

Senior Services is a department responsible to the Town Supervisor and the Town Board for the purpose of planning, coordinating, researching, and monitoring services and programs that benefit town residents aged 60 and older.

The Department is a community focal point where older persons or groups can avail themselves of services and programs that enhance their lives, support their independence, and encourage their involvement in and with the community.

Basic services include: Information and referral; transportation to medical offices, grocery stores and malls; liaison with other area agencies; outreach to homebound seniors; daily educational, social and recreational programs; and special events and day trips.

Transportation Guide:

*Medical Appointments are on Monday's, Wednesday's and Fridays

We take appointments within the hours of 9:30am and 1:30pm.

*Grocery Shopping days are on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays

You are assigned a day within the district where you live.

*Wal-Mart Run (also includes Crossgates Mall or Stuyvesant Plaza)

Mondays and Wednesdays depending on which district you reside in.

HEAP PROGRAM

People with monthly incomes under: \$2300 for one person or \$3007 for two people, etc. are eligible for the Heating Assistance Program called HEAP. This grant can be received each heating season and goes directly to the heating company. The amount of the payment to each person is determined by income, living expenses and type of fuel. Applications are available at the Senior Center. We can help complete applications by appointment.

AARP Tax Aide Program

Beginning Monday February 6 through Monday, April 16, free income tax preparation and e-mail filing will be provided Mondays and Saturdays at the Guilderland public Library by the all-volunteer AARP Tax Aid Program. Volunteers are trained and certified in cooperation with the IRS, and prepare personal Federal & NYS income tax returns for taxpayers of all ages with low & moderate incomes. Appointments are necessary; a separate appointment is required for each taxpayer. **Bring a copy of last year's return, social security cards for all people on the tax return, photo ID, all 2016 W-2's, 1099 statements, sold investments' with purchase dates and cost basis, and supporting documents if itemizing deductions.** Also, if these apply, bring supporting documents for any gambling winnings, medical insurance coverage, payments for any child care, payments for education, contributions to an IRA, and estimated tax payments you made during 2016. Bring your checkbook if you want a direct deposit of your refund. Tax Aide volunteers can't do estate or partnership returns, returns with rental income or returns requiring

Schedule C (business returns with a net loss, inventory, employees, or expenses over \$25,000.)
Both taxpayers must be present if filing a joint return, except in case of illness or infirmity.

The 2-1-1 Appointment Call Center will open on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM you may request your appointment beginning on this date and time.

For an Appointment call 211.

TRANSPORTATION WEATHER CONDITIONS REMINDER!

When the Guilderland Schools are **closed** due to inclement weather, all scheduled shopping trips and scheduled medical appointments will be cancelled. You will now find the listing on the local television stations it will read: **Guilderland Senior Programs-No Transportation.**

When the Guilderland Schools are listed as delayed in opening-we will still provide transportation and but may be delayed due to road conditions.

PROGRAMS/CLASSES WEATHER CONDITIONS REMINDER!

When the Guilderland Schools are **closed** due to inclement weather, all of our programs/classes are cancelled.

When the Guilderland Schools are listed as **delayed in opening**- the following class/program leaders have decided **not** to hold their class and they are as follow:

Aerobic & Sr Fitness Mon & Wed 10:30 Strong Bones + Tues & Fri Altamont Strong Bones +

Tues & Thur 9:00 Strong Bones + Tues & Thur Omni Strong Bones +

Strength & Balance Yoga Stretch Silver Sneakers Painting

Special events will only be cancelled if you receive a call from the Senior Office.

PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OF AGE or who will be 65 years of age in this year.
Persons whose annual total income is less than **\$37,400** may qualify for a partial property tax exemption, based upon their **2016 income**. An application must be filed **by MARCH 1**. Income includes: pension, social security, bank interest and dividends and all other income. It is necessary to provide proof of the following: DEED, BIRTH CERTIFICATES OF OWNERS, PENSION FORMS, SOCIAL SECURITY (WHITE FORM), AND INCOME TAX FORM. ALL OWNERS MUST SIGN THE FORMS. Please call the **Assessor's Office** for information on veterans or disability exemptions.

STAR PROGRAM (School Tax Relief Program)

Homeowners may be eligible for a school property tax relief on their **primary residence only**. The **STAR** credit or exemption applies only to the **school district tax**, not to other property taxes such as county, town or city. To receive a **new STAR** credit, **you must register with NYS Tax & Finance at 518-457-2036 or at www.tax.ny.gov**. **If you already have a STAR exemption you may file** an application for an Enhanced STAR exemption with the **Town Assessor** who is located in the Guilderland Town Hall. The "**enhanced**" program is available to **persons 65 years of age and older with**

income for 2015 under \$86,000. For additional information, please contact the **Town of Guilderland Assessor's Office at 356-1980.**

Trip suggestions

We did not fill-up on all Summer Trips. We would love to hear from you your day trip suggestions! We will be planning them in January & February. There is a 1 ½-2 hour mileage radius for all trips. This limits places of interest to visit and that is why many trips are duplicated.

RESOLUTIONS

A **New Year's resolution** is a tradition, most common in the Western Hemisphere but also found in the Eastern Hemisphere, in which a person makes a promise to do an act of self-improvement or something nice for someone beginning from **New Year's Day**.

Think in terms of the day's resolutions not the year's.

Are are you staying home and just thinking about doing something?.....

May I suggest

Social

Tuesday Senior Luncheon – Seniors meet and socialize from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. After the town-provided lunch (\$4 donation suggested) Bingo is played as well as cards and other games. Transportation is available upon request. Please call ahead if planning to attend. 280-7607

Painting & Quilting – Instructor present to aid with your own projects (Make sure to bring your own supplies as well.) See calendar for dates and times. Free.

Needlecraft – A group to socialize with and to work on individual projects. See calendar for dates and times. Free.

Pinochle – A chance to gather with other card players. Beginners welcome. See calendar for dates and times. Free.

Bridge – Experienced players are welcome to join in. See calendar for dates and times. Free.

Health & Wellness

Strong Bones + – Join in on these instructor-led classes and do exercises to help prevent osteoporosis. See calendar for dates and times. Registration required. Free.

Senior Fitness, Aerobics, Strength and Balance and Silver Sneaker Yoga Stretch – Instructor-led classes of various degrees of intensity of cardiovascular exercises. See calendar for dates and times. Registration required. You are welcome to try any or all classes before joining. Nominal fee.

