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Wednesday, March 6, 2019 » MEDIANEWS GROUP



Programs on the Main Line enrich lives of aging adults

By Nina McKay

For MediaNews Group

Senior centers on the Main Line are disproving the stereotype of senior citizens as frail and inactive, offering a multitude of programs that promote healthy, active aging in place and community. "We're

Each center offers a variety of programs aimed at enriching the lives of senior citizens, from free or low-cost lunches to exercise and art classes each week. Beyond remaining active for their own well being, members at each center also donate their time and energy to projects that serve the greater community.

According to the Director Elissa Berardi, New Horizons Senior Center is a progressive and inclusive senior center in Narberth. New Ho-

serve the needs of seniors in the community and to provide retirees with a sense of purpose through volunteer opportunities. At this center, the line between contributor and beneficiary is often nonexistent, with many members also serving as program volunteers.

"People say to us that New Horizons has transformed their lives, and that's so powerful,' says Berardi, who has been the director of New Horizons for eight years. Berardi explains that the philosophy of ag-

ing in place centers around the idea of provid-

ing senior citizens with services that will enable them to continue living healthily and safely in their own homes and apartments, giving people alternative options to the "long-term care continuum" of residential facilities, like nursing homes.

New Horizons provides a multitude of oppor-

almost like

family for

those who

don't have

any. Just

to have

someone

who cares

how you are

and what's

happening

with you."

- Elissa Berardi

tunities for its members, ranging from recreational activities and fitness classes to educational seminars and supportive services. Many of the programs are led by volunteers who have recently retired and want to turn their attention to passions they were not able to act on while they were working full time, like exercise instruction or jewelry making. Some members continue in their position as program volunteers even as they age - one exercise class is led by a woman who will soon turn 90 and has taught the class for over 12 years.

"It's just part of the model of giving back and receiving, finding purpose and finding community," says Berardi.

New Horizons members can also give back to seniors outside

of their immediate community through participation in the New Horizons Glee Club, which performs for other seniors around the Delaware

New Horizons does not limit itself to the services it officially provides; rather, it seeks to assist its members with any issue they may encounter. It has a complete referral and information service for questions about temporary homecare and transportation, and staff will

Wayne Senior Center Fitness Center members Rita, Mary and Viji work out.



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For older adults, it's not 'just the flu'

Brandpoint

"I'm not the same person. The person before just kind of took life for granted. And now I cherish every moment I have because I know it can be taken away very quickly.

Lisa Pellerin, a mother and a nurse, shared these words as she recounted an experience so devaschanged her entire perspective on life. It wasn't cancer. It wasn't a heart attack.

It was the flu.

even if they were to get the flu, the majority (80 percent) only saw themselves as being at average or below average risk for flu-related these misperceptions could be dangerous.

Adults 50 years of age tating to her health that it and older are more likely than younger age groups to have a chronic illness, such as asthma or other lung disease, heart disease or dia-Surprisingly, the flu is a betes. Flu can exacerbate Everyone thought I was

source of worry for only 8 symptoms of these condigoing to die," she said. Lisa percent of adults 50 years tions and lead to serious of age and older, according complications, like pneuto a recent survey. And, monia - or sometimes even death.

Flu and chronic health conditions

According to the CDC, about 70 percent of adults complications. For some, ages 50 to 64 have at least one chronic illness. Lisa is among this group, living with both asthma and diabetes. All it took was one day for the flu to land her in the hospital. "I just kept getting worse. I was in the hospital for three weeks.

continues to struggle with shortness of breath and a persistent cough, but she's grateful to be alive.

After receiving a chronic obstructive pulmonary dis-Piette still enjoyed fishing, hunting and woodworking - until he got the flu. "Now, I'm on oxygen 24/7," he said. "I can't do much without running out of air." After a year and a half, Jim still hasn't been able to resume all his usual activi-



ease (COPD) diagnosis, Jim The flu is a source of worry for only 8 percent of adults 50 years of age and older.

the shot

Vaccination is the best way to help protect people, including older adults, from the flu and help reduce the risk of flu-related hospitalization and death. That's why the American Take the precaution: Get Lung Association created year.

the MyShot campaign in collaboration with Sanofi Pasteur. The campaign helps educate adults 50 years of age and older about the potential dangers of flu and the critical importance of getting a flu shot every

Lives

FROM PAGE 1

check in on members if they don't see them for a

"We're almost like family for those who don't have any," says Berardi. "Just to have someone who cares how you are and what's happening with you."

PALM, the Center for Positive Aging in Lower Merion, is located in Ardmore and offers its members numerous opportunities to remain engaged in

the wider community.

The center has around 350 to 400 members ages 50 and up - the oldest person who regularly comes in for exercise and lunch is 104.

We want to encourage individuals to make choices about saying active and involved in life," says Director Linda Collins.

Collins explains that PALM seeks to give its diverse members an opportunity to commit themselves to values like liberty, justice and equality. One way members can act on this mission is by engaging in different cultural celebrations. One June 19, the center celebrated the end of slavery with a Juneteenth party. The previous week, the members had the chance to attend a program on the end of Ramadan.

Collins also outlined the ample opportunities PALM members have to stay engaged with local politics and community service. Some members are involved in a program called Ardmore Initiative that examines affordable housing in Lower Merion Township. Rising real estate prices in the township are especially hard on people

who are living on a fixed income, including retired senior citizens.

The center also hosts community organizations that don't have meeting places of their own and organizes a monthly food pantry that is open both to members and to the outside community.

In addition, some members sing at area nursing homes in PALM's choir, the Merri Notes.

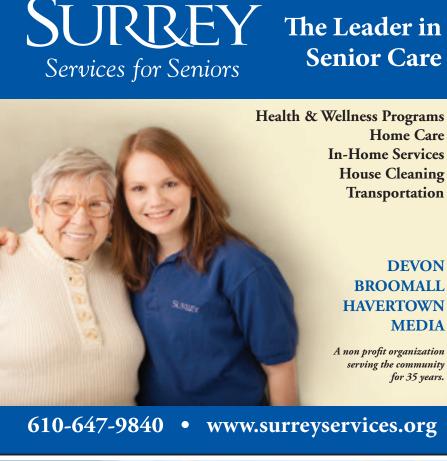
The array of community engagement activities one can find at PALM connects to the center's goal of increasing awareness about older adults in the community.

"It's been proved that senior centers with older adults that are exercising and socializing and things like that have reduced health care costs," **Program Coordinator** Katie Redmond explains. "I don't think people really know that."

Wayne Senior Center in Wayne also aims to keep the local senior population connected with the greater community. Wayne Senior Center has over 1,500 members who come in for services throughout the year that are centered around healthy, active aging. Activities include living assistance, like support groups and an AARP driving course; enrichment activities, like art classes and a book club; educational classes, including those that focus on technology; healthy living programs, like free hearing screens and flu shots; and fitness offerings, like its state-of-theart fitness center and personal training.

Redmond calls the center a "big family," and explains it's a "warm and welcoming place where anybody can come in for some friendship and laughter and to learn and get well."

This summer, Wayne Senior Center has teamed up with a group called Incredible Edible Radnor for a community service project. Incredible Edible Radnor has built four vegetable and herb planter boxes on the front of the Wayne Senior Center lawn, and any member of the senior center or of the greater community is welcome to garden, weed and harvest the vegetables and the herbs.





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Celebrating a Wonderful Life, Hannah Carlson turns 105!

trees they had a few cows,

By Vicki L. Kriczky, CMP Director of Marketing and Sales, Frederick Living

In 2018, historians marked the anniversary of the end of World War I. Frederick Living's oldest resident, Hannah Carlson, was born the year World War I started in 1914, before the United States was involved. She celebrates her 105th birthday in March and has seen many changes in society in her lifetime.

Hannah grew up on a farm in the Skippack area, along with two sisters and a brother. She rode a horse to school as a child with her sisters and the horse knew to return home after dropping them off at school and come along after them later in the day to take them home. She graduated from Collegeville High School and attended Pierce Business School in Philadelphia for two years.

Her first job was as an administrative assistant to a manager of a company in Betzwood (near King of Prussia) and later she became a claims man-

ager for an insurance company. While Hannah worked she also helped out both of her parents on the farm.

Hannah belonged to a women's club that enjoyed a fun weekend in a cabin along the Perkiomen Creek in the 1930's and on her first day there she met a nice young man named, Melvin Carlson, who was staying in a nearby cabin. The two dated and were married in 1939 and later they bought farm land near Collegeville. They were happily married for 71 years.

In addition to continuing to do office work and she also helped her husband. When they bought the land Melvin noticed that it had some fruit trees on it and they decided to expand the plantings into a full blown orchard composed of peach, pear and plum trees. Their orchard was well known in the area and people came to the

farm regularly

to purchase

fresh fruit.

horses and two beagles who were like their children. Their land had a lovely wooded area on the edge of their property and they opened this area to church groups to come and do overnight camping. One of our other residents, Jean Buckwalter, remembers going camping there with her husband and other young couples.

Hannah belonged to Lower Providence Baptist Church, which itself dates back over 200 years. It was founded as part of the "Holy Experiment" of William Penn when Baptists from Wales settled in the township of Lower Providence. Later she and her husband attended Falkner Swamp United Church of Christ in Gilbertsville.

Hannah took piano lessons as a child and always loved to play. She played piano for the Sunday school program at the

Baptist church and still plays the piano and enjoys a small keyboard that she keeps by her bed in her room. Hannah and

Melvin came to Frederick Living in 1986 and lived at first in a Dogwood cottage. After Melvin died in 2000 she moved into an Oaktree apartment, then later moved into Magnolia House and now resides in our Cedarwood area. In addition to playing the piano, Hannah played the organ here for 25 years. She also played the organ at Montgomery County Geriatric Center (now called Parkhouse Nursing Center) for many years and was instrumental in starting a volunteewr group there called the 'Gray Ladies." Hannah did over 37 years of volunteer work after leaving her office job.

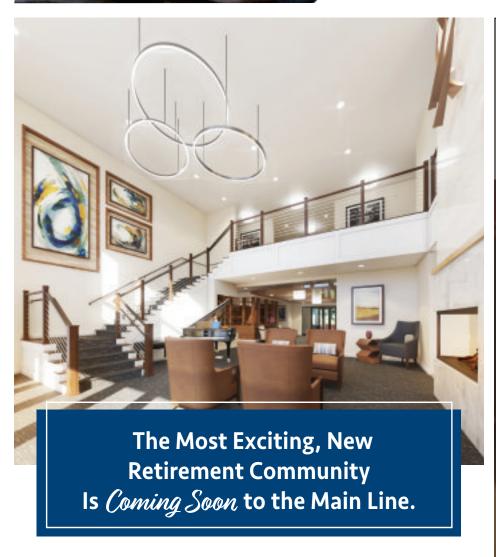
Hannah's other hobby is painting and her favorite thing to paint is birds. She displayed a painting in our recent resident art show and still attends our Monday art classes. Sometime after she first moved into a cottage at Frederick Living in 1986, Hannah was involved in the production of the monthly resident newsletter called "Connections," which is still proand birds which still adorn the masthead of the resident newsletter were drawn by Hannah.

Along with her artwork and piano playing Hannah belonged to a women's group that communicated with older adults who were not able to leave their homes. She regularly sent about 275-300 letters and cards each month for many years until the postage increases made it too expensive to continue. They often included jokes and items of interest and she knows the folks who received these cards and letters really appreciated them.

Hannah hopes she can inspire others to send even a few each month, as people who can't get out due to health concerns really love getting mail. Some of her friends at Frederick also received her lovely handmade cards and treasure them.

Hannah shares her sweet smile and friendly personality daily with the staff and other residents here at Frederick Living and we couldn't wish a happy 105th birthday to a nicer





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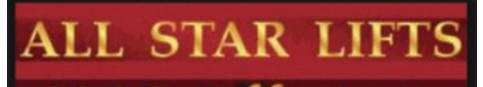




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Costly Estate Planning Mistakes - Don't forget about those beneficiary designations

By James "Jim" Egbert Egbert & Barnes, PC

well-executed estate plan is a thing of beauty - but make sure you aren't neglecting some of the equally important parts of the process. Most people don't realize that a beneficiary designation – which you choose in a life insurance policy, retirement account, annuity or bank account — will supersede the Will. That beneficiary takes precedence over what the Will provides - and could interfere with how assets are distributed after your passing.

Here's an example from a recent case I handled involving a client named Susan. Robert, her partner of more than 20 years, had passed away and she needed help with the paperwork. They were never married. Robert was estranged from his daughter from a previous marriage and had not talked to her or seen her in 20 years. Robert had made a Will that left everything to Susan and specifically disinherited his daughter

tranged.

Susan contacted Robert's former employer and was shocked to find out that his daughter was still the beneficiary on Robert's retirement account. The representative for the company refused to talk to Susan since she was not the beneficiary. That money was supposed to help Susan pay her bills and maintain her home after Robert's passing. This discovery left Susan absolutely devastated. Worse yet, in reviewing Robert's old files, she stumbled on beneficiary

that was not completed and apparently never mailed in.

Since Robert still had some property in his name, we had to take the Will to the Register of Wills office to offer it for Probate - also known as the procedure by which a person, named as the executor, obtains court approval to act for the deceased person. As I reviewed the Will, I could immediately tell it came from the Internet and further was not properly signed. Since the Will was not properly signed, I had to locate the notary and the witnesses an expensive investigation in both time and money. The tag dealer, whose employee notarized the Will, informed me the notary no longer worked there and her current whereabouts were unknown. The witnesses were similarly unavailable. Without their help, we could not successfully probate the Will without additional

expense. It gets worse. The internet Will included a default inheritance tax clause, which meant the estate was obligated to pay the taxes on the money left for Robert's daughter. That meant even less money for Susan. Bottom line: Not only does Robert's daughter get the money, but Susan is responsible for paying to the inheritance tax out of her

Although it's too late for Susan, we can all

Most people don't realize that a beneficiary designation - which you choose in a life insurance policy, retirement account, annuity or bank account — will supersede the Will.

learn from this very expensive mistake. Most importantly, remember that Wills should be executed with the utmost care and consideration. Sure. Robert saved the attorney's fees by doing the Will himself. But that wasn't worth the financial and emotional devastation to his longtime partner. Had Robert visited a competent estate planning attorney, he or she would have asked about beneficiary designations and would have addressed the tax consequences. All Wills are not alike, and an internet Will program will not ask the right questions. In Susan's case, Robert's Will stated that the estate was responsible for all inheritance taxes.

Just as importantly, pay attention to beneficiary designations. Regardless of what

on the beneficiary designation form will control. Review the beneficiary designation each time you have a life-changing event to make sure the designation still fits the estate plan. Leaving money to an unintended beneficiary is wasteful, costly, and could lead to increased taxes.

Robert should have consulted with an attorney. The attorney's job is to listen to the client, zero in on the client's needs and offer suggestions. I am willing to bet the Internet program did not ask Robert questions about if his beneficiary designations, did no inheritance tax planning, and didn't advise him of the consequences of not getting them in line with his estate plan.

You have spent your life saving money. It would be a shame to waste it or give it to the wrong person by ignoring beneficiary designations or using an internet or form Will. When the consequences of harm are great, you cannot be too careful.

James "Jim" Egbert is an estate planning attorney and a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. He is the founder of Egbert & Barnes, PC, a Willow Grove law firm that devotes its skills to helping families with their estate planning needs. Jim can be reached at jegbert@ egbertbarnes.com or (215) 886-6600.



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6 tips for making the most of your Medicare plan

brandpoint

f you consider yourself a savvy consumer who likes to make sure you're getting the most value for your money, have you stopped to consider whether you're applying those same prudent practices to your Medicare benefits?

Maximizing those benefits can help with more than just saving money. It could help improve your health as well.

Here are six tips to help ensure you get the most out of your Medicare coverage this year.

1) Learn the difference between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage. More than 63 million Americans made Medicare coverage decisions last fall. Some opted for Original Medicare, but one in three chose Medicare Advantage, which combines Medicare Parts A and B. Many Medicare Advantage plans also offer prescription drug coverage and valuable extras, like dental, hearing and vision care. Understanding those additional benefits and features can help you make the most of your plan.

2) Review what your policy covers - and use those benefits. You can usually find coverage and benefits information on your insurer's website or in plan documents sent through the mail. Extra benefits and features included in many Medicare Advantage plans cover dental exams and cleanings, hearing and vision exams, and fitness bene-

For example, United-Healthcare Medicare Advantage plans provide access to Renew Active. which features a gym



Maximizing Medicare benefits can help with more than just saving money. It could help improve your health as well.

membership, one-on-one fitness consultation, group fitness classes, online brain games and more. Nearly 300,000 members also have access to an activity tracker to help them achieve health and wellness goals. Eligible members also receive credits each quarter to buy approved over-the-counter (OTC) health products like vitamins and supplements, pain relievers, first aid items and more. Check your plan documents for information.

3) Stay in-network as much as possible. Most Medicare Advantage plans work with a network of doctors and hospitals to coordinate their members' care. Plans negotiate lower rates with the doctors and hospitals in their network, which

means members pay a lower cost when they access care.

UnitedHealthcare plans make it easier for members to get care as quickly as possible from its large network of health care professionals. The customer service team will even help members find a specialist and schedule an appointment for them.

Some Medicare Advantage plans offer out-ofnetwork coverage, typically at a higher cost. So staying in-network is one of the best things you can do to help manage your health care costs.

4) Take advantage of preventive care benefits. Original Medicare offers all beneficiaries an Annual Wellness Visit. Some preventive screenings, like mammograms and colo-

noscopies, are also included. These services can of-pocket maximum in help catch health problems early, when they're usually easier to treat. Your Annual Wellness Visit is a good opportunity to sit down with your doctor and develop a plan to help you achieve your best health in the year ahead.

A Medicare Advantage plan from UnitedHealthcare will even bring preventive care into your own living room through the HouseCalls program. The program helps make it easier for members to get important information about their medications and communicate with health providers about how their care fits with their health needs and budget.

Tip 5: Plan yearly ex-

penses with the outmind. Medicare costs can vary widely for individuals based on their situation and type of coverage.

Original Medicare generally covers 80 percent of a person's Part A and Part B expenses, which include services such as doctor visits, hospital stays and lab tests. The individual is responsible for the other 20 percent, with no annual limit on out-ofpocket costs.

Medicare Advantage plans offer predictable copays and cap your annual out-of-pocket expenses. Once you reach the outof-pocket max set by your plan, all additional costs for Medicare-covered services for the rest of the year are covered at 100 percent.

6) Save money on prescription drugs. Prescription drug coverage isn't included with Original Medicare (Parts A and B). Some people opt to enroll in a stand-alone Part D plan, but many choose a Medicare Advantage plan, which often includes prescription coverage.

Using home delivery pharmacy benefits can be one way to save money - not to mention trips to the pharmacy. With some home delivery pharmacies, you can order a three-month supply of medication for a lower cost than you would pay if you got the same supply at a local drug store.

If you prefer to use a retail pharmacy, check whether your plan has a preferred pharmacy network, which can mean a lower copay. Switching to an alternative drug can be another way to save money. Ask your doctor if there's a generic drug or one on a lower tier of your plan's formulary (the list of covered drugs) that could work just as well for you.

The bottom line Following these tips to get the most out of your Medicare plan could be doubly rewarding - more money in your wallet and better health to help you live your best life.

To learn more, visit http://www.advantageuhc.com/.

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Social Security Matters

By Russell Gloor

 $AMAC\ Certified\ Social\ Security\ Advisor$

Association of Mature Amer-

Ask Rusty -Confused about enrolling in Medicare and Social Security

Dear Rusty: I will be 64 years old in 2019 and thinking about Social Security. My full retirement age is 66 and 2 months, and I'm trying to figure out the best way to get the most out of my retirement. I have a lot of questions, but just need to know the right direction to go. I've been told by family members that I have

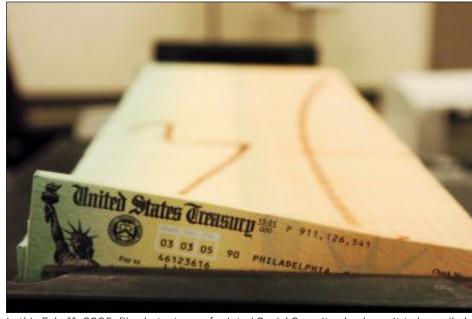
to sign up for Medicare by the age of 65 even though I can't get full benefits from social security until I am 66 and 2 months. I don't understand exactly how that works. Do I have to pay out of pocket for Medicare until my Social Security starts? Can my wife get benefits from me? Thanks in advance. Signed: Confused

Dear Confused: Medicare and Social Security are two independent benefit programs, even though you enroll in Medicare through Social Security. You do not need to enroll in both at the same time. You can wait until you reach your full retirement age, or up to age 70, to take your Social Secu-

rity benefits, but age 65 is when you should enroll in Medicare for your healthcare coverage. You have a 7-month window to do that, starting 3 months before the month you turn 65 and ending 3 months after the month you turn 65.

If you have other "creditable" healthcare coverage from your or your spouse's employer, you can decline enrolling in Medicare Part B (coverage for doctors and other outpatient services) and thus avoid the Part B premium. Medicare Part A is free because you are also eligible for Social Security (but you don't need to claim SS to get Medicare Part A).

If you do not have



In this Feb. 11, 2005, file photo, trays of printed Social Security checks wait to be mailed from the U.S. Treasury's Financial Management services facility in Philadelphia.

other creditable healthcare coverage, you should enroll in both Medicare Part A and B at age 65 and, at that time, make arrangements with Medicare to pay the premium directly (2019 base premium is \$135.50/ month), which can be done three different ways: You can set up an automatic payment from your bank, you can complete a form requesting Medicare to automatically debit your bank account on the 20th of each month, or you can be billed directly and pay by check, money order or credit card in three month increments using coupons they will provide. By enrolling in Medicare at age 65 you avoid any potential late enrollment penalty if

you enroll later.
You can enroll in
Medicare either online
at www.ssa.gov, or by
contacting your local
Social Security office
directly (find it at www.
ssa.gov/locator). Then
later, after you claim
your Social Security
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from your Social Security payment. At age 65, you should also seek creditable prescription drug coverage (known as Medicare Part D), because if you don't take a Part D plan within your initial enrollment period you'll be subject to a late enrollment penalty if you take a Part D plan later.

As for your wife getting benefits from you, I'm not clear if you're referring to Medicare benefits or Social Security benefits. If your wife isn't eligible for Medicare on her own (doesn't have enough Social Security credits) she can enroll on your record when she turns 65. If you are referring to your wife getting Social Security spousal benefits from you, she may be able to when you have started to collect your own benefit, if she is at least 62 and if any benefit she is due on her own is smaller than she is eligible for as your spouse.

your Social Security
benefits, Social Security
rity will automatically
deduct your Medicare
Part B premium directly

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Patricia Plumley, who recently celebrated her 85th birthday, has no intentions of slowing down at the job she's held for 17 years. Plumley took the job at Great Valley Publishing after she had officially "retired" in her 60s.

No plans to retire just yet

Worker celebrates 85th birthday, 17th year with company

By Marian Dennis

mdennis @21 st-century media.@MarianDennis1 on Twitter

EAST VINCENT » Ask anyone what they most look forward to when they're 65 and they'll probably tell you retirement.

Ask that same question when they're 85 and they probably still won't tell you they look forward to working.

It's a different story for Patricia Plumley, who recently celebrated her 85th birthday and her 17th year as an administrative assistant with Great Valley Publishing in East Vincent.

"She does customer service, she's front reception, she handles phone calls. Anything we need in the department, she's there," said Great Valley Publishing's CEO Mara Honicker.

worked nearly her entire life and that she had several jobs over the course of her career. Plumley first worked at a manufacturing she said no and I said 'Perjob for a couple years before leaving in 1961 to have a child. When she was un- I got a call that afternoon working."

found another job at Jones Motor where she worked for 241/2 years before leaving to tory of exceeding expectawork for General Electric at tions at her jobs. Not only the age of 52.

work for. I was in technical documentation and received the pride award, a professional recognition for individual dedication and excellence," said Plumley.

Plumley took the job at Great Valley Publishing after her "retirement" in her most dedicated employee 60s. A widow since 1992, Plumley said she became bored with being at home by herself so she went looking for part time work.

It wasn't long before she a machine." landed her job at the publishing business on Aug. 8, 2002, after she was told they weren't even hiring.

"I looked at this place and I thought, 'I wonder what Plumley said she has they do here.' I opened the door, I walked in and Mara was walking past the door and I said, 'I would like to know if you're hiring.' And haps I can leave my resume here,' and handed it to her.

able to return to work, she and got asked to come in for interview," said Plumley.

Plumley also has a hisdid she receive an award for "It was a great place to her work at General Electric, but she also won employee of the year during her very first year at Great Valley Publishing.

"I think all of us women here strive to be her. I do, personally," said Honicker. "She is probably the we have. She has amazing work ethic, she's so pleasant to work with every day. I want to be 85 years old and still going strong. She's

When asked what keeps her going at work, Plumley said simply that the pleasant work environment, the closeness to her home and the opportunity to get up each day with somewhere to go is why she still works every day.

"It's close to home, it's interesting, it's very diversified and everyone treats me nicely," said Plumley. "I feel very fortunate to still be





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Do I need an elder law attorney to apply for Medicaid?

By Rebecca A. Hobbs, Esquire, CELA

Per the Genworth 2018 Cost of Care Survey, the median cost of nursing home care in the Greater Philadelphia Area is as much as \$12,167 per month[1]. With the staggering monthly cost of skilled nursing home care, many seniors that require nursing home care relay on Medicaid. Medicaid is a joint federal-state program that provides health client's needs; coverage to individuals that are low-income or medically needv.

Filing an application for Medicaid for nursing home benefits is complex, and in most cases filing an applia good idea. Medicaid has are completed; strict income and asset el-

be financially catastrophic. exempt assets; Below is a list of 10 reasons why you need an Elder Law Attorney to file a Medicaid Application:

clients, we conduct an initial review of currents assets and income and develop a plan to best protect assets and to accelerate Medicaid eligibility. We evaluate each client on a case-by-case basis and develop an individualized plan based on that

We assist with the ancillary documents that must be filed, such as the Resource Assessment for Community Spouses. We also work with the Nursing Home to make sure the cation on your own is not proper medical evaluations

The Department of Human Services (DHS) requires five years of financial records and documents. We With all new Medicaid assist you in gathering the necessary documents and organizing the documents. We know what documentation is needed, and we make sure the application is com-

> We complete the Medical Assistance Application on your behalf and file the application with all required documentation:

We conduct a full application review and audit before filing. We review all bank statements and supporting information. We know what caseworkers for DHS are likely to question, and we answer their questions We assist you with the before they are asked. This igibility rules, and not spend-down, advising you helps to make sure your ap-

knowing these rules can on allowable expenses and plication gets approved as approved, we review the apquickly as possible;

> approval, you will be required to pay a monthly in- right start date; and come payment to the nursthis. We will also assist you in calculating the spousal allowance, which is the the Community Spouse is entitled to;

In the event of a Medicaid denial, we can advocate for you and file an Appeal and Request for a Fair Hearing. This includes representing you at the heartimely filed you could lose need to start the application all over again;

When the application is in dealing with difficult el-

proval and make sure that While your application the approval contains the is pending, and before you properly calculated patient actually receive Medicaid pay liability, the correct spousal allowance, and the

We can continue to ading home called a "patient" vise you with ongoing quespay liability." We will help tions that may arise, as well you accurately calculate as assist you with the annual redetermination application. OWM Elder Law Attor-

monthly amount of income neys provide assistance with Medicaid applications as part of our services. We represent clients for Medicaid Applications in Chester County, Bucks County, Montgomery County, Berks County, and Delaware County. Having an experiing. This is important as the enced Elder Law Attorney deadlines are strict, if the represent you for a Medicappeal is not properly and aid Application has several advantages, including exretroactive coverage and pert advice on how best to qualify for benefits as early as possible and experience

igibility issues.

One concern many have with hiring an Elder Law Attorney is the cost of the service, where a lay service may not have a fee or have a lower fee. However, given the high cost of nursing homes, if we can assist you to accelerate eligibility by even one month that will generally cover the fee. In addition, legal fees are typically paid with funds that would otherwise be paid to the nursing home, therefore the funds will have to be spent in any event, whether for nursing home or for legal fees.

Contact OWM Elder Law Attorneys today to schedule your consultation at (610) 323-

[1] https://www.genworth.com/aging-and-you/ finances/cost-of-care.html





SENIOR LIFE

Kyffin Grove Senior Living Community Offers Free Screening of "My Million Dollar Mom" and Q&A Session on March 6

- Kyffin Grove, a SageLife free and open to the pubsenior living community, lic. Reservations are reis offering a free screening of the 30-minute film, calling 267-460-8100 or by "My Million Dollar Mom," based upon a book written by Montgomery County resident Ross Schriftman.

ficult decisions Schriftman resentative in Montgomery had to make when his aging mother's health started failing due to Alzheimer's fail due to Alzheimer's disdisease. The movie will be ease, he had to decide befollowed by a question-andanswer session about caregiving with Schriftman and and his desire to honor his Kyffin Grove representatives. Light hors d'oeuvres in her home and be cared will be served.

Wednesday, March 6 from time of sacrifice and caring 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the combetween a mother and her munity, which is located son. at 1419 Horsham Road in

quired and can be made by emailing Kyffin.communityrelations@sagelife.com by March 5.

Since 1975, Schriftman The movie details the dif- has been an insurance rep-County. When his mother Shirley's health began to tween pursuing his life's dream to run for Congress mother's wishes to remain for by him. The film is an The event will be held on uplifting true story of a life-

NORTH WALES, Pa. North Wales. The event is About SageLife

Living to the power of

In addition to Kyffin Grove, SageLife operates two other independent and supportive senior living communities in Pennsylvania: Daylesford Crossing in Paoli and Plush Mills in Wallingford, as well as a community in Towson, Md. A fourth Pennsylvania community, Echo Lake, is scheduled to open in Malvern in early 2019. SageLife is the new definition of senior living, rooted in a dedication to building communities that empower people to age successfully. Find out more about Kyffin Grove at www. KyffinGrove.com and Sage-Life at www.SageLife.com.

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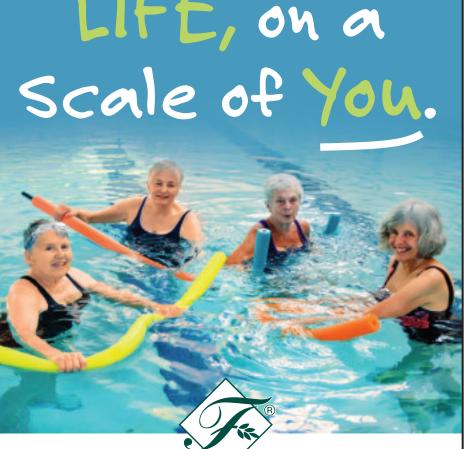
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Gratitude as a Path to Well-Being

By Pamela Leland, PhD Executive Director, The Hick-

Here at The Hickman, we begin our weekly staff meetings with a time to express gratitude. The topics that ing. people cover can vary widely - from appreciation for a coworker to a work project that has gone well to a fun weekend event to good news on a medical test. There are no rules about what one can be grateful for. It is simply our, maybe meager, attempt to cultivate a sense of gratitude in ourselves and in us as a work team.

I wish that I could say weeks there is more silence that we all have much to be a virtue. grateful for. Some weeks,

over-shadow the gratitude that others have expressed. But we press on ... largely because I am convinced by my own experience that gratitude fosters greater well-be-

And I've got science that proves it.

While Positive Psychology as a modern field of study has more recently furthered research on gratitude, the idea that gratitude plays an integral role in health and wellbeing is nothing new. Robert Emmons, a professor of psychology at UC-Davis and a national expert on gratitude, notes that throughout that we always find it easy history philosophers and to express gratitude. Some religious leaders have identified the many benefits of than words. Some weeks we gratitude and, thus, encour- manage stress. It is comhave to remind one another aged others to embrace it as

onstrates the positive benefits of gratitude. For example, gratitude is linked to stronger and more positive relationships. Whether couples in a committed relationship or colleagues at work, expressing gratitude for the other person resulted in more positive feelings for the other person and more motivation to invest in the relationship.

Grateful people tend to be more optimistic - a characteristic that not only has been proven to boost the immune system, but has been shown to result in better health outcomes in people who had surgery. Feelings of gratitude are

also linked to our ability to monly acknowledged that stress, poorly managed, There is now a growing can have significant nega-

feelings of cynicism seem to body of research that dem- tive health consequences, for, and grab hold of, gratincluding heart disease and itude and optimism. The cancer. Evidence suggests that feelings of gratitude tivate it more deeply in ourhave a significant positive selves. Here are some ideas influence in helping people cope with day-to-day problems and, therefore, limit you are grateful for - whatthe amount of stress that is carried around, whether consciously or unconsciously.

> Finally research has one's level of gratitude optimistic - even in a neggree to which he or she thing negative and look for engages in more positive health behaviors. These and unintended benefits. behaviors, e.g., exercise, a healthy diet and prevento more beneficial health status overall.

quality. In today's culture of lives and had more optimism sarcasm and cynicism, we about the future. sometimes have to search

good news is that we can culthat have proven effective:

Make a list of those things ever that might be. In other words, count your blessings! Review the list regularly. Add to it.

Practice more positive demonstrated that some- self-talk. Be intentionally is correlated to the de- ative situation. Take somethe possibilities for growth

Keep a gratitude journal. Emmons' research found tive healthcare, are linked that those who kept a gratitude journal at least weekly had fewer physical prob-Gratitude is not an innate lems, felt better about their

Write a thank you note to

someone... expressing your appreciation for something specific they might have done for you or simply expressing gratitude for their friendship.

Positive Psychology blogger and life coach Amit Amin reviewed relevant research and identified 31 unique benefits of gratitude. These benefits occur across five dimensions of Well-Being - emotional, social, physical, career and spiritual. The ultimate benefit, however, is happiness. A deeper sense of gratitude leads to a greater sense of happiness and well-being. This is a powerful message at any age ... and an invitation to us all.

Promoting Senior Wellness is provided by The Hickman, a Quakeraffiliated licensed personal care home in West Chester.

SENIOR LIFE

6 nutrition trends and fads explained

(BPT) - The expanded variety of health and wellness options available today can be confusing for consumers who are trying to learn all they can to make the most informed, healthy choices for themselves and their families.

Below, Dr. Nicole Avena, assistant professor of neuroscience at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and visiting professor of health psychology at Princeton University, explains six popular nutrition trends including sustainable snacks, new plantbased milks, prebiotics and probiotics and the latest on gummy supplements vs. traditional vitamins:

1. When it comes to a caffeine buzz, choose matcha over coffee. A premium green tea powder from Japan, matcha is used for drinking as tea or as an ingredient in recipes. While coffee and matcha have about the same amount of caffeine, matcha packs lots of great antioxidants. Check the label to make sure it has been tested for heavy metals, as some matcha can contain lead from the soil where it was grown.

2. Shelf-stable probiotics have some advantages over refrigerated. Only two strains of probiotics are shelf-stable, whereas different and diverse strains can be present in refrigerated probiotics. But, shelf-stable probiotics have the advantage that they can be used in other food products, like granolas, butter, soups, etc. Just don't mess with the packaging or open blister packs until you want to use them, as they are packed for preservation. Dead probiotics won't harm you, but they don't have any health benefits either. Remember there are different probiotic strains for different issues:

i.e., you don't want to take a digestive or immunity probiotic for vaginal health issues. Instead, try Pro-B as it contains two strains of lactobacilli, which are optimal to promote vagi-

nal health.

3. Algae oil trumps fish oil and olive oil. Algae oil is vegetarian and a source of omega-3s and DHA (good fats to support brain health). Algae oil is safe to use in pregnancy (when eating too much fish can be harmful because of mercury) and is heart healthy (studies show it lowers cholesterol and triglycerides). It also has more monounsaturated fat than olive oil.

4. Cow's milk is healthier than almond

milk. Despite its popularity, almond milk often has less than 2 percent actual almonds in it, has a lot of added sugar, and is not necessarily better for the environment because it takes five liters of water to grow one almond. 5. 1000 mcg's of Folate with vitamin D and calcium is essential in a prenatal vitamin. The nutrients in

your prenatal vitamins are crupre- and postpartum, especially if you are breastfeed-

6.

Gummy vitamins are just as effective as pills and chewables. The best way to get needed nutrients is through food, but, people don't always have eating habits that provide them with all the nutrition they need. Others have deficiencies that diet alone can't resolve. Supplements can fill the gap, but people are more likely to take their supplements regularly if they taste good and they're convenient. Pills require a liquid to take them with, they're not tasty and sometimes leave an unpleasant aftertaste! Gummies can be a good option, and clinical tests show that their absorption is equivalent or better than traditional vitamin pills. vitafusion offers more than 30 types of gummy vitamins, with no artificial flavors, high fructose corn syrup, gluten or dairy.

Nicole Avena, Ph.D., is a research neuroscientist and pioneer in the field of food and nutrition. She is also the author of What to Eat When You're Pregnant.



Do You Get These Essential Nutrients That Help Senior Adults Stay Healthy?

By Anthony Byers

For The Becoming Center

Health and nutrition are important at every stage of life, but as we age our bodies change as well as our needed nutrients. Regardless of

age our bodies change as well as our needed nutrients. Regardless of the changes our bodies experience,



decrease in energy, or loss of hearing, a desire to live well remains the same through every phase of life, especially our later years. This is why understanding the proper nutrition for older adults is crucial to living happily and healthfully.

How Our Body Changes with Age and its Effect on our Nutrition

While many of the changes our bodies experience with age are out of our control, they can often cause us to adopt poor nutritional habits, or vice versa. Here are the major changes that impact nutrition for older adults.

Changes to Our Senses

Loss of hearing, smell, and/ or taste

For many older adults a loss of hearing, smell, or taste is common, which can ultimately affect the way we eat. For example, changes in taste can make it increasingly difficult to find food that tastes good, which potentially results in undereating. Perceptual changes, while not detrimental to our overall health, can be a common cause of inadequate nutrition for older

Physiological Changes

Organ function

As we age, our organs age with us. The organs that most commonly experience a loss of function with age are our kidneys, heart, and lungs. This is due to the progressive alteration of cells and connective tissues that occur in later years of life.

Loss of energy

Research shows that energy expenditure, or the amount of energy someone needs to carry out a physical function, decreases with age. This means that as we age, the amount of energy we have to burn calories drops. In fact, studies show

that the decline in energy expenditure is especially rapid after age 40 for men, and after age 50 for women.

Recommended Foods and Nutrients for Older Adults

The way our bodies change with age clearly impacts our health and behavior. And when it comes to nutrition for older adults, it's not always a matter of neglect but a simple unawareness of the nutrients we need to keep our bodies healthy.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), in their nutritional advisory program "Food Patterns," recommends that adults over the age of 50 should be conscious of their caloric intake while eating the right amount of foods from five various food groups: whole grains, vegetables, fruits, lean protein, and healthy oils.

How many calories should I eat?

Depending on your gender, age, and activity level your amount of daily recommended calories will vary. The following are general recommendations for Americans over the age of 60 based on activity level:

• Inactive adults: 1,600 calories/

Inactive adults are those who do not intentionally exercise.

• Moderately active: 1,800 calo-

Moderately active adults are those who participate in workouts or physical activity about once or twice a week. This could include two mile walks, or a session at the gym.

Active: 2,000 calories/day
 Active adults are those who participate in physical activity at least three days each week.

Are you getting enough of these nutrients?

Older adults should aim to incorporate the following nutrients into

their diets:

Calcium

Proper nutrition for older adults requires sufficient amounts of calcium, which helps maintain bone health. You can include calcium in your diet by eating fortified cereals, dark green and leafy vegetables, canned fish, as well as drinking milk and fortified plant beverages. Try to have three servings of calcium rich foods every day.

• Vitamin B12

According to the National Library of Medicine 38% of older adults may exhibit mild vitamin B12 deficiency and depleted vitamin B12 stores. Low levels of vitamin B12 can cause anemia, neuropathy, and cognitive impairment. Fortunately, your doctor can determine your vitamin B12 levels with a simple blood test.

Fiber

For older adults experiencing constipation or other gastrointestinal issues, adding fiber to your diet can make a world of difference. Research from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics also shows that fiber can reduce your risk for heart disease as well as type 2 diabetes.

Potassium

Older adults should aim to consume 4,700 mg of potassium every day. You can incorporate more potassium into your diet by eating bananas, oranges, prunes, spinach, broccoli, and other fruits and vegetables.

Nutrition is a priority at every age, but as we age, our nutritional needs change. Liberty Lutheran believes in empowering seniors to improve their health, decrease stress, and attain their ideal levels of activity. Our abundant senior wellness programs focus on fitness, nutrition, and wellbeing to enhance your health and vitality in new ways. If you want to maintain your health and achieve your fitness goals, visit The Becoming Center at Artman's campus in Ambler. Call us at 215-643-9908 or visit our website at www.becomingcenter.org





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Did you know influenza complications can include heart attack and stroke?

Brandpoint

80,000 people died and more than 950,000 people were hospitalized due to flu and flu-related illnesses, and fewer than four in 10 were vaccinated against flu, fewer than in previous years, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). While those who are vaccinated may still get the flu, serious complications that may result in hospitalization, loss of independence or even death.

It is particularly important for people with certain chronic health conditions like heart disease, diabetes and lung disease to receive an annual flu vaccine, as they are at higher risk for flu-related complications. In fact, 92 percent disease, lung disease and of those hospitalized for flu during the 2017-2018 season increased flu vaccination had an underlying medical condition that put them at risk for serious flu-related complications.

fluenza (flu) season, nearly and serious flu-related complications. A new survey from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) revealed that:

U.S. adults (37.1 percent) U.S. adults recognize that inhaler." people with heart disease (24 percent) and diabetes (22 percent) are at greater risk for flu-related complications.

U.S. adults are aware that and people with diabetes the vaccine helps prevent heart attack (16 percent), are at six times increased worsening of diabetes (16 percent), stroke (13 percent) and disability (10 percent) can occur as potential complications of flu.

healthcare organizations dangers of flu among U.S. adults with chronic health diabetes, and the need for rates among at-risk adults.

"It is essential for everyto receive an annual flu vac-chronic-health-conditions.

There is low awareness cine," said NFID Medical of the connection between Director Dr. William Schaff-During the 2017-2018 in- chronic health conditions ner. "For people with conditions like heart disease, diabetes or lung disease, it is an important part of managing their condition, like taking a statin, checking * Less than a quarter of their glucose or using an

The dangers are real. Research shows that individuals with heart disease are up to 10 times more likely to have a heart attack within Less than 20 percent of three days of flu infection risk of flu-related hospitalization.

"Flu causes inflammation in the body that can result in serious compli-The NFID is working cations," said Dr. Albert with nearly 20 national Rizzo, chief medical officer, American Lung Asto raise awareness of the sociation. "For the more than 31 million people living with lung disease such conditions including heart as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, flu can worsen their condition and lead to a loss of lung function."

For more information, one age 6 months and older visit www.nfid.org/flu-





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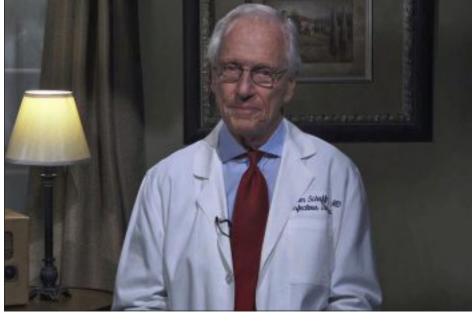
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REMEMBER TO EAT YOUR VEGETABLES

While there are many health benefits most strongly associated with this effect and drinking habits of 27,842 men memory function. for 26 years, researchers found that With Faith Woodward, Director skills. The foods that were found to be website, http://bf.kendal.org/.

that have been attributed to following were leafy greens, red and dark orange a diet rich in produce, researchers have vegetables, berry fruits, and orange uncovered another important reason to juice. The men who consumed the most eat your fruit and vegetables. According vegetables were 34 percent less likely to a study that had followed the eating to disclose experiencing a reduction in

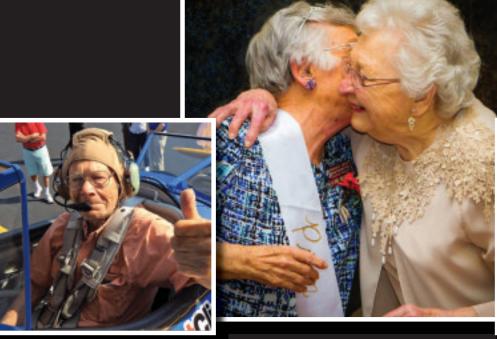
consuming higher amounts of certain of Admissions and Marketing at foods and drinks was linked to a lower Barclay Friends—to learn more, risk of decline in memory and thinking please call 610-696-5211 or visit our



It is particularly important for people with certain chronic health conditions like heart disease, diabetes and lung disease to receive an annual flu vaccine, doctors say.

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Once you become eligible for Medicare, you'll likely start hearing about something called an Annual Wellness Visit.

Many people think an Annual Wellness Visit and a physical are one and the same. But they're

Unlike a standard head-to-toe physical, an Annual Wellness Visit is primarily focused on preventive care, health screenings and wellness planning. It gives you an opportunity to have a conversation with your doctor about your health status and goals and then create a long-term plan to help you meet those goals and maximize your wellbeing.

While Original Medicare doesn't cover an annual physical, some Medicare Advantage plans do. Everyone enrolled in Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage. though, is eligible for an Annual Wellness Visit at no additional cost to you. If your Medicare Advantage plan includes coverage for an annual comprehensive physical exam, ask your provider if the Annual Wellness Visit and the physical can be scheduled during the same visit.

Below you'll find an overview of what to expect from your Annual Wellness Visit.

Taking stock of your medical history

Your primary care professional will review your relevant medical history, including major illnesses, surgeries, your current medical condition and medications you're tak-

Your doctor's office may send you a form ahead of your appointment that includes a list of questions. Filling out this form in advance can ensure your



An Annual Wellness Visit is primarily focused on preventive care, health screenings and wellness planning

doctor has a thorough understanding of your health history and also remind you of any questions you might want to raise at the appointment.

If you don't get a form before your visit, you should still be prepared to be as detailed as possible when describing any past medical procedures and illnesses.

The who's who of your health care team

The primary care provider you see for your wellness visit will want to know who's part of your health care team. He or she may also want to work closely with other health care professionals involved in your care. Therefore, you should

be prepared to give the person conducting your visit a list of your current health care providers, including contact information and field of specialty.

You may have chosen a health care surrogate or a proxy who will speak on your behalf should you ever become too sick to speak for yourself. If so, bring a copy of your completed forms to your appointment. If you haven't made your choices yet, this is a good time to get your physician's advice on your personal advance care planning.

An Rx for a productive medication review

Getting a full rundown of all your vitamins, minerals, herbal supplements and prescription medications can help the doctor spot potential drug interactions that could be harmful to your health. He or she will also want to ensure you have a complete understanding of each medication, what it's for and any potential side effects.

Make a list, including how often you take each medication and the dosage. Better yet, bring all your pill bottles with you to your appointment and show them to the pro-

Stats and screenings A clinician will check your height, weight and blood pressure, and your provider will then likely ask you some questions, including how you have

been feeling recently. These questions are designed to test your cognitive function and screen you for depression. Answer them as honestly as possible and come to the appointment well-rested so you can perform your best on the tests.

Creating a wellness

After completing all tests and assessments, your provider will be ready to assess your current health status and work with you to develop a plan to meet your health goals. That plan will address how to treat your current conditions and how to prevent future health problems. If you have any risk factors

for developing new conditions, your provider will give you some options for managing those risks.

You can also set up a schedule for preventive care or screening tests, and discuss treatment options for any newly diagnosed conditions.

Be prepared to get the most out of this planning by developing a list of questions you would like to ask at the appointment. And don't be shy with your questions. During the Annual Wellness Visit, your provider should have more time than usual to listen to your concerns and answer your questions.

Whatever your health goals are, your provider can't help you reach them if he or she doesn't know about them. So be as open and honest as possible during your visit.

Things to keep in mind * Make sure the appointment is scheduled specifically as an Annual Wellness Visit, or the provider may bill it as a normal office visit, which could be subject to a copay, depending on your plan. If you're a United-Healthcare member, the customer service team can schedule your appointment for you.

* If your provider orders a test during the Annual Wellness Visit, you may be charged any applicable lab or diagnostic copay for the recommended services.

The bottom line

When you are prepared, your Annual Wellness Visit is more than just an office visit. It is your opportunity to take charge of your health and ensure you're on the right path to living the life you want. If you haven't scheduled yours yet, use this as the push you need to get it on your calendar. It could be one of the most important conversations you have all year.





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6 tips for reducing your out-of-pocket medication costs

Brandpoint

When you're sick, the last thing that you want to worry about is how you're going to pay for vour critical medical treatment. Even if you have health insurance, you may find that the prescription drugs you need the most are out of reach due to high outof-pocket costs - the deductibles, copays or coinsurance that are not reimbursed by insurance. Many people find themselves choosing between paying bills and buying essential prescription medications.

Nonprofit organizations like the Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation, an independent charitable organization dedicated to helping people with the outof-pocket costs for their prescribed medications, can help alleviate some of that pressure. Dan Klein, president and CEO of the PAN Foundation, offers the following tips for relieving some of the stress and financial burden for people struggling to afford their prescription medications.

1. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist

Your healthcare team can help you find ways to manage your out-ofpocket costs. Skipping doses of medication or failing to fill prescriptions because they're too expensive can make your treatment less effective. Doctors, pharmacists and other healthcare providers often have access to drug samples, coupons and



Many people find themselves choosing between paying bills and buying essential prescription medications.

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5. Learn more about

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pharmacies in your area to compare out-of-

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information about organizations that can help you get the medication that you need at a price you can afford. While it can be hard to discuss your finances with your healthcare team, being clear about what you can afford can help them tailor your treatment plan effectively.

2. Ask your doctor to

prescribe generic drugs Generic drugs can be a great way to reduce your out-of-pocket prescription costs. Many name-brand drugs that are used to treat common conditions have a generic equivalent that is significantly cheaper, especially if the name-

brand medication is an older drug. Generic drugs are safe and effective and are rigorously tested by the FDA to ensure that they are just as good as the brand-name versions.

3. Start using Fund-

Sign up for Fund-Finder. This free webbased app developed

pharmaceutical assistance programs or other health programs to help pay for the out-ofpocket costs of prescription medications. Contact your state's department of health to find out about any assistance programs that are available and if you qualify. Your state's health department can also guide you to other state and charitable resources that can help you access your medication. 6. Review your Mediby the PAN Foundacare coverage options tion connects you with

Many states offer

If you have health coverage through Medicare, make sure that your plan meets your health and financial needs. There may be other options that will help you better manage your outof-pocket drug costs. Find out from an expert if your current plan includes the prescription drug coverage that you need and how to search for a new drug plan if it doesn't. You may also be eligible for other Medicare programs - like a Low-Income Subsidy or Extra Help - that can lower your out-of-pocket costs.

Living with an illness is stressful enough without the added worries about how to afford the out-of-pocket costs for your medication. You can learn more about patient assistance charities like PAN and the ways you can get help paying for your prescription medical treatments at panfoundation.org

SENIOR LIFE

Spot of T - Home'

By Terry Alburger Life Engagement Coordinator, Brittany Pointe Estates

Home. What does that word mean to you? When I think of home, I immediately think of warmth, comfort and love. It's the place where I feel the most comfortable, my proverbial castle. Interestingly enough though, that feeling is transferable from location to location.

I grew up in the suburbs, in Levittown, back in the '60s and '70s with my mom, dad and brother. Levittown was newish when my family moved there, I was a toddler. Memories of my childhood home bring smiles and happy memories to this day. It was my place. It was home. But why? What made it so special? Geography? Nope. It was the feeling of belonging, of serenity. It was my safe place where I could completely relax.

After my high school graduation, we moved to the Main Line. At first, I didn't think I could get used to it...but with time, once again, that place gave me a sense of belonging like no other. My parents lived there for nearly 30 years, and even after I moved out and started my own family, that place felt like "home" every time I went back to visit.

So, clearly. "home" is not the confines of four walls and is not constructed of brick and mortar. Home, rather, is a feeling. It's internal. Home is wherever you are, wherever you feel comfortable, where you feel loved. A lot of songs have been written about the concept of home. There is an old Billy Joel song in particular, that I think expresses my sentiments. It says, "Wherever we're together, that's my home." So, home is with the people you love. Home is where you are happy. "Home can be the Pennsylvania Turnpike, Indiana's early morning dew, high up in the hills of California, home is just another word for you." Billy Joel got it right.

Often, when we visit friends, they say, "Make yourselves at home." Does this mean they want you to move in? Certainly not. But they want you to be comfortable, relaxed and at ease. It's a friendly invitation to feel accepted into THEIR happy place.

Of course, the ultimate theatrical statement of home comes from "The Wizard of Oz." There was Dorothy in this lavish land, plush and wondrous. OK, I concede, she WAS being chased by flying monkeys and there was a nasty old witch who wanted her dead. That might be a bit of a deterrent to feeling at home. Still, she made good friends, she had some fun. But all the while, she wanted to go home to Kansas, a land of black and white film and tornadoes. Why? Because that was where she felt the most love, her family was there and her familiar surroundings. "There's no place like home."

I agree, Dorothy, there indeed is no place like home. Whatever type of home you live in, whatever neighborhood surrounds you, in whichever city you reside, that place is yours. You surround yourself with the people and things that make you happy. That's your home, no matter how big or small. Make your home the place that brings you peace. Surround yourself in the joy of photographs, souvenirs, pictures... it's YOURS. Welcome home.

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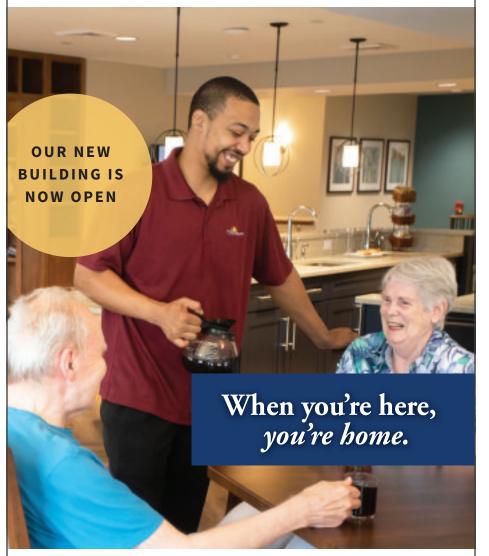
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Home delivery of medications could save you money

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In recent years, technology has changed every aspect of our daily life. We interact with friends and family on social media, use the GPS to guide us to our desired destination, and products we buy online are delivered right to our home.

One big change transforming how we receive health care services is home delivery of prescription medications. But is this option right for you? Susan Peppers, vice president of pharmacy practice at Express Scripts, answers the six most frequently asked questions about home delivery for prescription medications.

1. Is home delivery an option for the medications I take on a regular basis?

Home delivery is best used when you are on medications for a chronic condition because it removes the burden of remembering to get a prescription refilled by the patient and encourages adherence to the prescribed therapy. These drugs, which can also be referred to as maintenance medications, are the ones your doctor prescribes to manage long-term health conditions, such as hypertension, high cholesterol, heart disease and diabetes.

2. Could I save money through home delivery?

Yes. When using home delivery for your prescription medications you will receive a 90-day supply. This could save up to approximately 66 percent in out-of-pocket expenses when compared to the cost of filling prescriptions at retail. With no-cost standard shipping, home delivery could be a great way to



Is home delivery of medications right for you?

also save on gas costs associated with the trip to the pharmacy.

3. What if I have questions about my medications?

Home delivery pharmacies include 24/7 access to specialist pharmacists, trained in chronic and complex diseases such as high blood pressure and diabetes, available online or on the phone. A pharmacist can answer questions regarding your medication or a reaction you may be having to your medication all in the privacy and convenience of your home. These pharmacists are also at work behind the scenes reviewing prescriptions before they are dispensed to prevent the possibility of harmful interactions.

4. Will I get my next prescription on time?



Some prefer home delivery of medications.

Medications are automatically sent in advance of when your pre-

vious prescription will run out and usually delivered within four days. You can also call or go online to check on the status of your order. If you are traveling for an extended period within the U.S., you could request the medication be delivered to the address where you will be staying.

5. Why can home delivery be good for my health?

In addition to saving time and money, studies have shown that home delivery can improve adherence to medications. Adherence, or taking your medications as prescribed by your doctor, is one of the most important things you can do to manage chronic conditions and improve your health outcomes.

6. How do I make sure my temperature-sensitive medication is properly managed through home delivery?

Temperature-protective coolers can ensure medications stay within a safe temperature range - even if the package is sitting outside for several hours after deliverv. At Express Scripts we use new technology that takes into consideration the acceptable temperature range for each medication and the entire forecasted weather patterns that the medication will pass through along its journey to the patient's home to determine how and when to deliver the medication.

"A home delivery pharmacy is a great alternative for those wanting to save money on their prescription medications," said Peppers. "With a dispensing accuracy rate that is greater than 99.9995 percent, and leading-edge systems and technology that carefully monitors each prescription, we are proud to continue forging new paths in healthcare."



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MEDIANEWS GROUP | SENIOR LIFE | 15 MARCH 6-14, 2019

SENIOR LIFE

Barley Sheaf Players present classic 'The Pajama Game' starting March 1

Romance is bursting at the seams at the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory! Handsome new superintendent Sid Sorokin falls hard for spirited union rep Babe Williams and, despite her objections, it seems as though she's falling right back. When the Sleep-Tite employees are refused a raise, the pair find themselves on opposite sides of the conflict, and must figure out how to come together while their beliefs are pulling them apart.

The original production of "The Pajama Game," with a book by George Abbott and Richard Bissell, and music and lyrics by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross, opened in 1954 and produced two pop hits, "Hernando's Hideaway" and "Steam Heat." But it was most notable for two things: First-time choreographer Bob Fosse; and an injury that sidelined star Carol Haney and ended up making a breakout star of her replacement, a then unknown dancer named ... Shirley Ma-

by Allison Beaver, produced by Lindsay Franklin, musical directed by Lyndsey Holmes, and choreographed by Lindsey Barnett and Rose-Marie Turbessi, was chosen because, although the season overall is strong and diverse, it didn't include the kind of name recognition that is so popular with theater-goers. However, just like the 1954 Broadway production, this one also promises a few surprises, ones designed to honor the original while adding touches that will appeal to a more modern audience.

The Pajama Game stars Jordan Catagnus (Sid), Madeleine Snyder (Babe), Jim Breslin (Myron), Andrea Kalan (Gladys), Doug Pratt (Vernon), Dave Ruczhak (Prez), and Cynthia Shelton (Mabel), with Nate Beaver, Tami Kenney, Mike Macri, Kevin Robinson, Lauren Starling, Stevie Tagye, Karly Thomas, Deb Topka, and Tali Trofa rounding out the cast. The set and technical designs are by Allen BSP's production, directed Puy, and Bonnie and Chris

Schuman provide assistance to the producer and musical director.

Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical in 1954 and for Best Revival of a Musical in 2006, "The Pajama Game" stitches together the promise of romance and the heat of politics, all tucked away in an evening of entertaining musical theater!

"The Pajama Game" runs Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. from March 1-23, with 2 p.m. matinees on Sundays, March 10 and 17. Purchase your tickets and select your seats online at www.barleysheaf. org or call the box office at 610.363.7075.

The Barley Sheaf Players is a non-profit, inclusive community theater organization dedicated to the ongoing promotion and encouragement of dramatic arts in the region. BSP is located at 810 N. Whitford Road in Lionville, PA and throughout the year welcomes new members interested in all aspects of theater at all levels of experience.



This is the cast of "The Pajama Game," presented by the Barley Sheaf Players.

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