

FROM:



**BROOKLINE COMMUNITY AGING NETWORK
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For immediate release, please

**DRINKING, DRUGS AND ROCK 'N ROLL
SUBSTANCE USE BY BOOMERS AND OLDER ADULTS IN A NEW OLD AGE**

**PRESENTED BY BROOKLINECAN
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 6:30 – 8:00 PM
AT BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL**

Shaped by Woodstock, Vietnam, and the social revolution of the 1960s, more than 50 percent of a new generation of seniors and aging boomers used illegal drugs recreationally in their youth, along with alcohol. Many continue this use as they get older.

BrooklineCAN (Brookline Community Aging Network), in partnership with its founding members: Brookline Department of Public Health and Brookline Adult and Community Education, presents a discussion of substance use and aging in a new age of older adults on Wednesday, March 5, 2014, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Brookline High School, 115 Greenough Street, Brookline.

How do recreational drugs and/or alcohol use affect our health as we age—especially if combined with prescription or over-the-counter medications? What is safe? How much is too much as we embark on this new frontier of aging?

Carol Girard, Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, and Eric Hardt, M.D. of Boston Medical Center, will lead a discussion on “Drinking, Drugs, And Rock ‘N Roll, Substance Use and Aging in A New Age of Older Adults”.

The discussion will center on the public health perspective, focusing on research on current use and projections for the future. Substance abuse in adults over 50 is expected to double from 2005 to 2020. Whether shocked or surprised by these findings, people of all ages are encouraged to bring questions and their viewpoints to this important discussion.

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The founding members of BrooklineCAN: the Brookline Council on Aging, Center Communities of Brookline/Hebrew Senior Life, Goddard House Assisted Living and Jewish Family & Children Services are proud to sponsor this event.

Affiliated with the Brookline Senior Center, BrooklineCAN is a volunteer organization which enables older residents to remain independent and fully engaged in the life of the community; provides ways for members to contribute to the community; advocates on behalf of Brookline's older residents; and works to make Brookline an even better place to live for people of all ages.

For additional information about Brookline Community Aging Network and to request a copy of BrooklineCAN's informative monthly newsletter, visit <http://www.brooklineCAN.org> or call 617-730-2777

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