



Acton Council on Aging



At the Human Services Building & Senior Center

OCTOBER 2025

30 Sudbury Rd, Rear, Acton MA 01720

Telephone: 978-929-6652

Email: seniorcenter@actonma.gov

Facebook: www.facebook.com/actoncoa

Website: www.actoncoa.com

Town Website: www.actonma.gov

Opening Hours: **CLOSED Mon. Oct 13th**

Monday: 8:00am-4:00pm

Tuesday: 8:00am-6:00pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm

Friday: 8:00am-12noon

To help ensure that programs and meals run smoothly and that space is available for everyone who would like to participate, the COA staff is introducing a new practice. If you are more than 10 minutes late for a registered program or meal, your spot may be offered to someone on the waiting list.

All meals require registration, and programs that need registration are marked with the symbol □► in the newsletter. Registration helps us plan appropriately for food, supplies, room setup, space availability, and presenter requests. Please note that this change does not apply to series of classes.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us make programs enjoyable and accessible for all.

Acton Songsters Concert: Best Loved Songs from Movies & TV Shows

Tuesday, October 21st, 1:00-1:30pm

The Acton Songsters, the Senior Center's singing group of folks age 60+, led by Dr. Ed Knights, will perform some of the best-loved songs from movies and television shows. New members are always welcome to join the Songsters group! If you're attending the luncheon beforehand, make sure to sign up for that with the Council on Aging.



Open to all/free

□► Becoming Janet: Finding Myself in the Holocaust with Author Janet Singer Applefield

Tuesday, October 28th, 1:00-2:30pm

The Friends of the Acton Council on Aging proudly announce the Honoring Excellence program will host Holocaust Survivor, Author and Public Speaker Janet Singer Applefield. Janet wrote a memoir about her experience as a Jewish child in Poland, surviving by taking on the identity of a deceased Catholic girl and hiding in plain sight with the aid of strangers. Her father, weighing just 110 pounds, survived the Theresienstadt camp-ghetto and reunited with his daughter. He transcribed Janet's recollections of her years of survival, which served as the basis for her memoir. Refreshments will be served following the

program. At 89 years old, Janet continues to write, research, and speak about her experience as a child survivor, teaching students about human rights, the ever-present specter of genocide and the importance of standing up to bigotry and hate.



Find our calendar on p. COA Events requiring registration:

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- ABRHS Trip, p.6
- Acton Songsters, p.2
- Aging Care Support, p.2
- Becoming Janet, p.1
- Breathwork, p.4
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- Grief Support, p.12
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- Hearing Screenings, p.6
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Meals, page 9

- Chef McGuire Lunch, 10/14
- Breakfast, 10/17
- Robbins Brook Lunch, 10/21
- Dinner with Doug, 10/28

For **Nursing programs**
call 978-929-6650, see p.19

Directors Corner

The Friends of the Acton COA are a dedicated group of volunteers. Their fundraising efforts support many of the programs, classes and special events residents are able to enjoy free of charge. If you are looking for a way to give back to the community, consider volunteering for this group. Don't miss their jewelry sale which will take place on October 22nd & 23rd.

Hope to see you soon, Sharon

□► Acton Songsters with Ed Knights

Wednesdays, October 1st and 15th, 1:00-1:45pm

Open to all age 60+/free



Join Ed Knights for this group that sings familiar popular songs and learns the mechanics of singing. Don't worry about your level of singing—the group is open to anyone interested in singing. Lyrics provided. Sign up with the COA if you are new to the group. See page 1 for information on this month's concert.

□► Daily Digest 1440 Discussion Group NEW!

Thursdays, beginning October 2nd, 10:00-11:00am

Open to all age 60+/free

Our weekly Hot Topics group is so popular, facilitator Sal Lopes is starting a new discussion group that is geared towards "news junkies" who like to go online daily to keep up with the news. Participants will make use of the 1440 Daily Digest by subscribing (free of charge) at 1440.com. The Daily Digest summarizes the most impactful stories of the day, curated and explained for the intellectually curious.

Decluttering Without Burning Out: 5 Essentials to Make it Easier (Even Enjoyable!)

Thursday, October 2nd, 1:00-2:00pm

Open to all age 60+/free



Feeling overwhelmed, exhausted, or embarrassed just thinking about all the stuff in your home? You're not the only one! Come learn 5 essential, practical ways to reduce your stress so you can stay motivated and make steady progress without the emotional roller coaster. Forget "attacking" your clutter or "revving up" to get rid of it asap. There's a better way: a more respectful, sustainable approach. Clutter is just part of life—together, everything is figure-out-able! Let's Start Now! Bring your clutter—clean towels, sheets or blankets, and Laura will donate them for you to Household Goods! Attendees have a chance to win a PDF copy of "Paper Clarity: What to Keep, Where and When to Shred." *Laura Moore, M.Ed. is a life skills mentor and founder of ClutterClarity, LLC. For 30 years she's helped families bring balance to their homes and lives through in-home services, personal coaching, and her weekly decluttering support group, Women with ClutterClarity (on Zoom). Author of "Paper Clarity: What to Keep, Where, and When to Shred."*

□► Create Your Own Book! with Neal Rantoul

Mondays, October 6th, 20th, 27th, and November 24th, 1:00-3:00pm

Class is full and closed to new participants. Please note the October 6th class is taking place off-site at a printing company. Neal will provide details to students.

□► Why Aging Care Support is Complex for Solo Agers

Tuesday, October 7th, 1:00-2:00pm

Open to all 60+/free



Join My Care Community for a program about solo agers, seniors who do not have immediate family support and a limited network of friends and families. MCC will walk through the challenges for solo agers, ways they can prepare for the aging process, and resources to assist them with their aging care support needs. **Sign up is required.**

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Introduction to Reflexology with Rebecca Howard



Tuesday, October 7th, 3:00-4:00pm

Open to all age 60+/free

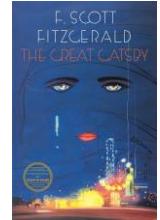
During this introductory presentation, local reflexologist Rebecca Howard will share information regarding the many benefits of foot reflexology as well as the historical development and practice of modern reflexology. Rebecca will teach participants some hand reflexology self-care techniques and provide demonstrations as time allows. See p.4 about individual appointments.

► The Great Gatsby Seminar with Stephen Collins

Wednesdays through October 15th, 11:00am-12noon

Open to out-of-towners age 60+ for \$10 for remainder of session

Seminar started last month; call COA about availability. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the publication of *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The novel explores The Jazz Age otherwise known as The Roaring Twenties which made the word "flappers" famous and also ushered in Prohibition. Fitzgerald's novel examines the excesses and oftentimes despair of the times.



Technology Assistance Clinic

Wednesday, October 8th and 22nd, 1:30-3:00pm

Open to out-of-town 60+/free

Drop in at the Technology Clinic for help with phones, tablets, or computers. Bring your device if possible. Volunteers offer one-on-one support for email, Windows, networking, upgrades, and general tech questions. Mac and Android users are welcome too. To connect by Zoom or phone, contact the COA and we'll pass along your info.



Acton Rainbow Planning Team Meeting

Wednesday, October 8th, 2:00-2:45pm (hybrid)

Open to all/free

Join in-person at the Senior Center or from home via Zoom

This team of community members explores ways the Council on Aging/Senior Center can meet the programming needs of Acton LGBTQ+ residents age 60 and up. We welcome new members from the LGBTQ+ community, allies, or municipal employees to join. The goals of the team are for Acton's



LGBTQ+ older adults to have their voices heard about desired activities and find the Senior Center to be a welcoming place. For more information or for the meeting Zoom link, please contact Chris Chirokas (she/her), Acton Council on Aging Program Manager, at cchirokas@actonma.gov or 978-929-6652.

► Technology Help Appointments with Acton Memorial Library Staff

Thursday, October 9th, 10:00-11:00am

Acton 60+ only

Need help with common smartphone (iPhone or Android), tablet or laptop functions? Olivia Wennerod, Adult Programming Librarian, will be at the Senior Center for one-on-one help with your device. Bring your fully charged device and your questions, and Olivia will troubleshoot technology problems alongside you. If they can't help with a specific problem you are having, she will do her best to find the right resources that can help you. Call the COA to reserve a 15-minute appointment.



► Benefits of Irrevocable and Revocable Trusts

Thursday, October 9th, 1:00-2:30pm

Open to all age 60+/free



Attorney Dale Tamburro will present on the use of trusts in estate planning: components of a trust; probate avoidance; revocable (living) versus irrevocable; protecting your home and other assets; minimizing estate taxes; trust asset management of trust assets. If time permits, Dale will also discuss who should be trustee when you are unable to and how to fund the trust. **Register to reserve a spot.**

Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, October 14th, 10:00-11:00am

Open to out-of-town 60+/free

The discussion for October's meeting will be around the book The Great Gatsby by F Scott Fitzgerald. If you would like to read ahead, the discussion for November's meeting is around the book Table for Two by Amor Towles. Copies of the books are on hold for the group at Acton Memorial Library. You may also check availability at Citizen's Library (978-929-6654). Ann Kulsick facilitates the gatherings.

□►Introduction to Breathwork Part 2

Tuesday, October 14th, 1:00-2:00pm

Open to all age 60+/free

Join Gauri Tandon of Neurovana Health is returning for a second workshop on breathing exercises that are rooted in the centuries old practice of pranayama. This practice is known to help with better sleep, improved digestion, and reducing stress. Also discussed will be concepts of self-awareness through breathwork and strategies to include in our daily lives to help us feel better. You can participate whether or not you attended Gauri's first workshop in June. **Space is limited – registration required.**



□► Daigaku Imo Cooking Demonstration & Chinese Characters

Tuesday, October 14th, 2:00-3:00pm

Acton age 60+ only

Join Asako Judson to enjoy a sweet taste of autumn with a cooking demonstration of Daigaku Imo, a glazed sweet potato treat popular in Japan, served with tea. We will also explore the meaning of a few simple Chinese characters and write them for a fun, hands-on experience. Spend a relaxing hour welcoming the cooler season. Registration is required; if you find you cannot attend please inform the COA. *Asako Judson, who lives in Acton, has worked at several restaurants and as a private chef and caterer.*



□► Reflexology Appointments with Rebecca Howard

Tuesday, October 14th, 3:00-4:30pm

Acton age 60+ only



Reflexology is a complementary health therapy involving applying gentle pressure to specific points on the hands, feet, and ears to promote relaxation and promote healing and balance in other parts of the body. Curious how reflexology can help you? Contact the Council on Aging to make an appointment with reflexologist Rebecca Howard. See p.3 about Rebecca's talk.

□► Lunch/Tour at Concord Park Assisted Living

Wednesday, October 15th, 11:30am

Acton age 60+ only

Join us for a special lunch at Concord Park Assisted Living, 68 Commonwealth Ave, Concord. Meet at Concord Park by 11:30, park along the left front of the building, inside the white fence. Featuring resident favorites from the Brain Healthy menu as well as menu options from the grill, garden and deli. Following lunch you can explore the community. Get an inside look into what programs are offered and meet some of the residents who call Concord Park home. **Space is limited sign up is required.**

The Robber Barons: Money, Power & Greed in the Gilded Age with Paolo Di Gregorio



Thursday, October 16th, 1:00-2:00pm Open to out-of-towners age 60+ for \$5

During the second half of the 19th century, new American elites emerged and changed the shape of business and society. The Carnegies, Vanderbilts, Morgans, and Rockefellers amassed mind-boggling fortunes through skill, ambition and ruthlessness. These "Titans of Industry" created an American aristocracy where position and privilege were based solely on wealth and where power and influence were freely wielded.

Java with John

Friday, October 17th, 9:45pm

Open to Acton residents

Town Manager John Mangiaratti will be here to give updates from the Town, answer your questions and listen to your suggestions and concerns. Acton TV will be filming it live.

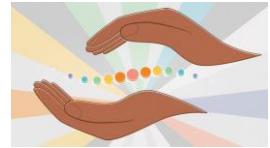
□► Relaxing Reiki Appointments with Monica

Monday, October 20th, 8:30-11:30am

Acton 60+ only

Reservations for appointments open at 8:30am on Tuesday, October 7th: 978-929-6652 (no voicemails please)

Reiki is an ancient Japanese holistic therapy used to nurture and heal the body, mind, heart, and spirit. It is a gentle, non-invasive treatment where the practitioner uses a light gentle touch to balance energy in the receiver. When the body is in balance, it is better able to heal and support itself. Reiki is a great form of self-care! Appointments are 30 minutes in length. Make sure to call the COA if you need to cancel an appointment so we can call someone from the waitlist. *Monica Forrest is a certified Usui Reiki Master practitioner with a private practice in Acton, blackirisreiki.com.*



□► Exploring Improvisation Workshop with Poornima Kirby

Mondays, October 20th through November 24th, 10:00-11:00am

Open to out-of-towners age 60+ for \$20 starting October 14th



Come unlock your sense of humor, play and discovery with this class on the art and fun of improvisation! Building on the recent introductory class, we'll continue to play improv games, explore short-form and long-form scenarios, and gain tools for building characters on the fly. We'll also sharpen our listening skills, use our imaginations, and learn how to say "yes, and . . .!" to our fellow improvisors. We'll even learn how to apply improvisation skills in everyday life to solve problems, increase confidence, and gain insights into human relationships. While this class is building on a previous one, new students are also welcome and the class will be tailored to the experience level of the group. *Poornima Kirby is an experienced Shakespearean actress, with numerous credits in film and theatre. She has performed at the Senior Center in King Lear, A Christmas Carol, and several other Shakespeare plays. She has taught public speaking, poetry, and theatre to students of all ages. She holds a Master's degree in Arts Administration from Boston University, and a B.A. in Drama from Vassar College, and has trained at Shakespeare & Co., and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts.*

Energy Bingo with Acton's Sustainability Office

Tuesday, October 21st, 2:00-3:00pm

Open to all age 60+/free

Come join us at the Senior Center for Energy Bingo! It's just like regular bingo—only a bit more *electric* (get it?). Learn how to save money with state and local energy efficiency programs, while enjoying a fun afternoon of bingo hosted by the Acton Sustainability Office. Topics will include the Acton Clean Energy Coaching Program, Home Energy Assessments, heat pumps, renewable energy, weatherization, subsidized appliances, electric vehicles, and more! No prior knowledge is needed—just come ready to learn and have fun. Members of the Sustainability Office will be available for questions after the game until 3:30 and take-home resources will also be provided. And of course, there will be prizes!



Friends Jewelry Sale

Wednesday, October 22nd and Thursday, October 23rd, 9:00am-2:00pm

All are welcome



The Friends of the COA have been collecting vintage costume and designer jewelry all summer long. Your opportunity to purchase some gifts, a fashion accessory or special occasion memento at remarkable prices. Don't miss it!! Bistro 30 will be cooking on both Wednesday and Thursday for this.

► Words Galore via Zoom

Open to all age 60+/free

Thursdays, October 23rd through November 13th, 9:00-9:55am

Val Walker's fall session of Words Galore will meet for four weeks via Zoom for an hour of fun and lively word play and brain twisters—a logophile's paradise! Learn new words, explore the history of old words and delve into the origins of words. Enjoy limericks, riddles, famous quotes, puns, and fascinating trivia about trendy words. Play guessing games with the dictionary and words-within-word games. Contact the COA at seniorcenter@actonma.gov to receive the Zoom link.

The Music of Leonard Cohen with John Clark

Thursday, October 23rd, 1:00-2:00pm

Open to out-of-towners age 60+ for \$5



Even more than his contemporaries Bob Dylan and Paul Simon, Leonard Cohen's Jewish heritage informs his music. Both of Cohen's grandfathers were prominent figures in Jewish leadership and scholarship in Europe and America. Bible references abound in his work—a strongly biblically prophetic strain runs through his album *The Future*. In *Who By Fire* (his variation on *Unetaneh Tokef*), *If It Be Your Will* and the title track of his final album, *You Want It Darker*, he addresses deity through language and form familiar to Jewish worshippers ("hineni, hineni"). *Dance Me to the End of Love* lends itself beautifully to klezmer band performance. These are just a few of the highlights of this hour of the exploration of the Jewish roots of Leonard Cohen's art which includes a brief discussion of the meaning of Leonard's most famous song, the much-celebrated *Hallelujah*.

► Hearing Screening Appointments with Audiologist Megan Ford

Tuesday, October 28th, 9:30 to 11:45am

Acton 60+ only

Megan Ford Au.D., a licensed audiologist in practice since 1998, will provide hearing screenings, ear wax checks, and basic hearing aid checks. Please allow 15 minutes for your appointment. Dr. Ford has worked at several major medical centers in Boston, Cleveland and Worcester. In 2013 she opened her private practice, HearSmart Audiology, in Littleton. There has been such a high demand for Dr. Ford's appointments, she will now be coming to the Center monthly!



2026 Collette Trips sponsored by the Acton Friends of the COA

Our spring trip will be to Sunny Portugal featuring Lisbon, Alentejo, Algarve & Portuguese Riviera departing on March 26th, 2026. And our fall trip will be The Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park departing September 2026. All our group trips are fully guided – Collette takes care of all the details so all you need to do is have a wonderful time! For more information reach out to: Bill Noeth, wnoeth@verizon.net 978-844-1831 or Leo Fochtman, Liffochtman@gmail.com 978-621-0485

► Field trip to AB High School



Tuesday, October 28th 9:45am

Acton 60+ only

Superintendent, Peter Light, and Principal, Joanie Dean, would like to host you for a brief presentation from the schools, Q&A, lunch and small group discussions with current ABRHS students. The school bus will pick you up at the Senior Center at 9:45 and return you at 12:15. **Sign up by October 21st.**

Play Pool

Open to all 60+/free

Table available during regular opening times. We have cues and chalk or bring your own.

Play Ping Pong

Open to all 60+/free

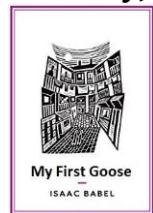
Table available during regular opening times. We have paddles & balls or bring your own.

Looking for Ping Pong Partner? You may post your contact information on the bulletin board in the Senior Center gym, perhaps mentioning your skill level.



LitLovers Study Group/Masterpieces of Short Fiction: *My First Goose*

Tuesday, October 28th, 2:30-4:00pm



Open to all age 60+/free

The group views a 30-minute lecture from The Great Courses: Masterpieces of Short Fiction, followed by a discussion on the lecture, the featured story, and the author. This month's story is *My First Goose* by Isaac Babel. Short stories have the unique ability to deliver a powerful emotional impact within a concise format, and we are studying some of the best! Upcoming authors include Ernest Hemingway, D.H. Lawrence, Flannery O'Connor, Franz Kafka, James Baldwin, and Margaret Atwood. Copies of the stories are provided at the previous month's meeting; you can also pick up a hard copy at reception or contact facilitator Chris Chirokas at cchirokas@actonma.gov or 978-929-6652 if you'd like a digital copy emailed.

► Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Seminar with SHINE Counselor

Wednesday, October 29th, 10:00-11:00am

 Medicare Annual Open enrollment is October 15th through December 7th and it is the time to review your Medicare coverage to make sure it is still the right fit for you. This seminar will help you compare benefits and premiums and make changes based on your current health, medications and finances. In addition to this seminar, Minuteman Senior Services state certified SHINE counselors offer individual appointments at the Senior Center to review your coverage; see page 16 for more information. *SHINE (Serving the Health Information Needs of Everyone) is a free service administered by Minuteman Senior Services and funded, in part, by the Executive Office of Aging and Independence.*

Open to all/free

Halloween Party

Wednesday, October 29th, 1:00pm

Open to all aged 60+/free

Join us for a Boo-tiful Halloween get together. Costumes are encouraged with a prize for the best dressed! Come to the Senior Center to eat drink and be scary.
NO TRICKS ALL TREATS!



► LGBTQ+ and Friends Halloween Party

Thursday, October 30th, 1:00-2:30pm

Open to all age 60+/free

 In recognition of LGBTQ History Month and Halloween, we're throwing a party! Wear a costume (prizes for Most Fierce, Most Fabulous, Most Frightful and Most Festive) or, as always, you are welcome to come exactly as you are! People in the LGBTQ+ community and allies are warmly welcome. Pizza and other refreshments served. Offered in partnership with Julie Nowak (she/any), LGBTQIA+ Initiative Coordinator, Springwell Elder Services. Please RSVP by calling the COA 978-929-6652 or contact Chris Chirokas directly cchirokas@actonma.gov or 978-929-6652.

► Optimize 3 Keys to a More Fulfilled Life: Gratitude, Humor & Kindness via Zoom

Thursday, October 30th, 1:00-2:00pm

Open to all age 60+/free

 Are you seeking greater meaning in life? Would you like to enhance your relationships? Do you want to experience more joy? Join Dr. Miriam Rosalyn Diamond to explore easy steps toward enriching each day through gratitude, humor, and kindness. You can participate via Zoom from home or at the Senior Center with a group watching on a large screen TV. Register: seniorcenter@actonma.gov or 978-929-6652.

► Drawing and Watercolor Painting Class with Fran Hewitt

Tuesdays through November 25th, 9:30-11:30am

Class is full and closed to new participants.

Shredding: Tuesday nights

Tuesdays, 4:00-5:30pm

Acton 60+ only

The COA has purchased a shredder for you to use. Come in and shred your own documents. Please limit the amount you bring in as this will be an ongoing service and we will still be having the annual shredding truck event in the spring.

□► Line Dancing with Paul

Wednesdays through November 19th, 2:30-3:30 pm

Open to out-of-towners age 60+ for \$20/series

Dance for fun, exercise, balance, coordination, and to learn a new skill. You'll have great fun line dancing, while you improve memory skills, strengthen bones, develop better balance, relieve stress, and put a smile on your face. Each dance is broken down first, demonstrated, and then danced to contemporary music. You will dance some of the old favorites and add some of the newest dances. No need to have a partner; this is something for everyone, and no experience is necessary! Space is limited—sign up with the Council on Aging. This class is funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Aging & Independence—a \$1 donation per class for Acton residents is suggested.



□► Ribbon Stitchery Class with Mary Shey

Thursdays through October 30th, 1:00-3:00pm

Class is full and closed to new participants.

Movie Matinees

Shown with closed captioning, when available.

Open to all 60+/free



October 6th, 1:00-2:35pm [Brian Wilson: Long Promised Road](#) (2021, PG-13) In this documentary Beach Boys front man and songwriter Brian Wilson, who passed away this year, drives around LA with a journalist friend, talking about his legendary career and his struggles with drugs and mental health. Fifty of the band's hits are featured as well as archival photographs and videos. *This film is shown in collaboration with the Acton Memorial Library*

October 20th, 1:00-3:00pm [The Thursday Murder Club](#) (2025, PG-13) Four British retirees spend their time solving cold case murders for fun, but their sleuthing takes a thrilling turn when they have a real whodunit on their hands. Stars Helen Mirren, Pierce Brosnan, Ben Kingsley, Celia Imrie, and David Tennant. Based on the book by Richard Osman.



October 27th, 1:00-2:50pm [Sunset Boulevard](#) (1950) This is the 75th anniversary of this acclaimed psychological drama directed by Billy Wilder. A screenwriter (William Holden) develops a dangerous relationship with a faded film star determined to make a triumphant return. (Gloria Swanson). Nominated for 11 Oscars with wins for best screenplay, music and art direction. *This film is shown in collaboration with the Acton Memorial Library*

For information on our presenters go to www.actoncoa.com/129/Programs

Meals at the Senior Center



Sign up for these meals at 978-929-6652. All meals served at the Senior Center.

► Chef McGuire Luncheon

Tuesday, October 14th, 12noon

open to all aged 60+

Chef McGuire will be preparing pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, and dessert. Please sign up at the COA. Cost is \$3.00.

► Monthly Breakfast

Friday, October 17th, 9:00am

Acton 60+ only

Join us for a warm, plentiful breakfast! Typically, French toast, eggs, fruit, bacon and/or sausages are prepared by chef Veteran Services Officer James MacRae. Cost is \$3.00. Fruit is kindly provided by Life Care of Acton. Sign up is required.

► Monthly Lunch by Benchmark Senior Living/Robbins Brook

Tuesday, October 21st, 12noon

open to all aged 60+

Join us for meatloaf, mashed potatoes, vegetables and dessert for \$3. Sign up is required.

► Dinner with Doug

Tuesday, October 28th, 4:30pm

Open to all aged 60+

Enjoy pasta with meat sauce or pomodoro sauce, salad, garlic bread and dessert for \$5. Please sign up prior to the event.



Bistro 30 is open to all, Wednesdays 11:30am-1:30pm (Not 10/15)



Enjoy a fresh, made to order lunch! The menu will be posted at the Senior Center, on our website, or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera. \$6.00/item cash/Venmo accepted. The Bistro will not be available Wednesday, October 15th but will be open an additional day, Thursday, October 23rd.

Minuteman Senior Services lunches are served Monday thru Thursday at noon. Grab and go lunches also offered. (Fridays 11:30-12noon). Sign up with John Day, the dining room coordinator, in person or at **781-221-7098 by 11:00am the day before**. Voluntary donation is \$2.00.

 **Birthday Lunch, Tuesday, October 28th, 12noon.** Anyone with a birthday this month can enjoy a free lunch and special dessert this day. Sign up with John Day in the kitchen on 781-221-7098. Let him know that it is your birthday month.

Minuteman Indian Lunch

Thursday, October 30th, 12noon

Open to all 60+

Enjoy delicious Indian food for lunch. Sign up with John Day in the kitchen or **by calling 781-221-7098 by October 23rd**. A \$2 donation is requested.

Frozen Meals - Every week we have a number of tasty pre-cooked frozen meals from **Open Table** available to anyone who would like to take one home. Call 978-929-6652 or ask at the COA front desk.

Notary

Acton 60+ only

Need something notarized? Stop by the Senior Center Tuesday or Wednesdays from 12-1pm. We have a volunteer who can help you.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
29 8:30 Active Aging 11:00 Tai Chi/Taijian Class 1:00 Movie 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Create Your Own Book	30 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Art Time 9:30 Art Class with Fran 9:45 Active Aging 11:00 Maintenance Balance – ANS 11:30 Lunch & Tour at RiverCourt 4:30 Therapeutic Horticulture – ANS 4:30 Dinner with Doug	October 1 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Therapy Dog Visit 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Wellness Yoga 10:30 Hot Topics 11:00 Great Gatsby Seminar 11:30 Balance Matters! 11:30-1:30 Bistro 30 12:30 Needle Arts Group 12:30 Maintenance Balance – ANS 1:00 Acton Songsters 1:30 Bridge 2:30 Line Dancing	2 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 Daily Digest Group 11:00 Tai Chi Practice 1:00 Ribbon Stitchery Class 1:00 De-Cluttering Presentation 1:00 Chess Club 1:00 Mah Jongg 3:00 Chair Flow Yoga 3:00 Navigating Grief Group via Zoom	3 Center closes at 12 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Coffee & Conversation 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Nouvonne Fitness	
6 8:30 Active Aging 10:00 Friends of COA Mtg 1:00 Movie 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Create Your Own Book	7 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Art Time 9:30 Art Class with Fran 9:45 Active Aging 10:30-12 Wellness Clinic - ANS 11:00 Maintenance Balance – ANS 1:00 Aging Care Support 3:00 Caregiver Support Group via Zoom 3:00 Intro to Reflexology 4-5:30 Shredding	8 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Therapy Dog Visit 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Wellness Yoga 10:30 Hot Topics 11:00 Great Gatsby Seminar 11:30 Balance Matters! 11:30-1:30 Bistro 30 12:30 Needle Arts Group 12:30 Maintenance Balance – ANS 1:30 Bridge 1:30 Tech Assistance Clinic 2:00 LGBTQ+ Rainbow Planning Mtg 2:30 Line Dancing	9 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 Daily Digest Group 10:00 Tech Help Appts 11:00 Laugh for Your Health 11:00 Tai Chi Practice 1:00 Ribbon Stitchery Class 1:00 Chess Club 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Trusts Talk 3:00 Chair Flow Yoga	10 Center closes at 12 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Coffee & Conversation 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Nouvonne Fitness	
13 BUILDING CLOSED	14 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Art Time 9:30 Art Class with Fran 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 Book Discussion Group 11:00 Maintenance Balance – ANS 12:00 Chef McGuire Lunch 1:00 Genealogy Group 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Intro to Breathwork pt 2 2:00 Cooking Demonstration 3-4:30 Reflexology Appts 4-5:30 Shredding 4:30 Therapeutic Horticulture - ANS	15 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Therapy Dog Visit 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Wellness Yoga 10:30 Hot Topics 11:00 Great Gatsby Seminar 11:30 Concord Park Tour/Lunch 11:30 Balance Matters! 12:30 Needle Arts Group 12:30 Maintenance Balance – ANS 1:00 Acton Songsters 1:30 Bridge 2:30 Line Dancing	NO BISTRO	16 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 Daily Digest Group 11:00 Laugh for Your Health 11:00 Tai Chi Practice 1:00 The Robber Barons Talk 1:00 Ribbon Stitchery Class 1:00 Chess Club 1:00 Mah Jongg 3:00 Chair Flow Yoga	17 Center closes at 12 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Breakfast 9:45 Java with John 10:00 Coffee & Conversation 10:00 Nouvonne Fitness

20 8:30 Active Aging 8:30-11:30 Reiki Appointments 10:00 Improv Class 11:00 Tai Chi/Taijian Class 1:00 Movie 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Create Your Own Book	21 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Art Time 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 COA Board Mtg 10:30-12 Wellness Clinic - ANS 11:00 Maintenance Balance – ANS 11:00 Grandparents Group 12:00 Robbins Brook Lunch 1:00 Acton Songsters Concert 2:00 Energy Bingo 3:00 Caregiver Support Group via Zoom 4-5:30 Shredding	22 8:30 Senior Fitness 9-2:00 Friends Jewelry Sale 10:00 Therapy Dog Visit 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Wellness Yoga 10:30 Hot Topics 10:30 Therapeutic Horticulture - ANS 11:30 Balance Matters! 11:30-1:30 Bistro 30 12:30 Needle Arts Group 12:30 Maintenance Balance – ANS 1:30 Bridge 1:30 Tech Assistance Clinic 2:30 Line Dancing	23 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Words Galore via Zoom 9-2:00 Friends Jewelry Sale 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 Daily Digest Group 11:00 Tai Chi Practice 11:30-1:30 Bistro 30 1:00 John Clark's Music – Leonard Cohen 1:00 Ribbon Stitchery Class 1:00 Chess Club 1:00 Mah Jongg 3:00 Chair Flow Yoga	24 Center closes at 12 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Coffee & Conversation 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Nouvonne Fitness
27 8:30 Active Aging 10:00 Improv Class 11:00 Tai Chi/Taijian Class 1:00 Movie 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Create Your Own Book	28 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Art Time 9:30 Art Class with Fran 9:30-11:45 Hearing Screening Appts 9:45 Active Aging 9:45 Back to School – ABRHS visit 11:00 Maintenance Balance – ANS 12:00 MMSS Birthday Lunch 1:00 Becoming Janet – Holocaust Survivor 1:00 Genealogy Group 2:30 LitLovers Group 4-5:30 Shredding 4:30 Dinner with Doug	29 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Therapy Dog Visit 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Wellness Yoga 10:00 Medicare Seminar 10:30 Hot Topics 10:30 Therapeutic Horticulture - ANS 11:30-1:30 Bistro 30 12:30 Needle Arts Group 12:30 Maintenance Balance – ANS 1:00 Halloween Party 1:30 Bridge 2:00 Fall Prevention -ANS 2:30 Line Dancing	30 8:30 Senior Fitness 9:00 Words Galore via Zoom 9:45 Active Aging 10:00 Daily Digest Group 11:00 Laugh for Your Health 11:00 Tai Chi Practice 12:00 MMSS Indian Lunch 1:00 3 Keys to a Fulfilled Life 1:00 Ribbon Stitchery Class 1:00 LGBTQ+ Halloween Party 1:00 Chess Club 1:00 Mah Jongg 3:00 Chair Flow Yoga	31 Center closes at 12 8:30 Senior Fitness 10:00 Coffee & Conversation 10:00 Cribbage Games 10:00 Nouvonne Fitness

The COA does not endorse or promote any service or company who makes a presentation. We encourage you to be an 'educated consumer' before entering into contract with any service provider. Movie titles are available on p. 13. ANS=Acton Nursing Program – contact 978 929 6650 with questions/to register. Programs and Classes are correct at time of going to press; circumstances beyond our control may result in cancellation, postponement, or a change in how we deliver the program. Follow us on Facebook for updates, see the website www.actoncoa.com and sign up for notifications. For information on our [presenters](#) .

This month the following activities are supported by the Friends of the Acton COA: Becoming Janet: Finding Myself in the Holocaust, Keys to a More Fulfilled Life, The Music of Leonard Cohen, Daigaku Imo Cooking Demo, Exploring Improvisation, Words Galore, *The Great Gatsby* Seminar, Drawing & Watercolor Class, Movies, The Robber Barons, Create Your Own Book Workshop, Ribbon Stitchery Class, and Tai Chi Class.

THANK YOU TO: Acton Boxborough Rotary Club for hosting a wonderful luncheon; Everyone who participated in our Open House

Support Groups



□► NEW Navigating Grief Group via Zoom

Thursday, October 2nd, 3:00-4:00pm

Open to all/free

Are you experiencing grief from the death of an older loved one and finding it hard to cope with everyday life? If so, please join us in a new grief support group that will meet once a month for one hour via Zoom to discuss ways of coping with grief. Listening to others' experiences can help you to better understand your own experience and may provide you with new insight in more constructive ways of dealing with this stage of life. This group will be led by Julie Norstrand, PhD, an experienced eldercare consultant who has worked with older adults and family caregivers for many years. Please sign up with the Council on Aging at seniorcenter@actonma.gov. Funded by an Executive Office of Aging & Independence grant.

□► Caregiver Support Group via Zoom

Tuesdays, October 7th and 21st, 3:00-4:30pm

Open to all caregivers of older adults/free

Caregivers of older adults, please join Julie Norstrand, PhD, MSW, for this group that meets via Zoom and offers practical and emotional support. New participants always welcome! The challenging work of caregiving may leave you feeling stretched thin, which may cause feelings of exhaustion and isolation. Julie ensures safe, non-judgmental settings where members can share and learn from one another and witnesses the strong bonds that develop between members. If you are new to the group, please sign up with the Council on Aging at seniorcenter@actonma.gov. Funded by an Executive Office of Aging & Independence grant.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group at the Senior Center

Tuesday October 21st, 11:00-12:00noon

Open to all/free

Participants will learn from other grandparents and experts about legal strategies and practices, ways to relieve the stress, and resources available. For additional information, contact group leader Joe O'Leary of the Commission on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren at 978-760-0360.

Watercolor Exhibit

Until October 31st we have the paintings by students who have participated in Fran Hewitt's Watercolor Classes during the past academic year. With a wide variety of skill levels from beginner to advanced, the purpose of this exhibit is to not only share the students' work but also show "what we do".

A Message from the [Friends of Acton COA](#)

As soon as you receive this newsletter it is time to check your calendar for the popular **October Jewelry Sale Wednesday & Thursday Oct. 22nd-23rd, 9:00am – 2:00pm**.

A wide selection at reasonable prices. Don't miss it. All are welcome!

The **FCOA Honoring Excellence Fund** is pleased to sponsor a talk by **Janet Applefield, a Holocaust survivor, on October 28th.**

The FCOA will meet Monday, October 6th and November 10th at 10:00am.

Volunteer Ambassadors Needed! Help us welcome new visitors to the Senior Center! The first year of this program was a big success and more Ambassadors are needed to keep up with the demand. All that is needed is familiarity with the Center, access to email, and a spirit of volunteerism! Average commitment is 1-2 hours/month but each Ambassador controls their participation. Contact Chris Chirokas for more information at cchirokas@actonma.gov or 978-929-6652.

For information on our presenters go to www.actoncoa.com/129/Programs

Games

Morning Open Activity Time

Weekdays, 9:00-11:30am

The Senior Center dining room is open weekday mornings for drop-in activities. We provide the space, tables, chairs and a variety of games (Scrabble, chess, Mah Jongg, playing cards). You may also work on your own art or craft project. Ask some friends to meet here or make new ones!

**Open to all age 60+/free
No activity time Oct 13th & 17th**



Mah Jongg Time

Mondays, Thursdays, & Tuesday, October 14th, 1:00-3:30pm

This Mah Jongg group plays the American version of the game and is open to all skill levels. Games follow National Mah Jongg League rules.

**Open to all 60+/free
No Mah Jongg October 13th**

Cribbage Game

Wednesdays & Fridays, 10:00-11:00am No game on Friday, Oct. 17th Open to all age 60+/free

Come by the Senior Center for a fun game of cribbage. New—cribbage games are now twice a week!

Drop-In Bridge

Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm

The group is for people with an intermediate to advanced skill level and knowledge of conventions, partnership play, and bidding levels.

Open to all 60+/free



Chess Club

Thursdays, 1:00-3:30pm

Players with some chess experience get together for games at the Senior Center. You only need to know the basics to play.

Open to all 60+/free

Groups

Art Time

Tuesdays, 9:00-11:00am

Come to the Senior Center and paint or draw with your peers. Please bring your own supplies.

Open to all 60+/free



Genealogy Group

Tuesday October 14th & 28th, 1:00-2:30pm

Discover your family history in a supportive environment. Novice, experienced, or simply the curious are welcome. Learn the basics, get advice, and share new discoveries and strategies. Emphasis is on research methods, presentation formats, and the meaningfulness of preserving the past for future generations. For the second monthly meeting, bring your portable computer (or at least a notebook) with the goal of expanding your family tree.

Open to out-of-town 60+/free

Bodacious the Therapy Dog Visit

Wednesdays 10:00am - 12noon

Visit Bodacious, the sweet golden-doodle, and his handler Dick at the Senior Center! As a member of Therapy Dogs International, Bodacious is gentle, friendly, and hypo-allergenic. Spending time with therapy dogs can boost emotional well-being. Drop by for a visit!

Open to all 60+/free



Hot Topics Discussion Group

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:45am

Due to room space constraints, this group is closed to new participants.



Needle Arts Group

Wednesdays, 12:30-2:30pm

This friendly, social group is open to anyone interested in gathering to sew, knit or crochet.

Open to all 60+/free

Laugh for Your Health with Susan Phillips

Thursdays, 11:00am-12:00noon (No class October 2nd, 23rd) Open to all seniors/free

Laughter is an instant vacation! Come join us as we do easy and fun seated laughter exercises to shift our mood, relieve stress, relax our whole body, positively connect with others, and infuse our whole being with joy! In this interactive program, we learn how to generate our own laughter without relying on jokes. This worldwide practice is called Laughter Yoga, but there are no mats or yoga poses. We add yoga breaths, which are deep belly breaths, for soothing breaks between exercises. Come enjoy all the health benefits the power of giggles has to offer and leave feeling relaxed and refreshed! Funded by an Executive Office of Aging & Independence grant. *Susan Phillips, M.Ed. is an Integrative Health Coach and Laughter Yoga Teacher. Her workshops promote laughter as a tool to build joy, resilience, connection, and collaboration.*



□► Coffee and Conversation with Tracy Woods

Fridays through October 31st, 10:00-11:00am

Open to all/free

Join Tracy Woods for a weekly coffee and conversation group where you can talk about what's on your mind with your peers. Group is ongoing and new participants are welcome. *Tracy Woods is a certified Older Adult Peer Specialist. All are welcome to this joint venture between the Acton Council on Aging and the Northeast Independent Living Program.*

Exercise

Gym/Fitness Room

Acton 60+ only

The Gym is open during the Senior Center's normal operating hours. Anyone using the gym needs to be trained to use the equipment by a COA staff member and sign an exercise waiver. □► If you are interested in signing up for training call 978-929-6652.



Exercise Classes

- Exercise classes are limited to Acton residents age 60 and up
- To keep the floor safe for all, please bring clean, supportive shoes to change into for class
- If you are new to a class, read the description to judge whether it will be a good match for your fitness level and call us with any questions
- Instructors have final say on whether a class is suitable for an individual
- Check with your doctor before starting any exercise program
- Wear comfortable clothing and bring water in a non-breakable container
- All attendees must have an exercise class waiver on file and up-to-date emergency contact information

Active Aging with Terri Zaborowski

Mondays through December 22nd, 8:30-9:30am

No class 10/13, 12/29

Tuesdays through December 23rd, 9:45-10:45am

No class 11/11, 12/30

Thursdays through December 18th, 9:45-10:45am

No class 11/27, 12/24

This class focuses on functional fitness with exercises designed to help seniors maintain strength, balance and independence. It is designed for every fitness level and modifications and adaptations are demonstrated. Start with flexibility training in a warm-up to increase the range of motion of your joints, followed by balance exercises to improve your gait and confidence in your daily routines, proceed to resistance training to build lean muscle and increase bone density all to the beat of the music! There is a 5-minute stretch segment at the end. The last 15 minutes is an optional cardio training segment to maintain heart and lung function using low-impact dance movements. Entire class is done seated or standing. Note that the Tuesday and Thursday 9:45 classes sometimes exceed the maximum participants so people are turned away; please consider trying another class or using the gym (sign up for training if you haven't done so already).



Tai Chi/Taijiquan Class with Linda Sango



Mondays through December 22nd, 11:00 am-12:00noon

No class 10/6, 10/13, 11/10, 11/17, 12/29

This Taijiquan class uses Formless Dragon style, a modern re-examination of classical Tai Chi and is open to all levels of participants. Linda Sango studies under Occidental Taoist Jeff Coté, who distills the essence of Tai Chi into fundamental principles. Students will be encouraged to learn single movements and explore postural, movement and conceptual principles, rather than learning as many form movements as possible. This practice is known to improve the health of body, mind and spirit while improving balance.

Senior Fitness with Terri Zaborowski

Tuesdays through December 23rd, 8:30-9:30am

No class 11/11, 12/30

Wednesdays through December 17th, 8:30-9:30am

No class 12/24, 12/31

Thursdays through December 18th, 8:30-9:30am

No class 11/27, 12/25, 1/1/26

Fridays through December 19th, 8:30-9:30am

No class 11/28, 12/26, 1/2/26

Have fun as you move to the music with this safe and heart-healthy class which uses low-impact movements to energize your active lifestyle. After 30 minutes of aerobics, you will work on building your muscle strength and flexibility with upper and lower body exercises using hand held weights in both standing and seated positions. Class ends with a 5-10 minutes of full body stretch and relaxation. Weights are provided by the center.

Wellness Yoga with Patsy Brightman



Wednesdays, October 1st through December 17th, 10:00-11:15am

No class 11/26, 12/24, 12/31

Patsy is returning to teach a fall session! This gentle practice works the joints and muscles to increase flexibility, strength, balance and circulation. Includes seated postures, standing postures (using a chair for support if needed) and optional floor work. Each class has an emphasis on wellness and will include a period of deep relaxation. The last class of each month is a Healthy Joint Class offered to improve range of motion. Joint movements help improve flexibility and balance and decrease a stiff or achy body and help prevent falls. Bring a yoga mat to each yoga class (optional, especially for joint class). Funded by an Executive Office of Aging & Independence grant; \$1 donation per class requested.

Thursday Tai Chi Practice

Thursdays, 11:00 am-12:00noon

Open to out-of-town seniors/free

No practice 11/27, 12/25, 1/1/26

Those who participated in the specific form previously offered in the Thursday 11:00 Tai Chi class continue to practice together at the Senior Center.

Chair Flow Yoga with Rebecca Reber

Thursdays through December 18th, 3:00-3:45pm

No class 11/27, 12/25, 1/1/26



This active chair yoga class combines yoga poses, stretches, breathing, and relaxation techniques while sitting or standing (holding the chair). Come enjoy the benefits of reducing anxiety, lowering blood pressure while building strength and balance to feel better in your body and mind. The Center will have some yoga blocks and straps available, but please bring your own if possible (a scarf works for a strap; shoe box for a yoga block).

NouVonne Fitness with Yvonne Benelli

Fridays through December 19th, 10:00-11:00am

No class 11/28, 12/26, 1/2/26

This class is an enjoyable total workout designed by Yvonne Benelli for all fitness levels and includes a little of everything... muscular strength training, cardio/dance, stretching, balance, stability, core strengthening & posture work, Qi Gong, Pilates, mindfulness, and relaxation. Done standing and sitting, you may modify to suit your needs. From a gentle warm-up to a soothing cool down phase, this class will reduce stress and help to clear your mind while working everything! You will feel re-energized, rejuvenated and relaxed...ready for your day! Hand weights and balls (supplied by Center) are optional. A \$1.00 donation per class is suggested, per Executive Office of Aging & Independence grant guidelines.

For information on our [presenters](#)

Support and Services

The Assistant COA Director, Beverly Hutchings helps Acton residents aged 60+ and their family caregivers with a range of social services and advocacy.

Annual Medicare Open Enrollment and the Medicare Planfinder

Medicare beneficiaries who are interested in comparing health insurance and Part D coverage can meet with a SHINE counselor beginning 10/15 to receive cost and coverage comparisons.

SHINE may also assist you with dropping from one plan and enrolling in a new plan. All plans available are approved by Medicare and open enrollment ends on 12/7.

If you are thinking about changing coverage, please check with doctors to see what plans they accept; obtain current medication list with dosage or view your My Medicare account to update medications.

To create a My Medicare account for the first time visit: <https://www.medicare.gov/account/create-account> and write down your username and password.

To view all Medicare Advantage and Part D plans available in Massachusetts, visit the Medicare Planfinder: <https://www.medicare.gov/> Before making decisions be sure to review plan websites for summary materials and specific coverage.

For more information, schedule a SHINE appointment today by calling 978 929 6652.

SHINE is a program of Minuteman Senior Services www.minutemansenior.org

Transportation Door-to-door van services can take you from home to the Senior Center, medical appointments, shopping... for more information or to **schedule rides, call 978-844-6809** during normal business hours. Plan ahead and book your ride at least 24 hours in advance.

The Handy Helper Volunteer Program helps Acton seniors with small jobs and repairs in the household as well as technology issues related to the computer, phone or TV. This is not an emergency program. Call the COA at 978-929-6652 to make a request. If you have questions or would like to know more about services offered, please call or send an email to: Beverly Hutchings 978-929-6652 or bhutchings@actonma.gov

Disability Indicator Form

The Massachusetts Disability Indicator Program offers a free, voluntary service that alerts 9-1-1 personnel that an individual with a disability may have unique safety, communications or other needs in case of an emergency. This service is available for landline, wireless and VoIP telephone service providers. It is necessary to request the service through completion of the Disability Indicator Form located on [mass.gov website](http://mass.gov). Hard copies are available at the Senior Center.



Veteran Services Officer for Acton and Boxborough, James MacRae would like to remind veterans and surviving spouses that there are benefits that you may be entitled to. Reach out to him at vso@actonma.gov or call 978-929-6614 for a confidential chat.

Food Pantries/Suppers

It is always a good idea to contact the specific food resource for the most up to date information.

Acton Food Pantry is located at 235 Summer Road Building #1, Lower Level in the Boxborough Business Park. Phone 978-635-9295. Hours - Wednesday: 10:00am to 7:00pm, Thursday: 9:30 am to 11:30 am. The pantry is closed the week of the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Open Table Pantry service is available in the Maynard Municipal Parking Lot located between Summer Street and Main Street.: 978-369-2275. Hours are: Tuesdays 1:00 – 3:00pm (Seniors 65+) Tuesdays 3:00 – 6:30pm and Thursdays 11:00am – 4:30pm

Sudbury Community Food Pantry 978-443-7725, 160 Concord Rd, Sudbury, MA

Stow Food Pantry 978 897 4230,

Mount Calvary Community Supper, 472 Massachusetts Ave. Wednesdays: 4:45-5:45pm, doors open at 4:15pm.

West Acton Baptist Church, 592 Mass Ave, Acton MA, accessible from parking lot 24/7.

Community Dinner, **First Parish Church of Stow & Acton**, 353 Stow Rd, Stow, MA. 978-897-8149. 2nd Friday of every month.

For [more information](#) of resources across the area.

Minuteman Senior Services, Acton's State Home Care, provides a variety of services including: Care Management, In home assessments, support activities of daily living and Meals on Wheels. Call (781)-272-7177, toll free (888) 222-6171 or visit www.minutemansenior.org

About Town

Town of Acton Information Line: 978 929 6600

You can also [subscribe](#) to receive the Municipal Monthly with all the Town updates.



Emergency Alerts

Did you know you can sign up to receive emergency alerts from the Town of Acton? This will allow you to receive emergency alerts on your home phone, cell phone and /or email. Go to Acton's website and click on notify me, then Emergency Alerts, then click on this button. You will be brought to another page, click on sign me up at the bottom right. You will need to enter an email address. If you do not have an email address or need assistance, please contact the COA and we can help you.

Housing Legal Clinics

2nd Tuesdays of the month, 4:00-6:00pm, at the Human Services Building, 30 Sudbury Rd, Rear. Call 978 929 6651, or email tenantsupport@actonma.gov to schedule an appointment.

October at Acton's Libraries

Check our [website](#) for the latest news.

Check our [calendar](#) for more information, & to register for programs.

[Sign up for the AML newsletter:](#)

Questions? Email at reference@acton-ma.gov or call 978-929-6655

So many exciting programs – be sure to confirm which Library location you are attending the program:

English at large - Beginner English Class Oct 1, 6, 8, 15, 20, 22, 27, & 29, 10:00-11:30am, [REGISTER](#)
Adult Writing Group Oct 2, 6:00-7:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

Meditation Series - Remaining Stable in Challenging Times Oct 6, 6:00-7:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

English at Large - Conversation Class Oct 6, 20, & 27, 6:15-7:45pm, [REGISTER](#)

Teaching Tech @ West Oct 7, 12:00-1:00pm, West Acton Citizens' Library [REGISTER](#)

Teaching Tech @ AML Oct 7, 5:30-6:30pm, [REGISTER](#)

Tech Help @ West Oct 8, 1:30-2:30pm, West Acton Citizens' Library [REGISTER](#)

West Acton Citizens' Library Book Discussion Group Oct 8, 3:30-4:30pm, West Acton Citizens' Library [REGISTER](#)

Basics of Investing with CFA Society Boston Oct 8, 6:00-7:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

Pine Hawk: Discover Ancient Nipmuc Mishoonash at Lake Quinsigamond Oct 9, 7:00-8:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

Yarn & Needle Club Oct 14 & 28, 3:00-4:00pm,

Halloween Wreath Making @ AML Oct 15, 6:00-7:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

Cookbook Club @ West Oct 16, 12:00-1:00pm, West Acton Citizens' Library [REGISTER](#)

Cookbook Club @ AML Oct 16, 6:00-7:00pm, AML Solarium [REGISTER](#)

Halloween Wreath Making @ West Oct 18, 11:00am-12:00pm, West Acton Citizens' Library [REGISTER](#)

Sewing and Embroidery Club @ AML Oct 20, 5:30-6:30pm, AML Conference Room [REGISTER](#)

Sewing and Embroidery Club @ West Oct 21, 12:00-1:00pm, West Acton Citizens' Library [REGISTER](#)

Pine Hawk: The Historical Archaeology of Massachusetts Oct 22, 7:00-8:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

Meditation Series - Awakening the Inner Powers of the Soul Oct 27, 6:00-7:00pm, [REGISTER](#)

October at Community Education

Check out the [catalog](#) or use the QR code.

Highlights include: Discover Portugal, Building Your Family Tree, Fall Book Club: Introduction to Transcendentalism, Pebble & Sea Glass Creations



AB Community Compass Mental Awareness Team is inviting you to a Community Pot Luck on **Wednesday, October 15th, 5:30-7:00pm** at the AB Resource Center, 15 Charter Rd, Acton. Bring your favorite dish and its recipe to share.

First Connections Diaper Pantry – Urgent Need for Donations

First Connections, located at 179 Great Road, established its Diaper Pantry in 2019, just prior to COVID-19, to help meet the need for diaper assistance in our community. At that time, the pantry supported about 15 families per year. Since the pandemic, the need has grown significantly. The pantry now serves 30 families—20 of whom live in Acton and Boxborough. Families qualify for assistance by participating in public benefit programs such as WIC, SNAP, DTA/TAFDC, childcare subsidies, MassHealth, or by living in public housing. The pantry is currently in **urgent need** of donations, especially: **Diapers (sizes 5 & 6 most needed, but all sizes welcome); Pull-Ups; Baby wipes** Your support will help local families provide this essential care item for their children. Donation boxes can be found in the front lobby and in the Nursing Department. Thank you

Message from the Board of Acton COA

The SENIORS READ Program is starting again this fall. Seniors will be reading to classes of children in kindergarten through Fourth Grade. To participate in the SENIORS READ Program, please fill out a [Senior Reader Interest Form](#) and return it to the reception desk at the Senior Center at 30 Sudbury Road, Rear. You will read the [Senior Reader Guidelines](#) to prepare you for the actual reading sessions at the schools.

If you know anyone who might also be interested in participating, please let them fill out their own Senior Reader Interest Form and return it to the Senior Center.

You will need to complete a new form even if you have participated in this program previously.

Acton Nursing Services

Call 978-929-6650, Acton Nursing, for these programs starting Wednesday, October 1st

Fall Prevention and Healthy Living for the Senior Adult

All welcome

Wednesday, October 29th, 2:00pm

We will discuss how to keep yourself safe at home, the importance of balance, fall prevention, proper nutrition, bone health and a variety of things to stay healthy as you age.

□► Therapeutic Horticulture

Acton Seniors Only

Tuesday, Oct. 14th, 4:30-5:30pm, Wednesdays, Oct. 22nd and 29th, 10:30-11:30am

Decorate a white pumpkin with fall theme vintage floral images using decoupage. All supplies are provided. 12 participants per class

Based on class popularity we will be changing signup to a LOTTERY moving forward.

Sign up for class lottery by 12noon on Tuesday, October 7th by phone or email: 978-929-6650; nursing@actonma.gov. We will notify everyone who gets into a class of their scheduled date.

□► Podiatry Clinics

Acton Seniors Only

Appointments: Tues, Oct. 7th & Oct 21st 12noon – 5:00pm, Wed, Oct. 22nd, 12:30-3:00pm

Call 978-929-6650 to make an appointment.

Sarah Kinghorn BSN RN CFCN is a certified Footcare nurse and is the owner of Footcare Focus. Sarah provides assessment, toenail clipping and filing, non-surgical callus/corn reduction, gentle foot massage and education to keep your feet healthy and happy! Appointments are 30 minutes for \$50.

****** Please be advised that after discussion with Sarah related to the popularity of her clinics and based on her recommendation, each client is eligible for a visit every 8 weeks (minimally). By doing this we hope to make visits available for all residents on a rolling basis and make call in day less stressful for residents. Visits will then be on a first case basis until clinics are booked and we will continue to have a waiting list. Thank you for your understanding as we make these clinics available for as many residents as possible!*

□► Maintenance Balance Training Sponsored by an Anonymous Donor Acton Seniors only

Tuesdays, ongoing, 11:00am and Wednesdays, ongoing 12:30pm Call 978-929-6650 to register

Join Karen Patterson PT as she provides maintenance balance classes as a continued follow-up to her 6-week Balance Matters! Each class is independent of the other but you MUST have attended the Balance Matters! 6 week sessions to join. **Please call to register as class size is limited!**

Wellness Clinics –1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, October 7th & 21st, 10:30am -12:00pm

The Acton Nursing Services' Nurse, Elizabeth McNamara can check blood pressure, weight and answer any medication, nutrition and health related questions you may have. No appointment required.

Durable Medical Equipment for Loan – Acton Nursing Service has a variety of items to loan, or if you have items to donate, call Denise at 978-929-6650. We can only accept DME equipment **Cleaned**, we are **UNABLE** to accept any adult diapers or depends, walking boots, c-pap machines and equipment. If you have questions regarding donations please call and speak with one of our staff. Thank you for your generosity!

September is a very busy month at the Senior Center, these are just a few of the highlights:



Fran's Drawing and Watercolor Art Class are holding an exhibit of previous work thru October.



The First Responders Lunch is one of our annual highlights and was enjoyed by all.



Move with Confidence, a fall, posture, balance & wellness screening was full of very interested participants.

©THE ACTON COUNCIL ON AGING @ THE SENIOR CENTER, OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

**The Human Services Building and Senior Center will be closed
Monday, October 13th**

Whatever your reason for visiting the Senior Center you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Find us at the Human Services Building & Senior Center,
30 Sudbury Rd, Rear, Acton MA 01720.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2nd