



August 2014

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Town of Maynard COA

Maynard's Senior News

Changes coming to Maynard COA

This year is proving to be an exciting year for the Town of Maynard. Members of the Council on Aging share in this excitement as it extends to all Seniors in town, as well.

For starters, the COA Director has stepped down and a new director will be hired in the next few months to take over the daily operations of the Council.

There are also new members of the Council board and the board has begun planning for a new future for town seniors.

In May, the Town started working with Cross Town Connect, a regional transportation management agency, which is providing additional resources to the Town for better transit options for all residents. Seniors continue to receive the same excellent service and added opportunities for shopping and trips to restaurants and events.

The Town is also considering moving the COA to the Maynard Golf Course as it provides better facilities and opportunities for the COA to conduct programs. Stay tuned for more details on these and other changes coming to the COA.

New COA Members

The Council on Aging (COA) is looking for new members to join the Maynard COA. The focus of the Board is to help meet the needs of Maynard's seniors by working with the COA Director on the development of programs and activities. You need not be a senior to be on the committee, just have a desire to help current and future seniors. If interested or for more information:

Please Contact: Tom Papson
Phone: 978-897-1669
Email: tp.papson@verizon.net

or

Andrew Scribner-MacLean
978-897-1375
Assistant Town Administrator





Improving Transportation

In 2013, the Town of Maynard signed on with Cross Town Connect (CTC), a transportation management

agency, to provide enhanced options for transportation management across the region. Cross Town Connect

is currently working with Westford, Acton, Littleton, Boxborough, and Maynard as well as companies like Juniper Networks, Red Hat, Cisco, IBM, and Clock Tower Place to expand services to Seniors, disabled persons, Veterans, and anyone looking to use public transportation. In the near future, expanded service will be offered to shopping, health care, commuter rail, and even more distant places as needed by each member of the CTC.

COA Director Marcia Curren steps down

For personal reasons, Marcia Curren has stepped down after serving as Maynard’s COA Director for eleven years. Her tenure included a move from Town Offices to the current location in Clock Tower Place.

Marcia was responsible for expanding the van program to fit the needs of Maynard’s seniors and disabled population. She wrote the COA Newsletter and circulated it to the seniors, as well as distributed coupons for the Farmer’s Market. SMOC Applications for fuel assistance, a work reimbursement program and Shine were also processed with Marcia’s help. In addition, she worked on developing a survey of the needs and desires for various programs for seniors.

To book a ride on the COA Van, simply call:

978-844-6809





Representative Kate Hogan's August 2014 Senior News Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Dear Friends,

This month I want to highlight the important programs and services available to grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. The groundbreaking Commission on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren was created in 2008, as part of the Child Advocate bill. The Commission's primary purpose is to serve as a resource to the Commonwealth on issues affecting grandparents. The 3rd Annual Conference was held in June with this year's focus on issues facing grandparents who serve as a child's primary caregiver.

The House champion on this issue, Representative Paul Donato (D-Medford), states "It is important that grandparents who have stepped into the position of raising their grandchildren be provided with the necessary resources, as well as the access to the proper agencies, that will assist them in raising and nurturing these children."

There are programs and services geared to assist grandparents and I want to use this month's newsletter to highlight several of them:

Schooling and Childcare

The Department of Early Education and Care establishes and enforces standards for childcare and coordinates resources for childcare and other children's services. Contact the Department of Early Education and Care Central Office at 617-988-6600 or visit their web site at www.mass.gov/edu. The Massachusetts Department of Secondary Education is available to assist in school registration and change.

Financial Assistance

If you are the primary caregiver for your grandchild, you may be entitled to get cash assistance, and food stamp benefits. Contact the local Department of Transitional Assistance: 473 Main Street Fitchburg, MA 01420 (978)-655-8700

Healthcare and Insurance Options

There are many health insurance options for you to choose for your grandchild. These options include private insurance, COBRA, MassHealth, Commonwealth Care, Commonwealth Choice, Children's Medical Security Plan, the Health Safety Net and the Special Kids/ Special Care Pilot Program. For more information you can access the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector at mahealthconnector.org or Healthcare For All at hcfama.org or call (800) 272 4232.

Counseling, Mental Health and Disabilities

In many situations, children and grandparents may benefit from professional help in coping with a variety of emotional and psychological issues. There are a number of different agencies which provide counseling and other supportive services. You should contact your insurance plan to determine your coverage. If you are concerned about your grandchild's behavior or moods, contact the child's school guidance counselor or doctor's office for assistance and referral.

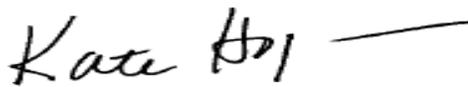
Support Groups for Grandparents

Participation in a grandparents support group is a great resource. These groups exist to advocate and organize grandparents in a supportive environment to share common concerns, solutions, resources, and to develop friendships in a caring and confidential manner. For more information visit www.massgrg.com Contact my office if you have any questions on grandparents raising grandchildren or services you may be eligible for.

Check out the Museum of Fine Arts exhibition “Magna Carta: Cornerstone of Liberty” before Sept. 1

One of only four surviving copies of the original Magna Carta has traveled to the Museum of Fine Arts this summer for a special exhibition. The Magna Carta exhibit includes copies of the Declaration of Independence, historical documents and artifacts. Tickets to the MFA cost \$26 at the door and the Maynard Public Library has MFA passes available for \$10.

There will be no office hours in August. If you need assistance contact my office at (617) 722-2692 or email Kate.Hogan@mahouse.gov.



Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow
State House, Room 166, Boston, MA, 02133 / Phone: 617-722-2692/ Kate.Hogan@mahouse.gov

Calendar of events



COA Meetings

Monthly – First Thursday
10 am at Gianotis Room, Town Hall.
Next: Thursday, September 4, 2014

Concord Street Lunch

September 17th at 12:30 pm
Call Diane to reserve 978-793-3733

Drop-in Center

at Congregation Church
Tuesday’s 8:00 am - 1 pm
Cards, Chair exercises, and lunch!

Shopping trips via COA van

2nd and 4th Tuesday’s beginning at 9:30 am
Call CTC to reserve a seat – 978 844-6809

Line Dancing

at Congregation Church
Tuesday’s 8:00 am - 1 pm

Dinner trips via COA van

1st Tuesday of month – location TBA
Pickups begin at 4 pm, return around 7 pm
Call CTC to reserve a seat – 978 844-6809

Potential Location Change for COA

There is a proposal in the works to establish a new COA center to be located in the Town of Maynard Golf Course Clubhouse. The space would be shared with the golfers and other visitors but would be open year round for the COA. The space is about 1500 square feet, similar to the space in the Mill.

There will be a terrific view of the golf course and accessibly to bathrooms and a kitchen. The COA can use the entire facility for about half the year, during the non-golfing season and will have use of it year round on weekday mornings. While this proposal is not finalized, it is likely to occur in the next few months.

Fuel Assistance Applications will be available November 1, 2014

Come to the COA office to file your 2014-2015 fuel assistance application.

Contact David Hull at 978 897-1009 for more information.

November COA Meeting – tentatively scheduled for November 6th, will include a presentation with the SHINE coordinator.

Piano Lessons at the COA – Monday mornings with Roy.

Tax Work-off program – Contact the COA if you are interested in doing light office work to reduce your property tax bill.

For those in need: If you or someone you know is a senior with unmet personal, financial, or health care needs, please contact the COA for information and resources. 978 897-1009

Volunteers Needed!

There are many in need in Maynard. Consider donating or volunteering your time to the Council on Aging. Call 978 897-1009 to find out how.

New Town Government News Portal

Town Administrator Kevin Sweet is pleased to announce the launch of an online news portal for town government.

MaynardTownAdmin.org will provide news, information, downloadable resources and an events calendar for residents, visitors, and business owners in Maynard.

The easy-to-read website contains:

- A news blog
- Links to Maynard social media sites
- Information and photos of town officials
- A resources page that will feature downloadable forms and important documents
- A place to sign up for the Town Administrator's email newsletter
- A visual, colorful events calendar, containing information about meetings, town-wide events, and fun things happening in Maynard.

Town of Maynard Council on Aging Interest Survey

The purpose of this survey is to gather input from the residents of the Town of Maynard as to which services to the aging are most important.

1. On a scale of 1-5, 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied, please circle below:.

Information & Referral	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Case Management & Home Care Services	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Caregiver Support Program	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Elder Protective Services	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Transportation	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Meals -on -Wheels	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Senior Dining	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Nursing Home Screening	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Long Term Care Ombudsman	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
SHINE Health Benefits Counseling	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Money Management	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Volunteer Caregivers	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Legal Services	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Assistance with Home Heating	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Senior Center	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA
Assistance with Home Repair & Maintenance	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5	NA

2. Which services would you like the Town to expand or add:

Information & Referral	Expand	Add
Case Management & Home Care Services	Expand	Add
Caregiver Support Program	Expand	Add
Elder Protective Services	Expand	Add
Transportation	Expand	Add
Meals -on -Wheels	Expand	Add
Senior Dining	Expand	Add
Nursing Home Screening	Expand	Add
Long Term Care Ombudsman	Expand	Add
SHINE Health Benefits Counseling	Expand	Add
Money Management	Expand	Add
Volunteer Caregivers	Expand	Add
Legal Services	Expand	Add
Assistance with Heating Fuel	Expand	Add
Senior Center	Expand	Add
Assistance with Home Repair & Maintenance	Expand	Add

3. If the Town offered assistance with Home Repair & Maintenance at a nominal annual fee would you be interested? Yes No
4. What types of programs would you like? Please check all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Health Topics including health care options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Topics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Money and Real Estate including living options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travel Topics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exercise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dance – Ballroom – Country - Line
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning about Computers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Distance Learning or Continuing Education via Computer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photography
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooking – Recipe Sharing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trips to stores such as Barnes & Noble; Target, Michael’s, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trips to local museums
<input type="checkbox"/>	Men’s Club
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladies’ Club
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support Groups: Bereavement; Dementia Care Giver; Parkinson’s
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genealogy Information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blood Pressure Clinic

Now tell us about you:

1. Age Group, please circle: 30 – 40; 40 – 50; 50 – 60; 60 – 65; 65-75; 75 +
2. I live: By myself; with my spouse; with my children; with my spouse & children; I am an adult child living with my parents or they are living with me.
3. I live in: in my own home; in my children’s home; in an apartment; in senior housing; in assisted living
4. My health is excellent – good – fair – poor – deteriorating
5. My parent’s health is excellent – good – fair – poor – deteriorating

Your Comments are always welcome:

Optional: Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return by September 5, 2014 to Senior Center or COA, Town of Maynard, 195 Main St. Maynard, 01754

Town of Maynard Council on Aging
195 Main Street
Maynard, MA 01754

Pre-sort Standard
US POSTAGE
PAID
Maynard, MA 01754
PERMIT NO. 10

Postal Customer

Water & Sewer Rate Relief for Seniors 65+

Beginning immediately, homeowners in Maynard, age 65 and over, are eligible for water & sewer rate relief.

The current rebate is available to those homeowners aged 75 and older. The Board of Selectmen have recently voted to lower the age for the Water and Sewer Rate Relief Program to 65 years or older.

You can show proof of ownership by providing a copy of your most recent real

state bill and if the property is in a trust a copy must be submitted with your application.

The owner will also need to submit a copy of their driver's license or birth certificate to show proof of age.

Applications will be available online www.townofmaynard-ma.gov and by looking on Department of Public Works pages. You may also get an application by calling the DPW during business hours at 978-897-1317 or by e-mailing: mmornado@townofmaynard.n

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