spanish 1:00 Fun Film Friday 1:00 Jam Band	21
9:00 Music Theory 9:30 Creative Writers 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 10:30 Acrylic Folk Techniques 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Artist Trading Cards 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing 2:00 Commodities Distribution	9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg/Adv Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 12:30 Open Sewing 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 1:30 Seniors for Creative Learning 2:30 Beyond Ballroom	26 9:00 AARP Tax Aide*(Appt only) 9:00 Toenail Clipping Clinic 10:00 Qigong 10:00 Concert Band 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 11:00 German Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Beginner Guitar 1:30 Seniors for Creative Learning	9:00 Yoga 9:00 Wood Carvers 10:00 Mandolin 10:30 Silver Stage Players 11:00 Violin 11:00 Advance Spanish 1:00 Fun Film Friday 1:00 Jam Band	28
31 9:00 Music Theory 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 10:30 Acrylic Folk Techniques 11:30 Lunch & Learn—Advance Directives 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	Open Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:30 pm Billiards Darts Ping Pong Library Dine-A-Mite Diner 11:00 am—1:00 pm	Classes are subject to change. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for a current list of programming as some activities may have been added or changed after the publication of this calendar.			

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY 8:30 Billiards / Library / Darts 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 8:30 Blood Glucose Checks 9:00 Ping Pong 9:00 Ping Pong 9:00 Ping Pong 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Morning Painting 9:00 Ping Pong 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Greenhouse Open 10:00 Basic Arthritis Exercise 10:00 Quilting Bee 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 10:00 Greenhouse Open 10:00 Basic Arthritis Exercise 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 Adv. Arthritis Exercise 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner 11:00 Adv. Arthritis Exercise 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner 12:30 Afternoon Painting 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner TECH TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT 11:30 Painting Open Studio 12:30 Texas Hold 'Em 12:30 Cards & Games TECH TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT TECH TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT

RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS * Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for more information.

ELDER NEWS VIEWS APRIL 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Classes are subject to change. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for a current list of programming as some activities may have been added or changed after the publication of this calendar.	9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg./Adv. Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 Open Sewing 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Seniors for Creative Learning 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Beginner Ballroom	2 9:00 AARP Tax Aide* (Appt only) 10:00 Qigong 10:00 Concert Band 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Genealogy 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	3 Classes cancelled	PANCAKE FEST 4 7 am-12 pm
7 9:00 Music Theory 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 10:30 Acrylic Folk Techniques 11:30 Lunch & Learn—Final Wishes 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	8 9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg./Adv. Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 Open Sewing 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Seniors for Creative Learning 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Beyond Ballroom	9 9:00 Toenail Clipping Clinic 9:00 AARP Tax Aide* (Appt only) 10:00 Qigong 10:00 Concert Band 10:00 Legal Aid* (Appt only) 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 11:00 German Class 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Beginner Guitar 1:00 Seniors for Creative Learning 2:30 Council on Aging	9:00 Yoga 11 9:00 Wood Carvers 10:00 Mandolin 10:30 Silver Stage Players 11:00 Violin 11:00 Advanced Spanish 12:00 Flower Lover's Club 1:00 Fun Film Friday 1:00 Jam Band 1:00 Social (Ballroom) Dance
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9:00 Music Theory 21 9:00 Tech Smart Class 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 10:30 Acrylic Folk Techniques 11:30 Hands only CPR 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	9:00 Tech Smart Class 9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg./Adv Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 Open sewing 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Seniors for Creative Learning 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Beyond Ballroom	9:00 Tech Smart Class 9:00 Toenail Clipping Clinic 10:00 Concert Band 10:00 Qigong 10:30 Beginner Spanish 11:00 Jazz Band 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	24 9:00 Tech Smart Class 9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 10:00 Grief Recovery Group 11:00 Beginner German 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Seniors for Creative Learning 1:00 Beginner Guitar	25 9:00 Tech Smart Class 9:00 Yoga 9:00 Wood Carvers 10:00 Mandolin 10:30 Silver Stage Players 11:00 Violin 11:00 Advance Spanish 1:00 Fun Film Friday 1:00 Jam Band
9:00 Music Theory 9:30 Creative Writers 10:00 Mahjong 10:00 Tai Chi 10:30 Acrylic Folk Techniques 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Artist Trading Cards 1:00 Bingo 1:30 Intermediate Line Dancing	9:30 Singing Seniors 9:30 Beg./Adv Sewing 10:00 French Class 11:00 Italian Class 12:30 Open sewing 12:30 SAIL Exercise 1:00 Seniors for Creative Learning 1:30 Intro to Line Dancing 2:30 Open Ballroom Dancing	10:00 Concert Band3010:00 Qigong10:30 Beginner Spanish11:00 Jazz Band12:30 SAIL Exercise1:00 Genealogy1:30 Beginner Line Dancing	Open Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:30 pm Billiards Darts Ping Pong Library Dine-A-Mite Diner 11:00 am—1:00 pm	

RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS * Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for more information.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 Billiards / Library / Darts 9:00 Ping Pong 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Greenhouse Open 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner	8:30 Billiards / Library / Darts 9:00 Ping Pong 9:00 Co-Ed Senior Softball 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Basic Arthritis Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi Set Practice 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 Adv. Arthritis Exercise 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner 11:30 Painting Open Studio 12:30 Cards & Games TECH TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT	8:30 Billiards / Library / Darts 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Morning Painting (concludes 4/9/25) 10:00 Quilting Bee 10:00 Greenhouse Open 10:00 Concert Band 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner 12:30 Afternoon Painting (concludes 4/9/25) 12:30 Texas Hold 'Em TECH TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT	 8:30 Billiards / Library / Darts 8:30 Blood Glucose Checks 9:00 Co-Ed Senior Softball 9:00 Ping Pong 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:00 Basic Arthritis Exercise 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 Adv. Arthritis Exercise 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner TECH TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT 	8:30 Billiards / Library / Darts 9:00 Ping Pong 10:00 Water Aerobics at YMCA 10:30 Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 Dine-A-Mite Diner

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Continued from page 5

Timeless Ballroom, teaches this fun class. Put on your dancing shoes and join us! Suggested donation of \$3/class.

Dine-a-Mite Diner: Stop by for a lunch-time meal 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. Operated by CAC Mobile Meals.

Fun Film Friday: Enjoy a weekly movie every Friday at 1:00 pm. Light snacks available for a donation. Want a say in what we are playing? Join our movie club which meets bi-monthly to choose the fun films. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 for more information.

French: Tuesdays at 10:00 am. Enjoy expanding your French vocabulary! Oui? Peut-être? Call the Center for more information.

German: Thursdays at 11:00 am.

Greenhouse: Now open on Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Hands-on care for any troubled houseplants, repotting assistance, and general growing advice. Feel free to stop by and see our new greenhouse renovations! Please call ahead to let us know you are coming.

Guitar (Beginner): Interested in learning how to strum your favorite tunes? Join us every Thursday at 1:00 pm to expand your knowledge. To register and ask questions, contact the Center at 865-523-1135.

Italian: Tuesdays at 11:00 am. Call the Center for more information.

Jazz Band: Wednesdays after Concert Band rehearsal. Call group leader Linda 865-640-1856 for more information. Also see "Concert Band".

Jam Band: Whether you are a musician looking to play some of your favorite tunes with friends or you're just a music lover wanting to hear some of your favorite songs, Jam Band on Fridays at 1:00 pm is the place to be!

Knitting & Crocheting: Thursdays at 9:00 am. Meet new friends and enjoy crocheting in this low key and social sewing circle. Crochet may be a suitable alternative for crafters who have set aside more intricate crafts due to vision loss or loss of mobility in the hands. Bring your own craft to work on; instructions and advice provided. Beginners are always welcome!

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Library: The O'Connor Center Community Library is open! Volunteers organize, sort, and shelve all books. Feel free to stop by and peruse the collection.

Mahjong Mondays: Mahjong classes for beginners offered on Mondays at 10:00 am. Call to register for this class.

Painting: Wednesdays. These once a week instructed art sessions started February 5th and will be held for 10 weeks in an art room setting with our painting instructor, Ann Birdwell. Call to register. Cost is \$40/person for 10-week session.

Morning – We invite beginning and intermediate painters to practice and hone their skills with assignments from our painting instructor.

Afternoon – We invite experienced and advanced painters to practice their skills with guidance from our painting instructor.

NEW! FREE Notary Services (Exclusive for Members of the O'Connor Center). By appointment only.

Music Theory Class

The purpose of this course is to guide students to learn to read music, then build on that knowledge by helping them understand the musicality in the piece. This will be done by learning the differences in time and key signatures, counting the measures, and the history of music.

PANCAKE FEST! Friday April 4, 7 am to 12 pm. Join us for some good ole' breakfast comfort food, Senior Expo, Artisan Fair and live music all the while supporting your favorite Senior Center.

Painting Open Studio: Tuesdays at 11:30 am. Painting studio is open to participants to work on their own paintings. Call for more information.

Ping Pong: Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9:00 am. Join us for an active and fun game of table tennis! Beginners and experts are all welcome. We will play games of single players or bring a friend to play doubles.

Continued on page 10



If you are always looking to increase your knowledge and learn something new, this is the program for you! We will be featuring an educational speaker twice a month to talk on topics that are pertinent to you. Call ahead to register. Lunch from the O'Connor diner is provided, and donations are appreciated. All programs begin at 11:30 am.

Monday, March 10 Aging with Independence

- Alaina Marino from Marino Physiotherapy,
- will share the 8 Better Bs: Breathing, Bones,
- Bites, Bladder, Butt, Brain and Boogie that you
- must maintain to age independently.

Monday, March 31

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- **Advance Directives**
- Sophie Fielder, Associate Attorney with Elder
- Care Law of Tennessee, will share informa-
- tion on the two common types of advanced
- directives: Living Will and Durable Power of
- Attorney for health care. Advanced Directives
- are legal documents that provide instructions
- for medical care when you are not able to
- communicate your own wishes.

Monday, April 7 Final Wishes

- A representative from Mynatt Funeral Home
- will share information on preplanning your
- final wishes, which is one of the greatest gifts
- you can give your loved ones. Preplanning will give you and your family peace of mind during
- a difficult time.

Monday, April 14 Tune In: Ear Health & Hearing

- Tune In: Ear Health & Hearing Loss
- Julie Beeler, Program Liaison from UT Health
- Science Center Audiology and Speech, will be
- discussing ear health and hearing loss. Join
- us for a lively presentation on how to address
- various ear issues and reduce hearing- related
- challenges in your life.

In Mobile Meals' Adopt-A-Senior program, you can provide Mobile Meals for a month, or more, for a homebound senior citizen for \$80 a month. Your contribution will be recognized in this list in the next newsletter issue following your donation. For information about Adopt-A-Senior, call the Senior Nutrition Program, 865-524-2786. The following people and organizations contributed to Mobile Meals in December 2024 and January 2025.

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ELDER NEWS **VIEWS**

Seniors for Creative Learning: A partnership between the O'Connor Center and the UT Center for Professional Education and Lifelong Learning makes this lecture series possible. Call 865-974-0150 for information, to register for classes, and to pay by credit card.

Silver Stage Players: Fridays at 10:30 am. Please join us! We are currently looking for new cast and crew to work on the next original theater production for the winter season. There are no small parts! No experience necessary. If interested in joining or supporting the winter show, give us a call at 865-523-1135.

Singing Seniors: Tuesdays at 9:30 am. We are delighted to welcome back 70+ choir members to the center! Keep a look out in upcoming newsletters for our upcoming concert schedule. For questions, please call us 865-523-1135.

Spanish:

Beginner – Wednesdays at 10:30 am. Hola! We will be guided by "Madrigal's Magic Key to Spanish", an accessible and affordable basic textbook. Call the Center at 865-523-1135 to sign • up or express interest.

Advanced - Fridays at 11 am. Class is conversational.

Beginner Sewing: Every Tuesday at 9:30 am. Learn machine sewing techniques on small, easy, and useful crafts in this instructed sewing class. Space is limited; please call to reserve a spot or express interest!

Tech Smart Knox Seniors

Tech Smart is for older adults 60+. The students in class will receive digital training and access to digital tools to gain the skills and confidence needed to navigate technology. Morning and afternoon sessions available. Space is limited. Call 865-524-2786 to reserve your spot!

Technology Tutoring: Available one-on-one appointments on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for computer questions and answers. Please call 865-523-1135 to schedule an appointment with our volunteers.

Texas Hold 'Em: Wednesdays at

12:30 pm. Enjoy fellowship and competition with experienced and inexperienced card players, newcomers welcome!

Woodcarving: Join us every Friday at 9 am for fun and creativity. Woodcarvers of all abilities are welcome, and instruction is available. Call 865-523-1135 for more information.

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- George & Betty Southworth
- Ellen Spitzer St Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
- Mary Stair
- Brian Stannard
- MartinStansberry
- Judy Staruk
- Kevin & Linda Staton James & Nancy Staub
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ELDER NEWS **VIEWS**

The Council on Aging, in Partnership with AARP Tennessee and Seniors for Creative Learning, presents

GETTING YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER

with Deanna Waddell, Community Educator, Greg Chandler, and Kim Miller

Thursday, April 10 at 2:30 pm O'connor Senior Center, 611 Winona St.

Getting Your House In Order is a book that was created by Smoky Mountain Hospice in order to help you make decisions to relieve others from the anxiety and burden of making them at a very difficult time. It assists you in recording memories, information, and directives for your loved ones to go by at end of life.

Speakers include experts from Smoky Mountain Hospice, including Deanna Waddell, Community Educator, who educates and supports patients, families and healthcare professionals on the benefits of early hospice intervention. An Attorney and a Notary will also be on hand to answer questions and assist with documents. Refreshments generously provided by AARP Tennessee.



Serving our community since 1975

ELDER NEWS & VIEWS

OFFICE ON AGING DIRECTOR

EDITOR

Dottie Lyvers

Rachel Kraft

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