

West View Savings Bank

“Over 100 Years of Quality Banking”

Volume 8, Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

January 2015

Helping Seniors to Pay For Prescriptions

A Message from our President, David J. Bursic

Do you, or someone that you know, need help with paying for prescriptions? Does your current prescription plan have too many gaps? The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania offers several prescription plans that might be able to help.

PACE and PACENET offer comprehensive prescription coverage to older Pennsylvanians and covers most prescription medications, including insulin, syringes and insulin needles. These programs do not cover over-the-counter medicines, medical equipment or doctor, hospital, dental or vision services. There is no application fee to enroll in the program.

Do I qualify for PACE or PACENET?

PACE – Who is eligible:

To be eligible for PACE, you must be 65 years of age or older, a Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application, and you cannot be enrolled in the Department of Public Welfare’s Medicaid prescription benefit.

Eligibility is also determined by your previous calendar year’s income. For a single person, your total income must be \$14,500 or less. For a married couple, your combined total income must be \$17,700 or less.

Once you are enrolled in the PACE program, a benefit card will be sent to you, and you will pay no more than \$6

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Is It Time for Your Financial Checkup?

Tips that can help you fine-tune your money management

Any time of year, but particularly the start of a new year, is a good time to reflect on how you are managing your finances and to consider whether you would benefit from some changes. Here’s a checklist of questions and suggestions that can help you better evaluate and meet your goals.

Saving

What are my current short-term and long-term financial goals? Write them down. They may include paying off a debt, buying a home or a car, or financing a child’s college education.

Can I do better making automatic transfers into savings? Arranging for your bank or employer to automatically transfer funds into savings or retirement accounts is a great way to build savings. Ask yourself whether you should increase the amount you are automatically saving.

Do I have enough money in an emergency savings fund? The idea is to cover major unexpected expenses or a temporary reduction in income without borrowing money. Figure out how much you would need to pay for, say, three to six months of essential expenses (housing, transportation, medical costs and so on). If you don’t have that much money in a savings account, start setting aside what you would need. For anyone struggling to build a “rainy day fund” or reach any major savings target, setting up automatic transfers is a steady way to work toward that goal.

What about retirement savings? Start by calculating how much money you will need for retirement, perhaps by using an online estimator. According to the Social Security Administration (SSA), most financial advisors say to aim for a combination of Social Security payments, pensions and personal savings that equal at least 70 percent of your pre-retirement earnings in order to maintain your pre-retirement standard of living. Even if you are just starting out in the working world, look into all your retirement savings options, as they may come with tax savings and employer matches. And, if you are self-employed, find useful information from the IRS at www.irs.gov/Retirement-Plans/Retirement-Plans-for-Self-Employed-People. To estimate your Social Security

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for each generic prescription medication and no more than \$9 for each brand name prescription at your pharmacy. These copayments are based on a 30-day supply.

PACENET – Who is eligible:

To be eligible for PACENET, you must be 65 years of age or older, a Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application, and you cannot be enrolled in the Department of Public Welfare's Medicaid prescription benefit. PACENET's income limits are slightly higher than those for PACE. Eligibility is based on the previous calendar year's income. A single person's total income can be between \$14,501 and \$23,500. A couple's combined total income can be between \$17,700 and \$31,500. Once you are enrolled in the PACENET program, a benefit card will be sent to you.

PACENET cardholders that do not enroll in a Part D plan will pay a nominal deductible each month at the pharmacy, which will be calculated through the cost of their medications. If the deductible is not met each month, it will accumulate. In addition, the individual will pay no more than \$8 for each generic prescription medication and no more than \$15 for each brand name.

PACENET cardholders enrolled in one of the program's partner Part D plans will pay the Part D premium at the pharmacy each month, which will be calculated through the cost of the medications. PACENET cardholders enrolled in a Part D plan that is not one of the program's partner plans will pay the Part D premium directly to the Part D plan. In addition, they will pay no more than the PACENET co-payments of \$8 for each generic prescription medication and \$15 for each brand name.

PACE Plus Medicare

PACE Plus Medicare offers eligible older Pennsylvanians one of the most generous prescription assistance plans in the United States.

Under PACE Plus Medicare, PACE/PACENET coverage is supplemented by federal Medicare Part D prescription coverage - offering older Pennsylvanians the best benefits of both programs. Older adults continue to receive the same prescription benefits while, in many cases, saving more money.

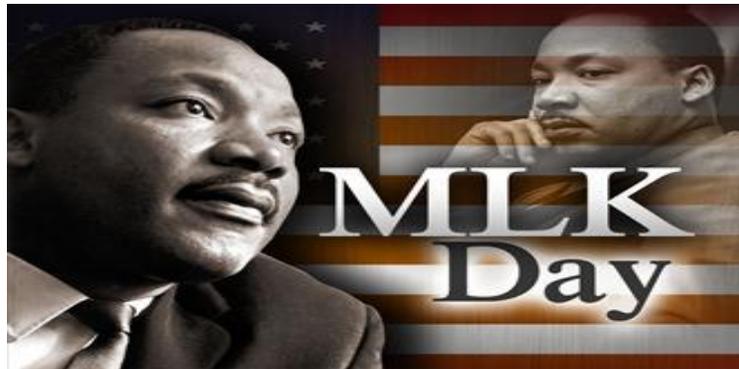
For further information or questions on PACE, PACENET or PACE Plus Medicare, call 1-800-225-7223.



Is It Time for Your Financial Checkup?

benefits when you retire, you can contact the SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or go to www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Do my checking and savings account choices meet my needs at a reasonable cost? Start by talking to a representative at your current bank and/or visiting your bank's Web site. That's because some banks only offer certain deals in their branches but not online, or vice versa. If you paid checking account overdraft fees recently, look into ways to avoid them, starting with keeping a closer eye on your balance. If you have multiple accounts, consider whether consolidating them may save you money and time in monitoring transactions.



*West View Savings Bank
will be closed in observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 19, 2015*

Crisis Center North Thankful for Community Support

We have served over 2,062 clients with 11,595 services provided by a staff of 15. Small, yet mighty; a Center that has defied all economic odds, and a social issue that remains a generally quiet epidemic, to weather the storm, and not only provide, but grow services for victims and survivors of domestic violence. Crisis Center North can thank you, our community, for walking hand in hand with us as we work diligently to provide services to our clients no matter what obstacle we face.

As we approach the holidays and wind down 2014, we sincerely thank you for your continued support, through your donations of operating funds that are so difficult to come by, and the tangible assistance items that provide comfort for our clients. We continue to use your dollars in the most efficient way possible by maintaining a 12% administrative and fundraising overhead and directing .88 cents of every dollar that we receive into client services. Please know that your support, whether donations or through volunteer hours directly impacts our community positively. To volunteer, fundraise, or connect with us, you can send an email to info@crisiscenternorth.org, we would love to hear from you! May you and yours have a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

Protect Your Personal Information

Keep your important papers secure

- **Lock them up.** Lock your financial documents and records in a safe place at home, and lock your wallet or purse in a safe place at work. Keep your information secure from roommates or workers who come into your home.

- **Limit what you carry.** When you go out, take only the identification, credit, and debit cards you need. Leave your Social Security and Medicare cards at home or in a secure place.

- **Pick up your new checks at the bank.** When you order new checks, don't have them mailed to your home, unless you have a secure mailbox with a lock.

- **Be careful with your mail.** Take outgoing mail to post office collection boxes or the post office. Promptly remove mail that arrives in your mailbox. If you will be away from home for several days, request a vacation hold on your mail:

- go to your local post office,
- visit www.usps.com/holdmail, or
- call the U.S. Postal Service at 1-800-275-8777

- **Shred sensitive documents.** Shred receipts, credit offers, credit applications, insurance forms, physician statements, checks, bank statements, expired charge cards, and similar documents before you put them in your trash.

- **Consider opting out of prescreened offers of credit and insurance by mail.** You can opt out for 5 years or permanently. To opt out for 5 years, call 1-888-567-8688 or go to www.optoutprescreen.com. The 3 nationwide credit reporting companies operate the phone number and website.

- **Protect your medical information.** Destroy the labels on prescription bottles before you throw them out. Don't share your health plan information with anyone who offers free health services or products.

- **Exercise your curiosity.** Before you share information at your workplace, a business, your child's school, or a doctor's office, ask who will have access to your information, how it will be handled, and how it will be disposed of.

Secure your Social Security Number

- **Protect it.** Share your Social Security number, and your child's, only when necessary. Ask if you can use a different kind of identification.

- **If someone asks you to share** your Social Security number or your child's, ask:

- why they need it
- how it will be used
- how they will protect it
- what happens if you don't share the number

The decision to share is yours. A business may not provide you with a service or benefit if you don't provide your number.

- **Sometimes you must share your number.** Your employer and financial institutions need your Social Security number for wage and tax reporting purposes. A business may ask for

your Social Security number so they can check your credit when you apply for a loan, rent an apartment, or sign up for utility service.

Be alert to impersonators online

- **Be sure you know who is getting your personal or financial information online.** If a company that claims to have an account with you sends email asking for personal information, don't click on links in the email.

Instead, type the company name into your web browser, go to their site, and contact them through customer service. Or, call the customer service number listed on your account statement. Ask whether the company really sent a request.

Protect your computer and mobile device

- **Use anti-virus software, anti-spyware software, and a firewall.** Set your preference to update these protections often. Protect against intrusions and infections that can compromise your computer files or passwords by installing security patches for your operating system and other software programs.

- **Don't open files, click on links, or download programs sent by strangers.** Opening a file from someone you don't know could expose your system to a computer virus or spyware that captures your passwords or other information you type.

Safely dispose of personal information.

- Before you dispose of a computer, get rid of all the personal information it stores. Use a wipe utility program to overwrite the entire hard drive.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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McCandless Office	412-364-1911
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Sherwood Oaks Office	724-776-4870
Franklin Park Office	724-935-7100
Lending Division	724-935-7400
Bellevue Office	412-761-5595

Visit us at www.wvsbank.com



KID'S KORNER

I Have A Dream



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Word Jumble

Unscramble the letters using the words from the word bank below.

1. HACRM _____
2. CARFNIA _____
3. RMADE _____
4. BAAAMLA _____
5. EEGTEGARS _____
6. ISTUJCE _____
7. ALQIEUTY _____
8. RBTYEIL _____
9. STLCHIIIRGV _____
10. RMACSI _____
11. TOTEPRS _____
12. OTBCOYT _____
13. EIMSRNTI _____
14. CSPEHE _____
15. ENLBO _____
16. NMIAAERC _____
17. EAPEC _____
18. ELRDEA _____
19. FOMREED _____
20. DRMENTSOAET _____

African	leader	dream	racism
American	minister	equality	speech
Alabama	Nobel	freedom	boycott
Demonstrate	peace	justice	civil rights
March	protest	liberty	segregate

HOLIDAY SPICED APPLE CHUTNEY



- 1 ½ cups white vinegar
- 1 ½ cups white sugar
- 4 tart apples –peeled, cored, and cut into ½-inch cubes
- ¼ cup diced dried apricots
- ¼ cup golden raisins
- ¼ cup diced shallots
- 5 thick slices fresh ginger
- ¼ teaspoon Aleppo pepper flakes, or to taste
- 1 whole star anise
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt, or to taste
- ½ teaspoon yellow mustard seed

Directions:

1. Whisk vinegar and sugar together in a large saucepan; add apples, apricots, raisins, shallots, ginger, Aleppo pepper flakes, and star anise. Bring to a simmer, reduce heat to medium-low; stir in garlic, salt, and mustard.
2. Simmer mixture, stirring occasionally, until fruit is soft and liquid is reduced, 40 to 45 minutes. Remove from heat and cool to room temperature. Remove ginger pieces and star anise, transfer mixture to a bowl, and refrigerate until chilled. Season with salt and pepper flakes.

FUN FACTS ABOUT NEW YEAR'S

- 1) New Year's is the oldest holiday. First observed in ancient Babylon over 4000 years ago.
- 2) The month of January is named after the God Janus (Latin word for door) in the Roman Calendar. Janus is the God with two faces, one looking backward and one looking forward at the same time.
- 3) The Roman Senate declared January 1 as the New Year in 153 BC.
- 4) January 1 was revived as the New Year in 1582 by the Gregorian calendar and celebrated by most of the world's countries to date.
- 5) Auld Lang Syne is a Scottish Song written by Robert Burns in the 1700's. It literally means "old long ago" or simply "the good old days" to remember old and new friends.
- 6) It was once believed that the first visitors on New Year's Day would bring either Good or Bad luck for the rest of the year depending on who they were.
- 7) The tradition of making New Year Resolutions dates back to the Babylonians.
- 8) Noisemaking and fireworks on New Year's Eve was believed to have originated in the ancient times when noise and fire were thought to dispel evil spirits and bring good luck.