

Bethany Seniority
July 2017

It's Summer Time at Lakeview Lodge it's our annual picnic

A date has been set for Wednesday July 19th rain or shine.

Where? Lakeview Lodge 265 Beacon Road, Bethany CT.

What time? 12Noon

Cost? \$5.00 per person, payable at the door.

Reserve? Yes, but of course, 203 393-2100 Ext. 124.

Can I reserve now? Yes, but of course, 203 393-2100 Ext. 124.

Can I bring someone who doesn't live in Bethany, yes but of course, just reserve 203 393-2100 Ext. 124.

What are we having? Live entertainment by Back in Time, hot dogs, hamburgers, Coachman's Square of Woodbridge will be providing us with the most delicious Chicken Marsala, and their hearty tossed salad. There will be more foods and you know there's no picnic unless we have watermelon, cake, ice cream, hot beverages, and cold beverages.

There's more...come and find out. Where else are you going to go eat, be entertained, for \$5dollars? Chef Frett (a former 4 star and 5 star Executive chef for restaurants in 3 states). Also Chef Allyson will be your chef.

Remember this day is for you, so keep the grandkiddies at home.

We are limited to 140 people, so reserve early by calling 203 393-2100 Ext. 124, this is a sellout event! No take out available.

I will be running a series on the latest of scams. So please stay tuned. Knowledge is Power.

SCAM ALERTS

Phone scams that are spreading now

DHS OIG HOTLINE SCAM

The most recent scam hitting the phone lines deals with the U.S. government. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) just issued a fraud alert to warn citizens that the DHS OIG Hotline phone number is being used as part of a telephone spoofing scam. People from all across the country are being targeted.

The scammer pretends to be an employee with U.S. Immigration and alters the caller ID system to make it appear as if the call is coming from the DHS OIG Hotline number (1-800-323-8603).

The fraudster demands that the victim verifies personal information through numerous tactics, including claiming they are victims of identity theft.

One important thing to remember is that DHS OIG NEVER uses its Hotline number to make outgoing calls. It's only used to receive information from the public, so you should not answer calls purporting to be from 1-800-323-8603.

If you receive a call claiming to be from the DHS OIG Hotline, do NOT provide personal information. The scammers are trying to get victims to reveal data like their Social Security number, credit or debit card info, date of birth, drivers license number and bank account information. They will use the data to drain your accounts and/or steal your identity.

DHS wants everyone to know that the DHS OIG Hotline continues to be safe to use to report fraud, waste, abuse or mismanagement within DHS components or programs.

If you believe that you may have already fallen victim to this phone spoofing scam you should call the Hotline or file a complaint online via the DHS OIG website. You can also contact the Federal Trade Commission to file a complaint and/or report identity theft.

FBI SPOOFING SCAM

There is another telephone spoofing scam similar to the DHS OIG Hotline scam but with a twist. This one purports to be a call from the FBI.

Fraudsters claiming to be FBI agents are calling people at random and telling them they are being investigated for certain federal violations. The victim is told that if they don't pay a fee immediately they will be arrested.

The call seems legitimate because the scammer spoofs the local FBI field office phone number and it displays that way on caller ID.

Warning, this is a scam!

The FBI does not call or email private citizens to demand money or threat arrests. If you are contacted by someone claiming to be with the FBI, verify the information with the Bureau. Click [here](#) to see a list of all FBI field offices in the U.S. and their contact information.

If you believe you are a victim of a phone or online scam, click [here](#) to file an online complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center.

You Need to Know This

Tax bills for the 2016 Grand List are being prepared and will be mailed in the next few weeks. The first installment of Bethany Real Estate and Personal property tax, and the full amount of Motor Vehicle tax on the 2016 Grand List become due and payable on July 1, 2017. Tuesday, August 1st, 2017 is the last day to pay said taxes without interest penalty. Interest will be calculated from the due date at the rate of one-and-one-half percent per month (18% per annum). Minimum interest charge is \$2.00. In accordance with state statute Sec. 12-130, failure to receive a bill does not exempt you from payment of taxes, interest charges, or fees.

Mail tax payments to Bethany Tax Collector, 40 Peck Road, Bethany, CT 06524. Your cancelled check is your receipt -- or enclose a postage-paid envelope. Payments may also be made in person at the Tax Collector's office, 9:00AM-4:30PM, Monday -- Friday [open till 6:00 PM on Wednesdays]. You may also pay at Webster Bank's Bethany branch during regular banking hours but you must have your tax bill to do so. To pay online by electronic funds transfer (no fee) or credit card (2.5% bank fee), go to www.bethany-ct.com and under QUICK LINKS, click on Pay Taxes or View Payment History. Back taxes on motor vehicles must be paid with cash, money order, or cashier's check for immediate DMV registration clearance to be provided.

David Forman, Tax Collector

You can recycle your flags

When you come by the Town Hall on the landing before you enter into the business offices on the left hand side you will find a "storage bin" where you can place your American Flag that is no longer a fitting emblem for display. The storage bin is clearly marked for its purpose. When the storage bin is full someone will pick them up and a proper flag retirement ceremony will take place. The Town Hall is opened Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 4:30PM except for holidays.

Bethany Lions Club Distributes Eyeglass collection boxes

Their mission is services for visually impaired. One part of this mission to collect usable eyeglasses that are then distributed to the people in need. The Bethany Lions Club has distributed to various locations in our Town eyeglass collection boxes. You will find a collection box on my bulletin board shelf. You'll recognize the collection boxes at the schools and our local businesses.

If you're unable to come to a drop off location, you may contact Lion Clark Hurlburt at 203-444-4469, he will accommodate and pick them up at your convenience, now how that for is service? I see that our Town citizens are leaving usable eyeglasses in our collection box, what can I say? I know what I can say, Thank you, and keep them coming!

Connecticut Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

What Is Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program?- The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) awards grants to States, U.S. Territories, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments to provide low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for eligible foods (fruits, vegetables, honey, and fresh-cut herbs, nothing else) at farmers' markets, roadside stands (that participate in the SFMNP), and community-supported agriculture programs. The SFMNP is administered by State agencies such as your State Department of Agriculture or Agency on Aging and in my office to Bethany residents only.

What is the age requirement? All participants must be 60 years old or older.

If I am homebound due to my health condition or driving restraint how do I go about participating in the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program? An alternate/caretaker that you choose (just send them with your proof of income), you are authorizing to pick up your vouchers and to shop for you at certified farmers' markets.

What do I need to bring? Proof of your income e.g. Income tax return statement, if you do not make out an income tax return then bring in your most social security benefit statement.

How much are the coupons worth? Eighteen dollars (\$18.00).

How long are the coupons good for? Must be used by October 31, 2017 and cannot be used passed the expiration date or in future years.

Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Coupons are available in the Bethany Human Resources and Service Office, call (203 393-2100 ext. 124) to apply and receive the coupons.

Income guidelines: Single \$22,311.00, Couple \$30,044.00.

How to Join the Bethany Senior Center

Membership to the Janice von Beren Senior Center is free per year per person and is open to anyone age 55 and older.

Lunches are served every Wednesday at 12Noon, you do have to reserve by calling 203 393-2100 Ext. 124 by Monday. The cost is still only \$3.00.

A Resource for You

Adult diapers

DUB4U is about those who can't afford disposable undergarments and discreetly finding a way to get people what they need without feeling uncomfortable. As you go through and share your experience and need for their services, they want you to know that they are supportive to those with incontinence with respect and privacy. All information is confidential and never shared. DUB4U is a not for profit agency and will deliver or mail these products to individual needs, which is defined as individuals with income of \$2,000/month or less. Assets are not looked at.

Inventory is limited, substitutions and amount may vary. You will need to call every month for a delivery.

The confidential service will not ask for your name, birth date or social security information.

Identification will be by address only.

You may e-mail dub4u@gchomecare.com or fax 860-383-2290 to receive an application. Or you may contact me 203 393-2100 Ext. 124 Monday through Friday. I have applications on file in my office. Once you receive an application you can mail it to DUB4u at PO 330, Bozrah, CT 06334. You may call 860 383-2290 Ext#4.

Bocce Announcement

Show up and let's play bocce so says Art Slicer! Bocce games every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30AM at the Munson Road Courts. No need to pre-register, no need to bring your own bocce balls. No age requirement, just show up and let's play bocce.

Save these dates

Wednesday August 2, 2017 at the Janice von Beren Center Coachman's Square will be hosting an ice cream social immediately following our usual lunch which is served at 12 Noon. The ice cream social is free.

Thursday August 10th AAA will be presenting a Driver Improvement Course at the Janice von Beren Senior Center. The course is parallel to the other Driver Safety Course that most of us are familiar with (you know who I'm talking about). The course is free, yes I said the course is free. I was made to understand that you will get a discount on your car insurance. As always I highly recommend you call your car insurance company and ask if they accept AAA Driver Improvement Program. This course is dedicated to Safe Driving for mature operators.

You may sign up on line AAA.com/SafetyPatrol to learn more. If you are not computer savvy, please call me Jeanne DeVecchio at 203 393-2100 Ext. 124 and I will do it for you. Class size will be limited; also you do not have to be a Bethany resident to participate.

AAA will make a return visit on Wednesday November 2nd to let us know about driving in bad weather. This presentation will be held immediately following lunch. Lunch is served at 12Noon, reservations are requested by calling Jeanne DeVecchio 203 393-2100 Ext. 124.

Health Fair Scheduled as well as the flu clinic

Early heads up on Wednesday October 25th. Save the date, more information will be found in our Bethany Seniority section. Coachman's Square of Woodbridge has already committed to providing the free box lunches! Thank you so much Coachman's Square for all you do for our senior community and it's activities.

Lunch

Seniors stop by on Wednesdays around 11:30AM, lunch is served at 12Noon the cost is \$3.00. A prior reservation is requested by the Monday before call 203 393-2100 ext. 124.

The Janice von Beren Senior Center newsletter, The Bethany Seniority is enclosed in the Bethany Bulletin and, is mailed monthly to all households in Bethany, listing all the news, trips, and special events that are scheduled for the month and future months.

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AAA Roadwise Driver Improvement Course Is Scheduled for Seniors Thursday August 10, 2017 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM in the Janice von Beren Senior Center located in the Bethany Town Hall 40 Peck Road, Bethany. This course offered by AAA is free!! Pre-registration is required. The course is parallel to the other Driver Safety Course that most of us are familiar with (you know who I'm talking about). Again the course is free, yes I said the course is free. Potential discount on insurance premiums. Check with your vehicle insurance agent and ask if they accept AAA Driver Improvement Program. This course is dedicated to Safe Driving for mature operators.

You may sign up on line AAA.com/SafetyPatrol to learn more. If you are not computer savvy, please call me Jeanne DeVecchio at 203 393-2100 Ext. 124 and I will do it for you. Class size will be limited; also you do not have to be a Bethany resident to participate.

Driving is a skill that can and should be continually improved. AAA's Roadwise Driver™ is a course in a classroom setting is to help senior drivers keep driving knowledge fresh and get the most out of your vehicle, while reducing risk to you, your passengers and others on the road. The course covers topics like:

- Extending Your Safe Driving Career
- Distractions, Drowsiness, Aggressive Driving & Road Rage
- Managing Visibility, Time & Space
- Alcohol & Medications
- Comfort & Safety Tips

Although SeniorDriving.AAA.com contains many driving tips, taking a comprehensive driving improvement course will ensure that you have the most up-to-date driving techniques and understand the latest vehicle technologies.

As you age, it is important for senior drivers to know and understand how to adjust for slower reflexes, weaker vision and other changes. Some of the benefits related to taking AAA's Roadwise Driver™ improvement course are:

- Potential discount on insurance premiums.
- Getting up to speed on the latest in vehicle technology, such as adaptive cruise control and lane-departure warning systems.
- Learn the proper use of these and other safety systems available in vehicles today.