Somers Senior Newsletter

Somers Senior Center 19 Battle Street P.O. Box 194 Somers, CT 06071



Volume I Issue V Sept. - Oct. 2009

Job Opportunity at the

Senior Center: As you may know by now, the Somers Senior Center will soon be losing one of its most valuable and popular employees. The Easter Seals work program that Norma Meyer has participated in the past few years has come to an end and she must transfer to another location. This will enable the Easter Seals program to offer this great opportunity to another individual. This position does not require any previous work experience, you will be fully trained by Easter Seals and the staff at the Senior Center. The position will eventually involve light clerical work, phone calls, scheduling of appointments and general reception duties. Some knowledge of computers is helpful but not mandatory. This work program is designed to get seniors and other individuals trained and back into the work force. You will eventually be working an 18-20 hr week If you are interested in this great opportunity, please contact Jenifer Charette @ 749-7160 and we will start you on your way to a rewarding position here at the Somers Senior Center.

Newsletter Name CONTEST!!!

Due to the high volume of last minute entries, we were unable to vote on the new title at our August meeting.

The winning entry will be voted on at the September Elderly Advisory Committee meeting. The winner and the new title will appear in our November issue!

Senior Newsletter...

A NEW feature in the Somers

"Seniors, may I help you?"

We <u>really</u> would like to see this column succeed and we know there are many talented and knowledgeable seniors here in Somers. Some are looking for ways they can contribute and give back to the community.

Does this sound like you? You're a handyman, you tinker with electronics, you love to garden, you paint or are a wiz on the computer, you have a knack for fixing small appliances, you like to clean or you like to decorate... The "Seniors May I Help You? column REALLY needs you!

If you are a senior who would like to volunteer your services, please contact the Senior Center @ 763-4379 and we will list you and your "senior service" beginning in the November newsletter. If you are a senior in need of assistance, we hope this service will be a helpful resource for you!



Senior Services

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Page 2 Somers Senior Newsletter

Upcoming Events Information - Mark your calendar!

The AARP Tax Assistance Program is looking for a few good volunteers!!

We would like to bring the AARP tax assistance program here to the Somers Senior Center Feb. - April. To do that, we need a few volunteers from our community to help. The only experience you need is a familiarization with having filed your own taxes - AARP provides the free training for IRS Certification. If you are interested in giving back to your community by helping out a fellow senior, please contact Jenifer at the Senior Center @ 749-7160 today.

Somers Seniors & Somers Social Services Working Together!

The Social Services Office would like to THANK our local seniors for their generous donations to our annual "Back to School Backpack program". Your donations have provided many local families with new school supplies and backpacks. We would also like to thank those who gave of their time to fill each pack with supplies and ready them for the local school children.

Thank you! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Will You Be Eligible For Medicare Soon?

Join us for and Informational Seminar on Wednesday, November 4th. Following the regular luncheon No pre-registration needed..... Please come with your questions and concerns! Our Healthnet representative will be able to answer all your questions at this very informative seminar! If you recently became eligible for Medicare or will be eligible soon, Health Net can help. We know you may have questions about Medicare and Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) coverage options. We are here to answer those questions, and help you get coverage that is right for you. WE ARE TEAMING UP TO HELP YOU STAY WELL For over 25 years, Health Net has been providing Medicare beneficiaries in Connecticut with affordable medical and prescription plans. Our team of Medicare experts invite you to join us for a free informative meeting to learn about Medicare and Health Net's Medicare Programs. Information will include:

- 1. An overview of Original Medicare's benefits and costs
- 2. An overview of Health Net's Medicare Advantage Plan, PDP options..... And MUCH more!

For more information, please contact a Health Net representative: 1-800-949-7051 or TTY: 1-888-747-2424

Fuel Assistance Information

If you are a senior in need of assistance to pay your fuel bills, please contact the Social Services Office @ 763-8224. Depending on your situation, you may qualify for assistance from one of the ACCESS programs. Please don't be left out in the cold...call Ann Procopio at the Social Services office or Jenifer at the Senior Center today for more information or to set up an initial intake interview.

SENIORS AT THE **FOUR TOWN FAIR!!!**

Come down to watch the 4-Town Fair Parade on Saturday, September 19th @ 10am and see your local seniors on their parade float! If you are interested in helping decorate the float, or riding in the parade, please contact Arlene @ 749-7387.



they can't stand on their own two feet."

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Health & Wellness Information

Pedi-Care Service at the Senior Center

Pedi-Care provides an ongoing program of foot care at the Somers Senior Center by Ronnie McAlmond, a specially trained, registered nurse.

The services offered at the Senior Center Clinics include:

General assessment of the feet and lower extremities
Trimming, filing and cleaning of nails
Reduction of thickened toenails
Smoothing of corns and calluses

Massaging, lotioning and powdering of feet Referrals to a doctor or podiatrist if needed.

Fee is \$28 for a 1/2 hour appointment - To schedule an appointment, please call the Senior Center @ 763-4379 between 8am & 4pm Monday - Friday.

Pedi-Care Service Dates: 9/10, 9/21, 10/8 & 10/22

Town of Somers Community Wellcare Programs

Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar Screenings Upcoming dates at Somers Senior Center & Woodcrest

Tuesday, September 1st: 8-9am; BP/BS @ Senior Center Wednesdays, September 9 & 23rd: 11:30 -12:30; BP @ Senior Center Monday, September 21st: 10 -11:30am; BP/BS @ Woodcrest Tuesday, October 6th: 8 - 9am; BP/BS @ Woodcrest Wednesdays, October 14 & 28th: 11:30 - 12:30; BP @ Senior Ctr. Monday, October 19th: 10 - 11:30am: BP/BS @ Woodcrest Tuesday, November 3rd: 8 - 9am: BP/BS @ Senior Center

For info on all the services your VNA offers, please contact the Senior Center, or Home & Community Health Services, Inc.

(formerly Enfield VNA, Inc.)
101 Phoenix Avenue, Enfield, CT 06083
860-763-7600 www.cthomecare.org
860.763.7600 860.763.7613 (fax)
Web: www.johnsonhealthnetwork.com

Meals on Wheels

Daily hot and or cold meals delivered to your home; what could be more convenient! Our meal program is affordably priced and ensures that clients receive nutritious meals and a friendly visitor each day. If you are interested in receiving meals 1 - 6 days per week, please contact Susan King @ 749-9648 for further information. We would be happy to add you to our delivery schedule.



Your Hometown VNA & Hospice



Somers Senior Center Regular Weekly Activities

Page 6 Fun For Free! Somers Senior Newsletter

Quilters Wanted!

The Lost Needle Quilters are in need of a few new members. If you are interested in joining this group of talented quilters, please come down to the Senior Center any Friday from 12:30 - 3:30pm.

BINGO!!!! The Bingo Group is in need of More Players!!!!!

Every Monday & Thursday: 12noon – 3:30pm.

Empty your pockets and purses of that loose change and be ready for fun!

<u>Pinochle – Dominoes – Bridge</u>

Pinochle: Tuesdays 12:30-3pm New Players Wanted!

Dominoes: Tuesdays 1:30 - 4pm Bridge: Thursdays 7-9:30pm

There's always room for new players; come down to the Senior Center today for Bingo, Dominoes, Pinochle or Bridge! For more information just drop in or call

763-4379.

Tuesday Morning Coffee & Donuts!

Come down to the Senior Center every Tuesday morning for FREE coffee, donuts and good conversation. What a great way to start your day, meet friends old and new and catch up on the latest news around town. The donuts are courtesy of The Whole Donut in Hazardville, they are delivered by our own George Stephens and the coffee is brought to you by the Senior Citizens' Club.

Artist Workshops

Join other experienced and beginner "artists" at the Senior Center every Friday from 9am - 12. No registration necessary!

Somers Bridge Club News

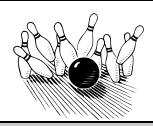
The Somers Senior Bridge Club is looking for some new players. We have 2-3 tables going every Thursday night at 7pm. All levels of ability are welcome, but should at least know the fundamentals of the game.

We are a friendly group - no "cut throat" players here! Call Gil Rivard for info on lessons @ 749-6573.

CHAIR AEROBICS: Mondays & Thursdays @ 10am

For further info, please call 763-4379. No pre-registration is needed.

TOPS Club: Tuesdays: 130-230pm TOPS Encourages healthy lifestyles through support groups. For further info please call 763-4379. No preregistration is needed.





Wii Bowling Team News

The Somers Seniors Wii Bowling team has been practicing all summer in anticipation of the annual Healthnet Wii tournament. Our team is scheduled for their1st round of competition on Saturday, September 12th, 12noon at the Enfield Senior Center.

They will be competing with teams from East Windsor and South Windsor.

Come on down and cheer on our team!
For further information, please contact David & Phyllis Gwilliam @ 749-9175
or the Senior Center @ 763-4379.

VERY GENTLE YOGA for Seniors - NEW PROGRAM!!!

Tuesdays: 9:45 - 10:45am @ Somers Senior Center \sim \$15 per 6 week session 6 Week session beginning 9/15 - 10/20 (Next session will begin on 11/3 - 12/8)

Join Certified Krupula Instructor Pat Baker for an hour of fully instructed, relaxing yoga. This class is designed for individuals who have little or no yoga experience. You will learn breathing techniques while practicing basic yoga postures. **This program is specially geared to seniors** - Come create flexibility, reduce stress, invigorate yourself and calm your mind. .. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat and a blanket if you have one.

For additional info and to register, please contact Pat at 668-4851 or the Senior Center @ 763-4379.

"Community Puzzlers"

Love to work on puzzles? Want some company while you put the pieces together? Don't have room at home to keep one going? Join us on **Fridays from 1 - 4pm** at the Senior Center. We have many puzzles here or you can bring your own...we are also always looking for puzzle donations! No registration needed - just come by the Center and enjoy the fun. Please contact the Center @ 763-4379 for more information.

FREE ART LESSONS!!!

4 Wednesdays: Returning this fall!

The Tobacco Valley Art Association will offer Art Lessons **FREE** of charge to <u>Somers seniors</u>. Pre registration is necessary. Please contact the Senior Center @ 763-4379 for more info.

Senior Walking Group

Meets Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 8:30am

Woodcrest Housing parking lot

Come join our group of walkers or bring your own group of friends.

We have been walking weekly since May and plan to get together all fall, weather permitting. Some of us walk fast, some of us walk slower - go at your own pace and enjoy the company of other seniors and friends.

It is a great way to get some fresh air and exercise! Please contact the Senior Center @ 763-4379 for more information.

Hope to have you walking with us soon!

Proverbs & Quotes:

"Don't take life too seriously. You'll never get out alive!" - Bugs Bunny (contributed by Sgt Jose Claudio) "I know this defies the law of gravity, but I never studied law" - Bugs Bunny

"WHERE is my SUNDAY paper?!" The little old lady calling the newspaper office, loudly demanded to know where her Sunday edition was. "Madam", said the newspaper employee, "today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow, on SUNDAY". There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a ray of recognition as the little old lady was heard to mutter, "Well, shit... that's why no one was at church today."

If you have an interesting or funny quote or proverb that you would like to contribute to the next newsletter, please drop it off, email it or snail mail it to the Somers Senior Center.

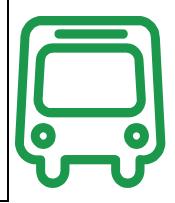
Town of Somers Information

Page 4 Somers Senior Newsletter

Dial - Ride Bus Service

Our Senior bus service operates Monday - Friday from 8am - 4pm, taking seniors and disabled passengers to their appointments, shopping and other activities in Somers, Enfield and Stafford. The fee is a mere \$1 per ride. To schedule a ride on the Senior bus, please contact the Senior Center @ 763-4379 at least 2 days in advance if possible. If you are a first time rider, please request a copy of the Senior Bus Operating Procedures.

Get out of the house and get active!
Coming in November: Meet the Bus Drivers!



Please join us on September 30th following the Wednesday luncheon,

for a Lifeline Awareness Event

Come learn about Lifeline Service and how it can help elderly patients continue to remain safe and independent in their own homes!

In these tough economic times, protecting yourself from the costly repercussions of NOT having Lifeline is crucial.

When every penny counts, isn't it worth it to get the help you need, when you need it most? The value of the Lifeline service comes from the one time you need it most. A bad fall can happen to anyone, at any time and not getting quick assistance could mean a lengthy hospital stay, painful rehabilitation, a loss of independent life or worse. Lifeline the #1 medical alert service is an easy to use medical alert service designed to reduce the risk of living alone. In the event of a fall or emergency, help is available at the push of a button. A trained Personal Response Associate can send help quickly – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

COST SAVINGS BENEFITS OF LIFELINE

1. Lifeline provides early intervention and quick access to help reducing unnecessary suffering and complications, potentially Helping you avoid costly medical expenses. 2. Lifeline can support you in delaying or possibly avoiding the high emotional toll and cost of moving into an alternative living situation.

Please call the Senior Center @ 763-4379 for more information - no pre-registration needed.



Town of Somers Information - Mark your calendars!

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PREVENT A STROKE WITH PAINLESS & ACCURATE SCREENINGS.

Life Line Screening will offer preventive health screenings at: Somers Senior Center *Friday*, *September 25*, *2009*

The screenings offered include a state-of-the-art ultrasound screening of the carotid arteries in the neck (most strokes are linked to plaque build-up in these arteries), an ultrasound screening used to detect abdominal aortic aneurysms (ruptured AAAs have more than a 80% mortality rate and present little or no symptoms), a screening for plaque build-up in the arteries of the legs (a strong indicator of coronary heart disease) and an arterial fibrillation test that screens for an irregular heartbeat. These painless, non-invasive tests are offered in the convenience of your neighborhood for \$139.

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER by calling 1-800-324-1851.

DON'T BE A TARGET OF HEALTHCARE FRAUD!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH AFTER THE SENIOR LUNCHEON!

Join us as a representative from the NCAAA CHOICES SMP program discusses ways to protect yourself and your healthcare benefits from potential Fraud, Abuse, Errors and Scams! This presentation empowers individuals through heightened awareness of Identity theft and fraud especially related to Medicare - And helping you know where to turn when and if you or someone you know is a victim. Conveniently following the Wednesday luncheon! No pre-registration needed—call 763-4379 for more info.

SENIOR BUS TRIP

Magic Wings Butterfly
Conservatory
South Deerfield, MA
Saturday, October 3rd
10am - 4pm ~ Cost: \$10

Register NOW for the October 3rd Senior Trip to the "Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory" in South Deerfield, Mass.

Only 24 seats are available.
Cost is \$10, which is the Senior admission to the conservatory.
We will stop for lunch during the day, or you may dine at Monarch's Restaurant buffet for an additional \$10.

Please contact the Senior Center @ 763-4379 to register for the trip. Please pay in advance by cash or checks payable to Somers Senior Center.

Contact the Senior Center for further information. For more information on the Magic Wings Conservatory, go to: www.magicwings.com

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Senior Newsletter: Director's Corner & Coming this fall...

Volume I Issue V Director's Corner Page 8

Greetings to you all! I hope this newsletter finds you happy and healthy. It has been a strange summer...cold and rainy and now hot, and humid at the end... I guess that's New England for you! I am glad that we had such a good turnout for our first Red Sox/Yankee game on our new tv; thank you to all who made the event possible and look for more evening events like this in the future, such as baseball playoffs, UCONN basketball and NFL football games. Fall and winter are rapidly approaching and with that comes heating bills...if you are a senior in need of assistance to pay your fuel bills this winter, do not he sitate to contact the Social Services office @ 763-8224. Ann Procopio will do her best to work with you to see if you will qualify for fuel assistance from the ACCESS agency. No senior in Somers should have to be cold this winter. Other important things to keep in mind are the health and wellness seminars coming up in September and October at the Senior Center. I hope that I will see many of you in attendance, so that we can schedule more. And, do not forget to sign up for our First Senior Weekend trip to the Butterfly Conservatory in South Deerfield, Ma on October 3rd... There are only 24 seats available, so sign up quickly! I hope to see many of you in attendance at the 4 town fair parade and on our Senior float....it would be great to win the grand prize! Please feel free to contact me or stop by the Center anytime; I look forward to meeting you! Jenifer Charette - Human Services Director and Municipal Agent

COMING IN THE NOV. - DEC. NEWSLETTER

Meet the Dial-A-Ride drivers, New quotes and proverbs, Wii Tournament updates, "Seniors May I Help You?", Senior Club News, What is a Municipal Agent? Senior tax assistance info ...and much, much, more!

Need some help with your Yard work this fall?

Call "Rent - A - Scout" and have a local Boy Scout help with your fall clean up.

For more information, call Bill Duhrels @ 749-3907

Please Support Our Sponsors!!!!



Realty Connection

276 Hazard Avenue Enfield, CT 0608 Phone: 860-749-1247 Fax: 860-749-1251

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Somers Senior Citizens' Club News

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The Somers Senior Citizens' Club Notes: By Terri Ramsey

A few words From the President:

I hope you all have had a great summer and have been well. Schools shall be/or by the time you read this have already started. The sun shall start to set earlier, the trees will begin to change, & the holidays will be upon us. Where does the time go? Before you know it we will be having our Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas Parties!

Much love, Stay well, Hope to see you soon, Arlene

New York Holiday Trip

Wednesday, December 9, 2009 Fee: \$33.00 (Driver tip incl)

Bus leaves the Senior Center at 7am. Departs from New York City at 7pm. To sign up for this trip please call the Senior Center @763-4379.

Checks should be made payable to:

"Somers Senior Citizens' Club"

19 Battle St. Somers, CT Any questions about the Trip, please call David Gwilliam at (860)-749-9175.

Call NOW!!!!!

This trip will sell out fast!

Somers Senior Center

Senior Luncheon Menu For September - October

September 2nd: TACOS - Birthday Lunch September 9th: Meatloaf - Board Meeting

September 16th: Pot luck - Membership Meeting

September 23rd: Pot Roast

September 30th: Chicken Marsala

October 7th: Stuffed Peppers - Birthday Lunch

October 14th: Baked Ziti - Board meeting

October 21st: Dion Luncheon - Membership Meeting

October 28th: Lemon Pepper Chicken

*Call 763-4379 to reserve your lunch by each Tuesday. \$5/pp. Take out available. Chicken is always available for those who request ahead.

NEWS FROM WOODCREST ~ Cindi Parker, Resident Services Coordinator As most of you are aware, Woodcrest Elderly Housing is undergoing a major transformation. A new two story apartment building was completed in October, 2008, and is located west of the original site. The 34 new apartments are all occupied. The building is equipped with a lovely community room, complete kitchen facilities, a new flat screen TV and a computer room for the residents. We also have a charming wrap around porch with great rocking chairs. A community garden is behind the building and is flourishing. Also under construction are 52 one story apartments on the original Woodcrest site. 29 of the apartments will be finished by September, 2009. Moving into the new apartments will begin on August 10, 2009. A new community room is being constructed there, as well.

The Somers Housing Authority along with Winn Residential are looking forward to an exciting future. As soon as the next move is well underway. I plan to have a speaker each month and activities as requested by the residents. Jen from the Senior Center was gracious enough to include Woodcrest in her Tuesday and Thursday morning walking group. If anyone would like a tour of the facilities, please call Michael or Cindi, and we will gladly make arrangements. I will keep you posted on any changes or news about your neighbors at Woodcrest. Our offices are currently located in the new building—same entrance at 63 Battle Street, but continue straight by the old site (which is under construction) until you see the new blue building. That's us! Office Phone Number is (860) 749-4658 Hours are 8:00am-5:00pm, M-F. Cindi's Hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30am-2:00 and Friday, 8:30-1:30pm.

Somers Senior Citizens' Club News

Volume I Issue V

Happenings from July - August

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After a unanimous vote in favor, with no opposed (and no other nominations) by all Members & Executive Board Members, Connie Carenzo was voted in as our new Club Treasurer!

(Avonne Robbins will be stepping down due to extended travel in the month of Aug.)



Connie Carenzo with Club President Arlene Yarnes

Local Police visit the Seniors in July

Our Local State Trooper Sgt. <u>Jose Claudio</u> warns seniors to be more cautious in your Home & Neighborhoods! A recent increase in local robberies & break in's have Troopers doing Double Time, and <u>YOU</u> can Help! Keep an eye out for any strange occurrences in your area, watch for vehicles driving in your neighborhood, take note of license plates numbers.

Sgt. Claudio says a best defense is good neighbors, help one another, keep a watchful eye out for each others property.

"Most of the cases solved are solved by someone who has seen something." Sgt. <u>Jose Claudio</u>.

2009 DION Scholarship Recipients

The Winners of the Somers Senior Citizen's Club Carol Dion Scholarship are: Beth Bardsley & Patrick Duffy - Each student received \$500.00 we wish both of them successful futures!



Red Cross Blood Drive July 31st

July 31st Red Cross Blood Drive was at the Senior Center, for donations. Over 40 pints had been donated even with the horrible weather that day. The lives of many will be saved thanks to all those who donated!



RN Lynda Velleas -Head Nurse and Arlene with Volunteer. Thank you!



Somers Senior Citizens' Club News

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The 4th of July Luncheon was filled with lots of celebration and flag colored decorations. There was a special visit from "Aunt Sammy", she welcomed & handed out flags to all the seniors!



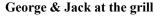




Annual Senior Citizens' Club BBQ

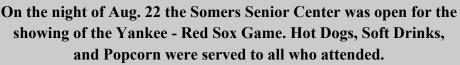
July 18th was the Center yearly BBQ/Picnic! This years BBQ was lots of fun, nearly 50 people attended and each bringing an Appetizer, Dessert, or Salad there was food to spare. Special Thanks in alphabetical order go to Jordan Chatis, Al Kingsberry, Jack & Joan Sizer, & George Stephens.











TROOPER TIPS

Hello everyone and thank you for the opportunity to address you through your Senior Newsletter. My name is Sergeant Jose Claudio and I am the Resident Trooper Supervisor for the Town of Somers. Our staff in Somers includes 5 full time troopers, one part time officer and a supervisor. We are doing our best to provide quality service, contribute to the good quality of life that Somers residents enjoy, while being fiscally responsible in these tough economic times. I hope that you are happy with our efforts and please let me know what we can do to better serve you. I will have an article in future newsletters entitled "Trooper Tips" and I hope to share concerns, provide information and hopefully a few good tips.

Your agent, Jennifer Charette, twisted my arm and invited me to a Tuesday morning coffee and donut session. Everyone knows the old cliché of "cops and donuts". I also like coffee and love conversation so thank you to all who helped convince Jennifer to finally invite me! It's a great opportunity to let me know your concerns and I promise to listen as long as no one keeps track of how many donuts I have. Yours truly,

Sergeant Jose Claudio

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Senior Information Directory

Sept. & Oct. 2009

Municipal Agent to the Elderly

Jenifer B. Charette
Office Phone: 749-7160
Cell Phone: 860-234-2680
Fax: 763-8228

Office Hours @ the Senior Center

8am - 12noon: Monday - Friday email: jcharette@somersct.gov Norma Meyer: 763-4379 Hours: M - F:12 - 4pm CLOSED Holidays

Social Services Office Hours: 3 - 4pm M, 2 - 4T, 12:30–4:30W, Thurs. 4 - 7pm & 12 - 1pm Fridays

Woodcrest Housing: 749-4658

Senior Citizens' Club

Meets at the Senior Center @ 12:45pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. September - June, except December. The Public is Welcome to attend! Monthly meetings of the Executive Board occur September - June; exact date and time of meeting TBD by the board.

Executive Board members:

Arlene Yarnes - President
Cathy Butkus - 1st Vice President
Jim Burgess - 2nd Vice President
Theresa Beardsley - Secretary
Beverly Guimmond - Asst. Sec.
Connie Carenzo - Treasurer
The Club is looking for an
Assistant Treasurer; please
contact Arlene if you're
interested @ 763-4379.

Advisory Committee to the Elderly

This town committee meets at the Senior Center every 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 11:30am.
The public is welcome to attend.

Committee Members:

Chairman: Jenifer Charette
Secretary: Elaine Bemont
MOW Coordinator: Susan King
Senior Citizens' Club: Arlene Yarnes
Communications: Barbara Flebotte
Senior Support Services: Pat Bachetti
Senior Lunches: Arlene Yarnes
Senior Center Sign: Donna Doyker
Public School Liaison: Donna Doyker
Woodcrest Rep: Dorothy Hillman