

Dutchess County Office for the Aging's

## **AGING NEWS**

For the week of August 17th

### **OFA MEDICARE SESSIONS RESUME THIS FALL, WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING**

The Office for the Aging's regular series of Medicare classes and workshops was suspended in March when the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, but with Dutchess County gradually reopening we've worked with Adriance Memorial Library in the City of Poughkeepsie and Boardman Road Library in the Town of Poughkeepsie to hold a series of socially distanced, in-person Medicare website workshops. Four daytime classes are scheduled so far:

- Wednesday, September 23rd
- Wednesday, October 28th
- Wednesday, November 25th
- Wednesday, December 23rd

Each of the above classes begins at 9:30 a.m. at Adriance Library, 93 Market St.;

the library parking lot is around the corner on Noxon St.

There are also two evening classes on the schedule:

- Tuesday, October 27th at Boardman Road library, 141 Boardman Rd.
- Wednesday, November 18th at Adriance Library

Both classes take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

There is a limit of 6 people in each class due to the need for safe social distancing. It is also mandatory to wear a mask and to use hand sanitizer both before and after using the computer in the class.

All class times and venues are subject to change due to the COVID situation at that time.

**Reservations are required** and can be made by contacting the Office for the Aging at (845) 486-2555.

## **DOOR-TO-DOOR CENSUS COUNTS NOW UNDERWAY**

If you haven't yet responded to the 2020 Census, there's still time to do so. It only takes a few minutes to make a tremendous difference for all the residents of Dutchess County, including our seniors.

When we looked at Census self-response rates in June, we noted low rates of response in the City of Poughkeepsie, along with much of northeastern Dutchess County. That low-response pattern has continued into August. Dutchess County remains below 2010 self-response rates.

Census takers started visiting non-responding households last week, and will continue doing so until September 30<sup>th</sup>, to ask a few questions and enter answers on their secure Census Bureau smart phone. Local individuals employed as census workers carry a valid U.S. Department of Commerce ID badge with their photograph and an expiration date. They wear masks and follow local public health guidelines, having completed a virtual COVID-19 training on social distancing and other health and safety protocols.

If a family member is not home when the census taker visits, they will leave a notice of their visit with information about how to respond online or by phone. As necessary, they will make additional visits to collect responses from the

household.

If you have internet access, you can still go to [My2020Census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) and fill out your census. That makes it less likely a Census worker will visit you.

Phone numbers for Census response and assistance are 844-330-2020 for English; 844-468-2020 for Spanish; and 844-467-2020 for TDD users. Phone assistance is also available in 12 other languages.

If you have questions about the identity of a Census worker visiting you, call the New York regional Census office at (212) 882-7100.

***Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114  
Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, telephone (845) 486-2555, email:  
[ofa@dutchessny.gov](mailto:ofa@dutchessny.gov) website: [www.dutchessny.gov/aging](http://www.dutchessny.gov/aging)***

### **FARMERS MARKET COUPON BOOK PICKUP DAY (Mon 8/17)**

Income-qualified Dutchess County seniors who have not yet taken advantage of the 2020 Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) have one more chance to do so this season. The Office for the Aging will host a drive-thru SFMNP

coupon booklet pickup day on Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., while supplies of coupon booklets last.

Income eligibility guidelines for SFMNP are as follows:

1-person household: \$1968/month

2-person household: \$2658/month

3-person household: \$3349/month

For more information, call the Office for the Aging at (845) 486-2555. Because of COVID-related restrictions, we cannot accept “walk-in” visitors to apply for SFMNP booklets.

**Other aging news online:**

It’s now New York state law for all vehicle passengers (front AND back seats) to buckle up: [https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Seat-belts-for-all-back-](https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Seat-belts-for-all-back-seat-passengers-now-the-15475058.php?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=headlines&utm_campaign=tu_capitolconfidential)

[seat-passengers-now-the-](https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Seat-belts-for-all-back-seat-passengers-now-the-15475058.php?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=headlines&utm_campaign=tu_capitolconfidential)

[15475058.php?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=headlines&utm\\_campaign=tu\\_capitolconfidential](https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Seat-belts-for-all-back-seat-passengers-now-the-15475058.php?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=headlines&utm_campaign=tu_capitolconfidential)

An app aimed at getting older adults up and moving more frequently:

<https://viterbischool.usc.edu/news/2020/06/usc-designed-smartphone-app-aims-to-get-older-adults-moving-up/>

**This week in senior birthdays:**

8/15: US Supreme Court associate justice Stephen Breyer (81)

8/16: Actress/dancer Julie Newmar (87)

8/17: Actor/director Robert De Niro (77)

8/18: 41st First Lady Rosalynn Carter (93)

8/19: Yankees second baseman Bobby Richardson (85)

8/20: Boxing promoter Don King (89)

8/21: Actor/director/screenwriter Melvin Van Peebles (88)

**This week's Bad Joke is something to think about:**

Every time you light a lighter it gets lighter, until it becomes so light that it won't light.