

# Newburgh Senior Center

## May 2025 Newsletter

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### Director's Corner

Hopefully we're finished with all the Spring weather drama and everyone is safe and sound. We've got new soil in the garden, thanks to Ed Butch and John Bittner. If you have your heart set on growing particular veggies, please talk to Ed or Ron. They will be planting stuff soon—or already, if the weather has been decent.

We usually grow tomatoes, peppers, squashes, cukes, and veggies that we can grow upward, since our horizontal space tends to be limited.

Otherwise, May tends to be a busy month with the Derby, Mother's Day and Memorial Day. We will be closed Mon-

day, May 26 for that holiday.

To celebrate the Derby, we're having Hot Browns for Free Lunch Friday on May 2. Make sure you sign up for a long time tradition during Derby Season.

We welcome and thank a new Free Lunch Friday sponsor, the Old Fashioned Butcher Shoppe. They are also the pork provider for Porkapalooza. They give us a really, really good price. If you need exceptional-quality meat, please give them consideration.

Thanks also, to our other May Free Lunch sponsors, the Islamic Center and Hamilton Pointe.



### Book Club choice for May

We are taking a break from War Stories for a while, promise. The reading for May will be "Plainsong," a novel by Kent Haruf.

It was nominated for the National Book Award and is a New York Times bestseller. We hope you'll join the club at our next meeting, May 21 at noon.

It's a story about a community with interwoven characters. A pregnant high schooler, a lonely teacher, a pair of boys abandoned by their mother, and a pair of crusty single farmers make up the narrative, "that builds in strength and feeling until, as in a choral chant, the voice in the book surround, transport, and lift the reader off the ground."

### May Birthdays

Linda Shaw	5/1
Pam Gilham	5/3
Greg Hall	5/4
Jack Spillman	5/8
Maureen Cooley	5/10
Marie Moore	5/10
Jane Schmitt	5/10
Larry Steenberg	5/14
Janet Tenbarge	5/15
June Gross	5/16
Linda Nottoli	5/16
John Robinson	5/18
Patricia Rutherford	5/22
Frances Madnick	5/25
Linda Memmer	5/26



*It's the Merry Month of May*

# Thanks to our Day Sponsors

We appreciate our Day Sponsors:

**May 11 is Mother's Day.** It is sponsored anonymously in honor of Theresa O'Rourke, who does all the decorating for the NSC. She makes the NSC a joyful, cheerful place to gather. Thank you, Theresa!

Another anonymous supporter wishes all mothers a happy day.

We honor all mothers and ladies who support children and families. We count our blessings that there are caring women in our community that make so many good things happen for people. **Happy Mother's**

**Day!**

**May 21** is sponsored by Colleen and Dennis Martin, in honor of the 97th birthday of Colleen's mother, Jean Race, of Boston. We wish you a very Happy Birthday, Jean.

Keep knitting those squares for Afghans! We hope you have a joyful day.

**May 26, Memorial Day**, is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary of Kapperman Post 44.

Memorial Day, also called Remembrance Day, is the perfect day to remember those deceased who served

in our armed forces and those in our families who have passed. Please pause for a few moments at 3 p.m. in respect.



**A BIG THANKS to our sponsors:**

**We couldn't be here without your support.**

Town of Newburgh—**Provides our building, grounds, maintenance, supplies, and services**

Warrick County

Ohio Township

C. Richard & Verna Louise Johnson Foundation

Cecil & Mabel Lene Hamman Foundation

Alcoa Warrick Operations

**Walmart—Newburgh "Spark Good" Grant**

Bayer's Plumbing (812) 853-2305—**Birthday Celebrations Sponsors**

Titzer Family Funeral Home (812) 853-8314—**Monthly newsletter sponsor**

King Mechanical Specialty, Zion United Church of Christ, Dave & Marsha Lambert, Living Word Christian

Church, Ohio Township—**Hospitality/Activity sponsors**

The Fresh Market - for its donation of meat for some **Free Lunch Fridays**

Marsha & Dave Lambert - **Paper Goods Sponsor**

Marc Hafele-Impulse Salon and Spa and Cleo Holder - **Christmas Dinner Sponsors**

Women's Fund of Warrick County, Warrick County Community Foundation—**Daily Exercise Sponsor**

Dr. J.P Morgan – A second quarter **BINGO sponsor**

We greatly appreciate the commitment of those in our community who sponsor our projects and programs. If you would like to support the efforts of the Newburgh Senior Center, please call (812) 853-5627 or email [manageratnsc@gmail.com](mailto:manageratnsc@gmail.com).

# 2025 Senior Games are coming to a spot near you

We know you love your games. Now you can play for fame and fortune (Well, maybe not fortune, but for lots of fun.) The first round of Indiana State Senior Games will be June 5-14 in Evansville.

State championships will be in Indianapolis, Sept. 5-8.

Mark Luecke will be here at NSC on Wednesday, May 14 at noon to share information with us about getting in on the fun.

Games to play include some of our favorites around here: Clabber and Euchre. But that's not all. There will be bowling, chair volleyball, chess & dom-

inoes, cornhole, walking, pickleball, skeet shooting, and table tennis, to name just a few.

These games are for adults 50 and over. "Fit and 50" is the theme this year.

If you can't be here on May 14 or if you need info before then, call 812-297-9568 or email IndianaStateGames@gmail.com.

There's a flyer posted on the bulletin board in our front foyer with a QR Code you can capture on your phone for info, too.

There will be great snacks. Information absorbs better with food.



## Memorial Day has a long, varied history



The first national observance of Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868. Then known as *Decoration Day*, the holiday was proclaimed by Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic (\*GAR) to honor Union soldiers who had died in the American Civil War.

This national observance followed local programs between the end of the Civil War and Logan's declaration. Many cities and people have claimed to be the first to observe it. However, the National Cemetery Administration, a division of the Department of Veterans Affairs, credits Mary Ann Williams with originating the "idea of strewing the graves of Civil War soldiers—Union and Confederate" with flowers.

Official recognition as a holiday spread among the states, beginning with New York in 1873. By 1890, every Union state had adopted it. The world wars turned it into a day of remembrance for all members of the U.S. military who fought and died in service. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as "Memorial Day" and changed its observance to the last Monday in May.

On June 3, 1861, Warrenton, Virginia was the location of the first Civil War soldier's grave to be decorated, according to an article in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* in 1906. This decoration was for the funeral of the first soldier killed during the Civil War, John Quincy Marr, who died on June 1, 1861, during a skirmish at the Battle of Fairfax Courthouse in Virginia.

On May 1, 1865, in Charleston, South Carolina, the recently freed African American population held a parade of 10,000 people to honor 257 dead Union soldiers. The soldiers had been buried in a mass grave at the Washington Race Course, having died at the Confederate prison camp located there.

After the city fell, the freed slaves unearthed and properly buried the sol-

diers, placing flowers at their graves. The event was reported in the *Charleston Daily Courier* and the *New-York Tribune*.

Following Mary William's call for assistance, four women of Columbus, Mississippi, early on April 25, 1866, gathered together at Friendship Cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers. They also felt moved to honor the Union soldiers buried there, and to note the grief of their families, by decorating their graves as well. The story of their gesture of humanity and reconciliation is held by some writers as the inspiration for the original Memorial Day.

"... Let us then gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of Springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as a sacred charge upon a Nation's gratitude—the soldiers' and sailors' widow and orphan."—John A. Logan, May 5, 1868.

\*The GAR was a Union veterans organization founded after the Civil War. Info provided by Wikipedia.