

## Five Things to Know About the New Medicare Cards

New Medicare cards begin rolling out this month. The biggest change consumers will notice is the removal of their social security numbers from the cards as part of an effort to reduce the risk of identity theft. The new cards will be rolled out between April 2018 and April 2019, and beneficiaries should be sure to destroy their old Medicare cards upon receipt of the new card.

NCOA (National Council on Aging) has created a summary of the five most important things to know about this process:

Beginning April 2018, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will be sending new Medicare cards to beneficiaries. The new cards are being sent to decrease Medicare beneficiaries' vulnerability to identity theft by removing the Social Security-based number from their Medicare identification cards and replacing it with a new unique Medicare Number.

Here's what you need to know before they arrive.

1. Medicare cards will be sent between April 2018 and April 2019. Make sure your address is up to date because Medicare will be sending it to the location associated with your Social Security account. To update your address information contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or go online.
2. Your new card will no longer include your Social Security number. It will include your name, new Medicare number, and the dates your Medicare Part A and Part B coverage started.
3. Start using your new Medicare card once you receive it. Destroy the old one immediately, since it contains your Social Security number. If you happen to lose or misplace your card you can get a replacement, but you can also access your new Medicare number on a Medicare Summary Notice or through Medicare.
4. Keep your Medicare Advantage, Part D prescription, and/or Medigap. Continue using your health or drug plan's card when you get health care or fill a prescription, but know you will also get the new Original Medicare card.
5. The Railroad Retirement Board will issue new cards to Railroad Retirement beneficiaries.

These are just a few quick tips to keep in mind as new Medicare cards are issued. You can find additional information on the release of Medicare's new card on Medicare.gov.

Article by the National Council on Aging, March 30, 2018.

### Important Numbers:

*First Selectman*  
860-927-4627  
*Town Clerk*  
860-927-3433  
*Tax Collector*  
860-927-3269  
*Park & Recreation*  
860-927-1003  
*Kent Affordable Housing*  
860-927-5022  
*Kent Memorial Library*  
860-927-3761  
*Kent Senior Center*  
860-927-2055  
*Social Services & Municipal Agent*  
860-927-1586  
*Probate Court*  
860-927-3729  
*Registrar of Voters*  
860-927-1953  
*FISH*  
860-927-4627  
*Meals on Wheels*  
800-994-9422  
*NW Transit*  
866-906-RIDE  
*CHORE Services*  
860-435-9177  
*State Representative 64<sup>th</sup> District*  
800-842-8267  
*State Senator 30<sup>th</sup> District*  
800-240-1421  
*Templeton Farm Senior Apartments*  
860-927-4000



### ADDITIONAL TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES FOR KENT RESIDENTS...

The Warren Parks and Recreation Department 2018 Trip Schedule is here! Based on availability, trips are open to Kent residents.

- July 18<sup>th</sup> Yard Goats Baseball – Hartford.
- July 21<sup>st</sup> Ellis Island & Statue of Liberty.
- August 11<sup>th</sup> Whale Watch, Massachusetts.
- September 8<sup>th</sup> Red Sox vs. Astros.
- September 16<sup>th</sup> Stockbridge Experience.
- October 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Vermont Leaf Peeping.
- November 11<sup>th</sup> Broadway your Way.
- November 21<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving Eve Balloons, NYC.
- December 1 – 2 Vintage Christmas, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- December 12<sup>th</sup> 'Christmas Spectacular', Radio City Music Hall.

Additional information and cost, as available, will be posted on the Warren Parks and Recreation page on the Warren town website [www.warrenct.org](http://www.warrenct.org) . To get further information and to register for any of these trips contact the Warren Parks and Recreation office 860-868-7881 ext.113.

**HELP US BE GREEN.** If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please contact Kent Social Services. If you would like to receive the **SENIORTIMES** via e-mail, please send an email to [socialservices@townofkentct.org](mailto:socialservices@townofkentct.org).

### Editor:

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860-927-1586

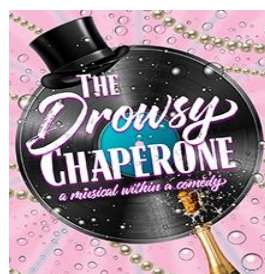
[socialservices@townofkentct.org](mailto:socialservices@townofkentct.org)

\*Editor reserves the right to edit submissions  
for content and space\*

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## Senior Theater Bus Trip



The Region One Recreation Directors announce 2018 Goodspeed Opera House Theatre trip, including lunch at Gelston House, open to residents of Region One towns:

*The Drowsy Chaperone:* November 7: "... hilarious musical comedy featuring one show-stopping song and dance number after another."

The outing will include transportation via the Northwest Connecticut Transit District bus, lunch at Gelston House and ticket to the 2 p.m. performance. The bus will pick-up at Sharon Town Hall and Kent Town Hall. The cost is \$95/person. Seating is limited and reservations are required by calling Lesly Ferris, 860-927-1003.



## Local Transportation Services & Volunteer Programs

**Rural Independent Transportation Service (RITS)** is for non-emergency medical trips for the elderly or disabled. No fare is charged but donations are accepted. Requests for this service should be made **a minimum of 48 hours in advance**. To make a request or for further information, call the Northwestern CT Transit District 860-489-2535.

**Dial-A-Ride** is a curb-to-curb transportation service, open to the public throughout Northwest CT. All Dial-A-Ride vehicles are wheelchair accessible. Kent Schedule: Mondays & Wednesdays, New Milford (8 AM to 10 AM), Local and Senior Center Nutrition Site (12 PM to 3 PM). Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis with 24-hour advance notice. **One-Way Trip Fares:** (Ten ride discount tickets available): Adults (18 & over) \$1.25; Students \$0.90; Disabled \$0.65; Elderly (60 & up) \$1.25 (Suggested Donation); Children FREE (up to age 5, with adult). Disabled persons must show their original Medicare or state elderly/disabled ID card to the driver. Call CT Transit at (860) 522-8101 for more information about the state-issued card. Certification by a medical doctor is needed to qualify for the disabled reduced fare. Personal care attendants may ride for free when accompanying a passenger with a disability; companions are required to pay a fare. To make a reservation call the Northwestern CT Transit District (860) 489-2535.

**Friends in Service Here (FISH)** is a community network of volunteers who provide transportation services to appointments for Kent Seniors. Appointments include, but are not limited to, medical and dental within and outside of Kent, beauty salons, grocery stores, Kent Food Bank, and other local businesses. Medical appointments take precedence over other types of rides. FISH is sponsored by St. Andrew's Church, Sacred Heart Church, and the First Congregational Church. It is governed by a steering committee, comprised of local clergy and several active members of FISH. Clients must be ambulatory and able to get in and out of a vehicle on their own. FISH is available for rides Monday thru Friday, no later than 5:00 p.m. FISH does not provide rides on holidays. FISH requires a minimum of two days' notice prior to the appointment date. To request a FISH ride, call the First Selectman's office during regular Town Hall hours, 860-927-4627. You will be provided the name and telephone number of a volunteer scheduler for you to call. Please have the time, date and location of your appointment available prior to requesting a ride. The scheduler will match you with an available volunteer driver and make every effort to accommodate your request. It is not guaranteed that a driver will be available. The volunteer driver will contact you to arrange the ride.

## Kent Senior Center

1 Swifts Lane



**Senior Lunch Program:** lunch is served *year around* on Monday and Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Center (see monthly menu pages elsewhere in this newsletter). **Labor Day Luncheon at Senior Center:** Wednesday, August 29 at noon at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane. Menu is sausage patty, peppers and onions, coleslaw, baked beans and berry strudel. **"Taste of Italy" Luncheon:** Wednesday, August 15 at noon at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane. Menu is cannelloni beef pasta, white sauce, zucchini, baked tomato half and Italian ice. Suggested donation is \$4/person. Advanced reservations required by calling 860-927-2055.

**Friday Senior Lunch Program:** Begins September 14, 2018. The center opens at 11:30 a.m., and the meal is served at noon. The program is offered in conjunction with Kent, Marvelwood, and South Kent Schools and Kent restaurants. The cost is \$2/person. Reservations are not necessary.

**Adult Coloring Program:** Adult coloring for senior citizens meets monthly on the second Monday, 2-4 p.m., at the Kent Senior Center, 16 Swifts Lane. Coloring materials are provided. The program is hosted by the Kent Memorial Library, Templeton Farms and the Town of Kent.

**Bridge Group:** Kent seniors are invited to join the Bridge Group Thursday afternoons, 1:15-4, at the Kent Senior Center, 16 Swifts Lane. All level players, including beginners, are welcome.



## Concerts on the Lawn Series

Kent Park and Recreation presents free "Concerts on the Lawn" July 19, July 26 and Aug. 2, 6-8 p.m., on the front lawn at Kent Town Hall, 41 Kent Green Boulevard. "The Regulators," whose repertoire consists of roots rock, country and Americana, will play July 19th followed by local talent "The Carlson Family Band," July 26th, and "Joint Chiefs," "tight harmonies and loose attitude" will play August 2nd. The concerts are free. Participants are welcome to bring a lawn chair or blanket and picnic dinner. For more information, call 860-927-1003.

