

# Senior Soundings

### February 2013



The Newsletter of the Groton Council On Aging "We are in the Center of it all..."

1-978-448-1170

163 West Main St. (Rt.225) Groton, MA 01450

gcoa@townofgroton.org

Message From *Martha* 



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February is the month for LOVE.

This is the time to hug your family and friends and let them know how much you care. And, don't forget, that the senior center is a place for friendship. We look forward to your support and your participation in our programs.



For example we had a great time in January when we tried something new by serving lunch and then playing scrabble. After our taco lunch, there were two Scrabble games going with Louise Scimemi and Bev McDonnell as the winners. Please join us on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> when we host our next lunch and Scrabble afternoon serving sandwiches.

gcoa@townofgroton.org

Martha

#### **Mission Statement:**

The Groton Council on Aging seeks to enrich the lives of Senior Citizens by providing opportunities for learning, leisure, creativity, health and fitness, information and referral, and social services.

Upcoming Events

Special Women's Club Luncheon with Animal Adventures Seniors and Grandchildren Welcome! Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM Selectman's Hour at 11:00 PM

February's Women's Club Luncheon falls in the middle of school vacation week. For many seniors this is an opportunity to spend time with their grandchildren and even great-grandchildren. Don't choose between your favorite monthly senior center event and your family time, bring them along. The Women's Club will be treating us to a kid friendly meal of sausage and spinach pasta casserole served with wedge salad, garlic bread, and lemon chiffon pie for dessert. Then, the afternoon's entertainment will be a delight for both you and the kids! Animal Adventures, a traveling rescue zoo with an array of exotic animals. Children and seniors will learn about these animals and have the opportunity to touch some as well. Sign-up at the front desk.

## **Lunch by Nashoba Tech with Genealogy Talk Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 12:00 PM**

How often does a restaurant come to us. Well, the culinary students from Nashoba Tech cook for us at the senior center once a month. For February you may choose between baked meatloaf or fillet of sole Florentine. Both will be served with black bean soup, potato, vegetable and dessert. Following lunch Genealogist, Carol Conroy, will tell us how to get started looking up our family history. If you have ever been curious about who your ancestors are, come learn how easy it is to begin researching your family history and how you can do it without spending a dime. Lunch costs \$10, optional \$2 Tip. Sign-up at the front desk.

#### **New Puzzle Table at the Senior Center**

Thanks to a suggestion and puzzle donation from Groton Senior, Chris Christie, we now have started a puzzle contest. Open anytime the senior center is open, come put in as many pieces as you can and write down your total. A \$5 scratch ticket will be given to whomever has put together the most pieces once the puzzle is completed.

For a complete list of Senior Center Activities & Events: See Pages 4, 5 & 6



## Outreach Corner, by Stacey Shepard Jones, Outreach Coordinator

Outreach Department 978-448-1170 email: sjones@townofgroton.org



#### **Outreach Department Mission**

Assess the seniors of the town and find them the help they may need through information and referral, program development and advocacy. We strive to keep people in their homes for as long as possible. If you or someone you know needs some help, please call. Information shared with the outreach coordinator is confidential.

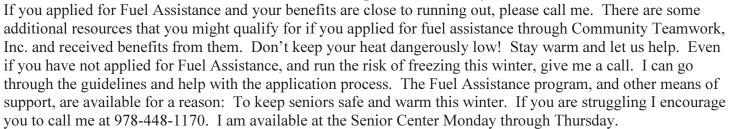
#### **Examples of Outreach Help & Information**

- Chores
- Food Stamps
- Phone Wellness Friendly Visits
- Transportation
- File of Life
- Fuel Assistance
- Home Delivered Meals
- Declaration of Homestead
- **RMV** Disabled Placards



#### **Outreach Information**

**Fuel Assistance Update from Stacey** 



### **AARP Tax Preparation Appointments**

For an appointment call the center at 978-448-1170.

AARP offers free appointments at the Groton Senior Center to assist seniors with preparing their 2012 taxes. Appointments are available on the following Tuesdays in February and March beginning at 9:00 AM:

### February 15th & 29th, March 15th & 29th

Bring the following documents to your appointment:

- Copy of previous year tax return
- W-2 forms from each employer
- All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-Div, 1099-misc) showing interest and/or dividends
- Documents showing the original purchase price of your sold assets (stock) unless that info. is included in document from trading company
- Paid Social Security benefits? Bring SSA-1099
- Received a personal annuity? Bring your 1099R
- Forms indicating federal or Mass estimated tax paid
- Received Unemployment? Bring statements
- Paid for childcare? Bring Name, Employer ID, SSN
- Itemized Deductions? Bring list with receipts etc.
- MA Circuit Breaker? Bring applicable bills
- Proof of taxes/mortgage interest paid
- Itemized Medical Deductions? Bring list of expenses with receipts etc.
- Claiming Medical Mileage? List of dates & miles
- Social Security Numbers of all dependents

#### **SHINE**

Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Elders

Help!..My new Part D Plan doesn't cover all my Medications!!"

If you have a **new** Medicare Part D plan and have found that your new plan does NOT cover a drug you have been taking, you should know about *transition refills*. Transition refills may give you temporary coverage (one-time, 30-day supply) for a drug that is not on your new plan's formulary *OR* that has restrictions (prior authorization or step therapy).

A transition refill is only a temporary solution. Call your doctor right away to talk about switching to a drug your plan does cover OR filing a request with your Part D plan for a "formulary exception" (which may or may not be approved).

A transition refill is not for new prescriptions. You can only get one if you were already taking the drug before you signed up for the plan. Also, a transition refill does NOT apply to drugs that Medicare doesn't require Part D plans to cover (like Valium and Ativan).

If you are in the same plan as last year, you *may* still be able to get a transition refill if your plan removed a drug you had been taking in 2012, for reasons other than safety.

Not all pharmacists know about transition refills. Ask your pharmacist to call your Part D plan for special instructions.

#### **SHINE Appointments**

Volunteers offer free and confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to anyone on Medicare. For an appointment contact the Senior Center at 78-448-1170.

### Friends of the Groton Elders

#### By Nyola Vaillancourt,

978-692-8608, nyolav@verizon.net, 1081 Lowell Road, Groton, MA 01450

Happy New Year -2013! The Friends of Groton Elders and Merry Trippers wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year. Perhaps there is a day or extended trip we are featuring that will interest you.

"Women of Ireland" Day Trip, A special St. Patrick's Day Show, Friday, March 15, 2013 at Venus De Milo in Swansea, MA. In the spirit of Riverdance and Celtic Woman and comprising the best performers within the Irish musical tradition, we will enjoy a wonderful blend of song, music and dance. Meal choices are Corned Beef and Cabbage or Baked Haddock. Price: \$81.00 includes transportation, luncheon, show, and driver's gratuity. Sign up in the Senior Center lobby. Checks should be made out to: "Friends of Groton Elders" and sent to Nyola.

#### **Merry Trippers Overnight Trips**

Western Ireland, 9 days/7 nights, May 26 - June 3, 2013. \$2329/person by credit card or \$2279 by cash/check.

**Boston to Bermuda,** aboard the Norwegian Dream for 8 days/7 nights. May 31-June 6, 2013. \$979 per person if cash or check, \$999 by credit card.

**Mackinac Island**, 9 day tour featuring Chicago, Green Bay, the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Isl. and Frankenmuth, August 18 - 26, 2013. Double \$2849.00.

**Lake Como & Switzerland**, featuring Lake Como, Saint Moritz, Bergamo, Lake Maggiore, The Borromean Islands, Milan and Lugano, September 21 - 29, 2013. \$2699/person by credit card or \$2649 cash/check.

Sign up in the Senior Center lobby. Feel free to contact Nayola with any questions.

### **Upcoming Winter Events**

#### **February**

**AARP Tax Prep** 

Select Tuesday Mornings by Appointment

Sandwich Lunch & Scrabble Game
6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

Veteran's Breakfast 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

Nashoba Tech Lunch & Genealogy Talk 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

Women's Club Luncheon with Animal Adventures - Grandchildren Welcome 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

**RI Flower Show Trip** 22<sup>nd</sup> Departs Senior Center at 9:00 AM

Lunch (Pizza) & A Flick 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

#### **March - Save the Dates**

Lunch & Scrabble - 6<sup>th</sup>
Nashoba Tech Lunch - 13<sup>th</sup>
Women's Club Lunch
& Singing Trooper - 20<sup>th</sup>

### Instructor Spotlight

Susan Robbins, Toning & Pilates Phase 1 Instructor.



Susan would like to welcome you all to get fit with her help! She has been in the fitness industry for 33+ years, beginning at Gloria Stevens, a well know women's fitness chain, that was quite popular in the late 70's through the 80's. From there she moved on to personal training, and weight loss coaching which is what she enjoys the most.

She presently teaches a variety of classes in different recreation, continuing education, and senior centers in central MA, as well as traveling to client's homes as a personal trainer and coach. She is looking forward to working with you to reach your fitness goals no matter what they are: more energy, feel better, & stronger, or looking to reach a healthy weight.

She has two wonderful boys Brandon, who is 17 years old, a 3rd degree black belt in Kenpo Karate, as well as a certified instructor in the art. Also, a younger son, Justin who plays a lot of baseball; so she pretty much knows where every baseball field in central Mass. is! She has a B.A. in Music performance from UNH and am Certified by ACE, The American College of exercise! So, come join her at the Groton Senior Center on Tuesdays at either 9:00 AM or 4:30 PM for her Toning & Pilates Phase 1 class. See page 5 for more class details.

February 2013

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MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
10:00 11:30 12:00 12:30 2:00	Jan. 28 Groton Swim Strength Training Chicken Pesto Cribbage Quilting	9:00 9:30 10:00 11:45 12:00 12:15 12:45 4:30	Jan. 29 Pilates Phase 1 Bowling Paint - One Stroke Weight Watchers Roast Turkey WW Meeting Hand & Foot Pilates Phase 1	HDM 12:00	0	10:00 12:00 12:45 2:00	Jan. 31 Yoga Chili Hand & Foot Tai Chi	VAN 10:00 10:00 12:30	Feb. 1  DW Highway  Groton Swim Strength Training Bridge
9:30 10:00 11:30 12:00 12:30 2:00	4 COA Board Mtg Groton Swim Strength Training Apricot Chicken Cribbage Quilting	9:00 9:30 10:00 11:45 12:00 12:15 12:45 4:30	Filates Phase 1 Bowling Paint - One Stroke Weight Watchers Roast Turkey WW Meeting Hand & Foot Pilates Phase 1	10:30 HDM 12:00 12:30	Strength Training Beef Stew Sandwiches Scrabble	10:00 12:00 12:45 2:00	1	VAN 10:00 10:00 12:30	Lunenburg  Groton Swim Strength Training Bridge
10:00 10:00 11:30 12:00 12:30 2:00	Vet's Breakfast Groton Swim Strength Training Turkey Chow Mein Cribbage Quilting	9:00 9:30 10:00 11:45 12:00 12:15 12:45 4:30	Pilates Phase 1 Bowling Paint - One Stroke Weight Watchers Roast Turkey WW Meeting Hand & Foot Pilates Phase 1	10:30 HDM 12:00 12:30	Strength Training Baked Lemon Fish Lunch by Nashoba Tech Genealogy Talk		Chix Cordon Bleu	VAN 9:00 10:00 10:00 12:30	Leominster RI Flower Show Trip Groton Swim Strength Training Bridge
	18		19		20		21		22
OS R	Closed  ESIDENTS GAY	12:00	Pilates Phase 1 Bowling Paint - One Stroke Weight Watchers Roast Turkey WW Meeting Hand & Foot Pilates Phase 1		Book Club Strength Training Selectmen's Hour Breaded Chicken Grandparent's Women's Club Luncheon Animal Adventure	12:00 12:45	Yoga Indian Hill's Bach Lunch Meatball Stroganoff Hand & Foot Tai Chi		Christmas Tree Shop Groton Swim Strength Training Bridge
	25		26		27		28		March 1
VAN 10:00 10:30 12:00 12:30 2:00	Oroton Swim Talk w/ Tom Strength Training Mushroom Chicken Cribbage	9:00 9:30 10:00 11:45 12:00 12:15 12:45 4:30	Pilates Phase 1 Bowling Paint - One Stroke Weight Watchers Roast Turkey WW Meeting Hand & Foot Pilates Phase 1	10:30 HDM 12:00 12:30	Strength Training Roast Turkey Pizza Lunch Movie: Won't Back Down	10:00 12:00 12:45 2:00		VAN 10:00 10:00 12:30	<b>DW Highway</b> Groton Swim Strength Training Bridge

### Regular Scheduled Activities

#### **Fitness**

Groton Swim - Mondays & Fridays, 10:00-11:00 AM

Strength Training with Elaine - \$3/class

Mondays at 11:30 AM Wednesdays at 10:30 AM Fridays at 10:00 AM

**Yoga -** Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM MaryLu Hildreth, instructor - \$3/class Supported by the Friends of Groton Elders.

**Tai Chi -** Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:00 PM Jeff Coté, instructor - Fee: \$40 for 8 weeks.

Toning & Pilates Phase 1 - Tuesdays, 9AM or 4:30 PM Susan Robbins, instructor - \$96 for 8 weeks.

Boost your metabolism and burn more calories with this 60 minute class! This class is perfect for the first timer as well as, those returning to exercise, or fitness enthusiast! You will be given individual attention and different level choices of the exercise will be shown. Learn how to strength train safely for toning, revved up metabolism and prevention of osteoporosis. The second half of the class will focus on core conditioning, Pilates, for better posture, flatter abs and stronger backs. Bring with you a set of weights, a mat and water. Sign-up at the front desk.

Weight Watchers - Tuesdays Weigh in at 11:45 AM - Meeting at 12:15 PM Marianne Farrington, instructor

**Bowling -** Tuesdays, 9:30 AM at Harvard Lanes

#### **Arts & Crafts**

Hand Quilting Class - Mondays 2:00 to 4:00 PM Millie Cunningham, instructor Fee: \$25/month

Painting Club - Tuesdays 10:00 AM (aka One Stroke) Drop in and Paint with others.

#### Cards & Games

Cribbage - Mondays at 12:30 PM

**Bridge -** Fridays at 12:30 PM

Hand & Foot - Tuesdays & Thursdays at 12:45 PM

#### Coming for Lunch?!?!

Please call the Senior Center 24 hours in advance to reserve your meal. 1-978-448-1170



### On Going Events

#### **Groton Council on Aging Board Meeting** Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM

Council meetings are open to the public. On going - 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month.

#### Sandwich Lunch & Scrabble

Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

This classic board game is making a comeback! So, come play Scrabble at the senior Center instead of by your self, at the computer. For an added treat, enjoy sandwiches for lunch with the other players. The next Lunch & Scrabble will be Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. \$2.00 lunch donation.

#### Veteran's Breakfast Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

On going - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month.

Ask the Nurse
Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 -1 PM Sharon Fata, R.N. with Nashoba Associated Boards of Health will be on hand to check your blood pressure, or just answer your questions. On going - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Book Club Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM On going - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

#### Discussion Group with Tom Hartnett Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM

Presented by the Friends of Groton Elders On going - 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.

#### **Lunch and a Flick** Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM Won't Back Down

Two mothers ban together to fix their children's failing inner city school. Released to theaters in September of 2012 and stars Viola Davis, Maggie Gyenhaal and Holly Hunter. Bring \$4 for PIZZA!

#### Special Groton Public Library Program **Drum Away the Blues!**

Relieving Stress through Percussion and Rhythm Tues. Feb. 19th 10:30 AM at the Library Join drummer/percussionist Craig Harris for a stress relieving morning of drumming and percussion. Using hand drums, percussion instruments, and vocal imagery, Harris gets the audience drumming. This program for all ages promotes positive thinking and creative expression! Made possible by a grant from the Groton Trust Funds Lecture Fund.

### Upcoming Trips

### Lunch Trip to Dolce's Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

Dolce is a cozy Italian restaurant located next door in Pepperell. Lunch will be served with a soft drink and light dessert. Cost is \$13.50.

#### Choose Between:

- \* Grilled Chicken Panini with Soup or Salad
- \* Tuna Wrap with soup or salad
- \* Walnut & gorgonzola chicken salad
- \* Caesar Salad with grilled chicken
- \* Pizza Margarita
- \* Pizza Dolce



Take the COA van for \$3 or drive yourself. Van will begin home pick-ups at 10:45 AM and will depart the Senior Center at 11:30 AM.

Sign-up at the Senior Center.

# Curmudgeon and Friends Day Trips Trip to the RI Spring, Flower & Garden Show Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> - 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Take a break from the winter and experience *Beautiful Gardens*, the theme for this year's RI Spring Flower & Garden Show. This show is less hectic then the Boston show but has proven to be just as inspiring and is celebrating it's 20th anniversary. Cost is \$36 for admission & transportation. Lunch is on your own.

Payment is required with sign-up. Checks payable to Jay Darrin. |
Sign-up at the Senior

Sign-up at the Senior Center.



### **Transportation Information**

#### **Groton COA Van Schedule**

Groton Council on Aging Van was established to provide transportation to Groton Seniors in and around Groton and surrounding towns.

#### **Local Shopping/Medical/Social Trips**

Mondays - Thursdays: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM Fridays: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

#### **Special Shopping Trips**

(A 4 person minimum may be required for shopping trips.) **Thursday, Feb. 14**<sup>th</sup> Shopping around the new plaza in Westford

Fridays 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM:

**1**<sup>st</sup> **Friday**, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> Shopping on DW Highway, Nashua

**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday**, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Shopping in Lunenburg including Wal-Mart 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> Shopping in Leominster, Whitney Field Mall 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> Trips around Christmas Tree Shop, Nashua

#### The van can be used for:

Shopping Banking Senior Center Visits
Errands Visiting Friends Doctor's Appointments
Lunch Trips Hair Appointments Dental Appointments

**Round Trip Fees:** In-Town \$3.00 12 Ride Voucher \$30.00 Out-of-Town \$4.00 12 Ride Voucher \$40.00

Scholarships are available

You are encouraged to make reservations 1 week in advance. Reservations will not be taken past 1:00 PM on the day prior to your trip. Call 978-448-1141 to schedule a ride. Special trips must be within 30 miles.



# Alternative Transportation Pepperell/Groton Road Runner Operated by the LRTA

1-800-589-5782 Must call at least 24 hours ahead of trip.

Out of Town Trips: \$1.50 In Town Trips: \$1.00

**Mondays:** Shopping/Medical in Townsend / Leominster area.

#### Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday:

Shopping/Medical within Pepperell, Groton, Townsend, Ayer, Harvard, Westford.

#### Friday:

Shopping trips to Pheasant Lane Mall. Medical trips to Lowell and Nashua.

Contact the Road Runner or Senior Center for a more detailed Schedule.

6LLS-89E-008 Abuse Hotline Medicare Fraud &

(800-med-icare) 800-633-4227 Medicare

800-772-1213 Social Security Admin.

888-243-5337 Elder Hotline Attorney General's

800-922-2275 Elder Abuse TTY 800-922-227*2* Elder Abuse Hotline

800-872-0166 TDD/TTY (800-AGE-INFO) 9694 - 642-008 Prescription Advantage Elder Affairs/ SHINE

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This newsletter is supported in part by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

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#### Staff

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Frances Goldbach

#### Vice Chairman

Marie Melican

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Carl Flowers

#### Secretary

Cindy Thompson

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George Faircloth Charlotte Carkin Maydelle Gamester Mildred Wells Vera Strickland Eddie Wenzell

#### Wish List

- Postage Stamps
- Large Plastic Soda Cups •
- Diet & Regular Soda
- Scrabble Games
- Half & Half for coffee
- Paper Towels
- Wrapped Candies
- **Decorative Napkins**

We appreciate your donations.

#### Thank You

Board of Directors For giving their time and support Friends of the Groton Elders

Financially supporting select programs Bakery items on Tuesday Hannaford's

Shaw's Food for Veteran's Breakfast Blood Farm Food for Veteran's Breakfast

Patrolmen's Union Donation for the Veteran's Breakfast Donelan's

Plastic bags for meals on wheels Producing the Senior Spotlight Groton Channel

Scrabble Game Louise & Frank Scimemi

Groton School Tea and coffee

Anonyms Dish towels, wrapped candy, cold

cups, napkins and half and half.

Blood glucose monitor Regan O'Brien

Thank you to all that give but wish not to be mentioned.