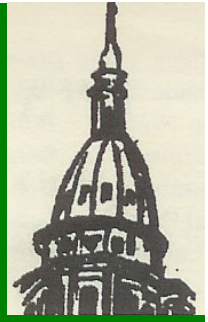


MICHIGAN STATE
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SPARTAN SENIOR

A newsletter for Michigan State University Retirees

LANSING AREA LOCAL EDITION August 2012

Join Us for Our September Meeting and Learn about “Crimes against the Elderly”

It has been called a silent epidemic, with as many as 5 million crimes against the elderly every year and as many as 89% of these go unreported. In addition to the various financial scams, other forms of crime against the elderly include threatening, deserting, or otherwise failing to take care of a vulnerable elder for whom one has responsibility. Of all these crimes, financial abuse is the most prevalent. How can we protect ourselves as we grow older?

Please join us for our first meeting of the year on **Monday, September 10, 2012, at the new Farm Lane Branch of the MSU Federal Credit Union, 4825 East Mt Hope Road, East Lansing**. Refreshments at 1:30 and the program begins at 2:00. Our new Vice President, Rosemary Pavlik, has invited **Ingham County Sheriff Gene Wriggelsworth** to kick off our 2012 - 2013 series of meeting programs. Sheriff Wriggelsworth and another officer will discuss crimes against the elderly and offer advice on how to protect yourself and your loved ones from all the hazards that are out there.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth has 47 years experience in law enforcement, and was first elected sheriff of our county in 1988. He began his career with the Michigan State Police, has spent a number of years in narcotics enforcement, and has served as consultant, adjunct faculty, and faculty member to several institutions of higher education, including Michigan State University, Northwestern University, and Lansing Community College --Al LeBlanc

Our October Speaker Urges us to “Learn to go Wild.”

Our October speaker, **Jason Meyer from the Fenner Conservancy**, will speak on the topic “Learn to go Wild.” So what does this mean? Wild dancing? Eating wild foods? Backpack camping in the back country? All of the above? Come to our meeting on **Monday, October 8, 2012 and find out!**

Jason Meyer worked at Fenner Nature Center about ten years ago when it was still under city management. He later moved to California to run a program called “Children’s Forest,” where teens worked alongside Forest Service professionals to plant trees, lead interpretive hikes, and manage the only child-run nature center in the United States. While in California, he also worked for the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as a Forester and Battalion Chief. But he always missed Fenner, and believed that it could be a regional leader in conservation education. He returned to Fenner in 2010 as the Executive Director of Fenner Conservancy, the nonprofit organization that now manages the center. With a master’s degree in environmental education and a background that encompasses land management, conservation education, media relations, fundraising and organizational planning, he’s ready to lead Fenner into a solid and sustainable future.

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United Way	Darlene Wenner	517-339-1685

Spartan Senior Newsletter

Editor	Al LeBlanc	517-655-6454
MSU Reporter	Stan Hecker	517-332-3830
Production	Stephanie Barch	517-332-8523

Website: <http://retirees.msu.edu>

Webmaster and Facebook Manager	
Anders Johanson	517-974-8994
E-notices and Twitter Manager	
Gordon Williams	517-349-9032

Please Save this for your Refrigerator or Bulletin Board These are our 2012-2013 meeting dates:

September 10, 2012—Sheriff Wriggelsworth
October 8, 2012—Jason Meyer
November 12, 2012
December 10, 2012
January 14, 2013
February 11, 2013
March 11, 2013
April 8, 2013
May 6, 2012 – Annual Luncheon

Reset your Direction Finders! This year we will have a new meeting site much closer to campus!

We will still enjoy the hospitality of the MSU Federal Credit Union for our MSURA meetings, but we will enjoy this hospitality at a new site much closer to campus. All our meetings are set to take place at the new Farm Lane Branch Office of the MSU Federal Credit Union located at 4825 East Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing. Essentially, this is at the intersection of Mt. Hope Road and Farm Lane.

Important Information Regarding Cost of Diabetic Supplies

If you are purchasing diabetic testing supplies such as lancets and test strips it is important to understand that there can be a significant difference in cost depending on whether the pharmacy from which you purchase them will bill only CVS Caremark or will bill Medicare Part B.

Retirees' experience has demonstrated a significantly higher out-of-pocket cost for diabetic supplies at pharmacies that bill only CVS Caremark and do not bill Medicare Part B even though Medicare Part B may require associated co-pays. If you have Medicare Part B and require diabetic testing supplies it is recommended that you check the prices and the billing policies and seek a pharmacy that bills Medicare Part B.

Currently the MSU Clinical Center Pharmacy bills only CVS Caremark and not Medicare Part B. This billing policy is currently under review and if there are changes we will let you know.

--Marilyn Rothert



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ALL DRIED UP Knitting Group Seeks Yarn

Well, we hit a few new records this summer and Michigan is all dried up including crops, grass, flowers along with the knitters' yarn supply. So we are asking for a little yarn fall just to water the stash.

The Knitting Group has been lucky with the addition of a few new enthusiastic givers. Givers in spirit, talent and compassion. They realize that many of our fellow citizens are having a very hard time right now and cheerfully get those needles clacking, crochet hooks bobbing and quilt needles zig-zagging. Diligence has paid off to the making of close to 20,000 items allocated to agencies in Lansing and the surrounding area. Because of all this activity we are in need of more yarn. Yarn does have a way of hiding in strange hidey-holes so look under your bed, shoe boxes in the closet and bottom of the freezer under the peas. If luck should have it and you find any let me know and I will retrieve it so you can store something else in its place.

In a way our group is reminiscent of times long gone when glue of friendship and humor binds us in a sisterhood in the helping of those less fortunate. If you would like to join this fun group please call Rosemary Pavlik at (517)882-2030. The group meets every other Tuesday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in Room 27 of the Nisbet Building.

--Rosemary Pavlik



Anyone for an opera study group?

From time to time we get inquiries seeking to determine if there is a group of our retirees who might want to form a study or activity group, such as the knitting group described above or our World War II Interest Group that meets in the coffee shop of the Schuler Book Store in Meridian Mall at 3:00 PM on the second Friday of each month. Is anyone out there interested in forming an opera study group? This group would require no musical background, only an interest in or a fondness for opera. If you are interested, please leave a phone message for Al LeBlanc at (517) 655-6454 or send e-mail to aleblanc@msu.edu. Be sure to give Al your phone number and your e-mail address if you use e-mail.

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(877) EDU-403B
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SPARTAN SENIOR Local Edition, MSU Retirees Association, 22 Nisbet Building, MSU, 1407 S. Harrison Ave, East Lansing, MI 48823-9902. Tel (517) 353-7896.
e-mail: msura@msu.edu. Editor Al LeBlanc (655-6454); Production Stephanie Barch
Website : <http://www.retirees.msu.edu>

