

The Senior Connections



Plainfield Senior Citizen Center
482 Norwich Road, Plainfield, CT 06374
Telephone: 860.564.1819

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New In This Issue

Joyce Now Has Extended Office Hours

Find out more inside!

Become An Income Tax Preparer Volunteer

United Way's VITA program provides all the training!

ACCESS Health Open Enrollment

This program could help seniors aged 55-64 who do not have health insurance coverage.

Senior Club News, Travel News, And More

Terry keeps us informed on what's going on.

Final Countdown To Medicare Open Enrollment

There's still time to see Joyce if you need help. See her *Healthy Aging* page inside.

*May you have the Spirit of Christmas
Which is Peace,
The Gladness of Christmas
Which is Hope,
And the Heart of Christmas
Which is Love*

As another holiday season is upon us, I wish you a wonderful Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year; one filled with love, peace, hope, happiness and friendship. The older we get, the more our Christmas lists are filled with the things we really want for the holidays...things that can't be bought. The best gifts we can ask for will never be found under the Christmas tree. These very special gifts are not only a blessing, but are of the most precious gifts one could ever give...or receive.

Merry Christmas

Thank you for being my friend,

Terry Cwynar, President



Plainfield Senior Center Hours Of Operation

Call 860.564.1819 for more information.

- ♦ *The Plainfield Senior Center and Town of Plainfield Recreation Department* are housed in the same building at 482 Norwich Road (Rt. 12) in Plainfield, CT. The building is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, except for holidays.
- ♦ The *Senior Citizen Club Office* is open Monday through Thursday 9 am to 12:00 pm.
- ♦ **Closings due to inclement weather, or for other reasons, will be aired on WFSB Channel 3, or by calling the Cancellation Line at the Center at 860-564-1819, ext. 8.**

What's Going On Here At The Center?

More Info @ 860.564.1819. Items may change, so check these lists regularly!

Every Week

Bingo-Tuesdays Noon to 3 pm. Nominal Fee.

"Linda's Craft Corner"- Crafts, lectures, guest speakers, and more! Wednesdays and Thursdays @ 10 am. See insert for schedule of events. Free or small fee.

Knit For A Cause- Fridays @ 10 am. Self led. Supplies provided. Items donated to "Knit For Kids." Free.

Pitch League- Wednesdays at 10 am. League runs 13 weeks then starts again.

Social Services Office- Mon. & Fri. mornings. Assistance with State & Federal benefits, referrals to area programs, and help with many issues related to healthy aging. Appointment recommended. Free.

Art Classes- Mondays at 10 am. Free.

Chorus- Mondays 1 to 2:30 pm. Free.

Rummikub- Tuesdays 10 to 11:30. Free.

Dominos, Canasta, Open-Play Pitch- Fridays, 1pm. Free.

Line Dancing- Different ability levels on different days; all classes 6:30 to 8:00pm. Fee applies.

Historical Society- Open by appointment. Call Ruth Bergeron at 860-564-8561 to schedule an appointment.

TVCCA Café Meal Program- Thursdays, 11:30 to 12:30 in the Dining Room. Suggested Donation: \$3.

Available Daily

Library- Borrow and return books and DVDs on the honor system. Donations of books and DVDs accepted. Free.

Billiards- Two pool tables, assortment of cue sticks. Free.

Senior Transportation- Restrictions apply. See ad in this newsletter. Donations are welcomed and appreciated.

Once A Month

Trivia, Origami, Learning Through Documentaries, Scrabble, Card Making- See "Linda's Craft Corner" insert for dates, times, prices.

Movie On The Big Screen- Third Thursday of each month at 1pm. Free.

Women's Club- Third Wed. of the month, 1-4 pm. Free.

Special Events

Travel Opportunities-Many (15 + per year) travel options ranging from day trips to overnights. Prices vary.

Socials, Speakers, & Other Events- Themed socials, useful workshops, and interesting speakers throughout the year. Info posted in this Newsletter. Prices vary.

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

A Note From Terry

We have had many folks ask if we were going to do anything at Christmas time this year. We have been able to schedule a Christmas Dinner on December 15th from 12:30 to 3:30 at Riverview Restaurant in Moosup. The restaurant will be able to accommodate 50 people, so sign-up is on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$12.00 per person. If you are interested in joining us, stop by the office and sign up; **the cut-off date is December 12th**. Be sure to check out the flyer insert for all the details and the menu and dinner choices.

We wish to thank those of you who have renewed your membership. Your prompt response is greatly appreciated! We always welcome new members, so if you know of someone who may be interested in joining, please have them stop by the office for a tour of our center.



Travel News

A Note From Terry

Just a quick reminder, the final payment for Atlantic City is due on January 9th. We have almost completed our travel schedule for 2022. As soon as we are able to confirm all of the information, we will let you know. I realize that it is a little later than in past years, but we are doing the best that we can.

A Note of Appreciation

Effective January 1st, our Vice President, Rosalie Laskarzewski has decided to retire. Rosalie has been involved with the center since 1996, becoming President in 1997 until 2010 and has volunteered her time as Vice President for a few terms since then.

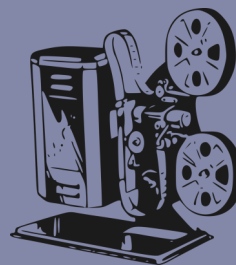
Her presence in the office, with her infectious laugh (cackle) will be missed. She has not only been dedicated and hard-working, but also a great teacher and mentor and I am sure everyone wishes her the very best in her retirement and...."thanks for all the great memories" ...

God Bless.

SAVE THE DATE



The Plainfield Senior Chorus will be having their concert "BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN" on **Friday, January 28th, 2022** at Plainfield High School. It is always a great show....so be sure to save the date! More info to follow in the January Newsletter.



Movies on the Big Screen

Please note that there will **not** be a movie shown for the month of December. Movies will resume on the third Thursday of each month at 1 pm in January. We'll see you in 2022!

JOYCE'S OFFICE HOURS ARE EXTENDED!

We are pleased to announce that our fabulous Social Services Coordinator, Joyce Hoffman, will now have extended office hours, by the addition of Fridays to her schedule! She will now be here on both **Mondays and Fridays from 9 to 12** (except for holidays.)

Joyce offers free assistance to seniors to help them navigate and / or enroll in numerous state and federal benefit programs as well as providing referrals to area programs. She can help with many things, including Medicare and Medicaid, senior housing options, energy assistance programs, Covid testing sites and vaccine clinics, Renters Rebate program, food assistance programs, elder fraud and scams, and so much more! Appointments (phone or in-person) are highly recommended. Call 860-564-1819.

Take Action as a VITA Volunteer!

WHAT IS VITA? • VITA stands for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and is a volunteer-supported program that helps people, with household incomes of up to \$57,000 annually, prepare and electronically file their federal and state tax returns at no cost.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER? • Commit to just one, four-hour long shift per week from mid-January through mid-April 2022 • Have a willingness to help people in the community • No prior experience required • Spanish-speaking/ bi-lingual volunteers needed.

WHAT WILL I DO AT MY TAX SITE AS A VOLUNTEER? • Prepare and electronically file income tax returns • Greet filers or manage appointment schedules • Help filers learn about ways to save and stretch their refunds • Act as a translator for volunteers and filers • Work with one household per hour on average.

Join us this tax season as a United Way VITA volunteer and help families in our region get the tax credits and refunds they've earned. By offering in-person or virtual tax preparation services at no cost, we're helping families get on a path toward financial security.

VOLUNTEER KEY DATES:

- **Registration:** Now through January 31, 2022 at <https://volunteer.unitedwayinc.org/>.
- **Training:** Mid-November through January 31, 2022.
- **Certification:** Mid-November through January 15, 2022
- **VITA Sites Open:** January 24, 2022 (this is the earliest date for sites to open; not all sites will open on this date.)

NOTE: These dates are approximate. To ensure the best placement of volunteers, we request you complete the registration, training, and certification as soon as you can. Still have questions? Please contact Phil Blonski at pblonski@unitedwayinc.org or 860.493.1132.

DO YOU NO LONGER DRIVE? ARE YOU HOMEBOUND? DO YOU NEED A RIDE ?

Call the Recreation Department at 860-564-1819 For More Information or to Schedule a Ride. *For residents of Plainfield, Canterbury, and Sterling who are 60+.*

This program is partially funded through the Town of Plainfield and a grant from Title III Older Americans Act and Senior Resources Agency on Aging.



Healthy Aging With Joyce

From Joyce Hoffman, BA Social Work, Social Service Coordinator

Joyce is in her office here at the Center on Monday & Friday mornings from 9 to 12.

TVCCA CAFÉ PROGRAM HAS RETURNED TO THE CENTER!

Just a reminder that our TVCCA Café Program resumed in the Dining Room here at the Center in November. The sit-down meal will be offered **each Thursday from 11:30 to 12:30**, (except for holidays,) featuring a hot meal, with milk, bread & butter, and a fruit cup. Please contact Cheryl between 8:30 and 10:30 am, at least 48 hours in advance, at 860-564-1819, ext. 17 to sign up. You will need to fill out a 1-time registration form. This program is open to anyone aged 60 plus. A suggested donation of \$3.00 can be paid at the time of the meal.

NEWS FOR VETERANS

The Eastern Veterans Rally Point, located in the Norwich Industrial Park on 24 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT, serve CT Veterans and provide FREE services such as Peer Groups, Employment, Financial Security, VA Benefits Consultation, and more.

As of November 2nd, the Norwich Veterans Coffeehouse is now meeting at this location on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9:00 - 11:00am. All Veterans and their spouses are welcome to meet, socialize, communicate, and receive information regarding Veteran's benefits and services available through State and Federal Agency programs. For more information, contact Gina King at 860-425-6617.

ACCESS HEALTH CT OPEN ENROLLMENT

➡ ***This could help Seniors aged 55 - 64 who have no health insurance.***

The Open Enrollment Period for 2022 health coverage began on November 1st. Customers who need to take action to re-enroll, or want to change their plan for 2022, must select a plan by December 15, 2021 for coverage to start on January 1, 2022. Those who enroll between December 16, 2021 and January 15, 2022 will not have coverage until February 1, 2022. This is the time you can shop, compare, and enroll or renew in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP). Whether you are renewing coverage or looking at insurance options for the first time, Access Health CT is here to help you understand how to enroll and what to expect during Open Enrollment. Call 1/855-805-4325 or go to accesshealthct.com for more information. Note: Call wait times are shorter between 6:00 - 7:30pm Monday - Friday.

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Just a reminder that open enrollment for Medicare ends on Tuesday, December 7th, 2021. Contact Joyce at 860-564-1819, ext. 28 for more information or assistance with switching plans.

INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

The Center will be hosting volunteers from the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program in February and March of 2022. These folks can help you to prepare and file your Income Tax. Stay tuned for more info in the coming months.

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