

A woman with short reddish-brown hair, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt, is smiling and holding a bunch of fresh carrots. She is in a garden setting with various green plants and a blue watering can visible in the background.

ONEILL CENTER

June 2020

HELPING AREA SENIORS LIVE HIP: HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT AND PRODUCTIVE

GRAB-N-GO MEALS

RUOK? Telephone Reassurance

HANDLE STRESS

Virtual Tours,
Puzzles & More



333 Fourth Street
Marietta, OH 45750

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Marietta, Ohio
Permit #37

Change Service Requested

Greetings Friends!

I do hope you all are doing well and pray you are healthy! Let me add to the long list of those who say—"WE MISS YOU!" I know it's hard to be apart from our friends and loved ones and that is exactly why we are working so hard to prepare our facilities for the time when the State-ordered closure is lifted. You can be assured that we are doing everything possible to get things ready. When you return, you will likely find we have redesigned seating areas, placed plexiglass barriers at our front desks, displayed social distancing signs throughout the facilities, limited access to restrooms and the elevator, increased hand sanitizing stations, provided staff with masks and will ask that our guests also wear them to protect your friends around you.



Since our opening is not permitted yet, we want to share a few things with you that we've been working on. Many of our offerings are provided in an attempt to help people above age 60 to reduce the number of trips outside of the home, which is the guidance we continue to receive from the State of Ohio.

**If you would like more information on any of the programs in this newsletter,
please email or phone us!**

Our phones are answered Monday-Friday 8am to 4pm.



O'Neill Center
 333 Fourth Street
 Marietta, Ohio 45750
 740-373-3914

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A Unit of the National Council on Aging



Funded (in part) by a Title III grant of the Older Americans Act administered by the Ohio Department of Aging through the Buckeye Hills Area Agency on Aging, Washington County Senior Service Levy, United Way and Contributions. The O'Neill Senior Center is non-discriminatory in services and employment and our facilities are accessible to the handicapped.



Blizzard Distributions

If you haven't seen a blizzard distribution, check out our daily email (or watch our facebook page). We work very hard to keep content fresh and includes things like virtual tours, recipes, exercise, puzzles, pertinent information and much more. Praise for these distributions has been felt both locally and from far away.



Social Services

Several requests for social services continue including RUOK? telephone reassurance calling and prescription assistance, just to name a couple. Our staff is working remotely and is willing to help meet the needs you have.



R.U.O.K.?

TELEPHONE REASSURANCE PROGRAM

The RUOK? program is a computerized telephone system that calls a senior on a daily basis and asks if they are okay and if they are, they are directed to press a different number every day, if after 4 attempts to call you and there is no response, emergency contacts, provided by the senior, will be contacted to check on you. If we are unable to reach emergency contacts we will contact city or county law enforcement to check on you.

Ask yourself these 3 questions

1

Do you live alone or have family that lives away?

2

Are you at risk of falling or having an accident and no one knowing?

3

Would a daily reassuring phone call make you feel safer?

Clients and Families choose us!

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you or someone you know may benefit from this **FREE** telephone reassurance program.

O'Neill Center 333 Fourth Street 740.373.3914 www.oneillcenter.com

Our mission remains the same! **HELPING AREA SENIOR**



Meals

The O'Neill Center is working with Community Action, Joe Momma's Kitchen and Jeremiah's Coffee House/ Restaurant to provide meals Monday-Friday. This is in addition to the Grab-n-Go meals offered in the parking lot by Community Action.

Grocery Project

The Grocery Project is due to assistance from United Way Alliance and Settlers Bank. They are providing funding to purchase groceries that is delivered to senior's homes in an effort to help them limit the number of trips outside of their homes. Boxes are provided every other week to 130 seniors across the county and include things like bread, milk, eggs, potatoes, cereal, pudding and much more!



Life Enrichment

We anticipate that activities as we knew them will not likely return for many weeks to come. Looking at creative alternative solutions is the task given to our staff. **Virtual activities are being planned and we hope that many of you will be able to join us using your computers, tablets and phones. We hope to offer exercise, tours of the area and educational opportunities.** We may be kicking and screaming but we aren't dragging our feet. We are embracing the challenges before us!

Some other changes you will experience is that many of our staff are working remotely and in the field. We are attempting to follow best practice guidelines to limit staff interaction as much as possible. You can expect to have us ask to take a message when you phone and your call will be returned. This is because many are working remotely and are in the office on alternating days.

Rest assured that the O'Neill Center is working to meet your needs. If you have a need, let us know! We are doing everything we can to resume all services as quickly as the State lifts the restrictions. I know I speak for our entire team when I say, we look forward to all of you returning in the coming weeks!

Be well and stay safe!



Medical Transportation

Medical transportation service is operating on a limited basis. Our transportation services are non-emergency. All drivers and passengers must submit to temperature checks, symptom evaluations and sanitizing measures were in place and taken seriously by our transportation staff. This is on a limited capacity and only for essential medical appointments.

Other Services

Our Adult Day Center and In Home services continue to be on hold for the time being. Please know that we are working under the guidance of the State and will resume these services as quickly as it is safe to do so.

