

Elder News

LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs

"Serving Seniors Successfully"



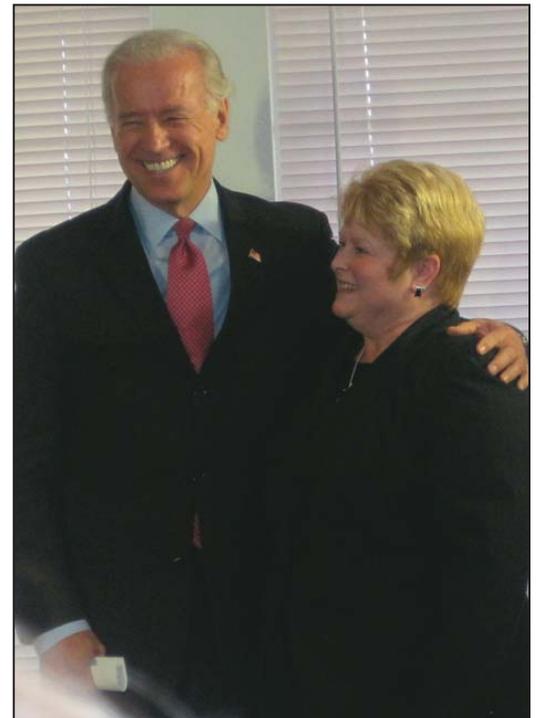
Volume 7, Issue 2 Summer 2010

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VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES - JOE BIDEN visits Cameron Parish...

Vice President Joe Biden joined Dinah Landry, Director-Cameron Council on Aging for the ribbon cutting ceremony of the **Grand Lake Elderly Apartments** on January 15, 2010. The Vice President visited Louisiana to view a success story in the hurricane ridden areas. **The Grand Lake Elderly Apartments** are the **only** form of housing, in that area, that has been rebuilt since the hurricanes of 2005 and 2008. The apartment unit consists of 30 units dedicated to the elderly who pay rent based on their income. The seniors enjoyed the new facility and having to meet the Vice President of the United States.



For more information about **elderly services** available in **Cameron Parish**, please call, **337-905-6000**

We've Moved

OUR NEW LOCATION

525 FLORIDA STREET,
4th Floor
BATON ROUGE, LA
225-342-7100

LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs changes leadership...

Dr. Jay Bulot
(now, former Executive Director) says farewell to Louisiana, but not to his passion...he will now lead the State of Georgia Department on Aging.

Mr. Ron Blereau, Asst. Deputy Director retired on April 1, after 32 years of eminent leadership and conscientious service to the **Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs**, and the aging service providers' network.

Karen J. Ryder, a sixteen-year veteran employee of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, assumed the role as Asst. **Deputy Director**, continuing the **agency's goal**: to serve as an effective visible advocate of the elderly by ensuring appropriate services are provided by the aging network in Louisiana..



Mr. Ron Blereau

For more information about the LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, visit: www.goea.louisiana.gov

Elder News is available by email or on the agency's website.

If you would like to receive an email copy of Elderly News please email: elderlyaffairs@goea.la.gov

United States
Census 2010
IT'S IN OUR HANDS

For more information about the 2010 Census, visit www.2010census.gov

Professional Achievements in Aging



Mr. Howard Rodgers, Executive Director of New Orleans Council on Aging, received the **National Council on Aging (NCOA) 2010 Geneva Mathiasen** for his outstanding contributions to NCOA and its programs.

Each year, the Aging in America Conference recognize individuals and organizations whose contributions have dramatically improved the lives of older Americans. The awards are a chance to bring together leaders in aging to reward excellence.

Mr. Rodgers served also as a panelist at the first annual **NATIONAL EVACUATION CONFERENCE** hosted by the LSU Stephenson Disaster Management Institute & Gulf Coast Center for Evacuation & Transportation Resiliency & University of New Orleans held in January 2010. He presented on the challenges and strengths of the City-Wide New Orleans Assisted Transportation and its impact in planning for evacuation of elderly and disabled residents. He also had an opportunity to network with **General Russel Honore'**, **Retired Lieutenant**.



2009 Legacy of Achievement Award

Cameron Parish 2009 Legacy of Achievement Award

Mr. Lee Harrison of Grand Chenier, winner, **founded Harrison Production Company** many years ago. His company checks wells for gas companies. He is the sole owner and operator of this company. *He has no plans to retire and is at work daily at age 81.* His home and place of business was destroyed in 2005 by Hurricane Rita. He has resettled and never missed work since the wells were put back into service. Mr. Harrison serves on the Council on Aging Advisory Board in Cameron Parish.

St. Mary Council on Aging 2009 Legacy of Achievement Award



Pictured, Jeanette Clements (retail), Florence Daniels (healthcare), Robert Lavine (government), Nike Fryou (representing Suzanne Lipari - education) and Harry Willet (large business)

St. Mary Council on Aging recognizes older individuals still providing work related skills to their employers and their community.

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (Title V) is federally funded and promotes the contributions of persons age 55 and over to Louisiana's workforce. For more information, contact: Rosemary Davis, Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, at 225-342-7030 or visit: www.goa.louisiana.gov

Did You Know...

AoA Awards GOEA \$400,000 for Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

March 2010, the **Administration on Aging** announced the award of \$400,000 to **LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs** to help older adults to reduce risk factors and prevent/delay chronic disease and promote wellness. Older adult participants will learn to maintain a healthy lifestyle through self-efficacy and self-management behaviors.

The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program will not conflict with existing programs or treatment. It is designed to enhance regular treatment and disease-specific education such as Better Breathers, cardiac rehabilitation, or diabetes instruction.

GOEA will collaborate with **Aging Disability Resource Centers, Area Agency on Aging, Council on Aging, Department of Health & Hospital Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Unit, Department of Health & Hospital Office of Aging and Adult Services, AARP,** and the **American Diabetes Association** to implement this statewide initiative.

For more information, please contact **Matt Estrade, Grant Administrator** at 225-342-7100 or email mwestrade@goea.la.gov

Prescription Medication Assistance



Louisiana SenioRx helps to link eligible seniors with assistance for obtaining their prescription medications. SenioRx does not give you your prescription drugs, but will help you complete applications to drug companies for FREE medicines or drug discount cards. There is NO CHARGE for you to receive SenioRx assistance.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.louisianaseniorx.org>



Special Promotion:

Eye Care America

Wants Everyone to Take Advantage of its National Give the Gift of Sight Campaign!

Free Eye Care for seniors

Until May 30, **Eye Care America** is offering free eye exams for adults aged 65+ who have not seen an ophthalmologist in at least three years and do not belong to an HMO.

Learn more call

1-800-222-EYES (3937)

or visit:

<http://www.eyecareamerica.org/eyecare/care/senior-eyecare.cfm>

**TO REPORT
MEDICARE FRAUD,
CALL 1-877-272-8720**



Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN)

LATAN serves Louisiana citizens of all ages with all types of disabilities and with limitations due to aging who need AT and daily living aids. AT includes items that individuals use to assist them in daily activities, such as canes, wheelchairs, communication devices, hearing aids, keyboard alternatives, learning software and vision aids.

LATAN is a 501(c)(3) statewide nonprofit organization that connects individuals with disabilities and older persons to the Assistive Technology (AT) that enables independence in employment, school, and community living.

For more information,
225-925-9500
800-270-6185 voice/tt or
225-925-9560 fax
www.latan.org

Older American's Month



This year's **Older Americans Month** theme-**Age Strong! Live Long!**-recognizes the diversity and vitality of today's older Americans who span three generations. They have lived through wars and hard times, as well as periods of unprecedented prosperity. They pioneered new technologies in medicine, communications, and industry while spearheading a cultural revolution that won equal rights for minorities, women, and disabled Americans.

The **LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs** proudly honors Older Louisianans who are showing others how to **Age Strong! Live Long!**

AgeStrong!LiveLong!



Josephine Bering, 94
Retired Cook
St. John Parish



Joseph Stein, 94
Retired-Electrician
St. John Parish



Viola Cocran, 87
Volunteer, Slidell Memorial Hospital
"over 40,000 hours of volunteering"
St. Tammany Parish-COAST



Mercy Kraemer, 81
"Recycled Teenager"
Senior Olympics Octogenarian
Bayou Boeuf-Lafourche Parish



Willis Octave Sr., 79
Retired-Schoolboard
Member/Administrator
St. James Parish

AgeStrong! LiveLong!

Emergency Preparedness

Starting this year, the **LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs** is also observing the month of **May** as **Emergency Preparedness Month** and encourages all elderly, individuals, family caregivers and aging network providers to **BE PREPARED** for any type of emergency.



Preparing makes sense. Get A GAME PLAN now!

- Consider how an emergency might affect your individual needs.
- Plan to make it on your own, at least for a period of time. **It's possible that you will not have access to a medical facility or even a drugstore.**
- Identify what kind of resources and medications you use on a daily basis.
- Get an **emergency supply kit**.
- Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for both you and your pets; **consider loved ones or friends outside of your immediate area** who would be willing to host you and your pets in an emergency.
- **Switching to electronic payments is one simple, significant way people can protect themselves financially before disaster strikes. It also eliminates the risk of stolen checks.**
Direct deposit to a checking or savings account is the best option for people with bank accounts. Federal benefit recipients can sign up by calling (800) 333-1795 or at www.GoDirect.org.
- **Special Needs Registry:** LA Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs strongly encourages the voluntary registry of elderly and disabled residents who need evacuation assistance in the event of an emergency. Please contact your local **Council on Aging** (www.louisianaanswers.com) or **Parish Emergency Operations Center BEFORE** an emergency occurs.



Register for **Emergency Food Stamps NOW...**
To pre-apply, residents can visit
<https://dss.louisiana.gov>
or call 1-888-LA HELP U (1-888-524-3578)

To help protect individuals living with **Alzheimer's or dementia**, get a **SAFE RETURN Bracelet**, a 24-hour nationwide emergency response service.

For more information, call
1.800.272.3900 or visit: www.alz.org

H1N1 FLU- Get the FACTS!!! www.fighttheflula.com

Upcoming Conferences & Events in Aging

FREE Volunteer Training Shelter Management

*"helping disabled and elderly
individuals in emergency shelters"*
Saturday, May 15, 2010
SE Louisiana Red Cross
2640 Canal Street, New Orleans
9:00AM - 2:00 PM (lunch provided)
Register at 504-522-2337 ext. 130

2010 MOWAA Conference

Meals on Wheels
Association of America
August 31 - September 2, 2010
Atlanta, Georgia
www.mowaa.org

2010 Louisiana HIPAA Conference

October 25 & 26, 2010
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
For more information, contact
Sharon Stickling at 1-800-841-8240

LACOADA Meeting Dates:

July 27 - 28th - Lafayette
October 19-20th - New Orleans
For more information,
contact Pat Jones at 318-335-3195

GOEA Reminders: Important Deadlines

SAMS - monthly report by the 15th of month

C1 & C2 Units (meal counts) - faxed by the 10th of month

NAPIS - 4TH quarter (July 1 to June 30th) - by July 15th

NAPIS SRT Stimulus report is due by the 5th of the next month following the end of the quarter. This is a federal report so the fiscal year starts on October of each year.

Emergency Management Plan - 1st draft due July

To submit information to Elder News,
please email: elderlyaffairs@goea.la.gov

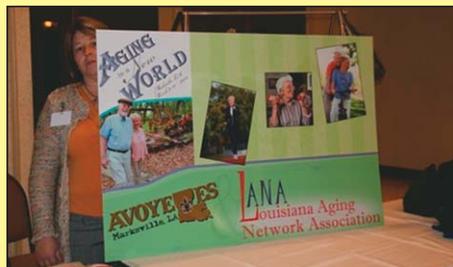
FUNDRAISING IDEAS!!!

Caddo Council on Aging partnered with Raising Cane (Shreveport-Bossier City). Raising Cane donated 15% of sales during the March for Meals Campaign to offset hunger.

For more information,
contact 318-632-2090 or visit:
www.caddocouncilonaging.org



New Orleans Council on Aging hosted "Strikes Against Hunger Bowl-A-Thon" generating over \$10,000 for its **Meals-on-Wheels Program** in March. This event included a bowling competition, a "Meal -a- Month for a Year" raffle (featuring 12 local restaurant gift certificates), and door prizes provided by the W Hotel and Whole Foods. For more information, contact 504-821-4121.



LANA CONFERENCE 2010

Louisiana Aging Network Association (**LANA**) conference "**Aging in a New World**", held March 9-11, 2010 at the Paragon Casino, was a success. Over 200 aging network professionals attended a two-day event focusing on aging programs, services, and activities.

Thanks to the **LANA's sponsors: Bateman Senior Meals, Oliver, and Hospice Compassus.** With sponsors' support, registration fees were held to a minimum. Mark your calendar for **2011(MARCH)** conference to be held in the **Shreveport/Bossier** area. If you have suggestions, vendors or sponsors interest, contact **Sabrina Sonnier, LANA** President acoasabrina@bellsouth.net