CLIO AREA SENIOR CENTER

Report for October 2026

In the past 10 years I've never noticed how busy October is. It's the first month of our fiscal year and we spend a great deal of energy launching programs to start the "number collection" all over again. We are well on our way to meeting the requirements in programming and participation once again. Gary has been working hard to come up with new programs that people "can't live without," and our trips are seeing record numbers of participants – two of our recent trips sold out so we added the second bus and sold that out as well. Fun times! We have a lot to be proud of and thankful for here in Clio.

Speaking of trips, our partnership with MTA is going to continue for another year; however, the actual funding amount is still up in the air. MTA has recommended a slight increase for us because we've demonstrated the success of our program. This past year, they contributed $25,730.75 to our program and have greatly impacted what we can do with their support.

Our partnership with AARP is passing new challenges as we've recently lost 3 workers who have completed their 4-year stint (they leave a big hole as we've come to rely on them), but we have found a new person to fill a gap at the Welcome Desk. We are still looking for a cook if you know of anyone with a passion for food and serving others.

We pride ourselves on making connections at the Center. These connections are made in many unusual ways. Three years ago, we were given a grand piano when one of our seniors passed away. The family, donated the piano, paid to have it moved, paid to have it tuned, paid to have it fixed, AND then graciously agreed to sponsor piano lessons for some of our seniors. Lessons have continued for the past 3 years. More than a dozen seniors have participated in the program. Recently, a concert was presented with many of the students participating. It was a great event with nearly 100 in attendance. As a former music teacher, it brought back many memories for me, but the highlight was in meeting the woman who donated the piano. I had sent Lisa Hall an invitation (not thinking that she could/would attend), but she traveled all the way from Chicago to attend the 1.5-hour event. We talked and laughed a great deal and made introductions to several students and attendees and realized that there were several in the group that had ties to the Hall family…another example of the connections we make.

Upcoming Trips:

- Soaring Eagle Casino – November 12
- Great Lakes Crossing – November 16
- Mystery Dinner – November 19
- Christmas at Horrock's - December 3