

THE GOLDEN TIMES

The Michigan City Senior Center
2 on the Lake * Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 873-1504 * Hours: 8am-4pm * Mon-Fri
Director: Tara Miller Assistants: Lauri Garbacik; Laura Steele

FEBRUARY
2026



IMPORTANT!! The Franklin Street Bridge will be CLOSED from Jan 5- Mar 15, 2026.



Please use Center Street to access the Senior Center.

Chair Zumba Gold

45 minute Classes



with Michele

Feb 2/3, 9/10, 16/17, 23/24 at 1:00pm

\$5 per class Walk-ins welcome (pay instructor)

Perfect for those who aren't keen on early morning exercise but still want to be active. Class geared towards seniors.



Soup Day

Thurs, Feb 19th at 11:30am

Chicken & Wild

Rice Soup

\$3.00 Eat-In

\$4.00 Small To-Go

\$6.00 Large To-Go

Sponsored by Asercare

Trash 'n Treasure Sale



Sat, March 28, 2026

8:00am-12:00noon

PROCEDURES FOR Table Rental 2026:

- LIMIT 2 banquet tables or equivalent per person.
- If you want more than 2 tables, you must go on a waiting list for the add'l tables and we'll notify you by March 23rd if they're available.
- You MUST be present on the day of sign-ups to reserve a table and you can only reserve a table for yourself. You will NOT be allowed to reserve for other members in their absence.
- Cost for banquet table \$20
- Cost for card table \$15
- Deadline to pay for waiting list reservations is Thurs, March 26th.
- NO REFUNDS if we cannot find a replacement.
- Set up for the Sale is on Fri, March 27th from 12noon-3:30pm.
- Table reservations begin at 8:00am on Fri, Feb 20th.

NO reservations will be accepted prior to that date. ONLY Senior Center members (with dues current) are allowed to reserve table space. Banquet tables are between 6-8ft. Some are shorter (6 ft), some are the result of two 42" tables pushed together (7 feet). Some are 8 ft banquet tables. You do not have the option to choose which table you will receive. It is based upon the convenience of the maintenance department as to where they place the tables. Your assignment to a particular area or table is solely at our discretion. We try to place you where you have been in the past if possible, but ultimately we put you where it fits best in the whole set up of the facility. The Sale itself will be open to the public.

Advertising for the sale will begin in March.

WEFM 95.9 will broadcast live. Sponsored by Aperion Care/The Arbors of Michigan City



Trash & Treasure Bake Sale



We would again like to offer a baked goods sale to raise extra funds. PLEASE help us out and donate your favorite baked goods. Turn in baked goods on Fri, March 28th NO LATER than 3pm. We'll price your goods.

ALSO we could use people to help price on Fri, March 27th from 12noon-3pm, and to work the sale on Sat 7:30am-12:30pm (broken up into 2 hour shifts). Sign up for either/both at the front desk.

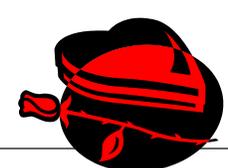
Thanks!





FEBRUARY ~ 2026



<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>
9:00am Stretch It Out! 9:45am Exercise 10:45am T'ai Chi w/Tom 12:00pm Duplicate Bridge 1:00pm Knitting & Crocheting Bee 12:00pm Hand & Foot	9am: Billiards 9am: BYOD Computers 9:30am Mahjong 9:30am Tai Chi (video) 10am 1-on-1 Comp Class 11am 1-on-1 Comp Class 12noon Five Crowns 1:00pm Euchre	8:30am SHIP (by appt) 9:00am Stretch It Out! 9:45am Exercise 10:00am Casual Bridge 11:00am Pinochle 12:30pm Mexican Train/Dominoes 12:30pm Rummikub 1:00pm BUNCO	9:00am Billiards 9:00am-2pm Woodcarving 9:30 Tai Chi (video) 9:30am Samba Card Game 1:00pm BINGO	9:00 Stretch It Out! (\$1 Fee) 9:30 Jokers & Marbles 9:45am Exercise 10am Sing-along 10am Chess Club 10:30-12:30 Italian 10:45am T'ai Chi w/Tom 12:30pm Pinochle 12:30pm Rummikub
Special Events				

- Mon/Tues: Feb 2/3, 9/10, 16/17, 23/24 Chair Zumba 1:00pm (walk-ins welcome) see front pg
- Thurs, Feb 5th: Blood Pressure Checks by North Shore Health 12:30pm
- Thurs, Feb 5th: SS Seniors Investment Group 11:00am
- Mon, Feb 9th: Hearing Evaluations (call for appt)
- Tues, Feb 10th: Advisory Board Meeting 9:30am
- Tues, Feb 10th: Massage Therapy (12:00-3:00pm) (see page 3)
- Sat, Feb 14th: Happy Valentine's Day 
- Mon, Feb 16th: President's Day (**WE ARE OPEN!!!**) 
- Tues, Feb 19th: Soup Day 11:30am (see pg 3)
- Thurs, Feb 19th: Massage Therapy (9:30am-12:30pm) (see page 3)
- Fri, Feb 20th: Sign-Ups for Trash & Treasure
- Mon, Feb 23rd: Popcorn & A Movie/(SEE PG 3)
- Tues, Feb 24th: Coffee with the Mayor 9:30am (see below)
- Tues, Feb 24th: Card Making with Jamie at 1pm (see pg 3)
- Thurs, Feb 26th: Newsletter Assembly 8:30am
- Mon, March 2nd: Hearing Evaluations (call for appt)
- Wed, March 4th: Spring Spaghetti Soiree 12pm-1:30pm 



Mark Your Calendars!

Spring Spaghetti Soiree

Wed, March 4 at 12noon-1:30pm

\$12

Includes:



Salad, Spaghetti w/meat sauce, breadsticks, dessert, beverage

Tickets in advance ONLY

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Tickets available for purchase from: Mon Feb 2nd through Wed, Feb 25th.

Coffee with the Mayor

Tues, Feb 24th at 9:30am
With Mayor Angie Nelson-Deutch!
(and/or her team leaders)



Thank you to Patricia Young for your kind donation of miscellaneous treats for the Senior Center!



Card Making with Jamie
Tues, Feb 24th at 1pm

We will make 3 cards at this session (which should take about 1-2 hours or so.) Theme TBD **Cost is \$15** and includes ALL materials to create three cards. **If you have attended this class previously, please notify Jamie you are signing up for this session and pay her directly at the session. If you're new, sign up & pay at front desk by Wed, Feb 18.**



JERRY KARSTEN'S CHILI COOK-OFF!

SAT, FEB 21ST 12NOON-3PM
AT THE MOOSE LODGE,
(FORMER WHITE EAGLE PARK)
WELNETZ RD, MC
\$10.00 PER TICKET

A Holistic Approach Massage Therapy

By Abigail Harmon, LMT

Abby will be offering 10 minute chair massages for \$10 for Senior Center members here at the Center. Cash payments only directly to Abby. Call 219-873-1504 to schedule your appointment. (Available every 15 minutes)/



Tues, Feb 10th: from 12noon-3:00pm

Thurs, Feb 19th: From 9:30am-12:30pm

Massage offers extensive benefits, including reducing stress and anxiety by lowering cortisol and boosting feel-good hormones, relieving muscle pain and tension, improving circulation, enhancing flexibility, boosting immunity, and promoting better sleep by activating the body's relaxation response.

FREE!

Popcorn & A Movie

Sponsored by Asercare

Hollywood superstar Bruce Willis brings a powerful presence to an edge-of-your-seat supernatural thriller.



When Dr. Malcom Crowe, a distinguished child psychologist, meets a frightened, confused eight year-old child named Cole, he is completely unprepared to learn the truth of what haunts the young man. With a riveting intensity you'll find thoroughly chilling and utterly unforgettable, the discovery of Cole's incredible 6th sense leads them both to mysterious and unforeseeable consequences!

Firecracker Fillies Red Hatters

Thurs, Feb 12: Lunch at Olive Garden, 4441 Franklin St., Michigan City at 12:00noon:

Choices: 1) Chicken Parmigiana, 2) Shrimp Scampi, 3) Lasagna Classico, 4) Spaghetti w/meat sauce or marinara sauce.



All entrees come with soup or salad, breadsticks, coffee/tea/soft drink. **Reserv/pymt due by Feb 2. Cost \$21**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tues, Mar 17th: "Michigan City Culinary School" 317 Detroit St, MC @ 12noon: Buffet meal prepared completely by the Career Center students. It's St. Patrick's Day so consider wearing Irish green if you'd like. **Reserv/pymt due by Mar 6th Cost \$20**

Sat, Apr 18th @12noon: Spring Tea Luncheon at Orak Shrine, 3848 Frontage Rd, MC. Red Hat attire. **Reserve/pyment due by Mar 27th Cost \$30**

Call Jeannie if you have to cancel, even last minute!
Reserv/Pynt CHECK ONLY to: Firecracker Fillies and left at Sr Ctr in sealed envelope marked w/your name, phone #, & event. Add'l info: Call Jeannie at 874-7794.

FIRST TRAVEL 2026 TRIPS

Day Trips COMING SOON!



San Antonio, TX

Sat, Sept 19-Sun,
Sept 27, 2026

\$1,145/pp dbl occupan-
cy

- ◆ Motorcoach transp.
- ◆ 8 nights lodging including 4 consecutive nights in San Antonio area
- ◆ 14 meals: 8 breakfasts, 6 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tour of San Antonio



◆ Cruise at San Antonio's famous River Walk Dis-

trict

- ◆ Visit to the famous ALAMO and IMAX Theatre presentation: "ALAMO...The Price of Freedom"
- ◆ Visit to the San Antonio Missions
- ◆ Tour of the LBJ Ranch



Washington, DC

Thurs, Apr 30-Tues,
May 5, 2026

\$819/pp dbl occupancy

- ◆ Motorcoach transp.
- ◆ 5 nights lodging including 3 consecutive nights in the Washington, DC area
- ◆ 8 meals: 5 breakfasts, 3 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tour of Washington, DC including the



WWII Memorial, Capitol Hill, Embassy Row, the Korean War, Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and more!

- ◆ Evening Guided Memorial and Monuments Tour
- ◆ Tram Ride through Arlington National Cemetery
- ◆ Visit to the Smithsonian Institution

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME!

Annette Arendas
James Arendas
Bernie Berry
Hui Wang Berry
Terry Brendel
Kathleen Butler
Brian Gross*
Theresa Gross*
Harrison Holtkamp
Nancy Kubath
Kathy Parker



Travel Policies:

Reservation & Payment Policy: Reservations are accepted and held via phone.

Booking forms (available at our front desk) are required for

OVERNIGHT trips ONLY.. Full

payment is due in house by the due date noted. Any reservation made after the noted due date may be subject to an increased late booking fee.

Payment must be mailed to:

First Travel Center, PO Box 472,
LaPorte, IN 46352

(219)879-4633

or (219)326-1889

Check ONLY. No credit cards or cash.
DO NOT send to the Senior Center.

Physical Limitations: If you have physical limitations that may make traveling more difficult please consult with First Travel beforehand. We can advise you of the level of activity as well as accommodations (or lack thereof). Some trips are more strenuous than others.
Know your limits!

Pricing Policy: All trips are priced at current expected fuel rates & are subject to increases. Gratuity for motorcoach driver not included.

Cancellation Policy: All trips are non-refundable unless a replacement is secured.

ALL TRIPS are handled by First Travel Center. They can answer your questions, take your reservation, and provide any additional information you may need. We do NOT have that info at our front desk. Please CALL FIRST TRAVEL 219-879-4633.

Director's Corner



February often arrives quietly. The holidays have passed, winter still lingers, and spring feels just out of reach. It is easy to think of this month as something to get through—a waiting place on the calendar. But February offers us something meaningful if we pause long enough to notice it.

Winter has a way of slowing life down. The shorter days and colder weather invite us indoors, not just into our homes, but into our thoughts. February becomes a natural season of memory. It is a time when we find ourselves remembering people we have loved, moments that shaped us, and lessons that stayed with us long after they were learned.

We remember faces—parents, partners, friends, neighbors—some still with us, some living only in our hearts now. We recall shared meals, long conversations, laughter, and even the quiet companionship of simply being together. These memories may come with a touch of sadness, but they also carry warmth. They remind us that we have loved deeply and been loved in return.

February also invites us to reflect on the lessons life has taught us. Over the years, we learn patience, resilience, forgiveness, and gratitude. We learn that joy can be found in small moments, and that strength often appears when we least expect it. These lessons are not rushed; they are earned slowly, over time—much like winter itself.

Instead of focusing on what is still ahead, February encourages us to appreciate what has already been. Gratitude takes center stage. We can be thankful for the paths we have walked, the people who walked beside us, and the wisdom we carry forward. Even difficult experiences, when viewed through time, often reveal something valuable they gave us.

This month does not demand celebration or busyness. It asks only for reflection. A cup of tea, a familiar song, a shared story, or a quiet moment by the window can become acts of gratitude. February reminds us that life's richness is not only in new beginnings, but also in remembering and honoring what has been.

As winter continues, may we allow February to be more than a waiting period. May it be a gentle pause—a season of memory, appreciation, and quiet thankfulness for the lives we have lived and the love that still surrounds us.

Happy Valentine's Day to you all! Tara

Computer/Internet/ FACEBOOK /BYOD Classes



Bring Your Own Device
(BYOD)

NO COMPUTERS FOR
THE MONTH OF Feb. WE
WILL RESUME March.

Hearing Evaluations

Are held on the first Monday (unless it's a holiday) of each month. Rob Burke from Acoustic Services in Mishawaka will be conducting the FREE evaluations by appointment from 9am-2pm. Please call 219-873-1504 to schedule your appointment with our front desk. The next appointments are for Feb 2nd and March 2nd.



"A woman told her husband that for Valentine's Day, she didn't want anything fancy—no jewelry or expensive dinners. She said, "I just want to be 6 again".



On Valentine's morning, the husband woke her up early and took her to a local diner where he ordered her a giant bowl of Lucky Charms. Then, they spent the entire day at a theme park, riding every roller coaster until she was dizzy and her stomach was doing flips. For dinner, he took her to McDonald's for a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake.

When they finally got home, he collapsed on the couch and asked, "So, honey, how did it feel to be 6 again?"

She groaned, clutched her stomach, and replied,

"I meant my dress size!"

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Scott Baumruck
Patricia Schroeder
- 2 *Donna Losiniecki
- 3 James Keel
Thomas Morrison
*Greg Robbins 
- 4 *Faye Lehman
- 6 Judy Barsic
*Diane Chambers
Chris Frigon
*William Hartwig
- Leo J. Ronda
*Ruth Williams
- 7 Veda Briley
*Patricia Glick 
- 8 Marge Gloy
- 9 *Carol Bernier
Carol Bulger
Caroline East
Darla Nespo
Charlene Peals
*Laverna Rucker
- 10 *Lynn Bayman
Nancy Meehan 
- Jim Spiller
- 11 *Janet Dolph
- 12 *Diane Calderone
*Ken Hert
*Wilhelmina McClanahan
- 13 Dava Buell
Joel Charpentier 
- Martha Herrera
- 15 *Renee Blackburn
Delores Evans
Shirley Reinfurth
*Nancy Roberts
Doriann Wiegand
- 16 *Esther "Jane" Hahn
Cecilia Urban
*Leon Walker
- 17 *Kimberly Carter
Barbara Maxfield
*Karen Miller 
- Gloria Pytynia
Doreen Zepik
- 18 Pat Nunes
Kenneth Osborne
Nancy Trout
- 19 Patrick Malott
- 20 Kathleen Rodgers
- 21 John Marchese
Mary McDonald
Gloria Shortt
*James Waggoner

- 22 *John Baumann
*Sunny Dowling 
- Bretta Mason
Georgiana Shinn
*Ken Wall
- 23 Jane Adams
Susan Childress
*Kay Kahn
- 24 *Diane Johnson
*Jeannie Lawson
Paul Wilson
*Charles Wolf
- 25 Nancy Donoghue
*Greg Orłowski
*Brett Quigley
*Elizabeth Whelan
- 26 *Betty Combs
Craig Hinchman
- 27 *Charlene Caudill
*Everett Lawson
- 28 *Sharon Baumruck
Roger Moehl
*Andrew Silcox
- 29 Mary Morales

A man was walking through the post office on February 13th when he noticed a middle-aged, well-dressed man standing at the counter. The man was methodically placing "Love" stamps on a stack of 1,000 bright pink envelopes covered in hearts. As he sealed each one, he even sprayed them with a puff of expensive perfume.

Confused and curious, the bystander walked up and asked, "Are you some kind of hopeless romantic sending out secret admirer cards?"

"Not exactly," the man replied. "I'm a divorce lawyer. I'm signing all of these, 'Guess who?'"

February

The Naughty List!

Continuing each month: you're on the naughty list if you haven't had your picture taken. How do you know? You have an asterisk next to your name in your birthday month. It's so easy, just stop at the front desk and let them know you need to get your picture taken for the database. They'll walk you through it! Thanks!



Raffle 2026

Prizes will be announced and tickets will be sold beginning in March.



Don't forget we have a ping pong portable table for use if you like ping pong! See Director or Assistant Director for details.



Use it or Lose It

New research on the human brain shows that the brain responds well to the right kind of stimuli (both mental and physical activity). In each issue of the Golden Times (space permitting), I'm going to be sharing some exercises for your brain. I encourage you to incorporate them into your daily life and let's keep ourselves as active & healthy as we can!



"Product Improvement"

Brainstorming is a wonderful way to improve a product.

- * Boots are often a problem. They are difficult to get on and off, they have zippers that break, heels that run over, colors that are drab and finishes that dull with time. What ways can you think of to improve on boots?
- * Your grandchild has a stuffed chicken toy. He/she likes to drag it around but doesn't seem to enjoy playing with it. Think of as many ways as possible to change this toy so that it would be more fun for play.
- * Be creative and think of other products you think need improvement. Then think of ways to make them better.

2025 Things to Come 2025

March

4th: Spring Spaghetti Soiree
 10th: Salute to Adv Bd & Park Dept
 24th: Soup Day
 27th: CLOSED/Set-up for Trash & Treasure
 28th: Trash & Treasure Sale



April

1st: Easter Egg Stuffing for City
 1st: Alpha Byte Tech Session
 3rd: CLOSED/Good Friday
 5th: Easter Sunday
 10th: Blue Skies & Butterflies
 Spring Dance featuring Blue Sky Music
 16th: Trivia Challenge
 22nd: Gut Health w/Dr. Margie
 30th-May 5: 1st Travel Trip/
 Washington, D.C.

May

10th: Happy Mother's Day!
 14th: Spring Game Night
 18th: Volunteer Luncheon
 25th: CLOSED/Memorial Day

June

19th: CLOSED/Juneteenth
 21st: Happy Father's Day!

Michigan City Yearbooks!

Elston Still needed:: 1914 and before, 1917-1922,
 1978, 1987.

St. Mary's still needed: 1942, 1956, 1962-1968

Marquette: 1969-1974, 1976-1979,
 1981+

Rogers High School: 1973-1975, 1977,
 1979-1983, 1991-1994

MC High School: 1995, 1998-2003, 2005+

Please be sure to check with the Director to be sure we still need any of these years. Sometimes they're already donated by the time you read this.



Trivia Challenge

Mark your calendars for:

Thurs, April 16th 5-9pm \$10/pp

Start planning now! Team limit: 10. If you don't have a team, contact the Director to be placed on a team. Theme to be announced at start of event.

The MC Parks & Rec Dept is starting a **Quilting Club** at Memorial Hall. See details below:

Join Us for the
 MICHIGAN CITY PARKS & RECREATION
QUILTING CLUB
 New Monthly Program - All Ages & Skill Levels!

FIRST MEETING!
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
 --- 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM ---

KRUEGER MEMORIAL HALL

- Last Wednesday of Every Month
- Different Quilting Lesson Each Meeting
- Kids Under 15 Must Attend with an Adult
- Free to Join!

Led by Jan Weinig
 For Info: 219-873-4078

... CREATE • LEARN • CONNECT ...

Or Current Resident

FEB

Happy Anniversary

Terrence & Maureen Dunne on their Feb anniversary
Willie & Belinda Lee on their Feb anniversary
Robert Lenet & Mai Phan on their Feb anniversary
David & Caroline East on their 33rd on Feb 2
Thomas & Margaret Kownover on their 33rd on Feb 6
Brett & Darlene Quigley on their Feb 6 anniversary
Dan & Bonnie Schaaf on their 55th on Feb 6
Peter Huebner & Laura Dowdle on their 41st on Feb 9
Alex & Karen Jarrell on their 53rd on Feb 10
Steve & Sadie Miller on their 33rd on Feb 10
Ron & Rita Watson on their 58th on Feb 10
Loren & Ruth Adrian on their 37th on Feb 14
Gary & Karen Marfise on their 53rd on Feb 14
John P. & Nancy White on their 51st on Feb 14
Eddie, Jr & Faye Moore on their Feb 15 anniversary
Kevin & RJ Mallon on their 37th on Feb 17
Michael & Laverna Rucker on their 36th on Feb 17
Darnel & Patricia Ellis on their 48th on Feb 18
Jim & Pam Waltz on their 56th on Feb 28

In Sympathy...

We wish to extend sympathy:

To anyone grieving the loss of a loved one.



Get Well Soon



Lee Birdsong, Ceil Brinckman, Merle Miller and anyone else feeling a bit under the weather.



Please continue to notify us of any sympathies, get-wells, or if we've missed or incorrectly listed any anniversaries or birthdays. Thanks!