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Dueling Pianos... Twice the FUN

by KELLI CASEY Director of Community Development

What makes a night with a guy and a piano more fun? How about adding a second guy and a piano, where both are vying for your attention.

Gather your friends and family and get ready for an unforgettable experience that will have you laughing, singing, and dancing in your seat, all for a great cause.

Your support will help ensure Cass County's homebound seniors receive nutritionally balanced meals delivered to their homes.

Don't miss out on this high-energy, all-request, sing-andclap-along, rock 'n' roll, comedy dueling piano show where the audience is just as much part of the show as the entertainers. So come prepared to put the FUN in the fundraiser!

Proceeds benefit Cass County COA's Meals on Wheels

Event tickets are \$50 per person, including heavy appetizers, silent auction, concert, and cash bar. Reserve your seat or table of 8 today.

To purchase tickets or sponsor this event, call Kelli Casey at (269) 445-8110 or e-mail KelliC@casscoa.org.

Dueling pianos is provided by Dueling Pianos International

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Cover Image

Jim Brosnan works on his hand-body coordination with Coach Walter Swann as Cheri Hallwood and Lila Wallace watch with delight waiting for their turn to put on the gloves during the Parkinson's Power Punchers class at Front Street Crossing. For more great classes like this one, turn to pages 12 – 21. Cass County COA Staff Contacts

> **CEO** Marty Heirty

Adult Day Service Laura Jepkema

Care Services / Support Groups Cindy Ledger, RN

Charitable Giving Kelli Casey

> Food Service Michael Garcia

Front Street Crossing Ky'sha Johnson

Human Resources / Volunteers Danielle Dilts

Leisure Activities / Fitness / Facilities Rental Kelli Casey

Lifelong Learning / Handy Helpers Kelli Casey

Meals on Wheels / In-Home Care / Medicare Medicaid Assistance Adrienne Glover

> **Operations** Danielle Dilts

The COA is proud to partner with...





by SHELLY PURUCKER Operations Assistant

When we have hope, we have expectations and a desire to take it a step further. There is always a path ahead of us, and motivation leads us forward. Hope is a field filled with blooming anticipation, growing outlooks, and wild enthusiasm. As a volunteer, you can provide growth to our local seniors and help both them and yourself overcome obstacles within the path.

Hope is associated with many positive outcomes including greater happiness and better achievement. It boosts immune function, decreases pain, lowers stress, reduces anxiety and depression, and leads to a longer life. It's a necessary ingredient for getting through tough times and for meeting everyday goals.

If you feel that your hope is lost or that it could use a little boost, then you are in luck because hope is more of a habit than a state of mind and can be learned. Some of the ways to increase hope include...

- Think of your goals as exciting challenges
- Be flexible and creative
- Increase your motivation
- Expect roadblocks
- Persist, even under stressful conditions
- Take it one step at a time
 Keep your goals high but realistic
- Turn to humor
- Gain strength from others

The Cass County COA has resources available to increase hope by attending our many activities, fitness center and classes, support groups, and our volunteer opportunities.

Much like a garden of flowers, growth occurs when we think of using our tools and resources to heighten our development and flourish. Having the right tools and knowing how to utilize them can make a big impact on daily activities. Sometimes it can feel impossible to do the things you want and it can pull away self-confidence and a sense of hope for the future. With a little tending to your garden of hope, it can bloom with endless possibilities.

PUBLIC SPORT COURTS

Have you heard that Penn Township recently constructed sport courts?

They now have two dedicated pickleball courts and one tennis court that can be converted into a pickleball court. These are located at 60717 S. Main in Vandalia and are available for public use with no fees or reservations required.

Be sure to watch for upcoming Basics of Pickleball classes beginning this spring sponsored by the COA and Penn Township.

For more information or to let us know you're interested in classes, please contact Kelli Casey at (269) 445-8110.



































Black History Month Celebration

Volunteers Anchor Us to Our Mission

The COA is blessed to have so many wonderful volunteer that we are inviting those who have donated 10 or more hours of their time between October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022 to come on board for an evening celebrating YOU.

So save the date for April 26 at 4 p.m. for the Annual Meeting & Volunteer Dinner and look for your special cruise themed invitation in the mail.

Volunteers

Duane Adams Ruthann Adams Joanne Anderson Betty Ash Candy Azevedo Carol Bailey **Rita Baker** Shirley Barks Joanne Bata Paul Bata Faith Beaupre Jim Beebe Vicky Beebe Diane Bonczynski Jovce Borton **Richard Borton** Rebecca Bowers John Bradke Linda Brossman Judy Brown Marie Bruegmann Frank Butts Marsha Butts Becky Caldwell Linda Campbell Robert Campbell Lonnie Carlisle **Ginger Carlisle** Michael Casev Anne Colgan Joe Colgan Keryl Conkright Judy Coon Jeff Corey Dan Dahmen Max Davis Floyd Deahl Kay Diehl Sue Decker

Carol Dierickx Jeff Downing Laura Drake David Dunlap Sue Dunlap **Robin Emenaker** Larry Emrick Anna Eubank Marilu Franks Elizabeth French Mary Geminder Barb Green Joyce Greenwood Cheryl Groner Flovd Groner Jim Grubbs Melody Grubbs Shirley Guilford Joyce Hamilton Janet Hamilton-Merckx Brooke Hari Marcus Hari Debbie Hartman **Kimberly Hartman** Mable Hartman **Kim Hedges** Mary Hedges Sue Heinrich Jim Hershberger Marshall Higginbotham Jason Hill **Deborah Howes Richard Howes** Mary Jones Linda Keeler Mike Klute

Gwendolyn Klyce

Penny Knepple Stephanie Knepple Virginia Kraft David Kring Luci Lafontant-Lee Marcia Lofts **Ronald Lofts** Sharon Macdonald **Richard Macleod** Frank Maley Carol Manning Elaine McKeough Kathleen Mcmahon **Dolores McNeary** Cindra Mikel **Delores Minisee Barb Monroe** Pamela Moore Carl Moraw Nancy Pallas **Diane Palmer** Susan Parker Karen Pellow Phyllis Peterson **Michael Peterson Ray Phillips** George Purlee Jannette Rafferty Sandra Randle Carol Rauch Jennifer Ray Terry Ray Jovce Rentfrow Melvin Reynolds Helga Richards John Seculoff Fred Shank Nicolette Shea Erma Skipper

Jessica Slough Marie Slough **Beverly Smith** Bonita Smith **Eileen Smith** John Smith Irmgard Stanage Kawanna Stoker Walter Swann Terrie Tabbert Diane Tiser Karen Visser Ralph Vosburgh Pam Welling **Debbie Wiggins** Susan Wilder Anne Wilkinson Chuck Wilson Kathleen Wishart Linda Wolfe Clarawavne Wolford Roberta Woodruff Tom Yarger Fran Yeager Katherine Yoder Carol Young Beverly Youngberg **Richard Zander** Steve Zebell

Volunteers listed are for the month of February, during which we had 145 active volunteers who contributed 1009 hours of work. This would be equal to more than 6 full time staff positions.



Healthy Habits, Healthy You

by TAYLOR LEE Certified COA Fitness Trainer

Making healthy choices is important. Healthy choices can make us feel better and can help us to live longer, healthier lives. Even when it's for our benefit, change isn't always easy, and it can be frustrating to experience setbacks when we're trying to make healthier choices.

Here are some tips to help us get and stay on track.

- Make a Plan Identify unhealthy habits you may have and set realistic goals. Small consisntent efforts will take you further than sporadic bursts of intense effort, so small reachable goals are best. If possible remove temptations and recruit family and friends as support.
- Track Your Progress Write down your goals and record

your progress. This can help you stay focused and catch any slip ups. When slip ups occur, learn from them and think of helpful strategies to avoid them in the future.

• **Be Patient** - Change is a process and improvement takes time. Reflect on future benefits to keep you motivated. Remember, progress is better than perfection. Slip ups happen, but it's important to learn from them and keep going.

Striving to improve ourselves is a worth while endeavor, and being mindful of our daily habits is the key. For the month of April both COA locations are going to hold a fitness challenge centered around this notion. Each participant will keep track of up to 5 healthy habits they'd like to implement for 30 days from their start date. Those who activley participate in the challenge and have an active To get the results you want, you don't have to be extreme, just consistent. A little progress each day adds up.

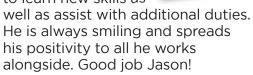


fitness center membership for the majority of the 30 days will win a t-shirt. Of course by the end of the challenge, all the healthier habits you will have adopted make for an even better prize. So, why not stop in and take the first step to a healthier you?

Volunteer Spotlight

Jason Hill has been volunteering for the COA since last fall and has been doing a fantastic job helping out in the kitchen.

Jason is very friendly and eager to learn new skills as



Employee Spotlight

Katherine Wilson has been part of the COA for almost 2 years and serves as the Café Hostess at Front Street Crossing in Dowagiac. During this time she has floated between the Café and our Chestnut Towers meals site.

Katherine is an animal lover and has 3 animals at her home; a leopard gecko, a spotted python, and a dog.

Outside of work, Katherine enjoys learning about astronomy and watching all the constellations.



Alaska Cruise Medallion App Workshops

If you need help or have questions about setting up the Medallion App for the Alaska Cruise then you will want to join us on Friday, April 14 at 1 p.m. or Saturday, April 15 at 10 a.m. for these informative workshops all about the app.

Please bring your passport, emergency contact information, and a credit card. All of these are required to get you ready

to sail. If you are using your government issued ID and a birth certificate, you will need to bring those instead of a passport. For any questions, please call Melvin Reynolds at (330) 708-0592.



Nelco

Now accepting applications.

Community room with fireplace and full kitchen, library, craft and fitness rooms. Spacious one- and two-bedroom apartments are loaded with every amenity:

- · Stunning water and wood views
- Intercom-entry building
- Emergency pull cords
- Elevator
- · Professional on-site staff
- Barrier-free apartments available
- · Seniors 62 years or older or disabled (regardless of age)
- Rent based on income if qualified assistance available

Please call (269) 445-3333 TDD (800) 649-3777 for more information.



Cass County Household Hazardous Waste & Tire Collection



You may have started or are about to begin your annual spring cleaning routine. As you cleanse your home of those old or no longer need items, you may be asking yourself what to do with the items that cannot go in your regular trash.

On Wednesday, April 26 from 3 to 6 p.m. the Cass County Road Commission (340 N. O'Keefe St., Cassopolis) will be accepting all your hazardous waste and used passenger tires. Those wishing to get rid of hazardous waste may drop off up to 300 pounds per vehicle for free. Any amount over that will be charged \$1.74 per pound. Electronics, appliances, metal items, and anything steel will be accepted at no charge.

Some of the approved items include household chemicals, batteries, gasoline and diesel fuel, car fluids, oil based paints, varnishes and stains, garden chemicals, radioactive materials, pool chemicals, and much, much more. Please note that latex paint is not hazardous and may be discarded with your regular trash by opening the can and letting it dry out.

Items that will not be accepted include major appliances like refrigerators and washing machines, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, fireworks, used motor oil, fire extinguishers, ammunition, biohazards, and propane tanks larger than 20 pounds.

People may also drop off used tires from cars and pickup trucks at no cost with proof of Cass County residence. The road commission will continue to accept tires until 6 p.m. or until two trailers are loaded. Sorry, no semi or tractor tires will be permitted.

Any old or worn flags may be dropped off to be disposed of properly with a ceremony by the VFW.

No appointment is necessary for this event that is sponsored by the Cass County Board of Commissioners. For any additional information or questions, please contact the Cass County Administrator's Office at (269) 445-4420.

PARKINSON'S POWER PUNCHERS























Upcoming Bus Trips

FREIDRICK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK

Tuesday, May 23

- Get a chance to explore one of the nation's most significant sculpture and botanic experiences as you wander over 150 acres of striking gardens with fine art. Also wind throughout the property on a guided tram tour.
- Trip includes non-wheelchair accessible transportation, admission into the gardens, guided tram tour, and all taxes and gratuity. (Lunch is NOT included but available for purchase.)

Bus Leaves: 8 a.m. Bus Returns: 6 p.m. (approx. time) Cost: \$85 (Nonrefundable) Register by May 9

SOUTH BEND CUBS

Thursday, July 6

- Join us for "Thirsty Thursday" (\$2 Beer and Sodas) with the South Bend Cubs as they face off against the Peoria Chiefs.
- Trip includes game ticket with seating in an outdoor shaded suite, a South Bend Cubs baseball hat for each guest, transportation, all taxes and gratuity, PLUS an all you can eat buffet.
- Menu: Grilled Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Cookies, and Beverages (lemonade, water, soda)

Bus Leaves: 5 p.m. Bus Returns: 10 p.m. *(approx. time)* Cost: \$70 **Register by June 22**

Don't Pay More, Call the Best Hearing Store!

Since 2018, we have provided the best of service with the best Hearing Aid products at the best price available to the public. We love to help people hear better and live their <u>Best</u> lives!





Best Hearing Store 269-815-6116 8089 Stadium Dr Kalamazoo MI 49009

> Call the Cass COA at 269-445-8110 to schedule an appointment in Cassopolis or Dowagiac.



M	onday	Tu	iesday	Wee	dnesday	Ţh	ursday	F	riday	Saturday
Front Street Crossing Monday - Friday 7 am - 4 pm 227 S. Front St. Dowagiac, MI All Programs / Events REQUIRE Registration										1
	3		4		5		6		7	8
8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm		9:00 am 9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:00 pm Off Site	Hearing Clinic Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Hand & Foot Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm	Tai Chi	11:30 am 1:30 pm Off Site	Easter Dinner Euchre Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	C	OSED ^{for} iood riday	CLOSED in honor of Easter
	10		11		12		13		14	15
8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm		9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm Off Site	Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Hand & Foot Hollywood Treasures (Movie) Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm	Spill the Beans Tai Chi	9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:30 pm Off Site	Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Euchre Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	11:00 am 11:00 am	Cardio Challenge Balance, Stretch, Stability Acoustic Guitar Lessons Range of Motion & Mobility FSC Musicians Tai Chi Ceramics	
	17		18		19		20		21	22
8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm	Range of Motion & Mobility Tai Chi	9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:00 pm Off Site	Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Hand & Foot Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm	Tai Chi	9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:30 pm Off Site	Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Euchre Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am	Cardio Challenge Balance, Stretch, Stability Acoustic Guitar Lessons Range of Motion & Mobility FSC Musicians Tai Chi Ceramics	
	24		25		26		27		28	29
8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm	Range of Motion & Mobility Tai Chi	9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:00 pm Off Site	Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Hand & Foot Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:45 pm	Tai Chi	9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:30 pm Off Site	Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Euchre Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am	Cardio Challenge Balance, Stretch, Stability Acoustic Guitar Lessons Range of Motion & Mobility FSC Musicians Tai Chi Ceramics	



				Cassopolis		
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Lowe Center Monday - Thursday 7 am - 7 pm Friday 7 am - 4 pm Saturday 7:30 am - 12 pm 60525 Decatur Rd. Cassopolis, MI All Programs / Ever REQUIRE Registrati	Breakfas Buffet April 12 & 7:30 - 9 a Cost: \$5	28			9 :00 am Yoga	
9:00 am Yoga 10:00 am Quilting 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 1:00 pm Savvy Caregin Class	3 9:00 am S.E.A.T./ Stretch. 9:30 am Writer's Socie 10:00 am Strong & Stab 10:30 am Chess 11:00 am Balance, Stret Stability 1:00 pm Book Club 1:00 pm Stroke Suppor 1:00 pm Visual Arts Cla 1:30 pm Euchre 3:00 pm Line Dance	lé 1:15 pm Bingo 1:30 pm Fit 30 ch, 5:00 pm Lawless Jam Session	9:00 am S.E.A.T./ Stretch 9:00 am Yoga 10:00 am Drug Drop 10:00 am Strong & Stable 11:00 am Balance, Stretch, Stability 11:30 am Easter Dinner 12:30 pm Ceramics 1:00 pm Diabetes PATH 2:30 pm Woodcarvers Off Site Shopping	7 CLOSED ^{for} Good Friday	8 CLOSED in honor of Easter	
9:00 am Foot Clinic 9:00 am Yoga 12:00 pm Color Your Wo (Watercolor) 1:00 pm Hollywood Treasures (Mo 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 1:00 pm Savvy Caregiv Class	i Support Group 1:00 pm Visual Arts Cla ie) 1:30 pm Euchre 3:00 pm Line Dance	1:00 pm Caregivers Support Group 1:00 pm Nutrition Class 0 1:00 pm Pinochle 1:30 pm Fit 30 5:00 pm Lawless Jam Session	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 12:30 pm 12:30 pm 12:30 pm 12:00 pm 12:30	9:00 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:15 pm 1:00 pm 1:15 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:30 pm 1:30 pm Fit 30	9:00 am 10:00 am Medallion App Workshop	
9:00 am Yoga 10:00 am Quilting 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 1:00 pm Savvy Caregiv Class	9:30 am Writer's Socie 10:00 am Strong & Stab 10:30 am Chess 11:00 am Balance, Stret	lé 1:00 pm Nutrition Class 1:00 pm Pinochle ch, 1:15 pm Bingo 1:30 pm Fit 30 5:00 pm Lawless Jam s Session	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 12:30 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 2:30 pm 2	21 9:00 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm 1:15 pm 1:30 pm Fit 30	22 9:00 am Yoga	
9:00 am Foot Clinic 9:00 am Yoga 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 1:00 pm Savvy Caregiv Class	9:00 am Hearing Clinic 9:00 am S.E.A.T./Streto 10:00 am Strong & Stab	ch 1:00 pm Pinochle le 4:00 pm Annual Meeting & Volunteer ch, Recognition Dinner	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 pm 12:30 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 2:00 am 2:00 am	7:30 amBreakfast Buffet289:00 amKnitting / Crochet10:30 amSing-A-Long Hand & Foot1:15 pmBingo1:30 pmFit 30	29 9:00 am Yoga	

Lowe Center

Fsc Front Street Crossing

In Your Neighborhood



PROGRAM INFORMATION

Pre-register for any event, program or service provided by the COA. You may register by **Phone:** (269) 445-8110 or **Online:** CassCOA.org

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CERAMICS MADE EASY

FSC Cost: FREE

Learn and create ceramics. It's easy, fun, and therapeutic. All pieces are provided and you do the painting.

Ceramics is now every Friday in Dowagiac. Be sure to check it out.

Instructors: Joyce Greenwood (LC) Sue Bingham (FSC)

Lowe Center Thursdays 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Front Street Crossing Fridays 12:30 - 2:30 pm

COLOR YOUR WORLD (Watercolor Class)

Cost: \$20 Registration is required one week in advance.

Get your chance to create your very own



watercolor masterpiece as you follow simple stepby-step instructions and demonstrations.

April's watercolor is "Fancy Foal."

Instructor: Roy Hruska

Lowe Center Monday, Apr. 10 12 - 3 pm

C FRUIT BELT WOODCARVERS

All types of wood crafters are welcome. The group loves to share their knowledge. Those new to the craft are welcome.

Lowe Center Thursdays, Apr. 6 & 20 2:30 - 5 pm

LC HOLLYWOOD FSC TREASURES (Movie)

April's feature is Where the Crawdads Sing

An abandoned girl raised herself in the dangerous marshlands

of North Carolina. When one of the young men from town is discovered dead, this mysterious marsh girl

suddenly becomes the main suspect. As the case unfolds, the many secrets that lay within the marsh soon become threatened.

Starring Daisy Edgar-Jones, Taylor John Smith & Harris Dickinson

Free movie, individual bag of popcorn, and water.

Lowe Center Monday, Apr. 10 1 pm

Front Street Crossing

Tuesday, Apr. 11 1 pm



CROCHETING &

This wonderful and social group creates lots of things from yarn, and they donate many items to local charities. They will also teach newcomers. Yarn donations are welcome.

Lowe Center

Fridays 9 am - 12 pm

C VISUAL ARTS CLASS

Cost: \$15 (Per Class) Please bring a pencil and paper. A supply list will be provided. No registration is required and you can attend when it is convenient.

All ages and skill levels are invited to explore drawing and painting with both water based and acrylic paints in this ongoing class.

Every class begins with a warm up followed by the challenge project. Students work at their own pace using various media and techniques.

For more information, email Sharron at sharronottart@gmail.com.

Instructor: Sharron Ott

Lowe Center Tuesdays 1 - 3 pm



LC QUILTING

All quilters and learners are welcome to join. The group creates and teaches.

Lowe Center

Mondays, Apr. 3 & 17 10 am - 4 pm





COMPUTER USE

Esc Several publicuse computers are available for use during normal business hours. Please check in at the front desk prior to accessing.

Lowe Center

Mondays - Fridays 8 am - 5 pm

Front Street Crossing

Mondays - Fridays 8 am - 4 pm

FITNESS & EXERCISE

C FITNESS CENTER

Fsc The Cass County COA offers two great fitness center options close to home. Each center offers a variety of cardiovascular fitness machines, weight training equipment, as well as qualified instructors who can help you achieve and maintain your goals.

Lowe Center

Mondays - Thursdays 7 am - 7 pm

Fridays 7 am - 4 pm

Saturdays 7:30 am - 12 pm

Front Street Crossing

Mondays - Fridays 7 am - 4 pm

Membership Prices

1 year	\$140 (60+) \$165
3 months	\$55 (60+) \$65
1 month	\$35 (60+) \$45
Walk-in	\$5



COA is a **SliverSneaker** & **Renew Active** location

Class Prices

M/W/F	\$25 (Monthly)
T/Th	\$20 (Monthly)
All Class	\$40 (Monthly)
Bundle	(Excludes Yoga)

Class price allows you access to in-person, online, or both.

BALANCE, STRETCH, AND STABILITY

5 Cost: \$25 (M/W/F - Monthly) \$20 (T/Th - Monthly)

Registration is required

Most people have natural imbalances due to the way we move throughout the day, causing wear, tear, damage, and pain on joints. This class will help improve functional mobility and balance with purposeful exercises performed to increase aspects of balance, muscular strength, and flexibility.

Instructors: Ky'sha Johnson (M/W/F) & Taylor Lee (T/Th)

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Lowe Center & Online / Zoom Tuesdays & Thursdays 11 - 11:45 am

Front Street Crossing & Online / Zoom

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9 - 9:45 am

FSC BRAIN & BODY

Cost: FREE

Don't miss your chance to revitalize your mind and body with this 30 minute fitness experience that will help keep your mind and body connected to maximize your everyday living experience.

Instructor: Ky'sha Johnson

Front Street Crossing

Tuesdays & Thursdays 1 - 1:30 pm

Lowe Center

60525 Decatur Rd. Cassopolis, MI

Mon. - Thurs. 7 am - 7 pm Fri. 7 am - 4 pm Sat. 7:30 am - 12 pm

Front Street Crossing

227 S. Front St. Dowagiac, MI

Mon. - Fri. 7 am - 4 pm

Lowe Center

Fsc Front Street Crossing

In Your Neighborhood



EXERCISE

FITNESS &



Challenge your entire body with a low-impact, high-energy combination of cardio, strength training, balance, and mat exercises.

Instructor: Ky'sha Johnson

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Front Street Crossing & Online / Zoom

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8 - 8:45 am

C FIT 30

Cost: Free

Build strength, improve mobility, and work up a sweat all in just 30 minutes! A variety of beginner friendly routines and upbeat music ensure you'll never get bored.

Instructor: Taylor Lee

Lowe Center Wednesdays & Fridays 1:30 - 2 pm

LINE DANCE

Cost: FREE

Step your way to fun with your favorite music. Learn and practice new and old moves all while getting some exercise.

Instructor: Fran Yeager

Lowe Center Tuesdays 3 pm

Cost: \$20 (Monthly) \$5 (Per Class) Registration is required

This class brings the Cass County COA to Marcellus to provide a workout closer to home with a variety of cardio activities combined with balance and strength moves.

Instructor: Rosemary Gillam

In Your Neighborhood

United Methodist Church 197 W. Main St. Marcellus, MI Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30 - 9:15 am



FSC PARKINSON'S POWER PUNCHERS

Cost: FREE

Join in for this free boxing exercise class geared toward those with M.S., Parkinson's, and Parkinson's related conditions.

Instructor: Coach Walter Swann, Former Professional Boxer

Front Street Crossing Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 - 10 am

RANGE OF MOTION &

Cost: \$25 (Monthly) Registration is required

Formerly the S.E.A.T. Class, this class is designed for those with limited functional mobility and range of motion. Movements can be done in a seated position or by holding on to a chair/ rail for support. Focus is on functional exercises to improve & maintain activities of everyday living.

Instructor: Ky'sha Johnson

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Front Street Crossing & Online / Zoom

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10 - 10:45 am

S.E.A.T. / STRETCH

Cost: \$20 (Monthly) Registration is required

This class that allows you to exercise seated and around a chair. It will keep you moving, improve your fitness level, stretch your muscles and work on balance and range of motion to improve mobility.

Instructor: Taylor Lee

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Lowe Center & Online / Zoom Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 - 9:45 am

STRONG & STABLE



Cost: \$20 (Monthly) Registration is required

Take your balance and stability to the next level with this challenging yet low impact class. Exercises will include hand weights, body weight, and kettlebells to focus on developing strength and stability.

Instructor: Taylor Lee

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Lowe Center & Online / Zoom Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 - 10:45 am



Cost: \$25 (Monthly) Registration is required

Add a little more flow and balance to your day with access to Tai Chi in the mornings.

Improve your posture, strength of hips, thighs and core with this gentle mind body exercise. Good for arthritis, blood pressure and sense of well-being.

Instructor: Glenda Gibson

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Front Street Crossing & Online / Zoom

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 11 am - 12 pm



Cost: \$8 (Per Class) Registration is required

Find your Zen at the COA. Increase your strength, flexibility and balance all while revitalizing your mind, body, and soul.

Instructors: Karen Sommers (M/Th) Amy Crennell (Sa)

Please call to get Zoom access to this class. (Contact the COA if you need help.)

Lowe Center & Online / Zoom

Mondays 9 - 10:15 am

Thursdays 9 - 10:15 am

Saturdays 9 - 10:15 am

JUST FOR FUN

LC BINGO

SC Cost: \$1.25 (LC) \$2.25 (FSC)

Follow the lunch hour with this fun and engaging game that provides some healthy competition with a dash of luck. This all-inclusive game is enjoyed by people of all ages and is a great way to spend an afternoon.

If a program is scheduled, Bingo will follow afterward.

Lowe Center Wednesday & Fridays 1:15 pm

Front Street Crossing Mondays & Wednesdays 12:45 pm

CHESS

FSC Whether you are a rookie or a grandmaster, make your move and join in on the fun that challenges your mind.

Lowe Center Tuesdays 10:30 am - 1 pm

Front Street Crossing Mondays 10 am - 12 pm

Try your hand at trumping your opponents with the cards you were dealt in

this fun 4 player card game.



If a program is scheduled, Euchre will follow afterward.

Lowe Center Tuesdays 1:30 pm

Front Street Crossing Thursdays 1:30 pm

FSC MUSICIANS

Do you enjoy playing a musical instrument? Why not join other music enthusiasts and jam with the FSC Musicians.

Front Street Crossing

Fridays 11 am

Lowe Center

60525 Decatur Rd. Cassopolis, MI

Mon. - Thurs. 7 am - 7 pm Fri. 7 am - 4 pm Sat.

7:30 am - 12 pm

Front Street Crossing

227 S. Front St. Dowagiac, MI

Mon. - Fri. 7 am - 4 pm

Lowe Center

Fsc Front Street Crossing

In Your Neighborhood



JUST FOR FUN

LC HAND & FOOT

FSC If you enjoy the rummy type game of Canasta, then be sure to come and play this easier popular variation called Hand & Foot.

Lowe Center

Fridays 1 - 4 pm

Front Street Crossing

Tuesdays 1 - 4 pm

LAWLESS JAM SESSION

Come and share the sounds of old time country and Celtic styles of music. Anyone who plays a tin whistle, banjo, guitar, bass, fiddle, ukulele, autoharp, dulcimer, or any other string instrument is invited to join in on the session. You can be a beginner to an expert.

Even if you don't play an instrument, stop by, listen, and suggest a song or two.

Lowe Center Wednesdays 5 - 6:30 pm

LC MAH JONGG

Join the fun that originated in China with this fascinating rummy-like game that uses tiles rather than cards.

Lowe Center Mondays 1 - 4 pm



FSC Enjoy this trick-taking card game while making friends.

Lowe Center

Wednesdays 1 - 3 pm

FSC SCRABBLE

Spell out your own F-U-N as you enjoy this crossword style board game. Win or lose, you'll have a good time, but don't take our word for it; you'll have to make your own.

Front Street Crossing

Wednesdays 10 am

LC SING-A-LONG

Join volunteer leaders George Purlee &

Jannette Rafferty for a musical journey down memory lane.



Lowe Center

Fridays 10:30 am - 12 pm

LISTEN & LEARN

ACOUSTIC GUITAR

Do you love music and learning new things? Come and explore your musical side at FSC.

The COA is now offering free beginner guitar lessons, so bring your own guitar and get ready to make music.

Instructor: Max Davis

Front Street Crossing Fridays 10 - 11 am



CONSERVATION CONVERSATIONS

Join the conversation about Cass County's wonderful wildlife, lakes, streams, open spaces, and farmlands in this casual meet and greet with Cass County Conservation District staff. Share stories and concerns, ask questions, and help Cass County plan for the future.

Presenter: Cass County Conservation District

Lowe Center

Tuesday, Apr. 18 12 - 1 pm

LC NUTRITION CLASS

Registration is required

Are you interested in

learning how to eat better?

a 6-week

nutrition

Join us for

program that can help you lead a healthier lifestyle. Learn valuable knowledge about all five food groups, label reading, and portion size in this SNAP Ed Nutrition Program.

Instructor: Nora Lee,

Cass County MSU Extension's Community Nutrition Associate

Lowe Center

Wednesdavs. Apr. 12 - May 17 1 - 2:30 pm

LC THIS LIT IS YOUR LIT: American Literature

in History Join us in

getting to know the Gay Nineties (1890s, that is!) through the books.



stories, songs, and more of the last decades of the 19th century. We'll not only discuss the American culture and history that got writers going, but we'll also see how those writers influenced our country's history.

Instructor: Elaine McKeough

Lowe Center

Thursdays, Apr. 20 - May 25 1-3 pm

SERVICES & SUPPORT

CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Family members and friends are welcome as we provide education and support for caregivers of any kind.

Lowe Center Wednesday, Apr. 12 1-3 pm



LC DIABETES PATH **Registration is required** Diabetes PATH (Personal

Action Toward Health) is a free 6 week workshop that teaches practical skills for living a healthy life with Diabetes. It is designed to complement your current medical treatments. Family members and caregivers may also attend.

You will learn how to deal with the challenges of not feeling well, talk to healthcare workers and family members. overcome stress and relax, make healthy eating plans and prevent low-blood sugar, prevent or delay complications, and stay independent.

Lowe Center

Thursdays, Apr. 6 - May 11 1-3:30 pm

LC DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Please ioin us as we discuss better strategies for self-care in your life with Diabetes.

Lowe Center

Friday, May 5 1-3 pm No April Support Group



LC DRUG DROP

All medications MUST be removed from original containers and dumped in a sealed clear plastic bag.

Turn in expired or unwanted pills, capsules, and tablet medications for proper disposal.

Drugs can be dropped off at the Cass County Sheriff's Office at any time.

Please note, no liquids, inhalers or needles can be taken. Drugs are only accepted at the COA during special date and time.

Lowe Center Thursday, Apr. 6 10 am - 12 pm

LC FOOT CLINIC

Cost: \$20 **Appointment ONLY**

Take good care of your feet - get toe nails trimmed (except for people with diabetes) and a foot massage.

> Lowe Center Mondays, Apr. 10 & 24 Call for Times

Lowe Center

60525 Decatur Rd. Cassopolis, MI

Mon. - Thurs. 7 am - 7 pm Fri. 7 am - 4 pm Sat. 7:30 am - 12 pm

Front Street Crossing

227 S. Front St. Dowagiac, MI

Mon. - Fri. 7 am - 4 pm

Lowe Center

Fsc Front Street Crossing

In Your Neighborhood



SERVICES & SUPPORT

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Open to those who have experienced a loss of any kind.

Lowe Center Friday, Apr. 14 (Date Change) 1 - 3 pm



LC HEARING CLINIC

FSC Appointment ONLY

Schedule an appointment at either the Lowe Center or Front Street Crossing for a free hearing test and hearing aid cleaning/adjustments.

Lowe Center Tuesdays, Apr. 11 & 25 9 am - 4 pm

Front Street Crossing

Tuesday, Apr. 4 9 am - 4 pm

C MS SUPPORT GROUP

People with Multiple Sclerosis and their loved ones share support and learning opportunities in this free group.

> Lowe Center Tuesday, Apr. 18 1 - 3 pm

C PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Parkinson's disease is a complex condition that affects every aspect of life for those diagnosed with it. This group provides support from others who are affected by the disease.

Lowe Center Tuesday, Apr. 11

1 - 3 pm

CLASS

Registration is required by calling (269) 982-7731

This 6-week class, supported by Region IV Area Agency on Aging, is



for caregivers of people with memory loss. Learn valuable information on how to care for your loved one as well as for yourself as the caregiver.

Lowe Center

Mondays, Mar. 20 - Apr. 24 1 - 3 pm

C STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

Both people living with stroke and their loved ones are welcome to attend this support group to share support and learning opportunities.

Lowe Center Tuesday, Apr. 4 1 - 3 pm

Cost: \$5 Reservations ONLY

Transit provides transportation to the bank,

Shelton's Farm Market, and Super Walmart in Niles.



The Cass County

COA will sign you up for the first trip and Cass County Transit will handle any further trips.

Reservations are required at least three days before the trip and due to less seating, will be on a first reserve basis. Transit will space out passengers to allow for social distancing. Masks MUST be worn.

> In Your Neighborhood Thursday, Apr. 6

Appointment required

Veterans can receive information and counseling about benefits to which they may be entitled such as health care, disability compensation, and burial.

Contact: Karee Krause, Veterans Service Officer

Phone: 269-445-4472

SOCIAL SESSIONS

C READ & SHARE BOOK CLUB

Registration is required

The COA has partnered with the Dowagiac District Library to host a monthly Book Club.

Books will be provided by the library. Please preregister so that enough books will be available on club day.

April's Discussion Book

The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger

May's Discussion Book

From Scratch by Tembi Locke

Leader: Gina Simoni, Dowagiac District Library

Lowe Center

Tuesday, Apr. 4 1 - 3 pm

C THE STORMY NIGHT WRITERS SOCIETY

We all have stories to tell.

Come join the group and share your tales. Everyone has a chance to give and receive constructive feedback on the efforts presented.

Discussions cover a wide variety of writing related topics including submissions, editing, genres, audiences, dialogue, settings, characters, conflicts and more.

Lowe Center

Tuesdays, Apr. 4 & 18 9:30 am - 12 pm

FSC SPILL THE BEANS

Each month you will get the chance to enjoy a snack and a cup of coffee as you ask all your need-toknow questions during this community coffee chat.

April's Bean Spiller

Discover more about the Orphan Train and its jorney across the U.S. from Steve Arseneau, Director at Dowagiac Area History Museum

May's Bean Spiller

Alice Swann, Professional Handcrafted Doll Maker

Front Street Crossing Wednesday, Apr. 12 10 am

SPECIAL EVENTS

C ANNUAL MEETING & VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

Invitation ONLY Registration is required

Volunteers who have given 10 or more hours of their time between October 2021 – September 2022

will receive an invite to the meeting and dinner. If you do not receive an invitation by April 19 and think that you did volunteer at least 10 hours during those times, please contact Danielle at the COA.

Lowe Center Wednesday, Apr. 26 4 - 6 pm



C EASTER DINNER

Registration is required prior to the event

Spring is in bloom and what better reason to hop on over to the COA and enjoy a traditional Easter meal with friends and neighbors.

Lowe Center

Thursday, Apr. 6 11:30 am - 1:30 pm (Dine-In)

Front Street Crossing Thursday, Apr. 6 11:30 am - 1:30 pm (Dine-In)



Cost: \$90 Registration is required

Travel back in time to the city forever preserved in the temporary exhibit of Pompeii: The Exhibition. Then finish the day exploring one of the largest science museums in the world.

Trip includes non-wheelchair accessible transportation, admission into the Pompeii exhibit, entrance into museum, and all taxes and gratuity. Lunch is NOT included but is available for purchase.

Lowe Center & In Your Neighborhood

Tuesday, Apr. 11 8 am (Bus Departure) 8 pm (Approx. Bus Return)

Lowe Center

60525 Decatur Rd. Cassopolis, MI

Mon. - Thurs. 7 am - 7 pm Fri. 7 am - 4 pm Sat. 7:30 am - 12 pm

Front Street Crossing

227 S. Front St. Dowagiac, MI

Mon. - Fri. 7 am - 4 pm



Includes donations received between February 11 – March 10, 2023. Donations received after that date will be acknowledged in the next edition of the Messenger.

Annual Campaign

Craig Alton Ottis Bowe Marlene Deming Dowagiac Credit Union George Gearhart **Donald Krause** Elaine McKeough Janet Parrish Harold Yeomans

Assistance Program

Eugene Bella Stephen Bella Cheryl Bugy

Assistance Program (cont.)

Lvnn Dittmer Floyd Groner Karen Tolliver

Greatest Need

Linda Frisbie Herman Lawson McCormick & Company Inc. Flena Rubalcaba

Meals on Wheels

Norman Barney George Cuthbert John Gould

Meals on Wheels (cont.)

Amberson Huff **Eva Jenkins** Georgina Karnes Morris Redding Howard Smuda Jovce Smuda Michael Sutherland JoAnne Wood

In Memory of Darlene Toney

Dutch and Pat Hunsberger

Seniors in Cass County Need Your Support

Your gift is extremely important, particularly in today's climate, because it offers immediate resources that are directed to the current needs of local seniors like Meals on Wheels. In Home Care, Adult Day Service and the Handy Helpers program that builds wheelchair accessible ramps for Cass County seniors at no cost. Your donation is helping to make our community's seniors happier and healthier. Right here. Right now.

Please consider making a gift today.

- Online: www.CassCOA.org
- Phone: (269) 445-8110
- Mail: Cass County COA, P.O. Box 5, Cassopolis, MI 49031



MedicalCareFacility NOW ACCEPTING 269-445-380[°]

APRIL 2023 Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
-		Daily Soup Menu	Indiaday	Fliddy		
Lowe Center Hours (LC) Lunch** 11:30 a.m 1:30 p.m. (weekdays) Buffet Breakfast 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. (Apr. 12 & 28) Chestnut Towo Meals* served dai	S & HOURS Front Street Crossing (FSC) Lunch** 11:30 a.m 1:30 p.m. (weekdays) ers Apartments ly by reservation only or more information.	at the Lowe Center <u>Monday</u> Loaded Potato <u>Tuesday</u> Broccoli Cheese <u>Wednesday</u> Chili <u>Thursday</u> Steak & Ale Chowder <u>Friday</u> Clam Chowder				
Main Entrée* Orange Chicken White Rice Oriental Vegetables Wheat Bread Fortune Cookie Café Entrée Grilled Cheese Café Fresh Salad Cranberry Chicken Salad	4 Main Entrée* Cheeseburger on a Bun Rosemary Roasted Redskins Corn Peaches Café Entrée Walking Tacos Café Fresh Salad Cottage Cheese w/ Fruit	Main Entrée* Herbed Pork Loin Redskin Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Wheat Roll Jello Café Entrée Grilled Chicken Sandwich Café Fresh Salad Antipasto Salad	Easter Dinner 6 Main Entrée* 6 Baked Ham W/ Pineapple 8 Sweet Potatoes 8 Brussels Sprouts 9 Wheat Bread 9 Dutch Apple Pie 6 Café Entrée 6 No Café Entrée 6 Café Fresh Salad 10 No Café Salad 10	7 CLOSED ^{for} Good Friday		
Dyngus Day Main Entrée* Polish Sausage w/ Sauerkraut Tater Tots Peas & Carrots Pudding Café Entrée Loaded Mac & Cheese Café Fresh Salad Cobb Salad	Main Entrée* Roast Beef Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Broccoli Wheat Bread Pears Café Entrée Big Poppa Burger Café Fresh Salad Turkey Craisin Salad	Hot Breakfast (LC) Main Entrée* Pork Chop Supreme Maple Roasted Sweet Potatoes Green Beans w/ Mushrooms Wheat Roll Banana Café Entrée Fish Sandwich Café Fresh Salad Fruit Salad	Main Entrée* Chicken Lasagna Stewed Tomatoes Garlic Toast Fruit Brownie Café Entrée Grilled Ham & Cheese Café Fresh Salad COA Salad	Main Entrée* 14 Dilled Salmon Baked Potato California Blend Vegetables Fruit Cocktail Café Entrée Chili Dog Café Fresh Salad Mini Chef Salad		
Main Entrée* Sweet & Sour Chicken Fried Rice Stir-Fry Vegetables Wheat Roll Fortune Cookie Café Entrée Hot Turkey Sandwich Café Fresh Salad Beef Taco Salad	Main Entrée* 18 Philly Cheesesteak on a Bun Roasted Redskins Peas Mandarin Oranges Café Entrée Pulled Pork Sliders (2) Café Fresh Salad Salad Trio	Main Entrée* Pork Chile Verde Rice Corn & Black Beans Tortilla Fruit / Cookie Café Entrée French Dip Café Fresh Salad Buffalo Chicken Salad	20 Main Entrée* Baked Spaghetti Italian Blend Vegetables Garlic Breadstick Tropical Fruit Café Entrée Snoop Dogg's Mac & Cheese Café Fresh Salad BLT Salad	Main Entrée* 21 Beer Battered Cod Rice Pilaf Lemon Pepper Broccoli Wheat Bread Banana Cake Café Entrée Popcorn Chicken Café Fresh Salad Tuna Salad		
24 Main Entrée* Grilled Chicken Sandwich on a Bun Baked Beans Corn on the Cob Jello Café Entrée Flatbread Pizza Café Fresh Salad Cranberry Chicken Salad	25 Main Entrée* Beef Stew Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Stew Vegetables Wheat Roll Applesauce Café Entrée Chicken & Waffles Café Fresh Salad Mediterranean Salad	LC CLOSED / FSC OPEN Main Entrée* Pulled Pork Sandwich Green Beans Potato Salad Yogurt Café Entrée No Café Entrée Café Fresh Salad No Café Salad	Main Entrée* Lasagna Green Beans Italian Breadstick Fruit Chocolate Cake Café Entrée Hot Beef Sandwich Café Fresh Salad Cobb Salad	Hot Breakfast (LC) Main Entrée* Parmesan Crusted Tilapia Mashed Redskins Scandinavian Vegetables Wheat Roll Pineapple Café Entrée Chicken Tacos Café Fresh Salad Cottage Cheese w/ Fruit		
Menu is subject to change without notice. **Daily vegetarian lunch option available upon request. Menu is subject to change without notice. **Daily vegetarian lunch option available upon request. Meals are funded in part by Region IV Area Agency on Aging and are served in partnership with Cass County COA. (Suggested Donation per Meal: \$4.00)						

The **Messenger** Cass County COA P.O. Box 5 Cassopolis, Michigan 49031

Non Profit Organization **U.S. Postage Paid** Cassopolis, MI 49031 Permit #43



Lowe Center & Front Street Crossing 112:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Regular rates apply

Registration is **REQUIRED** by **APRIL 1** by calling (269) 445-8110