



Meet Senator Candaras' Aide

Janice Hassett

Monday, February 2nd, 11- 11:45 AM

LONGMEADOW ADULT CENTER VAN

VAN AROUND TOWN

Tuesday, February 10th, 10—Noon

ENFIELD SQUARE MALL

Friday, February 27th
10—1 PM

INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSINGS

The Longmeadow Adult Center will make any weather related closings on local television stations. Prior to coming to the Center, please check to see if we are closed or have a delayed opening when the weather is inclement. Always call the Center if you are uncertain—565-4150.

2008 INCOME TAX PREPARATION

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program will be starting on Wednesday, February 4th and ending on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 by appointment. These sessions will be on Wednesdays beginning at 9 am and ending at 1 pm. There will be two counselors preparing taxes. Please call 565-4150 for appointments.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NEWS

Nomination papers for the Annual Town Election are available in the Town Clerk's Office for the following:

- Select Board-2 three year seats
Moderator-1 three year seat
- School Committee-2 three year seats
School Committee-1 one year seat to fulfill
- the remainder of a three year term which expires in 2010
- Planning Board-1 five year seat
- Housing Authority-1 five year seat
- 2009 dog licenses are now available. 2008 licenses expire March 31, 2008.
- 2009 census forms have been mailed. Please respond as soon as possible to avoid the cost of a 2nd mailing. Failure to respond could result in voter's being added to the 'Inactive Voter's list'.

SNOW PEOPLE WANTED Snowman Building Contest

Longmeadow Parks and Recreation Department is looking for festive snowmen and snow women to occupy the Town Green in front of the Community House. The more colorful and creative the better! Use hats, scarves and other accessories to brighten up your creation, and get your picture on the LPRD website. February is for those that love the snow. Bring your enthusiasm and build a snowman on The Green in front of the Community House and take a picture of it with your digital camera and we will get it on our website. Lets see who can build the largest snowman or most colorful and watch for your pictures on our website! Call 413.565.4160 for more information.

Senior Property Tax Breaks

Kathy Grady, Select Board & Bob LeClair,
Assessors Office

Property Tax Deferral

Defer all or part of property taxes @ 8% interest
Age 65+, 10yr Mass. resident, 5 yrs in property,
maximum income \$25,000, no limit on assets

Elderly Exemption - \$500

Age 70+, 10 yr. Mass. resident, 5 yrs in property,
maximum income (not counting Social Security):
\$14,482 (single), \$16,710 (married), assets (not
counting house, car, etc.): \$31,194 (single),
\$33,422 (married)

Disabled Veteran's (& spouse's) Exemption

\$400-\$1,000 (depending on % disability)
Any age, 5 yrs. Mass. resident, in property since
July 1 of tax year, no maximum income or asset
limitation

Blind Exemption - \$437.50

Any age, in property since July 1 of tax year

Senior Volunteer Services - \$675

Age 60+, 5 yrs in property, maximum income
\$49,000 (single)/\$74,000 (married)/ \$62,000
(head household) Apply in December.

Community Preservation Exemption

Exempt from 1% surcharge
In property since January 1 of tax yr, age 60+
max income \$43,360 (1 person) - \$85,536 (8 per-
sons), age less than 60 max income \$36,288 (1
person) - \$68,429 (8 persons)

Apply January - March

Circuit Breaker Deduction on State Taxes

Seniors can save money on their state
income taxes if their property tax ex-
ceeds a percentage of their income.
Homeowners 65+ should check their eli-
gibility. Forms available at the Adult Ctr.

RMD Suspension

Many seniors have seen their retirement savings erode in 2008, but were still required to withdraw a minimum amount of money despite the loss in value. Current regulations require account holders of 401(k)-type account to withdraw a minimum amount of money, referred to as the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), every year after they reach 70 ½ years old. If seniors do not take out a minimum amount based on an Internal Revenue Service formula, they are subject to a 50 percent penalty the following year.

On December 10, 2008, Congress voted in favor of the "The Worker, Retiree and Employer Recovery Act" (H.R. 7327) to suspend the Internal Revenue Service requirement for 2009 that seniors must withdraw a minimum amount of money from their retirement accounts. This suspension would be available to everyone regardless of their retirement account balances. President Bush signed the legislation into law on December 23, 2008.

Property Tax Deduction on Federal Taxes

Homeowners who do not itemize their federal income taxes will be given a new deduction as part of the American Housing Rescue & Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008 (H.R. 3221). It allows for up to \$500 for an individual filer or \$1,000 for joint filers for 2008.