



the SENIOR CALLER

WOODLANDS SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER



September 2026

*"September leaves turn,
usher in the next crisp month
when winds start to gust."*

Haiku by: Nancy Bledsoe©

VOL. 57 - ISSUE 9

710 N. Opportunity Dr. - Columbia City, IN 46725
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 8 am - 4 pm / Fri 8 am - 1 pm
260-248-8944 1-800-290-1697
TTY Relay 800-743-3333

www.whitleycountycouncilonaging.org



Woodlands SeniorActivity Center



the.woodlands.wccoa

ABOUT OUR CENTER



OUR MISSION

To enable the senior citizens of Whitley County to live confident, dignified, independent and productive lives through education, programs and services.

OUR SERVICES

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| * Transportation | * Senior Caller Newsletter | * Health Programs/Exercise |
| * Weekday Lunches | * Tax Assistance (Feb-Apr) | * Educational/Informational Programs |
| * Home Delivered Meals | * Social Gatherings & Entertainment | * Non-Perishable Food Pantry & Bread Pantry |
| * Lending Library | * Medical Equipment Rental Program | * Pet Food Pantry |
| * Information & Referral | * Incontinence Items | * Woodland Trips |
| * Food Share Programs | | |
| * Annual Senior Fair | | |

TITLE VI NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: All programs and services are provided without regard to race, color, or national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with WCCOA.

OUR PEOPLE

CORPORATION OFFICERS

Shelbi Brown/President 260-610-8020
Larry Barr/VicePresident 260-229-5945

Duane Janssen/Treasurer 727-687-7958
Joan Western/Secretary 260-229-9902

BOARD MEMBERS

Larry Barr	260-229-5945
Shelbi Brown	260-610-8020
Jennifer Esterline	916-747-5003
Clay Geiger	260-609-9032
Dr. Christopher Grindrod	260-481-6455
Duane Janssen	727-687-7958
Marlin Leininger	260-466-5231

Sue Lewis	260-441-6551
Barb Overdeer	260-609-5210
Kaliebe VanEmon	260-580-2647
Joan Western	260-229-9902
Virginia Wright	260-609-5249
Jane Yohe	260-248-8373

STAFF DIRECTORY

Executive Director	-----	ext 300
Nancy Bledsoe	Office Manager	ext 400
Sheila Troyer	Nutrition Manager	ext 100
John Jones	Transportation Manager	ext 600
Aimee Ray	Activities Manager	ext 900
Gabby Gaff	Customer Service Specialist	ext 102

CONTACT US

Call 248-8944 for a ride! Toll Free: 1-800-290-1697

Hours: 7am - 5pm Monday - Friday.

A 48 hour notice (prior to 1 pm) is necessary.

INFORMATION WE NEED

- Name, address, phone number, birthday, any disabilities, and if the client has Medicaid.
- Appointment date and time.
- Destination, including address.
- Name and address of the responsible parties.

PRICING

<u>Distance</u>	<u>Fees - One Way</u>	<u>Fees - Round Trip</u>
1-4 miles	\$6	\$12
5-10 miles	\$8	\$16
11-15 miles	\$12	\$24
16-25 miles	\$15	\$30
Over 25 miles	\$17	\$34
Out of County	\$29	\$58



Stated mileage are for trips made within Whitley County.

- * Children under 12 ride free with an adult. Adults must provide car seats if needed.
- * Veterans: \$20 Round Trip for trips outside of Whitley County.
- * Working Seniors 60+: public rates apply.
- * Seniors 60+: donation only; service is not denied to anyone who is not able to donate.

Exact payment is required. For your convenience, you may buy Transit Punch Cards for \$40 per card (a \$45 value).

CLIENTS MUST BE READY 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO SCHEDULED PICK-UP TIME

All vans are sanitized throughout the day for your safety.

UPCOMING TRIPS

contact Miranda at
trips@wccoa.biz with any questions!



Whitley County
Council on Aging

Activities

August 28th Tincaps Game

NOTE THIS IS A 7PM GAME

Enjoy a Friday night out to watch baseball with friends. Ticket comes with a hotdog, chips, & fountain drink.

Following the game, Parkview Field will present a fabulous firework show to watch. This will be a late night, but oh what a blast!!

Cost is \$40, due by August 14th.

Sunday September 13th Sweet Breeze Boat Tour

Relax and enjoy a guided cruise on the Fort Wayne rivers. Sweet Breeze canal boat provides an opportunity to learn something new about Fort Wayne through its riverfront.

Remember to eat a lite lunch prior to arriving as this will be our only stop on the trip!

Cost is \$50 due by September 1st!

September 15th Firekeepers Casino

Let's try a new casino!! Senior Tuesdays offers \$5 in Red Hot Credits!

Cost is \$30 due by September 4th!

Tuesday October 13th Chocolate Thimble

Join us for a fun and delicious experience at Chocolate Thimble. We will have the opportunity to tour the kitchen and get a behind-the-scenes look at how these treats are made. You will also get to hand-make your own chocolates!! Come enjoy some chocolate, learn something new, and have a sweet time with friends!

Cost is \$50, due by September 28th

November 17th: Firekeepers Casino

Let's try a new casino!! Senior Tuesdays offers \$5 in Red Hot Credits!

Cost is \$30 due by November 10th!

Monday December 7th 40th Annual Gingerbread Festival

First stop will be at IHop for a pancake breakfast. Then we are heading to downtown Fort Wayne for one of the community's holiday traditions. There will be over 100 gingerbread house creations to adore with designer's from age 10 to elite artist. While you're there you will have the opportunity to walk through the History Center of Fort Wayne. You will be learning and seeing all kinds of history about the city!

Cost is \$45, due by November 23rd!

NOTE BREAKFAST IS AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE

Senior Games

YMCA - WOODLANDS - PAIGE'S CROSSING



Whitley County
Council on Aging

Morning activities: 9a-11a. Lunch: 11:30a-12:30p.
Afternoon 1p-3p.

SEPT 14TH



YMCA

We will start with lunch at the Woodlands Center. Then head to the YMCA for basketball, paper airplanes, and pickleball.

SEPT 15TH



WOODLANDS ACTIVITY CENTER

We will start with scooter racing with Mobility Plus and bait casting. Then lunch in the dining room. Followed by horseshoes.

SEPT 16TH



PAIGE'S CROSSING

We will be enjoying miniature golf, skee-ball, and go karts before heading back to the Woodlands Center.

SEPT 17TH



WOODLANDS ACTIVITY CENTER

We will start the day with the euchre tournament, followed by lunch. After lunch we will have cornhole and yard tetris outside.

SEPT 18TH



LUNCH AND AWARDS

Today is the day to celebrate. We will start with lunch in the dining room. We will wrap this great week up with awards and ICE CREAM.

For more information, call: Miranda at 260-248-8944
Register in person at the Whitley County Council on Aging.

FALL *fest* & BREWS



Whitley County
Council on Aging



OCTOBER 4TH, 2026

NOON-4 PM: FREE KIDS & FAMILY ACTIVITIES
FACE PAINTING, PUMPKIN PAINTING, BOUNCE HOUSE,
HAY RIDES, STRAW MAZE, BALLOON ANIMALS & MORE !!

5PM-8PM: ADULTS 21+ ONLY
FOOD (FREE WILL DONATION), BEER AND ALCOHOL,
SILENT AUCTION ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE &
PERFORMANCE BY THE **HUBIE ASHCRAFT BAND!**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



For additional information about becoming an event sponsor,
please contact trips@wcoa.biz or call 260-248-8944.

SEPTEMBER

THE WOODLANDS 260-248-8944
WALK-IN MEALS AVAILABLE
NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR DINE-IN

\$7 PER MEAL
\$10 FOR TENDERLOIN MEALS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CLOSED LABOR DAY	1 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Bible Study w/Cheryl 11:30 Sweet & Sour Meatballs 12:00 Dominoes 12:30 Bible Study w/Bob	2 09:00 Pixie Bingo: Partner <i>The Waters</i> <i>*Players must bring prizes!</i> 09:00 Line Dancing 10:15 Drumming Class 11:30 Chicken Cordon Bleu 12:30 Hand & Foot Game	3 10:00 Alzheimer's: "Ten Warning Signs of Dementia" 11:30 Cheesy Ham and Potatoes 12:30 Euchre <i>Cash Bingo will not take place this evening.</i> <i>Book & Puzzle Sale Day!</i>	4 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Lunch N Learn: Betty Foster of Ness Bros. Realtors <i>Delivery Only:</i> Toasted Cheese Ravioli with Marinara
	8 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Bible Study w/Cheryl 11:30 Chicken Tenders 12:00 Dominoes 12:30 Bible Study w/Bob	9 09:00 Line Dancing 10:15 Drumming Class 10:45 Blood Pressure Ck 11:30 Grilled Cheese with Vegetable Soup 12:30 Hand & Foot Game	10 BIRTHDAY WISHES 11:30 BBQ Ribs 12:15 Entertainment by Joe Gottschalk 12:30 Euchre 05:00 Cash Bingo 06:30 Grieving Friends Support Group	11 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Lunch N Learn: John Johnston of 1st Source Bank <i>Delivery Only:</i> Tuna Noodle Casserole
14 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Chicken Cordon Bleu 12:00 AIHS Respite Care Movie 12:30 Movie	15 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Bible Study w/Cheryl 11:30 Mostaccioli with Beef Sauce 12:00 Dominoes 12:30 Bible Study w/Bob 12:30 Bones Theater Movie 01:30 The League	16 09:00 Pixie Bingo: Partner <i>Aspen Insurance</i> <i>*Players must bring prizes!</i> 09:00 Line Dancing 10:15 Drumming Class 11:30 Taco Salad 12:30 Hand & Foot Game	17 11:30 Sloppy Joe 12:30 Euchre Tourney 05:00 Cash Bingo	18 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Turkey Salad Wrap

* Senior Games Week*

21 09:00 Board Meeting 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Cheeseburger Bowl 12:00 AHS Respite Care 12:30 Movie 01:00 Mahjong	22 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Bible Study w/Cheryl 11:30 Beef Enchiladas 12:00 Dominoes 12:30 Bible Study w/Bob 06:00 Empower Whitley Women	23 09:00 Line Dancing 10:15 Drumming Class 11:30 Beef Liver & Onions 12:30 Hand & Foot Game	24 10:00 Book Club with Peabody Library 11:30 Cheesy Chicken Rice Broccoli Casserole 12:30 Euchre 05:00 Cash Bingo	25 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Baked Fish
28 09:00 Line Dancing 10:00 Chair Exercise 11:30 Tenderloins 12:00 AHS Respite Care 12:15 Entertainment by Joe Justice 12:30 Movie	29 09:00 Euchre 09:00 Bible Study w/Cheryl 11:30 Lemon Herb Chicken 12:00 Dominoes 12:30 Bible Study w/Bob	30 09:00 Pixie Bingo: Partner <i>Miller's Oak Pointe</i> <i>*Players must bring prizes!</i> 09:00 Line Dancing 10:15 Drumming Class 11:30 Salmon Patty 12:15 Miller's Games 12:30 Hand & Foot Game		

OCTOBER

		1 11:30 Pizza Burger	2 11:30 Breakfast Casserole
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* Take-Out & Delivery: Orders must be placed 2 business days in advance. The meal is \$7. There is a \$2 charge for meal delivery. Please note that shifting of food may occur during delivery; therefore, be cautious when opening the container(s). Evening dinners are not available for delivery.

* A Garden Salad can be ordered in place of any meal.

* This menu is subject to change at the discretion of our kitchen staff.



Soup & Pie Fundraiser

\$10

**Wednesday, October 7
11 am - 1 pm**

Soup Choices:

Cream of Broccoli
Vegetable Soup
Tomato Basil

Bread Choices:

Garlic Breadstick
Italian Bread
Cheesy Garlic Biscuit

Pie Choices:

Sugar Cream
Cherry Crunch
Pecan

**these are 10 oz servings*

- Choose 1 of each item.
- Place your order by calling the Woodlands.
- Pick up your order via drive-thru @ the main entrance of the Woodlands.



EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

SHORT-TERM LOANER EQUIPMENT

Walkers, canes, crutches, and shower chairs: \$10 rental fee.

Wheelchairs and knee scooters: \$25 rental fee.

* * * * *

Incontinence items are also available. Each recipient is allowed one package per month.

FOOD PROGRAMS

WEEKEND MEALS

Order as many weekend meals as you like by Wednesday at noon, then pick them up on Friday or have them delivered. Call the Woodlands for more details.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD PANTRY

The senior food pantry is available to seniors **50+** who find themselves short on non-perishable grocery items. It can be used as a supplemental food source **one time per month**. Pantry days/hours: Monday and Thursday from 9 am - 11 am & 12 pm - 3 pm.

WOODLANDS FOOD SHARE PROGRAM

Seniors living on a limited income and in need of additional food items on an ongoing basis can apply for a supplemental food program. The program provides a 10 to 15 lb bag of shelf-stable food items **one time per month**. Call the Woodlands for more details.

PET FOOD

PET PANTRY

Dog and cat food is available for pick up **once per month**. The Pet Food Pantry days/hours are Monday and Thursday from 9 am - 11 am and 12 pm - 3 pm.

Pet food is available dependent on supply.



HEALTH & WELL-BEING

FOOTCARE BY TIFFANY, RN

Thursday, September 10

Thursday, September 24

\$45 ~ Call 248-8944 x5 to schedule.



HAIRCUTS & EYEBROW WAXING BY LYNDAH

Wednesday, September 16

Call 248-8944 x5 to schedule.

Haircut \$10 / Cut & Style \$11 / Men's Haircuts \$5 / Eyebrow Waxing \$5



MANICURES BY LYNDAH

Wednesday, September 16

Call 248-8944 x5 to schedule.

Filing \$3 / Polish \$5 / Filing & Polish \$8

Please bring your own nail polish.



MASSAGE

Massage by Annette Bear, LMT

Thursday, September 17

Enjoy a 15-minute chair massage!

\$15 ~ Call 248-8944 x5 to schedule.

All equipment will be sanitized prior to each appointment time.



ONE ON ONE WITH DARCY

Darcy Hoopingartner, NP, from the Whitley County Health Department, is offering confidential one-on-one sessions. Need to talk to someone about a personal, medical, or mental health issue? Come see Darcy at the Woodlands! Call 248-8944 x5 to schedule.



Thank you to our Sponsors & Donors!!

- 
- Bravo
 - Willo
 - Wings Etc.
 - KFC
 - Jimmy Johns
 - Domino's
 - Hinen Printing
 - A Shivley
 - Brooke N Co
 - Dairy Queen
 - YMCA
 - Lake City Bank
 - Magical Mindset
 - Rhoades Automotive
 - Reinholt's Furniture & Mattress
 - Gura Nanda
 - Running Around Screen Printing
 - Dupont Orthodontist
 - Espich Printing
 - CJ's
 - 1897 BBQ
 - Cibo
 - Columbia Automotive
 - Pickles Cafe
 - Woods Farm
 - Damaris Smith
 - Culligan
 - ACE Hardware
 - Starbucks
 - United Methodist Church
 - Sugar Creek Meats
 - Brewha
 - Andy's Carwash
 - Napa Automotive
 - Emily Banks
 - Moyer's Cafe
 - Exotic Nails
 - RENU
 - Integrity Meats
 - Five Lakes
 - Shoe Sensation
 - Cash Bananza
 - MVP Lanes
 - Paige's Crossing
 - YumZee's
 - Shearz- Clarisa Slusher, Amber Nickolson, Taylor Crowell
 - Lindsay Sprunger
 - Multi-County Free Clinic
 - Homemakers-Karen Hall
 - Doctors- Andrew Piropato, Jeff O'Dell, Heather Ward
 - Salvation Army
 - Whitley County Emergency Management
 - Bowen Health
 - Tinkels
 - United Way
 - BABE
 - Whitley County Health Department
 - Aunt Millie's
 - Whitley County 4H
 - Trisha A. Sittler

Thank you to our Resource Fair Vendors!

- 
- 3 Rivers Hearing
 - Aging & In Home Services
 - Alick's Medical
 - Brightpoint
 - Home Instead
 - Ombudsman
 - Millers @ Oak Pointe
 - Neighborlink
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Hearing Aids Plus
 - Nugen Law
 - Parkview Hospice
 - Miracle Ear
 - Humane Society
 - Rotary
 - 1st Source Bank
 - 3 Rivers Bank
 - Edward Jones
 - Retirement Solutions
 - Stillwater Hospice
 - Going Postal
 - Lutheran Life Village
 - Whitley County Health Department
 - American Heart Association
 - Autumn Trace
 - Walmart Vision Screenings
 - Whitley County Domestic Violence
 - American Red Cross
 - Tratum Ink
 - Mobility Plus
 - Supershots
 - Footcare by Tiffany LLC
 - Dental Screenings
 - Maple Heights
 - Indiana Physical Therapy
 - Narcotics Anonymous
 - Parkview EMS
 - Parkview Heart Institute
 - IU School of Dentistry
 - United Way
 - United Methodist Church
 - Bowen Backpacks
 - Salvation Army
 - Peabody Library
 - Whitko Central Office
 - Free Haircuts
 - Parkview Trauma
 - Healthier Moms & Babies
 - Neighborhood Health & WIC
 - Iris Family Support
 - Prevent Child Abuse Council
 - WCCS Central Office
 - A Hope Center
 - Babe
 - Nomadic Excursions
 - Andy's Car Wash
 - WCCS Nurses
 - Sports Physicals
 - Youth for Christ
 - Bowen Wellness
 - Cancer Services of NE Indiana
 - Indiana Donor
 - Parkview Health
 - Clyde Kissell
 - Grace College
 - Goshen College
 - Easterseals
 - Youth Services
 - Cheyenne Hernandez
 - Jenny Reffitt
 - Honor Flights
 - Columbia Township Fire Department
 - Indiana DNR
 - Whitley County Sherriif Department
 - Indiana State Police
 - Jefferson Center Fire Department
 - Lutheran EMS
 - Whitko School Bus
 - WCCS Bus
 - Command Trailer
 - Save a Life Trailer
 - Lutheran Car Seat Safety Checks
 - Good News Caboose
 - Oldies 101.1
 - Indiana Farm Bureau
 - United Arts & Ed.
 - Tamika Rozema
 - Tech Bridge
 - In Line Insurance & Design
 - Ameritech
 - YumZees
 - Catherine Crawford

ADVERTISEMENTS

 **PARKVIEW**
HOSPICE



260-373-9800



<https://www.parkview.com/medical-services/hospice-care>



1900 Carew Street, 46805



Advertise with us! Please call the Woodlands for more information, 260-248-8944.

Volunteer with SHIP and help others with THEIR Medicare questions!



SHIP

State Health Insurance
Assistance Program

Navigating Medicare

We need YOU to help your neighbors in Whitley County!

SHIP is driven by highly trained, certified volunteers who are committed to helping people with Medicare determine the best health insurance choices for their individual situations and to understand their Medicare benefits and options: Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplement Plans, Part D drug coverage, long term care options, and financial assistance programs.

Learn more at

www.in.gov/ship/become-a-ship-volunteer
or call **(800) 452-4800**.



Whitley County
Council on Aging



WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING INC.
710 N Opportunity Drive
Columbia City, IN 46725

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725
(PERMIT NO. 263)



“YOUR BEST LOCAL RESOURCE FOR SENIOR SERVICES”

Thank you WCCOA Sponsors!

Aspen Insurance - Heidi Darley

Bowen Health

Cedar Creek Assisted Living, Warsaw

Miller's - Oak Pointe

The Waters

