

## Report for April 2026

Spring has finally sprung! The Pickleball courts are open and have had great participation, the plants are starting to sprout, and people are genuinely happy that the cold winter and wet spring are past us once again! Our spring trips have had great success (overnight casino trip with 23, Tiger baseball with 29, Mystery Dinner with 29) – it feels like we are back to pre-Covid participation finally.

The Center relies on the generosity of our community for volunteerism, participation, and financial support. One of the big areas for financial help is in our annual Rummage Sale (followed by our Craft Sale and Christmas Re-sale) for which we collect used goods from generous contributors throughout the year. These

contributions take up a great deal of space as we store them for the appropriate event. With the construction of the new barn, we were able to convert the old garage into a “workshop” with over 225 lineal feet of storage shelves, various nooks and crannies for additional storage, and a large table for sorting/repairing. This has allowed us to free up many spaces within the building and maintain a clean/clutter-free building. Believe it, or not, the picture shows a well-organized space – things have been moved off the shelves for our rummage sale on May 2 (the day after this picture was taken).



The new barn has been a welcome addition to our facilities – not only for the housing of our vehicles, but for additional storage of our seasonal items (not for the rummage sales) used to decorate the building.

Mentioning the barn brings my thoughts to the bus. Our 2004 bus has served us well, and continues to do so, but any repair creates a near-catastrophe for us. The fact that GM stopped making parts for the bus in 2024 means a scavenger hunt for any repair needing parts. Recently, we discovered that our right rear brake was not working (it had actually delaminated and broken) – there were only 4 sets of brakes for that bus in the US. Getting them here created its own problems, but thankfully we’re back to business as usual now. We did quite a lot of scrambling to cover 2 large trips while the bus was down, but fortunately, we have great friends in the senior community.

I know this report is generally about events past, however, we have the Michigan Mobile Secretary of State coming on Wednesday, May 13 from 1:00 to 3:00. No waiting, great customer service, and all services (except testing) available. Please spread the word.

### Upcoming Trips:

- Soaring Eagle Casino – May 13
- Senior Power Day – May 20
- Mystery Dinner – May 21
- ‘Antiques’ Road Trip – May 27
- Eastern Market – May 30