



St. Lawrence County Chapter #2831 of AARP, Inc.

www.aarpchapter2831.org • Facebook.com/aarp2831 • aarp2831@gmail.com • AARP #2831, P. O. Box 283, Potsdam, NY 13676

The public is strictly prohibited from using or allowing others to use AARP chapter membership lists, participant lists, the letterhead, the brand mark, logos or taglines), name or their signature blocks (names with titles) for any purpose other than the chapter activities for which they are assigned.

- Our president is having to step aside for a month or two; the Vice President will pick up the president's duties as required by the Standing Rules.
- Huge thank you – and our grateful appreciation - to AARP members who attend our events to support the Chapter! Please thank Kay D who has been instrumental in her efforts to ensure recent event successes!

OCTOBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

ADD THESE FUTURE EVENTS TO YOUR CALENDAR

The AARP #2831 MEMBERSHIP IS INVITED TO ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS at the Potsdam Town Hall Community Room on OCTOBER 9TH (RSVP due 10/7) and NOVEMBER 6TH (RSVP due 11/4). PLEASE RSVP to Karen 315-265-6705 if you are attending to ensure we have documents. No refreshments will be provided.

LUNCHEONS/COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

10/15/19 --11:45 am to 1:30 pm – Luncheon - \$12 catered Potsdam Town Hall Community Room, with a presentation by a Board of Elections Commissioner. "ELECTION SECURITY. Is our election process protected?" RSVP required by October 10th to Karen at 315-265-6705. Tell Karen if you are purchasing lunch or bringing your own

11/8/19 Alzheimer / Dementia Awareness Month: *Knowing the 10 Signs Can Create a Healthy Body and Mind.* Speaker: Rich Couch, Alzheimer's Association. Event is in partnership with Canton-Potsdam Hospital aka St Lawrence Health Services. Free lunch is from 11:30 -12:00; the presentation is from 12 to 1:00 pm. 2nd Floor Conference Rooms A&B, CPH, 50 Leroy St. Potsdam. RSVP to Deborah at (315) 261-5413 (Office) or dchaselauther@cphospital.org on or before 11/4/19.

11/12/19 -- 11:45 am to 1:30 pm – Luncheon catered (\$12) at Potsdam Town Hall Community Room. Acknowledgment of Native American Heritage Month by presenter Susan Stebbins, Ph.D. Her topic will be *Our Neighbors: the Iroquois.* RSVP to Karen at 315-265-6705 on or before 11/8/19.

12/10/19 -- 11:30 am to 1:30 pm – Luncheon at Lobster House (order on your own). Closing event for 2019. Induction of new officers and a fun, thank you **regifting exchange. Feel free to bring something unused that you purchased (do not spend more than \$10) or given to you by someone else. . RSVP to Karen at 315-265-6705 or aarp2831@gmail.com on or before 12/5/19.**



Gini Ward looking lovely as we recognize her 90th birthday year. As someone said, "I hope I look that good when I'm 90!"



Mark Coleman (left) and Jim Barry (right) accept - on behalf of SOAR - the Chapter's recognition plaque as our 1st business honoree.



NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE, 9/10/19 – West Potsdam Fire Hall. The speakers did a great job sharing their professional lives and proving the caring and dedication all in their commands deliver to St. Lawrence County.

The Speakers above represented
Emergency Management/Dispatch – Jonathan Mitchell, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services (on the left)
Law Enforcement – Undersheriff Bigwarfe, St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office – (in the middle)
Fire Departments – John Liebfred, Parishville Fire Department (right)

Eastern Standard Time begins at 2 am on Sunday, November 3rd. Have a peaceful extra hour of sleep!

AARP NATIONAL SHARED A FEATURE STORY!

Why Real ID Is Causing Real Confusion: What to know about the driver's license you'll need to fly next year by Christina Ianzito, [AARP](#), August 23, 2019.

Oct. 1, 2020, is the day the Real ID law will finally be enforced. Conceived as part of 2005 legislation in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, it requires people to show security-enhanced IDs to pass through airport security checkpoints or to enter certain federal facilities, such as military bases. (You will also be able to use **passports** or certain other federal documents as an alternative to a Real ID.)

Sometimes called the Star Card, because most states are marking their **Real ID** cards with a gold or black star in the top right corner, it also must include an encoded "machine readable zone," like a passport's, with a person's scannable information. Many state driver's licenses already have this feature. The key thing that makes the card "special," is that the federal government requires you to provide certain identifying documentation to obtain one from your state.

"REAL ID implementation is a little more than a year away," TSA Acting Deputy Administrator Patricia Cogswell said in a statement. "Now is the time to prepare." But the rollout has caused confusion for various reasons, so here are a few basics that are helpful to understand:

- To get a Real ID, you need to present documents to your motor vehicle department proving your age and identity, Social Security number and address. That generally means bringing a birth certificate or passport, a Social Security card or tax form such as a W-2, and two proofs of address. If you've changed your name through marriage, you'll need a marriage certificate.
- Although the Real ID is also a driver's license, the old-style driver's license is still lawful for driving and still available as an option in many states. (Some, such as Arizona and Kentucky, are trying to make this clear by calling the Real ID a "Voluntary Traveler ID.")

NEW LAWS IN NYS IN 2019

Volunteer Firefighters with Cancer: Volunteer firefighters diagnosed with certain types of cancer will be eligible for state disability coverage beginning Jan. 1. Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the New York State Volunteer Firefighter Gap Coverage Cancer: Disabilities Benefits Act in October 2017, but its implementation was delayed until 2019. The bill will provide volunteer firefighters who have served at least five years with access to tax-free disability and death benefits. Firefighters are eligible if they have cancer of the prostate, breast, lymphatic, hematological, digestive, urinary, neurological or reproductive systems or melanoma. Only those firefighters diagnosed with cancer after Jan. 1 will be eligible for the benefits, not those who have been battling the disease.

August Brings Flurry of New York State laws

ALBANY — Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed more than a handful of notable new bills into law over the past week that range from increasing the number of crimes that can be categorized as domestic violence, to banning discrimination in the workplace based on religious attire or facial hair. (Lauren Stanforth, Updated: Aug. 11, 2019 6:51 p.m)

The new laws add to other measures already passed and signed after the New York state Legislative session ended in June, which included decriminalizing marijuana, allowing the mounting of traffic cameras on stop signs to monitor school bus safety, and banning veterinarians from performing cat declawing.

There are three pieces of legislation that are meant to expand protections for victims of domestic violence. • The first broadens the definition of the crime of domestic violence to include forms of economic abuse that can be perpetrated by a partner, such as identity theft, grand larceny and coercion. • The other law allows victims to **not** subject themselves to being targeted by a suspect by allowing victims to vote by mail-in ballot. • Also, victims will now be able to report abuse to **any** law enforcement agency in the state, regardless of where the alleged violence took place.

Criminalizing Staged Accidents: It will now be a Class E felony for a person to intentionally cause a motor vehicle accident with the intent to defraud an insurance carrier. The law also makes it a Class D felony when a person commits that same crime and causes serious physical injury to any individual who was not a participant in the crime. The legislation is named after Alice Ross, who in 2003 was driving in Queens when she was struck by a man who wanted to file a fraudulent insurance claim for injuries. The grandmother died from her injuries, and the 22-year-old man was later convicted of manslaughter.

Ban on attire, facial hair discrimination: A New law amends the New York State Human Rights Law to make clear that employers cannot refuse to hire, promote, or take other discriminatory action against a person for wearing attire or facial hair in accordance with tenets of their religion.

The law provides more specifics to back up what the New York State Human Rights Law already establishes, which is to prohibit employers from treating applicants or employees differently because of a person's religion. It also requires employers to reasonably accommodate an employee's religious practices.