

SSA information good for new year

Many Americans begin each new year with a list of resolutions and goals. You may want to go on a diet, shed a little weight, do a bit more exercising, or clean out the long-neglected attic. The trouble is these well-intended goals often melt away long before winter's snow does.

So why not make a resolution that's easier to keep? If applying for retirement benefits is on your list of things to do this year, resolve to do it online. To get started, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline.

As we enter 2010, visiting a Social Security office to apply for benefits is no longer necessary. You'll save time, energy, and resources by filing your application from the comfort and convenience of your home or office computer.

In fact, it can take as little as 15 minutes to complete your retirement application. How's that for an easy resolution to keep? Of course, not everyone

is ready to retire. So here is another resolution that is easy to keep. If you're only dreaming of retirement now, why not turn those daydreams into concrete plans for your future retirement goals?

Just use our online Retirement Estimator. Plug in some basic information and you'll instantly get a personalized estimate of your future retirement benefits. It's another easy resolution to keep and will take only a few minutes. Whether you're already getting Social Security retirement benefits or just beginning to work, Social Security offers a number of services and a wealth of information online at www.socialsecurity.gov. For a specific list of online services available, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/online.

So as we enter the new decade, make a resolution to set goals you can keep. Apply online for Social Security benefits or plan your retirement at www.socialsecurity.gov.



SAVANNAH ELLIS of Fairfield cut off 10 inches of her hair last month and donated the ponytail to "Locks of Love". Miss Ellis says she made the donation in honor of her paternal grandmother, who lost her battle with breast cancer in October 2008, and to celebrate her great-grandmother, who is currently battling lung cancer. Lindsey Lane of Hair Trends made the cut.

Palestine dance will feature Texas Express

Monthly dance at the Palestine Senior Center will be held next Thursday, Jan. 28, and will feature music by "Texas Express". The dance begins at 7 p.m. and doors open at 6:30. Admission is \$6 and participants are asked to bring a snack or finger food to share. Senior center provides coffee and tea. The center is located at 200 N. Church Street.

Before I Get Sentier

by Bill Whitson

In the News
It is not according to his design, but Tiger Woods has temporarily replaced "Obama Bashing" as the national pastime.
Grandpaw Bill's Wisdom
Education with no plausible explanation is simply superstition.
Working for Walmart
There is one truth that each employee must embrace.
"A flattened box takes up less space."

A Sand Trap
She played beach volleyball in a bikini. The tiny top held only a small bit of grit.
Helpless
This nation needs some sort of health care legislation. Right now my life is in the hands of some unknown insurance man.
Bread
There is whole wheat, sourdough and rye. Which one to buy. One is as good as the other. I just need something to hold a sandwich together.

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