

THE ROBB CENTER REPORT

ANDOVER'S SENIOR NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026



AARP Foundation Tax-Aide: Starting February 3 through April 10 on Tuesdays, 8:30am to 3:30pm & Fridays, 8:30am to 1:30pm.-

Registration starts **Monday, January 5 at 9:00am**, schedule your appointment by calling The Robb Center at 978-623-8320. The AARP Foundation is providing tax assistance and preparation through its Tax-Aide program and it's completely free.



You'll bring your documents in, have a short interview with the tax preparer, and your return will then be ready in 1-2 hours. You will receive a printed copy of the return and we file it electronically on your behalf. This program is welcoming and free and is open to taxpayers of all ages. AARP membership is not required. Our volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year.

Senior Scams with the Essex County Sheriff's

Department: Wednesday, January 14 at 1:30pm- Join Moe Pratt, Assistant Superintendent III of the Essex County Sheriff's Department, at The Robb Center. He will speak on scams, senior safety and how to handle different real life scenarios. Registration requested.



Winter Wonderland DJ Dance Party with DJ George

Landers: Thursday, January 22 at 6:00pm- Join us on the dance floor for socializing and fun while DJ George Landers spins the best tunes. Get ready to shimmer and shake and warm up your dancing feet. Festive attire encouraged. Refreshments provided. Registration requested.



Chinese New Year 2026: Thursday, February 5 at 10:00am to 1:00pm- Save the date for this year's Chinese New Year celebration. More details can be found on page 14.



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Community Friends



Andover Elder Services values and embraces diversity among our participants, staff, volunteers, and the entire community. We strive to model and promote a culture of respect and inclusivity for all.



DIRECTOR OF ELDER SERVICES

Jane Burns
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Jim Swasey, Nutrition Manager
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Sue Starbird, Food Services Assistant

TRANSPORTATION

Jim Fragala
james.fragala@andoverma.us

CENTER HOURS

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri 8:00am - 4:00pm
Thursday 8:00am - 8:00pm

WHAT IS THE ROBB CENTER?

The Andover Robb Center is the home of the Elder Services Division. We offer a wide variety of programs and services to support the community.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION INFORMATION

For programs that do not have an associated fee, you can register in person, on myactivecenter.com or at the front desk. Some programs with an associated fee might require registration in-person at the front desk or by calling the center only.

Payment is due upon confirmation that the program has met minimum enrollment. Due to popularity, Andover residents are allowed early registration when noted in the program description.

Transportation is available for any Robb Center Event that has this designated blue bus/car symbol. If you are interested in transportation, please let us know when you register for the event.



Phone: (978) 623-8320

Online: www.myactivecenter.com

Email: senior.center@andoverma.us

To stay informed about programs and important updates, sign up for our email blasts by visiting: andoverma.gov/227/Elder-Services

REFUND POLICY

Should a patron request a refund for a class, trip or event, The Robb Center will fully reimburse a credit towards a future program or class. If the patron would like a refund check mailed to them, the processing fee will be 10% of the full amount.

INCLEMENT WEATHER GUIDANCE

The Robb Center is in the unique position of following both school and town guidelines for weather related delays and cancelations. When **Town offices** are closed due to inclement weather, The Robb Center is closed and programs including transportation are canceled. When a storm is predicted to end by noontime, please contact The Robb Center to verify if we are open or closed, or visit www.andoverma.gov/storm or dial 311 within Andover.

SOCIAL MEDIA



AndoverElderServices



andover_elder_services

Andover Photo Connection:
Friday, January 9 at 10:00am-
 Join in this group of photo enthusiasts to share photography techniques, interests and experiences.



Thoughts and Questions: Philosophy Introduction and Discussion: Friday, January 9 at 12:30pm- Join a roundtable event to discuss philosophy questions with Phillips Academy high schoolers here at The Robb Center. Hosted by OMNIA Philosophy. All are welcome. Registration requested.



Non-Fiction Book Club: Monday, January 12 at 10:00am- This club explores contemporary issues, history, biography and more. Group contact is Joanne. Email: joannedahlgrenma@gmail.com



Bread Making Workshop: Tuesday, January 13 at 1:30pm- Join us for an overview of the process and philosophy of baking bread, focusing on techniques like using commercial yeast, weighing ingredients, and following a repeatable process. The workshop covers the basic ingredients, tools, steps from mixing to cooling, and the benefits of making your own artisan bread at home. Registration requested. Hosted by Carl Mellin.



Dull Men's Club:
Thursday, January 15 at 10:00am-
We are closed January 1st, due to New Year's Day. Come along and join in on an informal round table discussion of current events, history, technology, medicine, sports & travel. We do **not** discuss politics or religion.



NEW TIME
Italian Club:
Thursday, January 15 & 29 at 1:00-3:45pm-
We are closed January 1st due to New Year's Day. Join us every 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month (unless stated). The first half of the session focuses on learning Italian, grammar, reading and speaking. The second half of the session focuses on Italian culture, music and history. All are welcome!
Please note the new start time is at 1:00pm.



Men's Breakfast:
Tuesday, January 20 at 8:30am-
 Come enjoy breakfast with us at The Robb Center. Our very own Chef Jim Swasey will give an introduction on how to make your own beer. No beer will be served. Breakfast will be French toast, sausages, home fries, coffee and orange juice.
Fee. \$6. Please check in at the front desk upon arrival. Registration required.



Healthy Eating Demonstration:
Wednesday, January 21 at 1:30pm- Come join us for another insightful and nutritious cooking demonstration. Our very own Chef Jim Swasey and Cherie Monahan, MSN, RN, CPNP, Town of Andover Public Health Nurse, will guide you through the process of making delicious Falafel while sharing valuable nutrition information. Registration required.



Birthday Social:
Thursday, January 22 at 12:00pm-
 All are welcome! The entrée will be Pot Roast. Desserts & raffle from Bridges by EPOCH. Music by Dan Kirouac. Sponsored by Andover Senior Community Friends. Registration required. Cost: \$3.00 suggested donation. Transportation available.



Book Club: Thursday, January 22 at 1:30pm-
Join our group, we are looking for new members! This group discusses a different book every month.



Share your knowledge: We are looking for presenters of new programs, workshops or classes. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge or skills, send an email to Kelly McShane: kelly.mcshane@andoverma.us





Monday through Friday:

Fitness Room Drop-In: Our goal is to help older adults & adults with disabilities remain active, engaged and independent in their community. The fitness room is open the same hours as The Robb Center. This room is free to Andover residents and \$100 a year for non-Andover residents. To schedule an orientation register on myactivecenter.com or call 978-623-8320. Orientations are held on Tuesdays at 10:30am.

Monday:

Quilting Group: 9:00am- 11:00am- Join a group of dedicated quilters to share tips and tricks.

Sunrise Singers: 9:00am- 10:00am- Sunrise Singers directed by Martha Giguere. This group sings a variety of music and welcomes singers of all levels. This group will perform as ready and meets every Monday for a series of 10 weeks. Meets at Cormier Youth Center- 40 Whittier Ct. Fee: \$40 for 10 week series.

Drawing Class with Steve: 9:30am- For the upcoming schedule and fee refer to myactivecenter.com

Ladies Bridge: 10:00am- 12:00pm- Groups of four players are welcome.

Monday Matinees: 1:00pm- Watch a film on the "big screen". Call 978-623-8320 for updates or stop by the front desk. Our yearly movie license is sponsored by the Andover Senior Community Friends.

Hand & Foot Card Game: 1:00pm- 3:30pm

Ping-Pong: 1:00pm- Drop-in to play a round of Ping-Pong.



Short Stories Group: Monday, January 12 at 1:00pm- We will begin with the first two stories in the book *The Best American Short Stories 2025*, edited by Celeste Ng and will continue meeting every other Monday through May. All meetings will be on **Zoom** and are limited to 18 participants. Books are available from the library, online, or from our local Andover Book Store which offers a 15% discount to purchasers who identify as part of The Robb Center Short Story group. Contact Eileen Reilly at eileenreilly42@gmail.com for more information or to register.



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make it stress free.*



Sandi Feeney Realtor®, SRES
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sandi.feeney@CBRealty.com

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NO APPLICATION, ENROLLMENT OR CONSULTING FEES

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Tuesday:

1:1 Fitness with Denise: 8:30am or 9:30am. \$50 for an hour- Experience the personalized attention, safety and effectiveness of a 1:1 exercise training session with Denise Boucher. Sign up individually or as a any couple. Sessions will be held in the fitness room. Registration required by the Monday before at 1:00pm. Register on myactivecenter.com or by calling 978-623-8320.

Comfort Critters: 9:00am- 11:00am- This group creates little comfort critters that are donated to hospitals.

Technology Help Desk: 10:00am- 11:00am- Drop-in with your questions about your phone, tablet or other device!

Mah Jongg: 1:00pm- 3:00pm

Social Bridge: 1:00pm- 3:30pm

Wednesday: Morning Crafting Group: 9:30am- 11:30am- Crafters wanted! Make crafts for various fairs that support The Robb Center.

Le Cercle Francofun: 9:30am- 10:30am- French Conversation Group.

The Write Stuff: 10:30am- 12:30pm- Unlock your creativity by writing stories, poems, and more in a supportive small group setting. Newcomers welcome. Spaces limited. Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Knit Wits: 12:30pm- 2:30pm- Join a group of social knitters.

Acrylic Class: 1:00pm- 2:30pm For the upcoming schedule refer to myactivecenter.com. This class has a fee.

Basic Tap Class with Audrey: 1:00pm- 4:00pm- All are welcome! New participants contact Audrey at 978-475-4963.

Thursday:

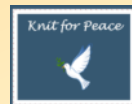
Andover Chroniclers Meeting: Every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 9:15am- 11:00am-* **No meeting 1/1.** Our group "There is Something About Andover" produces videos at the Andover TV Studio. Featured program this month- "Early Retirement." Type in andovertv.org, click Watch, then Programs, scroll down to TISAA, scroll to 1/1/2024, click on the arrow at the bottom left hand corner. Enjoy.

Scale Modeling Club: 10:00am- 11:30am- Join a group to discuss, build and share scale models.

Open Art Studio: 10:00am- 12:00pm- The members of this group paint together, using different mediums, encouraging creativity and sharing tips. New members welcome.

Duplicate Bridge: 1:00pm- 4:00pm

Knit for Peace: 1:00pm- 2:30pm- Learn to knit with us and create beautiful items for yourself or to donate to charity. We have supplies to get you started. Meets every Thursday.



Stamp Club: Every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 1:00 pm: *No meeting 1/1. Join a group of stamp collectors. The club provides a venue for collectors to meet, share their passion, and exchange information about the hobby. New members encouraged. Drop-in and meet the group.

Italian Club: 1:00- 3:45pm- *New time.* Join us every 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month, unless stated. The first half learn Italian, grammar, reading and speaking. The second half focuses on Italian culture, music and history.

Ping-Pong: 4:00pm- 8:00pm- Drop-in & play a round of Ping-Pong.

Friday:

Le Petit Dejeuner, the French Conversation Group: 8:30am- 10:00am- Venez parler français dans un cadre convivial en petit groupe. This group is currently full.

Social Mah Jongg: 9:30am- 12:00pm- Social Mah Jongg group. This group is currently full.

English Listening Skills Series for Chinese Speakers: 9:30am- We'll help you improve your skills in English and make "learning to listen" fun. To sign-up, please email William at weixuid@yahoo.com. 隔周五的.

Andover Chinese Charm Circle (ACCC): 10:00am- 11:00am- 参加安多福华人联谊会 Zoom 网上聚会. 请发送电子邮件给 William: weixuid@yahoo.com .

45s Card Playing: 1:00pm- 3:30pm Social Bridge: 1:00pm- 3:30pm

Mexican Train Dominoes: 1:00pm- Come learn the game. All are welcome. Meets Fridays.

Zentangle Workshop: 3rd Friday of every month. Jean Stewart will teach students the art of Zentangle. Refer to myactivecenter.com for the upcoming schedule. **Fee: \$10.**



Walking Hours at the Cormier Youth Center:

Every Tuesday & Friday from 8:30am to 10:00am-

Come to the Andover Youth Center (40 Whittier Ct.) to walk the gym. The gym is open for walkers to keep up with their walking routine through the cold winter months. This is a drop-in program. No registration required. Sign in once you get to the gym. Please fill out a

2026 Participation Waiver form to participate. Waivers will be provided at the Cormier Youth Center.



1:1 Fitness with Denise: 8:30am or 9:30am. \$50 for an hour- Experience the personalized attention, safety and effectiveness of a 1:1 exercise training session with

Denise Boucher. Sign up individually or as a any couple. Sessions will be held in the fitness room. Registration required by the Monday before at 1:00pm.

Register on myactivecenter.com or by calling 978-623-8320.



Connections At-Home



Now Enrolling!

About:

Find the connection and companionship you seek from the comfort and privacy of your own home. Our companions are trained town staff dedicated to providing meaningful, active, and engaging social experiences tailored just for you.

Details:

- Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
- \$30 an hour- two hour minimum.
- Veterans Discount
- We offer a free no obligation trial visit.

Learn More:

The Robb Center
30 Whittier Ct.
Andover, MA 01810

978-623-8320

Ask for Ashley or Kelly



Program Benefits



Socialization & Companionship



Engaging Activities



Medication & Meal Prompts



Caregiver Respite



Andover on the Go

We're Here to Get You There!

The Robb Center offers many transportation options to meet the needs of residents.



Medical Transportation for Day Procedures **NEW**

For **day procedures requiring anesthesia**, we've partnered with an agency to provide a specialized ride with a dedicated aide to be your responsible party and driver. *No need to put off that medical procedure!*

Medical Transportation

This volunteer driver service allows two donation-based medical rides per month. More than two rides will incur a required fee.

Townie Trips

Need a ride? We offer friendly, reliable rides in Andover and surrounding areas.

Shopping & Grocery Trips/Rides to the Robb Center

Weekly trips on Tuesdays and Thursdays. See calendar or call for details. Call for rides to and from the center.

GoGo/Uber Voucher Program

Uber rides to and from The Robb Center on Thursday evenings and when drivers are not available. **No smartphone needed!**

To participate in any of the transportation options **please call 978-623-8320 for details**, scheduling and eligibility information.

Transportation



Medical Transportation



Townie Trips



Go Go & Vouchers



Shopping Trips

Robb Center Bus Trips

Registration opens Friday, January 2 at 9:00 am for Andover residents & Wednesday, January 7 for non-Andover residents.

Due to popularity, ONE TRIP PER PERSON PER NEWSLETTER

Roundabout Diner

Portsmouth, NH



January 21 - The Roundabout Diner is known for their Phantom Gourmet award winning BBQ, among other diner favorites.

Cost: \$12 for transportation and lunch is paid individually at the diner.

Worcester Art Museum

Worcester, MA



February 4 - Along with ongoing exhibits you will see "Power on the Page: Arms and Armor on Paper."

Cost: \$12 for transportation, \$17 at museum for entry.

Lunch location to be announced.

The Robb Center needs at least 48 hours notice of cancelation from a trip to issue a credit for transportation. Cancelations with less than a 48 hour notice, will not result in a credit.

Prices subject to change.

Parkinson’s Disease Support Group: Thursday, January 8 at 1:30pm– Amanda Fay, Community Liaison, Kind Senior Care, will speak on *Home Care 101- What you need to know*. Registration required. Please call Kristine to register at 978-623-8320.



Memory Café: Friday, January 9 at 10:00am at Memorial Hall Library- In partnership with the Memorial Hall Library, we are hosting Memory Cafés on the second Friday of every month. Memory Cafés offer a welcoming environment for individuals facing memory challenges and their caregivers to connect, share experiences, and find support. Please visit mhl.org/calendar for details on the featured activity and to register. Refreshments will be served. Memory Cafés offer a welcoming environment for individuals facing memory challenges and their caregivers to connect, share experiences, and find support.



Family Caregiver Support Group: Monday, January 26 at 1:30pm- Join us for a support group for family caregivers to connect with others, share concerns and learn about available resources. Registration requested.



Healthy Eating Discussion Group with Cherie Monahan, RN: Wednesday, January 28 at 1:00pm- Join us to discuss all the ways we can support our physical well-being through healthy eating. All are welcome! Registration requested.



Bereavement Support Group: Wednesdays, January 21 through March 18 at 2:00pm- Our group supports each other and discusses some of the ways the loss of someone significant can affect our lives. This group is held at The Robb Center and is 9 weeks long. Registration is always required, seats are limited.



Registration is required by emailing susan.toleos@tuftsmedicine.org. For any support assistance needed outside of the current 9-week program, please contact Susan Toleos at the above email.

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting: Meetings at The Robb Center, Tuesdays from 6:30pm to 7:30pm-

The Andover Coconuts Group of Cocaine Anonymous is a 12 Step Big Book Topic, Speaker, Discussion meeting. All are welcome, no registration necessary! *While the name “Cocaine Anonymous” might sound drug-specific, we wish to assure you that our program is not.* With its all-inclusive Third Tradition and First Step, Cocaine Anonymous welcomes anyone with a drug or alcohol problem and offers a solution. It doesn’t matter to us if you drank or what type of drugs you used; if you have a desire to stop, you are welcome here!



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® Meetings at The Robb Center: Thursdays at 7:00pm to 8:00pm- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they January solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. Open meeting, no registration required.



Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous: Saturdays at 8:00am: Location is at Christ Church, 33 Central Street, Andover, MA. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a program based on the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). There are no dues, fees, or weigh-ins at FA meetings. FA is a fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience and mutual support, are recovering from the disease of food addiction. For more information go to:

<https://www.foodaddicts.org/meeting/1479>



Food RESOURCES

Food Pantry: Wednesday, January 14 from 10:00am to 12:00pm- The Merrimack Valley YMCA Mobile Food Pantry will be at The Robb Center the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Food bags will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.



Brown Bag “Mobile Market”: Tuesday, January 27 from 9:00am to 10:30am- This once a month service provides a bag of shelf stable groceries for those already approved by AgeSpan. Pick up from The Robb Center. Applications available through AgeSpan, call 978-683-7747.



Meals on Wheels: Home Delivered Meals are available to Andover seniors. To determine your eligibility, please give us a call at 978-623-8320. Andover residents only.



REPAIRS

Fix-It Shop: Monday, January 12 & 26 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm- Bring your lamps, small appliances, chairs, small tables and any other small project & this group will try to fix it!



Cost: \$5 plus parts for seniors (ID required).
\$10 plus parts for non-seniors and non-residents.
\$2 diagnostics fee.

Mend-It Shop: Friday, January 9 & 23 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm.

Button fixes: \$1.
Hems: Jeans, dresses, pants & blouses \$5, \$10 if requires cutting.
Pant pockets fixed/replaced: \$8.



**Simple fixes only. 3 article limit per customer. Additional charges for non-Andover Residents. We will not be held responsible for any damage or loss that may occur during the repair process. We are not professionals.*

NEW Menders wanted! If you know how to sew and you are looking to volunteer in a meaningful way, join our Mend-It team. If interested, please reach out to Ashley English. ashley.english@andoverma.us

Medical

Hearing Aid Checks/Cleanings and Hearing Screenings: Friday, January 2 from 9:30am to 10:30am- Wendy Ring from the Andover Hearing Center, LLC. Drop-in clinic.



Blood Pressure Clinic: Thursdays from 10:00am to 11:30am- Drop-in free clinic conducted by the Andover Board of Health.



SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Everyone on or eligible for Medicare) Need help with Medicare? SHINE can help. Your health insurance plans are an important part of your budget and SHINE is available all year to help review your plan. Certified SHINE counselors offer free, unbiased, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to anyone on or eligible for Medicare. To schedule a SHINE appointment, call 978-623-8320 or the local SHINE office: 978-946-1374. Medicare office: 1-800-633-4227.



PERSONAL SUPPORT

Ask the Lawyer: Tuesday, January 20 from 1:00pm- Justin St. James, Esq., licensed in MA & NH. Appointments are 20 minutes in-person in chronological order. Limit one question/issue. Cost: Free. ***No tax or immigration questions, please.***



Technology Help Desk: Tuesdays at 10:00am- Drop-in with your questions about your phone, tablet or other device! Our team of tech experts are here to help!



What’s On Now & Next: Find descriptions of current Robb Center lectures and programs on Andover TV. On Cable TV (Verizon Channel 47 and Xfinity Channel 8) **OR** on your smartphone. Download the Andover TV App from the App Store; Activate and click on the TV-Andover-Public icon. Programs are listed during Bulletin Board evening hours. <https://andovertv.org>



JANUARY 2026 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Join us for Congregate Lunch! Monday through Friday at 12:00pm. Registration required on myactivecenter.com or by calling 978-623-8320.</p> <p>The hot meal being served is listed daily in blue. Menu items subject to change. With 24 HOUR NOTICE a vegetarian option is available.</p>			<p>1</p> <p>CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 French Group 9:30 Social Mah Jongg 9:30 Hearing Aid 10:00 ACCC Beer Battered Haddock 1:00 45s 1:00 Social Bridge 1:00 Tai Chi Fan 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:00 AARP Tax-Aide Foundation registration begins. 9:00 Quilting Group 9:00 Sunrise Singers 10:00 Ladies Bridge Chicken Cacciatore 1:00 Movie Matinee 1:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Ping-Pong</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 Comfort Critters 10:00 Tech Help Cheese Ravioli 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Social Bridge</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30 Crafting 9:30 Le Cercle <i>Francofun</i> 10:00 Walmart Turkey Tetrazzini 12:30 Knit Wits 1:00 Tap Class</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 Scale Modeling 10:00 Open Art 10:00 BP Clinic Lemon Pepper Cod 1:00 GLCAC 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 1:00 Knit for Peace 1:30 Parkinson's 4:00 Ping-Pong 5:00 LGBTQ+ Allies</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 French Group 9:30 Social Mah Jongg 9:30 ESL 10:00 Andover Photo Shrimp w/Pesto 12:30 Thoughts and Questions: Philosophy 1:00 45s 1:00 Social Bridge 1:00 Tai Chi Fan 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Mend-It Shop</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:00 Quilting Group 9:00 Sunrise Singers 10:00 Ladies Bridge 10:00 Non-Fiction Book Club Chicken Broccoli Alfredo 1:00 Movie Matinee 1:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Ping-Pong 1:00 Fix-It Shop</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 Comfort Critters 10:00 Tech Help Salisbury Steak 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Social Bridge 1:30 Bread Making Workshop</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 Crafting 9:30 Le Cercle <i>Francofun</i> 10:00 Food Pantry 10:00 Target 10:30 The Write Stuff Roast Salmon 12:30 Knit Wits 1:00 Tap Class 1:30 Senior Scams</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:15 Chroniclers 10:00 DMC 10:00 Scale Modeling 10:00 Open Art 10:00 BP Clinic Turkey Tips 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 1:00 Knit for Peace 1:00 Stamp Club 1:00 Italian Club 4:00 Ping-Pong 4:00 AI Competitions Between US and China</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 French Group 9:30 Social Mah Jongg 10:00 ACCC Pulled Pork 1:00 45s 1:00 Social Bridge 1:00 Tai Chi Fan 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Zentangle</p>
<p>19</p> <p>CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>8:30 Men's Breakfast 9:00 Comfort Critters 10:00 Tech Help Tilapia w/Salsa Verde 1:00 Ask the Lawyer 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Social Bridge</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30 Crafting 9:30 Le Cercle <i>Francofun</i> 10:00 Walmart Ginger Chicken 12:30 Knit Wits 1:00 Tap Class 1:30 Healthy Eating Demonstration 2:00 Bereavement</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 Scale Modeling 10:00 Open Art 10:00 BP Clinic Birthday Social 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 1:00 Knit for Peace 1:30 Book Club 4:00 Ping-Pong 6:00 Winter Wonderland DJ Dance Party</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 French Group 9:30 Social Mah Jongg 9:30 ESL Chicken Curry 1:00 45s 1:00 Social Bridge 1:00 Tai Chi Fan 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 1:00 Mend-It Shop</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 Quilting Group 9:00 Sunrise Singers 10:00 Ladies Bridge Vegetable Lasagna 1:00 Movie Matinee 1:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Ping-Pong 1:00 Fix-It Shop 1:30 Family Caregiver</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 Brown Bag 9:00 Comfort Critters 10:00 Tech Help Sweet & Sour Pork Ribs 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Social Bridge</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30 Crafting 9:30 Le Cercle <i>Francofun</i> 10:00 Wildcard 10:30 The Write Stuff Stuffed Chicken w/Broccoli 12:30 Knit Wits 1:00 Tap Class 1:00 Healthy Eating 2:00 Bereavement</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Scale Modeling 10:00 Open Art 10:00 BP Clinic Beef Quesadilla 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 1:00 Knit for Peace 1:00 Italian Club 4:00 Ping-Pong 6:00 Chinese New Year Concert</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 French Group 9:30 Social Mah Jongg 10:00 ACCC Fish Cake 1:00 45s 1:00 Social Bridge 1:00 Tai Chi Fan 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes</p>

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THURSDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE!

Do you need a ride to The Robb Center on Thursday Nights? We can help you book a ride with Uber to and from The Robb Center with our GoGo/voucher program. Check out our transportation section on page 7 for more details.

Neighbors In Need Mobil Food Pantry: Thursday nights from 4:00pm to 5:00pm- We are hosting the food pantry here at The Robb Center. Go to needfood.org or call 978-699-3683 to learn how to receive this benefit.



- **January 1: Happy New Year! We are closed.**
- **January 8: LGBTQ+ & Allies Social at 5:00pm-** Join us for dinner and a presentation from Aaron Ginsberg, Program Manager from the Fair Housing Program who will discuss general housing rights as well as special LGBTQ+ Protections. All are welcome. Sponsored by AgeSpan.
- **January 15: AI Competitions Between US and China by Max Li at 4:00pm-** Join us to learn personal and technical perspectives from a Chinese American AI expert. Presentation by Max Li, PhD Regenerating Inc.
- **January 22: Winter Wonderland DJ Dance Party with DJ George Landers at 6:00pm-** See the front page for details.
- **January 29: Chinese New Year Concert at 6:00pm-** Join us for a joyful celebration of the New Year through performance, honoring the traditions of both Chinese and American culture while deepening our shared cultural understanding.

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State Representative Tram Nguyen Office Hours: State Rep. Tram Nguyen continues to hold virtual office hours on the first Friday of the month, 10-11am, and the third Tuesday, 5-6pm, via Zoom. **The dates for January are Friday, January 2 and Tuesday, January 20.** Please sign up at least 24 hours ahead of time using this link: <https://calendly.com/teamtram/officehours>. You can always email Rep. Nguyen’s office to discuss an issue at tobin.abraham@mahouse.gov or call 617-722-2680.

Greater Lawrence Community Action Council will once again be facilitating Fuel Assistance applications this year. **GLCAC Inc.** can help keep you and your family warm this winter and reduce your energy bills. GLCAC’s energy programs offer: fuel assistance, free weatherizing, free energy audits and free emergency repairs to heating systems. GLCAC is hosting individual appointments at The Robb Center. **There will NOT be any walk-in appointments.** To make an appointment please call 978-623-8320. Limited spots available.

Thursday, January 8 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Tuesday, February 10 from 10:00am to 1:00pm

Thursday, March 12 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Council on Aging Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 14 at 3:30pm-

Council on Aging Advisory Board (COA): Ralph Bledsoe- Chair, Denise Boucher- Vice-Chair, Gail Bloom- Secretary, Fran Gikow, Ed Plowey, Judith Agnes, Tim Carron and Kim Butler-Rainen. Meetings are open to the public. To contact a COA member call The Robb Center at 978-623-8320.



The Andover Commission on Disability (ACOD) addresses the disability needs of the Town and its residents. This includes ensuring new construction is Americans with Disabilities Act compliant, that accessible parks, playgrounds and outdoor resources are available for all who call Andover home, and to serve as advocates and educators in/around disability rights for full inclusion of people with disabilities. **ACOD** advises and assists Town officials in addressing the needs of people with disabilities and ensures compliance with the state and federal disability laws. For resources and information visit the **ACOD** website at: acod.mhl.org.

THE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM at The Robb Center provides an individualized package of programs and services designed to enhance the quality of a senior’s life and enable them to participate in a variety of activities in both a community setting and at home. **The Connection Club** is located at The Robb Center and includes a variety of activities such as music, exercise, pet therapy, art, cognitive stimulation games and outings.

Operates Monday through Friday 8:30am - 3:00pm

- Participants may join us for full or half days depending on program availability and scheduling.
- Nutritious lunch provided daily.
- Transportation available upon request.

CONNECTIONS-AT-HOME is a companion program offering stimulating activities for seniors seeking connection and engagement in the privacy and comfort of their home.

Operates Monday through Friday 8:30am - 3:45pm at participants’ homes.

- Participants can schedule visits at a two-hour minimum within operating hours and contingent on companion availability. Call 978-623-8320 for any inquiries listed above.



Chinese New Year 2026 Celebration: Thursday, February 5 from 10:00am to 1:00pm- Join us to celebrate Chinese New Year! The Andover Chinese Charm Circle (ACCC) will perform a combination of dance and music acts that will dazzle the crowd. Afterward, we will serve a Chinese food lunch. Cost: \$15. Registration begins Monday, January 12 for Andover residents and Wednesday, January 14 for non-Andover residents. Registration required on myactivecenter.com or by calling 978-623-8320.



Memorial Hall Library

Sunday Concert: Yufang Chen, Yu-Ting Lin and Yuching Fass:

Sunday, January 4 at 2:30pm at Memorial Hall Library- Join us for an afternoon of piano music with three talented pianists featuring music by WFE Bach, Tchaikovsky, Schumann, Stravinsky, and Handel. Playing 6 Hands, 4 Hands, and Solo Piano. This concert is funded by the Friends of Memorial Hall Library. Seating is available on a first-come basis. Doors open at 2:15pm.



Here's to Getting Your Kicks in '26!

The Andover Senior Community Friends are rarin' to go this year!



During 2025, ASCF provided financial support for over 60 programs, events, and groups which benefitted almost 2000 participants at The Robb Center alone. We awarded a grant to AgeSpan enabling that organization to host a music series (and refreshments) at three senior housing complexes in Andover. We were sobered, yet proud, to address food insecurity facing our neighbors through donations to the YMCA mobile food pantry during its monthly visit to our town.

For 2026, we will accomplish even more. Our new logo and tagline, premiering in this newsletter, reflect ASCF's intent to encompass all of Andover's senior community in our mission to promote, sponsor and support programs and services that enrich their quality of life.

Join us!



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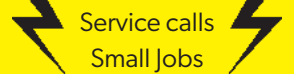
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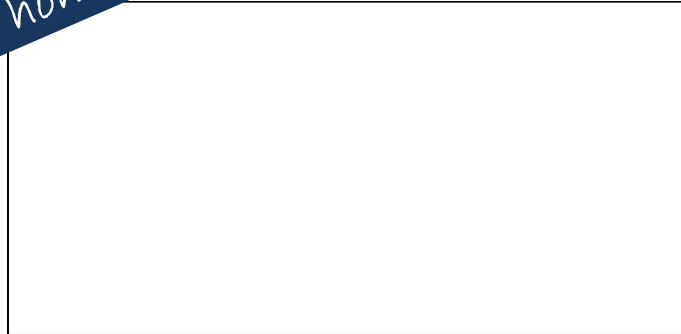
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