Mercer County Area Agency on Aging, Inc. Newsletter
November 2023

NOV. 11 VETERANS DAY — HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Reassessment Scam Targets Mercer County Residents

In recent news, we have learned the Mercer County Department of Revenue is warning residents of scammers impersonating field assessors for Tyler Technologies, a company the county has contracted to prepare the countywide tax reassessment. The scammers are leaving orange door hangers on various residences in the county with a 1-800 number to call to schedule an appointment for an indoor inspection of their home.

Tyler Technologies confirmed they will never ask to enter anyone's home.

If you receive this doorhanger do not throw the hanger away - call your local police department.

Do not call the 1-800 number on the door hanger. If you have any questions about Tyler Technologies, please refer to the Mercer County website at https://empower.tylertech.com/Mercer-County-Pennsylvania.html.

MCAAA, Inc. Wishes you a very Happy Thanksgiving!

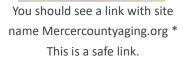**Free At-Home COVID-19 Test Kits Are Back!**
Now Available to Order

The Federal Government will once again send up to four free COVID rapid tests per household to anyone who requests them through COVIDtests.gov. Older adults who do not have internet access or who may need additional assistance with ordering can call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489).

2023 SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

Don't forget vouchers can be used only until November 30th.

Scam Alert! Do you know what a QR Code is? A QR code (quick response code) is a type of two-dimensional (2D) bar code that is used to provide easy access to online information through the digital camera on a smartphone or tablet. QR Codes can be very useful and sufficient to get to websites a bit faster, however it's also important to make sure you know how to properly identify a safe QR Code. To use a QR Code you simply open your camera app on your smartphone or tablet and hover the camera over the bar code or QR Code until the link or URL you are trying to reach pops up, once the link or URL is identified you will click the link to be taken to the website. It is important to note that you are not actually taking a picture.

You should see a link with site name Mercercountyaging.org * This is a safe link.

Mercer County Area Agency on Aging, Inc. has just launched a new and updated website, www.mercercountyaging.org. With this update, we have also created a QR Code for faster access. When accessing this QR Code you should always see the URL (link) * mercercountyaging.org appear before proceeding.

Knowing how to safely use a QR Code is important to avoid getting harmed by the latest scam. In the most recent news, we have learned that a new email scam campaign is using QR codes to get your sensitive information. This is called "quishing" or QR phishing. These emails typically come from what seems to be a well-known company or brand but in fact are just copycats. This is why it is so important to preview the URL before proceeding to the website. If the URL is unreadable, use caution. If you click on the link from a QR code, look for spelling and grammatical errors on the website. If a site is secure a lock will appear to the left of the web address in your browser. If there is no lock that's often a sign, it may be a scammer's website. If you feel you have scanned a fake QR code, close the website and if you have provided any personal information, change your passwords to the accounts you may have given scammers access to. Also, take steps to secure any of your financial accounts.

PROPERTY TAX RENT REBATE PROGRAM

Funds are being dispersed.

APPLY ONLINE
mypath.pa.gov

Deadline to Apply: December 31

PDA

LIHEAP Season is now open!

(Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program)

• Apply online at www.compass.state.pa.us.

• Request an application by calling the Statewide LIHEAP Hotline at 1-866-857-7095 or call PA Relay at 711 for the hearing impaired.

• Applications are also available at your local County Assistance Office or Area Agency on Aging.

Apply November 1, 2023, through April 5, 2024.

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Reminder! All MCAAA, Inc. locations will be closed:

November 10, 2023

November 23, 2023, and

November 24, 2023

Senior Resources

AARP (www.aarp.org)
The National site for AARP a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization for people, ages 50 and older.
Call 1-888-687-2277

Benefits Checkup (www.benefitscheckup.org)
An online questionnaire to help search for a list of all state and federal benefits.

COMPASS (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Application for Social Services [www.compass.state.pa.us])
Enables Pennsylvania citizens to apply for social service programs online.
Call 1-800-692-7462.

Medicare (www.medicare.gov)
The official government site for Medicare consumer information. Call 1-800-633-4227

MEDICARE Open Enrollment Ends Soon!

DEC 7

Join, switch or drop Medicare Advantage or Prescription Drug Plans before the end of the Medicare Enrollment Period on December 7.

Questions? Call the PA MEDI Helpline:
1-800-783-7067

pennsylvania
Medicare Education and Decision Insight

Mental Health Services
Do you need to talk to someone about loneliness or depression?

Locally:
Mercer County Crisis:
724-662-2227

Community Counseling Center Warm Line:
724-981-1741
1-866-853-7758

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:
Dial 988 –or- 1-800-273-8255

Veteran Crisis Line: Call 988 then press 1.

**Please Check Out
Our Updated Website!
www.mercercountyaging.org**

MCAAA, Inc. Contact Information:
www.mercercountyaging.org

Administration / Care Management / Older Adult Protective Services
133 N. Pitt Street, Mercer, PA 16137
724-662-6222
Greenville Senior Community Center
45 Alan Avenue, Greenville, PA 16125
724-588-3155
Grove City Senior Community Center
301 S. Broad Street, Grove City, PA 16127
724-458-6844
McQuiston Center by the Park
29 Railroad Street, Sandy Lake, PA 16145
724-376-3608
**Shenango Valley Senior Center
and Adult Day Care**
220 N. Buhl Farm Drive, Hermitage, PA 16148
724-981-7950