

430 CAPITOL  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
(518) 455-3131  
41 S. MAIN STREET  
ONEONTA, NEW YORK 13820  
(607) 432-5524  
E-MAIL  
SEWARD@NYSenate.GOV  
WEBSITE  
SEWARD.NYSenate.GOV

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



JAMES L. SEWARD  
SENATOR, 51ST DISTRICT

November 19, 2014

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE LEADER  
ON CONFERENCE OPERATIONS

CHAIRMAN  
INSURANCE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES  
RULES  
FINANCE  
EDUCATION  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
AGRICULTURE  
HEALTH  
MENTAL HEALTH

Hon. Richard Lape, Supervisor  
Town of Richmondville  
PO Box 555  
Richmondville, New York 12149

Dear Supervisor Lape,

I know you care about the senior citizens that you and I represent in your town. That's why I want to help them avoid being victimized by scams. I am sponsoring a **Senior Scam Prevention Forum** on Tuesday, December 2 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Cobleskill Community Library. A representative from the NYS Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection will deliver an informative and timely presentation about how seniors can avoid becoming victims of a scam. It is my hope that you will assist me in spreading the word about this forum, so that I may reach as many of our constituents as possible. If you could post the information on your webpage, or perhaps on a bulletin board or two, I would be greatly appreciative.

Enclosed is a copy of the mailer that will be sent out to our mutual constituents in the Town of Richmondville. It contains all of the important information regarding the Senior Scam Prevention Forum. I appreciate your assistance in spreading the word about this event, as I believe it will be beneficial for our constituents.

If you have any questions at all regarding this important event, please feel free to contact Katie Moshier of my staff. She may be reached by calling my district office in Oneonta at (607) 432-5524, or by email at [moshier@nysenate.gov](mailto:moshier@nysenate.gov). And, as always, if I can be of assistance to you in a state related matter, please let me know.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

JAMES L. SEWARD  
State Senator

JLS:cm:jt  
Enclosure

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
CONTACT: JEFF BISHOP - 607-432-5524, cell 518-225-0886  
Web: [www.senatorjimseward.com](http://www.senatorjimseward.com)  
E-mail: [sewardcommunications@hotmail.com](mailto:sewardcommunications@hotmail.com)  
[jbishop@nysenate.gov](mailto:jbishop@nysenate.gov)

**SEWARD EMPOWERS SENIORS TO FIGHT SCAM ARTISTS**

**Hosting free senior scam prevention forum in Cobleskill on December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**ONEONTA, 11/23/14** -- State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I -- Oneonta) today announced that he will be hosting a free senior scam prevention forum on Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Cobleskill Community Library in Cobleskill.

**"Scam artists are becoming more and more sophisticated and senior citizens are quite often the targets of these ruthless criminals,"** said Senator Seward. **"Alerting seniors to some common schemes and arming them with the tools needed to steer clear of these devious crimes will go a long way toward safeguarding their financial savings and well being, that's why I am sponsoring this event on December 2<sup>nd</sup>."**

Senator Seward is partnering with the New York State Department of State to inform senior citizens and others about the alarming trend of senior targeted scams. A specialist with the Division of Consumer Protection will conduct the free presentation, helping senior citizens proactively protect their identities and avoid becoming the victims of a scam.

Scams targeting senior citizens are on the rise. According to the AARP, roughly one-third of all scam victims are 65 or older. AARP estimates that fraud costs older Americans more than \$3 billion a year, but the true figure is many times higher, because most of these crimes go unreported out of embarrassment.

In 2014, the state senate passed a package of eight bills designed to prevent criminals from using financial schemes to prey upon senior citizens. The state assembly has yet to act on these measures.

**"Educating senior citizens so they are able to recognize criminal scams is a helpful step, however, we also need to strengthen our laws to clamp down on these crimes and the criminals who commit them. Enacting stiffer penalties and providing investigators and prosecutors with the proper resources will go a long way toward stopping those who exploit senior citizens,"** Seward added.

The senior scam prevention forum will take place on Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Cobleskill Community Library, 110 Union Street in Cobleskill. The forum is free and open to the public.

-30-

**FREE Senior Scam Prevention Forum**

**Senator James L. Seward:  
Encouraging Seniors to Learn How  
To Protect Their Identity**

Senator James L. Seward is partnering with the NYS Dept. of State to inform seniors about the alarming trend of senior targeted scams.

**FREE Senior Scam Prevention Forum**

**Tuesday, December 2**

**2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**Cobleskill Community Library**

**110 Union Street**

**Cobleskill, NY 12043**

During this important public forum, the Division of Consumer Protection will deliver a comprehensive presentation about the ways to proactively protect your identity and avoid becoming the victim of a scam.



**District Office**  
41 So. Main Street  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
Phone: (607) 432-5524

**District Office 2**  
235 N. Prospect Street  
Herkimer, NY 13350  
Phone: (315) 866-1632

**District Office 3**  
4030 West Road  
Cortland, NY 13045  
Phone: (607) 758-9005

**Albany Office**  
Room 430, Capitol  
Albany, NY 12247  
Phone: (518) 455-3131



[www.senatorjimseward.com](http://www.senatorjimseward.com) • Email: [seward@nysenate.gov](mailto:seward@nysenate.gov)