



For Immediate Release

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Barry Michelson Announces Tax Credit for Senior Citizens

Stamford, Connecticut—Barry Michelson, candidate for Mayor of Stamford, today announced his plan to establish a program for Stamford’s senior citizens if elected Mayor. The plan will provide a property tax credit to participating senior homeowners who volunteer service to Stamford City Departments and Nonprofit agencies. It will be based on a successful program in Danbury known as S.A.V.E. Senior participants in that program receive up to a \$700 property tax credit after the completion of 100 hours of service. The Danbury program is open to residential homeowners age 65 and above who do not exceed certain income levels. Michelson’s plan will take a similar approach.

“Our senior citizens are a vital and valuable part of Stamford, and we would be proud to welcome their contributions through voluntary service. Likewise, we will be proud to reward them for doing so with a property tax credit,” said Michelson. “I recognize that the ever-increasing tax burden, especially the more than 12% increase under the Martin administration alone, makes affording to remain in one’s own home a financial challenge for many seniors. Some have had to make sacrifices as a result. This program provides some relief as well as an opportunity to give back by volunteering,” Michelson continued. Examples of service include being a greeter at City Hall, helping at one of our libraries, and assisting a local charity.

Mark Boughton, Mayor of the City of Danbury, commented, "here in Danbury, the S.A.V.E. program has offered countless Danbury seniors the chance to volunteer on behalf of the city and earn a real estate tax benefit for their work. Each year, we see more and more participants excited to return to their volunteer positions and share their time and skills with our community."

“Two hours a week of voluntary service by seniors in ways they are valued, is a benefit that our City cannot pass up, and it must be part of our vision for Stamford. Implementing our vision to make our City a better place to live and work will start on day one, and working together with and respecting our seniors is one important part of that,” Michelson concluded.

Michelson announced his plans for this initiative surrounded by seniors and other supporters at the Over 60 Club at the St. John’s Episcopal Church on Main Street.

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