

TOWN OF MIDDLEBORO RETIREES INSURANCE GROUP (MRIG)
MIDDLEBORO.RETIREES.INS.GROUP@GMAIL.COM
MARCH 2026

ANNUAL MEETING –APRIL 14, 2026

The Middleboro Retirees Insurance Group (MRIG) Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 1:30 PM. The meeting will be at the Senior Multi-Service Center (COA), 558 Plymouth Street Middleboro, MA. Doors will open at 1:15 PM for dues payment and contact information updates. Below is the slate of Executive Committee candidates as put forward by the Nominating Committee. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

Charles Armanetti	Gene Turney	Mary Cook	Madeline Davern
Susan McCusker	Stacey Young	June Rogers	Wendy Brier
Eva Crawford	Danielle Bowker	Robin Marie Mobley	
Alternate Members:	Gail Twomey	Deborah Batista	Betty Wainwright

The Executive Committee would like to thank Maryanna Abren for volunteering to serve on the Nominating Committee.

DONATION TO COUNCIL ON AGING FOOD PANTRY

The COA has been most helpful to us by providing us with a meeting place at no cost whenever we have asked. As a “thank you,” we are asking that anyone attending the meeting consider bringing a donation to the COA food program. They have given us the following items as suggested items in need:

Large aluminum pans (steamer size) Sandwich size plastic zipper bags
Individual size packs of cookies, peanut butter crackers, fruit cups, Jello cups, and other snacks for Meals on Wheels program. Low sugar / sugar free / regular sugar are all great.
Supermarket Gift Cards and Cash Donations are always welcomed.

Because parking is limited, the COA has asked that those who can carpool please try to do so, park in the second lot and enter through the front entrance.

HEALTH CARE UPDATES

In our last newsletter we outlined all the proposed plan design options that were under discussion at the GIC meetings, none of which appealed to us. Labor representatives and retiree representatives stressed that cost shifting (increases in co-pays, deductibles) does not lead to long term cost savings as people hold off on medical care ultimately requiring more services. Cost shifting increases the subscribers out of pocket cost, not the provider cost. The 17 member GIC Board narrowly voted (10/7) to make no

changes in plan design after Governor Maura Healey stepped in and recommended no cost shifting at this time. The only change is to eliminate coverage for GLP-1 for weight loss. We have been told that those using that drug have been notified of options available.

No changes in plan design are wonderful but the other side of it is premium cost. Premium increases impact both the retirees and the Town. For those on Medicare with a 25/75 split, for every one dollar increase in premium the Town faces a three dollar increase. No one likes a premium increase but it is shared by both parties. On March 5th, the GIC Board met and voted on the new contribution rates averaging a 7.5% increase. Medicare plans are increasing from 4 to 7.5% The most popular Wellpoint Medicare Extension Plan has an increase of 4.5%. You should receive information in the mail regarding plans being offered thru GIC and from the Town a list of costs for each plan available to Town of Middleboro retirees and active employees.

Open enrollment starts April 1st and runs through May 1st for new rates to be implemented for July 1, 2026.

STATE AND TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM COLA COMMISSION

As reported before, many of our members are retired teachers and are in a separate part of the State Retirement System not the Plymouth County Retirement System. Because of this they have not benefited from the same COLA adjustment as we have benefitted from. As an update the State has developed a Commission that is meeting to work on legislation to change the way the COLA is administered.

MRIG MAIL NOTICE

The Annual Meeting is a great time to update your membership information dues payments as well as to have a chance to see some old friends from your previous work with the Town.

If you are still receiving this newsletter via the U.S. Postal Service and have an e-mail address, please share it with us as we cannot produce notices and mail them as rapidly as we can e-mail information. If you no longer want to receive future correspondence from us, please let the Treasurer know. This form is available on our website. You can also fill out and print a copy of this form if you go to the contacts section of our website.

Hoping to see everyone at the Annual Meeting.

GIC HEALTH PLAN RATES
MONTHLY RATES AS OF JULY 1, 2026
FOR THE TOWN OF MIDDLEBOROUGH ENROLLEES

INCLUDING THE 0.25% ADMINISTRATIVE FEE

Retirees and Survivors without Medicare

Non-Medicare Plans	Non-Medicare Retiree Pays Monthly %	Non-Medicare Retiree Pays Monthly \$	Non-Medicare Retiree Pays Monthly \$	Non-Medicare Survivor Pays Monthly %	Non-Medicare Survivor Pays Monthly \$	Non-Medicare Survivor Pays Monthly \$
Health Plan		Individual Coverage	Family Coverage		Individual Coverage	Family Coverage
Harvard Pilgrim Access America National Network	40%	604.53	1,349.47	40%	604.53	1,349.47
Harvard Pilgrim Explorer Broad Network	40%	516.52	1,281.20	40%	516.52	1,281.20
Harvard Pilgrim Quality HMO Limited Network	20%	193.32	493.12	20%	193.32	493.12
Harvard Pilgrim Quality HMO Limited Network	30%	290.00	739.68	30%	290.00	739.68
Health New England-HMO Western Mass Only/ Regional Network	20%	180.44	434.04	20%	180.44	434.04
Mass General Brigham Health Plan Complete HMO Limited to MA Residents/ Broad Network	20%	246.88	655.52	20%	246.88	655.52
Wellpoint Total Choice Broad Network	40%	730.96	1,626.36	40%	730.96	1,626.36
Wellpoint Community Choice PPO-TYPE Limited Network	40%	361.48	902.48	40%	361.48	902.48
Wellpoint PLUS Broad Network	40%	464.44	1,111.28	40%	464.44	1,111.28

ALTUS DENTAL FOR RETIREES \$30.18 Individual \$72.73 Family

Retirees and Survivors with Medicare

Medicare Plans	Medicare Retiree Pays Monthly %	Medicare Retiree Pays Monthly \$	Medicare Survivor Pays Monthly %	Medicare Survivor Pays Monthly \$
Health Plan				
Harvard Pilgrim Medicare Enhance	25%	125.88	25%	125.88
Health New England Medicare Supplement Plus	25%	126.36	25%	126.36
Tufts Health Plan Medicare Preferred	25%	101.70	25%	101.70
Wellpoint Medicare Extension	25%	124.43	25%	124.43

Rates are calculated by the Town of Middleborough

RATE QUESTIONS? CALL: 508-946-2420/2421 Sue Powers @ Ext. 1127

WELLPOINT INFORMATION SESSION

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

MIDDLEBOROUGH
TOWN HALL, 10
NICKERSON AVENUE
SELECT BOARD
MEETING ROOM

JOIN US TO:

- LEARN ABOUT WELLPOINT BENEFITS
- SPEAK DIRECTLY WITH WELLPOINT REPRESENTATIVES
- ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT PLAN DETAILS, BENEFITS, AND MORE!



RSVP BY EMAILING HRD@MIDDLEBOROUGHMA.GOV

TOWN OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

EMPLOYEE HEALTH & BENEFITS FAIR

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

12:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

GRAND BALLROOM – 2ND FLOOR

MIDDLEBOROUGH TOWN HALL

10 NICKERSON AVENUE

**OPEN TO ALL TOWN OF
MIDDLEBOROUGH
EMPLOYEES & RETIREES!**

**FREE SWAG,
RAFFLE PRIZES,
HEALTH SERVICES,
AND MORE!**

**MEET WITH
BENEFITS
REPRESENTATIVES
& SIGN UP ON
SITE!**



**QUESTIONS? EMAIL
HRD@MIDDLEBOROUGHMA.GOV**

FREE MINDFUL MOVEMENT CLASS

HOSTED BY LITTLE RED YOGA

APRIL 9, 2026 | 1:00 P.M.

SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM

This class focuses on gentle, stress-reducing stretches, meditation, and breath work that can be performed on a yoga mat or while seated. Tibetan sound bowls will be incorporated into the session. The class is suitable for beginners and may be taken in regular work attire. Participants are encouraged to bring a yoga mat if they have one; mats will also be available.



**To RSVP, please email
HRD@middleboroughma.gov!**

**All employees and retirees
are welcome.**

