

NEWSLETTER

December 2024

SR
CENTER

Dear Friends,

As we embrace the festive spirit of December, I hope this season brings you warmth, joy, and the chance to enjoy crisp winter days with loved ones. It's a wonderful time to reflect on cherished memories and create new ones.

In this month's e-newsletter, we've included updates and resources to support your well-being:

- **Exciting News!** We're launching a new book club in January! Learn more on the next page of this newsletter.
- **Social Opportunities:** We're working on additional activities to bring us together and we want your help. Join us for *Idea Café: Brewing Up Fun for the Future!* on **Wednesday, January 8 at 1 pm** in our Activity Room.
- **Community Festival of Trees:** We're thrilled to be participating in the Community Festival of Trees at the Freeport Public Library. Stop by to admire the beautiful trees decorated by local schools and businesses, including our contribution! The display will be up through December 30, and we'd love for you to visit and enjoy the festive atmosphere.
- **Open Enrollment Reminder:** Don't forget—Open Enrollment for Medicare ends on December 7.

Thank you for being a vital part of our community. This holiday season, I wish you laughter, connection, and many happy moments to treasure.

Warm regards,

Amanda Fivvre, Executive Director



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Stories and New Friends Await – Join Our Book Club!

The Senior Resource Center, in partnership with the Freeport Public Library, is excited to announce a new book club starting January 2 for all our avid readers! Whether you love mysteries, thrillers, romance, historical fiction, or other genres, this club will explore a variety of stories sure to inspire, entertain, and bring us closer together.

We will meet the 1st Thursday of the month at 10:30 am at the SRC. The Freeport Public Library will loan everyone free copies of the book. On January 2 we will kickoff the club and distribute the first book, *The Boys in the Boat*.

If you're interested in joining, please call or email Ann Marie Walker. We can't wait to hear from you and start this wonderful new adventure in reading together!

 815-235-9777 ext. 232

 awalker@srcntr.org



**ATTENTION!
PLEASE!**

Holiday Closing Dates

December 20 - closed after 2 pm for staff holiday party

December 24 & 25 - closed all day

January 1 - closed all day

ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®



1st Monday of the Month Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Presented by:

Alzheimer's Association
Illinois Chapter

Join us!

December 2

1st Monday of each month from 3:00-4:00pm
Freeport Public Library Board Room
100 E. Douglas Street, Freeport, IL 61032

Join us for confidential support and conversation discussing dementia & Alzheimer's disease.

Hosted By:



Build a support system with people who understand.

Alzheimer's Association® caregiver support groups, conducted by trained facilitators, are a safe place for caregivers, family and friends of persons with dementia to:

- Develop a support system.
- Exchange practical information on caregiving challenges and possible solutions.
- Talk through issues and ways of coping.
- Share feelings, needs and concerns.
- Learn about community resources.

TO REGISTER CALL: **800-272-3900**



Senior Resource Staff pose for a photo before delivering 20 turkeys to area community members! A heartfelt THANK YOU to Sam for his incredible generosity! Thanks to his kind gift of turkeys, many of our clients will enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving feast this year.

We're so grateful for amazing community members like Sam who make a difference!

Vote for the Senior Resource Tree!

We're excited to share our holiday spirit with you! Be sure to check out the Senior Resource Tree in the *Community Festival of Trees* at the Freeport Public Library.

Where to Find It:

Our tree is located on the 2nd floor near the Circulation Desk.

Voting Info:


Help us shine by casting your vote for our tree! Voting ends on December 14, so don't wait to show your support. Thank you for celebrating the season with us—we hope our tree brings you joy!



Snow Removal

Are you ready for winter?

If you are a senior needing assistance with snow removal this winter, we may be able to help! Call our office to discuss program qualifications and financial eligibility.

 **815-235-9777**



BASICS OF

MEDICARE

Get your Medicare questions answered!

**Tuesday, December 10
&
Tuesday, January 14
10:00 am**

**Senior Resource Center
Activity Room
216 E. Stephenson St.
Freeport, IL**

MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE

Name/Nombre
JOHN L SMITH

Medicare Number/Numero de Medicare
1EG4-TE5-MK72

Entitled to/Con derecho a
**HOSPITAL (PART A)
MEDICAL (PART B)**

Coverage starts/ Cobertura empieza
**03-01-2016
03-01-2016**

Community Events



Holiday Classic Movie: A Holiday Affair

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Lindo Theatre, 115 S. Chicago Ave.

Admission is an item or donation to local food pantries. Limited seating available; no advance ticket sales.

Hosted by FHN and Classic Cinemas Lindo Theatre.



Community Festival of Trees

Enjoy holiday trees decorated by local organizations, clubs, and church groups competing for prizes.

Look for our tree decorated with Christmas memories from area seniors. Then vote for your favorite holiday tree by December 14.

View the trees now through December 30.



Freeport Community Luminaria Night

Enjoy the beauty of the soft light of luminarias as FHN joins the residents around FHN Memorial Hospital in the annual lighting of the luminarias.

Sunday, December 22 • Dusk

Along Stephenson St. and Lincoln Blvd.

FREE

Community Events

SR
CENTER

UNDER THE MISTLETOE NOSTALGIC HOLIDAY FAVORITES



MONDAY,
DECEMBER
2ND
2-3 PM

JOIN US FOR LIVE MUSIC, HOLIDAY TREATS, AND A
FUN SING-A-LONG AT THE LIBRARY. PERFORMANCE
BY MATT & CYNTHIA GRUEL.



Freeport Moose Family Center Bingo Open to the Public!



Sundays: 12:00 pm - Bingo Sales
2:00 pm - Bingo Games
(Nachos, BBQ sandwiches, Desserts)

Wednesdays: 4:30 pm - Bingo Sales
6:15 pm - Early Bird Games
6:30 pm - Bingo Games
(food available - varies)

440 E. Challenge Street; Freeport 815-232-1516

TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA TRIBUTE EVENT

*A Night of Trans-Siberian Orchestra
and more!*
**Christmas
Wizards**



**DEC 13
7:00PM**

**TICKETS
\$25-50**

**FREEPORT
MASONIC
TEMPLE**

305 W. STEPHENSON ST

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON
EVENTBRITE



Christmas Wizards: A Night of TSO is an electrifying tribute to the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, featuring iconic holiday music, dazzling lights, and breathtaking special effects. Join us for a magical evening in the beautiful auditorium of the Masonic Temple to amplify the spirit of this holiday season.



Mayor Jodi Miller



815-233-6301

GREATERFREEPORT.COM/EVENTS

Christmas Wizards is a fundraising concert for Freeport Holiday Decorations

Social Security Column



Social Security's TOP 10 Webpages For 2025

Written by the Social Security Administration

[SSA.gov](https://www.ssa.gov) is your best resource to learn about Social Security programs and benefits and conduct business with us. Our website is designed to make it easy for you to find what you need.

Here are our top 10 webpages:

1. **my Social Security** — You can open a personal my Social Security account to verify your earnings, view your Social Security Statement, get benefit estimates, and more, at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.
2. **Social Security blog** — You can find the latest Social Security news and updates at blog.ssa.gov. You can easily share these informative articles with others.
3. **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)** — Do you need answers to Social Security-related questions? Visit www.ssa.gov/faq to find answers to common questions and other valuable information.
4. **Retirement application** — You can complete and submit your online application for retirement benefits in as little as 15 minutes at www.ssa.gov/retirement.
5. **Disability application** — You can apply for disability benefits online at www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability.
6. **Publications** — Visit our online publication library for information about key subjects at www.ssa.gov/pubs (includes audio versions).
7. **Medicare** — Sign up for Medicare at www.ssa.gov/medicare/sign-up.
8. **Online Services** — You can take care of most business with us by visiting www.ssa.gov/onlineservices.
9. **People Helping Others** — Use these resources to help your family and others in your community at www.ssa.gov/thirdparty.
10. **Fraud and Scam Prevention and Reporting** — Learn how to recognize and report Social Security fraud and scams at www.ssa.gov/fraud.



Remember, if you need information or want to do business with Social Security Administration, the first place to go to is our website. Website: www.ssa.gov Toll Free Phone Number: 1-800-772-1213

A Friend For a Lifetime

The first time I met Sherry we were in early grade school. Her great aunt was our next door neighbor and looked after me after school until my mother got home from work.

We couldn't have been more different. She was a dark haired, slim girl who preferred playing rough and ready and I had thick blonde braids and played with dolls. We entered the same Junior High School and recognized each other. Both of us were a little shy about the crowds of kids from all over town who entered 7th grade. We ate lunch together and had sleepovers, shared our thoughts on boys and art, what we wanted to do after graduating. She went off to college and I married a classmate, setting up household in an apartment. She'd come to see me when home for holidays and summer. I was a young mother at 18 then 21, she met a boy in college, married and wound up living in California. We wrote letters, talked on the phone, and a few times she and her daughter came to visit.

Over the years there were divorces, remarriages, meet ups in California, Freeport, and once a shared visit in New York right after Christmas.

Tonight we had one of our long phone visits. We share the same views on life, values, and hopes for our country. We talked about our teachers from Jr. and Sr. High and how much we liked them and the high regard we had for several in particular. We are 81 and sometimes talk about aging, health changes, medications, and the usual aches and pains.

If you are lucky enough to have long term friends you are indeed fortunate. My longtime friend knows more about me than anyone else. We are witnesses to our early years, teens, school days from Jr. High to high school. We knew each other's boyfriends, husbands, other friends in our school circle, and now sharing those memories as we look back together.

Tait Weigel is one of our original Rolling Stone columnists. Look for her monthly contribution in the next newsletter!

NICAA Golden Meals



The Golden Meals program is for persons 60 and older in Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties. Home-delivered meals are provided to those who are home-bound, isolated, frail, or unable to prepare meals for themselves. A suggested donation per meal is requested. No one will be denied services because of their inability to pay.

For more information on Golden Meals and NICAA, visit <https://nicaa.org/service/golden-meals>

Dining room is open!

NICAA Golden Meals DECEMBER 2024

Diane Randecker, Director 815-232-8896

Menu Subject to Change

12/2	12/3	12/4	12/5	12/6
Spaghetti Green Beans Peaches Bread	Hearty Beef Stew (Veggies in Stew) Corn Bread Fruit	Italian Sausage W/ Peppers Seasoned Potatoes Italian Vegetables Bun	Chicken Alfredo Peas Mixed Fruit Bread	COOK'S CHOICE TO BE ANNOUNCED
12/9	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13
Beef & Noodles Green Beans Peaches Bread	Creamed Chicken over Biscuits Peas Mixed Fruit	Chili Peaches Corn Bread	Pulled Pork Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Bun	COOK'S CHOICE TO BE ANNOUNCED
12/16	12/17	12/18	12/19	12/20
BBQ on a Bun Oven Potatoes Baked Beans	Seasoned Chicken Thighs Mashed Potatoes Peas Bread	Swiss Steak Mashed Potatoes Diced Carrots Bread	Ham & Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans Peaches Bread	COOK'S CHOICE TO BE ANNOUNCED
12/23	12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27
Jumbo Beef Hot Dog Mac & Cheese Baked Beans Bun	SITES CLOSED 	SITES CLOSED 	Ham Tetrazzini Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Bread	COOK'S CHOICE TO BE ANNOUNCED
12/30	12/31			
Spaghetti Green Beans Peaches Bread	SITES CLOSED 			



SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER

JO DAVIESS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Serving Jo Daviess County Every Month!

UPCOMING DATES

Dec 26, Jan 23, Feb 27

WEST GALENA TOWNSHIP BUILDING

607 Gear St
Galena, IL 61036

Dec 19, Jan 16, Feb 20

STOCKTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

140 W. Benton Ave
Stockton, IL 61085

Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13

HANOVER TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

500 Fillmore St.
Hanover, IL 61041

Dec 5, Jan 2, Feb 6

WARREN COMMUNITY BUILDING

110 W. Main St.
Warren, IL 61087

ASSISTANCE WITH:

- Aging & disability benefits
- Medicaid questions
- Medicare questions - make appt
- Benefit Access (license plate discount)
- Part D questions
- Caregiver resources
- General aging questions



Call For An Appointment!

***Walk-in appointments may be available at some locations - call for details 815-235-9777**



Walk-In Tuesdays

1-3 pm

at Senior Resource Center

The SRC is offering walk-in appointments for general information, license plate sticker discounts, senior housing resources and applications, caregiver support, and more! *For Medicaid and Medicare questions, please make an appointment.*



Looking for assistance getting your license plate fee discount? Call our office for help with the Benefit Access application!



Activities & Interests Survey



We want your input!

What activities/programs would you like us to offer? Take our short survey to let us know!

Just click on the survey image above.

Volunteers Needed



Senior Resource Center is in need of
VOLUNTEERS to assist with our

AARP Tax Aide Program
and
Money Management Program

*For more information, please contact Anna Bell
at 815-235-9777 ext. 228*



Contact Us

Senior Resource Center

206 E Stephenson St
Freeport, IL 61032
815-235-9777

srcinfo@srcntr.org

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*Merry
Christmas!*