

The Department of Revenue has planned an extensive two-month series of presentations to educate taxpayers 65 and older about the benefits of the Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit. For tax year 2011, the credit is worth as much as \$980 for eligible taxpayers 65 and older who either own or rent their home. The credit is refundable, meaning that if a taxpayer does not have an offsetting state tax liability, or has a liability that is smaller than the credit, they receive a check from the Commonwealth for either the entire credit or for the portion left after taxes are paid. Seniors who live in public or subsidized housing are not eligible for the credit. In tax year 2009, 80,566 taxpayers received \$61.1 million in tax credits, an average of \$759 per taxpayers. For more information on how the credit works and is calculated, Brian Lynch, of DOR's office of Advocacy, Training and Communication, will conduct a session on the credit at the North Andover Senior Center, the date to be announced.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Indoor Flea Market Saturday, March 24, 2012, Call the NA Senior Center and reserve your table space. 5 ft. tables: \$15.00, 12 ft. tables \$30.00.

Boston Flower Show: Thursday, March 15, 2012, Seaport World Trade Center, "First Impressions" Ticket and transportation \$22.00, Lunch on your own at the "No Name Restaurant", have a bowl of their famous fish chowder or enjoy a light lunch overlooking Boston Harbor.

SUPPORT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS:

MEMORY SUPPORT GROUP: The Merrimack Valley Memory support Coalition is continuing the series of support groups for those with a diagnosis of dementia and their care partners. A new group will begin in mid-March and continue until June. If anyone is interested in participating in these support groups they should call Donna Delaney at 978-688-9560 to learn more and to book a screening. The coalition members have been trained by the Alzheimer's Association of Massachusetts.

NEW PROGRAM: **GIRL TALK with Lu**, starts January 18, 2012, 12:30-1:30, no fee. Call to sign up. The group will explore life's transitions and related women's issues.

VALENTINE BREAKFAST: Come join us for a special Valentine Breakfast featuring "**Just Harry**" a One Man Ensemble. Tuesday morning February 14, 9:00-10:30. Tickets now available \$3.00.

VALENTINE PARTY: Hosted by the Lawrence Elks February 17th at 11:30-3:30. Tickets will be sold at the North Andover Senior Center starting January 2, 2012. Tickets are \$6.00/ with transportation \$7.00 R/T. Tickets limited to North Andover Seniors only.

FREE MEMORY SCREENING: February 23, 10:30-1:30 at 15 minute intervals, call Center for appointment.

STRESS RELIEF: Wednesdays from 2-4 pm, 20 minute sessions with Miriam Smith, Pranic Healer. \$5 donation to the Senior Center.

FOOT CARE SCHEDULE: Dr. Connolly is scheduled to see clients on the 2nd Wednesday of every month starting January 11th from 1 – 4 pm by appointment only; \$30 fee.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC: Held every Wednesday, 9 to noon.

SHINE VOLUNTEERS: offer free, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to North Andover residents on Medicare. Call the North Andover Senior Center and ask for a SHINE appointment, on either the 1st, 3rd or 4th Tuesday of the month from noon to 2 pm (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders).

FOXWOODS: Next scheduled trip, Tuesday, January 17, \$25 includes lunch buffet, transportation and Kenos. Bus leaves from St. Michael's parking lot at 6:30 am.

Mr. FIX IT: Here at the Senior Center. 1st and 3rd Monday every month 12-3 pm