



Council of Senior Citizens  
Schoharie County

**Volume 3 | Issue 2**  
**March 2021**

# Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. & The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center Monthly Newsletter

## Well We Have Made It to March 2021...

I hope you are all continuing to do well and are staying safe. I know the vaccine issue has been very frustrating for everyone, and hopefully they will improve the distribution as they add Price Chopper Pharmacy onto the list of vaccination sites. I wish our new Center would have been ready to provide a vaccine site, but unfortunately because we are in the middle of renovations, it was not safe. We will keep it in mind for the future, however, if it is necessary to do anything like this again.

The Gathering Place Community Center renovations are coming along very nicely! We have a wonderful contractor, On The Level Construction, who has just jumped in and making our dreams come true! Between our contractor and our electrician (Aaron's Electric) we are so blessed to be working with such professionals. Make sure to check out our progress section on the Center in this issue.

We have also been busy developing our membership, volunteer, and instructor forms for the Center. We will start sending out membership forms to anyone who requests them in April 2021, as well as having the form enclosed with this newsletter. The membership will officially start on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, and will be for 12 months. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the center at 518-823-4338.

In addition, if you have a special skill or would like to teach a class, please complete the Class Proposal Form, which I have enclosed for your convenience. We will be starting to develop our calendar for June 2021 activities very soon. We welcome all thoughts and ideas!

We are tentatively scheduling our Grand Opening the week of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

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

Please stay safe during these continued trying times. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please feel free to contact me (Kim Witkowski) at 518-254-7040. If we can't provide you with assistance ourselves, we will refer you to someone who can. Remember, deadlines for articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. We hope you enjoy!

**"Since I'm not dead, I am not done. My experience is my greatest asset. I am full of energy and passion because I know my best days are ahead!" -Craig Groeschel**

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

## News from Our Board of Directors...

The Board of Directors have continued to meet, although mostly by ZOOM and conference calling to ensure safety for everyone. The following is an update:

- The Board of Directors and Alternate Directors meet monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 9:30 am. All meetings are now held at the Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center and conducted with the use of ZOOM.
- The Board continues to recommend Senior Club meetings should not meet at this time due to COVID-19. The Board will review this directive at a future meeting and decide when meetings can resume. In the meantime, if you think your club members could use ZOOM, the Senior Council has a license for use and we can help you set a meeting up. Just contact Kim Witkowski if you are interested.
- The annual financial audit has been completed and reviewed by the Board.
- Kim is continuing to look into funding opportunities to help offset some of the loss of funding last year due to the pandemic and the closing of the Shoppes and County.
- The Fundraising Committee has met twice so far and has outlined a fundraising schedule for 2021. The first fundraiser will be selling insulated bags, tote bags, and lunch bags with our name and logo on them. We hope to start selling them beginning in May 2021.
- The Everything Shoppes have been doing well again. We continue to receive lots of donations and are looking forward to bringing out our Spring items.
- The Board has developed policies and procedures for the Center, as well as membership, volunteer, and instructor forms. We are now working on Instructor handbooks.
- Our renovations on the Center are really coming along.

The Board continues to move forward with these positive changes.

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



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

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

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

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

**What's broken can be mended. What hurts can be healed. And no matter how dark it gets, the sun is going to rise again.**

Kelly's Treehouse

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

***Betty Karlau, President***

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

***Lorraine Wood, Treasurer***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Spring is nature's  
way of saying,  
'Let's party!'**

**-Robin Williams**

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

For many aging adults who live on their own, remaining active can be a challenge. Social ties are harder to maintain, and it may not always be easy to get out of the house, even to do just casual chores. However, the data makes it clear that some level of activity is vital to an aging person's well-being.

Fortunately, the rise of a new style of aging adult communities, such as the Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center, is why it is being developed. The Center will provide older adults with opportunities to engage in a broad range of meaningful activities, including art, music, and gardening experiences. People will be able to socialize and experience a wide degree of freedom in choosing their varied daily activities. This kind of dynamic environment is vital for long-term well being.

With the evidence mounting that longevity and activity are intimately tied together, today's aging adults are fortunate to have a wide variety of community settings to enjoy a sense of renewed purpose. This also includes deciding to share a skill with others or to decide to lead a discussion or teach a class at the center. Everyone has something to share.

We are working hard to get the renovations done to our new center, as well as putting together the classes and activities which we will be providing. This new center will provide resources, programs, meeting spaces, and many classes and activities all dedicated to enhancing the lives of our 50 Plus population in Schoharie County and surrounding areas.

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

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



**The Everything Shoppe**  
 115 Plaza Lane, #8, Cobleskill • 518-254-0181  
 333 Main Street, Middleburgh • 518-827-4548

**New and Gently Used Clothing and Merchandise**

Summer Clothes, Dishes, Glassware, Housewares and Much More

Middleburgh Tues.-Sat. 10-3  
 Cobleskill Mon.-Thurs. & Sat. 10-3; Fri. 10-5

Donations accepted during business hours only. Tax deductible.

**Homemade Hand Crafted Items**




**Hello March**

May you be filled with Warmth, Love and Kindness. May you bring an abundance of everything my heart desires, and may you fill my days with the beauty of a smile and the touch of a caring heart.

Rebecca Fox



## Who Are the Senior Council Members:

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

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

**Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. &  
 The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center**  
 127 Kenyon Road  
 Cobleskill, NY 12043

**Kimberly Witkowski, Executive Director**  
 Tel. 518-254-7040 Fax. 518-823-4433

[www.schoharieseniors.org](http://www.schoharieseniors.org)

Email: [office@seniorcouncilofschoco.org](mailto:office@seniorcouncilofschoco.org)

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

Our Center is progressing fast! We hired a wonderful contractor, On the Level Contractors, who have done an absolutely outstanding job putting into action what we had envisioned. We now have new French doors installed between Workshop A and our Reception area; an enlarged and beautiful ADA bathroom and closet; a large conference room with window and new lighting; a beautiful set of stairs and new door with window coming in from our Multipurpose Room into the Reception area. In addition, they have done a wonderful job painting everything and making it very light and welcoming! We are so excited! As previously noted, we are also starting to put together the classes and activities which we will be providing. This new center will provide resources, programs, meeting spaces, and many classes and activities all dedicated to enhancing the lives of our 50 Plus population in Schoharie County and surrounding areas.

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



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

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

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

Here are just a few ways you can help:

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



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

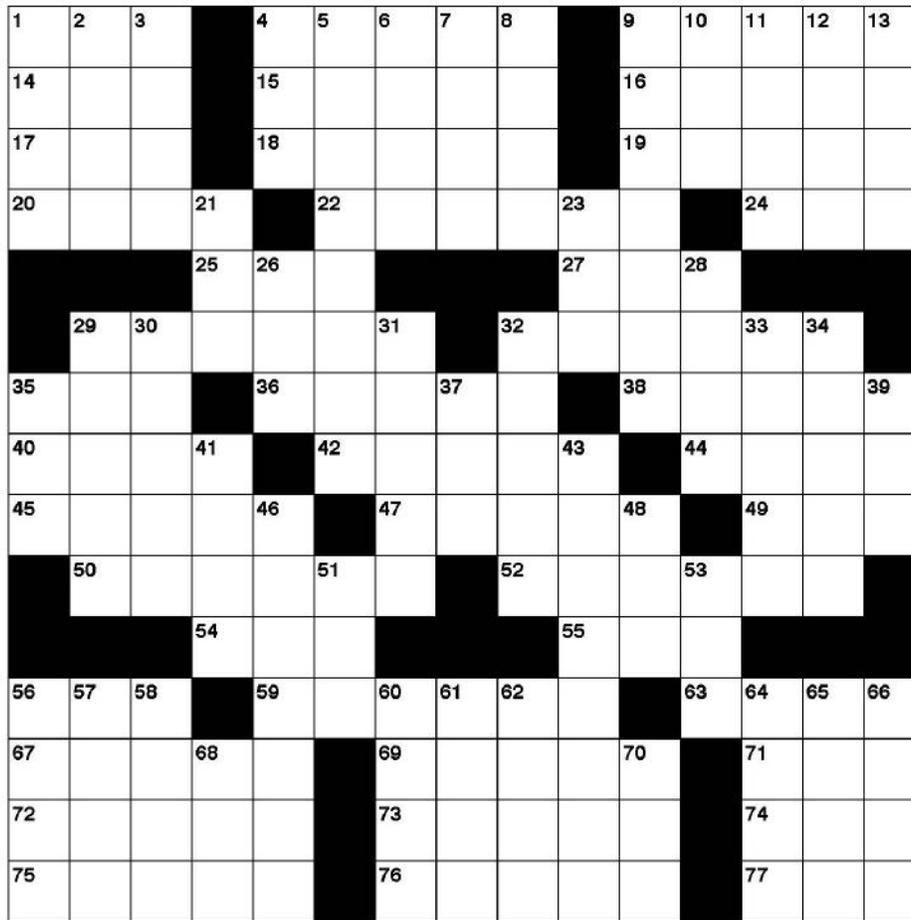
We appreciate your continued support and look forward to bring even more services and opportunities to our 50 Plus Community!

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

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



# ST. PATRICK'S DAY



## ACROSS

- 1 Zilch  
 4 Defense  
 9 Italian herb  
 14 Single  
 15 Italian "dollars"  
 16 Negative battery terminal  
 17 Genius  
 18 Electronic mail  
 19 Man-made fiber  
 20 Triangular musical instruments with 46 strings  
 22 Goes in a door  
 24 Stale  
 25 Serving of corn  
 27 Doctoral degree  
 29 Honest  
 32 Come out  
 35 Make a mistake  
 36 Abundance  
 38 Merits  
 40 Gawk  
 42 Makes a sweater  
 44 Second letter of the greek alphabet  
 45 Melts together  
 47 Crawl  
 49 Gray sea eagle  
 50 Small person  
 52 Sticky  
 54 No  
 55 Telegraphic signal  
 56 Resort hotel  
 59 Lament  
 63 Thick soup  
 67 Stick food  
 69 Month  
 71 Regret  
 72 Habituate  
 73 Female given name  
 74 Internal Revenue Service  
 75 Allotted  
 76 Tart  
 77 Deep round container

## DOWN

- 1 Man who built the arc  
 2 S.A. Indian  
 3 Stare  
 4 Drink made by fermenting malt  
 5 humorous poem that has five lines  
 6 Persia  
 7 Entice  
 8 Small island  
 9 Female spirit in Irish folklore  
 10 Some  
 11 Go at it alone  
 12 Movie star  
 13 Allow to borrow  
 21 Quill  
 23 Revolutions per minute  
 26 Advertisements  
 28 Dreary  
 29 Infant illness  
 30 Got up  
 31 Move the body in a rhythmic sequence  
 32 Organic compound  
 33 Color of emeralds  
 34 Doorway  
 35 Mischievous humanlike creature  
 37 Directory (abbr.)  
 39 \_\_ Francisco  
 41 Extremely sharp  
 43 Baby plant  
 46 Dabbed  
 48 Pressure unit  
 51 Sight organ  
 53 Possessive pronoun  
 56 Take off the surface  
 57 Sheet of glass  
 58 Adjoin  
 60 Blow gently  
 61 Capital of Western Samoa  
 62 Cast metal  
 64 Stumble  
 65 European monetary unit  
 66 Compass point  
 68 Lode yield  
 70 Repose

## St. Patrick's Day Word Search

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

CELTIC	CLOVER	COINS
DOWNPATRICK	FESTIVAL	FOLKLORE
GAELIC	GOLD	GREEN
IRELAND	LEGEND	LIMERICK
LUCK	PARADE	PATRON
RAINBOW	SHAMROCK	TRINITY

### Her Fourth Marriage

-author unknown

A local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old woman on why she had recently gotten married for the fourth time. They wanted to know her secret for finding love again and again. The interviewer asked her a few questions about her life, and about what it felt like to be a bride again at age 80. Then he asked what her new husband did for a living. "He is a funeral director", she answered.

The newsperson was surprised by her answer, and wondered who else she had married. He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. Her life had been full of exciting moments, especially with three husbands.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now, in her 80's, a funeral director. The interviewer looked at her quite astonished and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers. She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go!"

### Printable Sudoku Puzzles – Hard #3

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

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

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

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

### Solution to January's Newsletter – Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

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

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