

# Monthly Newsletter

Volume 3 | Issue 3  
April 2021



## Full Steam Ahead...

We are approximately seven weeks from our Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center officially opening! It is surreal and exciting! We have received so much support from the entire community and can feel the positive energy from all of you.

The Gathering Place Community Center interior renovations are mostly complete. This month, we will be having our new flooring installed throughout the center, continuing to process memberships and developing our activities and programs for June and July. If you need a membership form, please go to our website: [www.schoharieseniors.org](http://www.schoharieseniors.org) or contact me at the center – 518-823-4338. Make sure to check out our progress section on the Center in this issue.

In addition, if you have a special skill or would like to teach a class, please complete the Class Proposal Form, which is also available on our website or here at the Center. We welcome all thoughts and ideas!

We will have a “soft opening” on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> for our members and invited guests, and on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, we will have our Grand Opening complete with scheduled tours of our facilities, and a drive through Brooks Barbeque fundraiser for the Gathering Place.

Our Board of Directors have continued to work hard to prepare our not-for-profit for a prosperous future. The specific updates are covered in this issue under “Board of Director’s News” section.

There is definitely light at the end of the tunnel. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please feel free to contact me (Kim Witkowski) at 518-254-7040. If we can’t provide you with assistance ourselves, we will refer you to someone who can. Remember, deadlines for articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. We hope you enjoy!

**“If Everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”**

**-Henry Ford**

*Our Mission is to provide cultural, social, and recreational activities,  
and help meet the needs of the 50 Plus Community in Schoharie County and surrounding areas.*

## News from Our Board of Directors...

The Board of Directors met at the Center on Monday, March 22nd. The following is an update:

- The Board of Directors and Alternate Directors meet monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 9:30 am. All meetings are now held at the Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center and conducted with the use of ZOOM, as well as in person.
- The Board agreed that the Senior Clubs could begin to meet again, as long as they observe the COVID-19 mask and spacing rules as recommended by the CDC. Some of the clubs have decided to hold their meeting here at the Center from now on, since there is no charge to use the facilities for this purpose. In addition, if you think your club members could use ZOOM, the Senior Council has a license for use and we can help you set a meeting up. Just contact Kim Witkowski if you are interested.
- An opportunity to move our Middleburgh Everything Shoppe to a much bigger space across the street has occurred. The Board voted unanimously to move our Shoppe to 312 Main Street (where the Furniture Boutique was previously – as well as the old 5 and 10 cent store). We will be moving the Shoppe during the month of April and will schedule a Grand Opening at the end of April, beginning of May.
- Kim is continuing to look into funding opportunities to help offset some of the loss of funding last year due to the pandemic and the closing of the Shoppes and County.
- The Fundraising Committee has met and has outlined a fundraising schedule for 2021. The first fundraiser will be selling insulated bags, tote bags, and lunch bags with our name and logo on them. These items will be available for purchase beginning in May 2021.
- We have received a number of memberships already for the Center, and Kim has begun developing the schedule of programs and activities to begin in June. There has also been a lot of interest from people and some have even stopped by to take a tour. The Board continues to move forward with these positive changes.

Please feel free to contact your Club Director or the Executive Director if you have any questions about any these changes.



***The Senior Council does have limited availability for assisting with Life Alert Medical Devices. If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please feel free to contact the Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens' office at 518-254-7040.***

### ***Upcoming Senior Trips and Events:***

***Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 2021:  
Tentative Grand Opening of the  
Gathering Place 50 Plus  
Community Center!!!***

### ***Quote of the Month:***

***YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD  
TO SET ANOTHER GOAL  
OR TO DREAM A NEW DREAM***

***The Senior Council also  
provides the following services  
to seniors in Schoharie County:***

***Advocacy Services for 50 Plus  
population with questions about  
programs and services in our  
County***

***Lifeline – offering medical alert  
emergency response service to  
eligible seniors***

***Highway Hero Program – the  
Senior Council will reimburse  
any senior citizen who  
voluntarily surrenders their  
driver's license for a photo id  
card***

***Discretionary Emergency  
Funds – available to aid seniors  
who do not qualify for other  
funding sources***

***Provide support to all 11  
county-wide Senior Citizens  
Groups***

***Support and resources for all  
senior citizens in Schoharie  
County***

***Sponsors events throughout the  
year for all seniors in our  
community***

***Operates the Everything  
Shoppes in Cobleskill and  
Middleburgh***

### **Current Board of Directors:**

**Betty Karlau, President**

**Judi Sherman, Vice President &  
Director of Schoharie 50 Plus  
Senior Club**

**Lorraine Wood, Treasurer**

**Patricia MacNeil, Secretary &  
Director of the Cobleskill Young at  
Heart Senior Club**

**Faye Harris, Corresponding  
Secretary & Director of the  
Jefferson Senior Club**

**Shirley Koser, Director of the  
Carlisle Senior Club**

**Anna Slavinski, Director of the  
Central Bridge Senior Club**

**Dottie Pickett, Director of the  
Conesville Mountain Top Senior  
Club**

**Willie Karlau, County Liaison &  
Director of the Middleburgh Golden  
Agers Senior Club**

**Vern Hall, Director of the  
Richmondville Senior Club**

**Pauline Brown, Director of the  
Sharon Springs Silver and Gold  
Senior Club**

**Elsa Varrecchia, Director of the  
Summit Senior Club**

**William Olewnick, Director of the  
Wright Friendly Seniors Club**



## **Active Lifestyle – What The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center is All About**

Our phones have been ringing off the hook with wonderful people who want to provide classes and activities for all of us to enjoy at the center. Some of these programs and activities are:

- Arts and Crafts provided by the Studio of Arts and Crafts here in Cobleskill three days a week;
- Movement classes by Anna provided twice per week;
- Computer classes and help desk will be available beginning in June;
- Gardening classes, as well as a Gardening Club, will be available beginning in June;
- Line Dancing once per week will be available;
- Defensive Driving Class will be available quarterly, with the first class scheduled for Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> – call the office to sign up as spots are going fast!
- Mindful Meditation classes, Yoga, and other relaxation classes will be available starting in June;
- Numerous support groups will also be available beginning in June.

These are just a few of our programs and activities that will be available at The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center. This new center will provide resources, programs, meeting spaces, and many classes and activities all dedicated to enhancing the lives of our 50 Plus population in Schoharie County and surrounding areas.

The new center will provide a wonderful opportunity to serve our community in a variety of ways. The center includes a reception area, a creative arts room, a recreation area, a small library, a computer lab and help desk, as well as providing special events.

Remember that membership and a donation toward a loved one's account at the center make great gifts for our parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers and neighbors. For more information, please call the Center at 518-823-4338.



**The Everything Shoppe**  
 115 Plaze Lane #8  
 COBLESKILL  
 518-254-0181

312 Main St.  
 MIDDLEBURGH  
 518-827-4548

Operated by  
**Schoharie County  
 Council of  
 Senior Citizens, Inc.**  
 Providing numerous services to seniors  
[www.schoharieseniors.org](http://www.schoharieseniors.org)  
 518-254-7040

Middleburgh: Tues.-Sat. 10am-3pm  
 Cobleskill: Tues.-Sat. 10am-3pm; Fri. 10am-5pm  
 Donations accepted during business hours only. Tax deductible.



## Who Are the Senior Council Members:

The Senior Council Board is made up of representatives of all 11 Senior Groups from the individual towns in Schoharie County. Contact Information for these clubs is as follows:

- Carlisle Seniors: Meet 2nd Wednesday @ 12:30pm at the Carlisle Fire House. Contact Shirley Koser at 518-868-4683.
- Central Bridge Seniors: Meet 2nd Tuesday @ 12:00pm at the Methodist Church. Contact Sharon Aitchison at 518-234-7861.
- Cobleskill Young at Heart Club: Meet 2nd Wednesday @ 1:30pm at St. Vincent Church. Contact Janice Desandos at 518-234-7888.
- Conesville Mountaintop Seniors: Meet 3rd Thursday @ 12:00pm at the Firehouse. Contact Carolyn Brown at 518-827-6282.
- Jefferson Seniors: Meet 2nd Wednesday @ 1:00pm at the Community Center. Contact Mary Ann Nyback at 607-397-8094.
- Middleburgh Golden Agers: Meet 1st Saturday at 12:00pm at the Methodist Church. Contact Matthew Coltrain at 518-231-8489.
- Richmondville Seniors: Meet 1st Wednesday @ 12:00pm at the Firehouse Hall. Contact Vern Hall at 518-705-0159.
- Schoharie Fifty Plus Club: Meet 3rd Tuesday @ 12:00pm at the Presbyterian Church Hall. Contact Betty Karlau at 518-295-7781.
- Sharon Silver and Gold Club: Meet 2nd Friday @ 12:00 pm at the Senior Center/Fire House. Contact Anne Lennebacker at 607-547-9055.
- Summit Seniors: Meet 3rd Tuesday @ 12:00pm at the Summit Fire House. Contact Elsa Varrecchia at 607-588-7452.
- Wright Friendly Seniors: Meet 2nd Thursday @ 12:00pm at the Lutheran Church in Gallupville. Contact Connie Skinner at 518-295-7734.

**Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. &  
 The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center**  
 127 Kenyon Road  
 Cobleskill, NY 12043  
 Kimberly Witkowski, Executive Director  
 Tel. 518-254-7040 Fax. 518-823-4433  
[www.schoharieseniors.org](http://www.schoharieseniors.org) Email: [office@seniorcouncilofschoco.org](mailto:office@seniorcouncilofschoco.org)

## The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center Opening June 2021

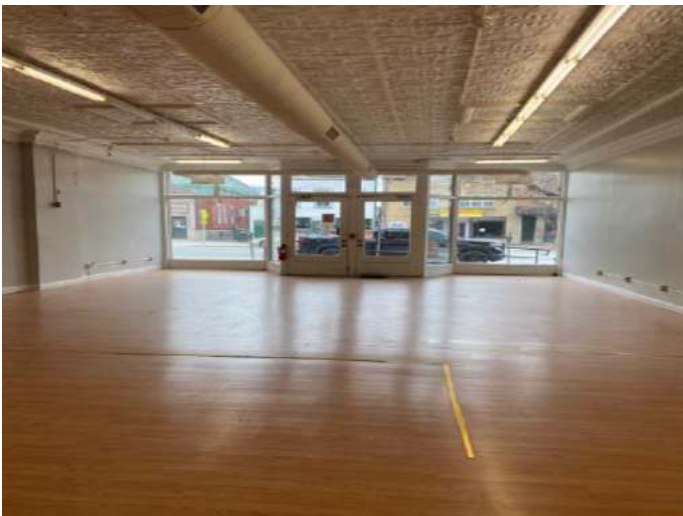
Our Center is progressing fast! The inside renovations are nearly complete. We will be having new flooring put in the Center in April, and a special flooring in our Multipurpose Room for our Movement Activities. We have our new member kiosk system all set to go, and now we are focusing on the outside of the Center. We have removed a lot of the bushes that were out front and will redo the landscaping there. We will be putting in a driveway in back for the handicapped parking area, and running our town sewer and water lines, as well as paving our parking lot. Still a lot to do but I know we will get there. We are so excited!

We also need to send out a huge thank you to one of our biggest funders, Sterling Insurance Company Foundation here in Cobleskill. They have given us a very generous donation toward our construction costs. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity!

The following are some updated pictures of our renovations:



Our Middleburgh Everything Shoppe is moving in April 2021. We are relocating to 312 Main Street in Middleburgh – to a much larger and handicapped accessible location!



## **YOUR DONATIONS TO SCHOHARIE COUNTY COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS, INC. ARE WELCOME AND TAX-DEDUCTIBLE!**

With everything that has happened in 2020, not-for-profits are definitely facing some challenging times ahead. The Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens has been in existence for almost 50 years. During this time, we have continued to be committed to helping our 50 Plus Community age well.

There are many ways you can help us continue to make a significant difference in Schoharie County and surrounding areas. Please understand that every penny counts and helps us to help others. No gift is too small. The Senior Council would ask that you help us in whatever way you can to help us continue to improve aging in our 50 Plus Community.

Here are just a few ways you can help:

- Go to our website, [www.schoharieseniors.org](http://www.schoharieseniors.org) and click the “Donate” button at the top of the page. You can easily make a one-time donation, or set up a monthly donation, through our PayPal account.
- Amazon Smile: We are thrilled to let you know that we have become members of the AmazonSmile.com initiative. When you shop at Amazon, you simply make sure you go to Amazon Smile and pick Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. as your not-for-profit charity. Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation will make donations to us based on your purchases which will help us to continue to bring new programs into Schoharie County to help all of our Senior Citizens.



- Drop off or mail your donation to: 127 Kenyon Road, Cobleskill, NY 12043
- Drop off your clean returnable cans and bottles to us at 127 Kenyon Road, Cobleskill, NY 12043.

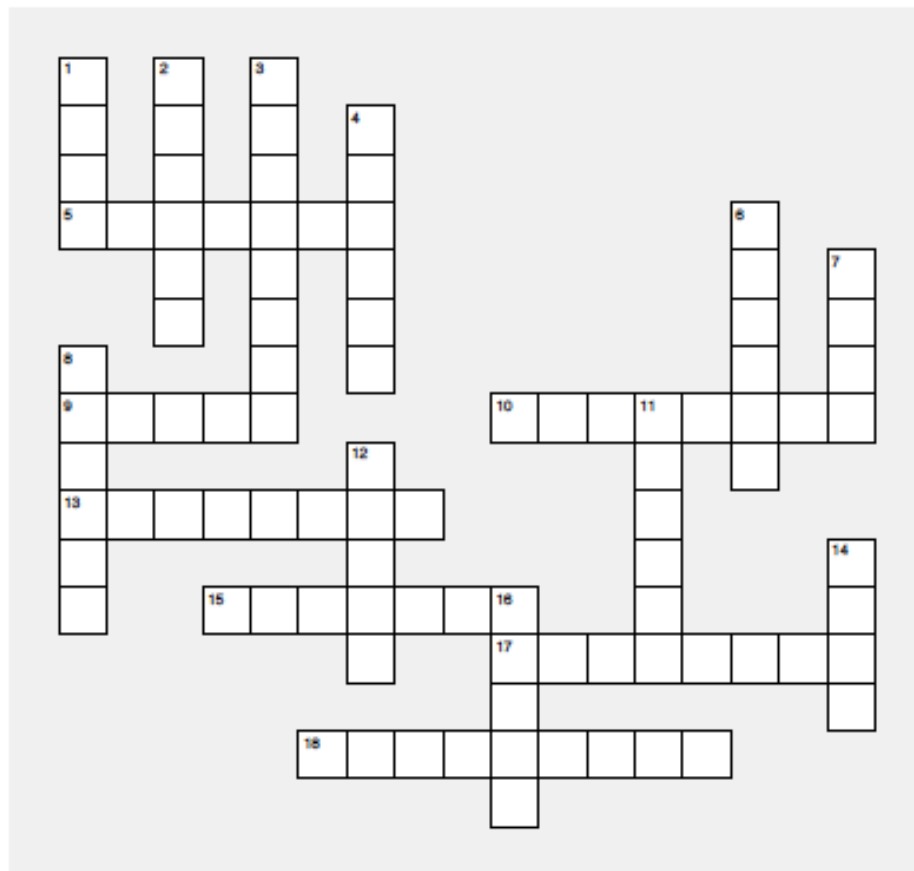
We appreciate your continued support and look forward to bring even more services and opportunities to our 50 Plus Community!

### **Check Out Our Website!**

If you get a chance, check out our updated website for the Senior Council. The website address is: <http://www.schoharieseniors.org>



# Spring Crossword



## ACROSS

- 5) They're usually found in beds
- 9) Time for showers
- 10) Gloom's opposite
- 13) Yellow spring flower
- 15) Day for diamonds and dreams
- 17) Shower apparel?
- 18) Monarch, e.g.

## DOWN

- 1) Sport with tees
- 2) Fledgling plant
- 3) America's pastime
- 4) \_\_\_ egg
- 6) Eating outing
- 7) When spring ends
- 8) Vegetable plot
- 11) One of four in a year
- 12) Breezy
- 14) Flying toy with a tail
- 16) Verdant

## Easter Word Search

J G G L Y H O S Q S X O K C U  
 O E L N C N U L U T S Y G H J  
 E E L R I N N S Y E L E U O H  
 B P U L D T E U C K I T Q C R  
 L H A A Y J N O B S A D B O U  
 C A Y R P B L I S A Q J C L W  
 L H M P A O E Y A B Y G T A M  
 O X O B R D D A S P B H O T X  
 J W N F B K E K N H C T Y E A  
 M M U F A M I L Y S S U D L W  
 V L E T A R O C E D P O N D C  
 E G G S E L I R P A R L A R R  
 A B I E N W C J R M I I C I U  
 E X P H V Q O Q S Q N L T M B  
 H D Q T W M M Z Z A G Y R D N

APRIL	BASKET	BUNNY
CANDY	CHURCH	CHOCOLATE
COLORFUL	DECORATE	EGGS
FAMILY	JELLYBEANS	JESUS
LAMB	LILY	PAINTING
PARADE	SPRING	SUNDAY

### Perspective on Aging

"I asked a friend who has crossed 70 and is heading towards 80 what sort of changes she is feeling in herself? She sent me the following:

1. After loving my parents, my siblings, my spouse, my children and my friends, I have now started loving myself.
2. I have realized that I am not "Atlas". The world does not rest on my shoulders.
3. I have stopped bargaining with vegetable & fruit vendors. A few pennies more is not going to break me, but it might help the poor fellow save for his daughter's school fees.
4. I leave my waitress a big tip. The extra money might bring a smile to her face. She is toiling much harder for a living than I am.
5. I stopped telling the elderly that they've already narrated that story many times. The story makes them walk down memory lane & relive their past.
6. I have learned not to correct people even when I know they are wrong. The onus of making everyone perfect is not on me. Peace is more precious than perfection.
7. I give compliments freely and generously. Compliments are a mood enhancer not only for the recipient but also for me. And a small tip for the recipient of a compliment, never, NEVER turn it down, just say "Thank You."
8. I have learned not to bother about a crease or a spot on my shirt. Personality speaks louder than appearances.
9. I walk away from people who don't value me. They might not know my worth, but I do.
10. I remain cool when someone plays dirty to outrun me in the rat race. I am not a rat and neither am I in any race.
11. I am learning not to be embarrassed by my emotions. It's my emotions that make me human.



- 12. I have learned that it's better to drop the ego than to break a relationship. My ego will keep me aloof, whereas, with relationships, I will never be alone.
- 13. I have learned to live each day as if it's the last. After all, it might be the last.
- 14. I am doing what makes me happy. I am responsible for my happiness, and I owe it to myself. Happiness is a choice. You can be happy at any time, just choose to be!

**Printable Sudoku Puzzles - Hard #4**

7		1			9			3
	2		7				6	5
				4				
		8			1		9	6
	9		3		8		4	
1	3		9			7		
				8				
3	1				6		7	
	8		5			4		9

				7			9	1
				3	4	5		
	9	3			8			
					2			3
7	5	1	6	9	3	8	2	4
4			8					
				3			1	8
		5	4	8				
9	1			2				

			7			5		
			1	3		7		
3					5	9	2	1
	7				3	2	1	
1								9
	8	3	6				7	
2	1	5	9					7
		4		5	1			
		8			7			

		2		5				7
7				1				4
	4	1	9		8			
2			5		9			
	8		4	6	7		2	
			1		2			4
			6		3	1	7	
	9			2				5
1				4		6		

**Solution to March's Newsletter – Sudoku Puzzle**

6	5	4	7	3	2	8	9	1
2	8	9	1	6	5	3	7	4
3	1	7	4	8	9	6	2	5
1	2	6	8	5	7	4	3	9
5	7	8	9	4	3	1	6	2
4	9	3	2	1	6	5	8	7
9	6	5	3	7	1	2	4	8
7	4	1	6	2	8	9	5	3
8	3	2	5	9	4	7	1	6

5	9	4	1	2	6	7	8	3
2	8	1	9	3	7	5	6	4
7	6	3	5	8	4	1	9	2
3	1	5	2	6	9	8	4	7
9	7	8	3	4	1	6	2	5
4	2	6	8	7	5	9	3	1
8	4	7	6	1	3	2	5	9
6	3	9	7	5	2	4	1	8
1	5	2	4	9	8	3	7	6

3	2	6	5	4	7	8	1	9
5	4	8	9	3	1	6	7	2
7	9	1	8	2	6	5	3	4
6	5	9	4	1	2	7	8	3
1	7	4	3	9	8	2	6	5
2	8	3	7	6	5	4	9	1
4	6	5	1	8	3	9	2	7
8	3	7	2	5	9	1	4	6
9	1	2	6	7	4	3	5	8

1	4	3	7	8	5	6	9	2
8	9	5	2	6	1	3	4	7
7	6	2	3	9	4	8	5	1
6	3	7	1	2	9	4	8	5
4	8	1	5	7	6	2	3	9
2	5	9	8	4	3	7	1	6
3	2	6	9	1	8	5	7	4
9	7	8	4	5	2	1	6	3
5	1	4	6	3	7	9	2	8