

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR Joseph A. Carfora Mayor

PRESS RELEASE RE: EAST HAVEN SENIOR CENTER **DATE: MAY 21, 2021** 

The East Haven Senior Center will reopen their programs on Monday, May 24th town officials announced.

"Social isolation has been a real problem during the pandemic for many East Haven residents, especially for our senior population due to COVID-19" Mayor Joseph A. Carfora said. "Opportunities for social connections such as healthy meals, exercise and group activities are key for older adults' long-term physical, mental and emotional health, and well-being."

The Senior Center has been closed for group activities since March, 2020. The Senior Center will now again be open for group activities such as exercising and social events.

Out of an abundance of caution, initially each individual entering the Senior Center should wear a mask or face covering. Masking and social distancing requirements and expectations, will be determined through the guidance provided by both state, local health departments and Senior Center Director, Bob Petrucelli.

Visitors shall not mandate that an individual wear as mask, nor shall anyone inquire as to whether an individual has been vaccinated. If there are specific questions or concerns, they should be directed to Mr. Petrucelli.

Currently, 78% of 65 + EH residents have been vaccinated.

The staff of the Senior Center have been tirelessly working during the "shut down" period. The whole center has been thoroughly cleaned, some spaces painted, a new computer lab has been created, a software program for reservations for activities has been implemented and extended hours for the center. Transportation will also resume for the residents to be bussed to and from the senior center along with bussing to town events throughout the summer. The town also will also start a medical appointment transportation program in the fall.



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"The last year has been hard on everyone especially seniors. I am delighted that we are going to safely re -open the senior center starting May 24th. We have added activities such as art, exercise classes, a garden club and new computer lab while keeping favorites such as tai chi and bingo. I look forward to seeing everyone back at the senior center." Bob Petrucelli, Senor Center Director.

More information can be found on the town of East Haven website or call our senior center at: 203-468-3277.