

SENIOR PATHWAY

DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR SERVICES

AGING ● VETERANS AFFAIRS ● PARATRANSIT
NUTRITION SERVICES ● ENERGY ASSISTANCE



Spring 2018

Produced by the Department of Senior Services

Dear Friends,

Welcome Spring!!! The worst of the winter weather is now (hopefully) behind us. It is finally that wonderful time of the year when the snow melts, trees begin to blossom and the streets begin to look lively again! Even though there might've been a little confusion with Mother Nature, who sent some snow for a rather cold welcome to the season!!! I for one, cannot wait until temperatures start going up and we see our areas come back alive once more. The days are longer, the nights are warmer and we can finally put our heavy coats and gloves in the back of the closet. I want to wish everyone a very happy Spring season, most people see it as a time of change and I would agree. I see the Spring season as one that comes with the regrowth, rejuvenation, and renewal. So bring on the good weather!!! It's time to put away the snow boots and pull out the garden tools.

It's been a busy first quarter here in Senior Services which means it's time for our Spring newsletter!! With that in mind, we are super excited to announce some great events we have planned for the month of "May" as we celebrate "Older Americans Month". As we welcome Spring and celebrate "Older Americans Month" we spoke to our staff here and we wanted to share with you "What we LOVE about Spring ..." take a moment and enjoy some uplifting Spring thoughts from your friends here at Senior Services. Look for quotes from our staff throughout this seasons newsletter ...

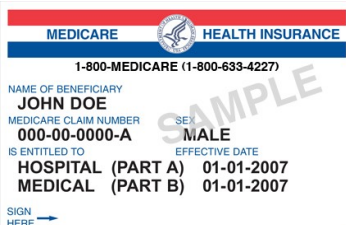
Inside this issue

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"Spring is definitely a favorite season for me. I love the colors that pop up everywhere you look, from the green grass to the leaf buds beginning to grow. I love how the air smells fresher almost cleaner, and you can't help but enjoy the rebirth of almost forgotten flowers. Spring also means that the golf season will soon be under way. That REALLY makes me happy. And, Spring is when days are getting longer giving us more daylight to enjoy the outdoors with my family, especially my two girls, Ella & Olivia!!! And most of all it's one step closer to summer!"

Sam Yodice, Executive Director

NEW MEDICARE CARDS ARE COMING



Old Card



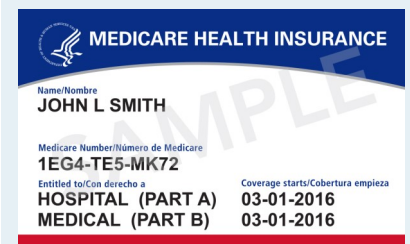
New Card



Medicare is mailing new cards to all people with Medicare starting June 2018-April 2019.

Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask you to give us personal or private information to

get your new Medicare number and card. **Watch out for scams. For more information, please call Senior Services at 973-569-4060.

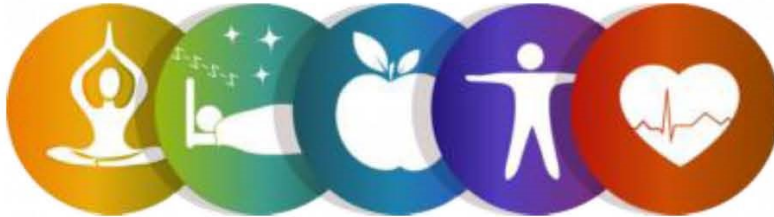


May is Older Americans Month



The Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Senior Services Presents ...

Senior Extravaganza Resource and Wellness Fair



Date: Friday, May 4, 2018 and Monday, May 7, 2018

Time: 10:00 am – 2:00pm

Place: Senior Services

930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200 • Totowa, NJ 07512

Please join us to promote Health & Wellness for Passaic County's older adults.

**FREE
EVENT**

**GIVE
A-WAYS**

Preakness Health Care • Mental Health

Atlantic Health System/Chilton Medical Center

Health Dept.: B.P. • Diabetes • Health Education

Dr. Magwood from the Pure Balance Center

Medical Drop Box • Paterson Health Dept.

Senior Advisory Council • Veterans Affairs

Home Energy/Weatherization • PSE&G • Mosquito Control

Senior Police Academy • Woodland Park Library • Triple A

NJ Jackels Mascot • Golf Course Pro

Screenings • Information Tables • Sherriff's I.D.'s

Public Hearings



Senior Services

The Passaic County Department of Senior Services will hold a Public Hearing on the 2019 Area Plan Contract for the purpose of soliciting and receiving comments on issues and concerns of elderly residents in Passaic County.

Friday, May 11th at 9:45 am

Location: Camp Hope
1792 Union Valley Rd, West Milford, NJ 07480

Residents in need of ADA accommodations should contact the Passaic County Department of Senior Services at 973-569-4060 by Monday, April 30th.

If you are unable to attend but would like to voice your opinions to us, please send written comments by Friday, May 25th to the ATTENTION: Laura Smith

"We finally see the sun after the long winter! Warmer weather, flowers blooming, trees budding and birds chirping, renews my spirit. Brings hopefulness of summer days, bbqs and family time."

Laura Smith, Senior Services

Para Transit Services

The Public Hearing will be held for the public to come and provide input to improve and identify transportation needs.

**Thursday,
June 14th at
10:00 am**

The Hearing will be hosted at the Passaic County Department of Senior Services, Disability & Veterans Affairs
930 Riverview Drive,
Suite 200
Totowa, NJ 07512

**This is your time
to be heard!**

For more information on the Transportation Public Hearing, please call the Division of Para Transit at
973-305-5756

Farmers' Market

The Passaic County Farmers' Market operates from June through November.

The program provides eligible low-income individuals with vouchers to purchase fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables and fresh cut herbs from certified farmers and roadside stands. The program reinforces the importance of using locally grown produce and expands the awareness and use of the local farmers. Each eligible individual will receive five \$5.00 vouchers for the season to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs from authorized farmers. Vouchers cannot be redeemed at grocery stores and other food markets.

Requirements

To be eligible to receive Farmers' Market Nutrition Program benefits, individuals must be at least 60 years old, a Passaic County resident and meet the program's income requirements. All individuals must complete an application, provide proof of income, residency and personally sign for the vouchers.

For income requirements, please contact Senior Services after June 15th at 973-569-4060.

2018 Annual Senior Picnic

The Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Senior Services invite you to attend our 2018 Senior Picnic which will be held for Passaic County residents at the

Upper Montclair Country Club

177 Hepburn Road, Clifton NJ 07012

Tuesday, September 25th or Thursday, September 27th

from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Rain or Shine!

\$15.00 per person

*Reservations on first come first serve basis.

There will be no transportation provided.

To make a reservation, please call Patricia Ring at 973-569-4060.

Passaic County residents only.

Make check payable and mail to:

Passaic County Senior Services

930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200, Totowa, NJ 07512

Attn: Senior Picnic

"I love Spring because it is a reminder of how beautiful change can be."

Deborah Paulhus, Division of Nutrition

NJ LEGAL Simple Wills

Northeast New Jersey Legal Services

Passaic County Division

Presents Simple Wills

Come join us! A representative from Legal Services will explain what a Will is and how it works and the difference between Probation and Administration.

Friday, June 8th

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Passaic County Department of Senior Services

930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200, Totowa

If you are interested in attending, please call the Passaic County Department of Senior Services, Disability and Veterans Affairs at 973-569-4060 to reserve a seat.

Halloween Harvest Event

Brownstone Restaurant Monday, October 29th

(Main Ballroom-1st floor)

Music by: DJ Billy G!

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

\$30.00 per person

It's Halloween, please come in costume!

Reservation on first come first serve

basis.

There will be no transportation provided.

**To make a reservation, please call
Senior Services at 973-569-4060.**

Make check payable and mail to:

Passaic County Senior Services

930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200

Totowa, NJ 07512

Attn: Halloween Harvest



History of Older Americans Month

When Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthday. About a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs. Interest in older Americans and their concerns was growing. A meeting in April 1963 between President John F. Kennedy and members of the National Council of Senior Citizens led to designating May as "Senior Citizens Month," the prelude to "Older Americans Month."



Historically, Older Americans Month has been a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our country, in particular those who defended our country. Every President since Kennedy has issued a formal proclamation during or before the month of May asking that the entire nation pay tribute in some way to older persons in their communities. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country through ceremonies, events, fairs, and other such activities.



Adult Protective Services

On February 8, 1994, New Jersey implemented the Adult Protective Services Act where it mandates the reporting of abuse, neglect and exploitation of a vulnerable adult, age 18 and over living in the community (P.L. 1993, c 249, N.J.S.A. 52:270-406 et seq.). Since then, Adult Protective Services run in all twenty-one counties in New Jersey.

In Passaic County, this mandated program is administered by the Passaic County Board of Social Services located at 80 Hamilton St., Paterson, NJ. Anyone in Passaic County can call the following telephone numbers to report any suspected type of abuse, neglect or exploitation on a vulnerable adult 18 years of age and over.

These numbers are 973-881-2616 during the hours of 7:00am to 4:00pm, 973-345-2676 for after hours and/or our answering service at 800-315-4561.

After receiving a referral of an alleged abuse, the case is assigned to a Social Worker who then has 72 hours to respond and assess the reported abuse. Once a case is addressed, the assigned Social Worker will work with the alleged victim to resolve the situation and prevent any further abuse by the alleged perpetrator, which may include prosecution depending on the offense committed. In all, Adult Protective Services always works to keep the vulnerable safe without undermining the vulnerable adult's right to self-determination.

"Spring is the time of year where the air seems to be fresh and the sun very bright in preparation for all things to come alive. The smell in the air is energizing and prompts everyone to look forward to being outside and making plans to enjoy each other's company and our surroundings. It's always my favorite time of the year especially after enduring the long winter months. Happy Spring everyone!"

Peter Newarski, Para Transit

A note from...

Passaic County Board of Social Services

Fun Fact

Laughter stimulates circulation and decreased muscle tension that could promote an overall sense of well being. Watch your favorite comedy or sitcom and enjoy the laughs.

Remember a positive attitude can serve as the key to successful aging. Do something silly and enjoy life.



How much assistance does SNAP provide?

The amount of benefits that a household receives is determined after formulas and rules contained in the New Jersey Administrative Code. The maximum a single person household can receive each month is \$192. A couple can receive as much as \$352 and larger households are eligible for proportionately more. For more examples, see the table below.

Household Size	Maximum Benefit Amount
1	\$192
2	\$352
3	\$504
4	\$640
5	\$760

While it is easy to see that New Jersey is home to many prosperous families, many families and individuals in our communities are struggling to meet the basic needs of everyday life. Life in New Jersey can be a struggle: Paying for high rents common in New Jersey, expensive medications that are vital to the health of so many persons, especially seniors and persons with disabilities, and increasing costs of utilities and transportation, to name a few.

All of these costs can lead to a situation where there is almost nothing left to meet the basic need of every human being for healthy and nutritious food. As numerous studies find, despite New Jersey's wealth for many, hunger remains a pervasive reality for one in four residents in New Jersey. And many of those residents are seniors or persons coping with disabilities.

Over the past fifty years the major national program designed to assist local families and individuals with access to the food they need to be healthy and productive is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly referred to as SNAP.

Each month SNAP participants receive benefits delivered through an ATM-type card system. These vital benefits allow participants to stretch the funds they have for food. The benefits used for purchasing food also help area businesses as SNAP dollars enrich local businesses. Currently, approximately 800,000 New Jersey families receive SNAP assistance each month and as a result over \$1.2 billion dollars in federal tax dollars paid by New Jersey residents is returned to the state.

Here at home, the agency that operates the SNAP program is the Passaic County Board of Social Services, or PCBSS. In our county, over 100,000 people are aided by SNAP benefits each month and about \$11 million dollars flows into our local stores as SNAP benefits. The PCBSS does a good job operating the program according to many of the standards used by authorities to measure success. Yet many experts say that almost half the persons eligible under the law to receive SNAP benefits do not do so. And that is why the board responsible for managing the PCBSS is reaching out to seniors and the disabled to maximize the benefits of SNAP to both residents and businesses in Passaic.

Cooperation between the Department of Senior Services and the PCBSS has always been good. Professionals in each agency work cooperatively to meet the needs of our residents for medical assistance, nutrition and other vital services. But we know we can do better. And that is why we are meeting more often than ever before to explore ways we can make it easier for our seniors and disabled residents to access every benefit and service they need to live a full and rewarding life in our county.

Speaking for the PCBSS, we are grateful to the Department of Senior Services and its Executive Director, Sam Yodice Jr, for the professionalism they show and the positive energy they bring to the task of helping our community. In the coming months we hope we can work together to find a way to help you and your neighbors.

Tony Di Simone, PCBSS Director

"Spring for me is all about happiness and renewal. The sun is finally warm, the flowers are blooming and the days feel blissfully longer."

Elisea Torijano, Senior Services

2018 Passaic County Annual Senior Art Show

Monday, June 11th through Friday June 29th

To enter the show you must be:

- * A resident of Passaic County
- * Age 60 and over
- * Art piece must be "Show Ready"
- * One entry per individual

Artwork will be accepted

Monday, June 4th through
Thursday, June 7th

**The awards reception will be held on
Friday, June 29th from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

For additional information including rules, classifications and eligibility, please call the Department of Senior Services at 973-569-4060.

Please remember, even if you do not enter the art show, you are more than welcome to arrange tours to view the artwork.

*"Spring excites the playfulness in children while in a similar way as adults we feel the joy of knowing outdoor activity is near."
Shirley Force, Senior Services*

Veterans Services



National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM) is celebrated every May and is a declaration that encourages U.S. citizens to observe the month in a symbol of unity. NMAM honors the current and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces, including those who have died in the pursuit of freedom.

Thank you for your service!

"Flowers and gardening!!!" Anne Badiner, Adult Day care

"Cherry blossoms ☺" Kevin Batacchi, Home Energy & Weatherization

"Spring is the child of winter's dormancy!" Ronnie McMahon, Home Energy

Resource Directory

SENIOR SERVICES
973-569-4060

TRANSPORTATION
973-305-5756

ENERGY ASSISTANCE
973-569-4032

NUTRITION SERVICES
973-569-4099

ADULT DAY CARE
973-569-4080

VETERANS AFFAIRS
973-569-4090

PASSAIC COUNTY FAIR
2018
August 16th - 19th
Garret Mountain
Reservation
Rides ~ Fireworks ~ Games ~ Food
Beer/Wine Garden ~ Chess Tournament
Health Screenings ~ \$5 Parking
& The Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders
& Friends of Passaic County Parks
f www.Facebook.com/pcfair

S.H.I.P.

Board of Chosen Freeholders

Director Cassandra “Sandi” Lazzara

Deputy Director Bruce James

Assad H. Akhter

John W. Bartlett

Theodore O. Best, Jr.

Terry Duffy

Pasquale “Pat” Lepore

County Administrator

Anthony J. DeNova III

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (S.H.I.P.) is a statewide program administered by the Division of Aging Services, New Jersey Department of Human Services with financial assistance through a grant from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Federal Medicare agency. Nationally the Medicare Program has more than 47 million beneficiaries and includes people who are 65 and older and people who have a permanent disability. Many have difficulty navigating Medicare and the health care system on their own. Some do not get the care they need because they cannot pay and do not know about programs that give help. Others, (the many caregivers who assist family members, friends and neighbors) need answers and guidance. SHIP counselors provide free one-on-one Medicare counseling. Please contact Shirley Force, Passaic County SHIP coordinator at 973-569-4060.

Department of Senior Services,
Disability & Veterans Affairs
930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200
Totowa, NJ 07512
Phone: 973-569-4060
Fax: 973-256-5190/5091
ADRC 1-877-222-3737
www.passaiccountynj.org