FRIENDLY CARRIER

ORLEANS COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

APRIL 2022

WHAT'S INSIDE

Director's Desk - Page 2

Transportation Reminders - Page 4

Word Search - Page 6

Nutri-Fair Menu - Page 8

Available in our office while supplies last:

Covid-19 test kits and K95 masks

Please call to make arrangements for pick up 589-3191

IMPORTANT DATES FOR APRIL

Tuesday, April 12 Staff Development Day

Easter Sunday, April 17



POP-UP PANTRY (Nourish NY) Dates & Locations

Community Action Main Street Store - 131 S. Main Street, Albion April 18th, 9 am to Noon

New procedure: This will be a drive thru event.

Stay in your vehicle and keep your window closed. Have your trunk open.

Trolley Building at Orleans County 4H Fairgrounds April 25th, 12 pm to 4:00 pm

New waiting procedure: Starting at 9 am, you may check in with staff in the Trolley Building, or staff will greet you at your car in the parking lot. You will be handed a colored pass that will serve as your ticket for the distribution.

Red tickets will be admitted from 12 pm - 12:45 pm;

Blue tickets will be admitted from 12:45 pm - 1:30 pm;

Green tickets will be admitted from 1:30 pm - 2:15 pm.

After 2:15 pm, tickets are not required for any remaining items.

This will allow for all to either wait in cars, or leave the fairgrounds and return at your timeslot, instead of waiting out in the cold. Please bring your own bags.

Wagons and coolers on wheels work well so you don't have to carry items.

PLEASE Do not arrive before 9 am, the staff will not be available.

Reminder - Please call for in office appointments, 589-3191

We know many folks like to just drop by the office when they have a question or concern. However, we would appreciate it if you would call to set up an appointment. This allows us to better prepare for your visit in getting the necessary paperwork or records pulled together. Further, it allows us to estimate the time necessary for the particular reason for your visit. That way we can give you the fullest attention to the matter and not be rushed by the clock. Therefore, it's always best to call and make an appointment so that we can give you the time and attention to serve you better. *Thank You*





OFFICE FOR THE AGING INFORMATION

DIRECTOR'S DESK

April is here and that means spring is upon us! I have noticed the birds chirping early in the morning and it makes me smile. I don't know about you but I am ready to get out and enjoy the outdoors. We have been stuck inside most of the winter and we all want nice weather and fresh air.

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms our community. Each year, we recognize people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference in their communities.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week.

We would like to recognize all our amazing volunteers:

Advisory Council Volunteers - Emily Cebula-Chair, Thad Nauden-Vice Chair, Lynne Johnson, Bill Eick, Lynn Creasey, Jon Costello, Fred Miller, John Fitzak, Jeanne Martillotta, Sandy Thaine, Peggy Francisco, and Jack Gillman

Newsletter - Bob and Diane Eade, Florence Surdi, Kathryn Smith, Peggy Francisco, Laura Fortunato, Jean Shervin, Nancy Miles, Linda Suhr, Dorothy Boyer, Carol Fearby, Donna Bieliski, Sherry Russell, Carolyn Budynski, Betsy Kistner, Stephanie Christiansen, Jean Karls, Doris Antinore, Kathy Smith, Charles Welch, Fran Spohr, Barb Morey, Doris Allport, Robert Burtwell and Rhonda Stevens

Continued on page 4

OFFICE STAFF

Melissa Blanar
Director

Meghan Bevins *Assistant Director*

Tammy Graham Caregiver Coordinator

Christine Smith
Becky Karls
Samantha Koons
Michele Sargent

Aging Services Specialists

Leanne Donovan
Caseworker

Kathleen Bates
Account Clerk

Eileen Ryan Clerk

Donna Wilcox Michelle Hinman Housekeeper Aide

Della Fisher *Personal Care Aide*

Food Pantries and Hot Meals

Albion

Community Action 589-5605 Must pick up

Lyndonville/Yates

Lyndonville/Yates 765-2838

Holley

Eastern Orleans Community Center 638-6395, M-F 9-3:30 Hot lunch Mon-Fri, served at 11:30

Kendall

Kendall Community Food Shelf 659-3300 Delivery once a month or can pick up

Medina

Medina Calvary Cupboard 798-3738 Tues & Thur 9am-12pm

St. Peter's Church 798-0953 135 West Ave, Tues & Thur 10-12

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TEST YOUR LIFELINE UNITS EVERY MONTH!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL

SAMANTHA KOONS AT 589-2863

MEDICARE / INSURANCE INFORMATION

Medicare and Health Savings Accounts

Health Savings Accounts (HSA) are accounts for individuals with high-deductible health plans (HDHPs). Funds contributed to an HSA are not taxed when put into the HSA or when taken out, as long as they are used to pay for qualified medical expenses. Your employer may oversee your HSA, or you may have an individual HSA that is overseen by a bank, credit union, or insurance company.

If you have an HSA and will soon be eligible for Medicare, it is important to understand how enrolling in Medicare will affect

If you enroll in Medicare Part A and/or B, you can no longer contribute pre-tax dollars to your HSA. This is because to contribute pre-tax dollars to an HSA you cannot have any health insurance other than an HDHP. The month your Medicare begins, your account overseer should change your contribution to your HSA to zero dollars per month. However, you may continue to withdraw money from your HSA after you enroll in Medicare to help pay for medical expenses, such as deductibles, premiums, copayments, and coinsurances. If you use the account for qualified medical expenses, its funds will continue to be tax-free. Whether you should delay enrollment in Medicare so you can continue contributing to your HSA depends on your circumstances. If you work for an employer with fewer than 20 employees, you may need Medicare in order to have primary insurance, even though you will lose the tax advantages of your HSA. This is because health coverage from employers with fewer than 20 employees pays secondary to Medicare. If you work at this kind of employer and fail to enroll in Medicare, you may have little or no health coverage because your health plan does not have to pay until after Medicare pays. Health coverage from an employer with 20 or more employees pays primary to Medicare, so you may choose to delay Medicare enrollment if you work at this kind of employer and continue putting funds into your HSA.

Note: In either case, you have access to the Part B Special Enrollment Period (SEP) when you lose coverage or retire.

If you choose to delay Medicare enrollment because you are still working and want to continue contributing to your HSA, you must also wait to collect Social Security retirement benefits. This is because most individuals who are collecting Social Security benefits when they become eliqible for Medicare are automatically enrolled into Medicare Part A. You cannot decline Part A while collecting Social Security benefits. The takeaway here is that you should delay Social Security benefits and decline Part A if you wish to continue contributing funds to your HSA.

Finally, if you decide to delay enrolling in Medicare, make sure to stop contributing to your HSA at least six months before you do plan to enroll in Medicare. This is because when you enroll in Medicare Part A, you receive up to six months of retroactive coverage, not going back farther than your initial month of eligibility. If you do not stop HSA contributions at least six months before Medicare enrollment, you may incur a tax penalty.

If you require counseling around HSAs, consult a tax professional.

APRIL INSURANCE MEETING

March 28 Orleans County Building, Conference Room C Univera 10 am - 12 pm

HEAP CORNER

The Regular benefit and Emergency benefit components are scheduled to operate through the close of business April 29, 2022.

Please use the new 2022 Social Security amounts from your award letter along with any other income when filling out an application

NOTE: You will be responsible for any deliveries prior to receiving your HEAP benefit

Emergency HEAP is open for HEAT and heat-related emergencies.

**You MUST have received & exhausted your regular HEAP benefit and also be resource eligible to qualify.

The HEAP Clean and Tune program, and The Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement (HERR) are still open.

If you need assistance filing out the application, or have questions, Please call Becky Karls at 589-3216 for assistance.

The Regular Arrears Supplement (RAS) which assisted HEAP eligible households who had electricity and/or gas account arrears is now CLOSED!

DIRECTOR'S DESK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Transportation - Robert Burtwell, Lori Lampert, Suzanne Punch, Charlie Jewell, Susie Miller, Dennis Brown, Marian Gerhardy, Carolyn Flansburg, Christine Scheuerman, and Charlie Scouten

Office Volunteers - Susie Miller and Peggy Francisco

"Volunteers are the heart of our organization!" "We couldn't do it without you, volunteers!" We love our volunteers and appreciate all you do for our office and serving older adults in Orleans County.

VOLUNTEEROPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Drivers Needed to give rides to Seniors

We are currently looking for volunteer drivers that live in or near Orleans County, with the greatest need being in the Medina area.





For more information, please contact Chris at 589-3211

(Drivers will have the option to claim mileage reimbursement)

Newsletter Volunteers

Help once a month for approximately 2 hours to fold, tape and label newsletters for mailing.
(On the last Tuesday of the month)
For more information,
Please call Kathleen at 589-2845

Transportation reminders

- We recommend one week's notice to schedule a ride with our transportation providers. The more notice the better.
- If a cancellation is required, we need 24 hours' notice (Monday-Friday) prior to appointment time. We are charged the entire trip and will ask for a suggested donation. We understand things come up, however, we are still charged if not enough notice is given. Cancellations need to be made through our office at 589-3191.
- We do not provide transportation to and/or from a hospital/ambulatory surgery center for medical procedures or transportation for a discharge from the hospital. Please talk to your medical provider if you have transportation concerns.
 Social workers/Discharge planners can assist you with transportation needs while in the hospital.
- Mask are still required on public transportation at this time. Effective March 7, 2022 masks are recommended but not required for the volunteer transportation program.
- Please do not pay the drivers. A donation letter will be sent the following month of your ride with your ride details and contributions should be sent to The Office for the Aging.
- All contributions are voluntary and will be used to expand services to all who need them in Orleans County. No one will be denied our services due to ability or unwillingness to contribute.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

Roxanne Culmo, Gerald Salvatore, Lewis Bowen, Elizabeth Mielcarek, Brenda Winters, John & Sharlene Pratt, Robert Tiberio, Douglas Wright, Luanne Whiting, Joan Roberts, Janice McCloy, Barbara Hoffman, John & Carolyn Sisson, Ethel Valentine, Henry Hong Yee, Jean Shervin, Penny Mosier, Mary Ann Arria, Terry Miller, John & Patricia Foote, Mattie Salone, Nancy Boyko, Elizabeth Huber, John Hanahan, Mike & Sharen Custer, Michael & Leslee Harmer, Roger & Ingrid Lamont, Gregory & Suzanne Pfaff, John & Janet Nowak, Ted Chikey, Mary Winans, Helen Charles, Jennie Stanley, Grace Guzik, Jack & Linda Hansler, Mary Joan Vaughn, Dimitrios Pinopoulos, Gerald & Donna Wetherbee, Gail Gurgir, Jim Davies, Carol Vanill, Wendy Coyle, Sharon Sedore, Charleen Stillwell, Gary Kosiorek, Marilyn Thurston, Nicki Fredericks, Colleen Fuller, Anita McCarthy, Julie Stymus, Linda Newman, Pat & Bill Harrold, Annette Coville and Wanda Kelley In Memory of Robert Hills - Elaine Hills In Memory of Franklin Shawver - Shirley Shawver In Memory of Donald Gaines - Constance Gaines In Memory of Dixie L. Scouten - Charles Scouten

In Memory of Jean Marek - Bonnie Waters In Memory of Janet DeWaele - Diane Brunwell
In Memory of Marion Schwenk - Paul and Cathy Schwenk

April brings a new state fiscal year and we revisit our client contributions. We are increasing donations for a couple of our services. Meals will be increasing by \$.50 a meal due to rising costs. Where else can you go and get a hot nutritious meal for a suggested donation of \$3.50? We were deeply impacted by losing our transportation contract with Community Action back in September of 2021. We have to increase our suggested donation for transportation because of the large increase. Out of county medical transportation will increase from \$20 to \$25 a ride. In County medical transportation will go from \$5 to \$10. If your actual ride cost is less than \$10 on your donation statement-any donation will be appreciated. To give you an idea of our out of county cost has increased from \$60 up to \$250 a ride. We are required to ask for a donation for all our services based on the Older American's Act. These donations help keep our programs going.

We received \$90,000 in donations last year. That is amazing!!!

2022 Orleans County Office for the Aging Contribution Rates

Effective April 1, 2022—March 31, 2023

The rates are only suggested contribution amounts*

No one will be denied service if they can not contribute at the rate specified. All contributions are voluntary and confidential.

SERVICE 2022 Contribution Rates

\$3.50 per meal for age 60+ **Congregate Meals**

\$9.50 per meal for under age 60

Home Delivered Meals Regular HDM - \$3.50 per meal for age 60+

Sandwich Meal - \$2.50 per meal for age 60+

Frozen Meals for Weekend - \$3.50 per meal for age 60+

\$25 per consultation Legal Service

Individual Health Insurance Counseling \$10 per session Individual Caregiver Counseling/Support \$10 per session **Nutrition Counseling** \$15 per session

Medical Transportation RTS Orleans, Medina Tax, Volunteer Program -

\$10.00 in county and \$25.00 out of county

Friendly Carrier/Caregivers Newsletter \$5.00 per year

2022 Orleans County Office for the Aging Charges

Based on sliding income scale - Up to \$16.62/hour Housekeeping **Personal Care** Based on sliding income scale - Up to \$23.19/hour

\$30.00 per month-Basic unit Lifeline-Emergency Response System

\$20.00 installation or reinstallation fee

NEW YORK

NY Connects

These contributions rates have been established by the Office for the Aging Advisory Council and apply to many programs and services the Office for the Aging provides.

All contributions received will be used to pay for program costs necessary to continue providing all the services that we have had over the years. We thank you for understanding of the importance of your contribution, which helps us continue to provide valuable services to Orleans County Residents.

*A suggested contribution level equal to the actual cost of the service for participants who self-disclose income at or above 185% of Federal Poverty Line (FPL).

NY Connects is a trusted place where you can get the information and assistance you need to make informed decisions for the care you need. Long Term Care can include many services that will help people of all ages remain independent in their daily lives. Finding those services can be confusing. A child or an adult with a disability, an older adult, caregivers, family members, friends or neighbors and even helping professionals should reach

out to Orleans NY Connects, at 585-589-3191, to discuss needed services.

Happy Earth Day!

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Word List:

AIR APRIL CLEAN CLIMATE EARTHDAY **ECOLOGY** ENERGY ENVIRONMENT GREEN HABITAT OCEAN OXYGEN POLLUTION PLANT REDUCE REPURPOSE SAVE TREES WATER WETLANDS

ATMOSPHERE
COMPOST
ECOSYSTEM
FLOWERS
LITTER
OZONE
RAINFOREST
RESOURCES
VOLUNTEER
WILDLIFE

CARBONFOOTPRINT
CONSERVATION
ENDANGERED
FUEL
NATURE
PLANET
RECYCLE
RUBBISH
WASTE
WORLD

CAREGIVER CORNER

If you are a caregiver and feeling overwhelmed, depressed or angry, it is time for you to get help for yourself and the loved one that you are caring for.

The weekly in person meetings at Hospice are on hold at this time.

If you would like to discuss your specific situation privately to review options Please call Tammy Graham at 589-3192 Or email at: Tammy.Graham@orleanscountyny.gov

NUTRITION CORNER

Five Top Foods For Your Eye Health

Ellen Foster RDN (Registered Dietitian Nutritionist)

Do your eyes have all the nutrients they need to help prevent cataracts, macular degeneration, and even glaucoma? Let's find some ways to help our eyes get them.

Kale - This leafy green is a rich source of lutein and zeaxanthin, which are related to vitamin A and beta carotene, and are believed to protect eye tissues from sunlight damage and reduce the risk of cataracts and macular degeneration.

Good sources of these nutrients also include other dark green leafy vegetables such as collard greens, turnip greens and spinach, as well as broccoli and peas and other vegetables like yellow squash and corn. Fruit like kiwi, red grapes, oranges, manques and honeydew melon also contain them.



Sweet Potatoes - These orange tubers are a good source of beta carotene, which may slow progress of macular degeneration. Your body converts beta carotene to vitamin A, a nutrient that helps prevent dry eyes and night blindness and helps reduce the risk of eye infections.

Maybe sweet potatoes are not your favorite? Try other deep orange foods, like carrots and butternut squash or dark green foods like spinach or broccoli. Liver, milk and eggs are other great sources of vitamin A.

Strawberries - Fresh, juicy strawberries are a good thing for your eyes, and contain plenty of vitamin C, which is an antioxidant that can help lower your risk of cataracts. Also, be sure to load up your plate with other vitamin C-rich foods including bell peppers, citrus (such as orange and grapefruit), and cantaloupe.





Salmon - Dry eyes? Eating enough omega-3 fatty acids can help alleviate the problem. Get some healthy fats every day in the form of salmon or other types of fish (two to three times per week). Salmon also is a good source of vitamin D, which helps protect against macular degeneration. Walnuts, flax seeds and chia seeds also contain good amounts of Vitamin D and walnuts also contain eye-healthy vitamin E. You can also get vitamin D by eating sardines or mackerel, and drinking milk and orange juice fortified with vitamin D.

Green Tea - A cup of green tea is more than relaxing and delicious. It has antioxidants which may help lower risk of developing cataracts and macular degeneration. Black tea also has antioxidants but not quite as many.

After hours counseling and crisis intervention is available through the Care and Crisis Helpline 585-283-5200 We are sorry to announce that The Spring Jubilee has been canceled for this year.

Please stay tuned to the newsletter for updates on the 4-H Senior Luncheon and The Senior picnic this summer

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Lynne Johnson *Legislature Chair*

> John Fitzak Legislature

Fred Miller Legislature

Lynn Creasey Medina Emily Cebula Chair, Lyndonville

Thaddeus Nauden Vice Chair, Waterport

Jonathan Gillman Kendall Peggy Francisco
Gaines

Jon Costello Albion

Sandy Thaine Ridgeway

APRIL 2022		NUTRI-FAIR MENU		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
If you need to cancel your meal or you will NOT be home to receive your meal, please call 24 hours in advance: 589-5424 option 5		NOTE: 2% or skim milk is served with all lunches Menu follows a no salt added and low sugar diet		1) Macaroni and cheese Stewed tomatoes Cole slaw Whole wheat dinner roll Banana
4) Beef stew Mashed potatoes Whole kernel corn Multigrain bread Cake w/fruit treat	5) Vitamin C juice Ravioli w/red sauce Wax beans 100% whole wheat bread Pineapple tidbits	6) Vitamin C juice Chicken pot pie Green beans Multigrain bread Diced peaches	7) Pepper steak strips Rice Peas 100% whole wheat bread Mandarin oranges	8) Stuffed shells w/ cream sauce Broccoli florets 100% whole wheat bread Diced pears
11) Vitamin C juice Hot dog Baked beans Spinach Hot dog bun Diced peaches	12) Vitamin C juice Spinach cheese squares Mixed vegetables Multigrain bread Applesauce	13) Spaghetti w/meat balls Cauliflower 100% whole wheat bread Fruit cocktail	14) Sweet and sour chicken Rice Brussels sprouts Multigrain bread Diced pears	15) GOOD FRIDAY Vitamin C juice Baked breaded fish/ tartar sauce Sweet potatoes Scandinavian vegetables Whole wheat bread Pudding w/topping
18) Vitamin C juice Beef pot pie Broccoli florets 100% whole wheat bread Lemon Fluff	19) Spanish rice Peas Multigrain bread Mandarin oranges	20) Cabbage roll w/red sauce Mashed potatoes Chuckwagon vegetables 100% whole wheat bread Ice cream cup	21) Shepherd's pie Carrots 100% whole wheat bread Ambrosia	22) Vitamin C juice Chicken parmesan Diced potatoes Green beans Multigrain bread Applesauce
25) Manicotti w/Alfredo sauce Winter blend Italian bread Tropical fruit cup	26) Vitamin C juice Swedish meatballs over Pasta Mixed vegetables 100% whole wheat bread Diced peaches	27) Vitamin C juice Roast pork w/gravy Mashed potatoes Harvard beets 100% whole wheat bread Diced pears	28) Chicken cacciatore Mashed potatoes Shredded cabbage Multigrain bread Applesauce	29) Vitamin C juice Chili con carne Rice Wax beans Italian bread Ice cream cup

Meals on Wheels - 589-5424, option 5

All menus subject to change with availability of food.

MOW may not receive this exact menu.

A call to cancel your reservation would be appreciated.

Thank you.

\$3.50 suggested contribution

Nutri-Fair Centers

Albion - Albion Academy, 16 East Academy St. (open Mon-Fri)
South Entrance, Doors open at 10am, Lunch is at Noon
Kendall - Kendall Town Hall, Route 237 (open Wed & Fri)
Doors open at 10am, Lunch is at Noon

For Nutri-Fair Reservations, Call 589-7817, option 5

APRIL NUTRI-FAIR HIGHLIGHTS

Becky Karls, OFA "Reminiscing....."

On Monday, April 18 Albion Nutri-Fair Site 16 East Academy St

On Wednesday, April 27 Kendall Nutri-Fair Site, Kendall Town Hall, Route 237 Michele Sargent, OFA
Exercise Wednesday at the
Medina Senior Center
615 West Ave
@ 10:00 A.M.

(The 1st Wed of the month - class starts at 11:00 A.M.)

Membership to
WNY Senior Center in Medina
is REQUIRED
For information Call
Kelly Shaw @ 798-4544

Michele Sargent, OFA
Exercise Thursday
Albion Nutri-Fair site
16 East Academy St.
@ 10:30 A.M.
Please call

@ 589-3191
or you are welcome to
walk in and attend a class
at the Nutri-fair site.

Office for the Aging

Update on Masks:

Masks will need to be worn when entering/leaving and in common areas of the Albion Nutri-Fair site.

You do not need to wear one during exercise class.

The Office for the Aging celebrating St. Patrick's Day



Happy Earth Day! 0 I E E D S I c U 0 Т L 0 C U 0 U T R C N Н 0 I E R E G D S R Y A Н I N Е A E R A G L Е E L U R R E E N

Did you know??

Customers who depend on electrically powered life support equipment, such as a respirator, should register as a life support customer by calling National Grid at 1-800-642-4272

If you are Holley Electric customer, call 638-6367 ext 101



Why a Lifeline medical alert unit?

If you are like most seniors, you want to maintain your independence and remain active. You don't want an accidental fall or medical emergency to jeopardize your ability to live independently at home.

- The personal medical alert button gives you fast access to a trained Response Associate 24/7, with two-way voice communication.
- Wear your waterproof personal medical alert button as an adjustable pendant like a necklace.
- You decide who comes to help you a neighbor, loved one, caregiver or emergency service.
- No long-term contract
- No service cancellation fee

If you are interested in signing up or have any questions, contact Samantha Koons at 585-589-2863



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(585) 589-0809 | cfancher@SCOrleans.org

SupportiveCareOrleans.org



MELODY PARKER, LPN ADMINISTRATOR

355 SOUTH MAIN STREET ALBION, NEW YORK 14411

(585) 589-7832 TELEPHONE

Applegate Manor

400 Ohio Street Medina, NY 14103

Tricia Trupo Administrator

Phone: (585) 798-3420

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ORLEANS COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING 14016 ROUTE 31 WEST ALBION, NEW YORK 14411









Catholic Charities Friendly Phones Home Visitation Program

Offering free weekly phone calls or 1 hour social visits to homebound seniors in Orleans County who are living independently. Seeking volunteers interested in making a difference in the life of a senior.

Give just one hour of your time a week playing cards, crafts or just talking.

Contact Catholic Charities (585) 343-0614
Funded by a grant by a private funder