



Retired & Senior Volunteer Programs
of Ingham, Eaton & Clinton Counties
2400 Pattengill Avenue, Lansing, MI 48910
517 887-6116

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2023/2024

A Message from Carol Wood, Executive Director...



As we celebrate and give thanks, what better time to tell you, our volunteers, and clients, how grateful we are for your service in the Greater Lansing area. Working with you year-round is an honor and a privilege, and we look forward to continuing our partnership next year. You make our days merry

and bright all year round! Wishing you a peaceful, joyful holiday season and an even better year than the last!

Carol Wood

May your holidays sparkle with moments of love, laughter, and goodwill, and may the year ahead be full of contentment and joy. Have a Happy Holidays.



Here are some of the most common ways that scammers target you during the holidays. 1. Social media ads that lead you to fake online stores. Fraudsters use ads on social media to try to get you to go to fake stores that steal your money, credit card details, or personal information. In the worst case scenario, you could even become the victim of identity theft.

2. Fake delivery notification texts. Scammers send fake text messages claiming that a package you're waiting for has been delayed or that you need to pay a fee before it can be delivered.
3. Fraudulent charities that steal your money. Con artists create fake charities or GoFundMe campaigns to trick you into sending money or sharing your personal information.
4. Bogus deals on hard-to-find items or airline tickets. Many schemes take advantage of popular holiday items or inflated travel costs to get you to buy fake tickets or items.
5. Fake surveys, giveaways, and other phishing emails impersonating well-known brands. Scammers send emails (as well as texts and phone calls) claiming to be from companies you know, such as Amazon or Walmart. These messages use social engineering tactics to steal your passwords, personal information, and financial details. If you fall for one of these holiday scams, the consequences can be dire. Scammers could steal your money, drain your bank account, or even steal your identity.

Remembering Volunteers

Two of our volunteers passed away and we would like to honor Jerrell Richardson and Joyce Simpson for their service to our community.



Jerrell Oscar Richardson passed on October 17, 2023 at Sparrow Hospital surrounded by his loved ones. Jerrell was born on April 20, 1947 in Lansing, Michigan. He was reared by his father, Oscar and Louis Richardson, and grandmother, Wornnie Lee Finnell.

Jerrell attended school in the Lansing school district, Davenport University, and was a Purple Heart Recipient for his service in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

While these accomplishments were grand in gesture and encouraging to those who supported him, Jerrell will be remembered for so much more. With a kind smile and a joyful spirit, Jerrell was best at being JR. He loved to laugh, dance, and cook chicken wings. Never turning down an opportunity to have a great time with family and friends.

Jerrell volunteered for 14 years as a Foster Grandparent at Wilcox School with the Holt School District. Mr. Adam Jerrell's teacher said the following about him. "What could be improved about the Foster Grandparent program? I have such a wonderful volunteer that I would not change one thing. Please share a story that shows the positive impact your Foster Grandparent volunteer has made with one or more students or with you. Jerrell has been helping a boy in my room and he has grown up so much. I watched him on the playground an interaction with another child using many of strategies Jerrell has taught him throughout the year. I also now have children who seek out Jerrell for assistance on wiring, reading, and math assignments."

Jerrell will be missed by his family, students, teachers, and friends at RSVP.



Joyce Yvette Simpson, age 74, of Lansing, Michigan passed away on Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

Joyce was a Foster Grandparent for 6 years. At our October In-Service came dressed as an angel and won the prize for the best costume.

Her teacher said the following things about Joyce. "What do you like best about the Foster Grandparent Program? The program gives participants opportunity to engage in our community and help make a difference in the lives of children. Please share a story that shows the positive impact your Foster Grandparent volunteer has made with one or more students or with you. Joyce greets the children each day and they seek her out to communicate with her."

Joyce will be missed by her family, students, teachers, and friends at RSVP.



New Year's Trivia Questions and Answers

1. Question: When did the New Year's Eve Ball first drop-in Times Square?
2. Question: How large is the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball in diameter?
3. Question: When did partiers first celebrate New Year's Eve in Times Square?
4. Question: How many versions of the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball have there been to date?
5. Question: What materials made up the first-ever Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
6. Question: How much did the first Times Square New Year's Eve Ball weigh?
7. Question: How many light bulbs covered the first Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
8. Question: When did LED lights first appear on the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
9. Question: How many LED modules are in the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
10. Question: How many triangles total are there on the Times Square ball?
11. Question: How many colors can the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball display?
12. Question: How much does the Times Square ball weigh?
13. Question: How many total LED lights are in the Times Square ball?
14. Question: When was the second Times Square New Year's Eve Ball introduced?
15. Question: What metal replaced iron in the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
16. Question: When were computer controls introduced to the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
17. Question: What are the triangles on the Times Square ball made from?
18. Question: When did the Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball debut?
19. Question: What is the geometrical shape of the Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
20. Question: What is the address of the Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
21. Question: How tall are the numerals on the Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball?
22. Question: How much does the sparkling Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball weigh?
23. Question: When was the first "time ball" drop on record?
24. Question: What newspaper sponsored the first-ever Times Square New Year's Eve party?
25. Question: What two years did the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball not drop?
26. Question: How much confetti is dropped in Times Square on New Year's Eve?
27. Question: How many people tune in to watch the Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball drop each year?
28. Question: Who is credited with writing the poem "Auld Lang Syne?"
29. Question: What was the most popular New Year's resolution back in 2020?
30. Question: What ancient Greek god's celebrations inspired Baby New Year?
31. Question: "January" gets its name from what Roman god?
32. Question: What was given as gifts on New Year's Day in ancient Persia?
33. Question: Who was the first broadcast host of Times Square New Year's Eve celebrations?

Corn Casserole



Ingredients

1/4 c. unsalted butter, melted, cooled, plus more, softened, for pan
1 (8.5-oz.) package Jiffy corn muffin mix
1 tbsp. plus 1 1/2 tsp. granulated sugar
2 large eggs
2/3 c. whole milk
1/3 c. heavy cream
2 c. frozen corn, thawed, drained
1 (15 oz.) can creamed corn
3/4 tsp. kosher salt
1/2 tsp. sweet paprika
1/4 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
2 tbsp. sliced chives

Directions

Preheat oven to 400°. Grease a 2-quart baking dish with softened butter. In a large bowl, whisk Jiffy mix and granulated sugar until a few lumps remain.

In a medium bowl or large measuring cup, whisk eggs, milk, cream, and melted butter. Add egg mixture to dry ingredients and stir until just combined. Stir in thawed corn, creamed corn, salt, paprika, and pepper.

Pour corn mixture into prepared dish. Bake casserole until set and top is golden brown, 45 to 50 minutes. Top with chives. Let cool slightly before serving.

Senior Companion Volunteers

The Senior Companion Program started nationally in 1974. Our volunteers serve locally in adult day care centers, rehabilitation centers, and long-term care centers.

Senior Companions help older adults with chronic and acute medical conditions and frailties maintain their highest level of independence through companionship and respite.

Volunteers that serve through the Senior Companion Program build caring, supportive relationships with older adults in need of companionship. Senior Companions increase social engagement through reminiscing, playing cards, going for walks, and otherwise provide support to help their client(s) maintain their physical, emotional, and cognitive health.

The individuals helped by Senior Companions receive:

Social support
Cognitive engagement
Encouragement to remain active
A watchful eye to notice when they need extra care
A friendship that can last a lifetime
Helping with mail or dealing with the public

What do senior companions do?

Going for walks
Sitting and talking
Doing crafts and board games
Reading to the client

As Senior Companion if you meet income qualifications (200% of the federal poverty level or lower) you receive a tax free monetary stipend monthly as well as transportation and meals while serving, along with:

Pre-service and on-going training
An annual physical examination Supplemental liability insurance
A tax-exempt stipend including paid leave and holidays
Invitation to recognition events
Assistance with meal costs while volunteering

Winter

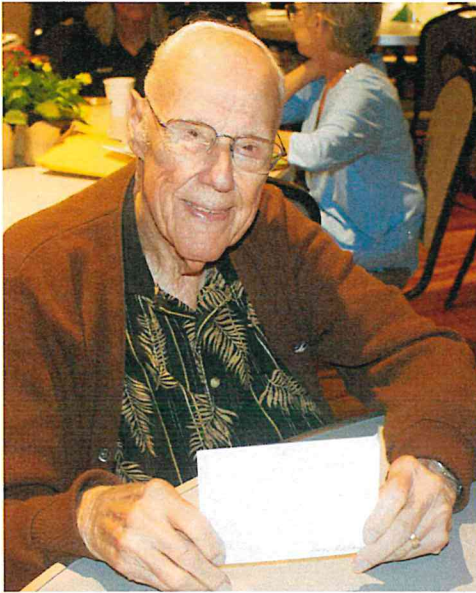
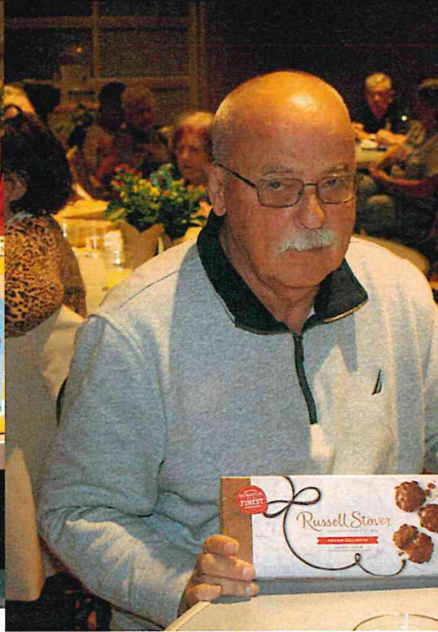
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|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|
| Blizzard | Snowshoes | Flannel | Ice |
| Frostbite | February | Holidays | Shovel |
| December | Gloves | Mitts | Snowflakes |
| Frozen | January | Snowballs | Wintertime |
| Igloo | Sleigh | Toboggan | Skiing |
| Skating | Solstice | Flurries | Snowman |
| Jacket | Fireplace | Hot Chocolate | Frigid |
| Slippery | Hockey | Scarf | Whiteout |
| | Longjohns | Snowboarding | |

Answers to Questions from page 5

1. Answer: 1907 2. Answer: 12 feet 3. Answer: 1904 4. Answer: Seven 5. Answer: Iron and wood
 6. Answer: 700 pounds 7. Answer: 100 8. Answer: 2007 9. Answer: 672 10. Answer: 2,688
 11. Answer: 16 million 12. Answer: 11,875 pounds 13. Answer: 32,256 14. Answer: 1920 15. Answer: Aluminum
 16. Answer: 1995 17. Answer: Waterford Crystals 18. Answer: 1999 19. Answer: Geodesic sphere 20.
 Answer: One Times Square 21. Answer: 7 feet 22. Answer: About six tons (12,000 pounds) 23. Answer:
 1833 24. Answer: The New York Times 25. Answer: 1942 and 1943 26. Answer: About one ton 27. Answer:
 About 1 billion 28. Answer: Robert Burns 29. Answer: To exercise more 30. Answer: Dionysus 31. Answer:
 Janus, the god of doors and gates 32. Answer: Eggs 33. Answer: Guy Lombardo

RECOGNITION 2023



Recognition 2023



**NEED
Call**



TO BORROW A TOOL?
the Capital Area Housing Partnership at 517-332-4663.



RSVP MISSION

RSVP is a community based organization that recruits a broad range of volunteers to meet the diverse needs of our partner organizations. We strengthen the organizations we serve while enriching the lives of our volunteers. Our volunteers are dedicated and caring individuals with vast life experiences which contribute to the unique services we provide.

SERVICES FROM TRI-COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING

TCOA can help with the following services:

Congregate Senior Dining Sites	517-887-1393
Crisis Services	517-887-1440
Health and Wellness Activities	517-887-1450
Home Delivered Meals	517-887-1460
Home Repair or Chore Services	517-887-1440
Information and Assistance	517-887-1440
In-Home Services	517-887-1440
Legal Assistance	888-783-8190
Long Term Care Ombudsman	866-485-9393
Non-Covered Medical Needs	517-887-1440

**Retired & Senior
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Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:30am - 4:00pm