



The Source for Seniors

Kent County Senior Millage

Millage Minder

Winter 2018

QUARTERLY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS OF THE KENT COUNTY SENIOR MILLAGE

Kent County Senior Millage

The purpose of the Kent County Senior Millage (KCSM) is to provide support and services that help Kent County seniors live in their own homes for as long as possible.

Each year the KCSM holds an open proposal process. Proposals are reviewed by the Millage Review Committee, which is a group made up of Kent County Commissioners and Kent County residents. Agencies whose proposals are approved then make a presentation to the committee in the fall.

Funding recommendations for KCSM services

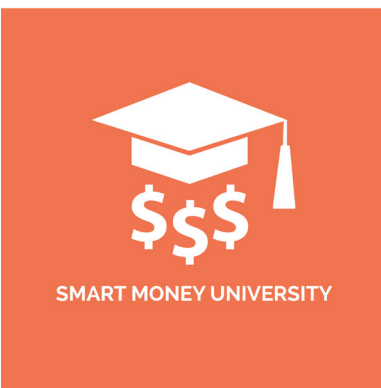
are determined by the Millage Review Committee and approved by the Kent County Board of Commissioners.

For 2018, the committee and the Commissioners approved adding two new services: *Daily Money Management* and *Smart Money University*. The committee also approved funding for an additional senior center in Kent County.

Funding for the services comes from taxes paid by Kent County homeowners and is anticipated to be over \$10.6 million for 2018.

Smart Money University

Home Repair Services, an organization that provides repair services, D.I.Y workshops, and houses the Community Food Club, now hopes to help vulnerable older adults being taken advantage of by financial scammers.



Each year, seniors lose millions of dollars to fraud and scams designed to take advantage of older adults.

Chris Romero, Resource Development Manager explains,

“Home Repair Services created *Smart Money University* in order to equip older Kent County adults with the information, resources and tools needed to age in place safely and with financial confidence.”

Workshop participants will be taught tools and techniques to help navigate systems related to general household finance and help to understand how to access their benefits.

Instructors will also help attendees examine the cost realities of moving to an assisted living or retirement community versus aging in place.

Contact Home Repair Services to learn about this valuable service offered to Kent County Seniors.

Home Repair Services of Kent County 616-241-2601 | info@homerepairservices.org
www.homerepairservices.org

Daily Money Management

Whether a result of being widowed, a change in financial status, being victimized by a scam or even dealing with complicated technology, difficulty managing our financial lives can happen.

Experiencing difficulty does not mean we should lose independence around our finances. Roxanne Dudicz, CPA describes, “KCSM funding enables CPA for Seniors to resolve financial issues before they become significant, help seniors retain independence by removing the threat of court system involvement and educate on money management efficiencies to alleviate stress and anxiety around finances.”

Daily Money Management assists Kent County seniors with organizing and managing their financial tasks.

Degreed Accountants and Certified Public Accountants will help low-income seniors with services such as:

- Bill paying
- Budgeting
- Debt management
- Financial issue resolution

Contact CPA for Seniors to see if Daily Money Management can assist you.



(616) 528-8128

www.CPAforSeniors.com

Did you know?

The Kent County Senior Millage funds 52 unique services provided by 30 agencies throughout Kent County. In addition to the services highlighted in this issue of *Millage Minder*, the KCSM helps seniors access services like dental care, home modifications, healthy aging classes, medication management, meal delivery and food pantries, personal care services, lawn care/snow removal services, vision services, and many more. If you're a Kent County resident, age 60+ and would like to learn more about the services available to you through the Kent County Senior Millage, you can download the 2018 KCSM Senior Services Directory:

www.aaawm.org/millage_services

You can also contact Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan to learn more.

Millage Service Eligibility for 2018

Senior Millage services are available to Kent County residents, age 60+.

Cost share/co-payment may be required for individuals whose incomes are above \$24,280 and couples with incomes above \$32,920 for 2018. Cost share fees are based on income and assets. Fees may vary depending on the service type. For more information, contact the organization providing services.

Millage Minder is published three times per year by Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan. For more information contact:



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