



A Welcoming Community Since 1973

3715 Pennsylvania Ave
Erie, Pennsylvania 16504
814-824-2214
MercyHilltopCenter.com

A Sponsored Ministry of The Sisters of Mercy

Hilltop News

MARCH 2026



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CENTER HOURS

Monday through Thursday:
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday:
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

SPRING IS ON THE HORIZON!

It's definitely been a long winter, but spring will be here before we know it! Planning is in the works for Spring Events and Activities, including our favorites, along with some new ones!

Save the Date for our **38th Annual Golf Outing at Venango Valley Inn and Golf on Wednesday, June 24th**. The Center is closed on this day as all staff members are needed for our annual event, which is always a fun day for participants. Even if you are NOT a golfer, **PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS**. This is a major source of fundraising for our Center. Brochures and registration forms will be available soon.



A WARM WELCOME



Please extend a warm welcome to **Sr. Kathleen Ann Kolb, RSM** who will be volunteering from time to time at the Front Desk. Welcome to Mercy Hilltop, Sister, we are so grateful to have you!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU...

A heartfelt thank you to MHC member, Nancy Russo and her loving family for naming MHC as the recipient of donations in memory of her husband, Ross Russo, who sadly passed away in January. Their generous gesture resulted in numerous donations, which will help with our expenses. You will be greatly missed Ross, but the memory of your gentlemanly presence will live on. Again, many thanks to Nancy and the entire Russo family.

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NURSE JUDY

Nurse



Nurse Judy is available for *in-person visits/appointments* on **MOST Tuesday and Thursday mornings**. When she is not in the office, however, she can **ALWAYS contact members by phone**. To arrange a time to speak with Nurse Judy, **please call 814-824-2214, extension 101. THANK YOU!**



PRODUCE AND FROZEN MEAL DELIVERY



ADVANCED ORDERS for both **PRODUCE** and made from scratch **FROZEN MEALS** is offered by *Legacy Pathways*. **PRICING and MEAL SELECTIONS (seasonal)** are available at the Center. **NEW MENU SELECTIONS ARE HERE! PRICING: Meals are \$8 each; if eight (8) or more meals are ordered, the cost drops to \$6 EACH.** Orders must be received **BY NOON on Mondays** and are **delivered to the Center on Wednesdays**. **Check with our Front Desk for pick-up time.** Questions? Please call 814-824-2214, extension 101. Thank you!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME to our newest members of *Mercy Hilltop Senior Center*: **Gayle Duffy and Kit Jude** joined MHC in January. Welcome to our Center; we look forward to getting to know you!

FREE EVENING CONSULTATIONS



Pat Tobey, our Social Worker, is available on Tuesday evenings for an appointment to assist with *documents, listening to personal concerns, giving advice, connecting members to the appropriate resource, and/or discussing an array of topics*. She can also assist with setting up online banking, bill pay, medical portals (*My UPMC/My Chart*), and/or *social security.gov* accounts. Please call 814-824-2214, extension 101, to schedule an appointment.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Membership is open to individuals 60 years of age and older and to their spouses/partners, regardless of their age. Join today for only \$25 (\$45 for couples) with a discount always honored for Veterans.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING UPDATED DETAILS REGARDING FITNESS CLASSES:

ALL FITNESS CLASSES are \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members

Studio Art Sessions are \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members (*per three-hour session*)

Beginner Painting Classes are \$24 for members and \$30 for non-members (*for the full three-week session*)

Bridge, Canasta, Mahjong, and Pinochle - ALL GAMES - are \$1 for members and \$2 for non-members

Do you have **Silver Sneakers OR Renew Active** through your insurance provider? **Then all the fitness classes are FREE!**

Please See Dawn at the Center Front Desk For Questions/Inquiries on Health Insurance Fitness Benefits

Does the Center have your email address? To receive email notifications on closings, special events, announcements, and important information via email, please see Dawn at the Front Desk. Thank you!

ADVANCED PLANNING

As a nonprofit organization, we rely *heavily on donations* to support all offered. Consider helping the Center with *advanced planning*, which is simply sharing your appreciation of MHC with your families now and reminding them to name *Mercy Hilltop Senior Center* as a recipient of donations in your memory. As always, thank you for your support.

QUESTIONS? Please call **814-824-2214, extension 101** for clarification, to RSVP or CANCEL, and/or to make appointments for any of MHC's services, activities, events, classes, etc. offered at the Center. **THANK YOU!**

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TUESDAY DOLLAR MOVIES



Join us for **Tuesday Dollar Movies!** Each Tuesday, we feature a movie for \$1 in our community room. Please note that **movies are subject to change based on availability.** Snacks are provided. **Please bring your own beverage and PLAN TO ARRIVE EARLY to get your seat. MOVIES START PROMPTLY at 1:00 PM.**

3/3/26: **Driving Miss Daisy** (1989 - 1 hour / 39 minutes - Rated PG – Comedic Drama)

3/10/26: **The Love Letter** (1998 - 1 hour / 38 minutes - PG - Romance)

3/17/26: **The O'Briens** (2013 - 1 hour / 24 minutes - PG - Family Comedy)

3/24/26: **A Little Bit of Heaven** (2011 - 1 hour / 46 minutes - PG-13 - Romantic Drama)

3/31/26: **Money Ball** (2011 - 2 hours / 13 minutes* - PG-13 - Sports Drama Based on True Story)

***PLEASE NOTE LENGTH OF MOVIE AND PLAN ACCORDINGLY!**



THIS MONTH'S FEATURED ACTIVITIES, TRIPS & EVENTS:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th at 10:50 AM - Van DEPARTS for the monthly **LUNCH OUTING** (Details are on Page 5) ***PLEASE ARRIVE AT THE CENTER BY 10:35 AM FOR A TIMELY DEPARTURE!**

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th at 9:00 AM - **HEART-HEALTHY SPICE BLEND MAKE AND TAKE CLASS** with Katie of **LIFE NWPA**. Detailed flyers available at the Center. ***Kindly RSVP by MONDAY, MARCH 2nd.**

MONDAY, MARCH 9th at 10:30 AM - **HEALTHY LIVING SUPPORT GROUP: Getting Ready for the Spring Season.** Join us as we discuss how to get prepared for the upcoming spring season. ***Kindly RSVP.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 12th at 3:00 PM - **PRESENTATION: Fascinating Buttons** by MaryJane Koenig, President of the **French Creek Valley Button Club**, a member of the **Pennsylvania State Button Society** and the **National Button Club**. Do you have a button box from your grandmother filled with unique buttons you would love to learn more about? Come to hear about MaryJane's organization, as well as interesting facts that she shares on all of the fascinating and unique buttons that have been used over time. ***Kindly RSVP.**

MONDAY, MARCH 16th at 10:45 AM - **PET THERAPY** with **Finnegan, Taz, and Kody**, Certified through the **Alliance of Therapy Dogs** **ALL ARE WELCOME to COME and RELAX with the pups!**

MONDAY, MARCH 16th at 1:30 PM - **IRISH MUSIC CONCERT** with **The Misery Bay Dulcimer Club** **Kindly RSVP by Friday, March 13th for set-up purposes.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th at 4:00 PM - **BOOK CLUB** discussing, **Culpability** by Bruce Holsinger.

PLEASE ALERT us if you are unable to attend a meeting, but want a book (s) ordered for you!

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 16th at 4:00 PM: **The River is Waiting** by Wally Lamb.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20th at 9:00 AM - **PA State Attorney General's Office Presents: SENIOR BULLYING**

Join us to find out how to recognize bullying and what to do to stop it. ***Kindly RSVP by Monday, March 16th.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 26th at 4:00 PM - **HERB GARDEN WORKSHOP** with Remlee Peck, Master Gardener Create your own Herb Garden Container. Detailed flyers available at the Center with pricing. ***Kindly RSVP by Monday, March 23rd.**

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED ACTIVITIES, TRIPS & EVENTS:

FRIDAY, MARCH 27th at 9:00 AM - HERB GARDEN WORKSHOP with Remlee Peck, Master Gardener
Create your own Herb Garden Container. Detailed Flyers at the Center. ***Kindly RSVP by Monday, March 23rd.**

MONDAY, MARCH 30th at 10:00 AM - CRAFT with LOIS - Sample Pictures available at the Center. ***Space is limited so kindly RSVP as soon as possible as craft spots FILL QUICKLY!**

PLEASE RSVP (814-824-2214, EXTENSION 101) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR ALL EVENTS

News & Notes

THANK YOU FOR REMOVING WET BOOTS/SHOES

Thank you for removing your wet boots/shoes **BEFORE** entering **EITHER** room with vinyl tile flooring. Doing so protects fellow members from slipping and/or falling, which is **ALWAYS OUR MOST IMPORTANT CONCERN!** It also helps the Center from needing to replace flooring every few years due to the harsh salt. Although the salt is absolutely needed outside, it is **VERY CORROSIVE and DAMAGING TO THE FLOORING inside.** We have **several boot trays at ALL of the entrances as well as fuzzy socks with grippers** if members should forget dry footwear. Again, many thanks for your cooperation and understanding in this matter!

ARRIVAL FOR ACTIVITIES

The Center is excited to get back to a regular schedule in this new year with our fun classes, games, and activities! With that being said, **we are asking members to please give us time in between activities** to get the rooms re-set for the next group. Please plan to **arrive NO EARLIER THAN 15 MINUTES PRIOR to your activity/game/class.** Allowing the group prior to clean up and exit the building will prevent traffic jams in the parking lot and in the activity rooms. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING!**

MONTHLY HEALTHY LIVING SUPPORT GROUP

Join us for our **member-driven support group** focusing on **preventative/proactive wellness to address** all aspects of life: nutrition, fitness, relationships, stress, and sleep in a **functional health approach!** **Monthly meetings are held on the SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH at 10:30 AM.** This month's meeting is on **Monday, March 9th** and we will be discussing, *Preparing for Spring!* Please RSVP.

FITNESS CLASS ADDITION

An additional **Cardio Blast** class is now scheduled for **EVERY OTHER FRIDAY AT 9:00 AM.** Be sure to check the monthly newsletter for the schedule moving forward. Thank you!

BE SURE TO SPRING AHEAD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8th

Be sure to turn clocks **AHEAD ONE HOUR** on **Sunday, March 8th.** Daylight Savings Time starts at **2:00 AM.** A common (and much more convenient) way to set clocks is to set them **AHEAD ONE HOUR before going to bed on Saturday evening, March 7th;** this way you aren't worrying about *what time is it on Sunday morning* as you're attempting to WAKE-UP with your morning beverage of choice!

QUESTIONS? Please call **814-824-2214, extension 101** for clarification, to RSVP, CANCEL, and/or to schedule appointments for any of MHC's services, activities, events, classes, etc. **THANK YOU!**

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MONTHLY LUNCH BUNCH OUTING

Our monthly *Lunch Outing* is *typically on the *FIRST* Wednesday* of each month. Holidays/special events and WEATHER can cause exceptions. Members can meet the group there (**please sign-up with MHC**) or ride on the MHC van for a nominal fee (**see below**), which SECURES YOUR SEAT and reservation. Accurate reservation numbers are required and **must be received by MHC TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR** to the outing date. **Reservations for the following month are accepted STARTING ON THE DATE LISTED BELOW.** **Reservations at the restaurant are under *Mercy Hilltop Center*; the time can vary.** **If you are unable to make it, PLEASE CALL THE CENTER TO ALERT US.** Departure times are listed below. **IF RIDING ON THE MHC VAN, KINDLY ARRIVE AT THE CENTER AT LEAST (15) MINUTES PRIOR TO DEPARTURE TIME.** Menus are typically available at the Center for members to peruse beforehand. **Upcoming Outings:**

MARCH 4th: *Ricardo's Restaurant* (2112 E. Lake Rd, Erie) - **Van Departs at 10:50 AM (\$2 van fee)**

APRIL 1st: *The Park Coffee & Bread Co.* (4012 Main St, Erie) - **Sign-Up Opens 3/2/26 (\$2 van fee)**

***PLEASE RSVP BEFORE THE DEADLINE & PLEASE CALL THE CENTER TO CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION**

SEVERE WEATHER CLOSURES

In the case of severe weather/dangerous conditions, MHC will report the Center's closing to the local news stations and place an alert on the Mercy Hilltop Center Facebook page. Members may receive an email alert. Please check the above outlets (perhaps it will be listed on their website only) BEFORE heading to the Center to make sure that we are indeed open on icy, cold, and/or snowy days. **THANK YOU!**

Please join us in wishing a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to MHC members celebrating in **MARCH:**

WENDY BUDACKI	MARCH 2	CHRIS PREEDIT	MARCH 16
NANCY TRAPP	MARCH 2	PATRICIA LILLY	MARCH 17
ELIZABETH SCEIFORD	MARCH 4	JANICE HIRNEISEN	MARCH 18
PATRICIA KOMOSA	MARCH 5	BARBARA BOWERS	MARCH 19
PATTY KANE	MARCH 6	CAMILLE CUTRONE	MARCH 19
DEBORAH BERNARDINI	MARCH 7	LINDA LENDA	MARCH 20
JUDY GRAHAM	MARCH 7	FRED ROACH	MARCH 20
KAREN MCGRATH	MARCH 7	PAT CAMERONI	MARCH 21
MICHAEL MOSKO	MARCH 7	SHIRLEY COLONNA	MARCH 22
KATHLEEN REICHERT	MARCH 8	PAT INMAN	MARCH 22
BOB MINICHELLI	MARCH 9	RITA ANNICK	MARCH 25
LINDA MORSE	MARCH 9	CINDY HAWTHORNE	MARCH 25
EMMA BRAINE	MARCH 10	JIM LAYDEN	MARCH 25
LOUISE GARRELTS	MARCH 11	CHRIS FIALKOWSKI	MARCH 26
ANN MIODUSZEWSKI	MARCH 11	BARBARA BARRON	MARCH 27
LLOYD WILSON	MARCH 11	JANE JACKSON	MARCH 27
MARILYN KLOSS	MARCH 13	LINDA WILLIAMS	MARCH 28
RICH KUCHCINSKI	MARCH 13	JANE CARNEY	MARCH 29
SUSAN STAAF	MARCH 13	FAYE JARMOLOWICZ	MARCH 30
KATHARINE HOFFMAN	MARCH 16	BONNIE RHODES	MARCH 31

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 12:00 PM Chair Yoga 12:00 PM Pinochle 2:30 PM Age of Elegance Ballet Class*</p>  <p>*Please Note Temporary Change of Class Day/Time</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:00 AM Painting Class 10:15 AM Qi Gong 12:30 PM Studio Art 1:00 PM Dollar Movie</p> 	<p>4 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:00 AM Studio Art 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 10:50 AM Van Departs for Monthly Lunch Outing (details on page 5) 11:00 AM Canasta & 500 12:30 PM Studio Art</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM Bridge 9:00 AM Knit/Crochet 12:00 PM Mahjong 1:00 PM Qi Gong* 2:00 PM Chair Yoga* NO EVENING EVENT</p> <p>*Please Note NEW and PERMANENT Class Schedule!</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Spice Blend Class with Life NWPA (pg 3) 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers Fitness Class</p>  <p>CENTER CLOSSES AT NOON</p>
<p>9 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 10:30 AM Healthy Living Support (details on page 4) 12:00 PM Chair Yoga 12:00 PM Pinochle 2:30 PM Age of Elegance Ballet Class</p>	<p>10 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:00 AM Painting Class 10:15 AM Qi Gong 12:30 PM Studio Art 1:00 PM Dollar Movie</p> 	<p>11 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:00 AM Studio Art 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 11:00 AM Canasta & 500 12:30 PM Studio Art</p> 	<p>12 9:00 AM Bridge 9:00 AM Knit/Crochet 12:00 PM Mahjong 1:00 PM Qi Gong 2:00 PM Chair Yoga 3:00 PM Presentation: Fascinating Buttons (details on page 3)</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Cardio Blast (NEW! Details on page 4) 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers Fitness Class</p>  <p>CENTER CLOSSES AT NOON</p>
<p>16 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 10:45 AM Pet Therapy 12:00 PM Chair Yoga 12:00 PM Pinochle 1:30 PM Irish Music with Misery Bay Dulcimer Club 2:45 PM Age of Elegance Ballet Class Note later start</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:00 AM Painting Class 12:30 PM Studio Art 1:00 PM Dollar Movie</p> 	<p>18 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:00 AM Studio Art 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 11:00 AM Canasta & 500 12:30 PM Studio Art</p> 	<p>19 9:00 AM Bridge 9:00 AM Knit/Crochet 12:00 PM Mahjong 1:00 PM Qi Gong 2:00 PM Chair Yoga 4:00 PM Book Club</p> 	<p>20 Spring Begins! 9:00 AM PA Atty. General Presents: Senior Bullying (details on page 3) 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers Fitness Class</p>  <p>CENTER CLOSSES AT NOON</p>
<p>23 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 12:00 PM Chair Yoga 12:00 PM Pinochle 2:30 PM Age of Elegance Ballet Class</p> 	<p>24 NO CHAIR YOGA CLASS 10:00 AM Painting Class 12:30 PM Studio Art 1:00 PM Dollar Movie</p> 	<p>25 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:00 AM Studio Art 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 11:00 AM Canasta & 500 12:30 PM Studio Art</p> 	<p>26 9:00 AM Bridge 9:00 AM Knit/Crochet 12:00 PM Mahjong 1:00 PM Qi Gong 2:00 PM Chair Yoga 4:00 PM Herb Garden Workshop (details page 4)</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM Cardio Blast (NEW! Details on page 4) 9:30 AM Herb Garden Workshop (details on page 4) 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers Fitness Class</p> <p>CENTER CLOSSES AT NOON</p>
<p>30 9:00 AM Cardio Blast 9:45 AM Silver Sneakers 10:00 AM Craft with Lois (Sample Pictures at the Center) 12:00 PM Chair Yoga 12:00 PM Pinochle 2:30 PM Age of Elegance Ballet Class</p>	<p>31 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:00 AM Painting Class 12:30 PM Studio Art 1:00 PM Dollar Movie</p> 	 <h1>MARCH</h1>		

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FUNDRAISER

MARCH FUNDRAISER

Our March fundraiser is **BUY A SQUARE**. A numbered board (1-75) is posted in the lobby where members can purchase as many numbered squares as desired. Each square is \$5 and on **Tuesday, March 31st, the winning number will be pulled and the winner notified**. If all 75 squares are purchased, the winner will take home \$187.50! **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR SENIOR CENTER!**

MERCY HILLTOP SENIOR CENTER STAFF

Dina Scribner, Executive Director

Dawn Johnson, Membership Coordinator

Pat Tobey, Social Worker

Jean Berarducci, Activities Coordinator

Judy Bekeny, Registered Nurse

MERCY HILLTOP SENIOR CENTER BOARD MEMBERS

Karen Karle, Board Chair

Laura Myers, Board Co-Chair

Laura Hellman, Treasurer

Carol Amann

Tom Erickson

Brian Hennessy

Linda Mackowski

Amy Danzer, Board Co-Chair

Bethany Woods, Secretary

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