

Cass County COA Board of Directors

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The Messenger,

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Messenger Staff

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SHARE YOUR

by DANIELLE DILTS Human Resources Manager

When someone needs help, do you walk on by and tell yourself someone else will help them? Or do you jump right in because that is what you would want someone to do for you?

Nowadays, people are busy with their own lives and it is hard to take the time to care for others. A simple act of kindness may not make that much difference to us, but can turn around someone else's life. One way to start showing kindness to others is with National Good Samaritan Day on March 13.

The term Samaritan encompasses all kinds of actions that are unselfish and generous. Being a Good Samaritan is not a tough job; all it requires is a good heart and willingness to do goodwill for others. It helps remind us to lend a hand to those in need by showing kindness and compassion. It can be a small act that seems inconsequential all the way to something big that means life or death. These selfless acts of compassion help make the world a better place and strengthen human bonds.

There are endless ways to celebrate National Good Samaritan Day such as...

- Volunteer at the COA, area school, local homeless shelter, or other
- Help someone who is hurting physically or mentally
- · Give books, clothes, or other essentials to those in need
- Donate blood
- Pay someone a complement such as your cashier or the person stocking the shelves at your local store
- Make little notes and randomly leave them places for people to find that spread kindness and love
- Leave your mail and or delivery person a thank you or some snacks
- Open the door for someone
- Pay for the order for the person behind you in the drive-thru

HEART

This list can go on and on, but if you are looking for a simple way to be a Good Samaritan that can be done from the convenience of your own home, then you are in luck. Since not all of us have someone we can count on, the COA provides the C.A.R.E. Program or Call And Reassure Elders. Everyone should have someone in their life that checks on them, even if it is just a phone call. This program allows people that are homebound or living alone to have the comfort of knowing someone will be checking in on them. If you are looking for someone to build a relationship with without leaving the comforts of your home, give us a call at (269) 445-8110.

National Good Samaritan Day reminds us to keep an eye out for one another and to help others not just on one day, but on a daily basis. See how you can make a difference in someone's life today by putting forth the effort to help someone in need and performing an act of kindness.

Cover Image

Max Davis and Jean Pletcher are just two of the several players who enjoy the fun and music during the Lawless Jam Session each week. If you are interested in listening, joining in on the merriment, or want to know more musical opportunities offered at the COA, be sure to check out 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...



Get Your March On

by KY'SHA JOHNSON Certified COA Fitness Trainer

Do you need or want to get moving? Well there is a free and easy way to accomplish this that can be done anywhere. What is it you ask? It's marching.

Are there benefits to marching in place? Absolutely, marching in place is a great way to raise your heart rate. Doing so, helps signal your body to start pumping more blood and oxygen to your muscles for better movement and burning calories. Other benefits include a stronger and healthier cardiovascular system, respiratory system, and immune system.

Marching in place for exercise is just as effective as

walking on a track. Wait it gets better, walking in place is a low-impact weightbearing movement that is a great way to increase bone density and strengthen the joints around your hips. The targeted muscle groups are your quadriceps, hamstrings, hip flexors, calves, glutes, core, and tibialis anterior.

To get the most out of marching in place, be sure to wear comfortable shoes, move your arms, get your heart rate up, lift your legs (beginners) or quicken your step (advanced), and set a goal.

Are you not able to stand? Well, seated marching is an option. Sitting fully back in a chair with a straight back, alternately lift your legs from the hip as if you were marching up and down stairs.

It's hard to believe that there are so many benefits from just marching in place. So what are you waiting for, let's get those legs moving and march right on through March and beyond.

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.



Dueling for Dollars is Back

Friday May 19 at Marion Magnolia Farms

Whether you were at last year's dueling piano FUNdraiser or not, you won't want to miss you chance to be entertained by this high energy, all request, sing and clap along, rock 'n' roll, comedy piano show where the audience is just as much part of the show as the entertainers. This experience will have you laughing, singing, and dancing in your seat; all for a great cause!

Your support in this event helps ensure Cass County's homebound seniors receive nutritionally balanced meals delivered to their home.

Event tickets are \$50 per person and include heavy appetizers, silent auction, concert, and cash bar. Tickets go on sale beginning March 1 and we anticipate another sellout crowd, so be sure to reserve your tickets early by calling (269) 445-811 or emailing Kelli Casey at KelliC@casscoa.org.

Entertainment by Dueling Pianos International

CONCERT GRAND SPONSOR - \$2,000

- 2 premium reserved sponsor tables with 8 tickets each
- Recognition from the stage and on the event signage
- Sponsorship name or logo included in all promotional media

BALLROOM GRAND SPONSOR - \$1,000

- 1 premium reserved sponsor tables with 8 tickets
- Recognition from the stage and on the event signage
- Sponsorship name or logo included in all promotional media

BABY GRAND SPONSOR - \$500

- 4 tickets
- Recognition from the stage and on the event signage

PIANETTE SPONSOR - \$100

• Acknowledgement in the event signage



Chore Service Program

When tasks like cleaning out an attic or basement start to become overwhelming, the Cass County COA may be able to help eligible 60+ Cass County residents through the seasonal Respite Chore Service Program. This program will be available until September or until the funds have been exhausted.

Common chores include:

- Carpet cleaning
- Window washing
- Deep cleaning bathrooms and kitchens
- Minor plumbing repairs
- Cleaning gutters
- Cleaning basements and attics

Eligibility requirements:

- Must live in Cass County
- Must be at least 60 years of age
- Must have a Caregiver (someone who assists and/or oversees the senior)
- Must have less than \$30,000 in savings, checking, retirement, etc.
- Current Area Agency on Aging (AAA) clients are NOT eligible for this program.

If you know of someone who may want to participate in this program, please have them call (269) 445-8110 for more information.

This program is funded through a grant from AAA. Looking to earn some extra money this summer? We hire individuals and businesses to help us complete chores through our Chore Service program. Please contact Danielle Dilts at (269) 445-8110 or danielled@casscoa.org to learn more about this



Upcoming Bus Trips

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

Thursday, April 11

- 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 available for purchase.)

Bus Leaves: 8 a.m. Bus Returns: 8 p.m. (approx. time) Cost: \$90 (Nonrefundable) **Register by March 28**

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

Volunteer Spotlight

Jim Hershberger is one of our dedicated Meals on Wheels drivers. He fills in for other volunteers during absences as well as being verv committed to his route.

Jim goes above and beyond for his community by lending a helping hand

to those in need. If Jim sees something needing done while delivering meals, he completes his route and goes back to assist whenever he can.

Jim's compassion for others and has been a wonderful addition to our volunteer team.



Employee Spotlight

Chervl Kovalak is our Meals on Wheels Coordinator and has been with the COA for 18 years. Cheryl has a true passion for Meals on Wheels and enjoys creating fundraisers to help fund this

essential service and is alwavs looking to recruit new drivers.

While not at work, she enjoys spending time outdoors fishing and at home watching BBC movies.



DRUG DROP

Proper drug disposal of expired or unwanted pills, capsules, and tablet medications is important to help protect human health and our environment. Unwanted drugs should not be flushed down the drain. Medications should be kept secure in the home to prevent unlawful use and regularly disposed of at secure locations.

The COA offers a secure location to dispose of your unwanted medication on the first Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

All medication must be removed from the packaging and placed into a sealed bag. Any medication still in bottles or boxes will no longer be accepted. Also please note that the COA does NOT accept any liquids, inhalers, or needles.





- 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.





Diabetes Personal Action Toward Health

Learn practical skills for a healthy life if you are living with diabetes by attending this free six-week Diabetes PATH workshop. Classes will be held at the Lowe Center on Thursdays, April 6 through May 11 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. and are designed to help people take an active role in managing their diabetes.

PATH is a chronic disease self-management program that educates you with what's needed to take care of your diabetes and your health. You will learn how to deal with the challenges of not feeling well, share personal experiences with other group members, overcome stress and relax, make healthy eating plans and prevent low-blood sugar, prevent or delay complications, and stay independent.

Family members, friends or caregivers are also encouraged to attend these sessions. Class sizes are limited so advance registration is required. Please call the COA at (269) 445-8110 for more information and to register for the class.





Valentine Heart Wreath





Our Volunteers Help Keep the COA Afloat

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 invitation in the mail.

Volunteers

CC COA

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 **Bob Cochrane** 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 Floyd Groner Jim Grubbs Melody Grubbs Shirley Guilford Jovce 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 McNearv 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 Joyce 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 Clarawayne Wolford Roberta Woodruff Tom Yarger Fran Yeager Katherine Yoder Carol Young **Beverly Youngberg Richard Zander** Steve Zebell

Volunteers listed are for the month of January, during which we had 145 active volunteers who contributed 937 hours of work. This would be equal to more than 5 full time staff positions.

MARCH 2023 Front Street Crossing

M	onday	l Tu	iesday	We	dnesday	Th	ursday	F	riday	Saturday
					1		2		3	1
						1:00 pm 1:30 pm Off Site	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	4
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	7 Hearing Clinic Brain & Body Hand & Foot Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am	Spill the Beans	9:00 am 1:00 pm 1:30 pm Off Site	9 Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Euchre Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	11:00 am 11:00 am	Lessons Range of Motion & Mobility FSC Musicians	11
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 12:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 1:00 pm Off Site	14 Parkinson's Power Punchers Color Your World (Watercolor) Brain & Body Hand & Foot Hollywood Treasures (Movie) 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	16 Parkinson's Power Punchers Brain & Body Euchre Marcellus Moves (8:30 am)	11:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am	Cardio Challenge Balance, Stretch, Stability Acoustic Guitar Lessons Range of Motion & Mobility FSC Musicians Tai Chi St. Patrick's Day Party Ceramics	18
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MARCH 2023 Lowe Center



Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Breakfast Buffet 100 m Protein 200 m SA 158eth 900 m SA 158eth 900 m SA 158eth 900 m SA 158eth 900 m SA 158eth 100 m Protein 100 m Protein 900 m SA 158eth 100 m Protein							Cassopolis				
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PROGRAM INFORMATION

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



LC CERAMICS MADE EASY

Learn and create

therapeutic. All pieces are

provided and you do the

Ceramics is now every

Be sure to check it out.

Instructors: Joyce Greenwood (LC)

Sue Bingham (FSC)

Friday in Dowagiac.

Lowe Center

Fridays

Thursdays

12:30 - 2:30 pm

12:30 - 2:30 pm

Front Street Crossing

ceramics. It's easy, fun, and

FSC Cost: FREE

painting.



Cost: \$18 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.

March's watercolor is "One of Spring's Firsts."

Instructor: Roy Hruska

Front Street Crossing Tuesday, Mar. 14 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, Mar. 2 & 16 2:30 - 5 pm



Pre-register for any event, program or service provided by the COA.

Online: CassCOA.org

You may register by Phone: (269) 445-8110 or

LC HOLLYWOOD TREASURES (Movie)

March's feature is *Elvis*

Follow the infamous rise to fame of rock 'n' roll and movie star Elvis Presley and his 20 year complex relationship with manager Colonel Tom Parker.

Starring Austin Butler & Tom Hanks

Free movie, individual bag of popcorn, and water.

Lowe Center

Monday, Mar. 13 1 pm

Front Street Crossing

Tuesday, Mar. 14 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

Lowe Center

Fsc Front Street Crossing

In Your Neighborhood



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



Lowe Center

Mondays, Mar. 6 & 20 10 am - 4 pm

LC VISUAL ARTS CLASS

Cost: \$15 (Per Class) Please bring a pencil and paper. A supply list will be provided. No registration is required and vou 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

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER USE

Several public-

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

Lowe Center

Mondays - Fridavs 8 am - 5 pm

Front Street Crossing

Mondays - Fridays 8 am - 4 pm



LC TECH FAIR FEATURING **BEST BUY &** THE GEEK SQUAD

Come and get hands on learning about technology from experts.

This FREE tech Fair is created to address the needs of older adults who want to stay connected to the world.

This is your opportunity to see some new gadgets as well as ask questions about the items you already use. So bring your current phones, tablets, and laptops and get ready to be "GEEKED."

No appointments are necessary.

Instructors: Best Buy's Geek Squad

> Lowe Center Wednesday, Mar. 22 1pm

FITNESS & EXERCISE

LC FITNESS CENTER

Fisc 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

Fridavs 7 am - 4 pm

Saturdavs 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

Renew Active SilverSneakers

COA is a SliverSneaker & Renew Active location

UnitedHealthcare

Class Prices

M/W/F	\$25 (Monthly)				
T/Th	\$20 (Monthly)				
All Class	\$40 (Monthly)				
Bundle	(Excludes Yoga)				
Class price allows					
in-person, online, or both.					

Nhat

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

Online / Zoom

FITNESS & EXERCISE

BALANCE, STRETCH, AND STABILITY

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

Cost: \$25 (Monthly) Registration is required

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

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

MARCELLUS MOVES

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 Starts Mar. 9



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 vou need help.)

Front Street Crossing & Online / Zoom

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10 - 10:45 am



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 vour 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



Registration is required

Take your balance and stability to the next level with this challenging vet 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 *vou need help.*)

Lowe Center & Online / Zoom

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 - 10:45 am

TAI CHI



Cost: \$25 (Monthly) **Registration is required**

Add a little more flow and balance to vour dav 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

YOGA LC

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) Amv Crennell (Sa)

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

Lowe Center & Online / Zoom Mondays 5:45 - 7 pm

> Thursdavs 9 - 10:15 am

Saturdays 9 - 10:15 am

JUST FOR FUN

BINGO

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 1:30 pm

Front Street Crossing

Mondays & Wednesdays 12:45 pm

Shar

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

Front Street Crossing

In Your Neighborhood



JUST FOR FUN

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

LC EUCHRE

FSC 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 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

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

😉 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

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

LE ALASKA CRUISE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Find out what to expect

on your cruise, as we will be answering questions



about shore excursions, the Medallion, and some general information.

Learn about the Medallion app and how it can make your Princess Cruise even better. Ask us about scheduling an appointment to set up your Medallion app.

Reminder: Final Cruise Payment is in June

Lowe Center

Wednesday, Mar. 15 1 pm

FSC ACOUSTIC GUITAR LESSONS

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



LE DEATH FOLLOWED THE LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION

Registration is requested

The Lewis and Clark Expedition explored the wester lands of the Louisiana Purchase for 2 1/2 years. They had so many close calls with death it was amazing that anyone survived. Discover how they managed to avoid death time and again.

Presenter: Bill Mitchell, Retired History Teacher

Lowe Center Thursday, Mar. 23 1 pm



LC AARP SMART DRIVER TEK

This 2-hour workshop covers the latest hightech safety features in one's current car and what technology to look for when shopping for a new car, as well as the safety benefits of blind spot warning systems, forward collision warnings, and more.

Instructor: Jo Ann Flowers, AARP Driver Safety Volunteer

Lowe Center Thursday, Mar. 30 1 pm

Front Street Crossing Thursday, Mar. 30 10 am

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, Mar. 8 1 - 3 pm

GROUP

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

> Lowe Center Friday, Mar. 3 1 - 3 pm



C DRUG DROP

All medications <u>MUST</u> 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, Mar. 2 10 am - 12 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

SERVICES & SUPPORT

C 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, Mar. 13 & 27 Call for Times

C GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

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

Lowe Center Thursday, Mar. 9 1 - 3 pm



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

Fsc Front Street

Crossina

In Your

Neighborhood

LC

Lowe Center

Lowe Center Tuesdays, Mar. 14 & 28 9 am - 4 pm

Front Street Crossing

Tuesday, Mar. 7 9 am - 4 pm



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FSC LSVT BIG PROGRAM FOR PARKINSON'S

Do you or a loved one struggle with Parkinson's disease or other neural conditions?

Join us to learn more about the LSVT BIG researchedbased physical/ occupational therapy program that teaches you how to avoid inactivity, keep your movements alive during everyday activities, and empower you to keep moving and stay active.

Presenter: Ascension Borgess-Lee Hospital Physical Therapists

Front Street Crossing Tuesday, Mar. 28 11 am

C MS SUPPORT GROUP

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

Lowe Center

Tuesday, Mar. 21 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, Mar. 14 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.

Care for your family member is available free of charge while you attend classes. Ask for details when you register.

Lowe Center

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

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, Mar. 7 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, Mar. 9

VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

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.

March's Discussion Book

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

April's Discussion Book

The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger Leader: Gina Simoni,

Dowagiac District Library

Lowe Center Tuesday, Mar. 7 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, Mar. 7 & 21 9:30 am - 12 pm

FSC SPILL THE BEANS

Want to be the first to know about what's going on in your community?

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.

March's Bean Spiller

Matt Weston, Director at Dowagiac District Library will open the book on the exciting and resourceful world of the library.

April's Bean Spiller

Steve Arseneau, Director at Dowagiac Area History Museum (Topic: Orphan Train)

Front Street Crossing Wednesday, Mar. 8 10 am

SPECIAL EVENTS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Cost: \$3 - \$7 (Meal) FREE (Party) Registration is required by March 9

HAPPY

Be Irish for the day as you come and enjoy a wee bit o' corned

beef and cabbage. Don't forget to wear your green!

<u>Lowe Center</u> Friday, Mar. 17 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Friday, Mar. 17 11:30 am - 1:30 pm



Lowe Center

60525 Decatur Rd. Cassopolis, MI

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

Sat. 7:30 am - 12 pm

Front Street Crossing

227 S. Front St. Dowagiac, MI

Mon. - Fri. 7 am - 4 pm

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

Adult Day Care Bill Lock

Adult Day Care in Memory of Virginia Bazner

American Legion Auxiliary #365

Annual Campaign

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

Food Service

Vicki Beebe Phillip Schumacher

Greatest Need

Lois Amalavage Faith Bible Church of Jones Linda Frisbie Pat Lockhart Hayley Smallwood William Ward Yvonne White

Handy Helpers in Memory of John Barnhart

Ronald Jones Larry and Sheila Zebell

Meals on Wheels

Joseph Underwood

In Memory of Donna Adams

Robert Checkley Carmi Essex George and Bonnie Purlee

In Memory of Thelma Antus

Cathy and John Bair Bernadine Deidrick, Rich Antus and Debbie Antus-Carlson Renee Rusco

In Memory of Virginia Banzer

Wendy Lafond Ranie Perkins

In Memory of John Barnhart

Barbara Groner Sharon Kurdelmeyer

In Memory of Cathy Hart Beverly White

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

MARCH 2023 Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday				
LOCATIONS & HOURS								
Lowe Center Hours (LC) Lunch** 11:30 a.m 1:30 p.m. (weekdays) Buffet Breakfast 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. (Mar. 10 & 29) Chestnut Tow	Front Street Crossing (FSC) Lunch**	Main Entrée* Pork Chop Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Wheat Bread Apple Crisp Café Entrée Grilled Chicken Sandwich Café Fresh Salad	Main Entrée* Roast Beef Baked Potato Sour Cream Peas & Pearl Onions Banana Café Entrée Walking Tacos Café Fresh Salad	Main Entrée* 3 Salmon Patty Wild Rice Broccoli Whole Wheat Roll Poke Cake 2 Café Entrée Reuben Café Fresh Salad				
– call the COA f	or more information.	Cottage Cheese w/ Fruit	Cranberry Chicken Salad	Fruit Salad				
Main Entrée* Chicken Alfredo Fettucine Noodles Italian Blend Vegetables Garlic Bread Cheesecake	Main Entrée* 7 Beef Shepherd's Pie Mashed Potatoes Maxhed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Wheat Roll Cupcake	Main Entrée* Baked Ham Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans Wheat Bread Fruit / Brownie	Main Entrée* Lasagna Tossed Salad Italian Breadstick Frosted Cake	Main Entrée* Baked Fish Rice Pilaf Corn Apple Pie				
Café Entrée Patty Melt	Café Entrée Big Poppa Burger	Café Entrée Loaded Mac & Cheese	Café Entrée Spicy Chicken Sandwich	Café Entrée Pulled Pork Sandwich				
Café Fresh Salad Veggie Blend Salad	Café Fresh Salad COA Salad	Café Fresh Salad Cobb Salad	Café Fresh Salad Turkey Craisin Salad	Café Fresh Salad Antipasto Salad				
Main Entrée* BBQ Chicken Thighs Baked Beans Broccoli Wheat Roll Pumpkin Mousse	Main Entrée* Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Beef Gravy Carrots Pecan Pie	Main Entrée* 15 Apple Pork Loin Stuffing California Blend Vegetables Wheat Bread Peaches	Main Entrée* Chicken Enchiladas Spanish Rice Refried Beans Fruit Samoa Cake	St. Patrick's Day Meal Main Entrée* Corned Beef Cabbage & Carrots Redskin Potatoes Wheat Roll Leprechaun Pudding				
Café Entrée Grilled Cheese Café Fresh Salad	Café Entrée Coconut Curry Chicken Café Fresh Salad	Café Entrée Hot Turkey Sandwich Café Fresh Salad	Café Entrée Italian Sliders (2) Café Fresh Salad	Café Entrée Tuna Melt Café Fresh Salad				
COA Salad	Mini Chef Salad	Beef Taco Salad	Garlic Shrimp Salad	Buffalo Chicken Salad				
Main Entrée* Sweet & Sour Chicken White Rice Sugar Snap Peas Wheat Bread Fortune Cookie Café Entrée	Main Entrée* 21 Beef Stroganoff Egg Noodles Capri Vegetable Blend Wheat Roll Chocolate Cherry Cake Café Entrée	Main Entrée* Roast Turkey Maple Squash Green Beans Wheat Bread Fruit / Apple Pie Café Entrée	Baked Spaghetti Tossed Salad Bread Stick Fruit Chocolate Fudge Cake Café Entrée	Main Entrée* 24 Beer Battered Fish Sandwich Coleslaw Peas Tartar Sauce Orange Cake Café Entrée				
Tamales w/ Refried Beans Café Fresh Salad	Popcorn Chicken Café Fresh Salad	Cheeseburger Café Fresh Salad	Breakfast Pizza Café Fresh Salad	Italian Melt Café Fresh Salad				
Tuna Salad	House Salad	Antipasto Salad	Mediterranean Salad	Fruit Salad				
Main Entrée* Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes Squash Wheat Roll Fruit / Brownie	Main Entrée* Beef Stew Stew Vegetables Green Beans Wheat Bread Pears	Main Entrée* Honey Dijon Chicken Rice Pilaf Capri Blend Vegetables Wheat Roll Fruit / Cookie	Main Entrée* 30 Vegetable Lasagna California Blend Vegetables Breadstick Mandarin Oranges	Main Entrée* Cheese Ravioli w/ Sauce Green Beans Wheat Bread Diced Pears				
Café Entrée Hot Beef Sandwich	Café Entrée Chicken & Waffles	Café Entrée Grilled Ham & Cheese	Café Entrée Salisbury Steak & Redskins	Café Entrée Tilapia & Coleslaw				
Café Fresh Salad Cobb Salad	Café Fresh Salad Cottage Cheese w/ Fruit	Café Fresh Salad Veggie Blend Salad	Café Fresh Salad BLT Salad	Café Fresh Salad Chicken Taco Salad				
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

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