AVON SENIOR CENTER



635 WEST AVON ROAD AVON, CONNECTICUT 06001 860.675.4355

Jennifer Bennett, LMSW, CDP Avon Senior Center Coordinator Elizabeth Shaffer, Administrative Secretary



FEBRUARY 2024

See our newsletter online at: https://www.avonct.gov/senior-center



Message from Avon Senior Center Coordinator

Happy February! Hope everyone is enjoying the beauty of the winter season and staying well and warm!

Please be sure to say Hello to our Interns, Sophia and Annebel. They are studying Social Work and are MSW Candidates. They are helping out with programs and will be running some activities and groups.

This month we celebrate & honor Black History Month! Check out our bulletin boards for pictures & famous quotes.

We continue with our Thankful Tuesdays & Gratitude project where we write down positive things, things we're grateful for and thankful for, accomplishments, kind words, things we're proud of & things that make us happy. We're collecting these for the entire year and we'll go through them in December so we can commemorate what a great year we have had!

As we celebrate this month, let's spread a little kindness, joy and friendship everywhere. We are a Senior Center family and we need each other to thrive and be successful. Thank you for participating in our programs and classes, we appreciate you! We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you.

Take care,

Jennifer Bennett, LMSW, CDP Dementia Friend & Dementia Champion



It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences. ~ Audre Lorde





Be like a tree.
Stay grounded.
Connect with your roots.
Go out on a limb.
Bend before you break.
Turn over a new leaf.
Enjoy the view.

Keep growing.



Our Mission Statement

Avon Senior Center supports the social, educational, recreational, cognitive, physical and psychological needs of all older adults. We respect the diversity of all who enter and you will find a warm greeting here. We are committed to offering an open and welcoming space to everyone. We strive to enhance the quality of life for all older adults.



Please call the senior center 860-675-4355 to sign up for all events.

Movie Monday
Monday, February 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm

Bingo

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 12:45 pm Residence at Brookside Bingo Caller

Music- with Lynn & Ray
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 12:45 pm

Friday, February 23, 2024 at 11 am Games, Trivia, Puzzles

Trinhaitia Bijoux Beading Therapy with Miss Natalie- TBD



Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.

— Harriet Tubman



Blood Drive

Avon Senior Center Feb. 12 from 10-3



American Red Cross

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or RedCrossBlood.org and enter: ASC to schedule an appointment.

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County









Free Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar Screening VNHLC will be providing FREE Screenings 1st & 3rd Thursdays from 11:30-1:00.

Monday Meals & Minds Program

Bi-monthly program with meals served at the Avon Senior Center with an educational & informational opportunity for learning. The program will stimulate the mind, promote social inclusivity & connectedness. We will increase social integration, decrease social isolation through nutrition & learning. Program is open and welcoming.

SIGN UP REQUIRED.

Meal at 12:00 pm & program afterward

Monday, February 5, 2024

February is National Heart Month! Join Registered Dietitian Jessica Dorner for an informative and interesting presentation about having a healthy heart. This presentation will include tips about heart health, cholesterol, blood pressure and how food affects all of those conditions. Attendees will take home nutrition handouts and recipes for success.

Monday, February 26, 2024

February is Black History Month. We will be discussing music, literature, poetry, accomplishments of people of color. Please feel free to bring information to share or ask about someone and we will do the research.

\$1.00 Donation requested, will appreciate more

This program is grant funded through NCAAA (North Central Area Agency on Aging) and is sponsored and hosted by Avon Senior Center.

IF THEY DON'T GIVE YOU A SEAT AT THE TABLE, BRING A FOLDING CHAIR.

SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

make kindness the norm.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Bridge Group

Avon Senior Center has a contract/social Bridge Group on Thursdays at 1:00 pm. Please contact the Senior Center if interested.

New Mah Jongg Group

Beginner Mah Jongg group looking for players. Join them on Wednesdays from 10:00-12:00!



FREE Monthly Hearing & Hearing Aid Checks

Nicholas Wills of Home Hearing will be here to check your hearing and hearing aids and fix them. Thursday, February 29, from 10-12.















Fraud Watch Network

www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or 1-877-908-3360 https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2018/password-manager-identity-protection.html

Watch Your Credit Reports: www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228, Protect Your Mail: www.dmachoice.org & www.optoutprescreen.com or call 1 (888) 5-OPT-OUT.

Do Not Call Registry: www.donotcall.gov or call (888) 382-1222

The Perfect Scam: www.aarp.org/podcasts/the-perfect-scam

Free Tax Assistance Offered by AARP Tax-Aide at Avon Senior Center

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide offers free tax assistance to middle & low income taxpayers from February 7-April 10. Special attention is given to those 50+.

Appointments required. For information or schedule appointment, call Avon Senior Center 860-675-4355.

In scope tax returns: AARP volunteers are trained to assist taxpayers to file Form 1040 and other common schedules and forms. More complex or unusual tax returns may be out of scope and volunteers are prohibited from assisting tax payers with them.

What to bring:

Face Mask, phone and writing instruments.

Photo ID and proof of Social Security numbers for all household members.

Complete copy of last year's tax return, including all source papers.

Personal check showing bank account and routing numbers (if direct deposit or debit is requested).

All tax forms, including but not limited to:

SSA-1099, Social Security Statement 1099-R for pensions, IRA's and annuities 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, 1099-MISC)

W-2, Wage and Tax Statement W-2G Certain Gambling Winner Forms

Form 1444 – Notice of Economic Impact Payment

Unemployment Forms 1099-G must be printed out prior to appointment

All documents that relate to deductible expenses Evidence of cash charitable donations, even if you will not be itemizing

Documentation of cost basis of assets sold

"We All Require and Want Respect, Man or Woman, Black or White. It's Our Basic Human Right." -Aretha Franklin

Stick with the people who pull the *magic* out of you and not the madness.

AVON SENIOR CENTER CLASSES

Tai Chi

Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Jan. 10—March 13 Fee: \$61.00 Senior Fee: \$54.90

Non Resident Fee: \$67.10

Zumba Gold

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Jan. 10—March 13 Fee: \$74.00 Senior Fee: \$66.60

Non Resident Fee: \$81.40

Mah Jongg

Wednesdays 1:00-3:00 & Fridays 10:00-12:00

March 13, 15, 20 & 21

Fee: \$61.00 Senior Fee: \$54.90

Non Resident Fee: \$67.10

Badminton

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Jan. 9— March 12 Fee: \$64.00 Senior Fee: \$57.60

Non Resident Fee: \$70.40

Badminton

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Jan. 10— March 13 Senior Fee: \$57.60

Non Resident Fee: \$70.40

Badminton

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Jan. 11—March 14 Fee: \$64.00 Senior Fee: \$57.60

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Non Resident Fee: \$70.40

For more information about registering, classes and setting up your account, please visit:

https://avonct.myrec.com/info/







"Be there for others, but never leave yourself behind."

DODINSKY



Avon Food Pantry

Church of Saint Ann, Lower Level 289 Arch Road, Corner of Route 167 & Arch Road The Avon Food Pantry is open Tuesday mornings from 9:30am - 11:30am *Except when Avon Public Schools are closed for bad weath

Mobile Pantry

Free produce available to persons in need in the Farmington Valley. Farmer's market distributes fresh fruits, vegetables, perishables &

Alternate Tuesdays - 10:00am - 10:30am 2023 Upcoming Dates

Except when Avon Public Schools are closed for

March 12 March 26

May 21

Mobile Pantry Avon Site: The Farmington Valley American Muslim Center 35 Harris Road, Avon, CT. 06001





For additional information contact: Town of Avon Social Services @ 860-409-4346

Interested in Cornhole (Bean Bag Toss), Badminton, Billiards– please let us know. We have the equipment and the space, just bring you!

Avon Pet Pantry

1st Tuesday of each month from 11am – 1pm Avon Animal Control at 11 Arch Rd. Donations always appreciated

Contact us at: avonpetpantry@gmail.com

(860)673-0297 Animal Control or (860)409-4358 Social Services

BLACK HISTORY MONTH IS NOT SIMPLY ASKING, 'HOW CAN I REMEMBER AND LEARN ABOUT BLACK PEOPLE?' IT IS ALL OF US ASKING, 'HOW CAN WE LOVE BLACK PEOPLE BY SEEING THEM, HEARING THEM, AND CREATING A WORLD WHERE BLACK PEOPLE FEEL LOVED, INSPIRED, AND PROTECTED?'





MyPlaceCT.org: help older adults & people with disabilities live with optimal independence, health & wellbeing. Bringing together the information to live how & where you choose. Sponsored: CT Department of Social Services in collaboration with partner state agencies and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.



Applications Accepted 9/5/2023 - 5/31/2024Avon residents, please CALL for appointment: 860-409-4346 Avon Social Services

New clients must provide household member information sheet for each household member showing:

- * Proof of Income * Proof of Utility Bills
- * Proof of Rent/Mortgage Payment



Town of Avon Dial-a-Ride Application

https://www.avonct.gov/sites/g/ files/vyhlif151/f/uploads/ dial a ride info app.pdf

"If you want the cooperation of humans around you, you must make them feel they are important - and you do that by being genuine and humble."

- NELSON MANDELA



3-13 CARD GROUP

Tuesdays 12:00 pm. New players welcome. Easy to learn & fun!



Favarh Brighter Days-ies

Tuesday mornings making beautiful flower arrangements.



AVON ACES WII BOWLING!

Join our team! Tuesdays at 10:00 am Avon Senior Center at 860-675-4355.



Euchre- Cards Join us! Contact Heidi: heidi10359@aol.com





Senior Medicare Patrol 1-800-994-9422

www.smpresource.org

PROTECT, DETECT, REPORT. Help with fraud, errors, abuse, questions, concerns, complaints.

Avon Emergency Updates!

<u>SUBSCRIBE</u> - (https://www.avonct.gov/ subscribe). "Town Alerts" & "Town News and Announcements"

CT ALERTS - Critical emergency info: (https://portal.ct.gov/ctalert)



Avon Senior Center 3rd Monday of the month 7:00-8:30 pm



NAMI Family Support Group: peer-led for adults with a loved one who has experienced symptoms of a mental health condition. *Free, No therapy/ treatment endorsed, Confidential*





988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 24/7 call/text/chat access to trained crisis counselors who help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, mental health crisis, or emotional distress. Contact 988 if worried about a loved one who may need support. Free & confidential.

Red Cross Home Fire Campaign

Aims to reduce the number of injuries & deaths due to home fires by providing free fire safety education & free smoke alarms. Call: 877-287-3327 option 1 or visit: www.redcross.org/local/connecticut/home-fire-safety-visit.



American Red Cross

Silver Sneakers Chair Classes



1:30-2:30 pm on Thursdays Join us for a fun workout anyone can do! Free with Silver Sneakers or \$3.00/class. Call Nancy at 860-515-1200.











AVON SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Mah Jongg- Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. (for experienced players only) Mah Jongg - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. (beginner group)

Card Group- Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.

Scrabble-Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.

Knitting- Mondays at 1:00 p.m.

Setback- Wed & Fri at 1:00 p.m. Wii Bowl- Tuesdays at 10 a.m. & various

Beading Group- Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

Pool/Billiards-various

Euchre- Every other Wed. at 2:00 p.m.

CRT Lunch at the Avon Senior Center

Come and enjoy lunch at the Avon Senior Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays. CRT (Community Renewal Team) sponsors a lunch program at the Avon Senior Center where you receive a hot, nutritious and health conscious meal. Printed menu offered each month & reservations are required by calling the Senior Center the day before by 12:00 noon at 860-675-4355. Suggested \$3.00 donation for persons 60 years of age and over & a mandatory \$10.36 if you are 59 years of age and under. The lunch program is open to all seniors in the Town of Avon as well as surrounding towns. Come join us and make new friends. See menu below:



CRT LUNCH

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
	Please be advised that our food may have come in contact or contain pea- nuts, tree nuts, soy, milk, eggs, wheat, shellfish, sesame or fish. Please advise staff of any food allergies prior to meal consumption!	1	Fruit Punch Orange Marmalade Pork Rosemary Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Wheat Bread Cookie
6	Orange Juice Italian Sausage w/Peppers on Roll Capri Blend Vegetables Potato Wedges/Ketchup Cookie	8	Orange Chicken w/ Broccoli Fried Rice Asian-Style Vegetables Cornbread Fresh Fruit
13	MILD Beef & Bean Chili Baked Potato/Sour Cream Green Beans Whole Wheat Bread Fresh Fruit	15	Minestrone Soup Grilled Chicken Breast w/ Lettuce, Tomatoes, Ham, Cheese, Hard Boiled Egg, Carrots, Ranch Dressing Bread Stick Fresh Fruit
20	Grape Juice Hot Dog w/ Bun Ketchup/Mustard/Relish Baked Beans Coleslaw Yogurt	22	Orange Juice Chicken Scampi Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Wheat Bread Slice of Pie
27	Orange Juice Chicken Stew w/ Potatoes, Peas & Carrots Biscuit Fruit Bar	29	Roast Turkey w/ Gravy Cornbread Stuffing Mixed Vegetables Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Fresh Fruit

THE FARMINGTON VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT PRESENTS MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches you how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.

FREE TRAINING:

- WHEN: February 20th and 27th, 5-9PM
 - Must attend BOTH SESSIONS to receive certification
- WHERE: FVHD Office, 95 River Road, Canton

Light refreshments provided



Questions? jginsberg@fvhd.org



Scan to RSVP

TABLESCAPES

30 CREATIVE & ORIGINAL TABLESETTINGS

2-day fundraiser to benefit The AHS FRIDAY, MARCH 15 & SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Belle Ballroom, The North House, Rt. 44, Avon, CT







Expanded Tableware Tag Sale both days! Tickets on sale: \$15 pre-show/\$20 at door Order tickets by calling 860-670-3225 online at: www.avonhistoricalsociety.org

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."



Marcus Garvey

E-mail List

Please send an email to: eshaffer@avonct.gov requesting to be added to the newsletter email list.



REMEMBERING CONNECTICUT'S COLORED REGIMENTS: FILM SCREENINGS AND DISCUSSION

SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 2024, 1-3 PM Avon Senior Center

635 WEST AVON RD., AVON, CT 06001 (SNOW DATE: FEB. 11, 2024, 1-3 PM)



SCREENINGS • DISCUSSION • RECEPTION

Screening of "The Connecticut 29th" written and produced in 2023 by Berlin Equity Action Team. This
15-minute video includes a brief history of the 29th, 30th and 31st Connecticut Colored Infantry
during the Civil War. Chris Barlow of the Berlin Historical Society will provide background about the
making of this film which won "Best CT Film" at the Mystic Film Festival.

Screening portions of a documentary about the 29th Connecticut written and produced in 2020 by John Noone, retired CT National Guardsman, for the Connecticut National Guard. It is a narration of OUT OF THE BRIARS written in 1910 by Alexander Newton who served in the 29th Connecticut.

Moderated discussion after both screenings with John Mills, President, Alex Breanne Corporation, a non-profit that researches lesser-known stories of the American enslaved.

SPONSORED BY THE AVON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AVON LIBRARY, AVON SENIOR CENTER

Avon Greater Together Community Fund

Grant opportunity for nonprofits proposing projects to benefit the residents of Avon. Each applying organization may submit more than one proposal, maximum total award to an organization is \$10,000. Visit www.hfpg.org/avoncf or email avontogether-fund@gmail.com if you're interested in applying!



Митиаь У Отана

Money Matters with Mike Sloan- Program focuses on HECM reverse mortgage (HUD sponsored & FHA insured product). https://youtu.be/myYr3vTRphs
Mutual Cares: help seniors stay well, connected, active,









8 Old Mill Lane Simsbury CT 06070 860-651-3539 - farmingtonvalleyvna.org

- Skilled Nursing
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- Home Health Aides
- Rehabilitation Therapies
- Parkinson's Movement Specialists
- Blood Pressure/ Blood Sugar Screenings
- Flu Shot Clinics Sept- Dec

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 860-673-2521 AvonHealth Center.com

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arden-courts.org

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- Audiology with an on-site hearing booth
- Blood draw/lab services
- Endocrinology/osteoporosis
- Geriatric primary care
- Geriatric psychiatry
- Memory assessment
- Neurology

- Nutrition counseling
- Podiatry
- Urology
- Vascular surgery

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1-84-GET-UCONN health.uconn.edu/aging

HEALTH

