

LONGMEADOW LINES

Meet Senator Candaras' Aide Janice Hassett

Monday, March 3rd, 10:30 – 11:30 AM
Longmeadow Adult Center

AARP TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

AARP Tax Volunteers will be providing free tax return preparation during March and April at the Longmeadow Adult Center. Please call to make an appointment—565-4150. AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers work in conjunction with the IRS to bring you this service.

LONGMEADOW PUBLIC FORUMS

The Town Manager will present the proposed town-wide budget at a forum in early March. The date, time and location will be published in advance.

The results of the town-wide buildings assessment will be presented on April 3 at 7:00 pm at the Glenbrook Middle School auditorium.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL TUESDAY, MARCH 4TH, 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will appropriate an amount not to exceed \$356,591.00 from the Sewer Retained Earnings Account in order to provide refunds for sewer bills issued between July 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007, or take any action relative thereto.



LONGMEADOW ADULT CENTER VAN FOR LOCAL TRIPS \$1.00 each way 565-4150

We need a minimum of 4-5 people to operate the van on Tuesdays around town.
Call if interested—565-4150

ENFIELD SQUARE MALL

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NEWS

2007 Dog Licenses expire March 31, 2008.

Nomination papers for the June 10, 2008 Annual Town Election are available in the Town Clerk's Office for the following elected positions:

Select Board (one 3 year seat)
School Committee (three 3 year seats)
Planning Board (one 5 year seat)
Planning Board (one 2 yr seat)
Housing Authority (one 5 year seat)

The deadline to obtain papers is March 21, 2008 at 5:00 pm. The last day to submit the papers to the Registrar's is March 25, 2008 at 5:00 pm.

Please contact the Town Clerks office for information at 413-565-4103.

CONSUMER ADVISORY

The Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs advises tax payers to be wary of tax refund loans, also known as Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs.) These loans are secured by and repaid from a pending income tax refund. Because the loans are short term, the annualized interest rates are very high.

The following are better alternatives than RALs:

- 1 Open a banks account with direct deposit of your tax refund.
- 2 File your tax return electronically with the refund deposited directly into your bank account. You should receive your refund in three to four business days.
- 3 When you do receive your refund, avoid check cashers, which charge fees to cash the checks. Cash your check at a bank instead.

For free tax preparation, take advantage of the AARP tax service offered at the Adult Center. For further information or an appointment call 565-4150.

SALT NEWS

DEBT POLICE

DO THEY GO TOO FAR?

What would you do if you received a call or letter from a debt collection agency? How do you know the debt is really yours and if are you responsible for paying the debt? Joseph Leonard, of the Mass Bankers Association, will address these topics at our next SALT meeting at the Adult Center, on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 1 p.m. You will also learn about unfair debt collection practices, what your rights are and how you can fight back. To register call the center at 565-4150.

THE FUTURE—HOW TO PLAN

Our April SALT meeting will be on Monday, April 14, 2008. Debbie Rothschild, an ombudsperson from Greater Springfield Senior Services, will speak on options for care in and outside home. See next month's Voice for details.

CHANGE SMOKE DETECTOR BATTERIES

Stop by the Adult Center if you need to replace the 9 Volt batteries in your smoke detectors. Batteries are available at no cost thanks to a donation from the Longmeadow Fire Department. The department is also available to install them if you need assistance.