

SENIOR HAPPENINGS



BEES, BUTTERFLIES & BLOOMS
PG. 12

June 2026

For even more programs happening this summer, check out our Summer Guide!



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CONNECT COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

BIG THINGS ARE COMING TO THE CIVIC CENTER CAMPUS! BUT.....

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

You have been hearing us talk about the new Connect Community Center for months now and you might be wondering, what is taking so long? We are finally to a point that the project site has been fenced in and construction teams are starting to show up!

Demo of the Recreation Activities Center is next, then more earthwork and land balancing will happen. This is the part of the project where they get the dirt moved around according to the engineering drawings so that the building starts in the right place and the next set of teams start to move in! In the meantime, learn more about the project below and find out what you can expect on an active campus with a construction project.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING AN ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT?:

IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE LOUD!

We are working hard to stay on a schedule and all work is conducted within allotted hours.
We are aiming to build in 16 months.

IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE DIRTY!

We aim to be tidy and on top of any dirt or mud. We have a plan in place with an on-site sweeper and on messier days, we will bring in a larger sweeper truck to help keep things clean.

IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE DUSTY!

We have a plan for dust too. On dusty days, we will deploy a water tanker truck to water down the area and significantly reduce the amount of dust in the air.

IT WILL ALWAYS BE CHANGING!

This is the most exciting part. The project includes four main building aspects, surrounding landscaping and a new plaza on the west side. With added parking, there will be a total of 204 parking spaces.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT OR FOR UPDATES, VISIT WBPARKS.ORG/CONNECT.



CONNECT MEMBER EVENTS

WELCOME BACK SHEILA NITTMANN!

WB Parks is ecstatic to welcome Sheila Nittmann to back to the role of Connect Member Coordinator! A former WB Parks' employee, Sheila is a natural fit here at the Connect Senior Center. We are so excited for the fresh, new ideas and positive energy she is bringing to our Connect members and our annual Member Events.

At least twice a season, WB Parks hosts social events for our Connect members at our Connect Senior Center. These events are most often free and provide social opportunities for members to 'connect' with one another. With fun and engaging events like: Older Michigianians Day, Ice Cream Floats, Spring Sweets and Treats and more, we look forward to continue to provide meaningful programming specifically tailored to our Connect Members.

Please help us in welcoming Sheila back to the Connect team and make sure to check out all of the exciting, upcoming member opportunities!

Interested in becoming a Connect Member? Learn more at wbparks.org/connect-memberships.



ICE CREAM FLOATS

AUGUST 3 • 2-3:30 PM • CONNECT

JOIN US FOR A ROOT BEER FLOAT, BOSTON COOLER, CREAMSICLE OR SCOOP OF ICE CREAM!

FREE! CONNECT MEMBERS ONLY. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

FEATURED PROGRAMS

Fees are listed as the non-resident rate followed by the resident rate

SENIOR KAYAK

Fun on the water doesn't have to end as you age. Join us as we explore Middle Straits Lake. Must be able to perform a shoreline launch with minimal assistance. Our naturalist will accompany you as your guide.

All equipment is provided, including life jackets. The fee is per person. Only single kayaks are available.

Location: Bloomer Park

8/13 | Th | 10-11:30A | \$48/\$43



GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

Focus on the therapeutic benefits of yoga for both body and mind. Mindfulness, meditation and breathwork are an integral part of this class. Improve your postural alignment and balance with core work.

This class is specifically tailored for senior participants, emphasizing the enhancement of strength, flexibility and mobility. Julie Levinson is a certified Yoga Therapist and is certified in teaching yoga to seniors.

Location: Drake Sports Park

7/1-8/12 | W | 12-1P | \$90/\$78

EXERCISE YOUR MIND

Lunch will be provided. Pre-registration required.

Location: Connect

Nutritious Eating for Healthier Aging

Join Megan Tarnowski, Registered Dietitian at Henry Ford West Bloomfield, for a session on how better nutrition can support healthier aging. Megan will discuss how our appetites and body composition change as we get older, how to eat nutritiously through these changes, and how to make "smart swaps" to make sure you're eating great-tasting meals and snacks that are still good for you.

Sponsored by



7/10 | F | 12-1P | FREE

A Reverse Mortgage Workshop

Curious how a reverse mortgage could help you boost your monthly cash flow, pay off bills, or stay in the home you love? Join us for a simple, no-pressure workshop designed for seniors who want clear answers, real examples, and a better understanding of how to turn home equity into financial peace of mind.

Sponsored by



7/17 | F | 11:30A-12:30P | FREE

OPEN TECH HELP

Technology is ever-changing and it can feel impossible to keep up! Let our teen volunteers help you navigate technology questions with patience and knowledge. Technanagy™ strives to help seniors find joy in technology.

The program is free and pre-registration is required. Fully charge your device(s) prior to participation.

Location: WB Public Library

7/6 | M | 4-5:30P | FREE

ADULT ART CAMP

Join us for this four day, open studio art camp where anything goes! Finish started art projects or create something new with an award winning instructor. All mediums are welcome. Help will be individualized for each student. Students must provide their own supplies.

Location: Marshbank Park

8/24-8/27 | M-Th | 10A-2P | \$176/\$160



FEATURED TRIPS

ALL TRIPS DEPART FROM DRAKE SPORTS PARK!

SOUTH BEND SUMMER

Join Bianco Tours for a fun-filled two-day adventure combining unique attractions, scenic relaxation and memorable dining. Highlights include an up-close visit with gators, a peaceful cruise on beautiful Lake Wawasee and time to unwind during an overnight stay in a charming lakeside setting. Fee is per person. The registration deadline is 7/10.

Single Room: \$745/\$695
Double Room: \$645/\$595

8/13-8/14 | Th-F | 7A-7P

RUM RUNNERS

Step into the Roaring Twenties with Bianco's Rum Runners Tour in Windsor, Canada! This unforgettable experience brings Prohibition-era Windsor to life through captivating stories, live entertainment and a theatrical speakeasy show.

Laugh, sing and immerse yourself in the thrilling world of bootleggers, gangsters, and the legendary "Fighting Parson" who battled to uphold the law. The registration deadline is 7/17.

8/20 | Th | 8:15A-3:30P | \$185/\$165

GRAND SAUGATUCK ADVENTURE

Set out on a delightful two-day getaway filled with scenery, culture, and great company. Travel to the charming waterfront town of Saugatuck for boutique shopping, a guided dune ride through the Saugatuck Dunes and complimentary wine tasting. Fee is per person. The registration deadline is 6/26.

Single room: \$610/\$560
Double room: \$535/\$485

7/30-7/31 | Th, F | 7A-7P

AMAZON FULFILLMENT CENTER TOUR

Hop on the bus as we head to Pontiac, for behind-the-scenes tour of the new Amazon Fulfillment Center! This center is a robotic sorting facility. In these centers, associates work alongside robots to ship items smaller than a conventional microwave.

After the Tour, enjoy lunch on your own at The Jagged Fork in Rochester Hills.

8/5 | W | 8:30A-1:45P | \$11/\$9

WALK WB 2026

One pre-registration required for the season, available at wbparks.org/walk-wb

Presented by
**HENRY
FORD
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Walk WB is a free, twice weekly walking program!

JUNE IS GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH!

West Bloomfield is home to nearly 600 acres of parkland and we are proud of the WB Parks staff who work hard to help keep our great outdoors, well, great! With a variety of scenic trails, parks and green space, West Bloomfield is a wonderful place to explore the outdoors.

Time spent outdoors has been shown to have a positive impact on physical and mental health and it's a great way to get involved in the West Bloomfield community and beyond. Any time spent in nature is an adventure but if you're looking for a few ideas to amp up your Great Outdoors Month, check out some exciting opportunities happening this June:

NATURE JOURNALING: JUNE 4-JUNE 25

Develop an appreciation of nature and record your connections to the natural world. Nature journaling builds curiosity, promotes wonder, sparks creativity and nurtures gratitude. Our Nature Journaling group will be exploring West Bloomfield Parks on Thursdays from 10-11:30 am and learning various journaling techniques, materials and methods. No experience necessary. Location schedule will be sent upon registration.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY: JUNE 6

What better way to celebrate National Trails Day than being outdoors on the West Bloomfield Trail? Meet and park at Walnut Creek Middle School for a walk along our scenic and historic rail-to-trail network ending at Sylvan Manor Park. Free shirts are passed out between 8-8:30am at a first come, first served basis while supplies last.

SENIOR SEASONAL HIKE: JUNE 10

Join our naturalist on a seasonal nature discovery walk. Senior Seasonal Hikes range from 1-1.5 miles and hiking poles are provided. Our June Hike will explore Bloomer Park from 2-3:30 pm.

PICKLEBALL INTRO: JUNE 25

Enjoy the fresh air and try your hand at this popular sport! Join us from 5:30-6:30 pm at Drake Sports Park. This clinic introduces participants to pickleball, covering terminology, rules and basic skills. Participants will enjoy playing a game by the end of the class!

To learn more about these programs or to register visit wbparks.org. This Great Outdoors Month, we implore you to take in all the beauty and benefits West Bloomfield's natural landscapes have to offer! Make sure to enjoy the wonderful weather and explore the outdoors with WB Parks this June.



INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT

Get to know a little more about our Self-Defense Instructor, Floyd Soo!

FLOYD SOO

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AN INSTRUCTOR?

I have been an instructor for 56 years.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH WB PARKS?

Then, Deputy Chief of Police Curt Lawson took one of my classes and asked me to teach that class in West Bloomfield!

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

I was born in Detroit and grew up in Royal Oak.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE WEST BLOOMFIELD PARK?

My favorite West Bloomfield Park is Drake Sports Park.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY?

My favorite hobby is alpine downhill skiing.



WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE

Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones from harm! This class will teach participants basic self-defense against common attacks. Participants will learn about awareness, avoidance, and grabs and chokes. This is not a karate class. This teaches reality-based, self-defense techniques used by professionals!

Location: Drake Sports Park

8/7 | F | 5-8:30P | \$40/\$35

CONNECT HOLIDAY AND SEASONAL HOURS

Connect is located at 33230 W 14 Mile Rd., West Bloomfield, 48322

Now open 8 am-4:30 pm!

6/19 -Closed for Juneteenth

7/3 -Closed for Independence Day

9/7-Closed for Labor Day



View our monthly Connect
Calendar at wbparks.org/connect!

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Ages 50+

Nonresident \$14/Resident \$12

Pre-registration required by June 17.

Wednesday, June 24 *12-1:30pm *Marshbank Park

Enjoy a delicious sandwich lunch, chips and dessert
and live entertainment by the Mindset Trio!

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**MARSHBANK
MUSIC** WEDNESDAYS
5:30-8:00 PM
MARSHBANK PARK



LINEUP

August 5- Infinity and Beyond: A Journey Tribute

August 12- Lost West: Rock & Country

August 19- Klay N' The Mud: Pop Rock

August 26- Mainstreet Soul: Top 40 Hits

Rain Date- September 2 (Pending band's availability)

Food service starts at 5:30

Music kicks off at 6:00

Variety of food trucks available!

For food truck lineup,
visit wbparcs.org/marshbank-music-series

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER:

West Bloomfield Parks has contracted with LPI to print this newsletter with the majority of costs covered by local business advertisements. We will be mailing this newsletter out three times annually. If you'd like to be added to our distribution list, please call 248.451.1900.

FREE! NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED! ALL AGES!

BEES, BUTTERFLIES & BLOOMS

A FESTIVAL FOR POLLINATORS!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22
10 AM-12 PM AT MARSHBANK PARK

BUZZ AND FLUTTER ABOUT MARSHBANK PARK TO LEARN ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR POLLINATORS & WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THESE CRITTERS THAT ARE SO IMPORTANT TO OUR EARTH.

- MONARCH TAGGING WITH BUTTERFLY RELEASES
- NATIVE SEED GIVEAWAY
- BEESWAX CRAFT
- & MORE!

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OKTOBERFEST LUNCH

REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 3



NONRESIDENT \$14
RESIDENT \$12

SEPTEMBER 25

12-1:30 PM

CONNECT