



Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc.
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July 2021 Newsletter

*A non-profit organization dedicated to promoting
the independence of older individuals*

Summertime, and OFA Easing Toward 'Normal'

I can't believe it's July already! It's exciting to be able to get together with family in a more relaxed setting. Please continue to follow CDC guidance for wearing a mask and social distancing while out in public. Our agency continues to assist older adults with access to vaccines; call the dedicated COVID line at 315-606-5080 for help.

To update you on a few items - we are now open to the public. We prefer that you call and make an appointment to be sure you can be seen and assisted in a timely manner. We are working on resuming congregate dining sites for SNACK, and Office for the Aging staff are back on the road able to provide in-home visits to those who need to be seen for assistance. Our Caregiver Coordinator has opened her in-person support group starting with a group on Thursday, July 1 at 10 a.m.



I will continue to keep you posted as we move towards a more normal agency operation and hope that you will reach out with any way we can provide you with assistance in the vaccination process.

I hope to see you soon. Until then, stay cool and enjoy the summer!

– Julie Harney, Executive Director

Some Medicare Advantage Plan Answers

What's a Medicare Advantage Plan?

Medicare Advantage Plans are health plans that are approved by Medicare but run by private companies. They are part of the Medicare program, and sometimes called "Part C."

- ◆ You will deal directly with a private company for claims, not with Medicare.
- ◆ Some of the plans require referrals to see specialists.
- ◆ Medicare Advantage Health Plans charge different premiums and have different costs of services, so it is important to check with the plan before you join.
- ◆ The plans provide all Part A (hospital) and Part B (medical) coverage and must cover medically necessary services.
- ◆ They often have networks, meaning you may have to see doctors who belong to the plan or go to certain hospitals to get covered services.
- ◆ They generally offer extra benefits and many include prescription drug coverage.

To learn more about Medicare plans and subsidy programs call Madison County HIICAP 315-697-5743.

Program Offers Help with Employment Search, Training

Are you age 55 or older and looking for a paying job? Would you like help with your job search?

A4TD operates the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). The SCSEP provides job seekers over 55 with paid job training, helping them learn new skills needed to find current employment. The on-the-job training takes place at local public agencies or non-profit organizations. Wages are paid through the SCSEP. In addition, participants receive computer training and training on other relevant topics.

For more information contact A4TD at 315-956-1509 or online at www.a4td.org

From: [Senior Community Service Employment Program - A4TD](mailto:SeniorCommunityServiceEmploymentProgram@A4TD)



The Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc., SNACK, and RSVP will be closed Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.



Volunteers and guests listened to an update from state Sen. Rachel May on issues facing older adults that are being discussed in the state Senate at Nichols Pond County Park May 13.



State Sen. Rachel May was the guest speaker at the 2021 RSVP Volunteer Recognition picnic.

2021 RSVP Volunteer Recognition Picnic



Sharon Snell, left, accepts a certificate and gift on behalf of her husband, Grant, who achieved more than 1,000 lifetime service hours with MCOFA/RSVP. RSVP Director Annette Clark said Grant had driven more than 5,000 miles in one year for RSVP.



From left, Larry Armstrong, Becky Lollman, Dave Lollman, Sen. Rachel May, and Nancy Jabot enjoy good conversation and lunches from the Peterboro General Store.

Celebrate America – Volunteer!

The mission of AmeriCorps Seniors is to unite America through service. On our nation's 245th "birthday," think about volunteering through the Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc's RSVP program. The program helps match those 55 and older with volunteer roles in the community.

Some opportunities include:

- ◆ Library Volunteer: The New Woodstock Free Library is looking for help with library tasks.
- ◆ Volunteer Medical Transportation: There is always a need for folks to help provide a ride to medical appointments for seniors.
- ◆ Grocery Delivery Drivers: There is a need for people, especially in the southern part of the county, to pick up groceries at local supermarkets and deliver them to seniors.
- ◆ Grocery Shopping Program Order Takers: For those more tech savvy, OFA/RSVP needs folks to help place online grocery orders.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, or would like to learn about other opportunities, call Annette at 315-697-5700 ext. 212.

Happy July Birthdays, Volunteers!

The Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc. and its Retired and Senior Volunteer Program want to say, "Happy birthday!" to our AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers who came into the world in July.

Alma Bikowsky
James Christensen
Carol D'Angelo
Viola Ducatte
Marlyn Fuess
Ernest Giraud
Karen Greenwood
David Lollman

Pamela Maihafer
Joyce Miller
Francis Park
L. Clark Parkhurst
Phyllis Petersen
Tamre Sadler
Gerald Vaikness
Kathy Vaikness

OFA Schedules Farmers' Market Coupon Drive-Throughs

If you are a senior (aged 60 years or older) who lives in New York State and are low-income, you may be eligible to receive Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) checks.

Eligible seniors receive a booklet with SFMNP checks that can only be used to purchase local, fresh, unprocessed vegetables and fruits at participating farmers' markets and farm stands.

To be eligible for Farmers' Market Coupons, participants **must be age 60 or older** and have a monthly income at/or below 185% of the federal poverty level (\$1,986/one person household; \$2,686/two-person household).

The MCOFA has already scheduled three drive-through distributions:

- Thursday, July 8, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Town of Sullivan Parks & Rec/American Legion, 70 Legion Dr, Chittenango.
- Monday, July 12, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Morrisville Community Church, 3824 Swamp Rd, Morrisville, side parking lot.
- Thursday, July 15 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Fitch Street Entrance to Harmon Field, Oneida.

Follow signs/orange cones. Remain in your vehicle. An OFA staff member will bring paperwork to the vehicle's window. One coupon booklet per eligible senior in each household.

Eligible seniors must sign up in person. An eligible Power of Attorney with proper paperwork can sign for the coupons.

Be sure to visit our web page. www.ofamadco.org, or Facebook for updated distribution sites.



Farmers' Markets Back This Summer

Farmers' market summer season is here!

Local markets let farmers sell fresh and seasonal products directly to you, cutting out the middleman and getting them full retail price for their food. This helps family farms stay on the land while bringing choice and fresh food to your table.

Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension in Morrisville, 315-684-3001 ext. 126, for more information about other "buy local" programs including "Curbside at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County" and Open Farm Day 2021.

Farmers' Market at Cottage Lawn

Tuesdays 3-7 p.m.

The last Tuesday in May until the last Tuesday in August

435 Main Street in Oneida

(315) 363-4136

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/farmersmarketatcottagelawn

Village of Hamilton Farmers' Market

Saturdays 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

May 9 - October 31

Village Green, Hamilton

Website: hamilton-ny.gov/farmers-market

Cazenovia Farmers' Market

Saturdays 9 a.m.-noon

May 9 - October 31

Cannon Park (COVID-19 location on the green in front of the high school for proper spacing)

Albany St., Cazenovia

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CazenoviaFarmersMarket

Website: www.cazenoviafarmersmarket.com

Tuesdays in the Park Market

Tuesdays 4-7:30 p.m.

June 15 through August 31

Dr. West Park on E. Genesee Street, Chittenango

www.facebook.com/chittmarket



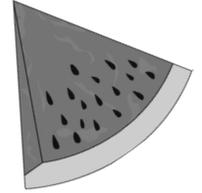
FoodSense Order Deadline July 15

Food Sense packages are available each month from the Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc. The deadline to order July packages through OFA is 3 p.m. Thursday, July 15.

Packages contain 10 to 12 food items including fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and other grocery staples. Each month's package is different; individual items are also offered as specials at an additional cost each month.

Food Sense offers anyone the opportunity to stretch their food budget by purchasing quality food at a discount. No donated food is used in the program. There is no income requirement.

Payment can be made via cash, check, and EBT card. Contact Colleen at MCOFA by calling 315-697-5700 ext. 224.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Clip and mail your contribution to Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc
138 Dominic Bruno Blvd, Canastota, NY 13032



Name _____ Address _____

I wish my contribution to be used for:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use Where Most Needed | <input type="checkbox"/> SNACK Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In Home Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Respite Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Insurance Counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> RSVP Volunteer Program |

Funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging under Title III of the Older Americans Act,
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