

# SUSSEX COUNTY

# SENIOR TIMES

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

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## Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services Offers Assistance with PAAD, SLMB and LIHEAP Applications

The Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services will be providing assistance in completing applications for the following programs.

1) The Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged & Disabled (PAAD) is a New Jersey state funded program that assists low-income NJ residents who are age (65) and/or disabled with the purchase of prescription drugs. Under the program, the PAAD clients pay \$5.00 or \$7.00 for each prescription and are credited \$225 off their electric bill. Enrollment is open year round. Below are the maximum income and asset eligibility guidelines.

Individual Income: \$27,189 yr.

Married Income: \$33,334 yr.

Assets: No Limit

2) The Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) is a New Jersey state funded program that assists very low-income NJ residents who are age (65) and/or disabled with paying the Medicare Part B premium. Enrollment is open year round. Below are the maximum income and asset eligibility guidelines.

Individual Income: \$1,234 month /Assets: \$7,560

Married Income: \$1,666 month /Assets: \$11,340

3) The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program designed to help low-income individuals meet home heating and medically necessary cooling costs. This year the application period is October 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019. Below are the maximum income and asset eligibility guidelines.

1 Person Household Income: \$2,024 month

2 People Household Income: \$ 2,744 month

3 People Household Income: \$ 3,464 month

Assets: No Limit

To schedule an appointment, please call the Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext. 1221.

## How to Avoid Charity Scams

During the holiday season, it seems as though we spend more time out shopping than in our own homes. We are at grocery stores, toy stores, clothing stores and more often today, using online retailers. When we get to the checkout counter, or the checkout cart for online shopping, we are often asked to donate to charities. But when we donate are we really sure what exactly we are donating to?

In recent years, scams involving charities that we have grown to trust have been scattered across headlines. These charity organizations are often accused of taking the money and only giving a small percentage to the cause, or in some cases, they do not give the money to the people they claim to help at all.

When coming upon the season of giving, be sure to make educated decisions on which charities you choose to give to. If they ask for you to wire money, pay via gift card, or give money in cash, you cannot guarantee where the money is going. Instead, when choosing to donate pay via a check or credit card so that it shows on the statement who the payment was made to. Be sure to record all donations made so that you can be aware if you are charged more than you agreed to, or if you have been signed up for a reoccurring donation.

Scammers can call over the phone and disguise the number so that it appears local on your caller ID. When talking they will often use names of real charities or names that sound like they could be charities. The scam artist might not have answers to questions on exactly how the money might be used when donated. Scammers often try to rush victims and make them feel uncomfortable so that they agree to the scam. If you feel uncomfortable with the person on the line but still want to donate to the charity, do your own research first and find out if it is reputable.

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## How to Avoid Charity Scams (continued)

If you want to know whether or not a charity is reputable, you can always check with the Better Business Bureau at <https://www.bbb.org/en/us> or visit Charity Navigator at <https://charitynavigator.org>. Charity Navigator will give the finances of the company, such as how they spend their money. They will give you the accountability and transparency, and charities which are similar to it. Charity Navigator gives the charity an overall rating out of four stars based on these factors. If you feel uneasy about donating over the phone, you can donate to the organization that you wish through Charity Navigator.

Making donations to charities can be a great thing but just make sure that the charity is reputable.

The information is provided courtesy of the Sussex County Prosecutor's Office.

## FLU SHOTS AT THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The flu season is approaching and getting vaccinated with a flu shot is the best way to prevent becoming ill with the flu. The Sussex County Office of Public Health Nursing will be giving flu shots on Mondays and Thursdays (except for holidays 11/22, 12/24, 1/21, 2/18) from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., starting October 29 through February 2019 at their office located at 201 Wheatsworth Road in Hamburg. No appointment is necessary.

There is no cost for flu vaccine for people who have Medicare (just bring your card) and have Part B or for people who meet income eligibility. For others, the cost of the flu vaccine is \$20.00. Cash or checks are accepted. Credit cards are NOT accepted.

For more information about the flu, please visit the Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services flu website at [www.sussex.nj.us/flu](http://www.sussex.nj.us/flu) or call the Office of Public Health Nursing at 973-579-0570, ext. 1211.

## SENIOR CLUB TRIP INFORMATION

**Montague Seniors** - Will host a bus trip on Tuesday, **January 29, 2019**, to the new Resorts Casino in the Catskills of New York. The cost is \$25 per person. You will receive \$20 in slot play along with a \$10 food voucher.

For further details, please call the Division of Senior Services at 973-579-0555, ext. 1277.

# SAVE THE DATES!

## 2019 SPECIAL EVENTS

### OLDER AMERICANS DAY

Selective Insurance, Branchville, NJ  
**Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> ~ 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**  
Education & Enrichment Programs – Exhibits – Lunch

### PUBLIC HEARING

Silver Café at Knoll Heights, Sparta, NJ  
**Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> ~ 1:30 p.m.**  
Let your voice be heard!

### SENIOR DAY

NJ State Fair, Augusta, NJ  
**Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**  
Entertainment – Exhibits – Prizes

### VETERANS PICNIC

American Legion Post 213, Sussex, NJ  
**August 2018 ~ (Date to be determined)**

### HEALTHY LIVING FESTIVAL

**Place, Date and Time (To be determined)**  
Health Screenings – Life Enrichment Programs

### CAREGIVER EXPO

Farmstead Golf & Country Club, Lafayette, NJ  
**Date (To be determined) ~ 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**

### SALUTE TO MILITARY VETERANS

**Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta, NJ**  
**Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ 1 p.m.**  
Parade – Entertainment – Exhibits

### OPEN HOUSE

Sussex County Community College  
Performing Arts Atrium, One College Hill, Newton, NJ  
**Friday, December (to be determined)**  
**12 p.m. - 3 p.m.**  
Information – Resources – Lunch

**See Upcoming Newsletters for Details!**

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