

WINDSOR COA NEWS

January/February 2023

Our mission is to serve older Windsor adults by providing opportunities and resources that advance the quality of life in a rural community.

The Executive Office of Elder Affairs provides financial support for this COA publication

Happy New Year!!

We wish you all a happy and healthy new year and look forward to seeing more of you at our 2023 events.

Community Coffee Hour

Please put January 11th and February 8th on your calendars and plan on attending these fun community gatherings. Winters can be a challenge in Windsor with the weather making it difficult to visit with friends and neighbors. It may be cold outside, but it's warm in our Town Hall. Both dates are on Wednesdays from 10-12. Come for coffee, tea, bagels, fresh fruit, baked goodies and good conversation.

To help us in planning enough food, please call Jessica Buoymaster (413-329-4364) or Sue Jacobs (413-446-4295) with your RSVP. (If we need to cancel due to the weather, you will get a call if you are registered).



INFORMATION FOR VETERANS

Alan Zawistowski, a veteran and member of the COA Board has provided more information for our local vets in this issue.

“This Veteran’s report will cover the different benefits local businesses offer veterans and their families. Veterans can get from a 10% discount at most stores to \$500 off at car dealerships. For example: stores like Carr Hardware, Home Depot, Auto Zone, Advance Auto, Michael’s,

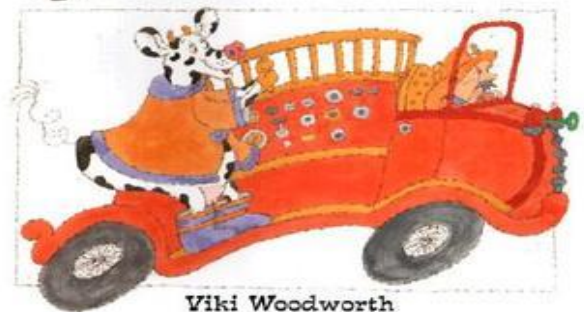
Target, and Walmart offer a discount to veterans as do most car dealerships in the Berkshires, New York, and Connecticut.

All the veteran needs to do is show their DD214 or military ID. Therefore, it is so important to register into the VA or your local Pass and ID location like Barns ANG or Westover ARB.”

Your COA is excited to announce a joint project with Windsor Library Director, Katie Richter. Space and the number of books are limited, so call early. We hope community members of all ages will join us for this fun event!

COA STORYTIME

DAISY the Firecow



FEBRUARY 21 @10:30 AM
READ BY A SPECIAL GUEST!
CHILDREN WILL BE GIVEN A COPY
OF THE BOOK TO TAKE HOME.
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!
413-684-3811 EXT 6

PROGRAMS BEING PLANNED

The details for a “Caregivers Workshop” will be in our next issue. This program will be jointly presented with Elder Services of Berkshire County, Inc. who is coordinating the speakers. An RSVP to Jessica will be required as lunch will be provided. Watch for the March issue of WN&T.

Talks are underway with our local Board of Health to offer programming on important health issues. We would love to get community input on topics in which you are most interested, for example: Foot Care; How to Eat Well with Diabetes; Dealing with High Blood Pressure or Heart Disease. Please send a text message to Jessica (413-329-4364) or Sue (413-446-4295), or send a note to the COA at 1890 Route 9, Windsor 01270 with your ideas.

Massachusetts RMV

(The following information is for anyone who has not already upgraded their MA Driver’s License to a REAL ID).

The MA Registry of Motor Vehicles is alerting the public that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has extended the REAL ID full enforcement date from May 3, 2023 to **May 7, 2025**.

- **Beginning May 7 2025**, every air traveler 18 years of age and older will need a REAL ID compliant driver’s license or identification card, or another TSA-acceptable form of identification, for domestic air travel and to enter certain federal facilities.
- TSA publishes a list of its acceptable identification documents on its website: <https://www.tsa.gov/real-id>.

RMV Registrar Colleen Ogilvie writes, “The Registry continues to assist any residents seeking a REAL ID credential even though the federal government has extended the full enforcement date until May 7, 2025. While federal REAL ID travel requirements won’t take effect for a few years, and customers with a valid U.S. Passport may never need a REAL ID, the RMV and our partners at AAA stand ready to accommodate and provide plenty of time for customers to take advantage of a REAL ID upgrade.”

Windsor MASTER PLAN

For those who were unable to attend the December 12th Special Town Meeting and the presentation by the Master Plan Steering Committee members, we encourage you to read this fascinating document. The information on our towns’ history and demographics was followed by explanations of each town department and services; buildings and facilities owned by the town; land use and open space; recreation, historical and cultural resources; town finances and local economy before ending with a look at our future.

Committee members did an outstanding job! The Master Plan is available through the town website, and at the Library. As the new year begins, take the time to read this well-researched and written paper.

**Problems are only opportunities in
work clothes.**