

County Connection

<http://ccgovernment.carr.org>

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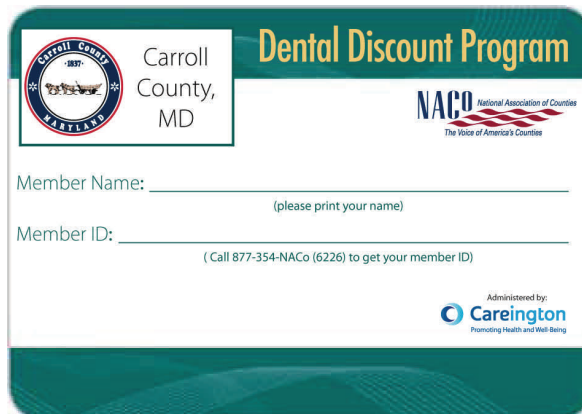
Residents eligible for pilot dental discount program

Carroll County residents can take advantage of a pilot dental discount program that launched Sept. 1.

The program is not insurance. Instead, participants can save an average of 20 percent to 50 percent off the regular price of dental services and 20 percent off orthodontic services at participating dentists and orthodontists.

Carroll is among 38 counties nationwide selected to participate in the program through its membership in the National Association of Counties. The program is administered by Careington.

With the card, Carroll County residents will have access to savings on dental cleanings, X-rays, braces, dentures, crowns, root canals and other important procedures.



An individual pays \$6.95 a month, or \$59 a year, to participate. The cost for families is \$8.95 per month or \$69 per year.

The program is designed to complement health insurance plans or work in conjunction with health savings accounts, flexible spending accounts and

health reimbursement arrangements. It is also a cost-effective way for younger retirees to meet their dental needs.

For more information about the [NACo Dental Discount Card Program](#), or to join online and see a list of local participating providers, visit www.nacodentalprogram.com.

CARROLL COUNTY
*a great place to live
a great place to work
a great place to play*

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FIND OUT MORE!

- Turn to Page 2 for a list of frequently asked questions and answers about the Dental Discount Program.
- Even children away at college are covered as dependents on your plan.
- You can go to any participating provider in the country, and you can change your provider at any time.
- For details, visit www.nacodentalprogram.com.



Follow @CarrollCoMD for up-to-the-minute information on Twitter

Businesses gain access to broadband

Carroll County announced a partnership agreement on Aug. 31 with the Maryland Broadband Cooperative to provide business and service provider access to the county-owned fiber optic network.

The Department of Economic Development hopes to spur commercial and industrial business growth by providing a cost-effective fiber network that businesses can access to meet their growing need for high-speed broadband services.

The Maryland Broadband Coalition, based in Salisbury,

will lease the fiber. Any MDBC member can lease "dark fiber" to meet market demands.

"MDBC brings about a statewide view of available fiber resources and customer requirements that enable it to put together cost-effective business proposals" said MDBC President Patrick Mitchell.

Director of Economic Development Larry Twele said, "The Carroll County Fiber Network is a significant economic development initiative that will benefit the business

community for years to come. With our own fiber optic network, high-speed broadband access will be more readily available and affordable. Carroll County is now better positioned to be ore competitive for business attraction and better prepared to keep and grow our existing business base."

Businesses that want to take advantage of dark fibers can call Dave Robinson at the coalition at 410-341-6322 or email him at drobinson@mdbc.us.

Money Follows the Person program saves \$3.9M in county

The Carroll County Commissioners voted in July to approve the Money Follows the Person grant.

One of the programs that the grant supports is Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults Program. The waiver program provides long-term care Medi-

caid services typically only available to individuals living in nursing homes. Through the program, services are available for people who live in their own homes or in assisted living facilities.

By allowing these services without requiring the person to

move into an expensive nursing facility, the program saves an average of \$38,000 per person each year. With 103 people enrolled in Carroll County, that equals a total savings of \$3.9 million a year.

Currently, 400 people reside in institutional settings in Car-

roll County. The Money Follows the Person grant will help increase awareness of alternative programs and provide eligible residents in institutional settings additional support during the transition to a community setting.

Frequently asked questions about new Discount Dental Plan

Q: Is this an insurance plan?

A: No, this is not an insurance plan. The NACo Dental Discount Program provides discounted prices on a wide range of services; you will pay for services at the discounted price at the time services are received.

Q: Can I include dependents in my program?

A: Yes, one of the wonderful features of these programs is that your entire household can receive the savings, even children living at college!

Q: Can I use my membership when I travel away from home?

A: Yes, your membership can be used at any participating provider in the United States.



Q: How do I get additional membership cards?

A: If you need additional cards for your household or have lost your card, please call Careington's Member Services at 1-800-290-0523 and press option 1, then press option 1 again. They will be happy to send additional cards to you.

Q: If my doctor or dentist refers me to a specialist who is not in the network, do I still get a discount?

A: You will only receive a discount by going to a participating provider. You might try printing out a list of participating providers to share with your doctor or dentist to see if he/she could recom-

PARTICIPATING DENTISTS IN CARROLL COUNTY

<p style="text-align: center;">ELDERSBURG</p> <p>Heather Abrahams, DDS Ronald Branoff, DDS James Goldman, DDS John Graybeal, DDS Hamid Janloo, DDS Dharani Jasthi, DMD Jeffrey Miller, DDS Sathiyathanan Nadarajah, DMD Michael Pantos, DDS Jun Park, DDS Loretta Schueler, DDS Spencer St. Cyr, DDS Larry Wilder, DDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FINKSBURG</p> <p>Joseph Lee, DDS Michael Schwartz, DDS Charles Seidman, DDS Stuart Sheer, DDS Blanka Smid, DDS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HAMPSTEAD</p> <p>J. "Johnny" Michael Kroe, DDS Orlando Sanidad, DDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MANCHESTER</p> <p>Nicolas Kfoury, DMD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARRIOTSVILLE</p> <p>Steven Scurnick, DDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SYKESVILLE</p> <p>Nancy Bouchard, DDS Hollie Ellis, DDS George Hurwitz, DDS Dharani Jasthi, DMD Hyung Kim, DDS Stanley McGhee, DDS Jun Park, DDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">UNION BRIDGE</p> <p>Yvette Wisenmayer, DDS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WESTMINSTER</p> <p>Samia Azhar, DDS George Bealefeld, DDS Deepa Bhatt, DDS Stephen Brand, DDS Sudharani Chary, DDS Jay Chason, DDS John Chun, DDS Sue Chun, DDS Alexander Chung, DDS David Fields, DDS Jennifer Forshey, DDM Edward Goldman, DDS George Grillon, DDS Arnold Kellar, DDS Kevin Kisciki, DDS Oleg Klubis, DDS J. "Johnny" Michael Kroe, DDS Donald Lurie, DDS Pari Moazed, DDS Elizabeth Spannake, DDS</p>
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mend any of the participating specialist locations.

Q: What do I do if I feel the provider overcharged me?

A: You can send a copy of your bill and a written letter to the administrator of the plan, Careington International Corporation, Attn: Provider Relations, P.O. Box 2568, Frisco, TX 75034. They will investigate your inquiry, and you will be contacted regarding the findings.

Q: Once I select a provider, am I assigned to that provider? How often can I change providers?

A: Another great feature of the discount

plans is your ability to select any provider from the network. You can change providers at any time, and household members can select their own providers. Call Careington's Member Services at 1-800-290-0523 for help finding participating providers or conduct a provider search at www.nacodentalplan.com.

Q: What should I say when I call a provider to make sure they participate?

A: The providers will recognize the name of the network with which they participate, so when you call, it is important to use the name of the correct network.

Votes, actions taken by Board of County Commissioners in August

AUGUST 5

◆ Supplemental bonds. Voted 3-0 to execute a resolution to re-allocate certain proceeds among the various projects and categories funded through bonds issued by the county in November 2009. The re-allocation will have no effect on the terms of the existing bonds and creates no additional commitments, costs, or obligations to the county.

◆ Homestead Tax Credit. After a public hearing, decided in a 3-0 vote to lower the Homestead Tax Credit Rate from 107 percent to 105 percent. This ensures property taxes cannot raise more than 5 percent per year, as opposed to 7 percent at the current tax rate.

◆ Public school recycling program. On a 3-0 vote following a public hearing, approved an enhanced recycling plan for all publicly funded schools to submit to the Maryland Department of the Environment. This plan will require a revision to the Ten-Year Solid Waste Management plan.

◆ Inlet repair. Decided 3-0 to award a bid to Stambaugh's Inc. for inlet repair or replacement, in the amount of \$38,556.

◆ Road repair. By a 3-0 vote, awarded C.J. Miller LLC a contract for \$729,505.75 for the reclamation and reconstruction of Obrecht Road from White Rock Road to the Sykesville Town Limit.

◆ Housing Counseling Agency. Voted 3-0 to approve an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to operate a Housing Counseling Agency. As an approved housing counseling agency, Carroll County will be eligible to apply for grant funds from HUD to provide pre-purchase, mortgage

delinquency, and financial management counseling to citizens.

AUGUST 12

◆ Agricultural Land Preservation. On a 3-0 vote, approved four Critical Farms to be added to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) easement cycle for fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

Due to lack of funding, MALPF has combined FY11 and FY12 into one easement cycle. Also agreed 3-0 to suspend the Critical Farms program until FY12. Until MALPF has sufficient funding, Critical Farms will not be able to fulfill its intended purpose of aiding potential landowners in purchasing qualified farms.

◆ Transportation planning grant. Agreed 3-0 to submit an application to U.S. Department of Transportation for a TIGER II Planning Grant to study possible improvements to the MD 91 and MD 140 intersection. If awarded, the \$200,000 grant will fund a study of possible improvements to the intersection and secondary roadways, recommend a preferred alternative, and develop cost estimates for future project phases. Carroll County would need to provide \$50,000 in matching funds.

◆ Home improvements. Voted 2-1 (Michael D. Zimmer opposed) to award Farmers and Merchant Bank with \$250,000 that was granted to Carroll County Government for the purpose of lending to qualified homeowners to make energy-efficient home improvements.

The bank will administer the funds as required under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and can lend to qualified participants at no more than 2.5 percent interest rate.

◆ Children's Justice. By a 3-0 vote, approved an award of \$2,228 to the State's Attorney's Office from the Governor's Office of Crime Control

tion in planning and other government functions.

◆ Child Advocacy Center. Decided 3-0 to approve the grant application for the State's Attorney's Office to Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for the Children's Criminal Justice Act Committee. The \$10,693 state grant will pay for training, as well as an examination bed, a medical supply cabinet, and a stool.

◆ Senior assisted living. Approved 3-0 the Senior Assisted Living Group Home Subsidy (SALGHS) Program grant application for fiscal year 2011. SALGHS provides subsidies to low-income seniors to assist with the cost of services provided in residential assisted living programs. Last year this program served 15 individuals. The State of Maryland would provide \$80,416 if the grant application is approved. No county match is required.

◆ Medicaid waiver. On a 3-0 decision, approved the grant application for the Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults (MWOA) program for fiscal year 2011. MWOA allows older citizens who would otherwise be in a nursing home to receive services in assisted living facilities or in their own homes. There are 104 participants in this program in Carroll County.

◆ Mount Airy Fire Co. On a 3-0 decision, approved a resolution declaring the county's intent to reimburse the Mt. Airy Fire Company's expenditures with debt proceeds. The fire company requested a loan of \$750,000 to be used for the purchase of a new tanker and a pumper. The money will come from the sale of bonds.

and Prevention Children's Justice Committee. The grant is federal funding passed through the state and will pay to train four members of the Carroll County Advocacy and Investigation Center's multi-disciplinary team.

◆ Fund adjustments. Voted 3-0 to approve the fiscal year 2010 year-end general fund adjustments. Adjustments were made from the Reserve for Contingency in the amount of \$391,921 and Fringe Benefits in the amount of \$10,078,728. The county budgets fringe costs in one centralized project, Fringe Benefits, and that budget is sufficient to cover all the fringe cost in the General Fund regardless of where those costs are assigned.

AUGUST 26

◆ Town-County Agreements. On a single 3-0 vote, approved the fiscal year 2011 Town-County Agreements with the towns of Manchester in the amount of \$236,787, Sykesville in the amount of \$214,416, and Hampstead in the amount of \$313,253. Annually, Carroll County Government and the towns agree to the sharing of funds and participa-

Any member of the public can speak to the County Commissioners about county-related topics during monthly Community Time. The next Community Time is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 16.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless noted otherwise, meetings will be held in the County Office Building at 225 North Center Street, Westminster. All times are subject to change. Check the County's Web site closer to the date of the meeting, or call 410-386-2400.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1

1 p.m. Zoning Administration Hearings – Room 109
2:30 p.m. Water Resource Coordination Council – Room 003

THURSDAY, SEPT. 2

10 a.m. Roundtable discussion with Cabinet and governmental partners – Room 003
11 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3

9 a.m. Sustainability Committee – Room 003

MONDAY, SEPT. 6

County offices closed for Labor Day.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8

10 a.m. Board of License Commissioners (Liquor Board) – Room 003
10 a.m. Commission on Aging – Bureau of Aging Administrative Conference Room, 125 Stoner Ave., Westminster
2 p.m. Joint meeting of Board of Education and County Commissioners – Board of Education Offices, 125 N. Court St., Westminster
6:30 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission – Room 003

More county news at
ccgovernment.carr.org or
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THURSDAY, SEPT. 9

10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

MONDAY, SEPT. 13

1 p.m. Carroll County Farm Museum Board of Governors – George Grier Meeting Room, Carroll County Farm Museum, 500 S. Center St., Westminster

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

8:30 a.m. Circle of Caring Committee – Human Services Programs Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster
3 p.m. Environmental Advisory Council – Room 003

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15

8 a.m. Electrical Board meeting – Baugher's Country Restaurant, 289 W Main St., Westminster
8:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals site day – Room 113
8:30 a.m. Local Management Board – HSP conference room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16

9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311

10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

8 a.m. Department of Social Services Board – DSS Conference Room, 1232 Tech Court, Westminster
9 a.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003
4 p.m. Behavioral Health and Addictions Council – Room 153, Carroll County Health Department, 290 S. Center St., Westminster

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

7:30 a.m. Industrial Development Authority – Room 105
7:30 a.m. Recreation & Parks Advisory Board – Room 003

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23

8 a.m. Economic Development Commission – Room 105
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

MONDAY, SEPT. 27

9 a.m. Technical Review Committee – Room 003
6:30 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30

10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

Come to Seniors on the Go Expo

The Carroll County Ag Center will host the annual "Seniors on the Go" Expo on Wednesday, Oct. 13.

The expo will feature entertainment, exhibitors, speakers and seminars. There will be health screenings, as well as flu and pneumonia shots. Lunch will also be available for purchase.

Admission is free. Bring a non-perishable food item to donate.

The expo will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Ag Center's Danele Shipley Memorial Arena, 700 Agricultural Drive, Westminster. For details, call Kathi Dietrich at 410-386-3804.

Vision

Carroll County offers a safe environment in which all its residents may live, work, and play. The rural character of our county is preserved through measures that protect our natural and cultural resources, minimize future residential sprawl, and save farmland. Carroll County is enriched by sustainable agriculture and agribusiness as well as responsible, productive business and industry that offer family-wage jobs and employ the county's skilled workforce.

Mission statement

The mission of Carroll County Government is to provide excellent, efficient service to our residents in a courteous, friendly manner. We conduct business openly. We encourage each resident to play a role in keeping Carroll County a great place to live, to work, and to play.

CARROLL COUNTY

a great place to live, a great place to work, a great place to play

