**The Council on Aging**

Due to the public health pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus, the Essex Senior Center is closed until further notice. Kristin and Tess, however, are both still working and available to meet the needs of Essex residents.

**Groceries During Stay-at-Home Order**

The Essex Council on Aging is working in conjunction with the Board of Health, Acord Food Pantry, and Open Door Food Pantry to provide groceries to residents who are unable to get to the store. If you are in need of either our drive-thru pick-up or a delivery, please contact the Essex Council on Aging at 978-768-7932 or email us at [coa@essexma.org](mailto:coa@essexma.org)

**Weekly Zoom/Conference Get-together**Kristin and Tess are working on finding ways to continue to connect during this time. Stay tuned for more information

**Pen Pals**

This pandemic has changed so many aspects of our daily lives, and it is hard. It is exceptionally hard for some of our younger residents. Schools are closed and parents are struggling to help their children learn. That is why the Essex Council on Aging is partnering with various classrooms at the Essex Elementary school to start an old-fashioned pen pal program. Through this program, we will have the opportunity to keep connected to our community. We will also be able to help our younger residents learn the lost art of letter-writing.

**Stories of Essex**

Every day we here wonderful stories about life in Essex in the 40s, 50s, 60s and beyond. We are starting this project with the hopes of documenting some of these stories. We are looking for seniors who are willing to pair off with a high school student. We will be asking the students to collect and document some of your stories about life in Essex. The ultimate goal would be to collect a number of stories and send those stories to print. If you are interested in telling your story, please let us know.

**Facebook Live**

For those of us with Facebook, join Kristin and Tess live on facebook. Dates and times to be announced.

**Transportation**

Please see our updated document on Transportation.