

SUSSEX COUNTY

SENIOR TIMES

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

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Division of Senior Services Needs Assessment in Progress

The Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services is in the process of conducting a survey to identify the needs of seniors (age 60+) who reside in the County. Data collected from the survey helps the Division identify and prioritize programs and services for future funding. Examples of currently funded programs include, but are not limited to, information and assistance, transportation, legal services, home health services, care management, congregate nutrition programs, and home delivered meals. Every three years the Division of Senior Services develops an Area Plan that is submitted to the NJ State Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services for approval. The plan is updated in the interim years. The Area Plan identifies and incorporates current senior citizen needs and trends along with the programs and services that will be funded to address them.

All seniors are encouraged and invited to complete a Needs Assessment Survey. Lorraine Hentz, Director of the Sussex County Division of Senior Services states, "It is critical to obtain feedback from seniors of all income levels, living situations, as well as health status so that we can plan accordingly. Efforts are being made to reach the homebound through service providers." We are asking each senior (age 60 +) to complete the brief survey. If there is more than one person in the household, each person should complete their own survey. Only one survey per person should be submitted. Caregivers may complete the survey for a loved one who is unable to complete the form. All information is confidential.

The Needs Assessment Survey will be available at through various seniors clubs, senior housing sites, and service provider agencies, as well as the Division of Senior Services office. The survey may also be downloaded from the Senior Services website at <http://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/dhs/srsvcs/2021/2021-needs-assessment-survey.pdf> and returned by fax to the Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0550. For additional information, a copy of the survey, or to obtain multiple copies of the survey to distribute to clubs, service agencies, churches, etc., please contact the Sussex County Division of Senior Services, One Spring Street, Newton, NJ 07860, by calling 973-579-0555, ext. 1222, or via email at seniorservices@sussex.nj.us.

Sussex County Center for Lifelong Learning Zoom Presentation

The Center for Lifelong Learning at Sussex County Community College (SCCC), a collaboration between the Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services and SCCC, is hosting the following upcoming Zoom presentation:

Shopping at Your Local Farmer's Market

Looking for information on shopping at your local farmer's market? Join Chef Martin Kester of the SCCC Culinary Institute for an informative workshop on shopping at your local farmer's markets. Chef Kester will also provide tips and recipes for making the most of the season's bounty!

Presented By: Martin Kester
Supervisor of Culinary Arts & Hospitality
Sussex County Community College

Chef Kester has worked in some of the best restaurants in the state in a career that has spanned 20 years. His accolades include being named one of the top five chefs in the state by Inside Jersey magazine in 2015 and he has been part of several teams that earned coveted 4-star ratings. His secret to a great menu? Fresh, local ingredients from the Garden State. Dedicated to learning everything about the farm to table process, Chef Kester works closely with farmers and took a hands-on approach to help establish a sustainable farm for one of his restaurants.

Date: April 30, 2021

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Fee: Free!

Location: Via Zoom or join by phone to listen to Chef Kester's presentation!

How to Register: Please call the Center's partner, the Sussex County Division of Senior Services, at 973-579-0555, ext. 1277, to register for this program. When you call, you will need to provide your telephone number and email address. The Zoom link to the program and the call-in telephone number will be sent to you.



**Tech Talks for Seniors:
“Getting Answers to Your Cell Phone, iPad or
Computer Questions”**

Unravel the mysteries of 21st Century technology and get answers to your cell phone, iPad and computer questions that will help you stay in touch with family, loved ones, and others during the COVID pandemic! These hands-on 30-minute technology lessons are taught, via Zoom, by savvy students who volunteer to teach as a community service.

Dates: Fridays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon
April 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2021
and
Sundays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon
April 11, 18, and 25, 2021

Time: 30-minute lessons
Fee: Free
Location: Zoom

Please call the Sussex County Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext. 1277 to reserve your lesson time.

2021 Sussex County VITA Program

NORWESCAP will be offering Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services again for the upcoming season. No in-person appointments will be offered. Individuals will bring their paperwork to be scanned and sent to a preparer and a copy of their return will be sent back to them via mail or email. There is no longer an income limit, but the program cannot prepare a tax return if it involves business or rental income, any return with a Schedule C, or any complex return with numerous capital gains or losses. Please be advised that appointments are available only at Pathways 2 Prosperity at 17 Church Street in Newton until May 14, 2021.

The Sussex County VITA Program is made possible by the cooperation of the Internal Revenue Service, United Way of Northern New Jersey, NORWESCAP and the many dedicated volunteers who donate their time and effort each year.

Call 973-862-6680 to schedule an appointment today.

**At-Home COVID-19 Test Kits
Available for Sussex County Residents**

The Sussex County Board of Commissioners has partnered with LabCorp and Vault Health to offer free COVID-19 at-home testing for all of our residents.

Please select either a saliva or nasal test.

You will be asked to provide information about your private health insurance, Medicaid and Medicare coverage, but will not be billed for the tests. Anyone who is not insured must indicate so on the online application, but the test still will be completed at no cost.

COVID-19 Test (At-Home Kit)

You can order COVID-19 diagnostic collection kits online. After completing an online screening, if testing is necessary, you will be able to place an order for a home test kit. The kit enables you to collect a specimen at home and send it to a certified lab for processing. You will receive secure digital results within days.

Pixel by Labcorp [Get Started](#) (Nasal Test)

You must be 18 or older to take this test. The average time to deliver results is currently 1-2 days from when your sample is received at the lab.

**Vault Health (Sussex County residents only)
[Get Started](#) (Saliva Test)**

Only persons over the age of 6 are eligible for this test. Persons under the age of 18 should have a parent or guardian complete the registration for them.

If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Health, Office of Public Health Nursing at 973-579-0570.

Sussex County
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Division of Senior Services
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