

Bethany Seniority
April 2018

Oh Happy Day! Spring is springing! The sun is beaming and the leaves are beginning to burst from the sleepy gray trees! Birds are chirping their merry little songs. It's like the earth is waking up and yawning, getting all bright eyed and bushy-tailed. The robins are busy setting up housekeeping, building nests and preparing for new life!

April 15th Holidays

Income Tax Pay Day

Jackie Robinson Day

McDonald's Day

National Glazed Spiral Ham Day

National Griper's Day

National Rubber Eraser Day

National That Sucks Day

Take a Wild Guess Day

Titanic Remembrance Day

World Art Day

Bus Service Schedule

Monday's, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00am to 4:30pm. You may call 203 393-2100 Ext.1324 to reserve a ride. If you are not familiar with our Senior Bus transportation by all means call me 203 393-2100 Ext. 1124, I'll be more than happy to get you acquainted with our bus service and how it works and send you a brochure.

Here's a rundown of what you need to know

Basic Service: Door to door, accommodates 2 wheelchairs, must provide your own wheelchair.

Where can you go: Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Cheshire, Derby, Hamden, New Haven, Orange, Prospect, Seymour, Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge and of course Bethany.

Who Can you bring? A personal care attendant at no extra charge, guide dogs.

In case of inclement weather, the Transportation Program will be cancelled.

The bus driver cannot leave the bus to assist you inside a building.

The transportation bus will not operate on weekends, holidays, or when the Bethany Town Hall is closed.

Trip Rates: \$2.50 per destination, \$1.50 one way within the confines of Bethany.

Mother's Day Tea Planned

Friday May 11th from 12 to 2 pm at the Clark Memorial Library 538 Amity Road.

Space is limited to 24 people, please call 203 393-2100 Ext.1124 or Clark Memorial Library 203 393-2103. This event is free.

An educational talk highlighting the history and health benefits of tea and dark chocolate (cacao) with insights from a commercial chocolatier background. Includes samplings of tea, tea infused food, various chocolates, trivia, poetry, antique teapot/lace display, and more.

Free Tax Aide With AARP and What You Need to Know

Every subsequent Tuesday until Tuesday April 17th.

Appointments start at 9:00AM and the last one is at 1:00PM.

Free income tax assistance is provided at the Janice von Beren Senior Center

by the AARP Tax-Aide program for low to moderate income taxpayers **of all ages**, with special attention to those 60 and older. Remember you do not have to be an AARP member to take advantage of this program; also you do not have to be a Bethany Resident.

What to Bring All taxpayers should have with them the following information:

If married, both husband and wife should be present.

Proof of identity (picture or other documentation).

Social security number (Social Security Card or Benefit

Statement-Form SSA-1099) for taxpayer and all taxpayer's dependents.

Personal check, if available, with bank checking account & routing numbers

Copy of last year's Federal and state tax returns.

All income statements that apply to the taxpayers 2016 Federal and state income taxes.

Who to Call for an appointment Call 203 393-2100 ext. 1351 a certified AARP Tax-Aide counselor will call you back so you can obtain additional information or schedule an appointment with.

Where to Go Free income tax assistance is provided at the Janice von Beren Senior Center located on the ground level of the Bethany Town Hall, 40 Peck Road, Bethany CT.

Energy Assistance Program

Appointments are being scheduled for Bethany residents for the 2017-2018 Connecticut Energy Assistance Program. Verification of income, assets which includes but not limited to last bank statement(s), checks(s), copies of pay stubs, tips, workman's compensation (documentation of gross income for the last 4 weeks prior to the application date, social security benefits, utility bill, a statement from your heating source vendor, pension current monthly, unemployment printout, alimony/child support, interest/dividends, if you are self-employed, food stamp award notice, rental income, signed and dated statement from friends/relatives contributing to your household stating amount and frequency. Bring social security cards for all household members. Dates of birth, documented verification of any disability. Current rent receipt. No income tax return statements will be accepted as proof of income. Applications cannot be approved without a current electric bill.

Understand these are not my rules, this is dictated by Federal/State guidelines. I do not determine eligibility. Your application is forwarded to TEAM in Derby.

Eligibility for benefits is based on the households' total annual gross income, household size, and liquid assets. Liquid assets are defined as those assets that are readily convertible to cash such as savings/checking accounts, bonds, stocks, certificates of deposit, annuities and if applicable individual retirement accounts.

TEAM to notify you if you need to submit additional paper work, or if your household has been approved or denied via mail.

I will help you get through the paper work; give me at least one hour. I cannot take appointments on Wednesdays. Call me at 203 393-2100 Ext. 1124 to make an appointment. I will send you via mail or e-mail the list of documents you need to bring in prior to your appointment. Home visits are available to homebound persons. Here's my e-mail address jdelvecchio@bethany-ct.com.

You may call TEAM for further questions at 203 736-5420 their office hours are: 8:30AM to 4:30PM.

Are you 65 or older?

Not Receiving Medicare Part A and Part B?

The Medicare Savings Program (MSP) may help

You may be eligible if ALL apply:

- You are a permanent legal resident for 5 years or a U.S. Citizen
- 65 years of age or older
- Your monthly income is below*:

Single Income: \$2,135.32 Couple Income: \$2,894.92

How You Can Apply

Conditionally enroll into Medicare Part A and B at your Social Security office:

1. Make an appointment with Social Security to “conditionally” enroll into

Medicare Part A and enroll into Medicare Part B

2. Inform Social Security you will apply for the MSP program and wish to enroll in-to Medicare on the date DSS will pay for your Medicare Part A and B premium.

Complete W-1QMB or W-1QMBS (Spanish version) application (supporting documentation is not necessary) or apply online at www.connect.ct.gov. Your application date is the date the form is received by the Department of Social Services (DSS). You may apply as early as 30 days before your 65th birthday.

1. Put on the top of the application in BOLD letters:

REQUEST MEDICARE PART A AND B BUY IN to begin _____.

The “buy in” can only occur if you are legally here for 5 years, or a U.S. citizen AND you are age 65

2. Send the application to: DSS Scanning, PO Box 1320, Manchester, CT 06045-1320

Contact CHOICES 1-800-994-9422 for application assistance and help with selecting your Medicare benefits

MISS YOUR ENROLLMENT INTO MEDICARE PART B?

If eligible, the Department of Social Services can help you get onto Medicare Part B outside of the normal enrollment periods

As long as you are already enrolled into Medicare Part A, you do not need to contact Social Security. If eligible, the Department of Social Services will send this information to Social Security. It may take 2 months to process.

You may be eligible if ALL apply:

1. Have you been a U.S. legal permanent resident for at least 5 years or are you a U.S. Citizen?

2. Are you at least 65 years of age or eligible for Medicare due to disability?

3. Is your monthly income below? Single: \$2,489.52 Couple: \$3,375.12

Medicare Savings Program Can Help

How to Apply? Apply online at www.connect.ct.gov or

Fill out a W-1QMB or Q-1QMBS (Spanish version) and send to:

DSS Scanning, POB 1320, Manchester, CT 06045-1320

Join us for laughter, learning, and living! Janice von Beren Senior Center.