

2024 Convention Schedule - Mastering the Power of Aging

MON. 10/21

- 12 - 3 PM **REGISTRATION**
3:00 PM **CONVENTION CONVENES**
President's Remarks
Election of Board Officers
Welcome from Saratoga Springs
Mayor Safford
Executive Director's Report
The View From Washington
Kathleen Otte, Regional Director
Region II, Centers for Medicare
and Medicaid Services
Rhonda Schwartz, Regional
Administrator - Region II,
Administration for Community Living
Where's the Money Coming From?
State & Federal Budgeting
Ron Deutsch, New Yorkers for Fiscal
Fairness
- 5:30 PM **HAPPY HOUR*** - See Friends Old &
New. Dinner on your own
- 7 - 9 PM **EVENING OPTIONS**
1) Karaoke
2) Casino (transportation provided)
3) Documentary Film & Discussion

TUE. 10/22

*Free for Hotel guests only

- 7 - 10:30 AM **BREAKFAST**—Overnight guests
eat breakfast in hotel restaurant
- 8:15 AM **SMP Volunteer Breakfast**
- 8:30 - 9 AM **Looking Ahead: The Benefits of
Funeral Pre-Planning in NYS**
Speakers: Randy L. McCullough,
CAE, NYS Funeral Directors
Association (NYSFDA) Director of
Governmental Affairs; **Melissa
Sargalis**, NYSFDA Director of Preneed
Trust Services
- 9:00 AM **Mastering Aging**
Key Note Speaker: Jo Ivey Boufford,
MD, Vice Chair, NYS Dept of Health's
Public Health & Health Planning
Council
- 10 - 11 AM **Medicare and EPIC Updates**

TUE. 10/22

- 11 - 12 PM **Direct from the Government**
Senator Cordell Cleare, Chair,
NYS Senate Aging Committee;
Assemblymember John McDonald,
member, NYS Assembly Health &
Ways and Means Committees
- 12 - 1:00 PM **LUNCH, Speaker: Congressman**
Paul Tonko
- 1 - 2:00 PM **EXHIBIT HALL**
- 2 - 3:00 PM **CHOICE OF BREAKOUT SESSION**
1) **What's Ahead for Medicaid**
Lara Kassal, Medicaid Matters
2) **The Equal Rights Amendment**
and Ballot Measures, **Erica Smitka**,
Executive Director, League of
Women Voters
- 3:15 - 4:15 PM **CHOICE OF BREAKOUT SESSION**
1) **Senior Medicare Patrol Meeting**
Tiffany Erhard, NYS SMP Director;
Kim Maercklein, NYS Division of
Consumer Protection; **Katarina
Schmieder**, Upstate NY Better
Business Bureau (Open to All,
mandatory for SMP volunteers)
2) **Addressing the Dental Care**
Crisis, **Bridget Walsh**, Schuyler
Center for Analysis & Advocacy
- 4:30—5:30 PM **AFTERNOON OPTIONS**
1) **Legislative Issues Town Hall**
Meeting
2) **Shop 'til You Drop**—explore
downtown Saratoga Springs
3) **Walking Tour Congress Park**
- 5:30 PM **HAPPY HOUR***
- 6:30 PM **Awards Gala**—Dinner & Dancing

WED. 10/23

- 7 - 10:30 AM **BREAKFAST**—Overnight guests
eat breakfast in hotel restaurant
- 8:30 AM **Taking it Home**
- 9:30 AM **Adoption of the 2025 State & Federal**
Legislative Priorities (Members only)
- 11:30 AM **CLOSING REMARKS**
(Boxed lunch to go)