

MAY, JUNE, JULY 2024 -

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To register for classes, events, and appointments: Call 651-645-0349 or 651-298-5493 or send an email to knivacolgan@keystoneservices.org

Keystone Thriving Times is published quarterly by Keystone Active Seniors, a program of Keystone Community Services for adults 50 and up who want to keep their minds alert, bodies healthy, and spirits energized.

SITE LOCATIONS

- Merriam Park Community Center 651-645-0349
- West 7th Community Center 651-298-5493





Why Play is Important

Scientific studies continue to show that enjoyable activities can have several major benefits. For example, they have the power to help:

 Improve how your brain works Do you want to maintain your memory and optimize your ability to learn new things? Engaging in play on a regular basis can enhance your creativity and mental sharpness.

• Heal, establish, or maintain relationships

A lot of seniors are lonely. In fact, on average older adults who live alone spend over ten hours alone each day. But having fun can enable older adults to make new friends or improve existing relationships. Things like laughter and friendly competition are known to increase harmony, trust, empathy and intimacy among people who experience them together.

 Improve your mental and emotional well-being

Do you like the way you feel when you have a brighter outlook on life and your sense of time recedes into the background? Engaging in activities you enjoy can expand your optimism, multiply your moments of joy, and reduce your stress. It can even help prevent depression.

• Extend your life and improve your physical vitality

Who doesn't want to feel younger or more energetic? Creating plenty of fun moments in your life can be a good way to boost your immune system, reduce your risk of illness, and minimize your perception of any pain you might already have.

Play should be a major part of life for everyone. We can all probably use many more joyful experiences. It's who we are, no matter our age.

🕻 651.645.0349 🛛 🗾 keystoneservices.org/seniors 🛛 🚹 Find us on Facebook



Seniors Directory

Keystone Staff and Resources Directory

Program Director:

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Meals on Wheels Coordinator:

Niki Blue • 651-504-2514 nblue@keystoneservices.org

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Senior Services Assistant: Judy Burns • 651-504-2650 jburns@keystoneservices.org

History Tours Coordinator:

Teisha Magee • 651-504-4461 tmagee@keystoneservices.org

Volunteer Engagement Manager: Sara Fleetham • 651-797-7725 sfleetham@keystoneservices.org



The Thriving Times newsletter is the best source for up-to-date information about our current activities and services. If you are interested in receiving the quarterly newsletter by mail or email, please contact Keystone. You can also access the Thriving Times newsletter online at KeystoneServices.org/Seniors.

KEYSTONE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER

Our food shelf provides quality, healthy food for people in our community.



Location:

1800 University Avenue West, Saint Paul, MN 55104

The center is between the Wendy's and Arby's on the corner of Fairview and University.

Service Hours:

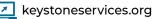
- Monday: 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: 4:00 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 4:00 p.m.
- Friday: 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 4:00 p.m.

No appointment or advanced registration is required. Food shelf participants are served on a first come, first served basis. We do have limited number of participants served each day.

Parking:

Participants are encouraged to park in our parking lot behind the building or park on Beacon Ave.

For more detailed information, please visit our website at keystoneservices.org!







Hello neighbors! As we enter gardening season, we can't wait to introduce our Giving Garden at the West 7th Community Center! What is a Giving Garden? It's exactly what it sounds like- a garden grown with the specific intent to give away the harvest.

We will be transforming previously unused garden beds and growing a variety of fresh produce (and flowers!) for neighborhood residents to enjoy. Produce will be distributed free of charge at West 7th for anyone who would like some. Please do not pick food straight from the garden- we will be weighing it before we make it available in the lobby. Additionally, we will be part of the West End Garden Tour on June 15th!

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or would like to learn more about growing your own food, we would love for you to come by! If you're interested in more information, feel free to contact Niki Blue at (651) 504-2514 or nblue@keystoneservices.org.

ZOOM PROGRAMS

ZOOM Word Games

Mondays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on ZOOM No meetings on Monday, May, 27

ZOOM Social Tuesdays.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. on ZOOM

ZOOM Dice Games Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. on ZOOM

ZOOM Bingo

Thursdays, May 23 (notice new date!) June 20 and July 18 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on ZOOM or in-person at W7th.

Call or email Karlene for more information and the links to join in the fun!

knivacolgan@keystoneservices.org or 651-645-0349.

What is the fastest hour of the week?

For me, the answer to that question is the time spent with Karlene and friends on Zoom. Maybe that is why they call it, ZOOM!

I was a reluctant joiner. I finally tried it more than a year after things in my world were offered that way. I discovered it is free to put on your computer and just one click gets you into the group. After Karlene knows you are interested, she sends a reminder email – and "click," you are there! Stay cozy in your comfy clothes and a favorite chair right in your own home.

We enjoy a little friendly competition with the games, socialize with friendly Keystone seniors and have a good time to boot!

Nothing to be concerned about. Karlene walks us through the games, keeps track of rules (if there are any!), watches the time and keeps us focused while we enjoy ourselves. Think about giving it a try. Karlene is a great facilitator and a fun participant. We will happily welcome you – and you don't have to leave home. – Paula, a frequent "Zoomer"

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Have our newsletter emailed to you.

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COMMUNITY

Ongoing Exercise & Activities



Fit & Fabulous MP W7

Specially designed group fitness classes for ages 50+ and all abilities, following the routines and principles of the Silver & Fit program. Class includes stretching, endurance and weight lifting. Join us at your comfort level. Recorded classes also available 24/7 on our website. Exercise Leader: Karlene, Silver & Fit Certified.

Mondays & Thursdays at West 7th. Wednesdays at MPCC No class on Monday, Monday, May 27,

Wednesday, June 19 or Thursday, July 4 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. with live instruction

Cost: \$15 per month, may be covered by your health insurance. Call your health insurance customer service line to find out. Check the back of your insurance card for the correct number. Tell them you want to see if you are eligible for exercise benefits.

Gentle Exercise MP

This Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program (AFEP) class, while designed for people living with arthritis, is open to anyone looking for a gentle exercise class. Arthritis Foundation-trained Instructor Bonnie Eller will lead this low-impact, joint-safe class, teaching gentle stretching and strengthening. The movements in class can be done standing or sitting.



6-week session (Tuesday only) 11:00 a.m. May 14 - June 18

1-week break: Tuesday, June 25

6-week session (Tuesday only) 11:00 a.m. July 2-August 6 Gentle Exercise will take a three-week break August 13-27.

Pickleball MP

For those 50+. Novice and advanced Pickleball matches played for fun. You get a good, enjoyable work out.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays through May only. No Pickleball in June, July or August. 9:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Cost: \$2/session

Fiberazzi w7

Knit, crochet and needlecrafts. All skill levels and fabric craft types welcomed. Come share ideas and conversation.

Tuesdays 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Foot Care Clinic

MP 1st appt at 9:40 Wednesday, May 1 and July 3 with Joan Strumpf 9:40 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. 40 minute appointments Cost: \$50

W7 Ist appt at 9:00
Monday, June 10
with Susan Janicke
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
30 minute appointments
Cost: \$45
Call to make an appointment



Krafters MP

Bring your art/craft supplies and spend an afternoon with your fellow artists/crafters, sharing ideas and conversation.

Tuesdays 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.



Trivia Tuesday MP

Join us in-person

Come show off the strange and unusual facts and trivia that you have collected over the years! Each month will feature new questions and there may even be a theme to the madness.

FREE Tuesdays, May 14, June 11 and July 9 2:30 p.m.

Bingo W7

Join us in-person or through a ZOOM link

The popularity of Bingo is undeniable. We play both in-person and via ZOOM. Each Bingo card costs \$1. Play as many as you like. Money collected is divided between 10 games, 9 regular and 1 cover-all. One winner per game.

ZOOM players: If you need Bingo cards, they will be mailed or delivered to you. You must play same number of cards each month and must send in monthly or quarterly payments for your cards to play. 265 Oneida Street, St. Paul, 55102

Thursdays, May 16, June 20 and July 18 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Zoom or at W7th

Ask the Lawyer: Senior Specialty Legal Advice <u>W7</u>

Dave Burns offers FREE one-time 15-minute consultations on the third Wednesday of each month to assist with elder law issues. Registration required. Call 651-298-5493 to book your appointment.

3rd Wednesday of the month May 15 and July 17 No meeting in June due to Juneteenth holiday. 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Coffee With The Guys "Conversation is food for the soul."

"Conversation is food for the soul." Pancakes help too. Join us once a month for coffee and conversation.



We'll meet at Day by Day café on West 7th (they are saving us a table). No set agenda, just conversation and coffee.

Order some food if you like. This outing is for the guys only. Our staff person, Phil will be hosting.

May 14, June 11, and July 9 at 9:00 a.m.

History Tours Update

Keystone History Tours season 2024 with Dave Bredemus will run from August through October 2024. We are working on another great season of travel and will post details in our next newsletter.

If you received this newsletter, you are on the mailing list for the tours too! If you would like to be on our mailing list call 651-504-4461. Our email list is always a faster way of getting the same information, consider using that option as well!

Dave will also be offering free tours of the West Seventh neighborhood as part of WestFest on June 8th. See back cover or call Dave at 651-734-5578 for more details.

Bridge 1 and 2 MP

Match up with players according to your desired level of play. Meets on Thursdays.

Thursdays Brush-up: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Experienced Play: 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

More players needed for this!

Cards W7

Meet weekly with others who enjoy playing cards. Currently playing 500, but taking suggestions for other card games.

Fridays

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Scrabble MP

Like all word games, Scrabble, is great for the mind. Join us weekly for several challenging games.

Fridays 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Evening Book Club W7

Join us monthly for a lively discussion with new "book loving" friends. Call Joan Dion at 651-489-8103.

Thursdays - May 9, June 13 and July 11 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Cribbage MP

Weekly games of Cribbage, new players welcome!

Wednesdays 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

9



Making New Friends as an Older Man

By Michael Tougias, first published in AARP's Senior Planet

The Surgeon General recently declared loneliness an epidemic – many studies reveal the impact on health – and some reports say the crisis is worse among men.

Some blame the lingering impact of Covid. The National Institutes of Health noted last May that 'the COVID 19 epidemic was related to increased levels of loneliness."

But during a recent NPR broadcast, psychologists discussed how a majority of men think they should conquer all their problems on their own, and anything less is seen a sign of weakness.

Male Friendships are Different

Don't fall into that trap: real strength is knowing when to reach out for the help of others. Sometimes loneliness is combined with mild depression –

and it can feel tough to reach out and join a group. If that is case, just take the first step...or just show up.

Years ago, when I was a newbie to fishing the surf in Florida, I noticed this tall guy catching Spanish mackerel – when I wasn't. I walked over, and said, "What's your secret?" Doug not only told me how to catch the mackerel, he also gave me one of his lures.

We talked about fishing together in the future, and since that day I've enjoyed great companionship with Doug – and an introduction to his circle of friends. All because I stopped to ask a question.

(Just last month, Doug texted me "You should come down to the beach, I'm catching giant blues right and left!" I went and we had a ball.)

This is a lesson to everyone – guys and gals alike – to counter loneliness by reaching out to others. Even shy people can make new friends just by asking a stranger a question.

Men Talk Side by Side

Conversations men have, I've noticed, are usually the by-product of an activity rather than the reason for getting together. It's rare that I'll call a male friend and say let's have coffee and talk. Men, I believe, need a common interest to get together. It's during the doing that the conversation happens.

My guess is that most women communicate face to face, but men talk side by side while performing an activity. I'd wager most of my conversations with Doug occur when we aren't even looking at each other – we're busy casting out our lures. The same could be said of golf, bowling or any activity that gets guys out of the house.

Here are a couple of ways I've been able to find and keep friendships

Volunteering – it's wonderful to feel a sense of purpose and you meet other volunteers and anyone you are helping. For years I volunteered to take blind people on nature walks, and we all had a great time – and I met another volunteer who became my primary care physician.

Joining a group that participates in an interesting activity will pay big dividends in combating loneliness and making new friends. Doug and I formed an informal



group of fishermen who meet every couple months for pizza and beer. Almost all of us got to know each other via shore fishing.

If you have physical limitations there are a myriad of clubs and groups that might also be a good fit, from card playing, book clubs, bird watching, or historical societies. **Keystone Community Services** offers many interest groups that chat via Zoom: Games, Social Hour, Bingo and many more.

Casting a wide net – There are lots of other ways for guys to broaden their opportunities for friendships, from taking a part time job to offering to house or pet sit for neighbors. There are many options to connect – from classes in walk in centers if one is near you, to local libraries or a Meet Up.

(continued on page 12)



MPCC MATINEE MOVIES

Join us for matinees once a month on our big, new television screen! FREE!

> 2:30-4:00 p.m. 4th Tuesdays at Merriam Park **Community Center**

May 28 – Yesterday June 25–Top Gun: Maverick • July 23–Priscilla



TEDTalks are short video presentations introducing us to new ideas or presenting a fresh perspective on something we already know. Scientists, researchers, technologists, artists, designers, and others aim to stir our curiosity and get us talking. The goal is to present "Ideas Worth Spreading" to an audience of people open to being inspired or possibly wanting an introduction to a topic they never considered before.

If this sounds interesting, join us for an hour once a month. We watch several short videos on a single topic and discuss how it relates to us. It's fun and often leads to thinking about ideas we never considered before.

> 10:30 a.m. Thursdays W7 May 2, June 6 , No TED Talks in July

New Topics:

May: Infectious Generosity June: Wonder & Awe in Nature July: No TED Talk in July

Making New Friends (continued from page 11)

Male Friendship - Next steps

Ask questions about other people's lives. Men are often reluctant to share emotions and put on a stoic front, but asking questions breaks that ice. Seek out key people where both you and they can be their authentic selves.

Invest in friendships. They are not perpetual motion machines, where just one shove (or one activity) sets it in motion forever and it runs by itself. True friendships take time and effort to start and to sustain. I arranged a dinner with four friends from high school who live in my area every month or two. Two of those guys have known me since first grade! Amazing friendships that might have drifted apart without those periodic dinner get togethers of the guys.

Keep trying. Give one solution a few tries. As mentioned earlier, it can feel tough or awkward to reach out and join a group — at first. I have found that with any endeavor that feels difficult, everything starts rolling after a few tries. You'll be glad you did

Michael J. Tougias is a New York Times bestselling author and co-author of 30 books for adults and nine books for

young adults. He is best known for his non-fiction narratives of survival and rescue stories. His book **The** Finest Hours has been made into a Disney movie. Tougias speaks to both business groups and at public libraries across the country. www.michaeltougias.com



2024 FREE FARMER'S MARKET EVENTS



Keystone's Free Farmer's Market season will run from June - October.

We will distribute free, fresh produce and vegetables at Roseville Covenant Church, Rice and Arlington Field, and Allianz Field.

All event information will be posted in later May. You can visit our website and social media pages for event details.



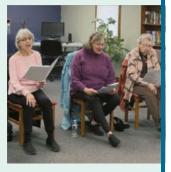
ARTS PROGRAMMING

Vintage Voices Choir Concert Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 pm at Merriam Park









Our inaugural Vintage Voices Choir (a part of VocalEssence) will be giving a free concert at the Merriam Park Community Center. They have been rehearsing all spring! Come celebrate and cheer on your friends and neighbors at this fun, lively, and free event!



SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS that Support our Community!

Community Resources

Words from Sara Volunteer Services Manager

The Keystone Community Food Center (KCFC) has been open for 3 months and is busy, busy, busy. In January alone, we provided food support for 2,133 program participants who visited Keystone for the first time.

Our added capacity and accessibility are serving the community well. We rely on 154 volunteer shifts each week to cover the Basic Needs Programs at KCFC – Food Shelf, Foodmobile and Grocery Delivery.



And over fifty shifts to cover our Meals on Wheels deliveries. Wow! We are grateful for all of the partners that make this happen every day. I am starting my 10th month as part of Keystone's Volunteer Team. Very quickly in my tenure I came to realize how incredibly vital you are to all that we do.

In January, Sophie joined the Volunteer Team with a focus on volunteer support at KCFC. She has been a wonderful addition to our team. You can learn more about her in in this week's newsletter. Looking ahead, we are working on some volunteer appreciation plans, so stay tuned for an opportunity to join us and other volunteers to be celebrated!

I can always be reached at 651-797-7725 or by email sfleetham@keystoneservices.org.

– Sara Fleetham, Volunteer Engagement

AARP SMART DRIVER PROGRAM



Four-hour refresher course: MP

Thursday, June 12 MPCC 9:30-1:30

Call 651-298-5493 ASAP Space is limited. Call to reserve your spot.

Cost: \$25

COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

Friends and Co:

Elder Friends Phone Companions (friendly phone conversations) **612-746-0737**

Minnesota Food Hotline:

Learn about programs to help pay for food and get food. **1-888-711-1151**

Ramsey County Financial Assistance:

Learn and sign up for financial assistance and inquire about healthcare programs. **651-266-4444**

Senior Linkage Line:

Speak with local aging experts about resources and other general needs. **1-800-333-2433**

1000 333 2433

Help at Your Door:

Grocery shopping and delivery to your home. Sliding fee scale and accepts SNAP/EBT. **651-642-1892**

Mental Health Resources:

Adult Mental Health Crisis Line: 651-266-7900

Minnesota Mental Health Helpline: 1-800-862-1799

Jewish Family Services:

Free 20 minute phone conversations with mental health professionals. **651-239-4756**

Rainbow Health:

Advocating for and serving the LGBTQ+ community, those living with HIV, and all folks facing barriers to equitable healthcare. **612-341-2060**

MEDICARE COUNSELING

FREE Medicare counseling is available by appointment only. A trained volunteer will help determine your best options.



Must make appointments through Senior Linkage; trellisconnects.org/get-help/medicare or call 800-233-2433, or call Keystone and we can assist you with signing up.

1-hour appointments 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

2nd Thursday at W7 – May 9, June 13, and July 18

3rd Wednesday at MPCC – May 15, no appointments in June at MPCC and July 17

West 7th Fare for All Dates 2024

Jan 5 - 1st Friday Feb 2 - 1st Friday Mar 8 - 2nd Friday Apr 5 - 1st Friday May 3 - 1st Friday June 7 - 1st Friday



July 12 - 2nd Friday Aug 9 - 2nd Friday Sept 6 - 1st Friday Oct 4 - 1st Friday Nov 1 - 1st Friday Dec 1-1st Wednesday

Fare For All is a pop-up grocery store. We sell packs of fresh produce and frozen meat at up to 40% off of retail prices. Everyone is welcome to participate. We follow a co-op model, so the more people who shop, the better the discounts. We accept cash, credit, debit, and EBT cards. Cards are preferred. We do not accept checks. Just stop by and shop!

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ballrich@lpicommunities.com (800) 950-9952 x2757

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2000 St. Anthony Avenue St. Paul, MN 55104

Inclement Weather Procedures:

If Keystone needs to close or cancel programming due to weather or other circumstances, we will do our best to post it to our website and social media sites such as Facebook. When appropriate, we will also post the updates to WCCO News. Our main phone line will also have up-to-date information for you regarding closures. Always use your best judgment when choosing to join us for a program. Stay safe!

- **C** Phone 651.645.0349
- Website keystoneservices.org
- Merriam Park CC: 2000 St. Anthony Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104 | tel 651-645-0349
- West 7th CC: 265 Oneida Street, St. Paul, MN 55102 | tel 651-298-5493

