

The Upside Of Aging

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Caring for those who cared for you, since 1975

Phone scams are the most common scams used against seniors. Scammers may say, “You need to act now or the offer will expire” or “You’ve won a prize, but you need to pay for shipping and handling” or “You need to wire money or pay a debt with a gift card” or “your grandson is in trouble and needs money.”

Beware of scam calls, mail, texts, and emails. They may ask for your Social Security number, Medicare number, bank account information, or even request cash or gift cards be sent to them. Never give out any information or send money to someone that you do not know.

Here are the top scams targeting senior citizens:

- ◆ Health care/Medicare/Health Insurance Fraud
- ◆ Counterfeit Prescription Drugs
- ◆ Funeral and Cemetery Scams
- ◆ Fraudulent Anti-Aging Products
- ◆ Telemarketing/Charity Scams
- ◆ Computer Tech Support Scams
- ◆ Tax Fraud (IRS)/Investment Schemes
- ◆ Utility Bills/Home or Car Repairs/Reverse Mortgage Scams
- ◆ Sweepstakes and Lottery Scams
- ◆ Grandparent/Family Emergency/Caregiver Scams
- ◆ Romance Scams

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. No legitimate government agency, business or organization will make unsolicited contact with you. Do not provide any information over the phone and do not buy anything. Monitor your credit card and bank accounts. Report anything suspicious, even if you have fallen victim to a scam, as it may help prevent another.

Call the Grand Traverse County sheriff’s department at **231-995-5000** before you take any action, no matter how real the offer may seem. For warnings on scams in our area, register for **Scam Alert**, a recorded phone message provided by *Senior Center Network* and local law enforcement. Go to <https://www.gtcountymi.gov/FormCenter/Commission-on-Aging-7/No-Scam-Zone-Registration-61>

Just a friendly reminder...

- > Daylight Savings time change - **Sunday, March 13**
 - > COA will be closed **Friday, April 15** for the Good Friday holiday
- Reminder:** COA office is *closed* for lunch between **12 - 1 pm**



Guardian Medical is Upgrading Personal Emergency Response (PERS) units

Guardian Medical has upgraded most of its cellular 3G units to 4G and has reached out to clients that have these units to upgrade. The 3G technology is no longer compatible, so it is important that you have the unit replaced as soon as possible. (Note: the old units are pictured below with their system numbers) Soon, 3G units will no longer work. Test your unit monthly by pressing the button and let Guardian know that you are testing it when they answer.



GPS4-0001 TO GPS4-0499



ESS-0001 to ESS-4699



GSM, GSMJ, GSM3

If your 3G unit has not been upgraded, contact Guardian Medical at **833-824-4500** as soon as possible to schedule your upgrade appointment. Be sure to mention **3G/4G Refresh**.

IMPORTANT: Call our office (*not your worker*) to cancel your scheduled appointment if you are ill, have been tested for COVID-19, or have been asked to quarantine. We would appreciate any details you can give us, such as date of testing and quarantine period. Please call within 48 hours if you need to cancel for any reason, such as a doctor's appt. Call or leave a message at: (231) 922-4688.



April Staff Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Debbie N - 04/27

Anniversaries

Deb S - 04/18 - 5 yrs
Lisa F - 04/18 - 4 yrs