

It's All Relative

GCCOA Kinship Newsletter

Fall 2021

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1195 W. Second St.
Xenia, OH 45385

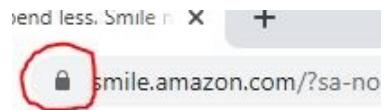
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Internet Safety

Remember when car phones were the size of a shoebox, and only for rich people? Now the majority of people have a cell phone, and most of those are smart phones. Technology continues to grow rapidly, and it's hard to keep up.

Online ordering is convenient, but do you know to look for the lock symbol in your browser to ensure you're on a secure site?



Some content on the internet is trustworthy. Some is inaccurate, and some is malicious. When reading online, it's important to consider the source. The Mayo Clinic is going to have better medical information than Facebook, for instance.

Phishing (pronounced fishing) emails try to look like they're from a legitimate company, but they're actually trying to steal your personal and financial information. If you have any doubts, It is far safer to go directly to the company's web site than to click on a link in an email.

Be wary of online quizzes, or surveys that offer a gift card for completion, or sharing a post for a chance for a prize. They may be from a legitimate source, or they may be a way for someone to collect your personal information. When in doubt, skip it.

Now imagine how susceptible a child/tween/teen navigating the internet would be to these ploys. How can we protect them from bullies, predators, hackers or scammers?

The Federal Trade Commission offers a booklet on how to talk to children of all ages about how to stay safe online. To request a copy, contact the Council at 937-376-5486 x119 or susan.finster@gccoa.org, or find information online at consumer.ftc.gov/topics/protecting-kids-online

If it's on the
Internet, it
isn't private.



DalekHart

Drive-By Shredding Event

The Council is holding a Spooktacular Shredding Event on Saturday, October 30th, 9am to Noon at the Xenia Community Center (1265 W Second St, the building next to the Council office). No reservations required. Drive up with up to 3 bags or boxes of documents. Volunteers will move them from your car to the Shred-it truck for shredding. Please be sure that the bags/boxes only contain paper—no checkbook covers, for example. Papers that need to be shredded include old tax documents, and old credit card or bank statements. Instruction booklets, envelopes, and junk mail should be recycled.

p.s. There will be prizes awarded for the best costumes or decorated cars!



Parenting Classes

Parenting a Kinship child can be more challenging than parenting the first time around, due to many factors. Family and Children First offers a class for caregivers of children of all ages.

Active Parenting Now will give you skills to achieve a fuller, more satisfying family life – for anyone who is parenting children! This workshop will show you effective ways to...

- Use non-violent discipline that really works
- Open up lines of communication
- Teach responsibility, courage and other character traits
- Encourage school success
- Prevent further problems with drugs, alcohol and sex
- Defuse power struggles
- Stimulate independence
- Stop scolding and start smiling!

For more information or to enroll contact Melodee Bass at Greene County Family and Children First at 937-562-5606 or 937-562-5600.

Save the Date ~ Holiday Gift Soiree

Our elves are busy creating handmade gifts for this year's

Holiday Gift Soiree.
Wednesday, December 1st
10am to 6pm
Xenia Community Center
(Next to the Council's office.)

We have a very special and beautiful experience planned, along with the opportunity to purchase some one-of-a-kind handcrafted items and homemade treats. We will have precautions in place to keep everyone safe.

Stay up-to-date on this and other Council events on our web site (www.gccoa.org/events) or on our Facebook page.

Fire Prevention Month

October is Fire Prevention Month. This is an excellent time to review and practice your plan for what to do if a fire starts in your home.

Don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors! If you do not have smoke detectors in your home, please contact us here at the Council at 937-376-5486 or yourfriends@gccoa.org.



KPI Review

Ohio's *Kinship Permanency Program*, or KPI, is intended to provide initial financial support for minor children who are being cared for in a kinship situation. Funds include an initial larger payment, followed by a series of smaller payments at 6 month intervals, up to a total of 8 payments.

There is no deadline for the initial application.

Eligibility requirements:

- A court-issued order granting legal custody or on or after July 1, 2005. Temporary or informal guardianship is not sufficient.
- The child must live with the kinship caregiver.
- Everyone 18 years or older in the home must complete a background check.
- If the placement was not made by an approved children services agency, the kinship family must undergo a home study (at no cost) prior to KPI approval.
- The gross income of the household cannot exceed 300% of federal poverty guidelines.

To request the KPI application packet, contact: Greene County Job and Family Services, 541 Ledbetter Road, Xenia, OH 45385 or call 937-562-6600

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, October 23rd is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Each take back event keeps thousands of pounds of medications out of our land fills, and out of our water supply.

Bring your unneeded or expired drugs to the Greene County Sheriffs Department (105 E Market St, Xenia), or check with your local police department for drop off hours. Please note:

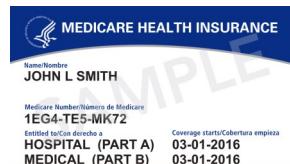
- No needles or liquids are accepted.
- You may dump all the pills into a zip top plastic bag. Remove individually packaged medications from the packaging.

If you are unable to attend the drop off, check with your local pharmacy. Many will accept old medications for proper disposal.

Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15th. Advantage plans and Part-D (prescription) plans change every year, and we often see increased premiums and co-pays, drugs no longer covered or at a different cost, and changes in providers contracted with your plan. This is why an annual review of options is critical.

The Council is processing reviews over the phone. Information packets were mailed to those previously assisted, and we are currently conducting phone calls with the respondents. If you are new to this assistance, you can contact the Council to request a packet but we ask that you do this *as soon as possible*.



Kinship

1195 W Second St
Xenia, OH 45385



Upcoming Programs & Events

- ◆ **RAP Group ("Relatives As Parents" Support Group)**
2nd Tuesday of each month (Nov 9, Dec 14, Jan 11), 10:00-11:30 am
Contact Susan Finster for details at 937-376-5486 x119 or susan.finster@gccoa.org
- ◆ **Spooktacular Drive-By Shred Event**
Saturday, October 30th, 9am to Noon
Xenia Community Center (1265 W Second St)
- ◆ **Medicare Open Enrollment October 15th - December 7th**
- ◆ **Holiday Gift Soiree ~ December 1st, 10 am - 6 pm, Xenia Community Center**



CONTACT US: The above programs are sponsored by the Greene County Council on Aging (GCCOA). For information on these programs, contact us at **937-376-5486** or yourfriends@gccoa.org.