

# Weekly Buzz

January 30,  
2026



## Mary Ellen's Corner

Hello Friends –

It is hard to believe it is almost February! It is a wonderful month with lots of celebrations. It is Black History Month. **Wear Red** for Women Day for awareness of women's heart disease is on February 7th. There is Valentine's Day and President's Day. Fat Tuesday leads us into Lent which begins on February 18. Whatever we celebrate this month, I hope we find joy, peace and good health. Have an excellent week.

Joyfully,

Mary Ellen Layman, Director of Activities

## Ash Wednesday Service

February 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lyons Chapel. All are welcome.

Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday, February 18

1-1:30 Brownstone Community Room  
1:45-2:15 Shafer/Schweitzer Creative Place  
2:30-3:00 North Community Room  
3:30-4:00 GW Reserve Community Room

## Upcoming Trip Pickups -

2/18	SUFFS the Musical	6 p.m.
2/20	Severance Pickup	9 a.m.
3/29	<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	12:30 p.m.

## Tuesday Evening Programs

Please call the signup line if you need transportation.

Bus pickup starts at **6:15 p.m. for GW** and **6:30 p.m. for main campus.**

All Programs start at 7 p.m.

2/3 NO TEP - renovations

2/10 NO TEP - renovations

2/17 Rey Rangel – Guitar and vocals

2/24 OPUS 216

## A Message from the Resident Association

I want to thank everyone for participating in the Employee Gratuity program. We collected over \$128,000 to distribute. I signed close to 350 checks and received thank you notes from over 70 staff members. When we pass out the checks at the Christmas party there are many verbal expressions of appreciation from the staff. I would like to share some of their comments with you. Imagine my surprise after being employed less than a month and receiving a gift. I'm excited to be a part of this community." "Thank you for your generosity, you truly have no idea how much of an impact this has on staff lives." "This has been a hard year for me and this check helped me pay some medical bills." Another staff member needed a new kitchen appliance and was able to purchase it, and several staff members said they were able to take their family on a special weekend. As you can see from these few messages and many more, the checks that we were able to present to each staff member meant a lot to them.

When thinking about your donation, remember that staff are not able to accept tips, so this is our way of saying thank you for your service each year. This touches staff that make OLBV function on a daily basis whom you may never see or have any contact with. A check should be made out to the Breckenridge Village Resident Association and sent to Mary Ann Dolinar in the Human Resource Department at Fairmount Health Center. You can make donations to the fund at any time during the year; you don't have to wait until November.

Connie Crihfield, President  
Breckenridge Village Resident Association

## Trips -

### **Willoughby Fine Arts Presents - Jesus Christ Superstar**

**Sunday, March 29**

**Bus Pickup 12:30 p.m.**

**Event 2 p.m.**

**Willoughby Fine Arts**

**Cost: \$28**

Passion. Betrayal. Redemption. And the ultimate rock opera. Jesus Christ Superstar is a global phenomenon that has wowed audiences for decades. A collaboration between theatrical powerhouses Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, Jesus Christ Superstar is a high-energy rock musical that reimagines the last weeks of Jesus Christ's life focusing on his relationships, struggles, and ultimate sacrifice. Told through the perspective of Judas Iscariot, this iconic show brings new life to the Biblical story. Transportation included. **Registration is required and now open.**

## New Classes and Events -

### **Aging Well Series 2026 Presents - Over the Counter Supplements**

**Monday, February 23**

**Bus Pickup 1:30 p.m.**

**Event 2 p.m.**

**Smith Performing Arts Center**

**Cost: No Charge**

Join us for our first 2026 Aging Well lecture featuring Haidy N. Kamel, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Chemistry at Cuyahoga Community College who will educate us on over-the-counter herbal and dietary supplements. Dr. Kamel received a fellowship from the NIUST (National Institute of Underwater Science and Technology) in 2006 to continue her research in the field of drug discovery from natural sources. Dr. Kamel comes to us from the Tri-C Speakers Bureau.

**Registration required.** Transportation is available by calling the signup line.

## Watercolor Techniques & Tricks Painting class with Sandy Reddig

**Starting Monday, March 9**

**Bus Pickup 12:30 p.m.**

**Class 1-2:30 p.m.**

**MCA Art Room at OCP**

**Cost: \$45 plus \$15 supply fee**

Rancher Sandy Reddig will be teaching a **4-week class** for people of all painting levels starting on Monday, March 9 and running every Monday through March 30. All supplies will be provided. This watercolor painting class is for **YOU!** Take time to Paint! Don't know how? Beginner or seasoned? Struggling to improve as a painter? Here's your opportunity to be inspired & build new skills! All this & more watercolor techniques & tricks will be covered in a series of classes taught by our own artist **Sandy Reddig**. Sandy has been professionally painting in watercolor, pastel & oils for 45 years. What? You'll learn to accurately draw your image & know what supplies to get started & so much more.

These classes are designed for someone with a bit (maybe almost none) of painting experience in watercolor, who feels a need to grow to a new skill level. A brief discussion of the topic will be followed by a demo. Each artist will then work on their projects, with one-on-one personal attention and constructive suggestions. All questions are encouraged so all participants will learn. Topics discussed & demonstrated include:

- Paints/Brushes/Materials
- Drawing/Designing your painting from pictures
- Color Mixing from a limited palette & learning Values and Color Temperature

Space is limited, transportation is available. **Reservations required by calling the sign-up line.**

## On Campus Happenings -

### **Iconnect Presents - Tech Concierge**

**Monday, February 2**

**10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**Gathering Space at OCP**

**Cost: No Charge**

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with NCA (Neighborhood Center Association) IConnect to offer Tech Concierge. Starting on Monday, February 2, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. with our tech concierge will be set up around the different housing areas or at the OCP around campus for your convenience to bring your laptop, phone or tablet for our Tech Concierge to help you with. **No** in-room/home visits will be available. This program is free of charge. Signup for your 15-minute time slot at your housing area's front desk. Shafer Sweitzer and Ranch residents can signup at the Osborne Community Plaza volunteer desk. The February schedule will be as follows:  
February 2 – Gathering Space at OCP  
February 9 – North Private Dining  
February 16 – Riversedge Pub GW  
February 23 – No service this day

### **CMA Long Distance Learning**

#### **Presents - Karamu Artists Inc.**

**Wednesday, February 4**

**Bus Pickup 10:30 a.m.**

**Class 11 a.m.**

**Smith Performing Arts Center**

**Cost: \$5**

Join the Cleveland Museum of Art's Arielle Levine as she takes us through Karamu Artists Inc.'s display, a group that counted some of the most recognized Black printmakers of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) . **Karamu Artists Inc.** presents more than 50 prints created by the group's members, from both the museum's collection as well as important loans from local and national institutions. **Reservations required.** Transportation is available by calling the sign-up line.

36851 Ridge Rd. | Willoughby, OH 44094

## **Science Friday with Joe Presents - How to Spot Pseudo-Science, Quacks and Modern Myths Part 2**

**Friday, February 6**

**Bus Pickup 10:30 a.m.**

**Class 11 a.m.**

**Smith Performing Arts Center**

**Cost: No Charge**

*An apple a day? The 5-second rule? Microwaves and Cancer?* The information highway has gotten very congested and is loaded with questionable areas. "How to Spot Pseudoscience" is a comprehensive guide to analyzing how science works, spotting quacks, and dealing with various myths. **Reservations recommended.** Transportation is available by calling the signup line.

### **Group Reiki**

**Friday, February 6**

**Bus Pickup 12 p.m.**

**Class 12:30 p.m.**

**MCA Theatre**

**Cost: No Charge**

Join our Reiki Masters, Mary Ellen Layman and Kim Bradac. Reiki is translated as "guided life force energy" and it is a compliment to modern medicine to aid in the improvement of your well-being using healing touch. Space is limited to 6 people. **Registration is required.**

Transportation is available by calling the signup line.

### **Great Decisions**

**Starting Tuesday, February 10**

**Bus Pickup 10 a.m.**

**Class 10:30 a.m.**

**Gathering Space for first meet up**

**Cost: \$40**

The 2026 Great Decisions program, organized by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA) , features eight critical foreign policy topics. The class meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and fourth Tuesday from February 10 through June 9, with an extra date of June 23 if needed. **We still have a few available spots.** Call the sign-up line to register if haven't already and for transportation.

**Sign-up Line 440.953.1375**

**Lake Metro Parks Presents -**

**Oliver and Hemlock**

**Thursday, February 12**

**Bus Pickup 12:30 p.m.**

**Class 1 p.m.**

**Smith Performing Arts Center**

**Cost: No Charge**

Join us for a double feature with Animal Ambassadors Oliver the Red-tailed Hawk and Hemlock the Barred Owl from Penitentiary Glen Reservation.

Reservations recommended and transportation available by calling the signup line.

**Movie Pizza Party featuring -**

**Back In Action**

**Monday, February 16**

**4:30 p.m.**

**Smith Performing Arts Center**

**Cost: \$5**

Come enjoy an evening with a pizza dinner and a movie. Dinner will include pizza, chips, beverages and dessert. We will be featuring the movie, **Back in Action**, starring Cameron Diaz and Jamie Foxx; Fifteen years after vanishing from the CIA to start a family, elite spies Matt and Emily jump **back** into the world of espionage when their cover is blown. **Reservations are required by calling the sign-up line.** No transportation available.

**Travels with Marilyn**

**Giverny France**

**Tuesday, February 17**

**Bus pickup 1p.m.**

**Event 1:30 p.m.**

**Gathering Space**

**Cost: No Charge**

Marilyn Dolence, one of our Ranch residents, invites you to her next travel destination to Giverny France where the great impressionist Claude Monet lived and created a beautiful garden. Come take a stroll through Monet's Garden on February 17th! **Reservations recommended.** Transportation is available by calling the signup line.

**Campus Movies -**

**North**

**Saturday, January 31**

**6:30p.m. - NCMR**

**Knives Out**

When renowned crime novelist Harlan Thrombey is found murdered at his estate, the inquisitive/debonair Detective Benoit Blanc is called in to investigate. One thing Detective Blanc knows for sure -- everyone in the wildly dysfunctional Thrombey family is a suspect.

**Grace Woods**

**Saturday, January 31**

**7 p.m. - Reserve Community Room**

**Groundhog Day**

A 1993 movie starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell. The movie tells the story of Phil Connors, a jaded TV weatherman assigned to cover the annual Groundhog Day festivities in Punxsutawney, PA. What begins as a routine assignment quickly becomes surreal when Phil wakes up to discover he is in a time loop, reliving the same day, February 2 over and over again.

**Osborne Community Plaza**

**Monday, January 26**

**5:15 p.m. - MCA Theater**

**Spiderman**

After getting bitten by a special genetically altered spider, Peter Parker, a high school student, obtains special abilities which are then used to put a stop to criminals in the area, specifically Curt Connors. Snacks served.

**Reminders -**

**Wear Red for Women Day**

Wear Red for Women Day for awareness of women's heart disease is on February 7th. Wear your favorite red clothing to show your support!

### **Schell's Bistro -**

Hours are Tuesday through Friday starting at 11a.m. and closes at 6p.m. Reservations can be made during regular business hours by calling 440.497.5160. Please note that the Bistro is closed daily from 3-3:30 p.m. for the server's lunch.

### **Severance Concert Dates**

Please mark your calendars for the following dates.

**February 20** for Frenzied Tango

**March 20** for Chan Conducts Bartok

**May 8** for Wagner's Gotterdannerug

As always, these concerts also include a pre-concert lecture, coffee and donuts and a one-hour Cleveland Orchestra concert.

**Bus pickup starts at 9 a.m.**

### **OCP Parking -**

Please refrain from parking in the two "future new resident" parking spots in front of the OCP. We want to make sure we provide a warm welcome to the increased prospect site tours. Thank you!

**This includes after hours and weekends due to tours.**

### **Specialty Recycling -**

If you have used batteries, hearing aids, or eyeglasses, residents can send them through campus mail to Ken Jones or Susanne Carter. You can also drop them off at Ranch 171 or the Grace Woods front desk.

### **Brain Games at Grace Woods -**

Brain Games meets from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Monday in the Woodland Ridge Community Room at Grace Woods. Open to the entire campus. Call transportation directly at 440.954.8343 if you need a ride.

### **Breckenridge Gift Shop -**

The Breckenridge Gift Shop is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 12-2p.m.

### **Vision Loss Support Group -**

If you are experiencing vision loss and want to connect with others for emotional support and to share ideas, please come to our vision loss support group. The group will take place on the third Wednesday of each month in the North Community Room at the North Apartments, 1-2p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Kilkenney, LISW-S at 440.954.8341 or [rkilkenney@ohioliving.org](mailto:rkilkenney@ohioliving.org).

### **Hearing Loss Support Group -**

Do you feel isolated due to hearing loss? Do you wish you could connect with others who understand what you're going through? If so, you are welcome to join our Hearing Loss Support Group, which takes place on the second Wednesday of each month, 1-2 p.m. in the Breckenridge Village North Conference Room. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Kilkenney, LISW-S, 440.954.8341 or [rkilkenney@ohioliving.org](mailto:rkilkenney@ohioliving.org).

### **Knife Sharpening -**

The Craft and Wood Shop have a new service! We have purchased a professional knife sharpener and are prepared to put a nice sharp edge on your knives! Label each handle with your name, unit and phone number on a tape. Drop them off at in the container by the entrance to the wood shop which is in the NE corner of the North Garage.

We will sharpen them and call you to arrange a time for you to pick them up. The cost is \$3 each and \$5 minimum.

**We cannot do serrated blades.**

If you have questions call Cal Hunter at 440.527.8233 or email: [cwhuntersr@aol.com](mailto:cwhuntersr@aol.com)

### **Care Cards Price Increase -**

BV North - 75¢

SSH and Gift Shop - Small - 50¢ Large 75¢

GW - 75¢

## **Spiritual Life -**

### **Weekly Scripture Verse and Devotional from Chaplain Bev...**

**He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed. (1 Peter 2:24)**

Brokenness. We see it all around us. We experience it ourselves—in our relationships, in our dreams, in our bodies. And yet, something happened over two thousand years ago that still has the power to heal that brokenness. Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, took the weight of our sins upon Himself. He carried them to the cross, giving up His life not because of His own wrongdoing, but because of ours. This is the essence of the Gospel. Through His sacrifice, Jesus offered us a path out of darkness and into His light—a life transformed by His grace. Because of Christ's sacrifice, we've been given a profound healing of our spirits. Through His wounds we are offered forgiveness and a new relationship with God, healed and whole. Understanding His sacrifice transforms us.

### **Weekly Worship Schedule -**

Every Friday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Lyons Chapel.  
Open to all campus residents, family and friends. A Breckenridge bus comes each week from North Apartments. Others can call for transportation.  
Jan 30 - Rev. Bev Wrobel  
Feb 6 - Rev. Bev Wrobel (with Communion)

### **Monthly Spiritual Life and**

### **Visitation Team Meeting -**

Wednesday, February 11 from 1p.m.-2 p.m. in the Lyons Chapel at the Nason Center. Please attend if you are interested in learning more about these impactful ministries. For more information contact Chaplain Bev Wrobel at 440.954.8373 or [bwrobel@ohioliving.org](mailto:bwrobel@ohioliving.org)

### **Chapel Choir Singers -**

Chapel Choir Singers practice at 1:30 p.m. in the Lyons Chapel. Contact Marcine Petrea at 216.261.6117 or [mrcine@aol.com](mailto:mrcine@aol.com) for more information.

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## **Visitation Team -**

The Team provides friendly visits to residents throughout the campus. They offer friendship, a listening ear and assistance to new residents in their transition. If you would like to receive a visit or be a part of the Team who makes visits, please contact Chaplain Bev Wrobel at 440.954.8373.

## **Prayer Chain -**

If you have a prayer request or would like to join the Prayer Team to pray for others, please call Cheryl Manos at 440.954.8361 to be added to the prayer chain. The Prayer Team is here to pray for you.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry -**

Meets on the third Monday of every month from 1-2 p.m. in the Nason Center upper-level lobby outside the Lyons Chapel balcony. This is a social time to knit or crochet together. Prayer shawls are available in the Pastoral Care Office and can be given to residents, family or friends who need support and encouragement.

## **Monthly Catholic Mass -**

February 23, the fourth Monday of each month from 1:30-2 p.m. in the Lyons Chapel.

Provided by Immaculate Conception Church

## **Monthly Sunday Worship**

February 22, the last Sunday of each month from 10-11 a.m. in the Lyons Chapel.  
Provided by Wickliffe Presbyterian Church

## **Lectio Divina -**

Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Community Room at The Landing at Grace Woods.

Weekly Scripture Meditation meets on Wednesdays. Led by Chaplain Bev. Come as you can. No prior reading or preparation is required.

**Please call transportation directly at 440.954.8343 for a ride to any Spiritual Life program 24 hours before the event.**

**Sign-up Line 440.953.1375**

## Turn Your Retirement Savings Into a Force for Good

If you're 72 or older (73 if you turned 72 after December 31, 2022), you already know about Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) - the yearly withdrawals you must take from your IRA or other retirement accounts. What you may not know is that you can use those funds to make a lasting difference while saving on taxes.

### **Give Smarter With a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) lets you send money directly from your IRA to a qualified charity—up to \$100,000 each year.

Here's why so many thoughtful donors love giving this way:

- **Save on taxes** - When your IRA sends the gift straight to a charity, that amount doesn't count as taxable income.
- **Protect your Social Security benefits** - Lower taxable income may mean lower taxes on your Social Security.
- **Meet your RMD easily** - Your charitable gift can satisfy part—or all—of your required minimum distribution.
- **Make a bigger impact** - It's a simple, powerful way to give more without spending more.

### **How the 2026 Tax Law Change May Affect You**

A new law, the **One Big Beautiful Bill Act** (OBBBA), will change how charitable deductions work beginning in 2026:

- **If you itemize deductions:** You can only deduct the portion of your donations that's more than 0.5% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). *For example: If your AGI is \$160,000, only the amount above \$800 can be deducted.*
- **If you don't itemize:** You can deduct up to \$1,000 (\$2,000 for couples filing jointly) in cash donations to operating charities.

**Because of these limits, using a QCD may give you more tax savings—and more control—than itemizing deductions.**

If you'd like to use your IRA to make a difference, please reach out to Eva Allen, Director of Gift Planning at 440.497.5237 or [EAllen@ohioliving.org](mailto:EAllen@ohioliving.org). I would be honored to help you make your charitable goals a reality!