Town of Niagara Senior Journal



Volume 19, Issue 63

Fall 2024

Family History Class - "Discover Your Roots"

If you are interested in learning more about your family history, come join us, on October 25th from 10am-12 noon at the Calvin K Richard Senior Center, 7000 Lockport Rd., Niagara Falls, for a presentation on how to go about that. Town of Niagara historian and genealogist, Pete Ames will provide information that will get you started. He will share tips on where to look and how to locate what sources you can use, both locally and online. Contrary to popular belief, not everything is on the computer, but quite a bit is.

So, if you would like to discover your roots, please sign up at the Town of Niagara Senior Center or call Senior Director Joe Proietti, at 716-297-2543, by October 22^{nd} .

If you would like, contact Pete Ames in advance with a particular question that he can look at prior to the class. He may be able to discover an answer for you that he can provide on the day of the class and explain how he came up with it. Every search requires any number of potential sources, so it may be simple or more complex. He won't be able to do your whole family history, but he can help get you headed in the right direction. You can reach him via email at pames@townofniagara.com or by cell phone at 716-297-4429.

Veterans Breakfast



The Town of Niagara will be hosting a Breakfast to honor Town Veterans on November 7th from 10am to 12 P noon, at the Town of Niagara Senior Center. Tickets will go on sale **October 1st** .You must sign up and pick up your tickets by Monday November 4th at the Town of Niagara Senior Center, 7000 Lockport Rd (Veterans Memorial Park), between 9 and 1 (limit 100). Town Veterans are free, and their guest are \$13.00.

Any question please call the Joe Proietti at 716-297-5243 ext. 2

Please join us on Monday November 11th at 11:00 AM for the annual Veterans Day ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park located at 7000 Lockport Road



Identity Theft Protection for Seniors

If you live in today's world, you run the risk of having your identity stolen. Identity theft occurs when a criminal deliberately uses someone else's identity to obtain financial gain, to make purchases or to obtain credit or loans, or to gain other benefits in another person's name, often at the other person's loss or disadvantage. Identity theft occurs when anyone obtains, uses, and/or gains access to your personal documents and information without your consent. Unfortunately, your personal information can be found in numerous places – from your driver's license to your Medicare card to the labels on your prescription bottles to countless locations across the worldwide web.

When someone illegally uses a person's personally identifiable information to gain access to medical treatment, goods, or services. Identity (ID) theft happens when someone steals your personal information to commit fraud.

The identity thief may use your information to apply for credit and file taxes. These acts can damage your credit status, and cost you time and money to restore your good name.

The risk is real, and everyone is a target. According to a 2018 online survey by The Harris Poll, almost 60 million Americans have been affected by identity theft, with nearly 15 million consumers experiencing identity theft in 2017. According <u>Javelin Strategy & Research</u>, the number of people affected by identity theft is on the rise. Although reliable <u>statistics</u> concerning who is most targeted for identity theft are difficult to obtain, four groups of people are especially vulnerable:

- 1.children
- 2. mega social media users
- 3. high income earners
- 4. the elderly/senior population

Not only does a senior have the potential of falling into three of these four groups, but they are also particularly susceptible to identity theft for a wide number of other reasons, as well, including:

- Seniors are frequent targets for phishing scams (when someone posing as a trustworthy entity, often in electronic communication, fraudulently attempts to obtain sensitive information such as credit card information, usernames, and passwords).
- When seniors grant powers of attorney, they are giving that person wide access to their personal information. A person who is made power of attorney should be trustworthy and must carefully guard this sensitive information.
- A senior's personal information may be vulnerable in hospitals and other care facilities.

Come join us on October 11th from 10 to 12 noon, at the Calvin K Richard Senior Center, 7000 Lockport Rd., Niagara Falls, for a presentation on Identity Theft Protection.

Sign up at the Town of Niagara Senior Center or call Senior Director Joe Proietti, at 716-297-2543 ext. 2 by October 10th.