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1. Upcoming Events

August 23, 2005, 10 a.m. until noon, First Baptist Church, Richton, Miss. A panel of speakers will present "Taking Care of Your Aging Love One: Resources and Supports" as part of ShareCare's efforts to educate family caregivers about the resources available to them and how to access those resources. This is a free event, open to the public. For more information, call 1-888-671-0051 or (601) 266-5163.

2. Senior Savings - H.Leland Smith

What's better than low cost? Why it's no cost. Many offers come to senior citizens via the mailbox, newspaper and, to those computer savvy, email. What's the commonality among freebies? Almost all offers come with a string attached. Seniors are among the most trusting individuals of any demographic group, and are often vulnerable to fraud. Older Americans lost 152 million to con artists last year.

<http://www.redherring.com/Article.aspx?a=12946&hed=Elderly+Swindled+by+Web+Scams>

The warning that comes with every offer is very, very simple. If the offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is. While we hear more about these high-tech crimes, the low-tech person-to-person scams are still present. A recent St. Petersburg, Fla. senior stopped a utility repair scam when men impersonating service workers came to her house and said there was a broken water line. (See

http://www.sptimes.com/2005/08/11/Southpinellas/Woman_foiled_pair_s_w.shtml)

. If you would not have been so suspicious, order the publication from the Mississippi Leadership Council on Aging that is listed below. It could help prevent a financial disaster.

However, senior discounts are real, immediate and definitely can save the consumer serious money. Find the times when restaurants offer senior discounts. Also, grocery stores often have senior discount times when the store is normally less crowded. This helps the store and the consumer. Many retail stores offer discounts to seniors based on age. Ask!

Often seniors are living on fixed incomes. Income needs to be matched with expenses without cutting down on the standard of living, such as continuing to be able to travel. Finding discounted airfare, Amtrak tickets or even group travel can be as easy as becoming a little computer savvy. Searching the Internet can provide a treasure trove of

senior discounts for a myriad of wants and needs. Of course, the senior organizations such as AARP, National Association of Senior Friends, and The Seniors Coalition offer extensive discounts with partner businesses.

3. Web Sites for Senior Discounts

<http://www.lenhansen.com/mature.html> - An interesting site with several great articles.

<http://www.senior.org> - The home URL for The Seniors Coalition

www.seniorfriends.com - The home URL of the National Association of Senior Friends

www.aarp.org - The home URL of the AARP. AARP offers a publication on consumer protection that is excellent.

www.aarp.org/homeloans - For AARP's campaign against predatory home lending.

<http://www.eldercarelink.com> - Free consumer referral service lets you find the help you need. <http://www.seniorcitizensbureau.com> - Educational Resources for Seniors

4. A Publication on Fraud Prevention

Order this publication: _Golden age security: A crime prevention guide for senior citizens_ from Mississippi Leadership Council on Aging, 3760 I-55 N. Frontage Road, Jackson, Mississippi 39211

We hope you are enjoying ShareCare Notes. We now have 99 subscribers, the vast majority are family caregivers. If you know of someone that could benefit from this online newsletter, please forward it to them and encourage them to subscribe.

Project ShareCare, funded by the Area Agency on Aging, provides training, counseling and support groups for family caregivers in Forrest, Lamar, Marion, Perry and Jones counties.

Project ShareCare is sponsored by the Institute for Disability Studies (IDS), Mississippi's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). IDS provides university training, community service activities, research, and information that promote the independence, productivity, and community inclusion of individuals with disabilities and their families. For more information about IDS, visit the Institute's Web site at www.ids.usm.edu or call 1-888-671-0051 (TTY). To make a tax-deductible gift to IDS for this and other projects, visit <http://www.ids.usm.edu/supportus.asp>.

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