

# Brain Waves

JULY 2025



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## Contact us ...

We are a ministry of  
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 Follow Us!

## Quote of The Month ...

*"Do what you can  
with what you have,  
where you are."*

~ Theodore Roosevelt

## Leah's Notes ...



Leah Zehel, Director

### Men's Convertible Ride

Wow, another great year for the annual Men's Convertible Ride, this was the 13th year of putting on this special day for the men. Once again, we had over 20 cars take off from The Gathering Place and they headed towards the lake this year. The ride once again concluded with a full 5-star meal which was waiting for them, steak sandwiches with all the sides and fixings!

This event is such a special day, it is so

exciting to see and hear all those beautiful cars line up and the excitement in our participants eyes as they walk to their car they get to cruise around in. Friends, Families, Staff, all come out wave and send our guys out for the day with the proper goodbye. This day is not only rewarding for our participants but for ALL of us involved. There is a lot of work and planning that goes into this day, many of the drivers come back year after year to drive for this day, some of the drivers have had loved ones associated to our program but many are just men from the community donating their time and their vehicles for this special day! Many have said they formed a special bond with their participants they drove



in their car and ask to be with them again year after year. There are no good words to describe the feeling of watching so many people come together and give someone so much joy, allowing them to feel free even if it is just for the moment free from this disease, more independent and like they are part of something special. Just standing by and watching them take off with big waves and even bigger smiles is so rewarding to all volunteers and staff.

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### The Gathering Place Brat Fry and Car Show

The Gathering Place Brat Fry and Car Show will be held August 25th from 5:00-7:00. This event has become our favorite event, it is such a fun way to spend your evening, brats hamburgers, music by DJ Rob Peterson, an ice cream stand, and close to 100 different cars to look at it!! It is just a nice relaxing way to spend the evening. This fundraiser is a great way to support The Gathering Place and Memory Matters activity programming. All proceeds from this event go directly to The Gathering Place programming and assist in keeping our participant fees low. So please come out and show your support!!! August 25th, 5:00-7:00, St Paul's Lutheran Church, Sheboygan Falls.

If you are interested in entering a car into the show, please contact Leah at 920-627-6847. ■

**SAVE THE DATE**

**BRAT FRY & CAR SHOW**

**AUGUST 25 • 5:00 TO 7:00 PM**

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**730 COUNTY ROAD PPP • SHEBOYGAN FALLS**

**BRAT FRY, CAR SHOW AND DJ!**  
*You do not want to miss it!*

All proceeds for this event will  
benefit The Gathering Place and  
Memory Matters programming!

engaging hearts...enriching minds  
The Gathering Place Memory Matters



# Memory Minute

By Leah Zehel

## Safety for Seniors

As people grow older their chance of being victims of crime decreases dramatically. But a lifetime of experience coupled with the physical problems associated with aging often make older Americans fearful. Though you may be on the lookout constantly for physical attack and burglary, you may not be as alert to frauds and con games-in reality the greatest crime threat to seniors well being and trust.

### *Want to conquer fear and prevent crime?*

Take these commonsense precautions.

- Be alert when out and about.
- Go with friends or family not alone.
- Carry your purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pockets.
- Don't carry credit cards you don't need or large amounts of cash.
- Use direct deposit for Social Security and other regular checks.
- Whether you are a passenger or driver, keep doors locked.
- Be particularly alert in parking lots and garages. Park near an entrance.
- Sit close to the driver or near the exit while riding the bus, train, or subway.
- If someone or something makes you uneasy, trust your instincts and leave.

## Memory Matters Calendar

- |                |                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>July 3</b>  | <b>Closed. Happy Fourth of July!</b> |
| <b>July 10</b> | <b>You be the Judge</b>              |
| <b>July 17</b> | <b>Music with Jaimie</b>             |
| <b>July 24</b> | <b>Tips to improve your memory</b>   |
| <b>July 31</b> | <b>Outing to the Hamburger Haus!</b> |

- Find out more about protecting your home.
- Make your home safe and secure.
- Install good locks on doors and windows. Use them! Do not hide keys in mailboxes and planters or under doormats.
- Instead, leave an extra set of keys with a neighbor or friend.
- Ask for a photo identification from service or delivery people before letting them in. If you are the least bit worried, call the company to verify.
- Be sure your street address number is large, clear of obstruction, and well-lighted so police and other emergency personal can find your home quickly.
- Consider a home alarm system that provides monitoring for burglary, fire, and medical emergencies.
- Find out more about frauds and cons.
- Watch out for Con Artists.
- Don't let anyone rush you into signing anything-an insurance policy, a sales agreement, a contract. Read it carefully and have someone you trust check it over.
- Beware of individuals claiming to represent companies, consumer organizations, or government agencies that offer to recover lost money from fraudulent telemarketers for a fee.
- If your suspicious, check it out with the police, the Better Business Bureau, or local consumer protection office.
- Find out more about neighborhood action.
- Get involved in the community.
- Report any crime or suspicious activities to law enforcement.
- Form a neighborhood watch to look out for each other and help the police.
- Work to change conditions that hurt your neighborhood. ■

Leah's Notes continued from pg.1



Every year we reflect on how many blessings occur on this day. First, I want to thank Brad Vollbrecht and his wife Marsha. Brad does a lot here for The Gathering Place and coming up with this idea 13 years ago and then running with it, he made this day what it is today! And Marsha for supporting him, hosting, cooking, baking and all the setup, thank you!

I want to personally thank Rod Dirkes, Brad Mentink, Dean Ratajczak, Dale Tenpas, Larry Rooker, Jim

Rooker, Dean Rooker, Tom Collins, Carl Knapp, Steve Fleming, Mike Heidemann, Bill Wagner, Jeff Rhodes, Scott Vollbrecht, Greg Vollbrecht for driving. Also, Tom Wensink, Rob Roman, Dan Kringle, Dennis Hartmann for being extra hands on the car ride. And then the Master Griller, Dave DePagter. Plus, all those that helped with food prep, Kris Lorenz, Vicky Rhodes, and Marsha Vollbrecht.

Thank you all for this gift of an incredibly special day! ■



## TGP Special Events & Activities

*Families always welcome to our Entertainment Events!*

- July 1**     *Line Dancing*
- July 2**     *Music with Dan Ognevic*
- July 7**     *Music with Acaia and Sara Schuh*
- July 8**     *Sing along with Karen and Thomas*
- July 9**     *Outing to the Manitowoc Rahr West Museum*
- July 15**    *Music with Jeff Possley*
- July 17**    *Music with Scott and Angela Ring, Toby Tomack*
- July 23**    *Swimsuit Contest*
- July 29**    *Bell Choir with Ruth*
- July 30**    *Music with Dave Ross*
- July 31**    *Music with Duo-Over*

