

This could have occurred anywhere, but it has been happening recently in southeastern MA. An elder answered the phone and was told her Medicare card will be invalid as of January 1, 2012, unless she gave (the caller) the checking account number attached to her social security deposits. She did so. Luckily the elder also told her daughter, who promptly went to the bank before any damage was done. The teller told her that 2 other seniors had been in on the same day with the same scam. **MEDICARE is NOT calling anybody!!** **Do NOT give your Medicare # or your social security # to anyone unless YOU have initiated the call!** If you feel that something is "not quite right" with a phone call, **simply hang up.** We suggest you contact your local police department or town which may then initiate a 'reverse' 911 call (or internet email setup) that can inform people quickly throughout the community about this scam. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Medicare, please call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4223).

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.

AC MOORE SCRAPBOOKING: Thursday January 26th 2- 3 pm. Transportation to Salem, NH \$2, supplies provided. Bus limited to 12 persons, first come first served.

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

MVNP SPECIAL \$2 LUNCHEON: Date Tuesday January 24th, 2012 at 11:30 NA Senior Center/Sign up by Tuesday 1/17/12 Menu: Applewood Smoked Turkey Tenderloin, Tossed Salad with Ranch Dressing, Baked Potato, Sour Cream and toppings, Cranberry Sauce, Parker House Roll and choice of cake or pie.

MONTHLY SUPPER CLUB TRIP: To Jaime's Restaurant, High St. North Andover. January 19th Sign up opens January 4th at 8:30 am. Bus is \$2 and departs at 4:30. Order off menu. Bus limited to 12 persons- first come first served.