

42st ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS ART EXHIBIT

The 42st Annual Senior Citizens Art Exhibit celebrates the creative talents of older adults in Ocean County. Healthy aging includes many kinds of activity including physical, social and creative. Ocean County offers countless ways to express and enjoy the arts, history and culture. Enrich your life through classes, exhibits, fairs, celebrations, tours, parks and historical sites. They are all here in Ocean County for all ages to share and enjoy.

First Place winners from the county level Senior Citizens Art Exhibit will be eligible to enter the 2018 New Jersey Senior Citizens Annual Juried Art Contest and Exhibition in the fall.

SAVE THE DATES – The 42st Annual Senior Citizens Art Exhibit will be open to the public in the Grunin Center 2nd Floor Gallery from Saturday June 9 til Sunday July 8. (Gallery is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to noon, and closed on Sundays). A Reception and Award Ceremony will be held in the Grunin Center on Friday June 15 at 10:30 a.m. Removal day will be on July 9 at 10:00 a.m. to noon; all accepted artwork must remain for the duration of the exhibit and must be removed on the removal day, no exceptions.

For further information, please contact Valarie Morris in OCC College Relations at 732-255-0400 Ext. 2380 or visit www.ocean.edu to download an entry form.



May/June 2018 Newsletter



Freeholder Chairman
Joseph H. Vicari

A Message From Joseph Vicari: Freeholder Chairman

In the next several months, Medicare will be mailing out new cards to the nearly 60 million beneficiaries throughout the United States. You are likely to receive yours sometime this summer as New Jersey mailing is scheduled to begin June 1.

It is always my goal as your Freeholder to look for ways to protect you from consumer scams and fraud so I asked how does the new card protect you?

The new card will no longer have your Social Security number on it; instead it is replaced another number unique to you. The card will now contain a new Medicare number (called a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier) selected at random and made up of letters and numbers. Remember the card is free and should not be shared with anyone other than your health care provider as needed.

Once you have shared the new card with your healthcare team, you can destroy the old one. Nothing else changes as your Social Security number, your secondary insurance and your Part D coverage all remain the same. So watch for a business envelope addressed to you from the Department of Health and Human Services and on the back of the envelope it will say **OFFICIAL INFORMATION FROM MEDICARE**. Do not throw this away!

Inside will be your new Medicare card; if you have any questions at all don't hesitate to call **732-929-2091, 1-800-668-4899 (In State Only) or 1-877-222-3737** and our Senior Services staff will be more than happy to assist you.

Have a great summer... the next time you hear from us it will be September! But don't hesitate to call us at 732-929-2091 we are always glad to hear from you.



Printed by the Ocean County Printing & Graphic Arts Department Freeholder John P. Kelly, Liaison

"Making it Easier For Seniors To Choose Services"

www.co.ocean.nj.us

Jackie Rohan, Director

Freeholder Chairman

Joseph H. Vicari

Office of Senior Services

Ocean County

Carl W. Block, Administrator

Joseph H. Vicari

Gerry P. Little

John P. Kelly

Virginia E. Haines

John C. Bartlett, Jr.

Board of Chosen Freeholders

Ocean County

Ocean County Office of Senior Services
The One-Stop Center
P.O. Box 2191
1027 Hooper Ave., Bldg. 2, First Floor
Toms River, New Jersey 08754-2191





OLDER AMERICANS MONTH MAY 2018

Older Americans Month has traditionally been the time to acknowledge the contributions to our country of both past and current older persons, and this year's theme is Engage at Every Age. The theme for this May's observance is intended to emphasize that you are never too old (or too young) to take part in activities that can enrich your physical, mental, and emotional well-being. It also celebrates the many ways in which older adults make a difference in our communities.

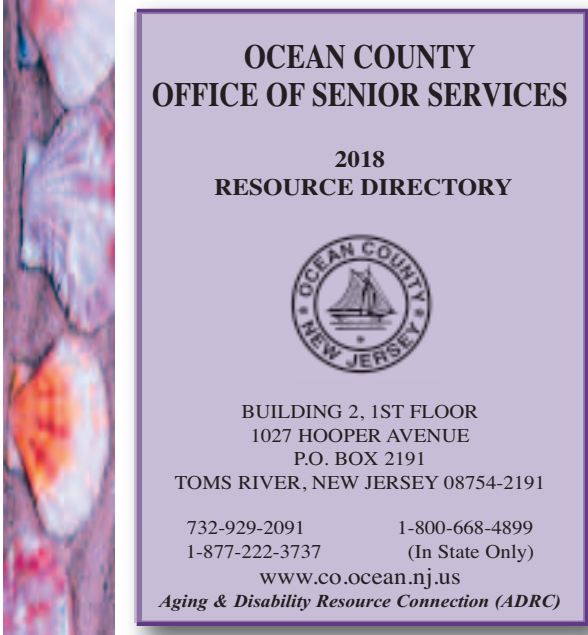
Participating in activities that promote mental and physical wellness, offering your wisdom and experience to the next generation, seeking the mentorship of someone with more life experience than you—those are just a few examples of what being engaged can mean. No matter where you are in your life, there is no better time than now to start. We hope you will join in and Engage at Every Age! A great start would be to call us at **732-929-2091, 1-800-668-4899 (In State Only) or 1-877-222-3737** to get a list of our senior centers located throughout the county; they host incredible activities especially during the month of May.....go ahead: **ENGAGE.**

WANT TO ENGAGE WITH US? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

On Wednesday, May 23 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, we will be conducting a public hearing to determine the pressing issues involving older adults who reside in Ocean County.

This meeting is an important step in our annual Area Plan Process; by “area plan” we mean how we receive the funding for Ocean County senior programs and services, and then move ahead to distribute those dollars to the agencies that will do the work with us in the next year; we are part of a vast aging network of service providers. We will describe this to you in more detail when you join us at the meeting.

This year's public hearing will be held at the Jackson Township Senior Center, 45 Don Connor Blvd in Jackson. Please call the Ocean County Office of Senior Services at **732-929-2091, 1-800-668-4899 (In State Only) or 1-877-222-3737** to confirm your attendance and we will save a seat for you at this important event.



2018 OCEAN COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES RESOURCE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

Our new “**PURPLE**” resource book for 2018 is now available at the Ocean County Office of Senior Services. The 72 page directory includes information on benefits, consumer protection, education, health services, housing, legal services, nutrition, outreach, recreation, social services, transportation and volunteer programs.

Please call for a copy of this new Resource Directory, **732-929-2091, 1-800-668-4899 (In State Only) or 1-877-222-3737**. Also, the 2018 Ocean County Office of Senior Services Resource Directory is also easily accessible on our website at www.co.ocean.nj.us, click on “Senior Services”; on the right side of the webpage you will see “Consumer Resource Directory” as well as a variety of additional information and links to important services.

WELCOME TO MEDICARE SEMINARS

These “Welcome to Medicare” seminars are for people who will soon be eligible for Medicare Benefits.

If you are turning 65 or over 65 and retiring soon or living with a disability and your Medicare will be starting shortly, one of these seminars can help you answer the following questions:

Where do you go? When do you go? What to do first?

OCEAN MEDICAL CENTER	SOUTHERN MEDICAL CENTER
Tuesday, May 22, 2018	Monday, June 04, 2018
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	10:30 AM-11:30AM

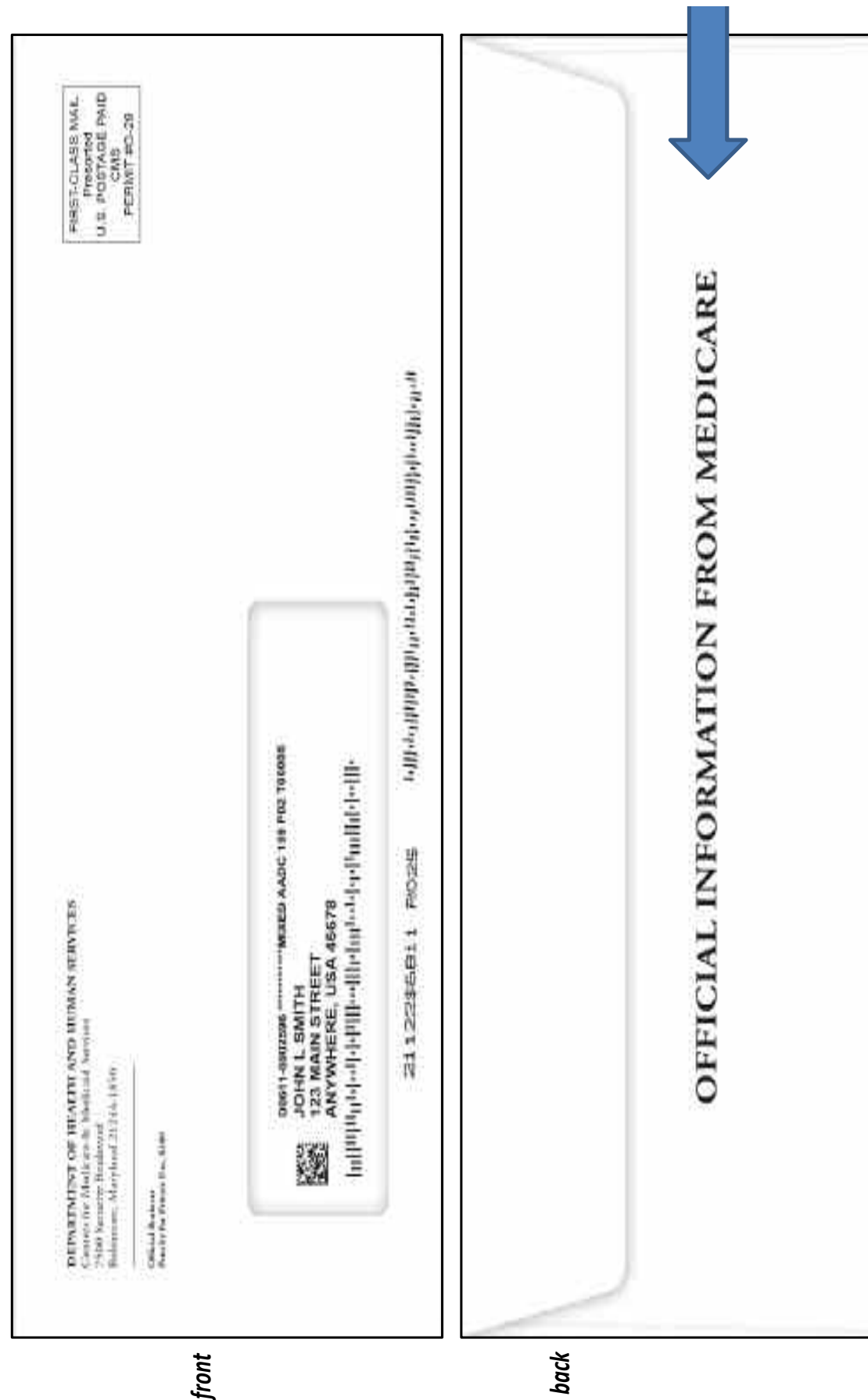
Registration is required. Call for seminar location. Please call **732-929-2091 or 1-800-668-4899** to register.

ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU TO OUR TAX VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you needs to go out to a dedicated group of talented older adults – our Ocean County tax volunteers! We extend a huge thank you to all of the AARP Tax Aide volunteers and the VITA volunteers for their assistance to Ocean County residents during this year's income tax season.

The efforts of these committed and dedicated volunteers once again demonstrate that individuals can make a huge contribution and every day they make Ocean County an even better place to live.

New Medicare Card Mailing - Envelope



PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT “SENIOR TAX FREEZE”

The Division of Taxation has begun mailing applications for the 2017 Property Tax Reimbursement (Senior Freeze) to senior citizens and disabled residents who may be eligible for the program. The deadline for filing 2017 applications is on or before October 31, 2018. They have shared the following information with the County:

The Property Tax Reimbursement (Senior Freeze) Program, now in its 20th year, reimburses qualified applicants for the property tax increases they incur each year. Applicants must continue to meet all the income eligibility and residency requirements and must file an application each year to receive the reimbursement.

Residents applying for the 2017 reimbursement must have total income that was \$87,007* or less for 2016 and \$87,268* or less for 2017. These limits apply for all applicants, regardless of marital/civil union status. Applicants who are married or in a civil union and living in the same household must report combined income of both spouses/civil union partners. (*Income eligibility subject to change by the State Budget.)

There are two versions of the Property Tax Reimbursement application. Form PTR-1 is for applicants who are filing an application for the first time (or who filed an application last year but did not meet all the eligibility requirements). Form PTR-1 applicants must provide income and property tax information for both 2016 and 2017. Form PTR-2 is a personalized application for those who received reimbursement checks for 2016 (or who would have received reimbursement payments had budgetary restrictions not been in place). The PTR-2 application contains some of the information provided on the resident's base year application. Any questions feel free to call our office and staff will be glad to assist you.