

F. ATTACHMENTS

1990 CENSUS DATA FOR THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

Attachment A

Town	Total Pop	Over 60	% Pop. 60+	White		Black		Native Amer		Asian/Pacific		Hispanic	
				60+	% 60+	60+	% 60+	60+	% 60+	60+	% 60+	60+	% 60+
AMESBURY	14,997	2,406	16%	2,100	87%	6	2%	3	1%	2	.08%	2	.08%
ANDOVER	29,151	4,322	15%	4,232	97%	25	.5%	2	.04%	60	1%	34	.7%
BOXFORD	6,266	717	11%	712	99%	2	.2%	1	.1%	2	.2%	-0-	
BILLERICA	37,609	3,792	10%	3,383	89%	25	.6%	2	.05%	27	.7%	1	.02%
CHELMSFORD	32,383	4,510	13%	4,452	98%	10	.2%	3	.06%	42	.9%	19	4%
DRACUT	25,594	3,667	14%	3,635	99%	7	.1%	6	.1%	16	.4%	12	.3%
DUNSTABLE	2,236	192	8%	191	99%	-0-		-0-		1	.5%	-0-	
GEORGETOWN	6,384	848	13%	843	99%	-0-		4	.4%	1	.1%	-0-	
GROVELAND	5,214	736	14%	731	99%	2	.2%	3	.4%	-0-		4	.5%
HAVERHILL	51,418	9,204	17%	9,062	98%	84	.9%	9	.09%	25	.2%	110	1%
LAWRENCE	70,207	11,135	15%	10,300	92%	211	2%	13	.1%	90	.8%	1,075	10%
LOWELL	107,439	16,298	15%	15,674	96%	65	.3%	10	.06%	360	2%	455	2%
MERRIMAC	5,166	775	15%	772	99%	1	.1%	-0-		2	.2%	4	.5%
METHUEN	39,990	8,517	21%	8,422	98%	23	.2%	5	.05%	35	.4%	91	1%
NEWBURY	5,623	892	15%	891	99%	-0-		-0-		1	.1%	3	.3%
NEWBURYPORT	16,317	2,994	18%	2,971	99%	22	.7%	-0-		-0-		9	.3%
NO. ANDOVER	22,792	3,707	16%	3,673	99%	8	.2%	1	.02%	23	.6%	21	.5%
ROWLEY	4,452	542	12%	537	99%	1	.02%	2	.3%	1	.1%	1	.1%
SALISBURY	6,882	1,096	15%	1,090	99%	1	.09%	3	.2%	1	.09%	2	.1%
TEWKSBURY	27,266	3,636	13%	3,584	98%	20	.5%	6	.1%	20	.5%	12	.3%
TYNGSBORO	8,642	873	10%	860	98%	5	.5%	1	.1%	7	.8%	1	.1%
WESTFORD	16,392	1,689	10%	1,668	98%	3	.1%	-0-		17	1%	11	.6%
WEST NEWBURY	3,421	419	12%	415	99%	4	.9%	-0-		-0-		-0-	-0-
TOTALS	545,847	82,967	14%	80,198		525		74		733		1867	

CH:nm

TitIII/census/1/25/91

Age 65 And Over Living Below Poverty Level

Town	Total Pop	Over 60	% Pop. 60+	White Below Poverty %		Black Below Poverty %		Native Amer Below Poverty %		Asian/Pacific Below Poverty %		Hispanic Below Poverty %	
				65+	65+	65+	65+	65+	65+	65+	65+	65+	65+
AMESBURY	14,997	2,406	16%	121		0		0		0		0	
ANDOVER	29,151	4,322	15%	242		12		0		26		0	
BOXFORD	6,266	717	11%	191		0		0		0		0	
BILLERICA	37,609	3,792	10%	4		8		0		0		0	
CHELMSFORD	32,383	4,510	13%	0		0		0		0		0	
DRACUT	25,594	3,667	14%	236		0		0		0		0	
DUNSTABLE	2,236	192	8%	2		0		0		0		0	
GEORGETOWN	6,384	848	13%	36		0		0		0		0	
GROVELAND	5,214	736	14%	34		0		0		0		0	
HAVERTHILL	51,418	9,204	17%	525		6		0		0		8	
LAWRENCE	70,207	11,135	15%	1136		18		0		25		208	
LOWELL	107,439	16,298	15%	1420		0		0		117		27	
MERRIMAC	5,166	775	15%	64		0		0		0		0	
METHUEN	39,990	8,517	21%	513		0		0		15		0	
NEWBURY	5,623	892	15%	69		0		0		0		0	
NEWBURYPORT	16,317	2,994	18%	242		0		0		0		0	
NO. ANDOVER	22,792	3,707	16%	168		0		0		0		0	
ROWLEY	4,452	542	12%	11		0		0		0		0	
SALISBURY	6,882	1,096	15%	14		0		8		0		0	
TEWKSBURY	27,266	3,636	13%	290		0		0		0		0	
TYNGSBORO	8,642	873	10%	112		0		0		0		0	
WESTFORD	16,392	1,689	10%	44		0		0		0		0	
WEST NEWBURY	3,421	419	12%	5		0		0		0		0	
TOTALS	545,847	82,967	14%										

ISSUES FORUM TIME LINE

Mission: To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve services, and conditions in housing and for people over 60 in the Merrimack Valley.

ACTION STEPS

April

- * Expand planning committee recruiting several elders from across the Valley.
Kim, Norm, Jennifer
- Follow up with interested people, explaining mission and current structure.
- * Draft and Send survey letter to elder services provider community.
committee & Jennifer
- * Send letters to legislators asking them to SAVE THE DATE
Jennifer
- * Choose 8 (?) housing sites throughout the Valley to hold community speakouts.
committee

Red pine Place Tyngsboro - ?- Brenda Cassala will follow up
 One Water Street Haverhill- May 25th - 9:30 Kim Arms
 Market Mills Lowell - May 25th?- Kim Arms to follow up
 Lawrence?
 Methuen?
 Newburyport?
 Amesbury?
 Dracut?

May

- * Hold housing speakouts (Grooming community leaders for central meeting)
Jennifer and older committee members
- * Correlate information and use to set Agenda for first two (?) forums
Jennifer and committee

June

- * Hold first forums on June 3rd from 8:00-9:00 at the Methuen Council on Aging - State Focus
- * Hold second forum on June 24th from 8:00-9:00 at the Methuen Council on Aging- National Focus
- * Evaluate forums, focus on ongoing organizing process for the fall.

ELDER PARTNERS NEEDS SURVEY

WE NEED YOUR HELP!! WE WANT YOUR OPINION!!

What do you see as the major problems that face you and your neighbors in the community you live in. **The Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley** is a group that started as a planning committee made up of elder community advocates and staff from Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley. The group has been meeting for several months to discuss planning a series of issues forums with area elders, local, state and national politicians and decision makers. The committee's goal is **"To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."**

Please list 5 or more problems you see facing elders in your community. These can be very specific or broad. Please list them in order of importance.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Yes! I would like to be involved with this series of forums.

Name:

Address:

The Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley is a group that started as a planning committee made up of elder community advocates and staff from Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley. The group has been meeting for several months to discuss planning a series of issues forums with area elders, local, state and national politicians and decision makers. The committee's goal is **"To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."**

In the past month we surveyed elder providers accross the Valley and here is a list of the **priorities** they see affecting elders:

1. Depression and Loniness
2. Health Care Costs - Understanding Medicare/Medicaid
3. Transportation
4. Fear/Violence/Crime/Safety
4. Income levels
5. Access to Services
6. Affordable Housing

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! WE WANT YOUR OPINON!!

What do you see as the major problems that face you and your neighbors in the community you live in.
Do you agree with the 6 items above.
How would you suggest "fixing" them.

We will be presenting the "top" 1 or 2 issues to the State legislators in June. We would like you to come to that meeting! We will work with you on transportation!

Thank you for your time and input.

AGENDA SPEAKOUT MEETINGS

Beforehand

Bring "crumpets", goodies of some sort.

Have everyone sign in with name and address!

5mins

*** Introductions - Kim, Kristin, Jennifer?**

*** Why we are here - To get opinions - To get people involved - To bring people together across the Valley**

*** Structure of speakouts and upcoming legislative forums**

2/3 mins

***Pep speech from Peer - Why people need to get involved - Norm**

35min

Open up the floor- Take turns

We want to hear your concerns (remember to leave some silence for them to fill)

lead in questions...

Is Safety an issue in this area?, How is transportation?, Do you find there are activities available here?, How about the cost of prescription drugs? How about Health Care/ Insurance?

Present the results of the initial survey and meetings with some of the ideas brainstormed at the legislative forum!

July 28, 1994

Board Meeting with Paddy McDonald, Associate Director Lowell Housing Authority

Attendees: Norman Obert
James (Jim) Guthrie
Kimberly Arms
Kristen Rakip

Meeting was held to discuss how Paddy could assist with Elder Partner's efforts in the Greater Lowell Area.

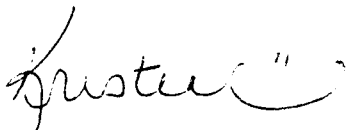
Points of discussion:

1) Aged/Disabled Segregation in housing: Paddy raised this issue as a prominent theme in Lowell housing. Discussed lifestyle differences that makes these two populations a difficult mix. Raised the fact that some disabled or mentally ill individuals who are placed in housing due to the closing of appropriate facilities is dangerous to the housing population at large. Another problem may be discrimination - elders are most commonly of Anglo Saxon origin while younger residents are of a minority group. Federal and state laws regulating the proportion of elder/disabled residents in housing discussed.

2) Jim offered his observation that the Chelmsford COA, as well as other affluent communities, may not get involved with a group such as Elder Partners - comparing this to the fact that response from other affluent communities has been low. The committee agreed that continuous outreach needs to be made and a that all elders regardless of lifestyle/situation should be addressed.

3) Paddy was very supportive of Elder Partners' efforts to unite senior across the valley and felt that seniors really need instruction on how to become ^{"politically"} active. Paddy is willing to coordinate speakout locations in the Greater Lowell area. She also plans on speaking with Arthur Ramalho, Lowell COA Director for arrangements at Smith Baker for the October 28 meeting with local Reps/Senators. Paddy is willing to be present for all meetings and recruit housing managers to participate. Any support will be first provided by Jim Guthrie with the support of other board members. Paddy will be included as a member on the Elder Partner's Planning Committee.

Submitted by:



Merrimack Valley Elder Partners
DRAFT ACTION PLAN 11-94 to 5-95

Mission Statement/Project Goal - To **organize** and **empower** elders in the Merrimack Valley to **advocate on behalf of themselves** to improve conditions and services.

6 month Objectives - Recruitment, Follow-up, Organizing, Information gathering

RECRUITMENT - The Objective will be to recruit 15 - 20 committed people

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Who does it</u>	<u>When</u>
Minority membership - Martha Velez (Lawrence COA)- Jennifer to call		1.95
Elders from Greek, Portugese, French communities- Kathy Heaton		12.95
CMAA in Lowell	- Jennifer to call	1.95
Housing Authority involvement - Pat Lafeve, Paddy Mcdonald...?		1.95
Andover Commons (Sally Lawrence ?) -	Conrad Cotura	12.95
<u>Provider involvement -</u>		
Private Casemanager (Marsha Zamboni)	Pat Gallo	12.94
RSVP (Terry Kelly)	Jennifer	12.94
Police Dept.(Terry Calile)	Kathy Anastos/Jennifer	12.94
VISTA volunteer program	Lisa Camilli	12.94
Student intern to coordinate administration of project - Lisa Camilli		12.94
(BU, BC, U Lowell Poss. summer block, September placement or both)		
<u>Other elder involvement -</u>		
Amesbury representative	Jennifer to call	1.95
Other Andover elders	Conrad	12.94
Silver Haired legislators (Methuen/Chelms)	Jennifer	1.95
AARP (Virginia Teriny?, Glen Koocher)	Jennifer	1.95
SHINE rep.	Elaine Rotolo	12.95

FOLLOW UP - on information sharing - The Objective will be to reconnect with the 200 + people who have attended speak-outs and forums.

Newsletter - Jennifer Mansfield to coordinate - other members to contribute articles - 2.95

(explaining the actions so far of info gathering...)

(Send to church gildes, COAs,

Thank yous for participants - Save the date cards? - Kristin - 1.95

ORGANIZING - The Objective will be to start to help elder groups organize around issues of importance to them.

Recruiting outside help (train the trainer) - MV project(?), Mass Tenants council
JM to get some possible names to the group. -1.95

Targeted training for Georgetown and Amesbury (?) two sites that wanted us back: 4/5.95

Training package -basic information - Jennifer Mansfield -2.95

Leadership training - Lisa Camilli -4.95 (?)

MORE INFORMATION GATHERING - The Objective will be to continue information gathering through community speakouts in targeted communities.

Targeted speakouts -

Latino groups, Cambodian groups, rural groups members from area -2.95
on...

Legislative forum - All members with reps from housings -5.94
To update in the Spring?

**Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley
Trestle Way Speakout
July 15, 1994**

Issues:

- 1) **Transportation** - access to emergency transport for medical reasons
lack of "insured" drivers to provide transport (eg. VNA providers)
- 2) **Lack of Tenant Council** - Residents spoke of need for formal organization to address resident concerns and to advocate for improvements. The major question was "How do we establish one?". Discussed possible training program on organizing a council.
- 3) **Meals** - Residents expressed interest in on-site congregate meals that were available to residents at this site in the past. Speakout participants explained that meals were discontinued due to a lack of resident interest. Discussed speaking with MVNP and working with residents to bring this program back into reality.
- 4) **Housing** - Some residents questioned why state laws combine aged and disabled persons in the same housing complexes and inquired if a separation of these two populations may occur in the future.
- 5) **On-Site Activities** - Residents expressed interest in more on-site activities. Participants stated that a social event is usually planned one time per month (community dinner, bingo,...). Some residents stated that they would like to be able to invite "non-residents" to these functions (these individuals are currently not allowed due to liability issues). Residents also discussed the lack of parking for such functions. Conversation geared back to the lack of a tenant council to handle the funding for these events and an active planning committee. Participants stating that requesting dues to fund events would be too much to ask of residents.
- 6) **Cost of Prescription Drugs** - Discussed possibility of SHINE training to address some insurance concerns.
- 7) **Safety Issue** - Yellow light at entrance to housing complex. Residents feel there is need for a stop light at the entrance due to accident hazard. Also discussed problem of speed limit on main road and merging difficulty into the traffic stream.
- 8) **Jury Duty** - Lowering of mandatory age for jury duty raised briefly due to mention on handout. Interested residents were in support of changing this law to excuse individuals over age 65.

Note: 7/18/94 Received call from William Walker, blind resident, who missed speakout. Requested information on meeting in taped/braille format. Special interest in tenant council issues. He would like to be kept up to date on Elder Partners progress. Please remind me to keep in touch with him!!

Thanks.

Submitted by: Kristen Rakip

Kristen

file project folder

**Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley
Diamond Springs Speakout
July 18, 1994**

Issues:

1) Transportation - Speakout participants raised issue of reliability of Weebus transportation system. It was mentioned that this service used to be timely, but now consumers sometimes must wait over an hour from their scheduled "pick-up" time for the bus to arrive. This makes it difficult to schedule medical appointments. Another participant spoke out about the cost of the Weebus - she thought it had increased from the usual cost of \$1.50 - the committee will put together information on transportation options inside and out of the city and forward this to Pat LeFebvre, building manager, for resident use. Another participant mentioned the expectation of NEET drivers for tips and the high cost of ambulance services. Residents would like to see more accessible transportation to the COA - at this time, they can take the public bus system, but they are afraid to walk out on the street to the bus station. They expressed interest in a minibus service to the COA similar to the service in Methuen.

2) Age discrimination in health care services - It was mentioned that many professionals in health care services are not being responsive to the health concerns of older persons and dismissing health problems as a factor of "old age". Norman proposed to address a letter to the American Medical Association to advocate on this issue.

3) Safety - Participants spoke about the problems of the "buzz in" security system stating that many residents unlock the front door for people they are not expecting or do not know. An incident occurring this past weekend was mentioned as an illustration of the noise/delinquent behavior coming from some of the residents at the housing projects located adjacent to the elder housing. Residents spoke of inadequate police response the resident complaints. Pat LeFebvre, building manager, will contact the police department regarding this matter. Residents were also made aware of safety training available through ESMV.

4) Health Insurance - Participants spoke out about affordability of supplemental health insurance (especially Blue Cross/Blue Shield) and increasing medical costs. The suggestion for a seminar with a representative from Blue Cross to answer resident's questions was raised. One resident, who was a former employee of the city of Lawrence and received insurance through the city, spoke about his responsibility to pay "up front" for a bill and the slow claim return for his reimbursement. Norman suggested bringing this to the Lawrence City Council. Another participant is having difficulty with Medicare refusing payment on surgical procedures. Her physician is currently working with her supplemental provider and no results are known. She was advised to work with her doctor through all appeal processes. On the lighter side, one woman praised her coverage through AARP and their response to her medical expenses. Participants were informed of SHINE training.

5) Activities - Residents would like to see more activities come to them. They have had classes come to them in the past - but some residents mentioned the cost of these programs was too high. Residents would also like the opportunity to attend classes at the COA, but the transportation issue makes this difficult.

6) Jury Duty - The issue of the current process required to be excused from jury duty was raised. For some participants, it has been difficult getting a note from their physician stating their inability to serve.

7) Shopping in New Hampshire - Interest in transportation to New Hampshire for shopping was expressed. It was explained that this issue has been raised in the past and that it was unlikely that the state would fund this service. Residents were encouraged to look into the possibility of New Hampshire merchants funding this service - that way, both parties would benefit. Residents were receptive to this idea.

Submitted by: Kristen Rakip

**Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley
25 Washington Square Speakout
Haverhill, MA July 21, 1994**

Issues:

- 1) Parking** - There is a lack of parking. There are only 12 places for 72 apartments. The ambulance needs a parking spot as well as handicapped spaces. The staff from a nearby restaurant also use the parking at the housing - this issue has been brought to the town council. The parking area is not labeled as "Haverhill Housing Only - Loading Zone Needed". The residents do not wish to "push" the restaurant out, they suggest putting a handicapped parking area in the restaurant's lot with an automatic door opener.
- 2) Safety** - Residents expressed concern about traffic problems. The "police are a joke" - no tickets are given. The security camera in the housing was broken 8 years ago and there are no funds for repairs.
- 3) Transportation** - Residents spoke about the long wait for transportation services - there are two buses available at other stops. The COA bus is available every Thursday but there is no publicity on this and many residents are not aware of this service.
- 4) Activities** - Bingo is the only activity offered.
- 5) Housing Maintenance** - The rugs in the hallways are not cleaned well. It was noted that the maintenance worker uses the same water for 2 rugs. Also, the walls have not been painted in 12 years. The fans in the hallways need repair and residents have called "a million times" without any response to their service requests.
- 6) Health Insurance Costs** - Residents were interested in information current information on health care insurance for older persons. They remarked on the incredible Medex rate increases.

**Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley
Heritage Towers/Vale Speakout
Amesbury, MA -- July 26, 1994**

Issues:

- 1) Medicare - Residents spoke of the problem that Medicare is not available to individuals between the age and 60 and 62. The price of private insurance for this population is expensive (ie. \$700).
- 2) Supplemental Insurance (Medex) - Participants called this business a "monopoly". Individuals who pay for this coverage feel "trapped" and are "frustrated" with this insurance. The three year surcharge for "going back" into Medex was raised.
- 3) Safety - Residents raised a common concern that visitors are "buzzed in" without being properly identified. The "buzz in" system at this housing has been broken for approximately 6 years and has not been repaired due to lack of funding.

Another safety concern is the crossing light in front of the development - the "walk" sign needs to last longer so that residents have time to cross the street.
- 4) Garbage Shute - Residents used to have the convenience of disposing their rubbish through a garbage shute on each floor. This is broken and residents must go outside to put their trash in the dumpster. This is especially difficult for residents during the winter season. Residents also have the concern that the dumpster is not emptied frequently enough.
- 5) Transportation - Residents raised the issue that there is a lack of group transportation in the Amesbury area. There is a bus that is available, but this can only transport 9 individuals at one time.
- 6) Communication with COA - Residents requested enhanced communication with the Council on Aging so that they can be aware of COA activities. A general statement that 1,000 newsletters are sent to residents, but that this letter "don't tell you anything".
- 7) Resident Activities - Residents stated that dinners and Bingo are offered but that "the same people" always attend. A new air conditioner is also needed in the community room. Residents would also like a rec room for exercising.
- 8) Housing Maintenance - Residents expressed dissatisfaction with the cleanliness of the elevators and various windows in the building need to be repaired. A state inspection was conducted and these issues were raised. Residents stated that these problems have not been resolved.

9.22.94

Community "Speak out"
Archambault Towers Lowell
657 Merrimack Street, Lowell

Issues raised by elders from different housings in the Lowell area -

Publicity for Speak outs - People felt that the publicity in some buildings had been inadequate. Flyers should be posted on bulletin boards, advertised on local access cable and in the Lowell paper.

Safety - Elders spoke of cars being stolen from well lit housing parking lots, thieves waiting to see everyone's light go out, slit tires, broken windows. Security guards that seem ineffective and are rarely seen.

Home care workers - Homemakers should be screened and the agencies bonded, checking with local police department, this should be part of elder services contract negotiations with providers, agencies should have to do this as part of their licensing requirements - possible legislation?

Better communication - The Home Health Aide agencies need to notify clients if their homemaker is not coming, will be replace by sub etc....

Insurance coverage - What Medicare will and won't cover makes no sense. ie. prosthesis would be covered, heart monitor will not be covered.

Prescription Drug Benefits - Medex is very expensive, some people looking into AARP and Secure Horizons plans (Secure Horizons does not offer drug benefit)

File project

The Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley is a group that started as a planning committee made up of elder community advocates and staff from Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley. The group has been meeting for several months to discuss planning a series of issues forums with area elders, local, state and national politicians and decision makers. The committee's goal is **"To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."**

In the past two months we have held 4 "community speakouts" throughout the Merrimack Valley. Some of the common issues that were brought up by elders are:

Recreation - elders in housing felt disconnected from the Councils on Aging (due to poor health, transportation, or lack of feeling welcome). They expressed they would like to see more activities on site -trips.

Safety - elders especial in the Greater Lawrence area expressed fear of going outside their buildings. Every site spoke of the fear that strangers are "buzzed in" by others in the building. People would like to see more police cruisers and like the idea of community policing. Some housing had no security guards others had guards only Thurs, Fri. and Sat.

Prescription drug cost- was also mentioned at every site. Several people said that they had to drop their "Medi-gap" coverage due to the cost. One lady told us after the meeting that she regularly goes hungry to be able to afford her medication.

Health Care - Problems with Medicare coverage were mentioned at several meetings. Medicare disallows certain test, doesn't cover dental and many doctors will not take it as reimbursement. People also spoke about the problems of accessing Medicaid, the workers are unhelpful, Medicaid spend down complicated paperwork.

There was a general feeling at all the sites that people did not want to get involved in things -tenants councils, activities, people are uninterested or apathetic.

Other things mentioned at only one meeting were:

- * Elimination of jury duty for people over 62.
- * No smoking in housing common areas
- * Better air ventilation in the summer
- * Buses to NH to take advantage of no taxes
- * Safety of crossing light in front of one water street
- * No week end meals
- * Bench needed in vestibule area so people could wait inside
- * Doors very heavy when you come back from shopping

In the past month we surveyed 100 elder service providers across the Valley and here is a list of the priorities they see affecting elders:

1. Depression and Loneliness
2. Health Care Costs - Understanding Medicare/Medicaid
3. Transportation
4. Fear/Violence/Crime/Safety
5. Income levels
6. Access to Services
7. Affordable Housing

**Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley
Issue Forum #1 - State Focus
Methuen Council on Aging - June 3, 1994**

<u>Issues</u>	<u>Ideas</u>
Cost of Prescription Drugs	Medex Gold/Silver Mail Service Indigent Drug Program
Increased Medex Cost	Blue Cross/Blue Shield Audit
Lack of Resource Awareness	Centralized Info Bank - Norm
Safety Issues in Senior Housing	Monitors at "buzzers" Elimination of extra keys Safety Training Community Police Neighborhood Watch "Clubs"/Councils in Housing Info Alerts Penalties for offenders
Increasing Resident Participation	Advanced notice for speakouts,... Cable T.V. phone-in for isolated residents Newspaper announcements "word of mouth" - advocates Housing staff distributing announcement flyers Flyers on bulletin boards Housing meeting announcements Flyers on meals on wheels Surveys Accessible meeting location
Jury Duty for Senior Citizens	Discrimination/Dismissal
Dangerous Light at One Water Street	Lowering age from 70 to 62 Changing light system
Future Meeting Arrangements	Location: School Auditorium Time: Early A.M. Weekday Advanced Notice

Please add, cut, revise!
Kuster

WORD PERFECT/14K
NAME → FORUM 2

**Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley
Issue Forum #2 - National Focus
Haverhill Council on Aging - October 3, 1994**

Issues

1) Parking - The lack of parking spaces available at senior housing buildings in Haverhill was brought forth as the initial topic of conversation due to the concern in previous speakouts. Enforcement of parking in designated handicapped spaces was addressed. Jim Lyons, Northeast Independent Living, informed the group of past efforts to alleviate the problem by contacting the police and request observation and ticketing. He also suggested having printed messages that can be placed on the windshield of the car in violation to warn the driver that his/her car is illegally parked and is subject to fine.

2) Safety Issues -

a) **Outside Lighting** - Participants raised the concern about lack of outside lighting within the city. Residents of Phoenix Row stated that the area surrounding their building was particularly dark.

b) **Community Policing** - Participants expressed interest in this idea and a few mentioned that a Guardian Angels program was proposed for this area. However, no one has seen this project started. Congressman Torkildson and Senator O'Brien commented on this topic. Both mentioned the expansion of state and federal appropriations to support this concept. Torkildson also spoke of community block grants which would provide financial assistance based on the number of violent crimes to areas that required additional monetary support.

3) Housing Eligibility - One participant raised the issue that some elderly housing complexes require a one person household to accept a studio apartment and not being allowed to occupy a one bedroom unit. Specific guidelines were somewhat confused. This led to a discussion regarding the construction of the buildings; that the architects were not familiar with older persons needs/desires when constructing the existing buildings.

4) Transportation - General consensus that current services are inadequate. Idea was raised that financial assistance was available or cities/towns make investment to purchase handicapped accessible vans to provide transport for medical and other appointments. It was stated that older persons may be isolated and not be able to arrange transport to seek medical attention - a condition which may worsen and require emergency intervention and cause higher health care/community costs. Participants also raised issue about transportation for special events such as this forum.

5) Health Care - Congressman Torkildson commented on participants' interest in health care issues. Affordability of insurance coverage and prescriptions was a major concern among attendees. Torkildson's ideas focused on the support of homecare services to assist individuals in staying in and a "must have" provision for prescription drugs in Congress. He also supports designing long term care insurance so that consumers can begin "buying into" policies in middle age and the elimination of preexisting conditions.

6) Centralized "800" age information line - The idea for an information line where older persons could contact resource/information specialists on local services and programs was introduced. Participants were receptive to the idea. Reference librarians were mentioned as a resource to include in the development of this project.

Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley

The Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley is a group of elder community advocates and staff from Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. The group has planned a series of issues forums with area elders and has provided the opportunity to discuss these concerns with local, state and national legislators and decision makers. The committee's goal is "To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."

Since April 1994, Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley has organized nine community speakouts in local elder housing buildings and at Councils on Aging. This meeting at the Lowell Council on Aging is the third forum with local legislators and their staff members. Below is a list of common issues that were brought forth by elders in previous meetings.

Safety - Elders expressed fear of going outside their buildings. A frequent concern of residents of elder housing is that strangers are being "buzzed in" by others in the building without proper identification. People would like to see enhanced security systems, security guards, and/or community policing to address this problem.

Recreation - Elders in housing often feel disconnected to the Councils on Aging due to poor health transportation, or lack of feeling welcome. They expressed that they would like to see more activities on site. Many groups discussed developing Resident Councils to plan more activities and to address other issues affecting their community.

Medicare Supplement/Prescription Drug Cost - "It's too expensive" is the most common response. Several people stated that they had to choose between keeping their Medex plan, buying prescriptions, or purchasing groceries.

Transportation - There is a lack of adequate transportation services in the Merrimack Valley, mostly for medical needs. Many expressed that existing services are not timely and make it difficult to schedule appointments. Some fear utilizing the public system.

Housing Maintenance - Some participants are dissatisfied with the cleanliness of their building and the ability of service crews to respond to repair requests. This refers back to the safety issue especially when it is windows and security equipment that need to be fixed.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!!!



Family Service Association of Greater Lawrence

430 North Canal Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts 01840 Telephone: (508) 683-9505

MEMORANDUM

To: Jennifer Mansfield, Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley

From: Lisa Camilli *LC*

Date: November 21, 1994

Re: Possibility of a social work intern being placed at ESMV to work with the group to develop elderly tenants' councils or other organizing efforts

I have considered Salem State, Boston University and Boston College Graduate Schools of Social Work field placements. Both BU and BC have community organizing concentrations, called "macro" at BU and "SPA" (Social Planning and Administration) at BC. Salem State has a gerontology concentration but I believe that coursework focusing on community organizing would be more helpful for this placement. It would be ideal if the student were studying both.

The tasks of the Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley would be ideal for a first year social work graduate student. *I would recommend applying to BU and BC for a first year student to begin in September, 1995, for two days a week.*

Some students change placements mid-year so you could ask the schools if they have anyone in need of a placement now. The contacts are:

Trudy Zimmerman, BUSSW, 264 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215 at 617-353-3754.

Robbie Tourse, BCGSSW, McGuinn Hall, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167 at 617-552-4027, ext 4050.

They will begin soliciting September 1995 placement slots next month. BU requires two hours of supervision. one hour from the primary supervisor (an MSW) and one could be from another staff member. BC requires one to one and a half hours with the primary supervisor. I think one hour with the primary and one with a secondary would be okay.

If Joan Hatem-Roy is the primary supervisor, I would suggest you or another ESMV staff member directly involved in the project be the secondary supervisor.

MEMBER: Family Service America

MEMBER AGENCY: United Way of Merrimack Valley, Inc.

ACCREDITED: Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children



To: Elder Advocates interested in the Merrimack Valley Elder Partners
From: Jennifer Mansfield
Re: Next Planning meeting
Date: June 20, 1994

The next meeting of the Merrimack Valley Elder Partner's Planning Committee will be held at
**Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley,
360 Merrimack St., Lawrence, MA
Wednesday, June 29 at 1:00- 2:30.**

The Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley is a group that is made up of elder advocates and service providers from the Merrimack Valley. The group has been meeting for several months and has accomplished quite a lot in a short period. The Elder Partner's goal is "To organize and empower elder in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."

In the past months we have held 4 "community speakouts" throughout the Merrimack Valley. This month we brought these issues to area Representatives and Senators at a meeting held at the Methuen Council on Aging. The tone of the meeting and the ideas generated by people who attended were great! We are continuing to hold community speakouts and have set legislative forum dates for the fall.

Please join us at this meeting to hear about what has happened and help make our upcoming efforts better.

For more information or directions give me a call at 683-7747.

TO: JENNIFER, NORM AND KRISTEN

FROM: KIM ARMS

RE: DATES FOR ELDER SPEAK OUTS

DATE: MAY 16, 1994

I HAVE SCHEDULED THE FOLLOWING DATES FOR THE ELDER SPEAK OUTS:

MAY 19 AT 10:00- CORLISS CONGREGATE, METHUEN

MAY 20TH AT 10:00- 1 WATER STREET, HAVERHILL

MAY 24TH AT 10:00- ST ALFIOS VILLA, LAWRENCE

MAY 26TH AT 10:00- MARKET MILLS LOWELL

* I AM GOING TO TRY TO PUT TOGETHER "FLYERS" TO ADVERTISE THE SPEAK OUTS IN EACH BUILDING

* PLEASE SEE ME IF THESE DATES ARE NOT GOOD FOR YOU!

THANK YOU!

MEMORANDUM

der Advocates interested in Merrimack Valley Partners
Jennifer Mansfield
coming Speakouts
July 12, 1994

Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley is a planning committee consisting of elders and staff from Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley. In early May, the committee series of community speakouts in various senior housing complexes. These four meetings were successful in identifying safety issues, recreation interests and health care concerns the top priorities on the minds of Merrimack Valley Elders. In June, participating elders have the opportunity to voice these issues to their area representatives and senators.

To keep you up to date on our progress, the planning committee has scheduled a second series of community speakouts and we are looking forward to presenting the findings of these speakouts at a national legislative forum this September. Enclosed are the dates, times and locations of these meetings. Please regard this notice as an open invitation to join us on these speakouts to make your ideas known and to move forward with our goal to "Organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services." Please call me, Kim Arms or Kristen Rakip at (800)892-0890 with any questions. We hope to see you there!

=====

Friday, July 15th at 1:00 pm in the Georgetown HA Community Room.

Contact: Anna Mae Health (352-8349)

Monday, July 18th at 10:00 am at Diamond Springs in Lawrence.

Contact: Pat LeFebvre

Thursday, July 21st, at 10:00 am at Haverhill HA Community Room 1st Floor.

Contact: Cindy Haskell (372-7588)

Tuesday, July 26th at 3:00 pm at Heritage Vale and Towers in Amesbury in the Community Room.

Contact: Helen Fowler (388-9643)

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: ELDER PARTNERS OF THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

RE: NEXT ROUND OF LEGISLATIVE FORUMS

Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley is an advocacy group that is made up of elder advocates and service providers from the Merrimack Valley. The group has been meeting for 6 months and has accomplished quite a lot in a short time. The Elder Partner's goal is "To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."

The group has held a series of 8 "Community speak outs" throughout the Merrimack Valley. At these "Speak outs" older people talked about their concerns about their lives and communities. We are planning to bring these concerns to elected and appointed officials to start working toward solutions. Two legislative forums have been scheduled for the Fall.

The first forum will be focused on inviting the Merrimack Valley Congressional delegation to discuss issues affecting elders in their communities. This will be held on - **Monday October 3, 1994 at the Haverhill Citizen's Center, 10 Welcome Street, from 8:00-9:30 am.**

The second fall forum will be directed at State representatives and Senators and will be held on **October 24 from 8-9:30 am in Lowell. Specific sight will be announced.**

We invite you to mark your calendars and JOIN US at these forums.
YOUR VOICE IS CRUCIAL IN MAKING CHANGE IN THE MERRIMACK VALLEY!!!!

File
proj.

To: Elder Advocates interested in the Merrimack Valley Elder Partners
From: Jennifer Mansfield
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Please join us at this meeting to hear about what has happened and help make our upcoming efforts better.

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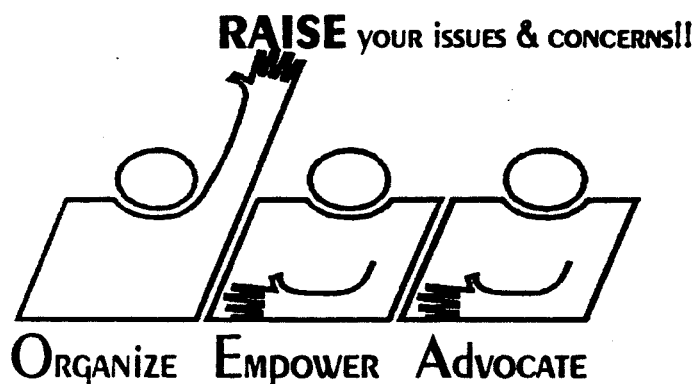
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Hopefully we all had restful holidays and are ready to face 1995 with energy and enthusiasm. This is a brief reminder of the Merrimack Valley Elder Partners meeting on Monday, January 9th , 12:00-1:30 at Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, 360 Merrimack Street, Lawrence.

The purpose of the meeting will be to review and finalize the Action Plan (see enclosed) and give updates on progress on action steps to date.

In a bigger context the 1995 elections have made community organizing even more important. Elders will be looking at treats to the Older Americans Act, Nutrition Programs and possibly Medicare. There will also be opportunities (as in any change) that groups must be ready to participate in (eg. Community Empowerment Grant in Lowell). This makes the work of the MV Elder Partners even more important! Please come and add your energy to this community organizing effort!

Community Speak OUTS...



WHEN:

**Monday, October 3, 1994
8:00 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.**

WHERE:

**HAVERHILL CITIZENS CENTER
10 WELCOME STREET
HAVERHILL, MA**

WHAT:

**ELDER PARTNERS OF THE MERRIMACK VALLEY WANT AREA ELDERS
TO MEET WITH THEIR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO DISCUSS THE
ISSUES AND CONCERNS ABOUT THEIR LIVES AND COMMUNITIES.**

LET YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY!!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL JENNIFER MANSFIELD, 683-7747

GROUP: ELDER PARTNERS OF THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

CONTACT: JENNIFER MANSFIELD,
ELDER SERVICES OF THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

TELEPHONE: 508-683-7747

DATE: OCTOBER 18, 1994

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Monday October 24th 1994, area elders will meet with the Merrimack Valley State Legislative Delegation, at the Smith Baker Center in Lowell, to discuss concerns about their lives and communities. This is part of an ongoing effort to connect area elders to each other and to their elected and appointed officials.

This organizing effort started with a group of elder advocate and service providers, now called **Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley**. Over the past 8 months Elder Partners has held nine "community speak outs" throughout the Merrimack Valley to hear the concerns of older people. Elder Partner's goal is "To organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."

This legislative forum is open to all interested elders and advocates. It will be held at the **Smith Baker Center, 400 Merrimack Street, Lowell, October 24 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.** It's your opportunity to make your voice heard to make change in the Merrimack Valley!

To The Reader

Massachusetts Home Care Corporations were thrilled by Governor Weld's announcement at the Governor's Conference on Aging to create a coordinated system for community long term care services within the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Known as "ASAP" (Aging Service Access Points) this system provides a single point of entry for elders to access the services they need for their long term care.



Rosanne J. DiStefano

"ASAP" simplifies the process for consumers and their families to determine eligibility for Medicaid or state home care services, develop a care plan, and purchase the services they need from direct service providers. Ongoing monitoring helps to insure the services preserve an elder's independence and dignity, and are cost effective.

ESMV has some experience with this system because of our participation in the Chronic Home Health Aide Initiative, a pilot project designed by Medicaid and EOEA. Under this program, long term home health services are reviewed by Home Care Corporations to determine if the care plan is both cost and care effective. In the first three months of the project, after an assessment of only 34 people, ESMV saved the Commonwealth approximately \$140,000 in annualized service costs while insuring the care plan adequately provided for elders' needs.

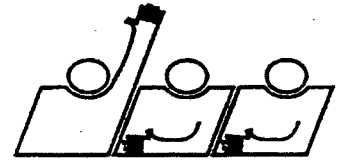
The "one stop shopping" idea has been supported for years from a number of different organizations including the General Accounting Office, Mass Taxpayer's Association, and Mass Home Care. ASAPs have also received support from senior advocacy groups including MAOA, MCOA, AARP, and the Silver Hair Legislators.

We applaud Secretary Frank Ollivierre and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs for their leadership and advocacy in obtaining the Governor's support of the Health Reform Bill and the creation of ASAP. We are pleased by the bipartisan support this legislation has received and we applaud Representative Carmen Buell for her leadership in creating this legislation. We look forward to this concept being put into action.

Rosanne J. DiStefano
Executive Director

LEGISLATION

by
Jennifer Mansfield



Merrimack Valley Elder Partners Hold First Legislative Forum

Merrimack Valley Elder Partners is a newly formed group whose purpose is "to organize and empower elders in the Valley and advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services". The group, comprised of elder advocates and service providers held "community speak-outs" to find out what the needs and thoughts of elders are across the Merrimack Valley. This culminated in a Legislative forum held at the Methuen Council on Aging in June. Members of the Methuen Council, elder advocates and area legislators gathered to discuss the results of the speak outs and discuss solutions. Legislators in attendance were Sen. John O'Brien, Sen. James Jajuga, Rep. Paul Iannuccillo, Rep. Gary Coon, Dick Wilson aide to Rep. James Micelli, Betty Gorski aide to Sen. Jajuga and Eileen Everett aide to Rep. Arthur Broadhurst.

The conversation was lively and informative between elders and their area elected officials. Issues outlined at the meeting were: cost of prescription drugs, increase Medex cost, lack of resource awareness, safety concerns in senior housing, and increased resident participation.

The Merrimack Valley Partners will be continuing to hold community speak outs throughout the summer and will hold a national legislative forum in September and another local forum in October. For more information, call Jennifer Mansfield at 683-7747.

The State Budget

A quick word on the state budget. Not yet out of Conference Committee at this writing, the State budget does look to have slight increases statewide in the Home Care Program and for Councils on Aging. It also includes language to preserve, for this year only, the 10 day bed hold so nursing home residents will be guaranteed a bed upon their return from a hospital stay. This is due, in part, to the support from legislators sensitive to the need for elder homecare and Council on Aging services.

SENIOR SPIRIT

New program encourages Valley elders to speak out

(Editor's note: The following article is part of a continuing series on elder issues, coordinated by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley.)

BY JENNIFER MANSFIELD

Guest Contributor

The Merrimack Valley Elder Partners is a newly formed group whose purpose is to organize and empower Merrimack Valley elders to advocate for themselves and to improve conditions and services.

The Partners, made up of elder advocates and service providers, have hosted a series of "community speak-outs" to determine the needs of the elder community.

Ideas generated from these meetings were presented to area legislators at a recent meeting held at the Methuen Council on Aging.

Legislators in attendance included Sen. John O'Brien, Sen. James Jajuga, Rep. Paul Iannuccillo, Rep. Gary Coon, Dick Wilson (aide to Rep. James Micelli), Betty Gorski (aide to Jajuga) and Eileen Everett (aide to Rep. Arthur Broadhurst).

The conversation was lively and informative between the elders and their elected officials.

Some of the topics discussed at this brainstorming session included:

- The cost of prescription drugs – Making consumers aware of the Medex Gold/Silver mail service, participating in the indigent drug program and the provisions made for prescription drugs in national health care reform.

- Increase in Medex premiums – A Blue Cross/Blue Shield audit would help to determine if increases are fair and equitable.

- Lack of knowledge about resources and services for elders – The possibility of developing a centralized information bank.

**The Merrimack Valley Partners
will hold congressional forums
Sept. 30 and Oct. 28.**

(Elder services provides such a service to the general public through its Resource and Referral Department.)

- Safety issues in senior housing – A number of possible solutions need to be enacted including elimination of extra keys, using door monitors as "buzzers" when someone wants to get into the building, providing safety training to residents, establishing a neighborhood watch, establishing clubs or councils in housing that can focus on this issue and advocate for residents, establishing information alerts to let residents know about recent crime in the neighborhood, and stronger penalties for criminal offenders.

- Increased resident participation – Suggestions included giving advanced notice to elders about future community speak-outs, setting up a cable TV phone-in hook-up for isolated elders, announcing speak-outs in the media, establishing "word of mouth" advocates who would let their friends know about upcoming speak-outs, distributing flyers at meetings or through the Meals on Wheels program and picking meeting locations that are accessible and easy for elders to reach.

The Merrimack Valley Partners will continue to hold community speak-outs throughout the summer and will hold congressional forums in the Merrimack Valley Sept. 30 and Oct. 28.

For more information, call Jennifer Mansfield at Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, (508) 683-7747.

SENIOR SHORTS

Elders invited to Garden of Eden

Shut-in elderly may get to enjoy a local Garden of Eden this summer.

Dorothy Menzie, a state-licensed health practitioner who founded the Sadhana Center of Holistic Health Care in Atkinson, N.H., said she will contact area agencies this month, offering 10 elderly the opportunity to walk through her center's secluded garden, lounge on its benches and eat delectable foods.

"We want to bring them to the center for an afternoon to get out where it's cooler, and chat, and then bring them back home," she said.

The preparations should be completed by July 8, she said.

About half the size of a football field and surrounded by a 6-foot-tall wooden fence, the center has perennial and herb gardens, maple, oak and birch trees, several benches, a bird bath and bird feeders.

Just off the garden is the center's deck, and then a screened porch and dining area, where the elderly would be treated to foods "pleasing to the pallet." That may include grapefruit, rice or bread puddings, Menzie said.

She would ask them what they would like to eat that they haven't eaten in awhile.

The outing will be free.

The Sadhana Center provides therapeutic massage, yoga and meditation, training in biological relaxation methods and stress management, rest and renewal retreats as well as cancer support groups and nutritional counseling.

— BY KAREN McLAIN

Employer award ceremony set

The MassJobs Council plans to hold the first annual Employer Award Ceremony to honor employers who demonstrate leadership in the employment of older workers.

The awards, sponsored by the council's older worker task force, will be presented at a public ceremony to be held at the statehouse in the fall.

Guidelines for nominations, involving the employment of persons 40 years and older, include:

- Policy development that demonstrates the employer's commitment to older workers.

- Training programs that enable older workers to fully participate.

- Promotional opportunities that encourage recognition of older workers' contributions.

To The Reader

Last year, home care corporations played a major role in addressing long term care needs of Medicaid recipients. Pilot programs were initiated where service delivery is cost effective and community based. The Enhanced Community Options Program (ECOP) kept 800 Massachusetts elders living in the community. Nurses screen elders before entering a nursing home to determine if facility placement or community service options would best meet the elder's needs.



Rosanne J. DiStefano

The purpose of these innovative programs is cost control and care effectiveness. These ventures have proven their worth as stated by Commissioner Bruce Bullen, Division of Medical Assistance at Mass Home Care's annual breakfast. Among the positive trends in long term care, Commissioner Bullen mentions that:

⇒ While the elder population continues to grow, Medicaid expenditures and utilization for nursing homes has leveled off. Medicaid spending on nursing facility care statewide is still greater than total spending on community based care, but the picture is changing. Hopes are that nursing homes will not be, as Commissioner Bullen states, "the residential placement of the future."

⇒ The nursing home industry has responded by shifting reliance on long term Medicaid services towards a more sub-acute level of care that is short term, recuperative in nature, and Medicare funded.

⇒ The Medicaid long term care growth rate has dropped, and Medicaid investment in community based long term care has increased over the past two years.

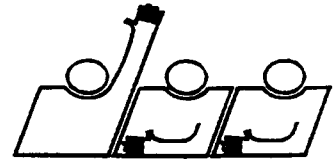
We are witnessing the changing face of health and long term care delivery systems. Emphasis is being placed on the least restrictive care possible, making community based services important components in any health care legislation. It's exciting to see years of advocacy for long term care policy materializing into a reality.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rosanne J. DiStefano".

Rosanne J. DiStefano
Executive Director

LEGISLATION

by
Jennifer Mansfield



Elder Advocates Working for Change

At a recent community speak out in Haverhill, sponsored by Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley, a gentleman spoke about an issue many of us had never considered. Below is a paraphrased letter this gentleman sent outlining his concerns.

A bill has been placed before the State legislature by Representative Brian S. Dempsey of Haverhill to change the age for excused jury duty, from 70 years of age to 62. There are too many seniors on limited incomes, with transportation concerns, inclement weather and other troubles; sometimes medical that seniors need to confront in order to serve on jury duty. This bill would save many from having to get a doctor's note in order to be excused. We all know what that costs. The jury commission sometimes sends out more of these summons, sometimes two in one year. This means two trips to the doctor and more added expenses. Let's hope this bill gets passed. A birth certificate is cheaper and, after you make a few copies you would be all set! This is the only change in the law. Seniors can still go on jury duty the same as always. There's only one change- the right to refuse at 62 with proof of age. This is a good change for seniors, let's work to get it passed.

God Bless, Daniel J. Collins

Representative Dempsey's office reports this bill has been filed and a hearing has been scheduled in the fall. Aide Diane Franz stated the bill has had a positive reception.

Elder Partners is a group of community advocates whose goal is to "**Organize and empower elders in the Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves and improve conditions and services**".

Forums on the agenda are October 3, 8:00 a.m., Haverhill Council on Aging and October 24, 8:00 a.m., Chelmsford Council on Aging. All elders are invited to speak with elected officials on the issues and concerns affecting your life!

CITY VIEW

search to heal, but not their legacy. Both they and participants in the study hope the information learned will be in resolving other generational conflicts such as in Ireland and the Middle East. Sponsored by the college's Cultural Diversity Committee, the presentation will be held in the Library Reference Area. For more information contact Judith Kamber, director of development, at 374-3955.

Public School

Haverhill Public Schools
0-14
Schools are closed Monday, Oct. 10, in observance of Columbus Day.

Elementary Schools

Monday — (A) Hot dog on baked beans
Tuesday — B&J sandwich. **Wednesday** — (A) Breaded chicken w/roll (Golden-Silver) (A) Bacon-w/cheese on roll (B) sliced sandwich. **Thursday** —

(A) Baked ham w/potatoes and roll (B) chicken salad sandwich. **Friday** — (A) Cheese pizza (B) tuna salad sandwich.

Middle Schools

Tuesday — (A) Beef stew w/roll (B) steak & cheese sub (C) sliced turkey sandwich w/lettuce/tomato. **Wednesday** — (A) Cheese or pepperoni pizza pocket (B) ham- or cheeseburger w/lettuce/tomato (C) cold cut pocket. **Thursday** — (A) Sloppy joe on roll (B) chicken cutlet w/lettuce/tomato (C) roast beef sandwich w/lettuce/tomato. **Friday** — (A) Breaded chicken nuggets w/roll (B) ham- or cheeseburger w/lettuce/tomato (C) tuna salad sandwich.

Haverhill High School

Tuesday — Hot dog on roll w/baked beans, FF, fresh or canned fruit. **Wednesday** — Baked stuffed shells w/meatballs, green beans, roll, pudding or canned fruit. **Thursday** — Roast pork w/gravy, whipped potatoes, roll, applesauce or fresh fruit. **Friday** — Grilled cheese sandwich w/bacon/tomato, FF, salad, PB chocolate chip cookies.

Jane Doe

Haverhill — Cathy Green, program director of the Jane Doe Safety Fund, will be speaking at the Soroptimist International of Haverhill and Merrimack Valley's social tea to be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 5 at Winnekenni Castle.

4 on 4 tourney

Haverhill — The YMCA is still taking registration for the 4 on 4 Volleyball League. Games will be played on Thursday evenings. The deadline is Thursday, Oct. 6.

Choir rehearsal

Haverhill — The second annual Interfaith Choir will rehearse Mondays at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 217 Main St. Various Christmas/Advent selections,

potatoes, green beans, salad, dessert and beverages. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children.

Clarification

Haverhill — Rep. Brian Dempsey's next district office hours on October 14 from 8 until 9 a.m. Anyone interested may stop buy.

Recital postponed

Haverhill — A bout with the flu has forced Bradford College music professor Frederik Schuetze to reschedule his fall recital, originally scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 2, at 3 p.m. The matinee recital, titled "Music from a Century Ago," was to include late-1800s works of Brahms, Chadwick, Tchaikovsky and others. The recital, part of Bradford's fall Creative Arts Series program, has been rescheduled for Sunday, Oct. 30, at 3 p.m. in Conover Hall.

General admission tickets cost \$5 and are \$4 for area students and senior citizens. For reservations or more information call the Bradford box office at 374-0076.

Blood drive

Haverhill — There will be a Haverhill Community Blood Drive from 3 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 3, at the Masonic Lodge, 111 Merrimack St.

The American Red Cross Blood Services-Northeast Region submits these facts, which might help individuals decide to donate blood:

- The need for blood is unending, yet only about 5 percent of the population donates blood.
- One single donation may help at least two, and possibly three or more patients in need.
- Eleven hundred units of blood must be collected daily in order to maintain an optimal blood supply in the Northeast Region.

To register, call 372-4981.

Workshop

parade theme, or they may create their own theme.

The parade will take place Sunday, Nov. 20, at 1 p.m. For more information contact the VFW Santa Parade Committee at 373-3777.

Senior events

Haverhill — On Monday Oct. 3, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. area elders are invited to meet with the Merrimack Valley congressional delegation to discuss concerns about their lives and communities. This is part of an ongoing effort to connect area elders to each other and to their elected and appointed officials. The forum will take place at the Haverhill Citizen's Center, 10 Welcome St.

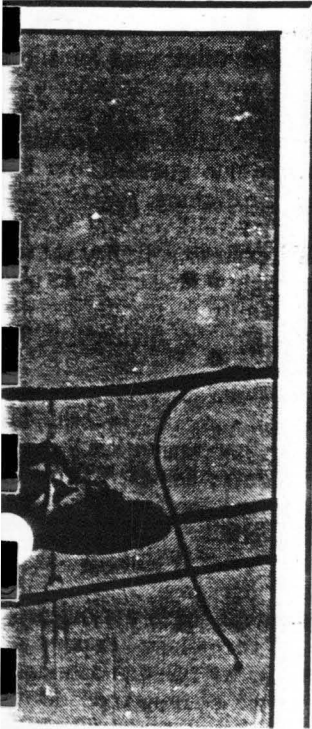
This organizing effort started with a group of elder advocate and service providers, now called Elder Partners of the Merrimack Valley. Over the past six months Elder Partners has held eight "community speak-outs" throughout the Merrimack Valley to hear the concerns of older people. Elder Partners' goal is "to organize and empower elders in the Merrimack Valley to advocate on behalf of themselves to improve conditions and services."

This legislative forum is open to all interested elders and advocates. Preregistration is not necessary. For more information contact Jennifer Mansfield at Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, 883-7747.

Soroptimists meet

Haverhill — Soroptimist International of Haverhill-Merrimack Valley will have its second annual social tea Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Winnekenni Castle. Cathy Greene, program director of the Jane Doe Safety Fund for battered women, will be the featured guest speaker.

Soroptimist International is the world's largest service organization for professional women. There are now almost 100,000 members in 100 countries throughout the world. Locally, Soroptimist of Haverhill-Merrimack Valley supports several



Coordinator

of running a function \$10,000 and becoming isive, Cranton said ncial background will

I not be alone in co- events. Cranton, who er of the Downtown mission, said she and members will be help-

ski, co-owner of Haver- nd a member of the Events Commission, ase did a phenomenal Summer Nights block if the effort from the could escalate into city then it would be an city.

hat I have seen she a tireless volunteer. I eased with the choice. how to work and deal ," said Tom Sickel, co- he Garden Pathe and a the Downtown Events i. "I think it is a step in ection."

ibe, owner of Magick N' moved downtown seven , said she hopes that with nent of Chase, there will vents such as sidewalk tract people downtown help businesses. And, pening up of the river be more business poten- aid.



TOM VARTABEDIAN photo

Addressing concerns

U.S. Congressman Peter Torkildsen addresses concerns from elderly residents during a discussion sponsored by the Council on Aging at the Haverhill Citizen's Center.

Software companies

Saving Lives