

Notes for January 2026

Let's start this conversation with a safety-first reminder. If the weather is sloppy, as it was this past Wednesday, if School closed, there will be no activities here at Harper. This includes transportation on the van. We don't want folks out on the roads because they feel that they have to get to their whatever class here. We know that most of you are really capable drivers, the guy in the other car might not be. Stay home! Unless there's a major blizzard, we'll likely be here to answer calls and help out as we can. If you get our voice mail, leave a message so we can call you back!!

OK, there's a sneaky, silent COVID spread out there, this is a new strain of COVID; the symptoms appear to be mimicking a cold. Anyway, our message to you is please stay away from here if you feel ill, we don't need it and none of us want to catch it. If you haven't been vaccinated yet, think about getting one. Should you be unlucky enough to contract this latest misery, a vaccine may keep the symptoms from becoming too severe. The quarantine protocols have changed as well. It's no longer a 14-day ordeal, you can resume your lives out of the home after five days with a mask and symptoms free, that means no cough, no sore throat, no runny nose. If there's a silver lining in any of this, that's it...

Unfortunately, we do not have COVID tests to share with you, local pharmacies have them and you can purchase them there. I didn't think we'd be talking about this again. Who knew?

Guess what? Winter Farmers Markets start this weekend and will be happening monthly until May, when we can get back outside...The markets will be on the second Saturday of the month, January through April in the Williamstown Elementary School cafeteria.

Here are the dates:

January 10th

February 14th

March 14th

April 11th

9 am - 1 pm

There's an open house at the new Urgent Care , January 14th from 5:00 to 7:00. It's an opportunity to meet the staff and check the place out. Of course, if you have need for their professional services, Urgent Care is open from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Monday through

Friday and weekends from 8:00 AM to Noon. They're located at 197 Adams Road, Suite B. Yes, they are accessible by telephone at 413-458-8182.

On Tuesday, January 20th, we start the strength training class at 4:00 here at Harper. Christy Abel will lead the group and yes, we'll be using the weights, including the heavier ones. This will be one of our more advanced classes.

Finally, we will be offering tax assistance here at Harper but the days and times will be different. We'll let you know when we start making appointments. Stay tuned.