



Senior Times

The Voice of the Hubbardston Senior

December 2022

Editor: Claudia Provencal
Assistants
Susan Breagy
Bonnie Cunningham
Pat Lameroux



"My Holiday wish for all of you "

As I sit here at my desk, my thoughts are with our seniors and their families, hoping that they will enjoy another great day together.

Christmas is a time for love and togetherness.

My wish for them and their families is a year of health, happiness and many memorable times with their loved ones.

At this time in our lives, every minute of every day is special. We need to take the time to enjoy our blessings and not take for granted the nice things life has to offer.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Take care and stay safe this holiday season!

As always,

Claudia

Thank you GFA for sponsoring our newsletter.



Upcoming Events



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

WITH YOUR HELP, THIS WILL BE "THE BEST XMAS FAIR EVER"

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022

9:00 A.M. — 3:00 P.M.

LOVELY HANDMADE GIFTS, RAFFLES, CHINESE AUCTION, HOME
MADE BAKED GOODS. OUR FAMOUS HUNTER STEW WILL BE
AVAILABLE WITH A SLICE OF HOMEMADE BREAD

TAKE HOME OR EAT IN

COME HELP US ENJOY THE HOLIDAY AT OUR COUNTRY FAIR.
VISIT AND TAKE PICTURES WITH SANTA & MRS. CLAUS FROM
10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

Golden Age Club

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every
month at the Senior Center at 1:00 p.m.

There is a raffle basket at the Senior Center that
is on display and tickets are available. The
drawing will be on December 7th during the
Concert at the Senior Center at 2:30 p.m. Come
join us. Light refreshments will be served.

Friends of the Hubbardston Senior Center

We will have a booth at the Christmas Fair
on December 3rd. We have our famous
Lottery Raffle and many gift basket raffles.
Come check us out.

Our next meeting is December 21st at 5:30
p.m. We're always looking for new ideas
to help grow our organization.

COP Community Outreach Program

Monetary & Toy Donations for Christmas

To benefit those less fortunate in Hubbardston

**All toy donations are being collected by the Hubbardston Police Department's
Community Outreach Program**

All toys should be new in the packaging and unwrapped

Monetary donations can be sent to:

Hubbardston Police Department, 7 Main Street, Unit 9; Hubbardston, MA 01452

TRANSPORTATION



Call or leave a message for Sharon at 207-710-1777

If she does not answer, please leave a message. Your call will be returned within 24 hours (excluding weekends)

Please give her the following information:

- Time and location you need to be picked up
- Time and location of your appointment
- Time your appointment should be finished
- A phone number where she can reach you

Medical Appointments: Available as needed

- Please note: If the appointment is for surgery, the client needs to find other transportation home. Van drivers cannot be responsible for a client after having any major medical procedures.

Shopping: Available as needed

- Anyone wanting to attend special event meals at the Senior Center, please call ahead. The van driver will give you a ride to the Senior Center and then back home free of charge.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the MART van services, please call Sharon @ 207-710-1777 or 978-928-1400 ext 210.

Please remember the MART van will not be running when school is closed due to weather or holidays.

Community Services and Information

- **SHINE**—Counselor available. Call Senior Center to make appt or to discuss your health insurance needs over the phone with the SHINE counselor. 978-928-1400 x211
- **Community Legal Aid of Central MA** Free 855-252-5342 or www.communitylegal.org
- **Food Stamp Program (SNAP)** - 978-965-8700
- **Fuel Assistance**—978-342-4520 (NEFWC); 978-342-9407 (Salvation Army); 877-563-4645 (Joe for Oil)
- **Meals on Wheels** is offered Tuesday and Thursday. Call 978-928-1400 x211 to sign up.
- **Central MA Agency on Aging** - 508-852-5539

Yarn-It-All

Meets every Tuesday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

All Welcome!

We're participating in the Christmas Fair. Please come and see our hand made items. Hats, mittens, scarfs and much more!



TIME TO APPLY

Low-income Home Energy Assistance
Fuel is expensive, and winter is long!

Please submit an application early! <https://toapply.org/NEFWF> Or come in to the Senior Center on Tuesdays and ask for Pat Lamoureux. She can help with the paperwork.

REMEMBER—It's an ongoing process and you're working with bureaucracy—the reward is worth the effort!

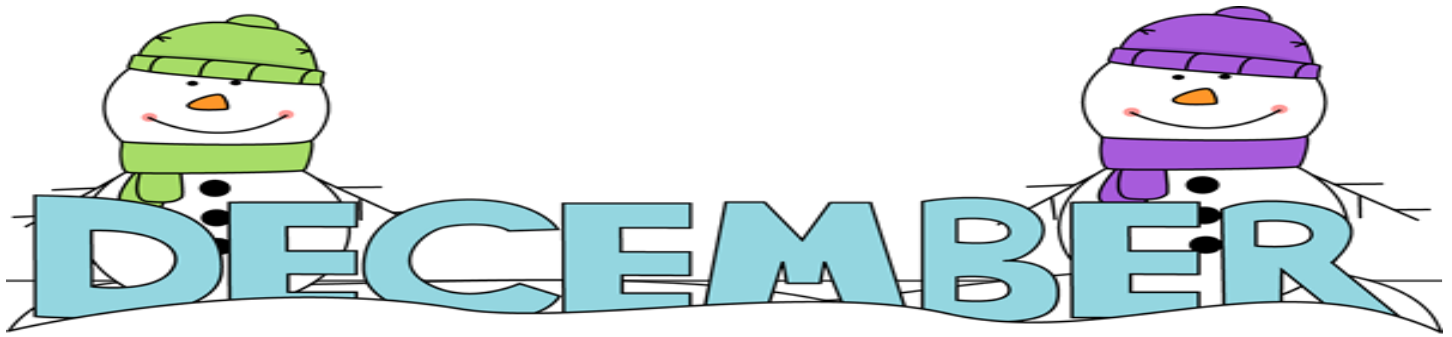
IMPORTANT

Medicare Open Enrollment ends December 7th

Time is running short. Call the Senior Center to make your appointment with our SHINE Counselor.

978-928-1400 x211

Senior Tax Work-Off Program applications are now available at the Senior Center. This program runs from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Coffee 9-11 am Veterans Agent 9-11 am Eggs Crafty Crew 10 am Cribbage 1 pm	2 Light Fight 5-7 pm	3 Christmas Fair 9 am—3 pm Light Fight 5-7 pm
4 Light Fight 5-7 pm	5 Coffee 9-11 am Wii-Bowling Bingo 12:30 pm	6 Coffee 9-11 am Knitting 10-noon Singing 1:30 pm	7 Coffee 9-11 am Wii Bowling 9-11 am Support Group 11-noon Golden Ages 1 pm Singing 2:30 pm	8 Coffee 9-11 am Eggs 8:30—noon Crafty Crew 10 am Cribbage 1 pm	9 Paint Class 9:00—11:00 am Light Fight 5-7 pm	10 Light Fight 5-7 pm
11 Light Fight 5-7 pm	12 Coffee 9-11 am Wii-Bowling Bingo 12:30 p	13 Coffee 9-11 am Knitting 10-noon Singing 1:30 pm	14 Coffee 9-11 am Wii Bowling 9-11 am Support Group 11-noon Pitch Party 1 pm Singing 2:00 pm RI Trip	15 Coffee 9-11 am Eggs 8:30—noon Crafty Crew 10 am Cribbage 1 pm	16 Paint Class 9:00—11:00 am Pitch Party 6:30 pm Light Fight 5-7 pm	17 Light Fight 5-7 pm
18 Light Fight 5-7 pm	19 Coffee 9-11 am Wii-Bowling Bingo 12:30 p	20 Coffee 9-11 am Knitting 10-noon Singing 1:30 pm Christmas Party	21 Coffee 9-11 am Wii Bowling 9-11 am Paint Class 9:00—11:00 am Support Group 11-noon Golden Ages Christmas Party Singing 2:30 pm Gard-ner Senior Center	22 Coffee 9-11 am Eggs 8:30—noon Crafty Crew 10 am Cribbage 1 pm	23 Paint Class 9:00—11:00 am	24
25	26 Coffee 9-11 am Wii-Bowling Bingo 12:30 p	27 Coffee 9-11 am Knitting 10-noon	28 Coffee 9-11 am Wii Bowling 9-11 am Support Group 11-noon Book Club 11:00 am COA Meeting 6:30 pm	29 Coffee 9-11 am Eggs 8:30—noon Crafty Crew 10 am Cribbage 1 pm	30 Paint Class 9:00—11:00 am	31

From The Board of the Friends of the Hubbardston
Senior Center



We want to thank everyone for coming, especially Kevin and Elaine Joes from the Ryan Patrick Jones Heart of a Hero Foundation, for making it possible. A big thank you to all the volunteers who baked pies, helped with setting up and clean up, and for the Girl Scouts for serving.

CALLING ALL VETS!

**Come to the Senior Center and meet our
Veteran's Agent.**

When: Thursday, December 1st

Meeting time—10:00 a.m.

Where: Hubbardston Senior Center



Like to sing? Come join us every
Tuesday afternoon at the Senior
Center at 1:30 p.m. No gathering
on December 27th.



Merry Christmas!

Hubbardston's Christmas Manger Scene: The Backstory

Many take the annual appearance of the manger scene on upper Main St. for granted. To those who worked so hard to make it happen, it has been a continuing source of satisfaction and pride. The project started in July of 2016, with the purchase of the original Holy Family trio, to final completion this year, when the last figure, an angel, is added. The scene is now made up of five additional human figures, and five animals. The original stable, built by some talented senior men, has been enlarged and improved in recent years.

The Bottle Fund started as a campaign to clear up the sides of our roads, and for seniors to contribute to the senior center. The former editor of the Senior News, Bonnie Cunningham, started gathering recyclables, and urged her readers to do the same. A barrel by her driveway encouraged residents to leave them for her to redeem. Seniors agreed that a town manger scene would be a nice gift to the community. The trickle of redeemed nickels became a steady stream over the years, with many people bringing bags of cans to the senior center. Three Holy Family figurines were acquired, and the seller told Director Claudia Provencal the location of the manufacturer in distant Upstate New York. She and husband Roger made a number of trips over the years to acquire further figures.

The first year, the selectmen decided there was no room on the common to place the manger. Luckily, it was warmly welcomed by the congregation of the Evangelical Church. When Bonnie suffered a fall in 2020, the chore of redeeming the cans fell to Claudia and Nancy Afonso, and in recent months, Richard and Asta Anderson and Rich Hackett took up the cause.

In 2017, the manger scene was instrumental in reminding everyone of "the reason for the season." When voters rejected a new senior center, there were lingering hard feelings between those for and against. The appearance of the manger scene helped restore our sense of community once again. The seniors of Hubbardston are happy that their gift to the town has been a lasting legacy of love.

Warmest Christmas wishes,
Bonnie Cunningham



Hubbardston Light Flight!

December 2, 3, & 4

December 9, 10, & 11

December 16, 17, & 18

5-7 p.m.

*Maps available at
the Senior Center*

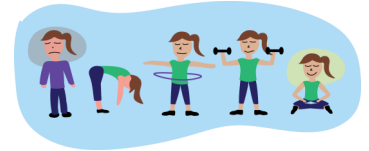
*Be sure to vote your
Favorites!*

Wednesday Healthy Support Group

11-00 – 11:30 am Exercise

11:30 – noon Healthy Support Group

We have decided to continue our support group thru the holidays till January. Everyone is welcome to join. We do a little exercise, talk about our challenges, and come up with strategies to help each other as the holidays approaching. The struggle is real!



Hubbardston Swingin' Singin' Seniors

Upcoming Events

December 7 – 2:30 pm Hubbardston Golden Age Club

December 14 – 2:00 pm Gardner Golden Agers

December 20 – 1:00 pm Annual Christmas Party

Crafty Crew

Meets Thursdays

10:00 am—Noon

Visit our table. Many
home made items perfect
for that special
Christmas gift!

It's that time of year that we count all our blessings. Our little Senior Center is successful because of the wonderful people and their families who volunteer their time. We are grateful to each and every one of you. It certainly takes a village and we are all blessed to have such wonderful support! Thank you!

Merry Christmas and wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!

Christmas Word Search

N S W J P K K C A N D L E J G
 H A A X M U U P I T J J G J I
 O S N O W F L A K E P W L M N
 L Y L L O H Z S T O C K I N G
 I M I S T L E T O E S R Y R E
 D R E V L I S J I N G L E H R
 A O N N C T N E M A N R O T B
 Y D T W X G P E L O N O T A R
 E E R T A R N B O B H K U E E
 E R B D E T E A R G M O V R A
 R O R S S L N A M E R E H W D
 W A E X L A T A R W R E Y O J
 C N N S W S O R S C O Z E W H
 T L D R L N Y Z B H P N Y N U
 I T H E C H R I S T M A S C G

CHRISTMAS
 HOLLY
 ORNAMENT
 MISTLETOE
 GREEN
 RED
 SILVER
 BELLS
 JINGLE
 HOHOHO
 STAR
 SANTA
 HOLIDAY

STOCKING
 JOY
 MERRY
 CARD
 PRESENT
 BOW
 SNOWFLAKE
 TREE
 GINGERBREAD
 WREATH
 SNOWMAN
 CANDLE



Layered Candy Cane Dessert

1 pkg (14.3 oz) Oreo Cookies

6 Tbs. butter melted

1 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese, softened

1/4 C sugar

2 Tbs 2% milk

1 carton (12 oz) frozen whipped topping, thawed, divided

3/4 C crushed candy canes

2 pkgs (3.3 oz) instant white chocolate pudding mix

2-3/4 C cold 2% milk

1. Pulse cookies in a food processor until fine crumbs form. Add melted butter, pulse just until combined. Press into bottom of a 13x9 inch dish. Refrigerate while preparing filling.
2. Beat cream cheese, sugar and milk until smooth. Fold in 1 C whipped topping and 1/2 C crushed candies. Spread over crust.
3. Wisk pudding mix and milk 2 minutes; spread over cream cheese layer. Spread with remaining whipped topping. Refrigerate, covered, 4 hours. Sprinkle with remaining candies just before serving.



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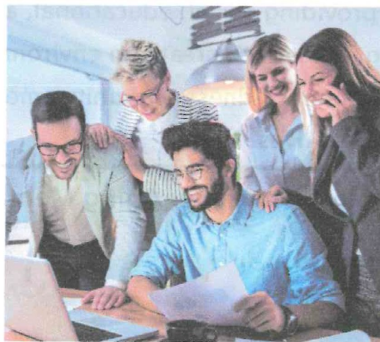


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Senior News
Publications

Hubbardston Senior Center
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Hubbardston, MA 01452



Hubbardston Council On Aging Mission Statement

The Hubbardston Council on Aging and the Senior Center exist to serve, support, and enhance the lives of all senior citizens in the community by providing social, educational, and health related programs and activities which support their well-being. It seeks to create an environment that is socially and intellectually stimulating, promotes interconnectedness and unity among older residents and encourages them to pursue healthy, active, independent lives.

Meet Your Council On Aging Members

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