

HELLO SENIOR GAMES & SILVERARTS FAMILY!

In this January 2021 newsletter –

COVID-19 and vaccines

2021 Senior Games & SilverArts dates

Calling all Cornhole enthusiasts

Senior Games Spotlight – Ruth Harrell, our new Ambassador

Our Website and Facebook

Well it's 2021 and here at the Senior Games office, we are excited to get rolling on our preparation for this year's Senior Games. Check out below what is in the works.

COVID-19 and VACCINES

I'm sure everyone has "had it up to here" on this subject but with the new information on vaccines, I want to get the word out one more time. We want all of our seniors to stay as safe as possible and this is just one more way to do that.

At this point, all seniors 65 and over are now eligible to get the vaccine. If you are considering doing this, Cherokee County residents should phone 828-837-7486 for an appointment and Clay county residents should phone 828-389-8052.

FYI – Be patient...a lot of people are calling.

2021 SENIOR GAMES & SILVERARTS DATES

We are now in the planning stages for this year's local Senior Games. At this point, we are planning to conduct normal in-person Senior Games including the SilverArts. With the COVID-19 vaccines now available (see above) and with 5 months still to go, we are hoping in-person games will be possible. We will be revisiting this as we get closer to the May dates and further decisions will depend on the current State and County lock-down regulations as well as the active case list locally.

The sports part of our Senior Games is scheduled to take place May 8 – 29, 2021 and the SilverArts May 7 – 22, 2021. The full schedule of Senior Games events are attached to this email as well as listed on our website. We are still in the process of getting permission from some of the venues so some at this point may still be TBD.

The North Carolina Senior Games (at this point) are also planning to hold in-person State Finals later this year with further decisions on this to come at a later date.

For all those interested in The National Senior Games which was due to take place in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in November of 2021, **these have now been postponed to May 10-23, 2022.** Doing this will make our 2021 local games a qualifying year for the May 2022 National games.

CALLING ALL CORNHOLE ENTHUSIASTS (and everyone else)

At this point we are planning to arrange a series of 6 (weekly) Cornhole get-togethers. These will be just fun-time events with the possibility of a tournament on the final day. We are planning to hold these outdoors at the Murphy Tennis courts each Saturday afternoon at 2pm starting on March 20th and concluding on April 24th with a Championship Day. So spread the word, bundle up if it is cold and come on down and join us for some outdoor fun!

SENIOR GAMES SPOTLIGHT – RUTH HARRELL



For this month's Senior Games Spotlight, I have the pleasure of introducing to everyone our newest Senior Games Ambassador – Ruth Harrell. Although Ruth may be new to Senior Games (2020 NC Virtual State Finals being her first participating experience with us), what she lacks in experience with Senior Gamers, she makes up for in enthusiasm!

After retiring and travelling the country in their RV for a few years, Ruth and her husband Bo, decided to put down some roots and in 2017 made Hayesville their retirement home. Family, friends, church and staying fit are all very important to Ruth. In her words, she has always been something of an athlete and definitely has a competitive streak. She has quite a resume of sports that she has either tried at some point or currently engages in. Everything from 2 half-marathons (“did those once when I turned 60 but not doing them again!”), kayaking and biking to her current fitness endeavors which include walking, Pickleball and paddle boarding which is her current passion. She also loves to garden and tends a large patch of flowers and vegetables.

She decided to enter the 2021 NC Senior Games Virtual State Finals this past October in 2 events – the Pickleball skills challenge and the 5K Powerwalk and according to her, “I was quite surprised when I found out I had won 2 gold medals”.

As stated earlier, she is energetic and enthusiastic about the Senior Games and wants to get the word out to more seniors about the organization which is why she has just completed the NC State Ambassador course to be our newest Ambassador.

In her own words, I learned that “A Senior Games Ambassador is a spokesperson, cheerleader and promoter for the local Senior Games program”. I am prepared to “assist with publicity, media relations and community awareness to increase visibility, sponsorship, volunteers and participation” in such a great program.

We are extremely pleased to welcome Ruth on board as an Ambassador for the Cherokee/Clay County Senior Games & SilverArts organization. For more information on how you too can a volunteer, contact Terence at 727-470-7947.

Welcome Ruth!

OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Don't forget to check out our website occasionally - [Cherokee/Clay SG website](#) - as well follow us on our Facebook page - [Cherokee/Clay Facebook](#). You can find most of the information you might be looking for there as well as the current news.

Terence