

February 2012

Mercer County Connection

957 Route 33, Hamilton, NJ 08690

890-9800

www.mercercounty.org

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>Veteran's Affairs Information Available Everyday</i>	<i>Passport Photos Done On-Site Everyday</i>	1 Free Financial Benefits Screening By Appointment	2 County Clerk Notary Oath Night 3:00 -7:30 p.m.	3 Free Tax Assistance by Appointment	4 Free Notary Service Everyday
5	6 Free Tax Assistance by Appointment	7 Home Care & Hospice Counseling, Tuesdays By Appointment	8 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	9 Consumer Affairs 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.	10 Free Tax Assistance by Appointment	11 Voter Registration Forms Always Available
12	13  CLOSED	14 Home Care & Hospice Counseling, Tuesdays By Appointment	15 Free Financial Benefits Screening By Appointment	16 Medicare Information Always Available	17 Free Tax Assistance by Appointment	18 Assemblyman Dan Benson: Vial of L.I.F.E. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
19	20  CLOSED	21 Home Energy Assistance Program Information Always Available	22 Free Financial Benefits Screening By Appointment	23 Mercer County Parks Information Available Everyday	24 Free Tax Assistance by Appointment	25 P.A.A.D. Applications Available Everyday
26	27 Free Tax Assistance by Appointment Consumer Affairs 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.	28 Social Security Information Always Available	29 Planning for Incapacity 10 – 11:30 a.m.	M.C.C.C. Information Always Available	S.H.I.P. Counseling by Appointment Every Friday	Meet Your Legislators March 1st 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

HOURS OF OPERATION:
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Tuesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
 Saturday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 Passport Hours End ½ Hour Prior to Closing

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive

Paula Sollami-Covello, County Clerk

VIAL OF L.I.F.E. PROGRAM – Saturday, February 18th from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Assemblyman Dan Benson and a representative from Nottingham Ambulance Squad 111 will hold a Vial of L.I.F.E. program kickoff event here at the Connection. The program, which allows individuals to provide medical information in advance that can be used by emergency personnel in case of an emergency, is free and easy to use. It consists of a vial and a form which is filled out by the resident with all of his or her prescription information and past medical history on it. The resident puts the completed form in the vial and then stores the vial in the refrigerator to be retrieved by emergency responders when they arrive. **Please call 890-9800 to make your reserve your seat.**

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE – Mondays and Fridays from February thru April – BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

AARP Tax-Aide is a free program run by the AARP Foundation to guide people with low to moderate incomes through their taxes, making sure they receive all the deductions and credits they're entitled to. The program is available February through April. The AARP Tax-Aide program has trained and certified volunteers who will prepare and file your federal income tax return with the IRS, free of charge. **Please call 890-9800 to make your appointment.**

10 WARNING SIGNS FOR ALZHEIMER'S – Wednesday, February 8th from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

The warning signs of Alzheimer's disease are often dismissed as side effects of normal aging. If you or someone you know is experiencing memory loss or changes in behavior or thinking skills, it's time to learn the facts. Early detection, diagnosis, and intervention are vital because they provide the best opportunities for treatment, support, and planning for the future. Attend this interactive workshop to learn the 10 warning signs of Alzheimer's disease. Find out how to recognize the signs and the steps to take. **Please call 890-9800 to reserve your seat.**

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – Thursday, February 9th and Monday, February 27th from 11a.m. - 3 p.m.

Experiencing difficulty with a local business? Do you need information on how to avoid Credit, Home Improvement, Automotive, or Internet Fraud? Have you had problems with purchases or unreliable repairmen? The Chief of the Mercer County Consumer Affairs Commission will be here to answer all of your questions.

PLANNING FOR INCAPACITY – Wednesday, February 29^h from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Is your estate in order? Planning for incapacity is an important and often overlooked part of estate planning that covers how you are cared for if you become physically or mentally unable to care for yourself. This seminar will discuss planning tools to use to ensure that decision-making related to property or personal care can proceed without unnecessary disruption. Guest speaker will be Susan Knispel, Esquire, Project Director for The Mercer County Legal Services Project for the Elderly. **Please call 890-9800 to reserve your seat.**

N.J. NOTARY OATH FILING - The First Thursday of Every Month, 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Did you recently receive your certification to become a notary, or need to renew your outstanding certificate? If so, you need to be properly sworn in by the County Clerk's Office in order to officially become a Notary. Come to the County Connection the first Thursday of every month to be sworn in as a NJ Notary. The cost is \$15 and payment can be made via check, money order, or credit card. No cash is accepted.

S.H.I.P. – Available Fridays by Appointment Only

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program Provides free assistance to NJ Medicare Beneficiaries who have problems with, or questions about, their health insurance. Come to the County Connection and meet with a counselor to receive the information you need. **Call 609-890-9800 for a Friday appointment.**

HOME CARE & HOSPICE MEDICARE BENEFITS INFORMATION – Every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

Care giving decisions can be difficult and confusing. Every Tuesday, a representative from the Visiting Nurse Association of Mercer County will be at the Connection to meet with people, answer questions, and address many of the concerns families have when deciding whether home care or hospice is the right choice for their loved one. Learn what home care and hospice are, what services are provided, and how to pay for the services. **Please call 609-890-9800 to make a Tuesday appointment.**

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON AGING – Available Wednesdays by Appointment Only

Many older adults struggle each day to stay afloat. They face rising housing and health care bills, diminished savings, and often job loss. Many people are not aware of all the programs available to help them achieve economic security. The NCOA offers a free confidential benefits check-up to those 55 or older to help them find the programs they may be eligible for. **For an appointment please call 1-888-802-6262.**