

October 2024

# LIVING THE LATER YEARS

#### A Message from the WPPP Board

The Board of the Westchester Public/Private Partnership Membership Fund for Aging Services invites you to attend one of the many upcoming in person events outlined in this newsletter.

#### A Message from the Fund Administrator

The Westchester Public/Private Partnership Membership Fund for Aging Services in partnership with the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs wishes you a safe and enjoyable Fall.

We also hope that you will attend one or all of the special upcoming events included in this issue.

Fall is also Medicare Open Enrollment Season so please be sure to read more about this further on in the newsletter.

#### A Message from the County Executive

Dear Friends,

Thank you for reading this latest edition of "Living the Later Years," a Westchester County newsletter designed to provide valuable information to assist you in your daily life.

We are very proud of the robust programs and services we offer to our seniors and their caregivers – which all help to improve your quality of life in our County.

We encourage you to join in the activities and programs described in this newsletter to help you age comfortably and independently in Westchester. And, to ensure you remain healthy and safe, please make sure you are up to date on your COVID and Flu vaccinations.

Wishing you a happy and healthy autumn!



Mae Carpenter Fund Administrator, WPPP Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services, Commissioner

Mae Carpenter



George Latimer Westchester County Executive

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## What You Need to Know for Medicare Open Enrollment 2025

#### Medicare's Annual Open Enrollment runs from October 15 through December 7, 2024.

If you are covered under a Group Health Plan (GHP) based on your or your spouse's current employment, or current employment of a family member (if disabled), you have the option to delay enrollment if that GHP is considered primary coverage.

#### Important Considerations for Your Prescription Drug Coverage

Compare plan options for formulary coverage and cost. A plan comparison guide, referred to as the "Planfinder can be found on the Medicare.gov website: https://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/.

**New for 2025** There is a \$2,000 Annual out of pocket cap for medications so no more coverage gap (also known as the donut hole). Standalone Medicare drug plans and Medicare Advantage plans with drug coverage will offer a new payment option that allows enrollees to pay their out-of-pocket prescription drug costs in monthly installments instead of all at once.

Where To Turn For Help If you need assistance reviewing your coverage options, please reach out to Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services HIICAP (Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program), (914) 813-6100 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Learn about Medicare** You can also attend a free in person session to learn about Medicare at our Mount Vernon offices. These sessions will take place on November 19 and December 4,2024 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the County Office Building, Eighth Floor Conference Room, 9 S. First Ave., Mount Vernon, N.Y.

To register or learn more, call the Medicare information Line at (914) 813-6100.

## **Demystifying Medicare**

These free 2024 workshops cover the various parts of Medicare and associated costs as part of the Westchester Library System's Senior Benefits programs. Pre-registration is requested, see details below.

#### **CROTON-ON-HUDSON**

Sunday, Oct. 20th, 1:15 – 4:30 pm Croton Free Library 171 Cleveland Drive, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520 *Pre-registration requested at:* (914) 271-6612

#### HARRISON

Monday, Oct. 21st, 5:30 – 8:45 pm Harrison Public Library, Halperin Building 2 Bruce Ave., Harrison, NY 10528

Pre-registration encouraged at: (914) 835-0324 ext. 3 ARDSLEY

Wednesday, Oct. 23rd, 5:30 – 8:45 pm Town of Greenburgh Multipurpose Center 11 Olympic Lane, Ardsley, NY 10502 *Pre-registration requested at:* (914) 989-1822 **RYE** 

Saturday, Oct. 26th, 10:15 am – 1:15 pm Rye Free Reading Room 1061 Boston Post Rd, Rye, NY 10580 *Pre-registration requested at:* (914) 231-3161 or online at ryelibrary.org/events

#### **Four Libraries offer Individual Medicare Counseling Centers** 10 am – 1 pm

John C Hart Memorial Library (SHRUB OAK) 1130 E Main St.

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, plus Oct. 15, 29; Nov. 19; Dec. 3,2024.

#### **Grinton I Will Library (YONKERS)**

1500 Central Park Ave. Every 1st Thursday of the month, plus Oct. 17, 24; Nov. 14, 21,2024.

#### Hendrick Hudson Free Library (MONTROSE) 185 Kings Ferry Road

Mondays Oct. 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 18, 25; Dec. 2,2024 Greenburgh Public Library (ELMSFORD) 300 Tarrytown Road

Wednesdays Oct. 16, 23; Nov. 6, 20; Dec. 4,2024.

#### Free at Home COVID-19 tests are Now Available

Families are now able to obtain up to four free COVID-19 tests through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) while supplies last. You can order them online at https://www.covidtests.gov or by calling 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489).

### Please join us at the Westchester Public/ Private Partnership For Aging Services Impact Awards

IMonday, October 21, 2024, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, NY. This year's event will be emceed by Katerina Belales, Alert Center Anchor and Reporter at News 12 Westchester, with Westfair Business Journal as this year's media sponsor.

We look forward to celebrating 50 years of dedicated service to the senior community under the leadership of Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services Commissioner Mae Carpenter and recognize professionals who have made a significant impact on the lives of seniors in Westchester. This year's honorees are:

#### **Community Development Award**

Michael N. Romita, President and CEO, Westchester County Association

#### **Service Award**

Rita Mabli, President and CEO, United Hebrew of New Rochelle

#### **Advocacy Award**

Dr. William T. Smith, President and CEO, Aging in America

#### **Distinguished Leader in Elder Health and** Wellness

Dr. Michael Palumbo, Executive VP and Chief Medical Officer, White Plains Hospital

#### **Special Recognition for 50 Years of Service**

Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services

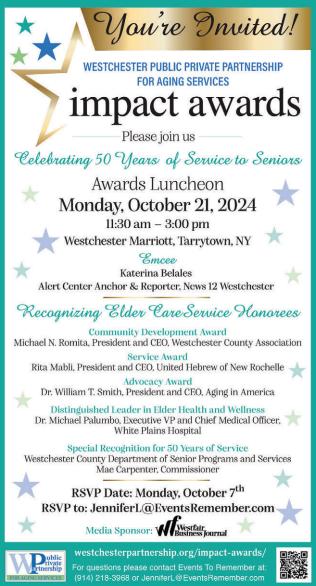
Mae Carpenter, Commissioner

Individual Ticket(s): (\$150.00) available online at westchesterpartnership.org or make check payable to Westchester Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services (WPPP) and mail to Events to Remember,

100 Clarewood Drive, Unit 3J, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706.

Sponsorship opportunities also available at westchesterpartnership.org or call 914 813-6444.





## WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR PROGRAMS & SERVICES (DSPS) ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING

This event will be held Tuesday Oct. 29,2024 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Westchester County Center ,198 Central Avenue, White Plains. The Department will unveil the 2025 Update to the 2024-2028 four-year area plan on the use of proposed funds from the Older Americans Act and the New York State Programs for the Elderly.

The hearing provides a venue to learn about and speak out on concerns that affect Westchester seniors and their families. We are asking speakers to identify the many benefits of services the County provides to help older citizens maintain a healthy and dignified lifestyle. Registration is not required to attend or speak at the meeting.

The plan will be distributed at the public hearing and is also available upon request starting Tuesday, October 22. To request a copy of the plan, for any other information or for accommodations, please contact Andrew Crawford at aqcq@westchestercountyny.gov or call 914-813-6408.

**DONATE :** Ilf you would like to support our work, please send a donation to: Westchester Public/Private Membership Fund for Aging. Services, 9 South First Avenue 10th Floor, Mt. Vernon, NY 10550

**Address Changes:** Contact Marikay Capasso at mqcq@westchestercountyny.gov or 914 813 6427.

Editors: Colette Phipps, LMSW, Liason to WPPP

Marikay Capasso. MA, Westchester Public/Private Membership Fund for Aging Services

## ChroniChronic Disease. Chronic Pain and Diabetes Self-Management Workshops

## The Health for Life Program (HeLP)

Each of these free workshops are offered virtually, or in person, in group settings to help you take care of your health. The workshops meet once a week for six weeks for two and a half hours. We learn how to deal with stress, healthy eating, physical activity and getting a good night's sleep. There is no charge to participate but pre-registration is required. Please contact Marikay Capasso at (914) 813-6427 or email at mgcg@

westchestercountyny.gov for more information.



## The Health for Life Program (HeLP)

## Managing Chronic Conditions

## Are you living with a chronic health condition or caring for someone who is?

Join this six-week series of small group sessions geared to ages 55 and older and/or their caregivers to learn tools and techniques to enhance your quality of life while managing conditions such as high blood pressure, pain, depression, arthritis, and diabetes.

## Mondays, Oct 28-Dec 9 | 1-3:30 PM

(no session Nov 11)

#### **Greenburgh Public Library**

Small Conference Room

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED.** 

Scan code, visit greenburghlibrary.org or call 914–721–8225 to learn more & register.





Greenburgh Public Library

Greenburgh Public Library 300 Tarrytown Road Elmsford, NY 10523 greenburghlibrary.org





NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Office for the Aging



The Westchester Public/Private Membership Fund for Aging Services Non-Profit U.S. Postage PAID Permit #1782 White Plains, NY

## ADDRESS



The 42nd Annual Westchester Senior Citizens Hall of Fame will be held at the Westchester Marriott hotel in Tarrytown on Friday December 6, 2024, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Join us as we celebrate older adults who have generously given their time and energy to improve the quality of life in our community.

Individual tickets are available for \$90. Sponsorship and journal ads are also available.

Please call Events To Remember at 914-218-3968 or mail payment to Events to Remember, Attention Amanda Seebeck, 100 Clarewood Drive, Unit 3 J, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706.