



THE GILLESPIE GAZETTE

CONNECTING MEMBERS WITH THE COMMUNITY AND EACH OTHER

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Brrr! Who's ready for Spring?! I hope everyone is staying warm and safe! Even though we have had such a cold start to 2025, we have had a lot of activity at the Gillespie Center.

We had a great turnout for the Scotty B's Chili Lunch on February 5! What a fun event and fundraiser for the Gillespie Center. Clearly, our community misses him, and we are so fortunate to have him volunteer his time to the Gillespie. Scotty will return in May to cook for us again – watch for the new date.



Thank you to everyone who came out for Culver's Community Share Night on January 22. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces! Special thanks to our volunteers: Wendy Gasca, Joy Grunden, Dorothy Hallin Colleen Hendricks, Vicki Innes, Lonnie Nelson, and Cindy Palm. A portion of the sales that evening will go to the Gillespie Center.



We have a lot of great events coming up so be sure to check out all the details in this newsletter. We are going to several plays at different local theaters, a concert, a gangster & cave tour, and a couple of Minnesota Twins Games. We will have a Paint and Sip event in April, and we are also hosting a "Spring Fling" in April with two afternoons of bingo, a Spaghetti Dinner and Concert. Also, check out the new club that is starting in March – MahJong. If you have ideas for new clubs, please let us know.

Coming in April you will receive our annual survey. We want to hear from you regarding your feedback and what you want to see at the Gillespie Center. We want all your great ideas!

Looking forward to seeing you all in March.

Warmest regards,
Rhonda

PHOTO CLUB

The Photo Club Invites you to a special speaker presentation:

March 4, 10:00 - 11:30 am at the Gillespie Center
African Wildlife Photo presentation by Tim Reddy.

All are welcome to attend this interesting program. You do not need to be a Photo Club member to attend. Tim Reddy is a semi professional photographer formerly from South Africa.



The Friends of the Westonka Library will be holding a used book sale on Saturday, May 3 and Monday, May 5

Donations and volunteers will be needed. Please leave your name and contact information at the library or call 612-543-6175 for more information.



Coffee and Conversation with the Director

Have a new idea for a Club, Excursion or an Event? Have feedback on the Center? Or if you just want to chat about the weather... Please join Rhonda for coffee and conversation the 1st Tuesday of every month. Upcoming Dates: March 4, April 1, May 6

Intro to Square Dancing for Beginners is held on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on March 3, 11, (Tuesday) 17, 24, 31



Gillespie Singers Show Choir (aka Gillespie Singers)

The choir practices on 3 Thursdays in one month and performs on 2-3 Thursdays the next month. If you're interested please contact Evelin, 952-472-2105, before coming to a practice. There are no tryouts.

No practices in March.
April practices are April 17 and 24 from 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President: Karen Delorenzo
- Vice President: Betty Carlson
- Treasurer: Michelle Seeman
- Secretary: Linda Blakstvedt
- Directors:
 - Wendy Gasca
 - Colleen Hendricks
 - Vicki Innes
 - Claudia Lacy, City of Minnetrista representative
 - Cindy Palm
 - Sherri Pugh, City of Mound representative
 - Eric Von Holtz, High School representative



OVER 50 & FIT | MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 8:30 A.M.

Wake up and stretch! Invigorating low impact exercise and stretching to a variety of music. Cost \$6 for a lifetime membership

CARDS AND GAMES | MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, AND FRIDAYS

Canasta - Mondays at 9 a.m.
Cribbage - Mondays at 1 p.m.
Bridge - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Mahjong - Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Rummikub - Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.
500 Cards - Fridays at 1 p.m.

TAI CHI | MONDAYS AT 10 A.M.

PHOTO CLUB | TUESDAY AT 10 A.M.

Meets the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 AM to plan photo shoots, photography education, and speakers. New Members Welcome! Contact Videll Pfeifer at 612-360-3965 for more information

ART GROUP | TUESDAYS AT 9:30 A.M.

BALANCE YOGA | TUESDAYS AT 10 A.M.

STRENGTH AND CARDIO | WEDNESDAY AT 11:30 A.M.

The class is focused on helping you get and stay strong.. preparing the body for everyday activities. By combining strength and cardio in this non-competitive class, you will improve muscle strength, balance, flexibility, plus heart and brain health
See instructor Victoria Fraser for class fees

GILLESPIE CENTER QUILTERS AND CRAFTERS | THURSDAYS AT 9 A.M

UKULELE CLUB | THURSDAYS 10 - 11:30 A.M.

Will meet every Thursday at 10:00. If you would like more information, contact Margaret Holste at 612-201-6020

GILLESPIE CENTER MEN'S SHED | THURSDAYS AT 10 A.M.

Get out of the house and come spend time with the guys
Call Phil Johnson at 952-239-0965 for more information

WALKING CLUB | FRIDAYS AT 10 A.M. - WILL RESUME IN THE SPRING

Medical Equipment Program

The Gillespie Center has received donations of medical assistance equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes, shower chairs and more. These items are available for FREE. Please contact the Front Desk at 952-472-6501 if you would like to pick one up. The Gillespie Center does not repair or evaluate them and is not liable for any damages; a waiver will be required. **Due to large inventory, we are not taking any new donations at this time.**



Come join our new group!
Mahjong will be on
Thursdays at 10:00 AM

We are looking for people who have played the game before but have beginner to medium skills. Does that sound like you?

Contact us at 952-472-6501 to sign up!



Get a Discount on your Auto Insurance!

Get 10% off your auto insurance for 3 years and take the 55+ Defensive Driving Course, offered at the Gillespie Center by St. Cloud State.

Classes are from 9:00 – 12:30. We have 10% off coupons available in the Center while supplies last.

March 25
May 13
July 15

Call To register 1-888-234-1294 or 1-320-308-1400 or visit www.driverdiscountprogram.com

BREAKFAST

NEW! Breakfast at the Gillespie!

We are pleased to announce that we are launching a Breakfast option at the Gillespie Center. Cost is \$10
Thursday, March 20.

Breakfast will be served from 8-10 AM.

You will have 2 delicious menu choices:

1. The Gillespie Special (2 eggs your way, choice of meat, hashbrowns and toast).

2. French Toast with choice of meat.

Includes coffee and orange juice.

Sign up at the Front Desk or call 952-472-6501.

Join us for Lunch!

Sign up at the Front Desk

March 5 – Hot Roast Beef Commercial, served with Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable and Dessert

March 12 – Turkey Tetrizzini, served with Salad and Dessert

March 19- Club Sandwich, served with Side and Dessert

March 26 – Baked Pork Chops, served with Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable and Dessert



RENT THE GILLESPIE

The Gillespie Center is the perfect location for gatherings of many kinds...

- Birthday, anniversary, graduation and holiday parties
- Baby and bridal showers
- Weddings
- Family or class reunions
- Business meetings
- Celebration of life
- Fundraisers
- Banquets
- And more



To find out more and check availability contact Shelly at rentals@gillespiecenter.org

*Gillespie Center members receive a 10% discount on room rental charges

CALL for VOLUNTEERS

Looking to VOLUNTEER?

We need help to complete an internal audit of our assets for insurance purposes.

Help with one room, or all...

Please reach out to Rhonda if you are interested. 952-472-6502.



Need an Easy Gift?

Buy a Gift Card at the Gillespie!

A birthday gift? An anniversary gift?

A gift card can be a great and easy gift!

Some of our members also buy them for tipping their favorite bag boy/girl, for the neighbor kid helping with their lawn work and just to have on hand to use themselves.

Did you know that when you purchase a gift card through the Gillespie Center a portion of the sale goes back directly to the Gillespie Center? It's a fundraiser for the center that has very low administration.

We carry...

- Many popular and common stores such as: Amazon, Target, Kohl's, Home Depot and Cub Foods
- Popular restaurants such as McDonalds, Chipotle, Starbucks, Domino's, Dairy Queen, Subway, and Jimmy Johns
- Gas stations such as Holiday Superstores, Kwik Trip and Speedway
- And many more can be ordered upon request. We literally have hundreds of options!

Purchase your gift card today at the Gillespie Front Desk.



FREE eye glass services, including cleanings, adjustments and small repairs!

2nd Monday of the month
11:00 - 1:00

March 10, April 8, May 12

Offered by Brianna, Founding Optician at Framed Reverie

TECH HELP

We will offer technology help on Thursday, March 27 from 9-11 am by appointment only.

Please bring the device that you need assistance with

Please call 952-472-6501 to make appointment or register at the front desk





Happy Birthday to the following Members...We wish you all the best in the year to come!



- Joyce Beniek March 1
- Mary Breza March 1
- Sandi Manson March 1
- John Berger March 2
- Joan Hurley March 3
- Katie Mahoney March 4
- Cindy Johnson March 5
- Andrea Nelson March 6
- Dorothy Caster March 7
- Kris Hasse - Linquist March 8
- Bill Eckblad March 10
- Pat Swensen March 10
- Zoe Eckblad March 12
- Kathleen Arendt March 12
- Susan A. Anderson March 14
- Alan Koopman March 14
- Diane Schlichting March 16
- Charles Grosch March 19
- Sue Lynott March 20
- Margot Garin March 21
- Judy Carlson March 22
- David Olson March 23
- Kathy Erdman March 24
- Norma Gyasi March 24
- Catherine Pausche March 24
- Dave Kearin March 25
- Pamela Myers March 26
- Jackie Meyer March 29
- Audrey Schultz March 29
- Thomas Geyen March 30
- Mary Pauly March 31
- Gary Erdman March 31

THANK YOU SPONSORS

See your Business Here! We have a fantastic partnership opportunity for you...

Advertising your business in our Gazette will help offset our newsletter costs!

Please contact Director@GillespieCenter.org for more information!

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In the Mound
MarketPlace Center
Commerce & Lynwood,
downtown Mound

Open 7 days a week - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Phone: 952-472-3108 Fax: 952-472-6470

Yes, we have carry-out and drive-up service.



Sound Hearing Instruments
At the Gillespie Center
every Tuesday & Thursday 9 am - 4 pm

Dr. Joe Neve, Au.D., Audiologist, provides Hearing Tests, Hearing Aids and Service

For appointments, contact Zelie at (952) 522-2139 or email her at ztraiga@soundhearinginc.com

www.soundhearinginc.com





Free Seminars

Estate Planning

Wednesday, March 19 at 1:00 PM

Hosted by Mike Myers, Legacy Assurance Plan

Historical Presentation: Statue of Liberty: Two Decades of Effort, Almost Impossible Odds

Wednesday, April 2 at 1:00 PM

Presented by David Jones

What are your Signature Strengths and How do you use them to create Resilience?

Wednesday, April 9 at 1:00 PM

Presented by CareBuilders at Home

What you will learn:

- There are a variety of Signature Strengths or things that each person does well. Knowing how to identify core strengths and then capitalize on them for relations at home and work. In all relations these strengths and self-compassion contribute to self-awareness and well-being, all of which help build resilience.

Brushstrokes & Bandits: Heists, Forgeries, and Scandals in the Art World

Wednesday, June 4 at 1:00 PM

Presented by Revere Auctions

Join us for a thrilling look at the intersection of art and crime, where beauty and deception collide. This lecture delves into the darker side of art history, uncovering notorious heists, daring forgeries, and scandalous fraud cases that have captivated the world over the past 200 years. From iconic masterpieces stolen in audacious thefts to the meticulous craft of counterfeiters deceiving experts. These stories reveal the art world's susceptibility to crime and intrigue with dramatic flare. We'll explore famous cases, discussing the techniques that art thieves and forgers used, the impact of these crimes on artists, collectors, and institutions.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Annual memberships at The Gillespie Center help support the day to day operations.

Call the Center to become a member or renew your membership. Check the mailing label on this newsletter to find the expiration date of your membership.

Business sponsorships are also available.

Thank you to our sponsors:

- City of Mound
- Willow Ridge Quilting Group in memory of George Schultz
- Linda Blakstvedt, in memory of Flossie Finnicum and George Schultz
- The Cowheart Trust/Jodi Schwendimann
- Gillespie Square Dancers
- Presbyterian Homes Lake Minnetonka Shores, on behalf of the Gillespie Singers
- Tim and Sheila Gothmann
- Mark Swenberger (AARP tax donation)
- Lesley Dorfner (AARP tax donation)
- City of Spring Park
- Gillespie Bridge Club
- Audrey Schultz, in memory of George Schultz
- Catherine Bailey, in memory of George Schultz
- Sharon Dascher, in memory of George Schultz
- Marvin Johnson, in memory of George Schultz
- Betty Falness, in memory of George Schultz



Paint & Sip Event
Wednesday, April 9 at 6:00 PM
at the Gillespie Center
Cost is \$40

Be guided by an engaging and personable artist. Whether you are the next Monet or have never picked up a paintbrush, you will be ensured to have a fun night!
 Hosted by Paint the Town

Congratulations to our
Sweepstakes Winners in
February 2025!

- Week 1 Winner – Leslie Dorfner
- Week 2 Winner – Ladonna Roy
- Week 3 Winner – Donna Snyder
- Week 4 Winner – Charles Radke

Sweepstakes
Winners

THE GILLESPIE CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND

The Gillespie Center Endowment Fund was established to maintain consistent financial support now and in the future. The principal from the Endowment Fund will continue to grow, in perpetuity, to help fund Gillespie Center programs and services for many years to come. The interest earned each year is used to fund current programs and service needs.

Making a gift to the fund provides assurance that your wishes are respected and your gift(s) can have a permanent, positive impact on the well-being of current and future older adults.

Gifts to this fund may be current, pledged, or planned gifts including cash, real estate, stocks, memorials, trust, and insurance benefits.

Make your donation even more special. Make a gift in honor or memory of a friend, family member, or other loved one. You can also celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or other special event.

JOIN FOR AN EXCURSION

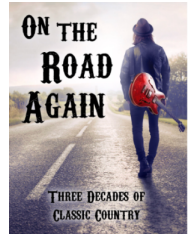


Thursday, March 20 | SideKick Theater “Concert: On the Road Again”

Cost is \$70 per person which includes Lunch, Show and Transportation.

Van departs at 10:45 AM, Lunch at 11:30, Show at 1:00 PM.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN returns to Sidekick Theatre with another memorable concert filled with your favorite country music from decades past. Get ready for some fantastic fiddling and even more lush harmonies! Featuring the music of Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings.



Friday, April 25 | Plymouth Playhouse “37 Postcards”, a Romantic Farce

The cost is \$70 which includes Lunch, Show, and Transportation.

Van departs at 11:15 AM, Lunch at 12:15 PM Show at 1:15 PM

Styled like a 1930s screwball comedy, this delightful play follows young Avery Sutton and his fiancée as they return from eight years in Europe, only to find his quirky family has gone entirely off the rails! Expect twists, turns, and a dash of chaos in this charming and eccentric comedy that will keep you entertained all evening. Don't miss it!



Wednesday, May 21 | ST. PAUL GANGSTER AND CAVE TOUR

Cost is \$42 which includes tours and transportation.

Bus departs at 12:30 PM.

Tour 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Cave Tour 3:00 – 4:00 PM.

Bus will return to the Gillespie Center at approximately 5:00 PM.



Thursday, May 8 | SideKick Theater “Perfect Wedding”, a Riotous Comedy and Touching Love Story by Robin Hawdon

The cost is \$70 which includes Lunch, Show and Transportation.

Van departs at 10:45, Lunch at 11:30 AM, Show at 1:00 PM.

A groom wakes up on the morning of his wedding day with a hangover and a strange woman in his bed. Mix in the bride, her mother, the best man, and a maid that knows too much, and you have a recipe for disaster. Wedding bells or running for the hills? Their big day will be far from a piece of cake!

“This fast-moving comedy produces an endless series of excuses, lies, confusions and false confessions right up to the unexpected happy end.” – The Daily Mail



Sign up at the Front Desk.



Excursions Continued

Wednesday, June 4 | CHANHASSEN DINNER THEATER: “Grease”, the Musical
Cost is \$100 which includes Lunch, Show and Transportation.

Van departs at 10:45, Lunch at 11:30 AM, Show at 1:00 PM.

Greased-back hair and leather jackets, ponytails and poodle skirts, fast cars and rock’n’roll, Grease is back at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres! Experience the nostalgia of high school in the ‘50s – peer pressure, love, and teenage life set against the campy backdrop of Rydell High! Discover the drama, comedy, and pop-culture satire that has made Grease one of the most popular productions of all time! Don’t forget the music, with songs like “Summer Nights,” “We Go Together,” “Greased Lightnin’,” “Beauty School Dropout” and so many others, including the hits you love from the movie. Have fun as you groove and bop along!



Thursday, July 10 | Minnesota Twins vs Chicago Cubs

Cost is \$46 which includes Game Ticket and Transportation.

Van departs at 11:00 AM, Game starts at 12:10 PM.

Gillespie Center Men’s Shed

Shoulder to Shoulder

The Gillespie Center Men’s Shed is a group of men who meet every Thursday at 10:00 am at The Gillespie Center. They do a wide variety of activities that members themselves decide on. These include going on local tours, listening to guest speakers, light community service projects, along with plenty of just hanging out together” to swap tall tales. Please join us!

- March Meeting dates: March 6, 13, 20, 27

Sparkling Feet will be at the Gillespie Center on the second Wednesday of every month from 9:15 AM – 3:00 PM.

Sparkling Feet is a nurse-owned company that helps people take care of their feet and toenails. Call 952-204-9406 for an appointment for a foot assessment and pedicure. Cost is \$55.
Upcoming Dates: March 12, April 9, May 14

Sparkling Feet



Did you know that you can get FREE Medicare Counseling? The Gillespie Center offers in-person appointments on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

To make an in-person appointment go to <https://trellisconnects.org> and select:

- “Get Help”
- “Help with Medicare”
- Scroll down until you see “Make an in-person appointment”
- Click on the drop down (down arrow) and Select: “Gillespie Center”



Or call the Senior Linkage Line at 1-800-333-2433. The Senior Linkage Line is an independent agency & not affiliated with any insurance company.

Notice!

In case of inclement weather, we will follow the Westonka School District guidance for closures.



The Gillespie Center
2590 Commerce Boulevard
Mound, MN 55364

Phone: 952-472-6501

Website: www.gillespiecenter.org

Email: info@gillespiecenter.org