

THE GOLDEN YEARS

The El Dorado Senior Center Monthly Newsletter



DECEMBER POTLUCK PARTY!

We're closing out the year with our final potluck, and it's going to be something truly special! Join us at our new potluck time, **5:30 PM**, for an evening filled with music, community, and celebration.

We're thrilled to welcome the El Dorado High School Encore Music Group, who will be performing for us and bringing a joyful spark to the night. You'll also get the chance to meet the members running for Board seats as they introduce themselves.

Be sure to take part in our 50/50 raffle and door prize drawing, and don't forget to bring a dish to share so there's plenty for all. If you'd like the kitchen to prepare something on your behalf, please drop off your donation to the office by Monday, December 1 at Noon.

- A-F: Bring a Dessert
- G-L: Bring a Fruit or Veggie Dish
- M-R: Bring a Hot Dish
- S-Z: Bring a Cold Dish



Date: Monday, December 1st
Time: 5:30 PM

Main Course: Lasagna

Guest: El Dorado High School Encore Music Group

Sponsor: Sunflower Care Homes

**210 EAST SECOND AVE.
EL DORADO, KS
67042**

**PH: 316-321-0142
FX: 316-321-1525**

KTRAINA@ELDOKS.GOV

**OFFICE HOURS:
M/W/F: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
T/TH: 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

2025 BOARD & STAFF

PRESIDENT: ROXANN COOL
VICE PRESIDENT: MARY MAYS
TREASURER: MARY BICKLEY
SECRETARY: JANET SPENCER
MEMBER AT LARGE: SUZIE CAWTHORN
MEMBER AT LARGE: TERI BOWLIN
MEMBER AT LARGE: SUSAN JOHNSON
MEMBER AT LARGE: MARK SOMERVILLE
MEMBER AT LARGE: BARBARA HIGGINS

DIRECTOR - KRISTINA TRAINA
KITCHEN - JAMES SCOTT

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FACEBOOK PAGE.
EL DORADO SENIOR CENTER**





HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR WONDERFUL SENIORS!



Another year older, another year wiser! Let's celebrate the birthdays of all our amazing seniors. Whether you're celebrating a milestone or just another year of life, you deserve to feel special. Remember, age is just a number, and life is a journey to be enjoyed.

Tony Allmond
Darlene Andrews
Teresa Bachman
Susan Ballard
Kevin Beard
Norman Bilson
Mary Ann Broyles
Neil Buckman
Mary Burger
Marcia Callaway
Pat Conine
Roxann Cool
Betty Corbin
David Crook
Anne Cross
Bill Eller
Stephanie Fanska
Greg Franklin

Mary Martha Good
Janice Grosch
Tonnie Grunder
Gerald Haines
George Henderson
Karrie Henderson
Jeff Heyboer
Julie Hokr
Pat Hunter
Bobbie Jaax
Janice Jones
Willard Kightlinger
Dawn Klein
Jordan Lee
Debbie McClure
Robert McRee
Debra Murphy

Gerry O'Connor
Judy Parks
Linda Patty
Debbie Pierce
Starla Poe
Dale Potter
Ramon Pratt
Linda Proctor
Diane Reeves
Tressia Ryan
Anita Seivley
Luann Spence
Carla Stephens
Darlene Taylor
Dennis Todd
Glenna Wise
Janice Wright-Smith

“People ask how I feel about getting old. I tell them I have the same question. I’m learning as I go.” - Paul Simon, U.S. singer and songwriter

WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

We’re thrilled to welcome our newest members to the El Dorado Senior Center! Every new face brings fresh stories, laughter, and the opportunity to make lifelong friends. Whether you’re joining us for lunch, activities, or just great company, we’re excited to have you in our vibrant community.

Check out the newest additions to our family below, and be sure to say hello when you see them around!

Larry McCully	Bonnie Buckman	Randall McIntosh	Tony Allmond
Maxine Wittenberg	Neil Buckman	Karen Freeman	Brenda Jenkins
Bill Doan	Carla McCune	Tina Routh	Cole Morrow
Clay Conrade	Judith McIntosh		

MONTHLY TIP: December Tips!

Stay warm and safe this winter by dressing in layers, keeping your home comfortably heated, and taking precautions to prevent falls on icy surfaces. Focus on good nutrition and hydration with balanced meals, plenty of water or warm tea, and mindful enjoyment of holiday treats. Prioritize your emotional well-being by staying connected, getting enough rest, soaking up natural sunlight when possible, and taking steps to protect yourself against seasonal illnesses.

GREETING CARD SALE! YOU’LL FIND ALL THE CARDS! 10 FOR \$1!

THE BUZZ

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE OPEN BOARD SEATS!

As the Senior Center continues to thrive and serve the community, it's time to select new leaders to help guide our mission. Members running for the open board seats will be attending the Potluck Dinner on **Monday, December 1**, to share more about themselves and their goals. Here's a chance to get to know them:

PRESIDENT CANDIDATES (1 POSITION OPEN)

Teri Bowlin



Teri cares deeply about the Center and the wonderful people who make it such a welcoming place. She believes everyone deserves to feel included, respected and heard. If she is elected president, she will listen with an open mind, treat everyone fairly and work hard to bring people together. Her goal is to help the center continue to grow as a fun, supportive and positive place for everyone to enjoy,

Terry Jordan



Terry would like to bring more people to the center. He wants to be here for everyone and make the center a special place for all members to attend. He is the father of six children and grandfather of two. He works as a bus driver for USD 490 and volunteers on Tuesdays at the ARK. His wife also distributes donated fruits and vegetables to various sites, including the center. He is also serving as a board member at the Family Worship Center.

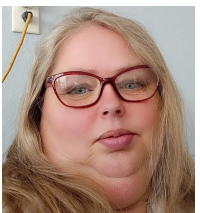
VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATES (1 POSITION OPEN)

Tom Farley



Tom has served 33 years in the U.S. Armed Forces. Seven years in the Marine Corps, and over 26 years in the Air Force as a C-130 Flight Engineer. He carries his military experience with him in his civilian life. He says when he first moved to El Dorado in summer of 2023 one of the first things they did was become members of the Center. He appreciates the dances, classes and community meals that give the Center life and vibrancy. He has made lasting friendships because of the Center.

Ronni Folden



Ronni started coming to the Center in September 2024 and has been here every day since. She has a background in customer service and retail. She volunteers by answering the phone and other clerical jobs for the director. Her goal as Vice President is to work with the board and all members to make EL Dorado Senior Center the best it can be!

AT-LARGE CANDIDATES (2 POSITIONS OPEN)

Sandy DeWitt

Sandy has recently joined the ESC, She enjoys many of the activities. She was an RN for 38 years. She also works part-time at a peer support center for people with mental illness and/or addiction. Sandy plans to retire at the end of the year.

Tim Duerksen

I started attending the senior center as I wanted a place to come and drink coffee. I now am here every morning and have now started enjoying to learn to play Mexican Train. Would appreciate your vote for member at large.

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THE BUZZ

(MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE OPEN BOARD SEATS! CONTINUED)

Connie Langhofer

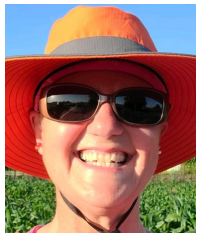


Connie wants to be more involved in planning and other aspects of the center’s operations. She hopes to collaborate on board projects and enhance communication within the community to showcase all the incredible things happening at the center

Peg N

Peg worked in Accounts Payable for the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for 21 years, where she relied on strong computer and data-entry skills, math proficiency, and precise calculator work. Her role required exceptional attention to detail and accuracy, and she regularly used Excel spreadsheets to organize and track payments. Peg is highly organized, and even in retirement she continues to use Excel to manage and track her personal budget.

Diane Stubblefield



Diane is passionate about supporting the Center and the seniors we serve. With 24 years of experience in the customer service industry, she brings strong communication skills, patience, and a genuine care for others. Her volunteer work, including NUMANA, the Wichita YMCA youth program, Andover Tornado Recovery, and the Bluestem Credit Union Credit Committee, reflects her dedication to community service and teamwork. Diane is eager to contribute her time, ideas, and enthusiasm to the board to help ensure the Center continues to thrive and provide meaningful programs, support, and companionship to our seniors.

Mark Somerville



John Watson

I am married to Alice (Stucky) Watson and have been coming to the senior center about eight years, I was a winter Texan but now we are here full time. I have a PH D in education and was superintendent of schools for 25 years. I was a principal and teacher before that. I would appreciate your vote. Thank you!

These candidates bring diverse perspectives and unique ideas to the table, all with a shared passion for improving the center. Don’t miss your chance to hear directly from them at the potluck dinner! Your vote will help shape the future of the Senior Center.

Keep an eye on your email for the voting link on **Monday, December 8th**. In-person voting will also take place that same day at the center.

Voting will close on **Monday, December 15th**, so be sure to make your voice heard!

THE BUZZ

CHILI COOK-OFF, CAR SHOW & LIVE MUSIC!

Get ready, because we're not closing out 2025 quietly, we're going out with a bang, a bowl, and a whole lot of fun! Mark your calendars for **Friday, December 5th**, because this is one event you won't want to miss.

We're bringing together three crowd favorites all in one place:

- Doors Open: 9:00 A
- Chili Cook-Off: 11:30A 
- Car Show: 10 A 
- Live music with the one and only Rusty Rieron starting at 11:00A



We'll have prizes for Best in Show, Best Chili, Crowd Favorite, and more. We are now accepting chili entries and welcoming all vendors to join us.

So spread the word, bring a friend, and let's make this the best final event of 2025!

HOLIDAY BRUNCH & GRANDVIEW EXCITE MUSIC GROUP

Save the date for a truly heartwarming morning at the center! On **Wednesday, December 10th at 9:30 AM**, we are excited to welcome the Grandview Excite Music Group for a special holiday performance. Their beautiful voices are the perfect way to lift our spirits and kick off the season.

While we enjoy their music, we'll also gather for our Holiday Brunch, sharing good food, good company, and the joy that only this time of year can bring.

During the event, we will be reading the names of those honored with an angel on our Angel Memorial Tree, a touching moment to remember and celebrate our loved ones.

11TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY BINGO BASH!

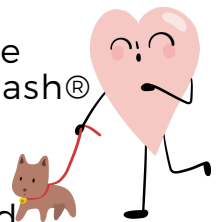
The holiday fun keeps rolling with our 11th Annual Holiday Bingo, and you won't want to miss this one! We've packed the afternoon with incredible prizes, each valued at more than \$75, plus Blackout Prizes that are truly showstoppers. This is the kind of bingo that gets the whole room buzzing!

This event is open to the public, but seating is limited, so be sure to arrive early. It's first come, first serve, and trust us... people will be lining up! Bingo cards are just \$10 each, and every dollar raised goes directly to support the El Dorado Senior Center.

Grab your friends, come down on **Saturday, December 13th at 1 PM**, warm up your lucky dabber, and get ready for an exciting, festive afternoon of big wins and holiday cheer. This is one event that will wrap up the season in the best way possible!

LOVE ON A LEASH IS COMING!

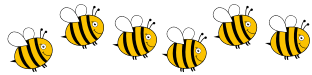
Feeling a little holiday stress or the winter blues? We've got just the cure. Be here on **Friday, December 12th at 1PM** when Love on a Leash® is visiting the center to bring love, comfort, and plenty of wagging tails!



This wonderful volunteer organization trains therapy pets to spread happiness, healing, and smiles wherever they go. Come join us, pet some adorable furry friends, and soak up the joy and compassion they bring, it's impossible to leave without a smile!

Trust us... these pups are the best kind of therapy, and the only thing they might ask in return is a scratch behind the ears.

THE BUZZ



HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH OUR CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

This season, we're bringing a beautiful tradition to the Center, our Angel Tree, a heartfelt way to remember the special loved ones who continue to shine in our lives.

For a **\$5** donation, you can purchase an Angel ornament in memory of someone dear. Simply stop by the office to choose your Angel, write the name of your loved one, and we will lovingly hang it on our tree for all to see throughout the holiday season.

Then, during our Christmas Brunch on **Wednesday, December 10th at 9:30 AM**, we will hold a special reading of the names on the tree, a touching moment to honor, remember, and celebrate those who remain forever in our hearts.

Join us in creating a tree filled with love, memories, and light. It's a beautiful way to come together and keep our angels close during this special time of year.

COFFEE WITH A COP IS BACK!

Grab a cup and pull up a chair, Sergeant Thompson is joining us again for Coffee with a Cop on **Tuesday, December 9th at 9 AM!**



It's your chance to ask all the questions you've been curious about...and maybe learn a few things you didn't want to know!

GET READY FOR THE CUTEST BINGO DAY OF THE YEAR!

We are thrilled to welcome the Blackmore Pre-K morning and afternoon classes to the Center on **Tuesday, December 16th** for a very special round of BINGO! These little ones are bursting with energy, curiosity, and giggles, and they can't wait to play with us.

The morning class will join us at **9:30 AM**, and the afternoon class will be here at **1:30 PM**. We'll have snacks, drinks, and plenty of fun prizes ready for them. Each group has nine bright and enthusiastic students who are sure to make the room feel a whole lot younger!

We will need a few volunteers to help guide these amazing little minds through their BINGO cards and celebrate their wins. If you're interested in helping make their day (and probably yours, too!), please stop by the office to sign up.

OUR FAVORITE CRAFTY FRIEND IS BACK!

We're excited to welcome Amy K back to the Center for another fun and creative project! Join us on **Thursday, December 18th at 12:30 PM** to make adorable wooden ornaments that you'll love showing off.

This craft is just \$6 per person, and space is limited, so be sure to sign up in the office to save your spot. Come get crafty with us, it's always a great time with Amy!

NEW WRITING GROUP STARTING IN JANUARY: "WRITE TIME"

If you love writing prose or poetry, or have always wanted to tell your story for family and friends, this is your moment!

Join us for "Write Time" on the north side, beginning **Wednesday, January 14th at 1 P.**

Whether you're a seasoned writer or just getting started, come share your voice, spark your creativity, and enjoy the fun of storytelling together.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE REMINDER



Just a friendly reminder that we will be **CLOSING at NOON on WEDNESDAY December 24th. CLOSED on December 25th and December 26th. Also, closing on NOON on Wednesday, December 31st and CLOSED January 1st and 2nd.**

LUNCH 'N LEARN SERIES

A LUNCH DATE WITH OPPORTUNITY

Join us on **Tuesday, December 2nd at 11:45 AM** as we welcome Chip Reece, Supervisor of the Senior Community Service Employment Program through the Workforce Centers of South Central Kansas. Chip will share how this free program supports Kansans age 55 and older who are unemployed and looking to gain new skills, build confidence, and reenter the workforce.

If you or someone you know is 55+, unemployed, and qualifies as low income, this program could be a wonderful stepping stone. Don't miss this informative and inspiring Lunch & Learn!

HOME SWEET HOME: A VISIT WITH THE SCRIBNERS

On **Friday, December 12th at 11:45 AM** we welcome the Scribners, for a helpful and informative Lunch & Learn all about homeownership and property care. They'll share why they purchase homes in our community, the property management services they offer, and their unique homeowner concierge services designed to make life easier.



They'll also provide practical tips on maintaining your home, simple steps that can save time, money, and stress. Whether you're looking to better understand the housing market or want to keep your home in great shape, this is a session you won't want to miss!

CITY GROWTH & COMMUNITY IMPACT WITH SARAH

Join us on **Tuesday, December 16th at 11:45 AM** to welcome Sarah Hoefgen, Executive Director of El Dorado, Inc. Sarah has been leading efforts to promote job growth and investment in El Dorado since 2021, focusing on business retention, expansion, and industrial recruitment through the Develop El Dorado campaign.



During her visit, Sarah will share the exciting projects El Dorado, Inc. has completed, as well as upcoming initiatives that are shaping the future of our city. This is a great opportunity to learn how El Dorado is growing and thriving, don't miss it!

HOLIDAY HARMONIES WITH DAYTHA

Daytha is back and ready to bring the joy of music to the Senior Center! Join us on **Friday, December 19th at 11:45 AM** for a lively sing-along filled with your favorite tunes. Bring your voice, your smile, and get ready to make some musical memories together, this is one Lunch & LYRICS you won't want to miss!

HOLIDAY COMFORT & CHEER WITH JILL

The holidays can be a joyful time, but they can also bring feelings of loneliness and missing loved ones. Join us on **Tuesday, December 23rd at 11:45 AM** as Jill from Angels Care Hospice returns to share warmth, comfort, and helpful tips for navigating the season with peace and hope.



Jill will offer practical advice on coping with holiday grief, honoring cherished memories, and finding moments of joy even during difficult times. After her presentation, stay for some festive fun as Jill calls Bingo at **12:30 PM**, because laughter, friends, and community are wonderful remedies for the holiday blues. This special visit is a perfect way to feel connected, supported, and uplifted during the holiday season. Don't miss it!

THE BUZZ

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: TRANSPARENCY FOR OUR MEMBERS

November 2025 Board Meeting Highlights

Treasurer's Report:

- October Beginning Balance: \$113,075.86
- August Income: \$20,417.70
- Expenses: \$13,731.21
- August Ending Balance: \$119,762.35

Director's Report: 19 New members

- Total Members: 527

Old Business:

- Committees: Fundraising, Events, and Decorating committee updates:
 - Open House for Veteran's Recognition Corner scheduled for Monday, November 10th at 10 am.
 - Halloween Party on Friday, October 31st 11:30 AM
 - Chili Cook-off & Car show on Friday, December 5th -
 - Holiday Bingo
- Updates to Bylaws: Will be tabled until new board is appointed
- Updates from Nomination Committee - Final list of nominees were given to the board and approved.

New Business:

- Letter to City Regarding Sidewalk: Kristina has written a letter to the City Commissioners requesting repair on the front sidewalk before more serious injuries occur.
- Potlucks: It was agreed to move all potlucks to 5:30 PM and to cancel the January Potluck.
- Writing Group: An individual had approached the center wanting to start a new writing group. The board decided to allow the group to meet as long as it was open to all members and the group became members of the ESC.
- Members Paintings Displayed: An ESC member had interest in having their paintings displayed in the building. After discussion, the board decided there was too much liability. Possibly having an art show for all members in 2026.
- Lost/Misplaced Check-In Cards: It was motion and approved that after one misplaced/lost check-in card members' second card would cost \$5.

New Programs:

- Seated Core - Monday & Friday at 10:30A, Thursday at 10A
- Love on a Leash - Thursday, December 12th 1 PM

Upcoming Events:

- Potluck - Monday, December 1st @ 5:30 PM
- Chili Cook-Off, Car Show and Rusty Rierson - December 5th (9am)
- Christmas/Holiday Brunch w/ Grandview's Excite Group - Wed., Dec 10th 9:30A.
- Holiday Bingo Fundraiser - Saturday, December 13th 1-3PM
- Bingo w/Blackmore Pre-K 9:30A & 1:30P, Tuesday, December 16th

Miscellaneous: New push button doors are installed on north side!

Thank you for supporting the El Dorado Senior Center!

DECEMBER LUNCH MENU

MONDAY - FRIDAY

11:30 A.M.

\$5 SUGGESTED DONATION

**Menu Subject to Change Without Notice*



Tired of the same old lunch? Join us for fresh, homemade meals made with love! Call (316) 321-0142 to place your order at least one day in advance.

CARRY-OUT AVAILABLE!

ALL MEALS SERVED WITH DESSERT.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Taco Pasta 	2 Hamburger & Fries	3 Cheesy Potato Soup	4 Chicken Alfredo	5 Chili Cook-Off
8 Pinto Beans & Ham	9 Goulash	10 Polish & Cabbage	11 Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwich	12 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
15 Cowboy Soup	16 Christmas Dinner Roasted Pork Baked Potato & Veggie 	17 BBQ Ribs Cheesy Grits	18 Chicken & Scalloped Potatoes	19 Baked White Fish
22 Hamburger Gravy Over Toast	23 Taco Salad	24 Chili Dogs & Tater Tots	CLOSED 25 	CLOSED 26 
29 BBQ Pork Sandwich	30 Spaghetti	31 Taco Soup	CLOSED 1 	CLOSED 2 

REMINDER! POTLUCK IS DECEMBER 1ST AT 5:30 PM

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Let's Get Social!

Check out this month's lineup of fun and friendship! From exciting events to everyday favorites, there's something for everyone!



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>1</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Walking - 9 A Aerobics - 10 A Seated Core - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P Potluck - 5:30 P</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Gospel Sing-A-Long 9 A Bible Study - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Lunch 'N Learn - 11:45 A Bingo - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A HERMES - 9 A - 2 P Drawing Class - 9:15 A Lunch - 11:30 A Prairie Port SNRS - 11:30 Hand & Foot - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Tai-Chi - 9:30 A Seated Core - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Pitch - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A CHILI COOK-OFF 9A Cornhole - 9:30 A Concert - 11 A Lunch - 11:30 A Hand & Foot - 12:30 P Music Bingo - 2 P</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Walking - 9 A Aerobics - 10 A Seated Core - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p> <p>BOARD VOTING</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Coffee W/A Cop 9 A Gospel Sing-A-Long 9 A Bible Study - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A BP Checks - 11:30 A Lunch 'N Learn - 11:45 Bingo w/ Ben - 12:30 Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Drawing Class - 9:15 A Holiday Brunch - 9:30 A Back to Balance - 10 A Cancer Support - 10:30 A Chair Yoga - 10:45 A Lunch - 11:30 A Prairie Port SNRS - 11:30 A Hand & Foot - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Tai-Chi - 9:30 A Seated Core - 10 A Tech Time - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Pitch - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Cornhole - 9:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Lunch N' Learn - 11:45 A Hand & Foot - 12:30 P Love on a Leash - 1 P Open Games - 2 P</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Walking - 9 A Craft Club - 9:30 A Aerobics - 10 A Seated Core - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P ALZ/Dementia - 5:30P</p> <p>LAST DAY TO VOTE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Gospel Sing-A-Long 9 A Foot Care 9:30 A - 1 P Bible Study - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Lunch 'N Learn 11:45 A Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Drawing Class - 9:15 A BOARD MTG - 9:30 A Back to Balance - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Chair Yoga - 10:45 A Prairie Port SNRS - 11:30 A Hand & Foot - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Tai-Chi - 9:30 A Seated Core - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Pitch - 12:30 P Ornaments - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Walking - 9 A Cornhole - 9:30 A Aerobics - 10 A Seated Core - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Lunch 'N Lyrics - 11:45 A Hand & Foot - 12:30 P Music Bingo - 2 P</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Walking - 9 A Aerobics - 10 A Seated Core - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Gospel Sing-A-Long 9 A Bible Study - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Prairie Port SNRS - 11:30 Lunch 'N Learn - 11:45 A Bingo w/ Jill - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Drawing Class - 9:15 A Back to Balance - 10 A Grief Support - 10:30 A Chair Yoga - 10:45 A Lunch - 11:30 A CLOSED AFTER LUNCH</p>	<p>CLOSED 25</p>	<p>CLOSED 26</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Walking - 9 A Aerobics - 10 A Seated Core - 10:30 A Lunch - 11:30 A Mexican Train - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Gospel Sing-A-Long 9 A Bible Study - 10 A Lunch - 11:30 A Prairie Port SNRS - 11:30 Lunch 'N Lyrics - 11:45 A Bingo - 12:30 P Open Games - 2 P</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Coffee - 9 A Drawing Class - 9:15 A Back to Balance - 10 A Chair Yoga - 10:45 A Lunch - 11:30 A CLOSED AFTER LUNCH</p>	<p>CLOSED 1</p> <p>HAPPY <i>New Year</i></p>	<p>CLOSED 2</p> <p><i>New Year New Me!</i></p>

KNOWLEDGE NUGGETS



- The first episode of the iconic educational television show, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," aired on December 3, 1968. Fred Rogers became a beloved figure in children's television, reaching millions of viewers with his genuine warmth and gentle teachings about kindness and empathy.
- The Washington Monument was completed on December 6, 1884. The monument stands in Washington, D.C., as a symbol of the United States and a tribute to the first President, George Washington.
- On December 10, 1868, the world's first traffic light was installed near the British Parliament in London. However, it ended up exploding after just one month in operation, injuring the police officer operating it.
- On December 13, 1952, the first TV broadcast of an NCAA basketball game took place. It featured the Kentucky Wildcats vs. the Temple Owls and marked a significant milestone in sports broadcasting.
- On December 16, 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place in the United States. Angry colonists, disguised as Native Americans, boarded British tea ships and dumped more than 300 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor as a protest against British tea taxes.
- On December 23, 1968, the crew of the Apollo 8 mission were the first humans to view the Earth as a whole, providing a new perspective on our planet's beauty and vulnerability.
- On December 28, 1958, the Baltimore Colts won the NFL Championship in what is often referred to as the "Greatest Game Ever Played." It went into overtime, with the Colts beating the New York Giants 23-17.

BRADFORD MEMORIAL LIBRARY SERVICES



LARGE PRINT BOOKS

The Bradford Memorial Library brings in large print books for our members to check out. These books are kept in the office and are swapped out monthly, so there's always something new to read!

Can't Get Out of the House?

No problem! Butler County Library Outreach delivers books right to your door. If you're interested in receiving this service or know someone who would benefit, call Outreach at 316-321-3363 or email services@bradfordlibrary.info.



Issues with Your Eyesight?

El Dorado Senior Center presents TALKING BOOKS! This service, provided by the Library of Congress, National Library Service, and Kansas State Library, makes it possible for those with low vision or physical limitations to enjoy thousands of books and magazines for free!



Access Books Easily

- Use your phone, tablet, or computer to download audiobooks.
- Order books in braille.
- Get a FREE player to use at home with audiobooks mailed directly to you.

For more information or to start using Talking Books, call the ESC office at 316-321-0142 today!

SENIOR RESOURCES



ADVANTAGE MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Advantage Medicare open enrollment is from January 1st to March 31st if someone already in an advantage plan wants to change to a different advantage plan or back to original Medicare. Thrive is officially closed the whole week of Christmas and January 1st.

THRIVE SERVICES

Thrive is here to help you navigate online resources and complete forms for benefits such as Social Security, Medicare, the Healthcare Marketplace, insurance, Medicaid, food assistance, disability, LIEAP, and more. Their services are free and designed to help you find the resources that best fit your situation.

Please contact Andrea Campbell - 785-230-8809 or by email: andrea@thriveallencounty.org or Heather Patterson - 316-737-8170 or by email: heather@thriveallencounty.org to schedule an appointment. THRIVE KS, also has an office in the center for your needs!

FREE CLOTHING AND MORE!

In need of clothing or household items?

Family Worship Center offers free resources to those in need, no proof of income required.

Hours:

- Tuesdays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- 2nd Saturday of each month: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Donations are accepted during open hours only. 701 S. Atchison.

KNOW OF OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE? LET THE OFFICE KNOW!

FOOT CARE BY CHERYL & BEN

We're excited to welcome Cheryl and Ben back to the Center to provide professional foot care services! **Sign-ups are now open in the office.**

Cheryl and Benjamin will be offering foot care on the third Tuesday of each month from **9:30 AM to 1:00 PM** on the following dates:

December 16

The cost of their services is **\$25** and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo. Both Cheryl and Benjamin are licensed, insured, and bonded.

PREVENTING ELDER ABUSE

Elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation are serious issues that can affect anyone. It's crucial to address them promptly and compassionately.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any form of abuse, please reach out for help. Contact the Butler County Prevention of Elder Abuse at 1-800-922-5330. Your call will be confidential, and support is available.

FOOT CARE CLINIC BY HERMES HEALTHCARE



Hermes HealthCare offers a convenient Foot Care Clinic right here at the center! **To schedule an appointment for a pedicure, please call 316-260-4110.** These services are covered by Medicare.

DATES:

December 3

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION

We are pleased to announce the upcoming Commodities Distribution!

Distribution will take place on the **North Side** from **1 PM - 2 PM** on the following dates in 2025:

December 10

To submit an application for the Supplemental Food Program, please call the United Methodist Open Door Program office at **(316) 267-0511.**

Please pick up your commodities on the date to avoid any inconvenience.

CALL 316-321-0142
WITH QUESTIONS

EL DORADO SENIOR CENTER SUPPORT GROUPS

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP



A SAFE SPACE FOR
CAREGIVERS AND FAMILIES
TO SHARE, LEARN, AND
CONNECT WITH OTHERS ON
A SIMILAR JOURNEY. THIS
GROUP OFFERS EMOTIONAL
SUPPORT, PRACTICAL TIPS,
AND A SENSE OF
COMMUNITY.

3RD MONDAY
EACH MONTH
5:30 PM

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

OUR GROUP OFFERS
CONNECTION, COMFORT, AND
UNDERSTANDING.

A SAFE SPACE TO SHARE,
HEAL, AND NAVIGATE GRIEF
WITH OTHERS WHO TRULY
UNDERSTAND.

4TH WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH
10:30 AM

OUR
GROUPS:

STRONGER
TOGETHER

ALL
GROUPS
MEET AT
210 EAST
2ND AVE.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

WHETHER YOU ARE
CURRENTLY UNDERGOING
TREATMENT, ARE A SURVIVOR,
OR ARE SUPPORTING A LOVED
ONE, YOU ARE WELCOME.

THIS GROUP OFFERS A SAFE
AND SUPPORTIVE
ENVIRONMENT TO TALK
OPENLY AND EXCHANGE
HELPFUL RESOURCES.

2ND WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH
10:30 AM

HEALING STARTS WITH
A CONVERSATION.

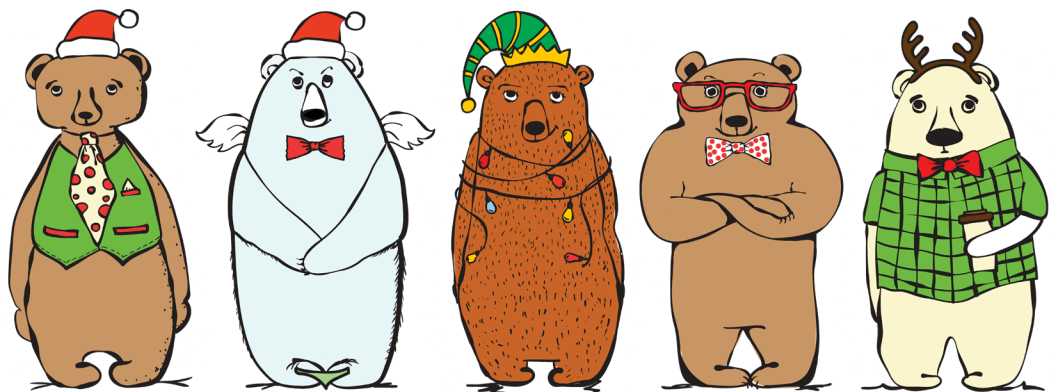


DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

Christmas PARTY

- BINGO
- BLACK TIE
- BONFIRE
- BOSS
- CANDLES
- CANDY CANES
- CAROLS
- COCOA
- COLLEAGUES
- COOKIES
- EGGNOG
- FRIENDS
- GAMES
- GARLAND
- GIFT EXCHANGE
- LAUGHTER
- MINGLE
- MISTLETOE
- MOVIES
- NEIGHBORS
- PARTY
- PUNCH
- SANTA
- SCAVENGER HUNT
- TREATS
- UGLY SWEATER
- WREATH

S	E	U	G	A	E	L	L	O	C	I	A	Z	M	O	V	I	E	S	D	R
R	L	R	E	T	A	E	W	S	Y	L	G	U	X	S	Q	K	S	X	A	
H	A	O	C	O	C	A	R	W	V	K	N	S	X	X	E	I	N	M	B	L
F	G	N	F	V	B	H	I	V	H	S	C	Y	U	F	E	G	A	I	M	B
B	L	E	K	R	Q	G	I	Q	L	A	E	V	W	R	S	P	O	W	N	I
C	J	I	S	D	I	F	D	D	V	U	G	C	C	F	O	G	D	G	A	K
P	R	G	Y	G	R	E	I	E	E	U	N	D	Y	M	N	F	Q	O	Z	Q
Q	S	H	I	S	N	G	N	E	N	Y	A	C	Q	I	O	Q	H	J	C	E
H	H	B	L	Z	S	G	B	D	J	D	H	J	B	N	D	H	K	A	G	I
C	M	O	J	E	E	N	Z	U	S	B	C	Q	T	G	I	E	N	Y	A	T
N	Q	R	L	R	M	O	V	E	B	N	X	P	B	L	S	D	S	X	R	K
U	D	S	H	A	A	G	T	S	X	S	E	Q	F	E	L	M	E	Y	L	C
P	U	U	N	Q	G	W	R	D	E	L	T	C	E	E	G	R	I	K	A	A
S	N	C	A	W	B	E	E	N	Q	D	F	R	S	X	L	E	K	W	N	L
T	R	R	T	J	X	P	A	C	D	W	I	P	Q	O	S	T	O	I	D	B
W	P	S	N	V	X	C	T	D	R	F	G	A	V	B	R	H	O	B	B	Y
G	U	L	A	O	Y	S	S	X	N	Y	E	R	K	Y	Z	G	C	M	F	E
B	G	O	S	D	Y	A	B	O	D	T	J	T	C	O	T	U	N	O	S	Q
M	U	R	N	S	S	O	B	Q	T	S	S	Y	N	S	G	A	D	R	G	R
H	T	A	E	R	W	C	Q	T	A	D	A	E	O	T	E	L	T	S	I	M
E	C	C	H	F	M	V	S	P	P	I	Z	V	U	Y	Q	M	I	X	A	G



LEADERSHIP LENS: A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



And just like that... it's December. WOW! Where did the year go? I know, I know, it's my fault for planning so many programs and activities for you all. But let's be honest... it's your fault too! You all have made this place what it is. You brought these ideas to life. You showed up, you participated, you supported every program, and each other.

Before we dive into the warm fuzzies, I want to gently (and lovingly) shine a little light on something important:

The gossip and negative talk has got to stop.

That's not who we are. That's not what this center represents. And I know it's not who you are. When you hear that negativity creeping in, please... kindly ask that person to stop. This center should be filled with love, compassion, laughter, and true community. Negativity and bullying won't be tolerated here. We're better than that, and we deserve better than that.

Okay, whew! Now that we've had our grown-up moment, let's get back to celebrating everything we've accomplished this year. What a year it has been!

- Brand-new flooring on the south side
- Our beautiful new Veterans Recognition Corner
- And, drumroll, the long-awaited ADA push-button doors on the north side... installed only a few months late. But hey, that's called patience! And if there's one thing we could all practice a little more, it's giving each other grace and patience daily.

Since starting my time here at the ESC, I've discovered something about myself: I have become a full-time advocate for you all... and I am LOUD about it (but you already knew that). I still don't understand why there isn't more accessible parking for those with mobility issues. And why on earth are the men's toilets in a SENIOR CENTER practically on the floor?! Truly. How does that make sense? And yes, don't ask, I have been in the men's restroom.

Some people find their calling in life. Apparently, mine is making noise on your behalf. I'm here to serve you, fight for you, and make your lives easier, because you have spent a lifetime serving others. It is time YOU are taken care of.

This December, I'm changing the way I approach things at home too. I asked my kids the other day to name three things they got from Santa last year. They couldn't name one. But when I asked them to name places they went this year... they rattled off several. Memories matter. More than stuff, more than schedules, more than anything.

So as we wrap up this year, let's focus on exactly that:

- Making memories
- Showing kindness
- Offering patience
- Loving big
- And showing everyone what a real, strong, joyful community looks like

Here's to a very Merry Christmas, a joyful holiday season, and a blessed, not to mention fun-filled, 2026. I am so grateful for each and every one of you.

Your Director ❤️
See you at the center!