



# Huntington Community Newsletter

Published by Huntington Council on Aging  
24 Russell Road, Huntington, MA 01050, 413-512-5205, [coa@huntingtonma.us](mailto:coa@huntingtonma.us)

**FALL 2023**

## **Grandparents' Day Celebration**



Saturday, September 9  
1:00 p.m.  
Stanton Hall, 26 Russell Road



### **Forest Park Zoo's Wildlife on Wheels** *Meet & learn about the zoo's animals*

Residents of any age and community are welcome to join us!

This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Huntington Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



## **TOWN OF HUNTINGTON JOB OPENINGS**

### **FULL-TIME HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Applicants must possess a Massachusetts Class B CDL with Air Brake Endorsement and 2B or higher & 4G Hoisting Engineer's licenses. Annual Salary - \$73,513.

### **PART-TIME HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. 6 to 8 hours per week. Hours are flexible, but must be worked during the regular highway department hours of Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to assist the Highway Superintendent.

Application and complete job descriptions are available online at [www.huntingtonma.us](http://www.huntingtonma.us) or by emailing [admin@huntingtonma.us](mailto:admin@huntingtonma.us). Positions are open until filled. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## **Council on Aging News**

### **Pickleball**

Jerry Long and I spent 12 hours planning out and painting one pickleball court at the library. We also placed a locked storage bench containing equipment outside the library. To get the lock code, a new exercise release form needs to be completed. When you hand it in, you will get the code. Release forms can be picked up at the library and at the town hall or during any COA event.

The storage box contains:

- A broom because an oak tree is located at the end of the court. For your safety, sweep the court before playing.
- A first aid box
- One pickleball net to be assembled before playing and disassembled after playing a game
- 4 paddles for the beginners
- 10 pickleballs
- 4 sandbags to keep the net from blowing over in the wind
- A snow fence to be set up with cones and dowels to prevent the ball from rolling down the road

Please return all items to the box and spin the dials on the lock after securing.

We will have a pickleball refresher clinic on Tuesdays in the library parking lot at 10:00 a.m. until the weather no longer allows.

**Age & Dementia Friendly** planning with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is ready to go. I am inviting all seniors and townspeople to be part of the task force. The first meeting will be on Thursday, August 17, at 10:00 a.m. at Stanton Hall. We need your help to build a better community for all generations to come.

### **Events**

#### **Tuesdays**

- Pickleball at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- I am open for support services, coffee hour, and table game events. We purchased chess sets, checkers, scrabble boards, Yahtzee, cribbage boards, and lots of cards. Stanton Hall is open from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Please join us for some fun with new and familiar faces. We will be setting up some game competitions during the winter months. Sign up for a chess match, puzzle and scrabble challenge, and cribbage games. Puzzles are available for swap and share. We have a large inventory of puzzles with 300-2,000 pieces. You can pick them up on Tuesdays or any day the COA is open.

#### **Wednesdays**

- Yoga class is offered for \$5.00 a class every week from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. There are instructions for chair exercises and mat exercises. Equipment is available on site. Wear loose-fitting clothing and join us.
- Educational events 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. – see listings
- Hilltown Memory Café has played an important role for caregivers in our area. We were awarded a Caregiver Respite grant and provided support services for 16 families. Three times a month caregivers share their concerns and learn about support services that can help them. Once a month we have a musical event open to everyone. The Art program has become a welcome social event for everyone and anyone.

### Thursdays

- Walking and line dancing will start weekly on November 2 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. This year we will watch a line dancing instructional video one week and a mile walking challenge on YouTube on the other week. Join us for some shared aerobic exercise and fun.
- A movie is shown the second Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. with free popcorn and snacks. We spent over \$200 on a movie license and another \$600 on a surround sound system. Attendance has been dismal. We will not renew our license if there is no interest or input. Let us know what movies you would like to see. Call to let us know if a different time, different day, or weekend rather than weekday works best.

**Self-drive trips** will no longer be organized by the COA after this year. We will publicize the events and you will be responsible for signing up and sending in your payment to the travel company. The last one of the year will be on October 19 at Storowton.

**Our Spring Birthday Celebration** included a game of BINGO with some prizes for winners. It was a lot of fun. The Fall birthday event will take place on Thursday, October 5 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Anyone for cake, ice cream, and a game of Bingo?

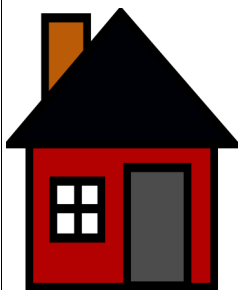
**Grandparents' Day** will take place inside Stanton Hall on Saturday. September 9 at 1:00 p.m. with a visit from the Forest Park Zoo's Wildlife on Wheels.

**Our annual Health Fair** will be held on Saturday, October 14, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This year we will have a free prize drawing and a food voucher for seniors from a visiting food truck. The \$10.00 food voucher is good for the day of the health fair only. We will only be giving out 50 vouchers, so call today and reserve yours. There will be a flu clinic for everyone and many other vendors. Please join us for the fun.

**The Veterans' Dinner** will be held on Saturday, November 18 and will be a drive through event again. A special invitation will be mailed to all veterans in Huntington. Thank you for your service.

**Daily or weekly senior meals** at Stanton Hall are being considered to be held again. Please call 413-512-5205 or email [coa@huntingtonma.us](mailto:coa@huntingtonma.us) if you are interested. We need at least 12 people to sign up.

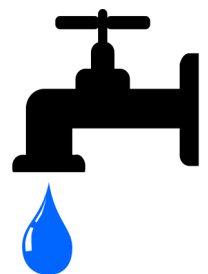
*Kathleen Peterson, COA Chairwoman*



## **BILL REMINDER**

**FY2023 4TH QUARTER WATER & SEWER  
DUE AUGUST 31, 2023**

**FY2024 2ND QUARTER REAL ESTATE TAX  
DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2023**



*The printing and distribution of this newsletter is made possible in part by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.*



# AGE AND DEMENTIA FRIENDLY HUNTINGTON LISTENING SESSIONS



01

## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE

- 📅 Wednesday, September 13th, 2023
- 🕒 1:00- 2:00 PM
- 📍 Stanton Hall (26 Russell Rd)



02

## HOUSING AND AGING IN PLACE

- 📅 Wednesday, October 11th, 2023
- 🕒 1:00- 2:00 PM
- 📍 Stanton Hall (26 Russell Rd)



03

## HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES, COMMUNICATIONS, & PUBLIC SAFETY

- 📅 Wednesday, November 15th, 2023
- 🕒 1:00- 2:00 PM
- 📍 Stanton Hall (26 Russell Rd)

Older adults living and aging in Huntington are encouraged to attend these sessions to share your experiences and challenges with aging in Huntington, and to hear about programs and services that are currently available to Huntington residents.

Please contact the Council on Aging if you are interested in serving on the Age and Dementia Friendly Task Force at [coa@huntingtonma.us](mailto:coa@huntingtonma.us)



## Chair Yoga

Every Wednesday, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m. at Stanton Hall, \$5 per class



## Gateway Fitness Center

Monday - Friday (when school is in session), 2:10 - 5:00 p.m.  
at Gateway Regional High School

## Indoor Walking & Line Dancing

Starting November 2 - Every Thursday, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. at Stanton Hall



## Pickleball Clinic

Every Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. at Library

Registration and waiver paperwork is required for each program and needs to be completed before starting. Paperwork is available at Town Hall or by contacting the COA at [coa@huntingtonma.us](mailto:coa@huntingtonma.us) or 413-512-5205. For transportation, please call van driver Richard Homan at 860-836-1844.



## *Mobile Market Online Ordering Assistance*

&



## *Games (Chess, Checkers, Scrabble, Uno, Yahtzee, & Cribbage)*

Every Tuesday, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Stanton Hall  
26 Russell Road  
Huntington

Please contact the Huntington Council on Aging at 413-512-5205 or [coa@huntingtonma.us](mailto:coa@huntingtonma.us) for more information.

## All New Casino Cabaret Featuring Mark Verselli Self-Drive Trip

Thursday, October 19, 2023  
10:30 a.m.

Storowton Tavern Carriage House,  
West Springfield

**PACKAGE COST:** \$59 Per Person

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:** Luncheon consisting of fresh garden salad, potato, vegetable, dessert, coffee, tea and a choice of chicken pot pie or baked scrod; show; meal taxes; and gratuities

**FOR RESERVATIONS,  
PLEASE CONTACT:  
Trip Coordinator Helen  
413-685-5667  
-ALL AGES WELCOME-**

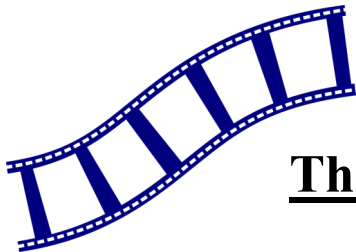
HISTORIC NORTH HALL  
**ARTS**  
2023 Festival • Huntington

The North Hall Association presents its Historic North Hall Arts Festival with **FREE** performances on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. on the North Hall Stage.

- **August 20 - “The Last Romance”** This staged reading of Joe DiPietro’s romantic comedy with a twist about finding love at any age features the cast of three highly accomplished professional actors include real life husband and wife Candace Barrett Birk and Raye Birk and Ellen Barry.
- **September 10 - “Fresh Horses”**- A staged reading & World Premiere of Mitch Giannunzio’s suspense thriller about obsession and the human need to redeem the past. Staring Broadway actors Kenneth Tigar & J. Anthony Crane, with Michelle Joyner, Director Mitch Giannunzio.
- **September 17 - Old Country Road** takes you back to days of the Grand Ole Opry playing some of the best vintage country & bluegrass music performing songs by Hank Williams, Carl Smith, Kitty Wells, tribute to Willie Nelson’s 90th year. OCR features Dan Pilachowski -flat picking guitar, Ron Jackson, guitar/vocals, Mark Leveille-mandolin/vocals, Chris Bouchard-banjo/vocals, Dave Helman- stand up bass.
- **September 24 - Opera Arias & Song Showcase** featuring the accomplished NYC ensemble of tenor Antonio Abate, soprano Amy Orsulak, and pianist Jerome Tan performing various Opera aria and song favorites.

*North Hall is located at 40 Searle Road.*

*Join the Huntington COA for a movie, popcorn, and snacks!*



**The Purpose of a Dog**

September 14

**The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**

October 12

**Flags of Our Fathers**

November 9



*All movies start at 1:00 p.m. at Stanton Hall, 26 Russell Road*



# Hilltown Memory Café

Stanton Hall, 26 Russell Road, Huntington

**Every Wednesday, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Art, Nutritional, and Educational Activities**

**~ Live Music ~**

***September 27 - Aidan Valliere***

***October 18 - Pioneer Valley Fiddlers***

***November 29 - Ed Bentley***

**~ Art Instruction with Therapeutic Artist Lori Bocon ~**

**Caregiver Support Group Held Every Week**

*Open to residents from any community with or without memory issues.*

The Huntington Council on Aging also offers outreach services that support elders and their caregivers with information and resources. This includes assisting with identifying benefit programs and making home visits. Please contact Caregiver Support Coordinator/Facilitator and Outreach Coordinator Crystal Wright-Partyka at 413-685-5283 or email [caregiveroutreach@huntingtonma.us](mailto:caregiveroutreach@huntingtonma.us) for more information or to sign up for either program.

If you need transportation to the programs, please call FRTA Van Driver Richard Homan at 860-836-1844 to schedule an appointment by 6:00 p.m. the day prior to your ride. Appointments should be made as far in advance as possible to ensure availability. An application needs to be filled out prior to riding the van. Please call 512-5205 to have one mailed or emailed to you. The fare for the van ride to the Memory Café or COA office is \$1.50 round trip.

These programs are made possible in part by a grant from Highland Valley Elder Services through funding under the Federal Older Americans Act and by a grant from the Huntington Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.







## Educational Programs

### Healthy Sleep

*presented by James Arnold*

Wednesday, September 20, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

### Defibrillator Familiarization & Hands Only CPR Presentation

*presented by Cate Snape from Hilltown Community Ambulance*

Wednesday, October 25, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.



### Bike West 2023 - Biking Across the Country from Massachusetts to Seattle

*presented by Bill Cote - billcote.org*

Wednesday, November 8, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.



*All programs will be held at Stanton Hall, 26 Russell Road, Huntington.  
Please contact Crystal Wright-Partyka at 413-685-5283 or email  
[caregiveroutreach@huntingtonma.us](mailto:caregiveroutreach@huntingtonma.us) for more information.*

## The Huntington Fall Festival

*Saturday, September 30, 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

*Sunday, October 1, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

*Town Green - 24-26 Russell Road, intersection of Routes 20 and 112*

### Featuring:

- Local artists
- Food vendors
- Face painting
- Tattoos
- Balloonist
- Pumpkin painting
- Crafts
- Live Music - Out of Bounds (Saturday) and The Time Stretchers (Sunday)
- And so much more!



***For more information, please contact Janine LaPointe at 413-667-5269.***



## Fall Birthday Celebration

Thursday, October 5, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Stanton Hall

Everyone is invited to enjoy birthday cake to celebrate seniors with birthdays in September, October, and November.



# **Huntington Health Fair**

**Saturday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Stanton Hall, 26 Russell Road**

*Vendors include:*

*Baystate Hospice, Commonwealth Care Alliance, Cooley Dickinson VNA & Hospice, Hilltown Community Health Centers, Highland Valley Elder Services, Huntington Food Pantry, Linda Manor Extended Care & Assisted Living, WestMass ElderCare, Inc., and more!*

**Flu Vaccination Clinic - All Ages Welcome**  
Please bring your Medicare and other insurance card



**Food Truck 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - All Ages Welcome**

Free \$10 food truck vouchers for the first 50 seniors (60 and over) who register by calling 413-512-5205. Vouchers must be picked up at the health fair and are valid on 10/14/2023, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. only.

*Sponsored by Huntington Council on Aging.*

# **Trunk or Treat & Bonfire**



**Saturday, October 21**  
**Huntington Public Library**


*Visit the Huntington Fire Department and Recreation Committee  
Facebook pages for more info.*



**Hilltown Mobile Market: Fresh & Local!**

[www.hilltownmobilemarket.com](http://www.hilltownmobilemarket.com)





# ITAV Fall 2023 Update

The Village Closet (2 East Main Street) is open Sunday and Monday 11:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. and the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. We welcome volunteers to come and help sort donations anytime during our open hours. There are no residency or income requirements to come and shop with us and everything is 100% free. Currently, we are not accepting women's clothing donations.

The Board of Directors of It Takes a Village is seeking new members who represent the populations served by its programs. Ideal candidates will enhance and broaden the organization's understanding of the needs in our community and help create a board that reflects and reinforces its mission. People with diverse backgrounds and experiences, as well as past board experience, are encouraged to inquire.

"Volunteering with families of newborns and serving on this board have provided countless tender-hearted experiences and opportunities for continued growth as a retired counselor and educator," says Jeanne Sargent of Plainfield, a member of the It Takes a Village Board Development Committee.

Inquiries and nominations from the public should be sent to [Board@HilltownVillage.org](mailto:Board@HilltownVillage.org) by September 30, 2023.  
*For more information on our programs, please visit [www.hilltownvillage.org](http://www.hilltownvillage.org).*



## BACK TO SCHOOL

**FREE!**

**Sunday, August 20th  
11am-2pm**

**Village Closet  
2 E. Main Street  
Huntington, MA**

Join us for our back-to-school event on August 20 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We will back backpacks and school supplies for students so they can return to school with what they need. If you are interested in donating back to school supplies for our local students- **please check out our Amazon Wishlist.**



## Fall family photos

to benefit It Takes a Village

**Saturday, September 16  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Goshen, MA**

**Sliding scale \$75 & up**

**Reserve your spot by Aug. 28**



# Central Hampshire Veterans' Services

As summer comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Central Hampshire Veteran Services, as we recently have joined the Town of Huntington. My name is Steven along with my staff; Daniel, Rebecca and Jessica, we are here to assist you with any questions you may have relating to Veteran Services. You may contact our main office at 413-587-1299, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. We will also be holding office hours at Stanton Hall once a month. Please visit [www.huntingtonma.us/calendar](http://www.huntingtonma.us/calendar) for dates.

The mission of Central Hampshire Veterans' Services is to assist, and advocate on behalf of, all veterans (as well as their dependents and survivors) in accessing veterans' benefits on the local, state, and federal levels. The office serves veterans in Northampton, Amherst, Pelham, Hadley, Williamsburg, Chesterfield, Goshen, Cummington, Worthington, Huntington, Middlefield, and Chester.

## Where We Can Assist

### **Local and Commonwealth of Massachusetts benefits:**

- Applying for Mass General Law Ch. 115 financial assistance benefits for qualified individuals
- Applying for state annuity for 100%-service-connect veterans
- Applying for state/local veterans property tax exemptions
- Assisting with local veterans property tax work off programs

### **Federal benefits/programs:**

- Veterans Administration healthcare registration
- Filing for service connected disability compensation
- Filing non-service connected pensions
- Filing for burial benefits
- Filing for dependent death benefits
- Obtaining gravestones and markers
- Obtaining military records
- Filing for military medal replacements

### **In addition, we provide assistance/referral services for:**

- Issues relating to homelessness, health, education, and employment.
- Fuel Assistance applications
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) applications



**Gray Catbird**  
Pottery Studio & Gift Shop

**GRAND OPENING**  
IN EARLY SEPTEMBER 2023!

- \* step-by-step pottery lessons for hand-building and wheel-throwing
- \* handmade gifts by local artisans and artists

**Contact: Dale Rogers, 413.875.5205**  
**or [graycatbirdpottery@gmail.com](mailto:graycatbirdpottery@gmail.com)**

etsy.com/shop/GrayCatbirdPottery NEW LOCATION:  
facebook.com/GrayCatbirdPottery **22 East Main Street, Huntington MA 01050**

## **FRTA Van Service**

**Available to Residents Age 60 & Over**  
**of Blandford, Chester, Huntington,**  
**Montgomery, & Russell**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**Medical and Other Appointments,**  
**Shopping, and Errands**

Please call Van Driver Richard Homan at 860-836-1844 to schedule an appointment by 6:00 p.m. the day prior to your ride. An application needs to be filled out prior to riding the van. Please call 512-5205 to have one mailed or emailed to you.

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