



SENIOR FAIR 2026

BY: Keith S. Shikowitz, Editor in Chief/Investigative Reporter



I was with John Mulgrew, Senator Bill Weber's Chief of Staff talking about the annual senior fair, it's that time of year again, telling me you're going to have a lot of new, vendors and new facilities for people.

"Our senior fair is on September 23rd, it's Senator Weber's fourth time running it, but it's taken place every year since 2012, so the seniors have come to expect that it's part of their yearly routine. Our goal is to make it bigger and better than ever. This year for the first time we are offering free liver scans. There's going to be a room just outside the field house so there's privacy.

They will conduct a liver scan if they detect any kind of issues they will let them know right then and there and recommend possible future screenings. One important thing with that liver scan is seniors would have had to have not eaten for 4 hours prior to the scan."

He said that as always, they'll be providing a free lunch at the senior fair. If you want to get your liver checked, you might want to skip breakfast that morning and head to the senior fair on an empty stomach.

DMV mobile Services for the 3rd time. "Thank you for pointing that out because that's another situation where you may want to prepare for your visit. If you know that you have to get certain services done with the DMV, and you need to bring your documentation. Bring that documentation. They could do pretty much anything you could do at a DMV minus things like printing new license plates or anything like that but renewals, updating to the real ID or the enhanced driver's license, all of that can be done right then and there, at the mobile office of the DMV at Center Weber Senior Affairs.



What was the original purpose for the senior fair back in 2012? It was started by Senator Carlucci as a way to just let seniors know what services are available to them in the county. It's open to not just government agencies and nonprofits, but even businesses that, service seniors and provide different things for seniors. One thing that we have continued is, we do allow private businesses, but we pretty much say we don't want you there selling things it's not, like a street fair where you might go and buy a trinkets so it's mostly geared as informational or resource fair so in addition to all those services like the flu shots, the memory diabetes and the blood pressure screenings, things like that, you might also see a private company that could offer you something maybe a discount or let you know what they can offer you and then at a later date you'd follow up with them and make an appointment.

They are expecting about 1500 seniors to attend. They're pretty confident but it's hard to estimate how many exactly you have, but, at the senior fair we always give out these, programs that they make up. They print out 1500 of those and give out all 1500 so they know they're really right around there. They also give out the red canvas bags, loaded with useful information, and we give out 1500 of those as well.

<https://youtu.be/vzm3JS2dSGQ>

Are there any specific requirements for vendors? "No, like I said before, we just ask that you're not selling items, and we want to make sure that it has some kind of a connection to seniors. It doesn't mean that you only sell things to seniors or that you're only a senior retailer, but you know, if it's something that makes sense then. We're not too picky. We're not looking to exclude, we want to make this nice community event. We're trying to provide anything of value that we see as appropriate here. I just thought I could point out once again this year we will be providing golf cart services, transporting people from the parking lot. The first year that we held the senior fair the following summer we went around and visited with senior clubs and just asked for some feedback and one of the things we heard over and over again is we love the senior fair, but the parking at RCC and getting to the field house can be challenging for some of the seniors.

"The next year we provided golf carts. Rockland County YMCA actually sponsors the golf carts, and we have them driving around the parking lot picking up seniors. It's an 8-seater and non-stop the entire day they are picking up and dropping off seniors to and from, their cars to the field house just to save them from having to walk that extra distance.

"They're pre-prepared sandwiches, but, you know, when everyone lines up and there's that many people, you want to move quickly so to keep the line moving, that was a big help. That was another improvement which we'll continue. They learn, they learned how to do it like diner type of serve, serve, serve, serve, serve, serve, serve. We also to try and speed things up, we divided up the lines. It's a long line, but as you get closer to the front, you'll stand in, let's say the tuna fish line or the ham and cheese line. It automatically breaks it up as soon as you get to the front of the line, we know what you're going to get, and we just hand you your sandwich. We set up more areas for people to actually sit and eat, which, obviously is necessary or if someone just wants to take a break. We really do pack the field house, One thing we're always trying to do is make it bigger and better, so we, we kind of experiment with some stuff."

"We try to get the feedback. We try to make improvements, see what works, see what doesn't, kind of adjust it, go on from there."

Wednesday, September 23rd, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Eugene Levy Field House at Rockland Community College.



- FREE LUNCH
- LIVER SCREENINGS
- MEMORY TESTS
- FLU SHOTS
- DIABETES SCREENINGS
- BLOOD PRESSURE TESTS
- RSV VACCINES
- PNEUMONIA VACCINES
- OVER 150 VENDORS
- DMV MOBILE SERVICES
- UNCLAIMED FUNDS SEARCH
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE!!!