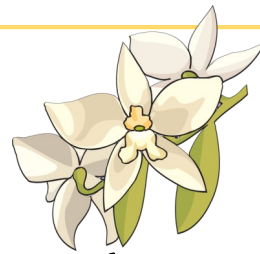


Living Well



Newsletter
February
2024

Williamsburg Senior Center: Programs & Services for Active Living at 60+

It is Special to Know Someone Who is Special...

When we asked **Madelyn Breen** if we could share a story about her in our newsletter her response was "Okay, but I don't like to bring attention to myself—I just do what I have to do."

Madelyn grew up on South Main Street in Haydenville, the second oldest of five children. She talked about how shy she was as a child and how rarely she spoke. "I don't know how I did anything." As we talked and I learned about her life, it is amazing to think that this is how our conversation began.

Madelyn shared that she was always interested in nursing. She went to the Haydenville Library and "read everything I could about nursing – Clara Barton, Florence Nightingale, etc." Her mother went to nursing school and her books were in the house attic. Madelyn found them and read them, as well. Her mother did not work as a nurse – she married and raised her children. Madelyn also recalls going to the rest home across the street from her home with her grandmother (who was a nurse).

Madelyn fondly talks about growing up in her home. It was a full house – family was nearby and always welcome. "In fact, anyone who came to the house was welcome not only to come, but to stay."

Madelyn graduated from Burgy High. She said at the time, three options were available to young women – teaching, nursing, and secretarial. Madelyn attended the R.N. (registered nurse) program at Cooley Dickinson Hospital (CDH). She lived in the dorm and had to take out a loan to attend the three-year program. She spoke of the bank loan officer who took her under her wing and made sure she had what she needed.

Madelyn then began her 50+-year career at CDH. She worked in a variety of specialties, earning her certificates in oncology nursing and case management (among others) along the way. The majority of her nursing was in oncology (chemotherapy and radiation). Madelyn also earned her 4 year degree in nursing (Bachelors in Science of Nursing – B.S.N.) as a part-time student, while working full-time.

Being a nurse helped Madelyn overcome her shyness. "I had to become a different person."

Madelyn continues to keep current on her R.N. license. "It is such a big part of my identity. I was always a nurse." She has since retired from CDH. However, she spends much of her time helping individuals in the community with her knowledge of community resources and expertise in nursing. Many folks know her and will reach out to her for help. South Main St. knows her well. "I'm on call for most of the neighborhood." She lives in the same house she grew up in. Madelyn added that she loves her street just the way it is. Needless to say, she enjoys the feel of a small town.

Madelyn has also volunteered for the Relay For Life (RFL) for over 25 years in a variety of roles, including being on the event leadership committee (i.e. she was in charge of lots of big parts). She was the liaison between CDH and the RFL (a National and worldwide group which raises funds for cancer research, remembers those lost, and seeks a cure). She continues to volunteer and raise money for RFL.

I would be remiss if I did not talk about Madelyn's involvement (as coordinator) with the Take and Eat program (please see page 2 of this newsletter for a description of the program). She was an excellent choice for this work, which she does as a life-long member of Our Lady of the Hills Parish. She has served in many capacities to make the parish a vibrant part of the community.

Madelyn enjoys reading, walking her dog, visiting the coast of Maine, eating seafood, attending Broadway shows, and being with family. She still has the drive to be a part of the community and help people.

I enjoyed (immensely) this interlude with Madelyn. She is bright, funny (able to laugh at herself), talkative, and above all a caring and kind person. From shy girl to "I greet everybody," our community is enriched by having her.

Thank you, Madelyn!

—Melissa Wilson



Williamsburg Senior Center – 141 Main Street, P.O. Box 193, Haydenville, MA 01039
Phone: 268-8407 or 8410 ~ Hours: Mon – Thurs, 8:30 – 2:00 ~ Email: seniorcenterdirector@burgy.org

SHINE

SHINE can help you with Medicare and Medicare-related insurance issues. If you want to speak to a SHINE agent, call the Senior Center to make an appointment. Leave your name and phone number and we'll have an agent contact you.

Veteran's Service Officer

VA office hours are back! Stop in to see our rep, Dan Nye on 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 11:30—1:00, or call **413-587-1299** for appointments.

Brown Bag: Food for Elders

Eligible seniors can get a free bag of groceries on 2nd Thursdays at the Senior Center. Call the Food Bank at **413-247-9738** or **800-247-9632** or download an application at <https://www.foodbankwma.org>. Send applications to: The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, P.O. Box 160, Hatfield, MA 01038.

Congregate Meals

Meals are being served in the Senior Café Mondays—Thursdays! Fridays are by delivery only. On **Mondays and Thursdays we make fresh-cooked meals**, and Tuesdays and Wednesdays we get meals from Highland Valley Elder Services. **Please join us! Contact Tamar at 268-8419, 2-3 days ahead to reserve a meal.**

Take and Eat

Two area churches are providing freshly made meals delivered every Saturday. Contact the Senior Center to find out more or to sign up.

Foot Nurse

Piper Sagan is doing foot care at the Senior Center **February 13th** and the second Tuesday every other (even) month. Call us (**268-8407**) to make an appointment, (\$50). Piper can also do foot care in your home, (\$80). Call her at **413-522-8432** for an appointment.

Hilltown Elder Network

Also known as the **HEN Program**, is available from the Hilltown Community Development Corporation for house-keeping and other duties. Call the coordinator, **Fran**, at **268-7411** for more info.

Medical Rides

Senior Center drivers are available for your medical rides funded by **PVTA**. **Call us at least 3 days ahead** and we will provide a driver. (You can also use their **Dial-A-Ride Services, 413-739-7436**.)

Carpool Rides

Rides for shopping/errands can be scheduled through our **Carpool Program**. **Call us at least 3 days ahead** and we will try our best to provide you a driver.

Companion Program/Friendly Visits

Would you or someone you know benefit from a friendly visit or a regular companion? We can set it up for you! Contact us for more info.

The Carpool & Companion programs are provided by a Title III Grant through Highland Valley Elder Services.

Wellness Calls

The Williamsburg Senior Center makes friendly calls. If you are feeling lonely, or would like check-up calls, we'll add you to our call list. (**268-8419**)

Modern/Contemporary Dance

Susan Waltner's very popular dance class happens on **Wednesdays at 10:00 am** in the auditorium or on the lawn. Contact her at swaltner@smith.edu if you would like to join. Donations gratefully accepted.

Tai Chi

Marty Phinney offers Tai Chi outside or in the auditorium, **Tuesdays, 9:30 am**. Members or interested folks can contact her at **413-268-3228**. Donations gratefully accepted.

Healthy Bones & Balance

Mary Bisbee leads HB&B on **Mondays at 1 pm** (except holidays) and **Thursdays at 9:30 am in the Auditorium**. Call the Senior Center to sign up or stop in to check it out! This **free class** is sponsored by RSVP.

Strength and Cardio Workouts

Joan Griswold is leading workouts via Zoom **Thursdays at 10:15 am**. Visit her at www.bybhealth.com to sign up. Other hours may also be available.

Men's Group

Meets at the **Williamsburg Snack Shack** on **3rd Thursdays at 8:30 am (Feb 15th)**. To join, email **Larry West (landwest3315@yahoo.com)**, and become one of the "guys!"

Ladies Who Lunch

Meets at the **Williamsburg Snack Shack** on **3rd Fridays at 11:30 am (Feb 16th)**. **Please stop in and join us or call 268-8407 for info.** (Look for our sign!)

Technology Program

Need help using your cell phone, computer or other devices? The Senior Center can help! Volunteers work one-on-one with folks and arrange a time that works for both parties. **Contact the office at 413-268-8407 to schedule an appointment.**

Open Art and Craft Studio

The Williamsburg Senior Center invites you to participate in an open studio, where you can make your own art or crafts with your own materials.

It is not a class, there is no cost to attend this group, you just need to be a senior (60+). Please come to enjoy the camaraderie of being with a group of folks who have shared interests. The group is scheduled to meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 1 – 3 pm. The first gatherings will be in February - the 8th and 22nd.

Please contact Gloria Black (413-268-7767 or Gloriosa050@yahoo.com) to sign up. **We hope to see you there!**



<https://pnghut.com>

Would you like to be involved in the Comprehensive Plan for the future of our town?
See article on page 4.

Are You Bored with Winter and Wishing for Signs of Spring?

Does it seem like Spring will never get here, and the whole world is brown and white? I crave green more than any other color during the long winter. **What can we do about it?**

One winter, I cured the blues by taking a couple of friends to **Hadley Garden Center**. The greenhouse was warm, and everything was so green—it was bursting with life! The blooming plants; cyclamen, primrose and other hothouse flowers really cheered us up!

Another great place to go is **Magic Wings**. If you can brave the streets to Route 5/10 in Deerfield, you enter a tropical paradise full of flowers, butterflies, birds, and other wildlife. There is a trickling waterfall in the center of it all and benches to take in the beauty.

And for more tropical beauty, you can attend **The Amherst Orchid Society Annual Show** at Smith Vocational High School on **February 24th at 9-5 & 25th at 10-4**. Then the **Smith College Bulb Show** always starts the first Saturday in March and runs for two weeks, including the third weekend.



Local Sugarhouses are sometimes open as early as mid-February and run through March and maybe into April. When the sap is running, it seems that Spring is evident; and who doesn't enjoy pancakes with homemade maple syrup on top? Grab a friend and venture out.

Next time you are in the **grocery store**, visit their flower department and maybe take home a bouquet or a potted plant—don't wait for someone else to send you flowers!

Remember, our Carpool Program can bring you to these places if you don't have other transportation (413-268-8407, please call a few days ahead.)

If you are lonely and feeling isolated, you'll find good company here at the **Senior Center Café**! See Café News in the next column for more information.

—Sherry Loomis

Café News

What About the Senior Center Café?

It's about good food: Home-cooked meals on Mondays and Thursdays and prepared meals by Highland Valley Elder Services on Tuesday and Wednesdays. All seniors (60+) are welcome.

It's about camaraderie: Come to visit your neighbors and friends. Make new friends! Spend an hour or so visiting and getting involved in lively conversation. Stay for programs: music, storytellers, **monthly raffles** and other events. **See our menu on the web-site: www.burgy.org.**

We look forward to seeing you in the Café. Please call **Tamar at least a day ahead to make sure we have a meal for you: 413-268-8407 or 8410. See you soon!**

Note: No lunch will be served on February 19th for Presidents' Day (The office will also be closed.)

Transportation Program News

Happy New Year! Our amazing drivers provided about **500** much-needed trips to Burgy seniors last year!

If you need a ride, please make sure to call 268-8407 at least **THREE** of our business days in advance.

With **snow season** upon us, please ensure that your driver has a place to park when they pick you up, and that someone has cleared your walkway. Please **call Joy at 268-8407** Mon. - Thurs. 9 am - 1 pm if you anticipate having to cancel your ride.

*If you'd like to **join our group** of dedicated drivers, please call Joy for more information!*

The Williamsburg Senior Center relies on donations from the community to support our well-attended programs and events. If you would like to donate, there are three ways to contribute:

1. Donate online via Unipay at www.burgy.org/senior-center;
2. Drop off your donation in person during business hours;
3. Mail a donation to Williamsburg Senior Center, PO Box 193, Haydenville, MA 01039.

The Williamsburg Senior Center counts on YOUR support to continue our programming for local seniors!

☐ I would like to contribute to the Williamsburg Senior Center. My contribution of \$_____ is attached.

(Please write your check to **Town of Williamsburg** with "Senior Center program support" on the memo line.)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Thank You for Helping Us Support Our Neighbors!

Comprehensive Plan for Our Town

Steve Smith, Planning Board Chair, reached out to the Senior Center about inviting seniors to a focus group meeting. "We'd like to gather seniors to make sure we hear from them." It really is a **listening** session as part of the Town's comprehensive planning process. Topics to include housing, transportation, recreational activities, etc.

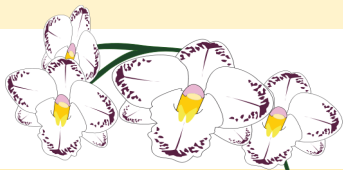
Who: Interested Seniors (you!) to meet with Planning Board members

What: Focus group (ideas are welcome!)

When: Feb. 26, 2024 from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm (refreshments provided)

Where: Williamsburg Town Office Building, 141 Main Street, Haydenville

A comprehensive plan is a major undertaking and will serve as a guide to how we want our town to plan for the future. With community input a planning document will be written some time next year. **All are welcome.** Thank you.



For Help with Tax Preparation

AARP has an online tax program: Type in **AARP tax aide** in your browser and click on the appropriate box. Folks can also make appointments at the Northampton Senior Center, which serves as an in person/drop off site. AARP also has a **Tax Aide Site Locator Tool** (type into browser) to find additional sites that can do an in-person visit (might be a drop off due to COVID). You can also call 888-687-2277.

Community Action of Pioneer Valley offers free tax assistance through the VITA program. This program helps taxpayers with lower incomes maximize their tax refund or reduce their taxes due. They have online tax prep or drop off sites in Northampton and Greenfield. The phone number to call is 413-376-1136. **To do taxes online with this program** type into browser: communityaction.us. Click on **Community Services** (in the menu bar across the top). A drop down will appear: **VITA Free Tax Assistance program**.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the Senior Center.

Get the Digital Version!

You can get a color digital image (a pdf download of this newsletter) along with, or instead of a paper copy! As postage rates go up and grant funding goes down, we may resort to digital copies more and more. Join a list of your neighbors who already get digital copies!

MASS Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit

Who is eligible?

You must be a Massachusetts resident or part-year resident. You must be 65 or older by December 31 of the tax year. You must file a Schedule CB with your Massachusetts personal income tax return. You must own or rent residential property in Massachusetts and occupy it as your primary residence.

For tax year 2023, your total Massachusetts income doesn't exceed:

- \$69,000 for a single individual who is not the head of a household.
- \$86,000 for a head of household.
- \$103,000 for married couples filing a joint return.

If you are a homeowner, your Massachusetts property tax payments, together with half of your water and sewer expense, must exceed 10% of your total Massachusetts income for the tax year.

If you are a renter, 25% of your annual Massachusetts rent must exceed 10% of your total Massachusetts income for the tax year. The assessed valuation of the homeowner's personal residence as of January 1, 2023, before residential exemptions but after abatements, cannot exceed \$1,025,000.

The Schedule CB must be completed within 3 years from the last day for filing the return, without regard to any extension of time to file.

For more information, please search in your browser for Massachusetts Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit or call the Senior Center at 268-8410.

Meekins Library

2 Williams St. Williamsburg MA

Phone: (413) 268-7472

Hours for public browsing at Meekins

Tuesday	10-6
Wednesday	1-7
Thursday	3-6
Saturday	9-2

- Masks are no longer required, but masks and sanitizer remain available for our patrons.
- Haydenville Library open by appointment only

Visit our website, www.burgy.org or our Facebook Group: [Williamsburg Senior Center](https://www.facebook.com/WilliamsburgSeniorCenter)

To subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter or receive a digital copy by email, contact us, leaving your name, email address and phone number at 268-8410, or sloomis@burgy.org.



Technology Help and Training for February



Tech Drop in Center Hours:

(no appointment needed)

- Weekly on Tuesdays from 11:00 to 2:00 at 400 Main Rd Chesterfield Community Center
- Meekins Library Drop-In tech support on Tuesday 2/13 from 10 to Noon, Williamsburg
- Nash Hill Place Resident Drop-In tech support, Thurs 2/22 from 10:00 to Noon

Tech Training:

- Beginner's Windows Computer Class continues, weekly Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00, Chesterfield Community Center, 400 Main Rd, lower level
- Intermediate Windows Computer Class sign-up starts now, classes to begin in March.

Must register for classes or workshops.

Email coaTechConnect@gmail.com; call or text **413-296-5080**, or sign up through the website www.northernhilltownscoas.org

Must register one week before the scheduled training date.

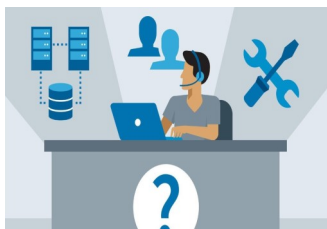
Tech Help Requests or Volunteering:

- Support available by email: coaTechHelp@gmail.com, phone or text msg **413-296-5080**. Response within 24 hours.
- See our updated website www.northernhilltownscoas.org to sign up online as a volunteer or to request tech assistance.

Event Save The Date:

On **Saturday, April 6th** we will be holding a **Tech Connect event** with vendors, mini-workshops, information, and activities at New Hingham Elementary School, Smith Rd, in Chesterfield.

Watch for more information in the coming month.



Would you like to receive your newsletter, in color, by email instead of snail mail?

If so, please email Kristen at regionalcoanews@gmail.com to be put on the email list. Include your address so I will know which mailing list to take you off of. Thanks!



Seniors Aware of Fire Education

We were now in "Open Burning Season" which began Jan. 15 and ends May 1. This is the time in which you may burn brush, cane, driftwood and forest debris outside. It is against the law to burn construction material or debris. Here are some safety tips for outdoor burns:

Senior 
SAFE

- Get a burning permit from your town. They are issued on a daily basis based on weather conditions.
- An adult must attend the fire until it is totally extinguished.
- Have fire control materials at hand — water supply, rakes, and shovels.
- Pick an open area 40 feet from any structure in which to build the fire.
- Do NOT use gasoline or any other combustible liquid to start the fire.
- If the wind picks up, be ready to quickly extinguish the fire.
- If the fire gets out of control, immediately call for help - 911.

The reason I have chosen Open Burning Season for the February topic is because the best time to prevent wild, out-of-control fires is to burn during wet, snowy conditions. These conditions help keep the fire from rapidly spreading on and under ground.

You even have one more day in February to be fire S.A.F.E.!

--Worth Noyes, SAFE Educator
Williamsburg & Cummington Fire Departments

The Senior SAFE program is sponsored by many of your fire departments and the MA Dept. of Fire Services.

Love is in the Air, but also...

It is the Valentine season again! Love it. But there are issues for some folks around this time of year. One of our friends, a very educated and smart but lonely guy, joined a dating service. He went 0 for 4 on successful interactions. I asked him if he had any advice to share, and this is what he sent.

"I would like to share my thoughts on online dating. My experiences have not been good. I have had four horrible experiences and unfortunately I got burned big time on one of them. The patterns as I look back are similar. Unfortunately you tend to ignore red flags until it is too late. The following patterns are serious red flags:

1. All of them start off by telling you how nice it is to meet you. "You are the first person since my husband died that I feel a real connection to." "Let's move slow before we move to texting, phone before meeting." Always a hint of being flirtatious.
2. They ask a lot of questions about you but are very vague about themselves.
3. They send photos, nothing inappropriate, but ask for none in return.
4. No interest in your past relationships (like why am I online), have been married, kids, etc.
5. When texting, you respond within a reasonable period of time, they respond sometimes hours later with one or two words. They rarely ever respond by using your name, appears to be honey, babe, etc.
6. when texting for specific information, they immediately respond with a text so lengthy, you wonder if it has been scripted.
7. In my case, all have appeared to either been self-employed and/or business owners, and some emergency has come up. "I know we have known each other a short period of time, but can you send me...?"
8. When I have asked for the local address or to send me a copy of their driver's license, I get responses like, "I have trust issues", "If we are going to be life partners, why can't you do this?" etc.

The last one was really good. We had telephone conversations, etc. We were supposed to get together like the next day or a weekend. She called me to say her work required her to go out of town. Shortly thereafter, a panic phone call of an emergency where she needed to borrow \$5,500 until she returned home.

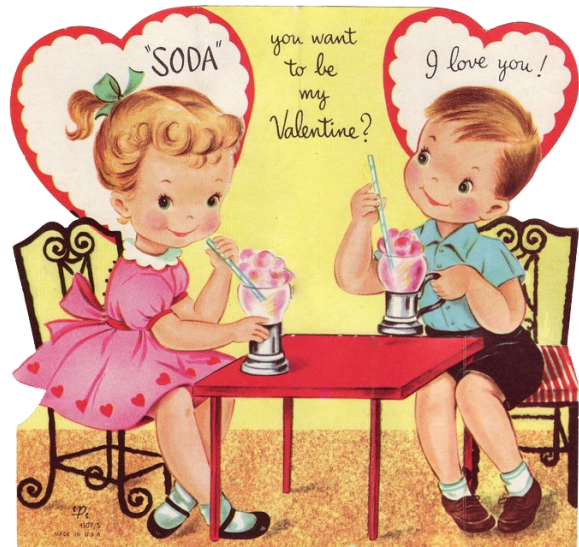
Hope this helps. I have no more shame to hide. By the way, I decided to give up online dating."

Be safe, y'all.

Jean O'Neil

TRIAD Committee member

jeanoneilmass@gmail.com; 413-268-2228



February's Good News

By Deb Hollingworth

Recently I've had questions about lifeline services; what they cost and how to get them if you don't have a land line anymore. There are several possibilities including subsidies for both your land line bill and/or your wireless/Smart phone bill. Utility companies are mandated to provide discounts for low income customers. So if you live in subsidized housing or receive SNAP benefits or have MassHealth, you qualify. This applies to both a land line or a wireless bill. To get more information and help applying, you can call Verizon at 1-800 Safe-Link. ((1-800-723-3546). If Verizon is your phone carrier, they will discount your bill. However, the discount is only about \$10/month for a land line, and \$5.50/month for wireless. If you have a Smart phone you might explore apps that act as a lifeline.

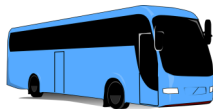
For folks who have a land line, but can't afford the Lifeline service fee of about \$30/month, Highland Valley offers to pay for lifeline if you have a medical condition that makes you susceptible to falls. If you call Highland Valley Elder Services at 413-586-2000, you can ask to speak to their Benefits counselor who may have more suggestions on how to cut costs. Also, MassHealth will pay for a lifeline if your doctor orders it. (Like getting a prescription from your doctor).

Lifeline works when you fall at home, but there are additional features for mobile lifelines in case your car breaks down, or you sprain an ankle while hiking in the woods and need help. The GPS feature can guide emergency responders to your location.

With luck, you may never need to use your lifeline. But you and your family and friends will have some peace of mind knowing you have one.

On the Road Again...

2024 Trips



Contact Francine Frenier to reserve your seat **before** mailing any payments to determine availability: 413-296-4291, francine.frenier@gmail.com. Mailing address: 11 Stage Rd., Williamsburg, MA 01096.

Day Trip April 5 or 15th. Culinary Institute of America-- Enjoy a "CIA" experience with lunch at Catarina DeMedici. Free time to explore the bookstore and bake shop. The \$125 Payment to Francine Frenier is due by February 20th. Please mail a check to the address above. This trip will depart from S. Hadley.

Day Trip Tuesday, May 14. Neil Diamond -The Tribute from Las Vegas - Rob Garrett, known as the King of Diamonds, performs at the Aqua Turf Club, CT. Family style meal of Chicken ala Kathryn & Broiled Scrod included. The \$137 Payment to FNSC is due by March 12. Please mail them to the address above. **Two seats available.**

Nine Day Trip May 29- June 6, 2024. Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island & New Brunswick. Passport required. Check your expiration date. Cost \$1,644, per person dbl. occupancy - \$25 discount if paid in full by **February 20th**. Make payment to Diamond Tours and mail to the address above. **Four openings.**

Day Trip Thursday June 13. Timeless Music Pop to Broadway – Luncheon and Show at Storowton Tavern Carriage House in W. Springfield. Self-drive or carpool. Cost is \$77 made out to Chesterfield COA and mailed to address above. Chesterfield seniors: please call for pricing.

Day Trip Thursday, July 11th. Lake Sunapee Luncheon Cruise- Vermont Country Store. A two hour luncheon cruise on Lake Sunapee in New Hampshire. This trip includes Luncheon buffet and a stop at the Vermont Country Store. The \$118 Payment to Landmark Tours is due by May 10. Please mail to the address above. **This trip sold out last year, so reserve early.**

Day Trip Wednesday, August 7th. Resorts World Casino-- Catskills, NY trip. Can you get enough of **Elvis**? Enjoy a lovely ride to the Catskills. Included: King in Concert show, Buffet Lunch and \$25 free slot play, driver gratuity. The \$145 Payment to FNSC is due by May 5. Please mail to the address above. Please include your date of birth for the player card. **THIS TRIP IS A GO.**

Day Trip October TBD. Lake George Cruise- Take a 2 hour luncheon cruise through the vistas of Lake George. The Captain's Luncheon Buffet

will be served on board. Keyboard entertainer performs. Stops at scenic Prospect Mountain and the Lake George Outlets with 30 stores to explore. The \$131 payment to Landmark Tours is due by August 19th. Please mail to the address above. **This trip sold out last year, so reserve early.**

Four Day Trip September 30- October 3. Lancaster, PA. Sight & Sound production of the biblical show Daniel. Cost \$646, per person dbl. occupancy - \$25 discount if paid in full by **June 20th**. Includes: Sight & Sound Theater show, tour of Philadelphia, time in Hershey's Chocolate World, 6 meals, hotels, driver gratuity. **Make payment to Diamond Tours and mail to the address above. Call now to reserve your spot.**

Day Trip Friday December 13. Festival of Trees and Red Rose Lunch. Enjoy the uniquely decorated Christmas Trees at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield. Enter a chance to win a tree and associated gifts. Some are worth hundreds of dollars. Then walk over to the Red Rose Italian Restaurant for lunch: pizza, salad and bread. The \$TBD Payment is due by October 25. Please mail to the address above.

Do you know about the Hilltown Driver Pool Program?

This is a door-to-door service provided by members of your community looking to support your occasional transportation needs to important medical appointments, related errands and trips to the grocery store. Residents from the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Hinsdale, Peru, Plainfield, Windsor, Westhampton and Worthington who are ambulatory and at least 60 years of age are eligible for service. This is a grant-funded program; suggested donations range from \$5-\$10. Interested in being a driver? Schedules can be very flexible. For services or more information about supporting this program as a driver reach out to Ed Pelletier at (413) 296-4232 or email: ride@hilltowncdc.org.



Please take this Hilltown CDC survey:

The Hilltown CDC is applying for funding that supports important programs in our community: the Goshen Food Pantry, the HEN Program, Health Outreach Program and the Housing Rehabilitation Program. You **do not** have to be a recipient of these programs, but **you do** need to be a Hilltown resident. Please take a few moments to share your important feedback and support of this valuable Hilltown resources:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KTMT25C>

Williamsburg Senior Center
141 Main Street
P.O. Box 193
Haydenville, MA 01039

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Greenfield MA

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Joy Moore
Sherry Loomis
Tamar Smith
&
Our Many Volunteers

This Newsletter is sponsored in part by a grant from The Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

CHARITY SCAM

You get a call from a charity looking for donations. Scammers try to fool you into giving money using these tactics:

- They rush you into making a donation;
- They use names that sound like a real charity;
- They change the caller ID to make you think it's a local caller.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MAKE SURE THE MONEY IS GOING TO A GOOD CAUSE?

- Research the charity before donating;
- Verify that the organization is registered with the MA Attorney General's Office;
- Look up the charity online & read what others are saying about it.



If you have a consumer problem or question, contact the Northwestern District Attorney's Consumer Protection Unit:

Greenfield (413) 774-3186
Northampton (413) 586-9225



Working in cooperation with the Office of the MA Attorney General