



# GSP Member Events, Announcements and Updates

*December 4, 2025*

## ***Member Newsletter Submissions***

Member updates will be shared through our monthly newsletter. Member events can also be found on our website on the [Community Calendar](#).

***Members, please note***, if you have an addition to the newsletter, it should be 8.5"x11" and shared as either a png, jpg or PDF file. Newsletters will be sent monthly. Please send your flyers to Alissa Fisher, Director of Marketing, at [afisher@greatersandusky.com](mailto:afisher@greatersandusky.com).

Not yet a member? Join GSP today as a [Business Member](#), [Community Partner](#), [Individual Member](#) or [NCYP Member](#)!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MEMBER APPLICATION



[greatersandusky.com](http://greatersandusky.com)  
[info@greatersandusky.com](mailto:info@greatersandusky.com)  
419-625-6421



# UPCOMING DECEMBER COMMUNITY EVENTS

## ALL MONTH LONG ELF ON THE SHELF & ART IN THE GALLERY: HURON ART CLUB

8

**MON  
DEC**

ALL DAY: Take and Make Craft: Winter Animal Friends  
Twine Craft  
11:30 AM - Mahjong Mondays  
6:00 PM - Mystery Book Club: Death Comes to  
Pemberley

9

**TUES  
DEC**

11:00 AM - Art Club: Still Life  
2:00 PM - Virtual Author Talk: The Legacy of Julia  
Childs Kitchen

10

**WED  
DEC**

12:00 PM - Real Estate Basics for Seniors  
5:00 PM - Rocking Readers Book Group  
6:30 PM - Euchre Night

11

**THURS  
DEC**

12:00 PM - Lunchtime Program: Winter Holiday Traditions  
from Around the Globe  
6:00 PM - Dangerous Toys of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

**[VIEW ALL PROGRAMS & EVENTS ONLINE!](#)**





## 14th ANNUAL VACATIONLAND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION TOY DRIVE AND WRAP UP EVENT

**Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - 12pm – 4pm**

12pm – 2pm  
1pm – 3pm  
2pm – 4pm  
12pm – 4pm

Caricature Artist  
BAS Broadcasting LIVE remote  
Glitter Tattoo Artist  
Craft & coloring for the kiddos! *While supplies last.*



*We're collecting new, unwrapped toys **NOW through Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>** - for children up to 18-year-olds in Erie and Huron Counties. Simply drop off your donation(s) to the Information/Security Booth, Mall Office or any of the five VLFCU branches.*



## PICTURES WITH SANTA & SANTA'S HOURS

**Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**

*Santa Arrives on Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be available for pictures every day until Christmas Eve!*

### Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>:

Mon. – Thurs.: 12pm – 6pm  
Fridays: 12pm – 7pm  
Saturdays: 11am – 8pm

### Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Friday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>: 11am – 8pm  
Saturday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>: 11am – 8pm  
Sunday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>: 12pm – 6pm  
Mon., Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>: 11am – 8pm  
Tues., Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>: 11am – 8pm



### Pet Photos – All Day Every Monday

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>

### Sensory Santa

Wed., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 11am – 12pm  
Wed., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 11am – 12pm

### Christmas Eve, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>:

**11am - 4pm**

**FOR SANTA PACKAGES AND PRICING: Visit [SanduskyMall.com/Events](http://SanduskyMall.com/Events)**



## SUPER SATURDAY **Saturday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>**

2pm – 4pm  
3pm – 5pm  
5pm – 8pm

The Harmonica Man  
Make Your Own Trail Mix Station  
"I Am Tha DJ" Desmond Carter



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Sat., Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup>	4pm – 6pm	Huron Valley Mennonite Church
Sat., Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	2pm – 3pm	Sandus-Keynotes/Handbell Choir
Sun., Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	2pm – 3pm	Vermilion Community Concert Band



**ERIE COUNTY  
SENIOR CENTER**

# **LUNCH BREAK**

**- \$3.50 -**

**MONDAYS | WEDNESDAYS | FRIDAYS**

**11:30AM - 12:15PM**

**WITH ACTIVITIES  
TO FOLLOW!**

**620 E. WATER ST. | SANDUSKY, OH 44870**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY | 8:00AM - 4:00PM**

**WWW.ERIESENIOR.ORG | 419-626-2560**



# NATIVITY FEST



Join us for our Nativity Fest event!

**FREE ADMISSION**

Sunday, **December 7th | 12:00–3:00 PM**

Christ Community Church  
2401 Columbus Ave  
Sandusky, OH







**Directions**  
*Cares for*  
**Classrooms**

# CLASSROOM GRANTS 2025 - 2026 SCHOOL YEAR



## Supporting Educators in Our Communities

Directions is proud to champion the incredible work you do every day in the classroom—and we're here to help bring your boldest ideas to life!

We know that teachers often go above and beyond, even reaching into their own pockets to make learning magical. That's why we're thrilled to announce our Cares for Classrooms Grants—a special initiative to support the creativity, passion, and dedication of K–12 educators in the communities we serve.

### *Here's the exciting part:*

We're awarding up to \$15,000 in total grants during the 2025–2026 school year, with individual grants of up to \$500 available to fund classroom dreams big and small.

Whether you need:



**New books to spark imagination**



**Math manipulatives to make numbers come alive**



**Art supplies to unleash creativity**



**Software or AV equipment to enhance engagement**



**Lab Materials for hands-on discovery**



**Any other resource that supports student learning**

...we've got your back!

If you're a K–12 educator in a community served by Directions, we encourage you to apply and let us help you make a difference—one project, one student, one classroom at a time.

Let's build something amazing together. We can help turn your classroom vision into reality!

HOW TO APPLY:

### COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION AT:

<https://directionscu.org/cares-for-classrooms/>



Online & Mobile



### APPLICATION WINDOW:

#### FALL 2025

8/25/2025 through 9/30/2025

Winners will be announced on or before November 3, 2025.

#### WINTER 2026

12/1/2025 through 1/31/2026

Winners will be announced on or before March 2, 2026.



# TROUBLE AFFORDING CHILD CARE?

## The Erie County Tuition Assistance Program Can Help!!

Covers  
licensed &  
unlicensed  
care

Must meet 2 of these:  
1. Live in Erie County  
2. Work in Erie County  
3. Child care is in Erie  
County

Funds  
granted for  
up to one  
year

For children  
6wks-12  
years of age

Receive 1:1  
support from  
CCRC  
Specialist

Employers can  
contribute to  
help  
employees  
succeed!

### Is My Family Eligible?

#### Family Size:



#### Income Limit:

\$2,383/month

\$3,004/month

\$3,625/month

\$4,247/month



*\*Made possible through the Dorn Foundation, Mylander Foundation, and supported by the Erie County Community Foundation.\**

Apply Now!

Questions? Contact Tiffany Felter:  
440-242-0413 ext. \*251 or  
tfelter@ccrcinc.com

  
**child care**  
RESOURCE CENTER





Invites the community to a FREE performance

# **“I Have a DREAM” Speech**

**Mon. Jan. 19, 2026 Reception 12:30 pm Speech 1:10 pm – 2pm**  
**Sandusky High School Theater/Auditorium, 2130 Hayes Ave.**



The performance of  
**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**  
is funded by The Lange Trust



**Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and relive the momentous “I Have a Dream” speech. Dr. Rev. John H. McCants, St. Paul AME Methodist Church in Canton, portrays Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**





## **Partner with Us to Strengthen Business and Child Care Together**

My Faith Learning Center is partnering with local employers to create a sustainable solution that benefits both businesses and families. Through a state funded Business Partnership Grant, businesses can:

- Reserve guaranteed child care slots for their employees
- Contribute directly to child care tuition support  
*(additional discounts with the preferred employer plan)*

This partnership aligns business needs with dependable, high-quality child care for working families. By joining us, your organization helps build a stronger workforce, supports employee well-being, and invests in the long-term growth of our community.

We invite your business to be part of this collaboration and help shape a model that works for employers, employees, and children alike. Each business partner will be encouraged to participate in the first year of the project to receive foundational support that will help them implement the needed plan for long-term employee support implementation through their fiscal and human resource infrastructure. Support from the state grant will be provided in tiers: 75% in the first year, 25% in the second year, and phased out entirely by the third year, at which point no state support will be provided. The grant will provide support and a “runway” for businesses to update HR policies, rework fiscal investments and support new and existing employees with their child care needs. Child care supports offer a meaningful benefit that reduces absenteeism and improves retention for any business that invests.

To partner and take advantage of this grant opportunity you will:

1. Sign a MOU between the child care program and business
2. CCRC will assist the business with creating a rollout or pilot run of the program
3. Data will be collected from both the child care program and partnering business
4. Quarterly meetings will be held with the child care staff, HR staff and if there are parent groups we will meet with them as well.

If you are interested in a discussion or to begin partnering today contact Jennifer Dodge at 440-242-0413 ext. \*231 or email at [jdodge@ccrcinc.com](mailto:jdodge@ccrcinc.com).

Thank you





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Erie MetroParks Awards \$57,878 to Local Parks Through Their  
Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program in 2025**

Huron, OH, December 2, 2025- Erie MetroParks has completed the 2025 Local Park Capital Improvement Grant program and awarded eight Erie County political subdivisions a total of \$57,878 for infrastructure improvements to their local parks.

Executive Director, Melissa Price, stated that “The Board and I believe that investing in our local parks is an investment in the health and vibrancy of our local communities. Through Erie MetroParks capital improvement grant program, we desire to ensure that all Erie County residents have access to safe and welcoming outdoor spaces.”

Funding for this Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program (LPCIGP) comes from the Erie MetroParks general operating fund. Since its inception, Erie MetroParks has distributed \$723,378.00 to grant recipients to maximize each county resident’s tax dollar by assuring accessibility to quality and safe recreational areas in their own backyard.

The 2025 award recipients were:

The Village of Bay View, \$7,680 for the removal of leaning electric pole and wires, relocating on at the shelter at Orshoski Park.

The Village of Berlin Heights, \$10,000 for the resurfacing and leveling of their tennis and basketball courts. Also, the painting of pickleball lines on the tennis courts at the Berlin Community Park.



Groton Township, \$2,283 for a movable pitching mound at the Groton Township Park.

The City of Huron, \$4,717 for the replacement of two accessible beach mats at Nickle Plate Beach.

The Village of Kelleys Island, \$9,457 for the purchase of wheelchair accessible convertible picnic tables/benches for the pavilion at the Kelleys Island Community Park.

Margaretta Township, \$9,153 for the installation of water bottle refill stations at the restrooms and permanent homerun fencing at Field A at Castalia Lions Park.

Oxford Township \$6,300 for the replacement of an old swing set at Oxford Township Park.

Perkins Township, \$8,288 for the replacement of picnic tables and trash cans at Fairview Park.

“Because our Park Board is not directly funded, we rely entirely on grants from the Erie MetroParks program. Thanks to this support, over the years we have implemented landscaping projects, planted new trees, and updated park equipment such as wheelchair accessible benches, picnic tables and a water fountain. These enhancements have made our parks more welcoming and accessible. Now, everyone can participate in recreational activities, regardless of physical ability.” -Marvin Robinson, Kelleys Island Park Board Member.

Political subdivisions of the State of Ohio (cities, villages, and townships) are eligible to apply for funding, provided the agency is responsible for outdoor park and recreation facilities and is located in all or part of Erie County. Those eligible will be contacted and sent applications in early 2026.

**Learn more about the Erie MetroParks Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program**

**MORE INFO**





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**2026 DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE IN ERIE  
AND OTTAWA COUNTIES**

SANDUSKY, OHIO, November 14, 2025--- Shores & Islands Ohio, the Destination Marketing Organization for Erie and Ottawa counties, announces the availability of the Destination Development Grant Program for 2026. The Destination Development Grant Program has been created to assist organizations and businesses in the Shores & Islands Ohio (S&IO) region in developing projects that will attract and engage visitors and residents, serve and educate regional tourism partners, and generate economic growth for the community through travel and tourism development. 29 grants were awarded in 2025 for a total of \$584,000.

Over the past four years, more than \$2 million in Destination Development Grants have been distributed to local businesses to help them better serve their customers and enhance their communities, as well as the region overall.

Organizations do not have to be a S&IO partner to apply, however, if an award is granted, partnership with Shores & Islands Ohio is required. Partnerships will be discussed at the grant award meetings, April 1- 3 and 6-8, 2026.

Applicants could include, but are not limited to, local governments, for-profit enterprises, and non-profit organizations. Organizations with active projects funded through the Destinations Development Grant or other Shores & Islands Ohio funding streams are not eligible to apply until the previously funded project is complete and all requirements have been fulfilled.

# SHORES & ISLANDS<sub>OHIO</sub>

CEDAR POINT • SANDUSKY • PUT-IN-BAY

Projects should align with Shores & Islands Ohio's mission and strategic plan and increase the likelihood of visitation from outside the area. Projects should target the development of quality-of-place amenities, attractions, and facilities that enhance the visitor and resident experience and foster connectivity within the specific community and Erie/Ottawa County. Some grants require at least a 50% match while others provide full project funding. The full grant informational packet provides details on eligible and ineligible projects.

New this year, grant applicants are required to attend an informational meeting before they are allowed to apply. These meetings will detail the grant, eligibility, application process and reporting requirements. Interested parties, or anyone who wants more information about the process, may attend one of these scheduled meetings at any location, regardless of which county the applicant is applying from. Additionally, there will be a virtual option for those who cannot attend in-person. If unable to participate in any of the sessions, either in-person or virtually, the applicant must schedule a one-on-one review with Amanda Smith Rasnick before applying. Email [amanda@shoresandislands.com](mailto:amanda@shoresandislands.com) with questions regarding the info sessions or to schedule a personal review.

- Friday, November 21, 2025 at 10 am and 3 pm - S&IO West (770 S.E. Catawba Rd., Port Clinton)
- Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 9 am and 2 pm - S&IO East (125 E. Water St., Sandusky)
- Monday, December 8, 2025 at 10 am and 3 pm - S&IO East (125 E. Water St., Sandusky)
- Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 9 am and 2 pm - S&IO West (770 S.E. Catawba Rd., Port Clinton)

Application proposals are being accepted now and will be due by 12 pm on Wednesday, February 25, 2026. Grant finalists will be notified by March 31, 2026, with grant award meetings taking place from April 1-3 and 6-8, 2026. For more information on the grant process or to receive an application, please contact Shores & Islands Ohio Destination Engagement Director, Amanda Smith Rasnick, at [amanda@shoresandislands.com](mailto:amanda@shoresandislands.com) or 419.625.2175.





## CIVISTA BANK NAMED ONE OF 2025'S BEST BANKS TO WORK FOR

Sandusky, Ohio (November 14, 2025) – Civista Bank has been named one of the **2025 Best Banks to Work For**. American Banker has partnered with Best Companies Group to identify banks that excel at creating positive and supportive workplaces for employees.

This year 90 banks earned a spot in the ranking of **Best Banks to Work For**, based on an anonymous employee survey and a thorough review of the benefits and perks offered. The full list of the 2025 **Best Banks to Work For** will be featured at [www.americanbanker.com](http://www.americanbanker.com) on Nov. 10.

"The banks recognized as Best Banks to Work For are institutions employees want to join and stay," said Chana Schoenberger, editor-in-chief of American Banker. "They understand how to give workers reasons to find purpose in their jobs."

On the 2025 list of top banks, Civista Bank earned the No. 26 spot in the \$3 billion to \$10 billion asset category. The survey and awards program identifies and celebrates banks that cultivate exceptional cultures dedicated to employee growth and success.

Determining the **Best Banks to Work For** involved a two-step process. The first consisted of evaluating each participating bank's workplace policies, practices, and demographics. This part of the process was worth approximately 25% of the total evaluation. The second consisted of employee surveys aimed at assessing the experiences and attitudes of individual employees with respect to their workplace. This part of the process was worth approximately 75% of the total evaluation. The combined scores determined the final ranking.

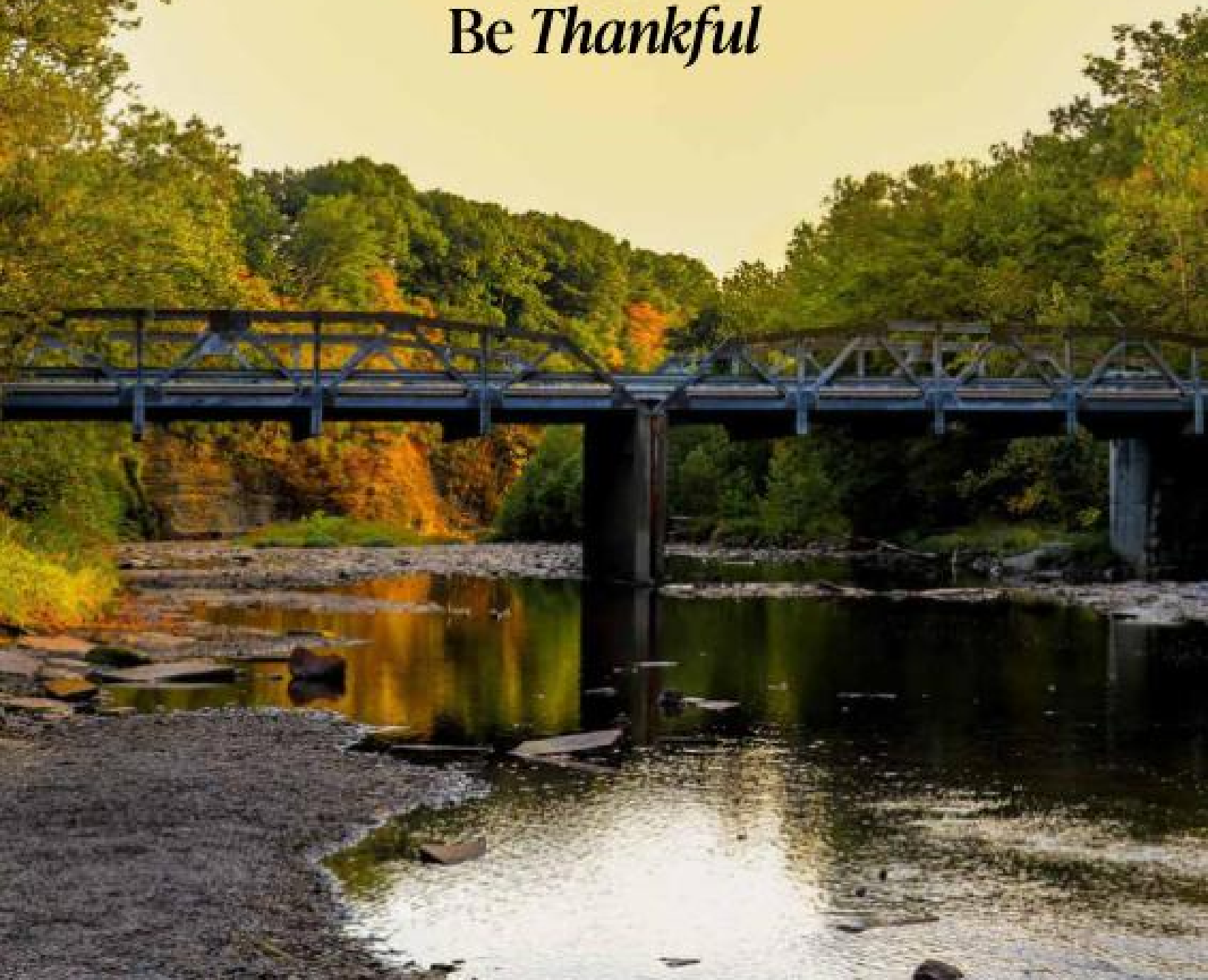
To be considered for participation, banks had to have at least 50 employees working in the U.S. and been in business for a minimum of one year. Best Companies Group managed the registration and survey process and also analyzed the data to determine the final ranking.

**MORE INFO**

# SANDUSKY BAY

CITY LIFESTYLE™

A Season to  
*Be Thankful*



[citylifestyle.com/sanduskybay](http://citylifestyle.com/sanduskybay)  
[hailee.sage@citylifestyle.com](mailto:hailee.sage@citylifestyle.com)

 CITY LIFESTYLE



# Assisted Living Near You

**Schedule Your Tour Today!**  
**440-967-2424**

**With Onsite Nursing Around the Clock,  
Seven Days a Week**

Write life's next chapters with the help of Kingston Residence of Vermilion. We combine enriching experiences with quality, 24-hour onsite nursing to provide a community where residents can embrace happiness with open arms, we bring stability, engagement, and connection to every part of life.



**Is It the Right Time  
for Senior Living?**  
**Take Our Survey**

  
**KINGSTON**  
RESIDENCE  
*of* VERMILION



# Keep It Simple Self Defense

Awareness & Preparedness

**FREE CLASSES  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
1st Monday of the Month  
1:30pm**



## Course Outline:

- **Lines of Defense**
  - Home Security
  - Transportation Security
  - Individual Security
  - Facility Security
- **Defensive Mind**
  - Natural Process
  - Conditioning
- **Awareness Training**
  - Open Eyes
  - Open Ears
  - Open Mind
- **Preparedness Training**
  - Alert Posture
  - Individual Defense
  - Pro-Active & Re-Active
  - Hand to Hand Defense
  - Continued Practice

## WHITE TIGER

MARTIAL ARTS

NORTH COAST

**Sr. Martial Arts instructor:**

**Master Dennis White**

**(6TH degree Black Belt)**

**Ph/Text: (419)357-7874**

**Email: DWhiteTiger@bex.net**

**Held at the**

**Erie County Senior Center**

**620 E. Water St.**

**Sandusky, OH 44870**

**Monday-Friday | 8am-4pm**

**419-626-2560**



# EXERCISE ROOM

## Free to use!

## 60 AND OLDER

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

### 8AM-4PM

Erie County  
Senior Center  
620 E. Water St  
Sandusky, OH 44870  
419-626-2560

