

## DTV Coupon Program Expands

Residents of nursing homes and facilities for intermediate care and assisted living are now eligible to receive one \$40 government coupon toward the purchase of a TV converter box. After Feb. 17, when all TV transmissions will be digital, the converter boxes will be necessary for anyone with an analog TV that relies on an outdoor antenna or indoor rabbit ears to receive TV signals.

Nursing home residents, their representative or a family member must fill out special applications available online at [www.DTV2009.gov](http://www.DTV2009.gov). Post Office box holders are also eligible under the new ruling. They can apply for up to two coupons online or call 1-888-388-2009 toll free. They must also provide their home address.



## ADULT CENTER OPEN HOUSE

*The Longmeadow Adult Center is the finest in the area, but don't take our word for it. Come and see for yourself. Our programs are many and varied. If you have a suggestion for a program that interests you, let us know! Keep watching for more details about our exciting APRIL OPEN HOUSE!*

## Purchasing a New TV?

This holiday season consumers need to know about the conversion from analog to digital that takes place on Feb. 17, 2009, before they purchase an expensive TV that they may not need. After this date, full-power stations will only broadcast digital signals.

A digital-to-analog converter box will allow you to continue using your existing analog TV that has an antenna. You do not need to purchase a new TV or an expensive converter box. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration has certified more than 80 boxes that can be purchased with DTV box coupons. Every U.S. household is eligible to receive two coupons worth \$40 each toward the purchase of the converter box. The coupons, which expire 90 days after mailing, may only be used for eligible boxes. For more information on the Converter Box Coupon Program, visit [www.dty2009.gov](http://www.dty2009.gov), or call 888-530-2634 (TTY).

All TVs manufactured after Mar. 1, 2007, must include digital tuners. Retailers may continue to sell analog-only TVs but consumers need to be aware that this equipment will not be able to receive television signals after Feb. 17. Retailers selling TVs with only analog tuners must display a Consumer Alert. For more information, call the Federal Communications Commission at 1-888-225-5322 (TTY:1-888-835-5322 or visit the Commission's digital television website at [www.dty.gov](http://www.dty.gov)).



# VOLUNTEER VIEWS

*Ellen Gold*  
Coordinator of Volunteers

*With the New Year upon us, many people are making resolutions and one that will benefit both our community and yourself is to resolve to volunteer in the community. If you haven't volunteered before, you are in for a wonderful experience. The knowledge you gain, the people you meet, the lessons you learn, the person you become and the doors you open are a result of volunteering. Resolve to become involved in 2009. You'll be glad you did. Best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy New Year.*

## FLU CLINICS

The Adult Center along with the Board of Health hosted several flu clinics during the months of November and December. We are very thankful for all our volunteers who were able to accommodate over 600 area residents with efficiency and a smile. Many people commented how organized and courteous all of our volunteers were. We thank the following volunteers for their hard work: **Elsie Haroshevsky, Ernie Blake, Salena Blake, Marilyn Hurst, Jim O'Donnell, Sheila Blum, Beverly Gray, Sandy Tieman, Miriam Odentz, Patricia Welch, Anamarie Friberg, Margaret Jenkins, Debbie Dakers, Alana Hoffman, Venessa O'Brien, Jean Doyle, Shirley Burke, Irene Kotula, Mary Baxter, Barbara Corrigan, Paula Davitt, Kit Dennis, Liz Hammett, Maureen Julian, Phyllis LaFleur, Dorothy McNamara, Sally Mooradd, Denise Panaia, Patricia Pasini, Belle Perron, Lise St. Louis and Susan Sumner.** We would not have been able to do it without their help.

## ADULT CENTER OPEN HOUSE

FOLOCA is planning an open house to introduce the Adult Center to those in the community who are not familiar with all our wonderful services and programs. The open house is currently in the planning stages, but will be held in Mid-April. We are looking for additional people to serve on the planning committee. If interested, call Ellen Gold at 565-4150.

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

We are trying to enter the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with our communications. We would like to use email for some routine notifications or volunteer requests and would appreciate having the email addresses of all our volunteers. If you have not done so already, please forward your email to Ellen at [egold@longmeadow.org](mailto:egold@longmeadow.org). Thanks for your assistance.

## DONATIONS

We are always appreciative of your donations of new or gently used gift items and women's clothing for our Maple Tree Shoppe. In addition, we would appreciate the donation of large-print books. We do not accept lingerie including sleepwear and robes, shoes, men's clothing or children's clothing, so please do not include them in your donation. We can not sell these items and must dispose of them. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.