

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## FALL 2023

Welcome to Fall with its colorful leaves, crisp air and the promise of time with family and friends through the holidays.

Your center and we directors have remained active during the summer months. We had another successful outdoor picnic once again being fortunate to have scheduled it on a beautiful fall day. The beverage machine we placed in the great room has proven very popular as have the Bingo Games. The latter are played at 12:30 PM on the second Friday of each month for the nominal fee of \$8.00 for two cards. All members are welcome

Diane Amoroso, our Activities Director, continues to schedule exciting day trips and is planning a six day excursion to the famed Biltmore Estates in North Carolina next August. The price is outstanding. Pick up a flyer detailing the itinerary and cost from Diane or at the front reception desk as you enter the center.

Please don't forget we are in the midst of our Annual Giving Campaign. This fundraising effort and your donation mean a great deal to us in providing quality meals, services, programs and activities while keeping membership fees at reasonable rates and remember, the donation is tax deductible.

We will be dealing with two major projects at the center in coming months. The first is replacing our heating and air-conditioning systems which are old and often in need of repair. This will make visiting the center a comfortable experience for members and guests for years to come. The second is the renovation and updating our kitchen. This will include a new refrigerator, freezer, stove and ice machine as well as a steam table to keep food hot.

The board thanks our Executive Director, Tom Bones, for his foresight and leadership in coordinating all this. We have the necessary funds and everything has been ordered. The challenge to us, as it is for other organizations across the country is possible delays in delivering the materials and scheduling the work in a timely fashion. Our hope and goal is to have everything accomplished by the spring. In addition to the above, we are currently replacing our phone system.

These projects present financial challenges, especially to a non-profit such as Harvest Years Senior Center. Recently, we received a \$3,000 Community Grant from Kent County. We thank the Levy Court and especially our Commissioner, Jody Sweeney for their continued support.

In addition to our regular board meetings, we recently had a luncheon meeting with our State Senator Trey Paradee to discuss issues of relevance to the center. He has always been a big supporter of our efforts and we thank him for that. The board will hold our next semi-annual workshop in early January. At that time we plan to schedule a number of new events and activities. Look for updates in future monthly newsletters and our spring directors report.

Lastly as many of you know, we are responsible for the addition and maintenance of the flags along the POW/MIA MEMORIAL PARKWAY. Last Thanksgiving weekend someone stole the

Solar Panel that powered the night lights that illuminated the flags. Tom, Diane and the Board have worked mightily to remedy the situation while running into one frustrating obstacle after another for a year. We recently received word from Commissioner Sweeney that funding has been approved for the installation of a more secure Solar Panel to be done by DelDot. We do not have a time line for the project but certainly hope it can be completed in an expeditious manner. We thank Commissioner Sweeney and all those who helped in this endeavor.

On behalf of all of us at Harvest Years Senior Center, here's wishing you and yours a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season.