

THE

BOXBOROUGH BUZZZ



SENIOR NEWS YOU CAN USE

Council on Aging

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COA Board Members

*identify needs, develop
and implement programs
and services, educate
citizens and advocate on
behalf of elders.*

Barb Wheeler, President
Dave Birt
Tina Bhatia
Susan Fredrickson
Lauraine Harding
Frank Sibley
Liz West
Frank Powers, Liaison
with Board of Selectmen

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Mary Cobleigh
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November 2012

Senior Art Exhibit and Artist Reception

The Boxborough Council on Aging will be hosting an Artist's Reception open to the public on Thursday November 15, 2012, from 3 PM to 4:30 PM. This will be an opportunity to meet and greet the artists. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome! We hope you have been to visit the library during the month of October to view this beautiful display of art. If not then please join us at the reception or stop by the library during the month of November while the show is still there.



Medicare for Boomers: November 15

The Boxborough Friends of the Council on Aging will present "Planning for Medicare-Countdown to 65" on Thursday November 15 starting at 7:00 pm at the Sargent Memorial Library, 427 Massachusetts Avenue.

One of the critical issues facing people approaching Medicare eligibility is understanding their options outside of employer sponsored health care whether they are planning to retire or continuing to work. Heather Hurd, a Blue Cross and Blue Shield specialist in this field, will explain the basic Medicare programs, outline various options and answer questions. This program is relevant to everyone no matter what their current insurance coverage. All seniors are welcome, admission is free, light refreshments will be served and no reservations are necessary.

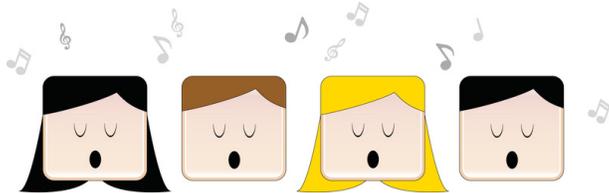
Election Day, November 6: Make Your Voice Heard!

On Tuesday, November 6, Americans everywhere will make their voices heard as they vote for the those men and women they believe are best able to lead our country. As usual, voting in Boxborough will take place at Town Hall. The polls will open at 7 AM and close at 8 PM. If you need help arranging for a ride to the polls, call Marcia at the COA, 978-263-1116, ext. 118. For information about obtaining an absentee ballot, call the Town Clerk, 978-263-1116, ext. 117.

Friends of the Council on Aging Holiday Party, December 5

The Boxborough FOCA will hold its annual Holiday party and luncheon on Wednesday, December 5, noon to 2 PM, at the Community Center. Plan to join both old and new friends at this celebration. The highlight of the luncheon will be a performance by the Acton Boxborough High School Madrigal Singers. This is an extraordinary group of talented students lead by of Jennifer Moss, AB Director of Choral Activities.

All are welcome and admission is free. Please call the COA to make a reservation, 978-263-1116, ext. 106. The Friends hope that you can celebrate with us at this very special holiday gathering!



Boxborough Used Book Sale: November 2 and 3

The Friends of the Boxborough Library will hold its annual fall book sale in the meeting room of the Sargent Memorial Library, 427 Massachusetts Avenue, on Saturday, November 3 from 9 AM to 2 PM. A Preview Sale for members will take place Friday, November 2 from 7–9 PM. (Memberships will be available at the door). Proceeds from the sale of books will go toward additional library programs, speakers, and the purchase of museum passes.

Please support this sale by donating your gently used hardcovers, paperbacks and audiovisual items and attending this sale.

Books will be accepted October 29 to November 2 at the Library during regular library hours. No magazines, please, or books in really poor condition. If any senior has a large quantity of books to donate please call the COA office and a pickup will be arranged.

Senior Property Tax Work-Off Abatement Program Notice

If you are a senior and have lived in Boxborough for five years, you may be eligible to participate in the Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program. You can register for the program during the month of November. If you are already in the program, please remember that you do need to register annually to continue. For all of the program specifics or to register for next year please call the COA at 978-263-1116 ext. 106.

Was Your *Buzz* Late Last Month?

Last month, many readers did not receive the *Boxborough Buzz* until the second week in October. The glitch was at the Post Office, which we cannot control. However, we don't want you to miss important announcements, so please call Laura if you have not received your newsletter paper by the third day of the month. You can pick up a copy at the COA office. Or, you can get a copy online. Go to the Town website at www.town.boxborough.ma.us. Click on "Quick Links" to find the COA page, and there you will see a link to the *Buzz*.

Merrie Christmas Fair

Start writing out your holiday shopping list! The date of the annual Merrie Christmas Fair, put on by members of Boxborough's UCC, is November 17. Doors open at 9 AM and close at 2 PM.

Whether it's baked goods, handmade knitted items and gifts, handcrafted wooden items, or greens to decorate your home, you'll find it all in the Town Hall portion of the Fair. Also, be sure to check out the many other features you'll find in the church, such as Attic Treasures, the Snack Bar, and the Silent Auction. The Fair is a great place to catch up with your friends and neighbors, and find out just how much talent resides in Boxborough. So come on down and see the wide choice of items that will be available for you to purchase as gifts for your loved ones—or perhaps even for yourself!

How FDR Changed Thanksgiving

In 1939, a great hue and cry echoed across the nation when President Franklin D. Roosevelt changed Thanksgiving. Retailers had persuaded the President to move Thanksgiving to November 23, adding seven more shopping days before Christmas.

Presidents Washington and Lincoln had declared the last Thursday in November as a day of "thanksgiving and praise" in 1789 and 1863 respectively. In the minds of Americans, these two proclamations determined the day that the Pilgrims had chosen for Thanksgiving.



After Roosevelt's announcement, thousands of letters poured into the White House, accusing the President of tampering with a revered national holiday for the profit of businesses. The states rebelled, deciding independently whether Thanksgiving would fall on the third or fourth Thursday in November. This added another layer of dissent to the letters arriving at the President's door.

Now calendars, football games, school schedules, and family get-togethers were thrown into confusion and conflict. The mayor of Atlantic City derisively called Thanksgiving "Franksgiving". In 1941, Congress passed a law that Thanksgiving would be celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November, thus ending the controversy over our venerable national holiday.

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Come see Boxborough's Treasures

The Boxborough Museum at 575 Middle Road will be open from 2-4 PM pm on Sunday October 14 and Sunday November 11. Come see Boxborough's historic treasures including the 1850's scale which is sensitive enough to weigh a penny and strong enough to calibrate a 50 pound weight, the "new" hearse built in 1881, and the "old" hearse (come and see how old is old). Admission is free and all are welcome. For more information, or to arrange a private tour for a small group at a different time, please call John Fallon at 978-264-0069.

Presidential Trivia



Our 34th President, **Dwight D. Eisenhower** (1953 – 1961), was known to be a capable chef. He created a recipe for vegetable soup that is 894 words in length and includes nasturtium flower stems as an ingredient. He was also famous for his steaks and cornmeal pancakes; and his favorite dessert was prune whip!

COA Transportation Service

The COA van is available at a nominal fee from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Thursday for Boxborough seniors and residents with disabilities. The van is available for medical appointments, food shopping, and most local programs. To schedule a ride, call Van Dispatcher Marcia McNeil at 978-263-1116, ext. 118, between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM at least two days in advance to discuss the details of your ride.

Volunteer Driver Transportation

Boxborough Volunteer Drivers if van is unavailable. (All area code 978)

Swan Anderson 263-0272 • Rita Grossman 264-4077 • Ann McNeece 263-9626 • AnneCanfield 263-2664 Kristen Hillberg 501-2912 • Karen Kealty 635-9133 • Lorraine Carvalho 263-8060 • Susan Vine 266-1266 Jini Vockel 929-9050

Also: Road to Recovery 1-800-227-2345 transportation & information for cancer patients.

Thu, Nov 1 **Line Dancing**, 9 AM
Gentle Fitness, Comm. Ctr, 11 AM
Game Day, 1 PM
 * **Dress Rehearsal Mister Rogers**,
 Concord Players, 8 PM, fee \$8

Fri, Nov 2 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM

Sat, Nov 3 * **Library Book Sale**, 9 AM – 2 PM

Mon, Nov 5 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM
Movie Monday, 1 PM

Tue, Nov 6 * **Community Service Day**
Quilting, 9 AM
Book Club, 10 AM
Tai Chi, 10:30 AM
Gentle Fitness, Town Hall, 11 AM
Beg. Spanish, 1 PM
Yoga, 1 PM


 Vote Today

Wed, Nov 7 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM
 * **Basket Workshop**,
 Comm. Ctr, 9:30 AM
 * **Draw Big!**, Comm. Ctr, 1 PM
FCOA Board Meeting, Comm. Ctr, 3 PM
Comm. Supper, Mt. Cal. Church, 5 PM

Thu, Nov 8 **Line Dancing**, 9 AM
Gentle Fitness, Comm. Ctr, 11 AM
Game Day, 1 PM

Fri, Nov 9 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM

Sun, Nov 11 **Boxborough Museum**, 2-4 PM

Tue, Nov 13 **Quilting**, 9 AM
Tai Chi, 10:30 AM
Gentle Fitness, Town Hall, 11 AM
Beg. Spanish, 1 PM
Yoga, 1 PM

Wed, Nov 14 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM
 * **Basket Workshop**,
 Comm. Ctr, 9:30 PM
 * **Draw Big!**, Comm. Ctr, 1 PM
Wellness Clinic
 Comm. Ctr, 10 -12 AM
Box. Neighbors Lunch, noon
 Sponsored by Blanchard P.T.F, UCC
Comm. Supper, Mt. Cal. Church, 5 PM

* Special this month

Thu, Nov 15 **Line Dancing**, 9 AM
Gentle Fitness, Comm. Ctr, 11 AM
 * **Bach's Lunch**, *Violin and Cello Duo*,
 Indian Hill, 11 AM & 1:30 PM
Senior Lunch, Acton, 12:15 PM
Game Day, 1 PM
COA Board Meeting, Library, 2:30 PM
 * **Artists' Reception**, Library, 3-4:30 PM
 * **Medicare for Boomers**, Library, 7 PM

Fri, Nov 16 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM

Sat, Nov 17 * **Merrie Xmas Fair**, UCC, 9 AM – 2 PM

Mon, Nov 19 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM
COA Café, 10 AM
Movie Monday, 1 PM

Tue, Nov 20 **Quilting**, 9 AM
Tai Chi, 10:30 AM
Gentle Fitness, Town Hall, 11 AM
Yoga, 1 PM

Wed, Nov 21 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM
 * **Draw Big!**, 1 PM
Comm. Supper, Mt. Cal. Church, 5 PM

Thu, Nov 22 **Happy Thanksgiving**

Mon, Nov 26 **Fitness With Holly**, 9 AM
Movie Monday, 1 PM

Tue, Nov 27 **Quilting**, 9 AM
Tai Chi, 10:30 AM
Gentle Fitness, Town Hall, 11 AM
Yoga, 1 PM
Beg. Spanish, 1 PM

Wed, Nov 28 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM
 * **Draw Big!**, Comm. Ctr, 1- 2:30 PM
Comm. Supper, Mt. Cal. Church, 5 PM

Thu, Nov 29 **Line Dancing**, 9 AM
Gentle Fitness, Comm. Ctr, 11 PM
Game Day, 1 PM

Fri, Nov 30 **Fitness with Holly**, 9 AM