

Yes, Indeed! Friday, July 12 - and It's FREE!
We are partnering with the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo to bring Art Hop to Richland this summer on July 12! Along with the Arts Council, The Little Yellow Frame Shop, Richland Community Library and other arts organizations, we're planning an evening of arts exhibits and events throughout Richland. We will top it all off with a FREE, live concert on the grounds of the Community Center as part of the Art Council's Summertime Live Free Concert Series! Planning is underway, and we couldn't be more excited to bring this event to you! Mark your calendars for Friday, July 12. We'll be sending out details soon!

WE LOVE YOUR GORGEOUS FACE!

Our greatest pleasure is to see you walk through our doors and enjoy one of our many classes and/or events. That's why we work so diligently year-round to bring you programs that enhance your life here in the greater Richland area—programs to help you live healthier and happier! As a bonus, we often share a laugh, make memories and get to know you better...thank you for spending time with us! You haven't been here? Well, 2019 is a great year to try one of our many programs. Scan the listing on the back of this newsletter and come see us!

Last year, we threw a "Program Palooza" to brainstorm all kinds of program ideas for our community. Many of them are in process. In 2019, look for new cooking classes, additional travel opportunities, a barre class, a dining out club, and so much more! We are sad to say, Pig Yoga did not make the cut! We're looking forward to the Richland Farmers' Market, Art Hop, Arts and Eats, summer camps, exercise classes, cooking classes, wine pairings, art classes... something for everyone! Hope to see you soon!

Jilisa Williams, Exec.Director

Off The RACC is a publication of the Richland Area Community Center, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization located in Richland, Michigan. The newsletter is published in January, April and September.

Richland Area Community Center 9400 East CD Ave. Richland, MI 49083

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YOU ARE OUR MIRACLE!

Thanks to your generosity, the RACC can continue enriching our community and the lives of those we serve through our programs, classes, and events—making miracles every day, large and small!

Thank you to our generous and caring donors!

Scott & Holly Allen Andrew & Lisa Ambrosio Anonymous Anonymous In memory of Nancy Jones Anonymous In memory of Jerome Kohel Joanne Arvidson In honor of all the people who come here. Art & Mary Jo Atkinson In honor of Dee Lyon and in memory of Denny Lyon Ken & Carol Baker BBN Joan Beebe John & Shirley Blakely Mark Bonsignore Randy & Jan Bonzheim Drew & Monica Bordner Woody & Sharon Boudeman Robert & Dolores Boyle Nancy Brookins Barbara Brundage Janine Catuano Patricia Chipman John & Barb Chrisman

Patricia Chipman
John & Barb Chrisman
Susan & John Chrisman
Dr. Lauretta Cillan-Chung
In memory of Dr. & Mrs.

Moises Cillan Wanda Clawson In honor of Faye Koestner

Janet Clemons Construction Labor Services, Inc. Robert & Paula Cook

Carol Cooper
In loving memory of
Murray Cooper

Patricia Crane Helen D'Agostino Philip & Terri Dawson Brenda & Don Deibler

Jennifer DeMaagd Margaret DeMink

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Dr. David G. Dvorak
In honor of Betsi English

Kris & Claire Eager

In honor of Betsi English and her continued efforts and unlimited energy!

Susan & Fred Einspahr Charitable Fund Loyal & Bonnie Eldridge William & Betsi English

Karen Fayle David Federinko Sandy Feuerstein Wendy Field June Filipowicz

In memory of Leo W. Filipowicz

Kathy Fleece Mike & Kim Foster Lynn & Harold Friedl Renee Fugate Maria Gagnon-Markucki

& Joel Markucki Mr. & Mrs. Robert Galen Patrick & Debra Gallagher John & Sharon Garside

Marilyn Gayda Jack & Martha Gesmundo Susan Gilmore

in homor of Val Karam Bill Goodrich Pete & Rusty Graham Jilisa Grooters Williams & Mark

Williams, Celebrating 25 adventure-filled years!

Dr. Kay Gross & Gary Mittelbach
In honor of Val Karam

Matt & Brenda Harma
In honor of Val Karam

Henry B. Hawk Jim & Marsha Heath

John & Marty Hettinga Sonia Hill

In honor of Kate Miller Shirley Hoeksema Dr. & Mrs. D.N. Homnick Josephine Hopkins Win & Leslie Howard Lois & Dick Hudson

in memory of Lois P. Hudson Abraham Huerta & Lucy Escandon Esther James

Jim & Mary Jasiak
Steve & Peggy Johnson
Michael Kasten
John & Kathleen Keagle

Timothy Kiefer & Nicholas Graham Rolf & Judith Kletzien

Joni & Tim Knapper Janet Deal Koestner Wayne Kramer*

Jean Kubiak & Jean Yoder The Larsen Family Charitable Fund

Ray & Melon Lasich Late Bloomers Garden Club

Brenda Lauer Charles & Phylllis LaVene

Patricia L. Lawrence John & Rita Light Howard D. Linders Patricia Maas Judy Maier

Tom & Pamela Mansager Connie Marlatt

In memory of Paul Marlatt Karen McConnell

In celebration of the RACC and all it offers our community!

Theresa Meinert,

In memory of Theresa Pavlowski
Bill & Joyce Melvin
Betty & Kevin Miller
Sue & Larry Myland
Native Pantry, LLC
Charlene & Robert Nash
Kim & Valerie Nuyen
Donald & Cynthia Palmer

Don & Ann Parfet
Pete & Barbara Parish
Paulson & Associates, LLC
Nelson & Phyllis Pelletier

Robert & Annie Perra Karol Peterson

Pfizer Matching Program Pfizer Your Cause, LLC Donna Pieracini

Tim & Sally Putney
D.C. & Kay Rackiewicz
Cheryl & Bob Reinhardt

Richland Village Drug

Tom & Deb Ryan, In honor of Marie Stech for all she has done

for our community John & Marie Salvato Tom & Judy Schau

James & Deborah Scott

Serafinos

Bob & Marilynn Simon Virginia Simonton Sheryl & Brent Slezak

Deidre & Doug Smith Donna & Phil Smith

Joan Split Pat Sprague

Marie Stech

In memory of Bud & Joy Flook Charles Stoddard

Harry & Tineke Stolt

Alison Thor

Chris & Michelle Tracy

Andrea Trautman & Stephen Allen Cathy & John Tucci, In celebration

of all my yoga students
Jeanne & Robert Turner

Bill and RuthAnn Uggen

Vito Valella

In memory of Geraldine Valella
Jon & Courtenay VanderMolen

In honor of Val Karam

Gary & Sandy Van De Weert

John & Cathryn VanderSalm In memory of Jim & Helen VanderSalm

Ned & Sam VanderSalm
In memory of Dick Petrick

Dale VanPatten
Bo & Mel Van Peenan

David & Beverly Warner Shirley Wiegner Marcia West

In memory of Jane Griessel
James & Maggie Woodruff
Drew & Rachel Worgess

Susan Worgess The Wozniak Family

* denotes an employer matching gift

There's still time to donate! Make a tax-deductible donation at www.richlandareacc.org and click on the Donate button, or mail a check to 9400 ECD Ave., Richland, MI 49083. The RACC relies on donations and receives

no government funding. Please invest in this great community resource by making a tax-deductible donation today. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but mistakes do occur! Please let us know of any omissions or errors. Thank you!





THANK YOU, VAL KARAM!

While Val is still going to be involved with the RACC (whew!), she is stepping down from the Board. We wanted to take a moment to acknowledge a few of the wonderful things she's done—a list that goes on and on! The RACC has been her passion, and the entire community has benefitted from her creativity, energy, determination and enthusiasm. Whether it was picking out paint colors, raising funds, helping find furniture, getting on her hands and knees to paint walls or creating a seven-foot Styrofoam boot—she was always ready for anything and did it all in fabulous fashion! Val has been our champion, our cheerleader, our fundraiser, our friend and one of our greatest advocates—her mark on the RACC is indelible. What's next for Val? Art Hop! Val is spearheading the effort to bring Art Hop to Richland, so mark your calendars for July 12. You won't want to miss it. Merci Beaucoup, Val!



Look for art from Kristina Spitzner from March 1st through April 27th. Her spectacular botanical prints will grace our walls just when we're hungry for flowers and a pop of color! Not only will Kristina be displaying her works, but she'll also be teaching a watercolor workshop in April! See the middle of the newsletter for more information.

Kristina Spitzner is a Botanical Artist and Natural Science Illustrator from Southwest Michigan who loves to share her passion for watercolor painting, as well as her fascination with the intricate details, colors, textures, and beauty of nature, which inspires her work.







2019! Your Year to Travel! We'll be adding trips to the website, so check out the Travel tab on our website to find out more! www.richlandareacc.org

ST. PETE BEACH

Feb. 21-March 10, 2019, \$2,499 pp. dbl. occ.

A BRANSON ADVENTURE

May 13-18, 2019, \$1,299 pp. dbl. occ.

SPIRIT OF PEORIA RIVERBOAT

CRUISE

June 21-26, 2019, \$1,699 pp. dbl. occ. **TALL SHIPS**

August 21-24, 2019, \$859 pp. dbl. occ.

BUFFALO ROUNDUP Sept. 21-30, 2019, \$1999 pp. dbl. occ.

ONE OF A KIND SHOW, CHICAGO

December 6. We had such a fantastic time at the One of a Kind Show at the Mart in Chicago that we are already planning our next one! Save the date: Friday, December 6! For trip details, please go to www.richlandareacc.org and click on the travel tab.











Classes an



COOKING WITH CANAL STREET CAFÉ!

Monday, February 25, 6:00-8:00 pm, \$40

Join Chef Lisa Green from Canal Street Café for a delicious three-course dinner cooking demonstration and tasting! Learn how to make a scrumptious Fruit and Spinach Salad with Candied Nuts and Ginger Vinaigrette, Canal's delicious Chicken Piccata with Toasted Israeli Couscous, and Roasted Winter Vegetables, and a decadent dessert of Vanilla Crème Brûlée with Chantilly Cream—all made from scratch. You won't want to miss it! *Max 24*

INSTANT POT COOKING CLASS Monday, January 28, 6:00-8:00 pm \$35

Did you get an Instant Pot for Christmas? Is it out of the box yet? So many of us are looking for new and fast ideas for dinner, but don't' know where to start. Jeff Smith (Owner of Native Pantry) and Jennifer DeMaagd (Health Coach and Food Scientist) will show you the steps to make dinner quickly and easily using an Instant Pot. A wide variety of meals will be prepared. Everything is provided. Come hungry! *Min 8/Max 24*





WATER COLOR CLASS WITH KRISTINA SPITZNER Saturday, April 27, 9:00 am-Noon, \$45

Kristina, Botanical Artist and Natural Science Illustrator from Southwest Michigan, will introduce you to the art of botanical watercolor painting using live spring flowers for inspiration. You'll learn the basics of beginning observational drawing from nature, to simple watercolor techniques, to add beautiful color and detail to your paintings. We'll complete 2-3 small watercolor illustrations during our workshop, all supplies provided. Sign up with a friend! *Min 5*

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Saturday, March 23, by appointment, \$\$

Get five advanced ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for cardiovascular disease. Go to www.lifelinescreening.com to register.





COUPLES VALENTINE ART CLASS Wednesday, February 13, 6:00-8:00 pm, \$30 pp

Show and share your love by painting together! Everything is provided to create this pretty painting of bird love. Sign up at www.facebook.com/events/354564481987914/?ti=cl-Min 6/Max 12



COOKING WITH COLOR!

Sunday, February 10, 1:00-3:00 pm, \$35, must register at 629.9430. Join Julianne Downes of Nourishing Lifestyles, LLC who will introduce more vibrant color and flavor onto your plate in this batch/group cooking class! You'll not only learn how to cook delicious, nutritious and beautiful fare, but you'll take enough food home to enjoy yourself and share! A certified lifestyle counselor and 10-year cancer survivor, Julianne will help you discover how simple, fun and delicious cooking with color can be! *Min 10/Max 20*





FREE TECHNOLOGY TUTORING! Bring your Smart Phone or Tablet!

Fridays, 9:00-11:00 am, Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 8, Apr 26, and May 17 *FREE, must register at 629.9430*.

Register for a 30-minute session and get personalized instruction on how to use your cell phone or tablet. Have questions? We have answers!

FUNERAL PLANNING WORKSHOP: What your family needs to know

Thursday, February 21, 5:30-7:00 pm FREE, must register at 629.9430.

This is an overview of the steps necessary to plan your funeral, including choosing a personal funeral representative, veteran's benefits, social security benefits, wills, etc. required to ensure your final wishes are carried out. Take control and plan ahead. Do not let this become an urgent matter for your loved ones—requiring them to

address all of these issues on one of the worst days of their lives.

COPING WITH GRIEF...A REAL DISCUSSION

Wednesday, March 20, 10-11:30 am FREE, must register at 629.9430.

This class is a straight-forward discussion regarding how to be kind to oneself following the death of a loved one, loss of a job or a divorce. Please join us.

None of us needs to walk alone through these difficult and trying times.

Joldersma & Klein Funeral Home

"When you want to be treated like family."

Kalamazoo, MI 269.343.2628

WRITE THE STORY OF YOUR LIFETIME

Wednesday, April 17, 10-11:30 am, FREE, must register at 629.9430.

We had the time of our lives! Write your life story, so you're remembered

269.343...
the way YOU want to be! This fun and enjoyable seminar prompts you
through your proudest, silliest, and most memorable moments to share with those you love.

All classes require pre-payment. **Please pay with check or cash; online at www.richlandareacc.org; or by phone by calling 629-9430**. Class size is limited and they fill quickly, so please register early. We will notify you only if the class is full or has insufficient enrollment. Use this enrollment form if you're sending a check.

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
ZIP: PHONE:	EMAIL:
CLASS:	DATE/TIME:

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Richland Area Community Center 9400 E. CD Ave. Richland, MI 49083 269.629.9430

Or pay online at www.richlandareacc.org

A \$10 registration fee is withheld from all class refund requests. Registered students who make a refund request up to 7 days prior to the class start date will receive a full refund, minus \$10 registration fee. No refunds will be given 6 days before the start date. Full refunds will be given in the event a class is cancelled by RACC. See www.richlandareacc.org for details.



The Book Discussion Group meets the third Thursday of each month at 9:30 am. Newcomers are welcome and encouraged!

Eleanor Oliphant	is	Cor	npl	etel	y F	ine	
by Gail Honeyman						. 1/1	17

Manhattan Beach by Jennifer Egan 2/21

The Girl with Seven Names by Lee Hyeon-seo & David Johnawar ... 4/18

NEW! We'll be hosting "What Book Clubs Are Reading" this June in collaboration with the Richland Community Library and several local book clubs. Date to be announced.



Gull Lake Area Rotary Club

Fred Upon,	U.S. Representative
from the 6th	District of Michigan 1/23

Jason Stockman 600 Kitchen and Bar......2/7

Aric Nesbitt

State of MI Lottery......2/1 **Don Paulson**

The Marketplace Happenings 4/4

Gull Lake Area Rotary Club meets every Thursday morning at 7:30 am. Guests are welcome. Visit www.gulllakearearotary.org



REDUCING POLLUTION AT THE RACC

Our solar panels are expected to reduce our net electric use by -38,500 kWh annually. The environmental benefits include these pollution reductions:

- -82,351.5 lbs of CO2 (carbon dioxide) annually
- 109.73 lbs of NOx (nitrogen oxide) annually -363.4 lbs of SO2 (sulfur dioxide) annually Several people have asked if the panels work in the winter and the answer is yes, they do, they're powered by light, not heat. That said, the sunnier the better! And right now, we're probably all feeling that way!

WHAT CAN SENIOR SERVICES DO FOR YOU?

Thursday, February 7, 1 PM (free)

Meals on Wheels. Check. But Catering? Tuesday Toolmen? Home repair? Who knew? We were surprised to discover all the services and resources that Senior Services of Southwest Michigan provides. Whether you are looking for information or assistance for yourself or a loved one, you will want to attend this informational meeting! Many people are unaware of what help is available or where to find it. Join us and find out about the many, many services this wonderful organization provides for older adults, caregivers, and adults with disabilities.

COME TEACH A CLASS OR SHARE A SKILL!

We'd love to talk with you about teaching a workshop, holding a discussion, teaching a skill. Call us with your ideas! 629-9430.

DINING OUT GROUPS FORMING. HOSTS NEEDED!

Do you love to eat out? Are you a social butterfly? We have the perfect opportunity for you! Become a roving dinner host! We're looking for people who'd like to host! (For couples as well as singles) Each month, our groups will meet at different Kalamazoo restaurants to eat and chat, and you would serve as the host. It's a chance to try new restaurants, enjoy some great conversation, make new friends and have a great meal!! There is something so delicious about sharing different dining experiences while making new friends! Call Jilisa at 629.9430 if you are interested in hosting or taking part.

MAY 15 FARMERS' MARKET OPENS!

Hard to think of spring and planting, but our farmers sure are! Don't forget to stop by on Wednesdays, beginning May 15 to take advantage of locally grown produce and locally made products.



Susan Chrisman CPA

schrisman@wfscpas.com 8700 Gull Road Richland, MI 49083 269.628.9658 Building Trust

Delivering Integrity

One Handshake at a Time





RACC Announcements!

GET YOUR FIT ON!

With our expanded exercise offerings, you have even more ways to get fit! Take one of these classes and Get Your Fit On! You won't believe how good it looks and feels on you!

Pilates

Tuesday, 9:15-10:15 Am

Swingin' With Susan

Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30-11:30 Am

Weight Watchers

Thursday, 5-6 Pm

Yoga-Intermediate, Sherry

Monday, 10:30-11:30 Am

Yoga-Intermediate, Cathy

Tues., Wed., Thurs., 9-10 Am

Yoga-Gentle, Cathy

Tues., Wed., Thurs., 10:15-11:15 Am

Yoga-Intermediate, Kathleen

Wednesday, 6-7 Pm (not meeting in Feb.)

BLANKETS NEEDED FOR BABIES AND CANCER PATIENTS



Our partnership with Borgess to collect blankets for patients is ongoing. Please drop blankets off at RACC Monday-Friday, 9 am-5 pm with your name and email. Blankets are given to adults and children fighting cancer or in Hospice or Critical Care at Borgess Medical Center.

THANK YOU, SENIOR BALLROOM DANCE SPONSORS!

Thank you to Mac's Garage and Monroe Hair Design for their continued



support and sponsorship of our Ballroom Dancing. We'd also like to thank our newest

sponsor, Visiting Angels, who have generously helped continue this wonderful program.



Thursday, April 25: Mark your calendar and plan to attend this gorgeous event to kick off spring! It's always a fun evening with great friends, food, drink and music in the beautiful

and botanical River Street Flowerland! Details to come!

PERENNIAL EXCHANGE,

Saturday, May 4, 9-11 am. Bring your perennials, visit with fellow gardeners, and go home with new perennials to enhance your landscape. Exchange is at 9:45 am. Treats and advice will be abundant, thanks to our partners, the Late Bloomers Garden Club!

JULY 12: FRIDAY NIGHT ART HOP AND MUSIC - AT THE RACC!

Join us for Art Hop in Richland and for a Summertime Live concert at the RACC



in the evening. This is an awesome summer opportunity that you won't want to miss!

TEAM TRIVIA NIGHTS AT RICHLAND LIBRARY

January 24, February 28, March 21, April 18 at 7:00 pm, Richland Community Library







9170 East D Avenue Richland, MI 49083



www.farleyestesdowdle.com 269-629-6022

Charlie Johnson, Manager



The Richland/Gull Lake
Area Lions Club

Meetings: new club house located at 9820 M-89 across from The Local. For more info see Lions on Facebook.

Jan. 8 & 24. 6 PM

3rd Annual Bowling for the Blind Fundraiser Super Saturday, Feb. 2, 1-4 pm, Richland Lanes \$65/team of 4—includes shoe rental, 3 games, a large pizza and pitcher of pop. Silent Auction



_	ORGANIZATIONS, GROUPS AND GATHERINGS							
	ASYO	MONTHLY						
	COFFEE HOUR	TUES. AND THURS.	9:30-10:30 AM					
	BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP	3RD THURSDAY	9:30 AM					
	GULL LAKE AREA ROTARY CLUB	THURSDAY	7:30-8:30 AM					
	SENIOR DINING COUPONS	TUES. AND WEDS.	9 AM-5 PM					
	CARD GROUPS							
	BRIDGE	MONDAY	12:30-3:30 PM					
	EUCHRE	WEDNESDAY	12:30-3:30 PM					
	HAND & FOOT	WEDNESDAY	1-3:30 PM					
	DANCE, SPORTS, F	ITNESS, MUSIC, AND ART						
	FOOT CLINIC	4TH TUES. BI-MNTH	BY APPT.					
	MAT PILATES WITH DEIDRE	TUESDAY	9:15-10:15 AM					
	PING PONG	WEDNESDAY	3-5 PM					
	SENIOR BALLROOM DANCE	RETURNS APRIL 28	2-5 PM					
	SQUARE DANCE	RETURNS APRIL 20	7-10 PM					
	SWINGIN' WITH SUSAN	TUES. AND THURS.	10:30-11:30 AM					
	YOGA-INTERM., SHERRY	MONDAY	10:30-11:30 AM					
	YOGA-GENTLE, CATHY	TUES., WED., THURS.	10:15-11:15 AM					
	YOGA-INTERM., CATHY	TUES., WED., THURS.	9-10 AM					
	YOGA-INTERM., KATHLEEN	WEDNESDAY	6-7 PM					
	WEIGHT WATCHERS	THURSDAY	5-6 PM					

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

TECHNOLOGY TUTORING

FRI., JAN. 25, FEB. 22, MAR. 8, APR. 26, MAY 17 9-11 AM, FREE

INSTANT POT COOKING CLASS

MON. JAN. 28, 6-8 PM, \$35

YOGA BOOK GROUP

MON. JAN. 21, FEB. 18, MAR. 18 9:30-10:30 AM, FREE

WHAT CAN SENIOR SERVICES DO FOR YOU?

THURS. FEB. 7, 1-2 PM, FREE

COOKING WITH COLOR

SUN. FEB. 10 1-3 PM. \$35

LIFE PLAN WORKSHOP

WED., FEB. 21, 10 AM-12 PM, FREE

COUPLES VALENTINE ART CLASS!

WEDS., FEB. 13 6-8 PM, \$30 PP

COOKING WITH THE CANAL STREET CAFE

MON., FEB. 25, 6-8:30 PM, \$40

COPING WITH GRIEF

WED., FEB. 28, 6-7:30 PM, FREE

GALLERY: BOTANICAL PRINTS BY KRISTINA SPITZNER

MAR. 4 - APR. 27, FREE

FUNERAL DESIGNATION WORKSHOP

WED., APR. 4, 10-11:30 AM, FREE

PLANT YOURSELF

THURS., APR. 25TH, 6-8:30 PM RIVER ST. FLOWERLAND, \$45

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP KRISTINA SPITZNER

APR. 27, 9 AM - 12 NOON, \$45 MUST RSVP

VETERANS' BENEFITS WORKSHOP

WED., MAY 2, 6-8 PM, FREE

PERENNIAL EXCHANGE

SAT. MAY 4, 9-11 AM, FREE (EXCHANGE AT 9:45 SHARP)

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RICHLAND AREA COMMUNITY CENTER

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Please direct all correspondence to: Richland Area Community Center 9400 East CD Ave. Richland, MI 49083 (269) 629-9430

Executive Director

Jilisa Grooters Williams

Board of Directors

Betsi English, President Jen DeMaagd, Vice President Susan Chrisman, Treasurer Ella Segur, Secretary

Trustees

Fred Einspahr Marie Stech Andrea Trautman Hilary Willavize

Richland Area Community Center Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Tues. of every month at 5:30 pm.

Community participation is welcomed at RACC board meetings. A written request to speak is required at least 24 hours before the board meeting. Individuals are allowed 5 minutes to make their presentation.



Coffee Cofé

OPENING SOON

Where friends meet for Coffee, Conversation, Soups, Salads, Sandwiches and More!

Follow us on facebook

