

**Elder News**  
**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS**



**“Serving Seniors Successfully”**

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*Welcome to the new Executive Director...*



Mrs. Martha Manuel was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal as Executive Director in February 2011 to oversee the administration of the Office of Elderly Affairs, the state unit on aging. As a former state employee and long-time resident of Louisiana, Mrs. Manuel brings experience and leadership qualities to the aging network.

In Mrs. Manuel previous capacity with state government, she served as a Program Manager for DHH/Office of the Secretary/Bureau of Community Supports & Services – Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and as Director for DHH/Office of Public Health – East Baton Rouge Parish Health Unit and a former Program Specialist with the Office of Elderly Affairs.

These qualities and her genuine compassion for others will continue to guide the vision of the Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs ensuring that Louisiana is a “Great Place to Age”.

Please join the Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs in welcoming back Mrs. Martha Manuel to the aging network and the communities that serve older Louisianans.

**For more information about senior programs and services, visit: [www.louisianaanswers.com](http://www.louisianaanswers.com)**

## *Professional Achievements in Aging....*

On her **90th birthday**, March 2, 2011, **Ms. Dorothy Hinton** (seated center) announced her retirement from **29 years of employment** with the **Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging**. Ms. Dorothy served as Site Manager of the Independence Senior Center after working as a Nutrition Aide for the Loranger area for many years. A party was held in honor of Ms. Dorothy with much love and admiration expressed including certificates from Gov. Bobby Jindal, presented by the executive director of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, Martha Manuel; and, certificates of congratulations for retirement and birthday from State Senator Ben Nevers. Independence Mayor Michael Ragusa was on hand to present flowers and personal congratulations with obvious love and admiration for Ms. Dorothy's accomplishments and wishes for a long, happy retirement. United Way serving Tangipahoa, represented by Larry Mitts also expressed best wishes along with the many friends and employees of the Council on Aging in attendance. Special guests



posing for the picture include friend Jean Kline, Larry Mitts, Joan Jones, Carlo Vitrano, Debi Fleming, Mary Dowling, George Ann Smith, Martha Manuel, Beverly Brazil, Mayor Ragusa and Colleen Scott. Independence Area Supervisor, Lanell Blackwell presented flowers and expressions of love from the participants of the Center with a request that Ms. Dorothy enjoy the meals and activities of the Center, allowing others to now serve her as she served for many years. Ms. Blackwell also surprised Ms. Dorothy with the announcement that "now that Ms. Dorothy is no longer an employee of the Council on Aging, she is eligible and crowned **Senior Citizen Queen for the 2011 Tangipahoa Parish Fair** and will be presented on September 29, 2011 at the fairgrounds in Amite." **Ms. Dorothy Hinton is an inspiration to the Council on Aging and everyone who comes into contact with her. The Board of Directors, staff and friends wish her a long, happy, healthy retirement of doing whatever she wants to do. She has earned the privilege.**



### **Your Life, Your Health in Bogalusa...**

Congratulations to 11 of 14 participants who completed **Your Life, Your Health Chronic Disease Self-Management** 6-weeks training class at **Washington Council on Aging**. These participants took major steps toward improving their health and quality of life by learning how to positively manage living with a chronic condition. **Your Life, Your Health Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)** is part of a grant received from the Administration on Aging guided by clinical studies from Stanford University.

*For more information about CDSMP or to schedule a class in your area, please contact Sharon Buchert at 225-342-0171 or email: [sbbuchert@goea.la.gov](mailto:sbbuchert@goea.la.gov).*

### **LA Aging Network Association Conference 2011**

*Held March 16-18 in Shreveport with over 100 aging network participants, choosing tracks from management to fundraising, the conference 2011 was deemed a success. Conference 2012 will be held in Baton Rouge during the month of March.*

*Celebrating May, Older Americans Month...*



*Allen Council on Aging will host a **Health & Resource Fair** at the Allen Parish Civic Center on May 18<sup>th</sup> with lots of fun, food, and laughter for the soul.*

*Ascension Council on Aging will host a “**Backyard Picnic & Barbeque**” to celebrate Older Americans Month. Not only will there be barbeque, but snowballs, popcorn and a DJ on May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Donaldsonville Senior Center.*

*Assumption Council on Aging will celebrate on May 20<sup>th</sup> with a “**Picnic in the Park**” in Morgan City with good food and entertainment.*

*Bossier Council on Aging is partnering with local schools to host a “**Dress-Down**” day for students that will raise funds for senior programs and give students an opportunity to celebrate Older Americans Month. Also, on May 27<sup>th</sup>, a **Fish Fry – Health Fair** with a silent auction and media coverage.*

*CADDO Council on Aging will host the **Annual Centennial Celebration** on May 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul Episcopal Church by partnering with Social Security and Hospice of Shreveport. Mayors of Shreveport and Bossier will submit proclamations for the month of May as Older Americans Month. Follow CCOA Facebook Fan Page for educational series and find services available.*

*Calcasieu Council on Aging on May 23<sup>rd</sup> will host a **Senior Health Fair** with lots of fun, food, and new dance steps for all to enjoy. Also, senior centers throughout the parish will celebrate by having **Crawfish Boils** to **Pizza Parties** for all participants.*

*LaFourche Council on Aging will host the “**Senior Prom**” on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the American Legion Hall (Lockport) in celebrating the young at heart.*

*New Orleans Council on Aging will host the “**2011 Senior Fest**” on May 13<sup>th</sup> at “the Castle” Gymnasium on the grounds of Southern University in New Orleans featuring great jazz and lots of pizzazz.*

*UNION Council on Aging will host the annual **Fish Fry- Health Fair** on May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Willie Davis Recreation Center.*

*West Carroll Council on Aging will host a variety of activities from bingo to “**Cake & Punch**”.*

# May is Emergency Preparedness Month!

## Hurricane Preparedness Week Observation, May 22-28

Take the necessary steps to be **PREPARED** for any emergency **NOW!**

[www.getagameplan.org](http://www.getagameplan.org) or [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

Need to apply for disaster assistance: [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov)

Contact your parish emergency management office to sign-up for Emergency Alerts!

For parish emergency management office: [www.gohsep.gov](http://www.gohsep.gov)



**Pre-register for Disaster Food Stamps NOW!** During an emergency or declared disaster low to moderate income residents may qualify for disaster food stamps. For more information, please visit: <http://www.dcfslouisiana.gov>

**Become a TRAINED SHELTER VOLUNTEER...**  
When older adults and individuals with a disability evacuate to an emergency shelter, your help is needed!  
Register today, [www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov](http://www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov)

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## Calendar of Events ....

### May

10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>

*"Spring Conference 2011"- LA Council on Aging Directors' Association (LACOADA)*  
Baton Rouge Hilton – Legislative Breakfast & Visit Capitol  
Contact Pat Jones, 318-335-3195 or [allencouncil@bellsouth.net](mailto:allencouncil@bellsouth.net)

### June

6-8

2011 National Conference on Volunteering and Service "Champions of Service"  
New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center  
900 Convention Center Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70130-2226  
[www.volunteeringandservice.org](http://www.volunteeringandservice.org)

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LA State Plan on Aging Focus Group Meeting hosted by Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs  
LA Municipal Association Bldg., 700 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street, **Baton Rouge**  
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

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A State Plan on Aging Focus Group Meeting hosted by Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs  
Ouachita Council on Aging, 2407 Ferrand Street, **Monroe**  
1:00 PM – 2:00PM