

Boro resident to host free seminar on caring for seniors

Seminar will be held at
Point Pleasant Library
Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.

BY ANGELA CIROALO
THE OCEAN STAR

POINT PLEASANT — Point Pleasant resident Beverly Zaccherio, the president of Senior Solutions for the Jersey Shore, LLC, will be hosting a free seminar on coping and caring for seniors at the Point Pleasant Library on Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.

The free seminar, titled "Lifestyle Changes: Coping and Caring for Seniors," will serve as a way for Ms. Zaccherio to give back to the local community and assist families caring for an elderly family member in the Ocean County area.

The seminar will offer educational resources regarding the dynamics involved with families and individuals who are trying to juggle their lives with taking care of an elderly loved one, Ms. Zaccherio said.

"The mission of my company is to empower families, individuals and seniors with education, informational resources and assist them with coordinated care so that they can make educated decisions as to what their options may be when needing assistance with their daily living," she said.

Often times, families and individuals wait until a crisis before they find out what services are available to them and their loved ones, according to Ms. Zaccherio.

In an effort to avoid a family crisis, Ms. Zaccherio said she hopes to educate the community and empower residents to make smarter decisions and learn their options.

The topics that will be discussed during the three-hour seminar will include the family structure, the emotional roller coaster ride, lack of community resources and education, preventative measures before a crisis, obtaining the educational and informational resources necessary, learning the difference between assisted living, at-home care agency and nursing home care, as well as how to empower oneself to make better decisions for loved ones.

During previous seminars that Ms. Zaccherio has hosted, she said the attendees' reactions have been positive and they said they learned a lot of information.

"They learned where to go for further information, the questions to ask when visiting assisted living, at-home agencies or nursing homes, as well as realizing that there is much involved with planning for your older years," she said. "This pres-

entation is vital for the general public because there is no other seminar around like this."

Ms. Zaccherio said the seminar is important because it addresses senior care issues that the general public does not talk about unless a crisis occurs.

"There is a better way to assist our senior community and their families coping with these topics, and that's through education, which is what my company offers," Ms. Zaccherio said. "It fills the void in informational services and addresses how to make planning senior care or coping with it easier for everyone involved."

To RSVP for the Feb. 18 seminar at the Point Pleasant Library, call 732-295-1555.

An additional seminar by Ms. Zaccherio will be held at the Ocean County College Vocational Technical School on Feb. 17 at 6:30 p.m. To register for this event, call 732-473-3100 ext. 1000.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Zaccherio founded her company, Senior Solutions for the Jersey Shore, in March of last year.

Previous to opening up her own business, Ms. Zaccherio worked in home agencies for several years.

As a result of her experiences working in at-home senior agencies, she now wants to educate residents about the different care options that are available for the senior in their life.

The goal of her company is to make the care process easier for seniors and their families, Ms. Zaccherio said.

Recently, Ms. Zaccherio has begun working with local area businesses and care centers.

In the past few months Ms. Zaccherio has begun coordinating services with Interim Healthcare located on Bridge Avenue as well as the Claremont Nursing Home located on Hulse Road, she said.

She has also begun working with the HealthSouth Rehabilitation center in Toms River to assist seniors in Ocean County and educate the public.

Ms. Zaccherio offers and hosts free seminars at local churches, community center and to corporation employees, as well.

For more information about Ms. Zaccherio, log on to www.jerseyseniorsos.com.