



# THE OAKHAM HERALD

July 2023

Published by the Oakham Council on Aging

**Mission Statement:** It is the mission of the Senior Center Council on Aging to identify the total needs of the community's Senior Citizens, to link services to those needs and to improve the quality of life of our seniors by providing an active outreach program, providing intergenerational opportunities for community involvement, and providing services as needed.

### **OAKHAM SENIOR / DROP-IN CENTER:**

**HOURS:** Mon thru Thurs, 11 am-12:30 pm

**CLOSED:** Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays  
major holidays, school snow days.

**PHONE:** 508-882-5251

**Activities Coordinator:** Melanie Silva

### **COA BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Chair:** - seeking -

**Vice-Chair:** - seeking -

**Treasurer:** Lucy Tessnau

**Secretary:** Priscilla McGlynn

**Members:** - seeking -

**Alt. Members** Pauline Dwelly

Jane Pease

**Assoc. Members:** Jan Pierce

### **BACK DOOR CAFÉ:**

**Coordinator:** Jan Pierce

**Volunteers:** Pauline Dwelly

Diane Rochette

**NEWSLETTER:** Rick Hendra

Lucy Tessnau

### **JULY EVENTS: (see also p. 2)**

**Blood Pressure Clinic:** Thurs., July 13, from 11  
till 1:45 am. Walk in - no charge!

**Podiatry Clinic:** Three appointments for Aug.  
still available. Call Lucy @ 882-3358

**JULY 4:** The Senior Center will be closed for  
celebrations!

**July 7: Lunch & Learn w/ Ellie Downer**

**July 12: Officer Kevin Mardirosian** will talk on  
the scams going around at 10:00 am

**July 21: Summer Cookout** fires up at 12:30 pm

**July 26: Meet & Greet w/ Fire Chief Tim Howe**  
at 10:00 am

**Movie Wednesdays** at 1 pm: (p. 2 for more)

**July 5: "Top Gun: Maverick"**

**July 26: "My Fair Lady"**

**Corn Hole Tuesdays:** Every Tuesday from  
10 - 11 am, outside the Church if nice,  
at the Senior Center if not.

**Coffee Wednesdays - with friends!** social  
hour – Every Wednesday 9 - 11 am

**Thursdays 12:30 BBC – Better To Be Cool:**

– bring a craft or project you want to finish,  
play a game, enjoy a BBC series and cool off.

**Zumba: Gold** - Every Monday and Friday from  
10:30 - 11:15 am in the Voting Room

**LUNCH & LEARN with ELLIE DOWNER:**

**July 7 at 11:45**



Ellie Downer is no stranger to most of us, as she lives in town and edits the Barre Gazette. So many of us know that she's our go-to person for reporting

local bird sightings. On July 7, she going to join us for lunch and share with us about birding and what she's seen around Oakham.

**MOVIE WEDNESDAYS! 1 pm at the SenCen:**

**July 5: "Top Gun: Maverick" (PG-13)**



The top box office hit of 2022, the film was nominated for 6 Academy Awards, including Best Picture. It tells the story of "Maverick" Mitchell (Tom Cruise) 30 years after his first

"Top Gun" film. Co-starring Jennifer Connelly, Val Kilmer, and Miles Teller.

**July 26: "My Fair Lady" (G)**



The highest grossing film of 1964, "My Fair Lady" won 8 Academy Awards including best picture. It's the story of phonetics prof. Henry Higgins'

(Rex Harrison) efforts to teach cockney-accented Eliza Doolittle (Audrey Hepburn) to speak like a lady. Lerner & Lowe's big songs include "I Could Have Danced All Night", "The Rain in Spain" and a dozen more. A classic.

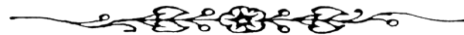
**OAKHAM FIRE DEPT ANNUAL COOK-OUT:**

Don't forget the Fire Dept's annual hot dog and hamburger cook out at **12:00 p.m. on Friday, July 21!** It will be held at the Oakham Fire Station. There is no cost, but we are asking that folks bring a small salad to share with others. Make whatever you like best. Of course, you're welcome to attend without a salad.

Sign up at the Senior Center, or call 508-882-5251 or 508-864-9224 or 508-882-3358. Thanks.

**SCAMS! w/Officer Kevin Mardirosian**

There are new scams popping up all the time – and they're getting worse, thanks to the new AI chatbots we've been hearing so much about. An update is definitely in order, and Officer Kevin Mardirosian of the Oakham PD will give us the latest wisdom on avoiding trouble.



**IN SYMPATHY...**

We were sad to hear that **James Hennessy** died June 13<sup>th</sup> after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. He was only 64. Jim was born in Worcester and raised in Leicester, but his family



spent summers at Dean Pond here in Oakham and several family members live here now. Jim himself lived on Oak Lane, right by Dean Pond. And he worked to keep it as he remembered it.

Jim was a long-time ironworker, but his passion was hunting. He enjoyed sharing that interest and introducing youngsters to the sport. .

### IN SYMPATHY: (continued)

He leaves his wife and best friend of 13 years, Lynn M. (Plaszewski) Hennessy; his son, Michael Hennessy; step son, Shayne Beardsley; and step daughter, Camiele Goddard. He also leaves his brothers, Rich Hennessey and his wife Dawn, who live just over the line in New Braintree, and his sister, Patricia Vanasse, who lives here in Town. He also leaves his brother Dennis and his wife, LuAnn, and a passle of grand-children, nieces, and nephews. He was pre-deceased by his brothers Jack, Edward, and Donal; and by his sisters Kathleen Soucie and Eileen Hennessy. Jim had deep roots in Oakham and will leave a hole hard to fill. Our deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

Though it's surely late, we'd also like to let folks in Town know that **Anne Marie Shea Buron** passed away back on January 21, 2022. After retiring in 2005, she and her husband moved to Greensboro, NC, to be near her son and grandchildren and news of her death was slow to reach us here.

She was born in Manhattan in 1934 and attended Kathryn Gibbs School and Queens College in NY. She worked at the Wall Street firms Smith, Barney and White, Weld before marrying and moving to Worcester. She served for many years as Exec. Assistant to the CEO of Idlewild Food, and in Greensboro, she served as a Eucharistic Minister at St. Pius X Church.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Robert Buron; her sons John and James; her brothers, Edward and William Shea; and by three grandchildren and a great grandchild.

We would also like to extend our condolences to Ron and Jane Berube on the passing of Ron's mother, Vivian O. Berube. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and homemaker. RIP.

### OAKHAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION:

Our regular Open House continues through October on the last Sunday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. And July will be a busy month with events:

- In mid-July there will be an agronomy trivia night – held at Agronomy Vinyard. Check our website for more information (see below).
- On Sunday, July 30 there will be two speakers presenting the revolutionary war from the British side. That's also an Open House day.
- The town wide yard sale sponsored by the OHE will occur Saturday, August 26.

Also: our new website is up and running. The address is [www.oakhamhistory.net](http://www.oakhamhistory.net). For further information, please reach us at our email: [www.oakhamhistoricalassociation.net](mailto:www.oakhamhistoricalassociation.net).

### THE VIRTUAL JUKEBOX: a monthly feature



This month's virtual jukebox is a big mix of country, blues, pop, and the utterly unexpected all having one thing in common: they feature fine whistling solos. To whet your whistles: did you know that the first professional whistlers were women? They were known as "siffleurs" and were common on the Vaudeville stage before 1900. The question is why did they cede that stage to men? Answer next time...

**Oakham Council on Aging  
2 Coldbrook Rd.  
Oakham, MA 01068**

**The printing of this newsletter is partially funded by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs**

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**SHINE: BE AWARE!**

SHINE provides FREE unbiased health insurance counseling info and assistance tMassachusetts residents with Medicare, their caregivers, and those approaching Medicare eligibility. Statewide, there are more than 600 certified volunteer counselors trained to assist residents with Medicare.

All counselors are trained and certified by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs and are available to speak with Medicare beneficiaries regarding their Medicare coverage options.

We will also review eligibility for Public Assistance programs such as Prescription Advantage, Extra Help from Social Security, MassHealth and other programs to assist beneficiaries with limited resources to pay for health care costs.

To find a local SHINE counselor go to: <https://shinema.org/about-us>

**HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

