Westminster Council on Aging December 2019 Newsletter

69 West Main Street, P. O. Box 212, Westminster, MA 01473



978-874-7402





HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
To Our Seniors
Celebrating
This Month!



Dear Santa,
I have been good all year,
Well, most of the time,
Okay, once in awhile.
Never mind,
I'll buy my own stuff.





From the Director's Desk

Wishing Everyone
a Merry Christmas
and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

As we continue to grow, we've had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful people. Going into our 5th year in this warm and welcoming facility, we look forward to embracing our familiar friends, as well as encourage new seniors to stop in and see what we have to offer. Whether you live in town or reside in surrounding towns or cities, you are welcome here!

Be sure to visit us in 2020!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS ~ HAVE A GREAT YEAR!!!

From all of us at the Westminster Senior Center ~ Sue, Michelle, Pat, Kathy, Jayne, Dan, Bruce, Kim, Gerry, & Lynn

Elizabeth Kalmansson, Attorney at Law

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December 24 ~ Christmas Eve December 25 ~ Christmas Day December 31 ~ New Year's Eve



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ♦ Join Westminster Police Detective Nick Auffrey for coffee December 13 & 27, 12:00 1:00 pm. All are welcome to stop by, ask questions, voice concerns, and stay informed of the latest scams & fraud while in a relaxed and friendly environment.
- ♦ The Friendship Club will meet and celebrate Christmas on December 4 at 1:00 pm. If you'd like to participate in the gift swap, please bring a \$10-valued wrapped gift. Also, please bring pastries to share. This is always a fun event and all are welcome to join the Christmas fun! Bring a friend! Due to unpredictable winter weather, meetings will not be held January and February. Meetings will resume March 4 for St. Patrick's Day.
- ♦ Patti from The Gables of Fitchburg will be here on December 2 providing a delicious Bingo dessert.
- ♦ Jackie of Gardner Rehabilitation & Nursing Center will provide tasty Bingo sweets on December 6.
- ♦ Glen Gregory, our SHINE Counselor, will be at the Westminster Senior Center December 4 & 18 and January 15 with hourly time slots available. Please contact the Senior Center to schedule an appointment.
- ♦ Free blood pressure clinics with Eileen are held the third Thursday of every month. The next clinic will be held December 19, 11:00 am 12:00 pm.
- ♦ The Council on Aging Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, December 3 at 1:00 pm. This meeting is open to the public.

INFORMATION

- ♦ Applications for the 2019-2020 Fuel Assistance Program are now available. To obtain your form, to find out if you qualify, or if you have any questions, please contact New England Farm Workers' Council, 473 Main Street, Fitchburg at 978-342-4520.
- ♦ Due to the holidays, the Senior Center <u>van</u> will *not* be available the following dates: December 24, 25, 31, and January 1. Please make other transportation plans accordingly. The Senior Center <u>building</u> will be closed December 25 and January 1 all day; December 24 and 31 we will close at noon.
- ♦ ARE YOU A VETERAN? If you live in Westminster, Ashburnham, or Hubbardston, visit your Veterans' Service Officer (VSO). Services offered for veterans, spouses, and eligible dependents include, but not limited to, financial assistance (Ch. 115, Mass. General Law), Veterans' bonuses, tax exemptions, VA claim/appeal assistance, transition assistance, burial coordination, housing, and survivors' benefits. Your local VSO is Sara Wyman, Westminster Town Hall, 11 South Street, Room 131, Westminster, MA 01473, Phone: (978)874-7461, Email: swyman@westminster-ma.gov. Sara's office hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Call for appointments.
- ♦ Are there any pool players interested in starting up a pool league once a week at the Westminster Senior Center? If so, please contact Jerry at jwheelen@msn.com.
- ♦ If you, or someone you know, appears to be a victim of elder abuse, please contact Elder Protective Services at 800-922-2275. The definition of elder abuse includes physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, caregiver neglect, self neglect, and/or financial exploitation. Anyone can make a report of abuse.

Coffee with the Chiefs

Thursday, December 5 ~ 9:00 - 10:00 am
Join Westminster



Police Chief, Mike McDonald Fire Chief, Kyle Butterfield



The first Thursday of every month, stop in at the Westminster Senior Center, enjoy complimentary coffee, ask questions, voice concerns, and get to personally meet with the Chiefs of your Town in a casual setting.



Annual Senior Center Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 10 12:00 - 2:00 pm Westminster Senior Center



* POT LUCK ~ PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH * HOT & COLD BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED * NO SIGN-UP REQUIRED * ALL ARE WELCOME!

Pot Luck & Recipe Swap Luncheon

Wednesday, January 29 ~ 12:00 Noon Westminster Senior Center

(Weather permitting)





Westminster Senior Center, along with police officers from Westminster and Gardner, extend an invitation to all seniors in the community to participate in this enjoyable event.

In order to attend, please bring a dish to share.

Kindly RSVP by January 22 to ~

978-874-7402 (Westminster Senior Center) or 978-630-4067 (Gardner Senior Center)

The Joy of Giving

Somehow, not only for Christmas, but all the long year through, The joy that you give to others is the joy that comes back to you; And the more you spend in blessing the poor and lonely and sad, The more of your heart's possessing returns to make you glad.

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~ John Greenleaf Whittier

Muffins with Merle

Friday, December 20 11:00 am -12:00 pm **Westminster Senior Center**



Join Westminster Police Officer Nate Hawkins & Merle. Merle is Westminster Police Department's comfort & support dog. All are welcome to stop in to see Merle work his magic on you!

Turkey Dinner & All the Fixins Wednesday, December 18 12:00 Noon Westminster Senior Center

Cooked & Served by **Westminster Fire Department** ign-up required by December 1 All are welcome to join us!





MERRY CHRISTMAS 🍂

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- General fire safety tips
- Heating information
- Advise on tripping hazards
- Answer any questions
- → To sign up, please call the Senior Center (978-874-7402).

 The Westminster Fire Department will then contact you directly to schedule your appointment.



Activities



| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| 111 | Bingo | 9-11:30 Art 12-3:30 Bridge 1-4 Mahjong 1-2 COA Board Mtg | *Chicken Breast 4 9-3 SHINE (by appt) 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Crafts 10:15-11:15 Stand & Chair (Library) | 9-12 Wood Carving 9-11 WOW 12-3:30 Bridge 1-3 Crafts 10-11:30 Gentle Stretch (Library) | *Meatloaf & Gravy 6 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Bingo |
| 11-41-3 | Bingo | 9-11:30 Art 12-3:30 Bridge 1-4 Mahjong | *Turkey Corn Stew 11 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Crafts 10:15-11:15 Stand & Chair (Library) | 9-12 Wood Carving 9-11 WOW 12-3:30 Bridge 1-3 Crafts 10-11:30 Gentle Stretch (Library) | *Sweet/Sour Meatballs 13 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Bingo |
| | 3 8 | 9-11:30 Art 12-3:30 Bridge 1-4 Mahjong | *Pot Roast w/Gravy 18 9-3 SHINE (by appt) 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Crafts 10:15-11:15 Stand & Chair (Library) | 9-12 Wood Carving 9-11 WOW 11-12 Blood Pressure 12-3:30 Bridge 1-3 Crafts 10-11:30 Gentle Stretch (Library) | *Broccoli Bake 20 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Bingo |
| 11: 1-4 1-3 | ef & Lentil Chili 23 30 Lunch Mahjong Bingo | 9-11:30 Art | CLOSED 25 Merry Christmas!!! | 9-12 Wood Carving 9-11 WOW 12-3:30 Bridge 1-3 Crafts 10-11:30 Gentle Stretch (Library) | *Pollock 27 9-11:30 Art 11:30 Lunch 1-3 Bingo |
| | | 9-11:30 Art | Happy Year! | There's a feeling of Christs a tang in the air, A glow of the hearth-fires A spirit of friendship and That clings to the same old Merry Christma | everywhere, hearty goodwill, I greeting still. |





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