

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Judy Katzmark, Chair of the Senior Commission

Re: Trial Four Day Work Week

Date: June 17, 2025

Members of the Board of Selectmen –

During the past two weeks as the Town of Southbury departments have been working a four day work week on a trial basis much noise has been generated specifically aimed at the loss of the Friday half day programs at the Senior Center. This seems to have been generated by a very small but determined group of individuals upset at the loss of an exercise class held then.

The Senior Center staff has worked diligently to incorporate any Friday activity into the programs offered during the earlier portion of each week. References to activities not provided at the end of the week have been included in the misinformation being circulated to stir up distress in those being contacted such as the lunch program which has traditionally been served on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the number of individuals making use of the transportation arm of the Center on Fridays.

As head of the Senior Commission, I strongly support the idea of trying new formats, moving classes and programs to assess their usefulness and interest generated in the elderly population that we serve, and being open to new opportunities which may arise in the course of dealing with the varying people and conditions which make up the Southbury Senior Center.

Please accept this evaluation and view point as my opinion that we should spend the remainder of the summer of 2025 not nitpicking and undermining but utilizing this new opportunity to measure, contemplate, and consider new and varied methods of serving the seniors of Southbury.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Katzmark