



Volume 26
Issue 4
November December
2026

New Fairfield Senior Center Newsletter

Get ready!

Here comes Election Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Kwanza, New Year's Eve. And we just celebrated our 40th Anniversary as a Senior Center. We make it special for you, and you make it special for us. Our members and our community partners mean a lot. Thank you for a great year!



Congratulations to our Art Instructor, Dominick Tomanelli, for taking Second Place in the Richter Arts Juried Art Show.



Anne is looking forward to Birthday #100 in November.

Let the Good Times roll!



It was a great day at the Craft and Bake Sale



It was a great day walking across the Hudson River with the Walking Club

October 15 to December 7 is Medicare Open Enrollment

Navigating Medicare can be complicated.

Have questions about Medicare? Call your local SHIP! We can help.

In Connecticut, the SHIP program is called CHOICES. It is a free program that gives clear and unbiased help with health insurance. It is for people who have Medicare, as well as their families and caregivers. CHOICES stands for Connecticut Health Insurance Assistance, Outreach, Information and Referral, Counseling, and Eligibility Screening.

Whether you are new to Medicare, looking at your plan choices, or need help using your benefits, we are here for you. Our team will help you understand your options so you can make smart decisions and get the care you need.

Call 800 994-9422 or 203 757-5449 and option 4.

Volunteer Opportunities - You Can Help!



AARP is Looking for Volunteers!

Be a Tax-Aide Volunteer and make a difference.

[AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Service](#) provides free tax preparation and assistance by IRS-certified volunteers, primarily focusing on adults aged 50 and older with low-to-moderate incomes.

The volunteer program relies on people of all backgrounds—**no prior CPA or tax experience is required**. AARP membership is also not required to volunteer. Training for specialized roles begins as early as

November, making late autumn the ideal time to apply.

go online to:

aarpfoundation.org/TaxaideVolunteer

or call 1-888-227-7669



FiSH of New Fairfield has dedicated volunteers who provide free, non-emergency rides Monday through Friday from 9AM until 6PM for New Fairfield residents who cannot drive themselves.

Currently, FiSH is in need of both Drivers and Ride Coordinators. **If you'd like to know if this is a good fit for you, Call 203 312-5627 or email: fishofnf@gmail.com**

<https://www.fishofnf.org/>

Volunteer Drivers

** The Commitment: At least one trip a month (more if you're available!). All rides are within a 16-mile radius of New Fairfield.*

** Requirements: A reliable vehicle, clean driving record, valid license, and basic email/phone access.*

Ride Coordinators

** The Commitment: Work just 1 day a week for usually less than 1.5 hours total (spread across the day) from the comfort of your home. You'll pair clients with drivers and schedule trips using email and Google Sheets.*

** Requirements: Internet access/computer, email, and phone.*

November Highlights

Hot Dog Bingo: *Monday, November 2 at 1:00*

\$6 covers both 1st Bingo card and refreshments. Additional cards are \$1.00 each. Please, adults only. Come for fun.

Bronx Club: *Wednesday, November 4 at 11:00*

We will share memories and experiences and meet other “Bronx Transplants”. We may live in Connecticut now, but our hearts will always be in the Bronx!

Serenity Circle: *Wednesday, November 4 at 3:00*

A time for inspiring readings and music, comforting prayers and meditations, and uplifting discussion. Hosted by Susan and Michael Dutton.

Pearl Harbor Presentation: *Thursday, November 5 at 1:00* Historian, social worker, and veteran Art Gottlieb will be here to give a presentation on Pearl Harbor. Expect a talk that is informative, entertaining and engaging as we lead into the week of Veterans Day. Sponsored by Synergy Homecare

Walking Club: Meet to walk

November 3 – 9:30 – Brewster Rail Trail

November 10 – 10:30 Meeting at Center

November 17 – 9:30 Main Street Bridgewater

November 24 – 9:30 Squantz Pond

November 31 – 9:30 Church, Sherman

Garden Club: *Friday, November 6 at 10:00 am*

Garden Club members meet every month. Newcomers are welcome. Odd months we meet at the Senior Center, even months we meet at Putnam Diner.

Anne’s 100th Birthday Celebration: *Monday, November 9 at 1:00* *A century of memories, laughter, and life deserves a very special celebration! Please join us as we celebrate Anne’s incredible milestone birthday!*

Men’s Breakfast Club: *Tuesday, November 10 at 8:30*

Enjoy a full breakfast while listening to a local speaker who will share stories, insights, and information on a variety of topics. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow gentlemen from the community. Donations are welcome to help defray the cost of breakfast.

Foot Reflexology Appointments with Eileen Byrnes:

Tuesday, November 10 at 9:00 and Tuesday, November 24 at 9:00 Reflexology reduces stress, promotes relaxation, improves circulation of oxygen and nutrients, also detoxifies and cleanses the body. Eileen Byrnes, nationally certified reflexologist, provides one-on-one therapy appointments. Since this is partly funded by the Friends of the NFSC, you may sign up for a 30-minute appt. for only \$25.

Emergency Preparedness and Everbridge

Presentation: *Tuesday, November 10th at 1:00.* Are you prepared for an emergency? Join NF OEM Director, Lori-Ann Benison, for a presentation on emergency preparedness and the Everbridge system. Learn how to stay informed, receive critical notifications, and take steps to keep yourself and your loved ones safe!

Origami with Dirk: *Tuesday, November 10 at 1:00*

Dirk Fernandez will be here to lead a class in Origami. Everyone will be making their own Origami project that they can bring home to enjoy. All materials will be supplied

Haircuts with Emily: *Thursday, November 12 at 1:00*

Hairdresser Emily will be here to give complimentary haircuts to men who preregister.

Thanksgiving Centerpiece Craft: *Thursday, November 12 at 1:00* Get creative and add a festive touch to your Thanksgiving table! Join Kay Schreiber from Synergy Homecare and Jonathan Rivera from Village at Brookfield Common for a fun, hands-on craft class where you’ll create a beautiful Thanksgiving centerpiece to take home and enjoy.

Cooking with Puti: *Friday, November 13 at 12:00*

Putti’s Cooking Class is back! You will enjoy learning delicious recipes, helpful cooking tips, and techniques that you can use at home. Come cook, taste, and share a great time with friends! Pre-Registration is required.

Crafts with Danielle: *Monday, November 16 at 1:30*

Danielle Ramos from Bethel Health Care will be here to lead the group in creating a **maple leaf mason jar**. Sign up today.

Red Hat Luncheon : *Tuesday, November 17 at 1:00*

The Sunshine Rambling Roses are a lively and fun-loving Red Hat Society group that meets once a month to enjoy good food, great conversation, and friendship at local restaurants.! Pre-registration is required.

Friends of the Senior Center Meeting – *Wednesday, November 18 at 3:00* The Friends are always looking to welcome new members and fresh ideas for their projects and fundraising. Help them plan for 2027.

Bunco: *Wednesday, November 18 at 2:00*

Roll the dice and join us for a fun-filled game of Bunco!

Holiday Trivia with Kay: *Thursday, November 19 at 1:00* Test your holiday knowledge with Kay of Synergy Home Care. This Holiday Trivia is sure to get you in the holiday spirit while we enjoy a holiday

TRIPS

St. Patrick's Day Celebration at the Aqua Turf



Enjoy a family style meal of traditional favorites
Get ready to be entertained by Padraig Allen and the McLean Avenue Band
Plus, an amazing performance by Irish Step Dancers
Tuesday, March 9, 2027
Cost: \$120
Depart upper parking lot: 9:30 am Return: 5:00 pm

MOVIES – Fridays at 1:00

November 6: “Little Fockers” - As two clans descend on the scene of the young twins' birthday party, dad and male nurse Greg Focker (Ben Stiller) must find a way through myriad misunderstandings to prove to family-patriarch Jack Byrnes (Robert DeNiro) -- once and for all -- that he is worthy of being the next family patriarch.

November 13: “The Meddler”

The heartwarming story of an aging widow from New York City who follows her daughter to Los Angeles in hopes of starting a new life after her husband passes away. After struggling to come together, they find their way forward.

November 20: “Planes, Trains and Automobiles” Neal Page, a high-strung advertising executive, is eager to return to his family in Chicago for Thanksgiving. After a frustrating business meeting in New York, he encounters Del Griffith, a talkative and clumsy shower curtain ring salesman, who inadvertently hijacks Neal's cab. Their journey begins with tension as Neal's first-class flight is delayed and rerouted to Wichita, Kansas due to a snowstorm, forcing them to share a cramped hotel room where their contrasting personalities clash, leading to comedic and heartfelt moments.

December 4: “Ordinary Angels” Based on a remarkable true story, Sharon, a fierce but struggling hairdresser in small-town Kentucky discovers a renewed sense of purpose when she meets Ed, a widower working hard to make ends meet for his two daughters. With Ed's youngest daughter waiting for a liver transplant, Sharon sets her mind to helping the family.

December 11: “Double Holiday” Rebecca Hoffman is a career-driven employee whose Hanukkah plans are disrupted when a promotion opportunity arises at her company. The CEO assigns Rebecca and her office rival, Chris Coulter, to organize the company's Christmas party, which is crucial for securing a major client contract creating tension.

December 18: “Christmas with the Kranks” When their Daughter decides not to return home for Christmas Luther and Nora Krank plan to skip Christmas for a Caribbean cruise. Their plan upsets their festive, tradition-bound neighbors. However, their daughter's surprise return forces them into a frantic, comedic scramble to restore holiday cheer before she arrives for the holidays.



Meet Emily Avitabile

As a very young mother, Emily fulfilled her dream of becoming a hairdresser by enrolling at Americo Beauty and Cosmetology Academy for two years and getting her license. She anxiously went looking for a job and at the age of 28, she was offered her first job at Fran's Hair Design on Padanaram Road. She helped Fran with ladies' styles and he taught her barbering. Emily stayed at Fran's for 16 years and went on to have her own Hometown Barber Shop for many years. All along Emily was raising a family.

When Emily's beloved husband John died and she became a widow, she began looking for something to do that would fulfill her and help others. She now volunteers to give free haircuts to men here at the Senior Center and we love having her.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of our Senior Center.



Introducing New Fairfield Rebels Pride Pass for Senior Citizens & Military Veterans

The **Rebels Pride Pass** grants eligible New Fairfield residents (Seniors aged 65+ and Military Veterans) complimentary general admission to regular-season home athletic contests and school theater/musical performances hosted on New Fairfield Public Schools grounds.

Come into the Senior Center to complete the form and claim your Pride Pass.

Left: First Pride Pass recipient Ted Tegmeier. Both a Senior and a Veteran, Ted is a longtime supporter of New Fairfield youth sports. He also provides many hours of service to the town as a member of the New Fairfield Lions Club.



Proud Pass carrier #2: John Hoey is both a New Fairfield Senior and a Vietnam veteran.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

Wheel of Fortune: Mondays other than 1st Monday at 1:00. either in person or via Zoom.

Technology Assistance: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1-4 pm. James helps with any of your devices. Schedule your free appointment.

Stitch by Stitch Quilting: Tuesdays & Fridays at 10:00 Talented quilters share their talents.

Investment Club – Tuesdays 1:30 pm

Meet weekly in the Community Room to share money lessons and tips on stocks and portfolios.

Women's Pool: Tuesdays 12:00–2:00

Men's Pool: Tuesdays at 2:00–4:00

These groups get together every week to play pool. No experience necessary.

Art Class: Wednesdays **or** Thursdays at 10:00

Dominick Tomanelli, gifted artist in many mediums, leads each class. \$35 for 6 week session.

Sit n Stitch: Wednesdays at 10:00

Novice to experienced knitters are welcome! If you need help, there is always someone to offer it.

Cards and Games: at 1:00. This is a great time to put a group together to play your favorite game.

Blood Pressure Screening: Wednesdays & Thursdays at 9:00–12:00

French Conversation Class: Thursdays 9:00 am

This casual class with Claire Tuffereau is for those who have a basic knowledge of French and want to keep that alive, \$30 for a 6-week session.

Cornhole: Mondays & Thursdays at 3:00

Show your cornhole skills and have some fun. Show up and join a team!

Spanish: Every Friday at 9:00 am. Tatiana makes learning Basic Spanish a fun activity. Sign up for free.

“Free Dance”: Fridays at 11:00 am. We provide the music, you provide the moves. A great way to release all your tensions at the end of the week.

Crafts: Fridays at 1:00. This group gets together every week to work on crafts for the craft fair.

This is a good time to purchase their items at the Sunshine Boutique for holiday gift giving.

Coming in December

Creating a Strong Estate Plan: *Thursday, December 3 at 1:00*

Whether you are a planner or a procrastinator, having a strong and up-to-date estate plan should be at the top of your to-do list. An estate plan provides a roadmap for your loved ones. Attorney Jeanne Di Minno from Daly, Perri, Arnold & Knierim will explain the benefits of estate planning.

Gingerbread House Making: *Tuesday, December 15 at 1:00*

Get into the holiday spirit with our Gingerbread House Making Class! Join Kay Schreiber from Synergy Homecare and Jonathan Rivera from The Village at Brookfield Commons for a fun and festive time decorating your very own gingerbread house. Bring your holiday cheer and get ready to create a sweet masterpiece!

New Fairfield Senior Center
33 Route 37
New Fairfield, CT 06812

NFHS Honor Society Tech Help Program:

Wednesday, November 18 at 2:30 The NFHS National Honor Society is here to help! They will cover smartphone tips and tricks, Email & social media and troubleshooting your devices. 20-minute tech presentation followed by one-on-one help with your device. Make sure to sign up.

We have more news all the time. Be sure to visit our website often.

<https://www.newfairfieldseniorcenter.org/>



**Countdown to
New Year's Party**

Wednesday, December 30 at 1:30 pm.
Wear your finest and join us to be the first
in the area to toast in the New Year.