

Senior Citizens of Marion County, Inc.
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Marion, KS. 66861
620-382-3580
aging@marioncoks.net

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 20
Marion, Kansas. 66861

Address Service Requested

Drivers License Renewal: Vehicle Dept. Courthouse Tuesday through Friday:

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ph. 620-382-3106

Keep the following agencies & phone numbers handy:

Marion County Health Department all day clinics on Wednesdays - 620-382-2550

Marion County Home Care - Marion - 620-382-3690

Mental Health Service - Hillsboro - 620-947-3200

Veteran Service Rep. - 2nd Tues. even number months-9:30 a.m. at Marion Sr. Center

Social Security - Toll Free-1-800-772-1213 or call Salina Office-1-877-405-3494

Dept. of Children & Families - Newton Office –1-888-369-4777 or 316-283-3015

Central Home Care - Newton - 316-283-8220 or 1-800-301-9499

Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice - Wichita-1-800-767-4965

Gentiva Hospice of Kansas - McPherson - 620-245-0891

Kansas Alzheimer’s Help Line - 1-800-432-3535

DO NOT CALL LIST - 1-888-382-1222 - To have your phone number removed from the telemarketers call list you must dial this number from your home or cellular phone.

EMERGENCIES DIAL 911


Senior Citizens of Marion County, Inc. & Marion County Dept. on Aging

Senior News & Views

Vol. 42, No. 3


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Gayla Ratzlaff, Coordinator
Lanell M. Hett, Sec./Trans.
Barbara Smith, Dept. Vol.



“It’s the first day of
Autumn! A time of
hot chocolatey
mornings, and
toasty marshmallow
evenings, and, best
of all, leaping into
leaves!”

By: Winne the Pooh



Prescription Drug Open Enrollment Changes

The Prescription Drug Open enrollment begins October 15-December 7. You should be receiving information from your current plan by the first of October. It will contain any changes to your plan such as premium, deductible and formulary changes. The deductible is going up to \$480.00 on most plans and to reach the donut hole this year your medications cost is \$4,430.00. I strongly encourage you to read the material your plan sends to you. I was

hoping by this year I would be able to resume coming out to various communities throughout the county. Due to the rise of the Delta variant and possibly another variant I will not be providing this service. Inside the newsletter you will find a form you can fill out and mail to the Dept. on Aging or drop it off at a Nutrition Site: Hillsboro, Marion or Peabody. If you don’t want to write out all your medications you can get a list from your pharmacy and attach it to

the form. Please highlight all the medications you are presently taking at the time of enrollment. Another option would be to create a Medicare account on-line and send me your user name and password for me to get in and run your medications. I would also be glad to make a Medicare account for you and give you your user name and password for future open enrollments. I would recommend if you buy medications at our three (Prescription Drug see pg. 3)

LAFF FOR THE DAY:

What is a scarecrow’s favorite fruit?



Straw-berries!

Extra Help with Prescription Drug Plan Costs

The Medicare Extra Help Program helps pay for Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. To qualify, a person must meet the income guidelines. Single person gross monthly income is

~~\$1,595~~ and married couple monthly gross income ~~\$2,155~~. Your resources (bank accounts, CD’s, Pension, annuity or property cannot be more than ~~\$14,790~~ for an individual and

~~\$29,520~~ for a married couple.) Resources do not include your primary residence and vehicle. Call the Marion County Dept. on Aging if you think you qualify.

1960 SCMC 61st Annual Meeting 2021

The Senior Citizens of Marion County, Inc. are proceeding with holding their 60th Anniversary celebration that was postponed last year. The celebration will be held on October 21, 2021 doors open at 11:00 a.m. at the Marion Sr. Center. The Guest Speaker will be Jim Hoy, Cowboy Poet who will speak about the Flint Hills. Due to the continued number of COVID cases in the county

we are limiting this event to 50 people. We are asking that those who are not vaccinated to wear a mask into the building and in line to pick up their food but may take off their mask at the table. We will be doing social distancing between the tables. The deadline to register is Friday, October 8, 2021 and the cost for Registration is \$5.25. You can pick up a registration form at one of the three Nu-

trition Sites (Hillsboro, Marion and Peabody) or the Marion County Dept. on Aging. We look forward to celebrating this major accomplishment of the Senior Citizens of Marion County, Inc. organization.

**61st Annual Meeting
60th Anniversary
Celebration**

Getting Everything You May Be Entitled to with Medicare

Many of you see almost daily a commercial by either Joe Namath, Jimmy Walker or Joan Lunden about calling to find out if you are getting everything you may be entitled to with Medicare. They are talking about a Medicare Advantage plan. You can enroll in an Advantage plan when you first turn 65, annual enrollment the same time as Prescription Drug Open enrollment October 15-December 7 or special enrollment anytime throughout the year because of the following changes: change where you live, losing your current health insurance, getting an opportunity to obtain other coverage, your Medicare Supplement goes out of business or your plan changes its contract

with Medicare. The benefits you deserve such as meals, rides to medical appointments, private home aides, over the counter medication allowance and free prescription delivery depend on your zip code. Most of these additional benefits are available in health maintenance organization plans which means you must use their physicians, hospitals, dentist and eye doctor network. If you use any providers not in their network you will pay additional costs. The plan likely will require prior approval or authorization before receiving care, the plan must review and approve the physician's order. These additional benefits have limits. For example, two meals a day for five days after hospitalization with a limit of four hospital-

izations and private home aide four hours a day for no more than 31 days in a year. The commercial says all these benefits may be available at no additional cost to you but the small print at the bottom of the page says "Plan premiums, copayments, and coinsurance can apply. Zero premiums does not mean zero costs. Plan members will pay their share of costs until they reach the plan's out of pocket maximum limit on average is around \$5,000. Keep in mind that these Medicare Advantage plans are offered by for-profit entities. Before you make a switch do your research and be an informed shopper. Your Medicare coverage is too important.



Medicare Fraud with Braces

I don't know if you have received a call asking if you have back, knee, hip or other joint pain. If you say yes over the phone this gives this company permission to send you a brace. Unfortunately your name gets passed around to other companies and they start sending you braces. The braces you should have needs to be fitted to you and so getting one from one of these companies is probably not going to fit correctly. It is best to talk to your doctor

if you think you need a brace to help with pain or more support. So what should you do if you start receiving braces: 1. Refuse to accept the package when it comes to your home. 2. Don't open the contents if it is left on your doorstep, call the brace company to get a tracking return label. You have 30 days to return it before Medicare is billed for it. 3. If you open the package and see it is a brace do not take the brace out of its package bag, the company

can refuse to take it back. 4. If you continue to receive braces you need to call Medicare 1-800-633-4227 to report this fraudulent activity. 5. If you need help with this matter, please feel free to call the Marion Co. Dept. on Aging office 620-382-3580 and we can help.



Prescription Drug (Pg.1)

pharmacies in the county to have them run your medications and make an appointment with me if you need to change plans for 2022. Once I receive your list and have run the comparison I will contact you and set up an appointment. I ask if you are feeling sick to reschedule your ap-

pointment for another day, have been asked to quarantine due to exposure to someone with COVID or have a household member, who has COVID and is in quarantine whether you have been vaccinated or not and received a negative test until the 14 day quarantine is over. We re-

gret this inconvenience again this year but we value you and your family. If you have questions about Prescription Drug enrollment call the Marion County Dept. on Aging at 620-382-3580.



Mark your calendar for the upcoming events: ✓

OCTOBER: County Offices closed October 11-Columbus Day and October 21-SCMC 61st Annual Meeting-Marion Sr. Center.

NOVEMBER: November 19-SCMC Bd. Mtg.-Peabody Sr. Center, County Offices closed for these holidays-November 11-Veterans Day, November 25 & 26 Thanksgiving Holidays.

DECEMBER: December 17-SCMC Bd. Mtg.-Marion Sr. Center, County Offices closed for these holidays-December 24 & 27-Christmas Holidays and January 1, 2022-New Year's Day Holiday.

FLU SHOTS: The Marion County Health Department will be doing Flu Clinics every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by appointment call 620-382-2550 to schedule an appointment.