

# IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

NYS Dept. of Tax and Finance..... 518-457-5181  
 Thruway Information .....1-800-847-8929  
 Dept. of Veterans Affairs .....1-800-827-1000  
 Voter Information.....1-800-367-8683  
 Senior Consumer Information Hotline .....1-800-503-9000

## TOWN OF AMHERST

Town Hall..... 716-631-7000  
 Court..... 716-689-4200  
 Fire Dept. .... 911  
 Police Dept. .... 716-689-1311  
 Senior Services ..... 716-636-3050  
 Amherst Meals on Wheels..... 716-636-3065  
 Town Clerk..... 716-631-7045

## ERIE COUNTY EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance ..... 911  
 Poison Control .....1-800-222-1222  
 State Police ..... 716-759-6831

## ERIE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Dept. of Health ..... 716-858-7690  
 Senior Services ..... 716-858-8526  
 Social Services..... 716-858-8000  
 Veterans Affairs..... 716-858-6363



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Dear Neighbor,

As a senior in New York State, there are many programs available to protect what you have earned and ensure your well-being. This brochure is intended to better acquaint you with those programs and alert you of upcoming events in the community. I hope you find this brochure helpful but if you are unable to find what you are looking for, I have also included a list of important phone numbers for your reference.



If you have any questions about information provided in this brochure, or any other questions or concerns regarding state issues, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 716-634-1895. My staff and I are always here to help, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Ray Walter

SAVE THE DATE!

## FREE FAMILY HEALTH FAIR

SPONSORED BY:



Kaleida Health

Join me, Senator Michael Ranzenhofer, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, and Kaleida Health for a day of health education featuring illness screenings, informational displays and more.

Saturday, Aug. 1 • 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Amherst Senior Center at 370  
JJ Audubon Parkway, Amherst

### CONSUMER PROTECTION

Do not give out your Social Security Number, driver license number, or any credit card numbers without being certain that the person contacting you is legitimate and has a valid reason for needing that identification. Check your bank and credit card statements on a regular basis to make sure that all the charges to your account were properly approved by you and immediately contact your bank or credit card company if there is an issue.

### STOP TELEMARKETERS

To add your number to the Do Not Call Registry, you can call 888-382-1222 from the phone you wish to register, or go to <https://www.donotcall.gov/register/reg.aspx> to register your home and cell phone numbers to avoid scam calls and over-the-phone soliciting.

### STOP JUNK MAIL

Go to [www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org) and click on “Get Started” in the upper right corner to register. Your registration will last three years and your personal information will not be shared.

### STOP PRE-APPROVED CREDIT CARD MAIL

Consumers can have their names removed by visiting [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) and eliminate pre-approved credit card solicitations.

### SENIOR CONSUMER INFORMATION HOTLINE

The New York State Department of State, through a partnership with AARP, operates the 24-hour “Senior Consumer Information Hotline,” which allows senior citizens to access free information they can use to stay safe, maximize their independence and improve their everyday lives. Seniors can access the hotline by calling 1-800-503-9000.

If you suspect your identity has been stolen, contact these three credit agencies to stop thieves from further accessing your personal information:

Equifax	(800) 525-6285
Experian	(888) 397-3742
TransUnion	(800) 680-7289

## NEW YORK STATE SENIORS PROGRAMS

### ENHANCED STAR

The Enhanced School Tax Relief (STAR) program is a property-tax-reduction program available to seniors that exempts the first \$65,300 of the full value of their home from school property taxes. To qualify for the Enhanced STAR exemption, a senior must apply annually or participate in the Income Verification Program and:

- have proof of residency in New York State;
- be 65 or older; and
- have an annual household income below \$84,550.

Find out if you qualify for Enhanced STAR: call 1-518-457-2036 or visit [www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/eligibility.htm](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/eligibility.htm).

### EPIC

The Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program is a New York State seniors program administered by the Department of Health. To join EPIC, a senior must:

- be a New York State resident;
- have an annual income below \$20,000 if single or below \$26,000 if married for the Fee Plan;
- have an annual income ranging from \$20,001 to \$75,000 if single or \$26,001 to \$100,000 if married for the Deductible Plan; and
- be enrolled or eligible for Medicare Part D.

Find out if you qualify for EPIC: call 1-800-290-9138 or visit [www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/epic/](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/epic/).