

September 2016

The Newsletter of the Groton Council On Aging

lt's not about age, it's about attitude!

1-978-448-1170

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

Hours: M-F 8:00am - 4:00pm

Feasibility Study Update

At the Spring Town Meeting the community generously supported the Council on Aging's request to hire an architect to conduct a Building Feasibility Study. The study's goal was to evaluate three potential town owned sites for use as a senior center; the Prescott School, the country club, and the current senior center site. Over 10 architectural firms submitted proposals, which resulted in the COA Feasibility Committee inviting three potential firms for interviews. The successful candidate, Reinhardt and Associates of Agawam, MA have produced impartial, thoughtful and detailed reports. The first step in the process was to meet with members of the committee and COA staff to understand the programmatic needs of Groton seniors while conducting parallel building studies on the three town owned sites. The studies compared and ranked each site using the same metrics; site location, land, zoning/regulatory, environmental, utilities, building/architectural and building/mechanical/electric/plumbing. These metrics were then evaluated based on the needs of the seniors and a center that meets the needs of today's seniors and in the future.

As of this writing the final report is not complete however considering all the metrics, preliminary results indicate the current senior center site is the most advantageous for the town. The Oversight Committee has voted to eliminate the Prescott School as a potential site and is collecting additional data on the country club to complete the study. Currently, Reinhardt and Associates will focus on the potential pros and cons of building new on the current site or renovating/ expanding the current building. The detailed **Site and Building Evaluation Report** is available at the senior center or the Town Manager's office.

A final report is expected by the end of August and will be made available on-line. We are confident that this process has fulfilled our high expectations for a professional and thorough analysis of our goals that will address all questions and concerns. Please, as always, feel free to contact me with any questions.

Kathy



9/11 Memorial First Responder's Recognition Luncheon

Held at the fire station

Friday, September 9 12:00pm Cost: None
lunch provided through the generosity of Groton residents
Ebi and Desiree Masalehdan
Music provided by John Murphy
This program is also made possible through the generous

This program is also made possible through the generous donation of Massachusetts State Senator Eileen Donoghue

On the solemn anniversary of 9/11, please join us at the fire station, as we honor Groton's First Responders. Their service and dedication to the seniors of Groton cannot be measured but through this small gesture they are celebrated.

Please call the senior center for your reservation by Tues, 9/6.

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.

Staff

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Register by calling the senior center, 978-448-1170

This program is made possible through the support of Massachusetts Office of Elders Affairs and Groton Trust Program and Lecture Fund

Charlie Smigelski is a well-known nutrition counselor, writer and speaker in Boston, with an office in Groton. He was a dietitian at the Harvard University student-faculty health service for 14 years. He also spent a number of years at the Fenway Health and The Framingham Heart Study. He was also visiting faculty for Bristol Myers Squib, and Abbot Labs. He has a special interest in diet and immune function: plus nutrition for coping with chronic conditions, like MS, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative

WORKSHOP #1 Documentary and conversation



October 4, 1:00pm at the senior center or October 5, 7:00pm at the library

After being diagnosed with an autoimmune disease, journalist filmmaker Shannon Harvey traveled the world in search of the missing link in healthcare. From interviewing world leading scientists to meeting people with remarkable stories of recovery from severe back pain, heart disease, infertility, cancer and multiple sclerosis, this documentary delves into the link between our bodies and mind. After the documentary join us in a conversation about the mind/body connection led by Charlie.

WORKSHOP #3 Acid Reflux - GERD

October 18, 1:00pm at the senior center or

October 19, 7:00pm at the library
You take medicines to manage infections, manage
blood pressure, manage acid reflux, manage
diabetes, etc. What do you take to actually repair
better, so things get fixed? Medicine has side
effects, but food has direct effects. It can restore you.
This talk provides practical advice for smart breakfast,
lunch and dinner meals. Good nutrition and great eating aren't supposed to be a major hassle.
So improving stomach and intestine health is the goal,
not taking meds for years. Come learn how to pamper
your gut and make happy intestine cells. Improve
stomach valve function too. If your intestines aren't
happy, this affects your lungs, liver, your brain and
even your mood.

WORKSHOP #2 Energy Healing Using Tong Ren

October 11, 1:00pm at the senior center

or

October 12, 7:00pm at the library
In Eastern medicine, the flow of Chi, a subtle
bioelectrical current, is a key component of the
healing the body. Tai Chi, Chi gung, and acupuncture
get Chi moving. Tong Ren is a new method
for doing this.

Many people are finding this healing energy works to reduce chronic pain of arthritis, or improve nerve

function in multiple sclerosis and ALS. Those with migraines, fibromyalgia and Parkinson's disease feel better too. People with advanced cancers are also getting benefit, as are people with diabetes and anxiety or depression. There are no hopeless cases.

WORKSHOP #4 Diabetes Diet Update

October 25, 1:00pm at the senior center or October 26, 7:00pm at the library

The term "diabetes" literally means sugar trapped in the blood, not moving into cells. It is a descriptive term. In **Type 1** diabetes, "juvenile onset", something has happened in the pancreas, and there is suddenly no insulin produced, to do the job of directing sugar into cells. There is also **Type 2** diabetes, "adult onset".

In Type 2, there is generally plenty of insulin, but Insulin's "move sugar" message is not getting through to cells. Either the insulin message is being ignored, or actually "resisted" or it is simply not talking to muscle and other cells well enough.

Smart diet is still far stronger for managing blood sugar than any medicine is. Eating well need not be a major hassle. Cave men were nourished, without stoves and refrigerators. So no excuses for you. Now, what do you need to know to be a 21st century Hunter and Gatherer?

Outreach Corner

Stacey Shepard Jones, Outreach Coordinator

LOAVES & FISHES, DEVENS, MA

If you are a resident of Groton, Loaves & Fishes can help! Loaves & Fishes is a free-choice pantry with no income requirements. All new clients must meet with the Client Advocate and bring a current utility bill to prove residency.

Each visit to the Pantry you will receive \$150 to \$250 worth of groceries, depending on family size, to reduce your monthly food expenses. Clients may shop at the pantry twice a month.

Pantry hours are:

Wednesdays & Fridays 9:45am—12:30pm

1st & 3rd Saturdays 9:00am—11:00am

2nd Tuesday 6:00pm—8:00pm

Clients who arrive 30 minutes before the end of the session will receive pre-packaged groceries.

If the weather is questionable, please call Loaves & Fishes @ 978-772-4627 to ensure they are open.



Thursday, September 22 4th Thursday of each month 10:00am-12:00pm

Come join us for coffee and conversation in a welcoming place for individuals and families living with memory changes. There will be a monthly guest artist who will lead music, art or other activities. (A care partner must eccompany guests who require personal care assistance) This program is run by Cooperative Elder Services, Inc. made possible through a grant received from Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation

NEWS FROM SHINE FOR SEPTEMBER 2016



Don't Ignore Your Medicare Mail!

It's that time of year again! If you have a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or a Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO, PPO), you should be

receiving information from your plan by the end of September. It is important to **understand** and **save** this information because it explains the changes in your plan for **2017** including changes to the plan providers, network, and changes to the drug plan formulary that would let you know if your medications will continue to be covered and if the tier and cost is changing. This is important information and if you do not understand it, you should discuss it with your caregivers or schedule an appointment with a SHINE Counselor during the Medicare Open Enrollment Period.

During the annual Medicare Open Enrollment Period (<u>October 15th - December 7th</u>), you will have a chance to CHANGE your plan for next year. SHINE Counselors can help you understand your plan changes, as well as other options you may have. Call early to get a SHINE appointment during Open Enrollment!

Trained SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Everyone) volunteers can help you! They offer free, unbiased, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to anyone on Medicare. Call your Stacey at the senior center, 978-448-1170, and ask for a SHINE appointment. You can also call 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), then press or say 3. Once you get the SHINE answering machine, leave your name and number. A volunteer will call you back. You can now visit us on the internet at shinema.org

CENTRAL MASS SHINE WEBSITE

You can visit us on the web at www.shinema.org. Our site has valuable general information and links to other agencies that can assist you with you insurance needs.

Free Help with MASS Health Application

for

In-Home Care Placement in Long-term Care Facility

Treading the waters of long term care can be difficult and confusing and is often done in a highly emotional state. Gina Cronin a paralegal with attorney Nancy Catalini Chew, will be available to help you complete the Mass Health application will and guide you through the application process.

Please call the senior center, 978-448-1170, to schedule your appointment.

***Gina is not a lawyer and cannot offer legal advice

September 2016

M	MONDAY TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		
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						10:00 10:30 12:30 1:00	Yoga <i>Veterans Breakfast</i> Take a Walk Hand & Foot Tai Chi Meditation	10:00 12:00 12:30	Strength Training Groton Swim Bridge
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Hono	or Labor!	10:00 10:00 10:00 10:30 12:30 1:00	Garden Club Painting Club Writing Creatively Take a Walk Hand & Foot Mahjong	10:00	Strength Training	9:00 10:30 11:30 12:30 1:00 7:00	Yoga Take a Walk Ask the Nurse	VAN 10:00 12:00 12:01 11:15	Responders
O Pharma	12		12		14		1.5		16
12:00 C 12:30 C 1:00 C	Lighthouse Trip Strength Training Groton Swim Cribbage Coffee & Coloring	10:00 10:00 10:00 10:30 12:30 12:30 1:00	Garden Club Painting Club Writing Creatively Take a Walk Focus on Footcare Hand & Foot Mahjong	9:00 10:00 12:0 0	Book Club Strength Training	10:30	Yoga Nutrition Talk: Sodium Take a Walk Hand & Foot Tai Chi Meditation		Westford Market Basket Strength Training Groton Swim
12:00 G 12:30 C 1:00 C	trength Training Groton Swim Cribbage Coffee &Coloring	10:00 10:00 10:30 12:30	Garden Club Painting Club Writing Creatively Take a Walk Hand & Foot Mahjong	10:00 12:00		9:00 10:00 10:30 12:30 1:00 7:00	Yoga Memory Café Take a Walk Hand & Foot Tai Chi Meditation	10:00	Christmas Tree Shop Plaza Strength Training Groton Swim
	26	10:00	Creative 27		28		29	10.00.0	30
10:30 T 12:00 C 12:30 C 1:00 C	Strength Training Falk with Tom Groton Swim Cribbage Coffee &Coloring	10:00 1 10:00 1 10:30 1 12:30 1	Creations Garden Club Painting Club Writing Creatively Take a Walk Hand & Foot Mahjong		Strength Training Pizza & Movie: "Hello, My Name is Doris"	9:00 10:30 10:30 12:30 1:00 7:00	Take a Walk	12:00 C	trength Training Groton Swim Give Em Hell Harry!" By Gary Highlander

Always Available

For more information and to register please call or better yet, stop in and see us!

If you would like a copy of our monthly newsletter e-mailed to you, please call us at the senior center, 978-448-1140 or email us, gcoa@townofgroton.org



12:30pm

Mondays COA Board Meeting (1st Mon) Groton Swim Talk with Tom - Current Events (4th Mon) Supported by the Friends of Groton Elders	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am
Strength Training Cribbage Coloring, Coffee and Conversation	11:30am 12:30pm 1:00pm
Tuesdays Creative Creations One Stroke Painting Club Writing Creatively Garden Club Take a Walk with Us Hand and Foot Cards Mahjong	10:00am 10:00am 10:00am 10:00am 10:30am 12:30pm 1:000pm
Wednesdays Book Club (2nd Wed) Strength Training Groton Women's Club Luncheon (3rd Wed) with Entertainment	9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm
Sponsored by Groton Trust Lecture Fund Pizza and a Flick (Wed varies) Sponsored by Right at Home	12:00pm
Nashoba Tech Lunch - \$10 (Wed varies) Holiday Celebrations (Wed. varies)	12:00pm 12:00pm
Thursdays Yoga—\$3 per class Supported by the Friends of Groton Elders	9:00am
Vet's Breakfast (1st Thurs) Sponsored by Groton Police Association	10:00am
Take a Walk with Us Ask the Nurse	10:30am
and Blood Pressure Screenings (2nd Thurs) Presented by Nashoba Associated Boards	11:30am
of Health & Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice Hand and Foot Tai-Chi Fridays	12:30pm 12:30pm
Shopping - \$4 for van Groton Swim Strength Training Hearing Screenings (2nd Fri)	9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 11:15am

Bridge (1st and 3rd Fri.)

"Give Em Hell Harry!"

The Truman Presidential Campaign

Friday, September 30 10:30am



With this year being a presidential election year, let's revisit one of the most exciting elections in American history. The 1948 "whistle-stop" election was the first

presidential election after the war and the first since Roosevelt's death. The election of 1948 still commands the imagination of the nation. A feisty Truman ran and won a fabled upset victory over Governor Thomas Dewey.

This program is present by Dr. Gary Hylander.

Dr. Hylander earned his PhD at Boston College and is currently an independent scholar who specializes as a presidential historian.

Please register by call the senior center, 978-448-1170.

Coloring Coffee Conversation



Every Monday 1-3pm

Coloring is said to reduce stress, tap into your creativity and encourage mindfulness. Join us for great conversation while we all see what the craze is all about.

Talk with Tom

Discussion Group with Tom Hartnett September 26

4th Monday of the month 10:30 AM

Join Tom Hartnett, previous Town of Groton Treasurer, for a stimulating conversation about local stories and politics. Topics are driven by participants.



Thursday, November 12

10:30am

Presented by:
Sara Schwarz, MS, RD, LDN,
registered dietitian and the clinical nutrition manager
Nashoba Valley Medical Center

Gluten-free diet is a diet that excludes the protein gluten. Gluten is found in grains such as wheat, barley, rye, and a cross between wheat and rye called triticale. Gluten causes inflammation in



the small intestines of people with celiac disease.
Eating a gluten-free diet helps people with celiac disease control their signs and symptoms and prevent complications. Initially, following a gluten-free diet may be frustrating. But with time, patience and creativity, you'll find there are many foods that you already eat that are gluten-free and you will find substitutes for gluten-containing foods that you can enjoy.

Pizza and a Flick

This program is made possible through the generous donation of Ebi and Desiree Masalehdan

Wed, September 28 12:00pm
"Hello My Name is Doris"
Rated R for language

Comedy starring Sally Fields. When Doris Miller meets the much younger John Fremont, her company's hip new art director, sparks fly-at least for Doris. When Doris begins showing up at John's regular haunts her new life brings Doris a thrilling perspective, but also creates a rift between her and her longtime friends and family, who believe she's making a fool of herself over a guy half her age. Eager for all the experiences she has missed out on, Doris throws caution to the wind and follows her heart for the very first time.

Wed, October 5

12:00pm "Suffragette"



In this galvanizing feminist drama, a working-class laundress (Carey Mulligan) in 19th century London becomes radicalized when she meets a brave cadre of women organizing to obtain the vote.

Special Events

Please make your reservation by calling the center, 978-448-1170



Veteran's Breakfast

Thursday, September 1 10:00am Cost: None

Nine months a year the Groton Police Union sponsor a free breakfast for our area's veterans and spouses. Head Chef, Police Chief Palma will serve eggs, sausage, bacon and hash brown potatoes with the assistance of his officers and other town employees. At each breakfast, Bob Johnson, Groton's Veterans' Agent/Veterans' Service Officer; will schedule a veterans themed presentation or speaker.

Groton Women's Club Sponsored luncheon



A fabulous lunch of Curried Chicken Salad, broccoli salad and roll complete with a brownie and ice cream will start our program followed by "Music Through the Decades" commissioned by Norman Rockwell Museum. You will learn how the last hundred-plus years of American and world history have influenced the great American Popular Song Book. Using keyboard, trumpet, and vocals the music of George M.Cohan, Irving Berlin, Fats Waller, George Gershwin, Hoagy Carmichael, and others will be brought to life with historical significance.

Nashoba Tech Catered Luncheon

Wed, September 14 12:00pm Cost: \$10 (with optional tip)

Program:Birds of Prey
WINGMASTERS is a



partnership of two people dedicated to increasing public understanding and appreciation of North American birds of prey. Julie Anne Collier and Jim Parks are both licensed raptor rehabilitators based in Massachusetts. This program incorporates live birds of prey and may include; eagles, hawks, owls and falcons.

Menu:

Braised Beef Medallions or Seafood Casserole Please make you reservation by Fri., 9/9

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Transportation Information

Lahey, Mass General, Brigham and Women's, Dana Farber, Emerson Hospital, Boston VA and Bedford VA

Serving outlying Medical services

Boston, Concord, Burlington, and the VA

This service is also open to residents in surrounding towns, however the van will leave from the Groton Senior Center for non-residents.

Wednesday: Serving **Boston area hospitals** Mass General, Dana Farber, Brigham & Women's, Boston VA Please make your appointments between the hours of 11am and 1pm.

Thursdays: Serving **Emerson**, **Lahey and Bedford VA**Please make your appointments between the hours of 10am and 2pm.

Round Trip Fees: Boston \$15, Emerson \$5, others \$10 No charge for the Va

This is a new service with policies subject to change. Please call if you absolutely cannot get an appointment within the requested hours and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Local Trips

within Groton, Pepperell, Shirley, Townsend, Westford, Ayer, Harvard and Littleton

Medical

Social

Shopping

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays: Van leaves COA at 9:30am Mondays and 8:30am Tuesdays and Thursdays with last trip completed by 3:00pm.



Wednesdays: Visit to Loaves and Fishes (no charge for this) the van leaving the COA at 10:00am and with the last trip completed by 2:00pm

Fridays: Special shopping trips and senior center activities

Friday Special Shopping: 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

1st Friday: Shopping on DW Highway, Nashua The mall, Savers, BJ's, Trader Joe's back to Mall 2nd Friday: Shopping in Lunenburg: Wal-Mart

3rd Friday: Westford Market Basket Plaza (afternoon)
4th Friday: Nashua Drop at BJ's or Christmas Tree

Kohls, Burlington Coat, LL Bean

Reservations for all COA Van rides must be made using the COA Van line, 978-448-1141.

Reservations will not be accepted on the general phone line. Please leave a message with name, phone number, time of appointment and location. Staff will return your call by the end of the workday. Reservations are filled on a first come, first serve basis. When you make your reservation please let staff know if you are transported by a wheelchair.

Creative Creations

Please register by calling the senior center Samples on display at the senior center

Tuesday, September 27 10:00am Eclectic Wind Chimes

Cost: \$5

Copper Wiring and re-claimed items will make this unusual wind chime. Donna will lead this class.

Tuesday, October 25 10:00am Alcohol Ink on Tiles

Cost: \$5

Express your creativity through the use of alcohol ink on tiles, you can simply "play" with the medium and get amazing effects. You don't have to be an artist to get fabulous results! Learn the techniques that are easy to do on your own. Kathy #1 will lead this class.

Guided Lighthouse Tour

Monday, September 12 Cost: \$95 pp for seniors \$120 for non seniors

Depart the senior center at 7:45 and return 9:30pm

Includes:

Guided Tours:

Portland Light
Nubble Light



Portsmouth Harbor Light 2 hours free time Old Portland Dinner at Warren Lobster,

Kittery

Coach Bus Transportation

Not included:

Lunch is on your own in Portland Drivers Gratuity

Registrations opens July 1

\$50 deposit required payment in full due August 19 Checks payable to Town of Groton Refunds given prior to August 19 unless we can fill your seat.

All welcome regardless of residency.

Health and Wellness

Please register by calling the center or stop in and register at the front desk.

Strength Training

Mon 11:30, Wed 10:30 and Fri 10:00
Cost: \$3 per class
Elaine Corsetti, our instructor, offers
just the right mix of aerobic & strength in your
workout. Class is set to vibrant music.

Yoga

Supported by the Friends of Groton Elders.
Thursdays, 9:00AM
Cost: \$3.00 per class
A gentle yoga class with a focus on mental peace.
Work on your flexibility as you experience tranquility.

Take a Walk

Please call the senior center to register



Open to all adults Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30am—11:30am

At the Peter Twomey Center Located on the Middle School campus (behind the middle school)

A great way to get exercise, walk with friends, meet new ones. COA staff will meet you there for some chatting and walking!

Ask the Nurse

2nd Thursday of each month

September 8 11:30am

Town of Groton nurse will be on hand to check your blood pressure, or simply answer your questions Presented by Nashoba Associated Boards of Health & Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice

Groton Senior Swim

Open swim available

During the school year *The Groton School pool.*

Mon and Fri 10-11AM Cost: none

Please register at the senior center prior to participation.



JOY OF LIVING

Meditation Group

7:00 PM Thursdays

at the senior center

Each session includes a video teaching with clear instructions on the basics of meditation practice, guidelines for daily practice, advice for bringing mindfulness into your everyday life, and questions to reflect upon throughout the week.

Focus on Footcare

September 13 October 11 Appointments beginning at 10am

During your visit you can expect a 30 minute appointment which will include; assessment, nail clipping, filing callus reduction and, completing the appointment, a gentle massage.

Each appointment is \$30 Provider:

Sarah Kinghorn: BSN RN CFCN

Instructional Tai Chi

Thursdays 1:00pm - 2:00pm

*

Cost: \$5 per class payable to the instructor

Tai chi is low impact and puts minimal stress on muscles and

joints, making it generally safe for all fitness levels. It is known to increase balance, reducing fall risk and aid in lowering blood pressure through its meditative qualities. Instructor Debbie LaDue



Hearing Screenings

No screenings in September

2nd Friday of each month 11:15am-1pm By Appointment

Christopher Streeter, hearing specialist, will conduct free hearing screenings and hearing aid cleanings. Please be sure to make an appointment.

Veterans Wall of Honor



We at the Council on Aging in Groton are proud of our veterans and would like to add to our *Wall of Honor* here at the center.

We are asking you to share stories and pictures from your time of service. Anything and all you would like to share. Please drop them off at the center or email them to us at gcoa@townofgroton.org and be part of our Veterans Wall of Honor.

If you are a spouse or a child of a veteran we would also love to hear from you about your loved one who served.

Day Trips with Jay

Registration for both trips: September 1 for residents September 15 for non-residents

Gloucester's Beauport by the Sea

Friday, October 7 8:30am-4:30pm
Cost \$53 includes guided tour and lunch
Our tour of the seaside mansion will enter a maze of
rooms decorated like stage sets evoking America's
past. We'll explore a bright apple green bedroom, an
early American kitchen, a breathtaking green and
white dining room overlooking Gloucester Harbor, a
round book tower built around quirky wooden curtains.
Beauport was the summer home of Henry Sleeper,
America's first professional interior designer.
Following our tour we'll head to
Lobsta Land for lunch.

Nutrition with Christin



Thursday, September 15 10:30am

Join in the discussion about sodium with Christin Saucier, Registered Dietician from Montachusett Opportunity Council. She'll be reviewing current sodium recommendations and MOC's menu, creating a "do-it-yourself" salt free seasoning, as well as offering free blood pressure screening.

Peabody Essex Museum

Thursday, November 3 9:00am-3:00pm
Cost \$49 includes tour and lunch
During our guided Highlights Tour we will discover
outstanding artistic and cultural creativity from all over
the world. One of the oldest museums in the country,
PEM is home to objects from around the globe that
show the multilayered and interconnected world of
creative expression.

We'll take a break fro lunch at Red's before returning to the museum for some free time. Current exhibits include American Impressionist Childe Hassam and the Isles of Shoals.

End of the season Drive-In BASH!



Friday, September 16
6:00pm BBQ dinner \$5pp to cover food
Sausage, peppers and onions, burgers, french fries & ice cream
movie at dusk outdoors

Say good-bye to summer in style! BBQ dinner of sausage, peppers and onions then as darkness falls we'll enjoy a classic 1965 beach movie, How To Stuff A Wild Bikini with Frankie Avalon. We'll watch the movie on the big outdoor screen loaned to us by the Groton Police Department.