
FROM THE DIRECTOR

.....ANGELA M. REARDON

The Seneca County Office for the Aging is now taking appointments for this year's **TAX COUNSELING PROGRAM**. The program begins on February 3, 2017. Any Seneca County resident 60 years of age or older who wishes to have his/her income Tax or IT214 (Real Property Tax Rebate) filled out should call the Office for the Aging in Waterloo at (315) 539-1765 or 1-800-688-7188 Ext. 1755. Assistance will be given by appointment only. If you would like more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact the office.

THANK YOU DECEMBER 2016 SERVITOR VOLUNTEERS..... *Floyd*

Gardepe, Joan Davis, Elsa Conley, Irma Kraft, and Janice Roloson.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL TAX RELIEF PROGRAM

There have been some changes in how certain homeowners will apply for STAR, and in how they receive their STAR benefit. The STAR Program continues to provide much needed property tax relief to New York State's homeowners.

New Applicants who qualify for Basic or Enhanced STAR

- You will register with New York State instead of applying with your assessor
- You will receive a STAR credit in the form of a check, rather than receiving a property tax exemption (if you qualify for STAR). The dollar value of the credit will be the same as the property tax exemption.

New applicants who qualify for Enhanced STAR (or who will qualify in the future

You do not need to register separately to receive the Enhanced benefit if you've already registered to receive the Basic benefit.

When you register for the STAR credit, the Tax Department will automatically review your application to determine whether you are eligible for the Basic or Enhanced STAR benefit amount.

If you are receiving a STAR exemption and purchased your current home **prior to May 1, 2014 then you** don't need to register; you will continue to receive the STAR exemption.

If you purchased your home **between May 1, 2014 and August 1, 2015, then you** need to register to receive the STAR credit if:

- You bought your home after the 2015 STAR application deadline, or
- You did not apply for the STAR exemption for your home by the 2015 application deadline.

Otherwise, no action is necessary; you will continue to receive the STAR exemption.

If you purchased your home **after August 1, 2015, then you** need to register for the STAR credit.

TYPES OF STAR

Whether you receive the STAR exemption or the credit, there are two types of STAR benefits:

Basic STAR

- There is no age requirement
- Available for owner occupied , primary residences where the resident owners' and their spouses' income is less than \$500,000
- Based on the first \$30,000 of the full value of a home

Enhanced STAR

- Provides an increased benefit for the primary residences of senior citizens (aged 65 and older) with qualifying incomes (\$86,000 or less for the 2017-2018 school year)
- Based on the first \$65,000 of the full value of a home (for the 2017-2018 school year)

The STAR benefit applies only to school district taxes. It does not apply to property taxes for other purposes, such as county, towns or city (though special rules apply in the state's five biggest cities, namely New York City, Buffalo, Rochester, Yonkers and Syracuse).

For more information regarding the New York State Tax credit, homeowners can contact New York State at (518) 457-2036.

APPOINTMENTS ENCOURAGED

Nothing is more frustrating than driving all the way to our office for help with a problem only to find that the employees you need to see are busy assisting other customers. Given the number and complexity of issues we help with, we want you to meet with the employee best able to assist you.

Please remember to call ahead and make an appointment. This will guarantee that you will be able to meet with someone experienced in the topics you're asking about. It will also reduce your wait time and increase our ability to see everyone in a timely manner.

HEAP

The Home Energy Assistance Program began on **November 14, 2016**. If you received a HEAP benefit last heating season, you should have received an application in the mail in early September. Please fill out the application to the best of your ability and return it to our office. Those applying for the first time should contact our office to either be sent an application in the mail or to make an appointment to come in and apply. Our office handles only those Seneca County residents who are 60 years of age or older, those under 60 years who receive Social Security Disability and those who are SSI recipients and live alone. This

year's income guidelines are as follows: 1 person household \$2,300; 2-person household \$3,007; 3 person household \$3,715. For more information, or to schedule an appointment please call the Seneca County Office for the Aging at (315) 539-1765.

Alzheimer's Association Services

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Join us for a joint enrichment activity for caregivers and people with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Joint enrichment activities are engaging activities, such as art, music, games or social hour, for you and your loved one to enjoy together.

This service is free of charge. Registration is required.

Seneca County Office for the Aging
1 DiPronio Dr.
Waterloo, NY 13165

This social activity is on the second Friday of the month from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

Ovid Public Library
7149 N Main St.
Ovid, NY 14521

This social activity is on the first Tuesday of the month from 10:00 am - 11:00 am starting on January 3, 2017.

This service is free of charge. Registration is required. Please call 800-272-3900 to register.

CARE COORDINATORS OFF SITE OFFICE HOURS

Three times per month, a Care Coordinator will be available in person at the following locations to help assess your family's needs and discuss care planning, home safety and any other concerns.

Appointments are appreciated but not required

Seneca Falls Public Library

47 Cayuga Street

Seneca Falls, NY 13148

First Thursday of the Month

10:00 am- 4:00 pm

Seneca County Office for the Aging

1 DiPronio Dr.

Waterloo, NY 13165

Second Friday of the Month

9:00 am- 3:00 pm

Ovid Public Library

7169 N. Main St.

Ovid, NY 14521

Third Thursday of the Month

10:00 am- 2:00 pm

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

A place to connect with Caregivers, family and friends of persons with

Alzheimer's disease.

Seneca Falls Public Library

47 Cayuga St.

Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Join Us Every First Thursday from 4:00 - 5:00 pm.

Ovid Federated Church

7137 Main St.

Ovid, NY 14521

Join Us Every Fourth Friday from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

starting January 27, 2017.

Support group meetings offer family members and friends a time to share thoughts, feelings and information with other caregivers who are experiencing many of the same situations. This service is free of charge and no registration is required.

All the above-mentioned services are supported by a grant from the New York State Department of Health in partnership with Lifespan of Greater Rochester.

Please join Walt Gable, County Historian for a presentation on

The History of Valentine's Day and how we celebrate it!



When: Tuesday, February 14, 2014

Time: 11:15 am – 11:45 am

Place: Waterloo Nutrition site

1 DiPronio Drive

Waterloo, NY 13165

If you'd like to stay for lunch, please make a reservation by calling (315) 539-1765 at least 24 hour in advance!!

Area Code Overlay Approved for the New York 315 Area Code

To ensure a continuing supply of telephone numbers, the new 680 area code will be added to the area served by 315. This is known as an area code overlay.

What is an overlay?

An overlay is the addition of another area code (680) to the same geographic region as an existing area code (315). An overlay does not require customers to change their existing area code.

Who will be affected?

The 315 area code covers the west-central portion of New York States serving communities such as Syracuse, Utica and Watertown. The new 680 area code will

serve the same geographic areas currently served by the existing 315 area code.

What will be the new dialing procedure?

To complete calls within the 315 area code, the new dialing procedure requires callers to **dial area code + telephone number**. The same dialing procedure will apply to telephone numbers assigned to the new 680 area code.

When will the change begin?

Effective February 11, 2017, you must use the new dialing procedures, as described above for all calls. After this date, if you do not use the new dialing procedures, your calls will not be completed and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again.

Effective March 11, 2017, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 680 area code. All calls made within and between area codes 315 and 680 must be placed using the 10 digit telephone number (315 or 680 + the seven digit telephone number).

What will you need to do?

In addition to changing your dialing procedures, all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment that are programmed to dial a 7 digit number will need to be reprogrammed to use the new dialing procedure. Some examples are life safety systems for medical devices, PBXs, fax machines, Internet

dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems or gates, speed dialers, mobile phone contact lists, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, and similar functions, etc. Be sure to check your website, business stationary, advertising materials, personal and business checks, contact information, and your personal or pet ID tags to ensure the area code is included.

What will remain the same?

- Your telephone number
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- You will continue to dial 1 + area code + telephone number for all calls to other area codes (outside of 315 and 680).
- You can still just dial three digits to reach 911.
- If 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 or 811 are currently available in your community you will still dial these codes with just three digits.

Who may you contact with questions?

If you have any questions regarding information provided in this notice, please call Westelcom at 315-755-2255 or access Westelcom.com for more information.

For more information you can also visit the New York Public Service

Commission's website at <http://www.dps.ny.gov/> .

Info. taken from www.dps.ny.gov

PARTNERS IN CARING VOLUNTEER
With LIFESPAN

A caregiver near you could use a break-

A few hours of to shop, nap, take a walk, visit a friend...

Give the gift of time.

We will match you with a caregiver and provide training and support

Learn more at 585-287-6372 or email volunteerflci@lifespandrochester.org

A service of the Finger Lakes Alzheimer's Caregiver Institute.

Grant funded by the NYS Dept. of Health

FEBRUARY 2017 ACTIVITIES

Seneca County Senior Center, Inc.
1 DiPronio Drive, Waterloo, NY 13165

The following activities are each week at the Office for the Aging Nutrition Site located in the Seneca County Office Building, 1 DiPronio Drive, Waterloo, NY and at the Verona Village Nutrition Site in Ovid. Please call (315) 539-1780 for details.

- MONDAY: Waterloo 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM WALKING
Waterloo 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM BILLIARDS
Waterloo 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM LINE DANCING
Waterloo 11:30 AM – 11:45 AM WELLNESS/FITNESS
Waterloo 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM ART CLASS
- TUESDAY: Waterloo 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM WALKING
Waterloo 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM BILLIARDS
Waterloo 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM LINE DANCING
Waterloo 12:45 PM – 2:45 PM EUCHRE
- WEDNESDAY: Ovid 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM COFFEE HOUR
Waterloo 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM WALKING
Waterloo 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM BILLIARDS
Waterloo 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM ADULT COLORING
GROUP
Waterloo 11:30 AM – 11:45 AM WELLNESS/FITNESS
- 1ST AND 3RD
WEDNESDAYS: Ovid 12:45 PM – 2:00 PM BINGO
- THURSDAY: Waterloo 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM WALKING
Waterloo 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM BILLIARDS
Waterloo 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM LINE DANCING
- 1ST AND LAST
THURSDAYS: Waterloo 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM BINGO
- FRIDAY: Waterloo 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM WALKING
Waterloo 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM BILLIARDS
Waterloo 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM COFFEE HOUR
Waterloo 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM DISCUSSION GROUP
Waterloo 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM TRIVIA
Waterloo 11:45 AM – WORD OF THE WEEK

OFFICE FOR THE AGING STAFF

Angela M. Reardon.....Director
Kimberly Pfeiffer.....Coordinator of Services
Debra DiLallo..... Nutrition Services Coordinator
Jamie Damoth.....Meals on Wheels Coordinator
Tom McArdle.....Aging Services Aide
Bob DeYoung.....Senior Weatherization Coordinator
Mary Kelleher.....Aging Services Specialist
Katherine DeVay.....Senior Account Clerk
Amanda Faiola-Mikkelsen.....Typist
Leeanne Dutcher-Tuefel.....Aging Services Aide-HIICAP Coordinator
MaryBeth Balistreri.....Aging Services Aide- HEAP
Lisa Lindon.....Weatherization Referral Associate
Christina Ganzon..... Registered Dietitian
Kathy Kopsa.....Cook
Cynthia Doolittle, Susan Kastenhuber.....Kitchen Personnel
Barbara Strawway, Marian Gable,
Elinor Goslicki.....Nutrition Site Managers
Michelle Langley, Mark Crawford, Harold Bush,
David Ramsey,.....Food Transporters
Scott Burluson.....Weatherization Energy Auditor
Bill Murray, Joe Derleth.....Weatherization Aide

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you will be having a change of address, please remember to let our office know.

Also, if you are temporarily away from your home, contact us as well. The Office

for the Aging pays **.49** cents for each returned SERVITOR. If your copy is

returned to our office, you will be taken off our mailing list until you notify us of

your new address or that you have returned home.



If you would like to receive the SENECA SENIOR SERVITOR, or if you would like to have it sent to a friend or neighbor, please fill out the following form. Please be sure to include the TOWNSHIP and BOX NUMBER, if you are on a rural route. The suggested contribution is \$2.00 per year.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWNSHIP _____