

SUSSEX COUNTY SENIOR TIMES

A Publication of the Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services

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Help is Available for the Medicare Part D Annual Open Enrollment

The Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services would like to remind individuals that the annual open enrollment period for Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans runs **October 15** through **December 7, 2021**. The Division of Senior Services provides free one-on-one assistance to Medicare beneficiaries to re-evaluate their prescription drug coverage. This assistance is provided through the Sussex County State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). For most people with Medicare, this is the only opportunity to change, add or drop a Medicare Part D (prescription) plan. If a change is made during this time, it will become effective on January 1, 2022.

The Sussex County Division of Senior Services encourages all Medicare beneficiaries to review their current coverage to ensure they are accessing the best and most cost effective plan available. Each year cost and coverage adjustments are made to the prescription drug plans under Medicare Part D. Before taking any action, it is very important for someone with Medicare Part D coverage to read the "Annual Notice of Change" that all Medicare prescription drug plans must mail to their members by the 31st of October. The notice outlines any changes to the plan in terms of premiums, deductibles, co-payments and formulary (list of drugs the plan will cover) for 2022.

Many people with Medicare also have coverage from an employer/union plan that includes coverage for prescription drugs. The coverage may be as good as, or better than, the Medicare benefit. This is called "creditable coverage." People with creditable coverage do not need to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan. Every year, by the 15th of November, employer/union plan administrators must provide written notice to covered members whether or not their coverage is creditable.

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Questions about whether coverage is creditable should be directed to the specific employer/union plan.

To meet the demands of the open enrollment period during the current pandemic, Senior Services will be offering appointments virtually and by phone (accommodations can be made if necessary). Please call the Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext. 1286 to schedule an appointment or obtain further information.

"The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a statewide program administered by the New Jersey Department of Human Services with financial assistance through a grant from the U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL)."



You May Qualify to Be Compensated for Caring for Your Elderly Loved One

The Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services provides access to a homecare program that may pay you to take care of a loved one. This program is called the Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving (JACC) Participant Employed Provider (PEP) Program. Clinical, financial and structural restrictions apply.

Please call the Division of Senior Services to schedule a telephone screening at 973-579-0555, ext. 1288.



Sussex County's Veterans Appreciation Luncheon

The Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services, Catholic Charities Veteran Services, and the Veterans Committee invite Sussex County veterans to attend an appreciation luncheon. This event will be held on Monday, October 25, 2021, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Farmstead Golf and Country Club located at 88 Lawrence Road in Lafayette, NJ. The luncheon will include presentations from various veteran organizations, information tables, and giveaways.

Various service providers will be present to offer information and assistance regarding programs available to veterans and their families. Agencies scheduled to participate in the event include the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration New Jersey (VHANJ) – Suicide Prevention; Catholic Charities Veteran Services; Sussex County Division of Senior Services; True North Program for Veterans; New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; and the Secaucus Vet Center.

We look forward to honoring the sacrifices Sussex County veterans have made for our country and to share important information and services that are available. This is an indoor event and to ensure the health and safety of everyone in attendance, social distancing and masking is required.

Pre-registration for this event is required by October 18, 2021. For additional information and to RSVP for the luncheon, please contact the Sussex County Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext.1277 or seniorservices@sussex.nj.us

SENIOR TRIPS

Hardyston Seniors - Will host a bus trip on Thursday, **October 28, 2021** to an Octoberfest at Krucker's Catering and Picnic Grove in Pomona, NY. The cost is \$84 pp. The cost includes the bus, pancake breakfast, a lunch and sandwich to eat there or bring home. The bus leaves from Franklin at 9:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Montague Seniors – Will host a 2-day, 1-night bus trip to the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA, from **October 13-14, 2021**, to see *Queen Esther*. The cost is \$260 pp double occupancy and \$360 for single occupancy.

Montague Seniors – Will host a 9-night Eastern Caribbean and Bermuda cruise from **August 18 - 27, 2022**, on Royal Caribbean's Adventure of the Seas. Arrangements will be made for a bus to transport participants to and from Cape Liberty in Bayonne. Prices are all inclusive and range from approximately \$1,230 for an interior cabin to approximately \$1,575 for a room with a balcony.

SAVE THE DATE!

SALUTE TO MILITARY VETERANS PARADE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021

1 P.M.

SUSSEX COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
37 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ

Parade - Entertainment - Exhibits

SENIOR FARMERS MARKET VOUCHERS

Please remember to redeem your vouchers by November 30, 2021 at participating farmstands.

If you have any questions, please contact the Sussex County Division of Senior Services at (973) 579-0555.

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