



Elder News

Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA)

Fall 2026

Volume 26 - Issue 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Emergency Preparedness	2
Spotlight on the Aging Network	3-11
The Louisiana Executive Board on Aging & Welcome New Staff	12

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SOCIAL MEDIA!



From the Director's Chair...

October is recognized as Financial Exploitation Awareness Month. Many of us have been aware of cases of exploitation of our senior residents, and it can come from anywhere; from family members, caregivers, or telephone calls or internet interactions from halfway around the world. We at GOEA are committed to helping educate everyone about this serious and growing problem. If you would like a member of Elderly Protective Services to speak at one of your functions, please reach out to us.



If you would like more detailed information about financial abuse and fraud, and how to prevent it, or make a report, please go to the National Adult Protective Services Association's website:

<https://www.napsa-now.org/financial-exploitation/>

Additional resources can be found here:

<https://www.napsa-now.org/additional-resources-for-financial-exploitation/>

Thank you for everything you do to assist and protect Louisiana's senior population every day!

Amanda Smith, Executive Director

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

FOR OLDER ADULTS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

CREATE A NETWORK OF SUPPORT

TO HELP YOU IN CASE
OF AN EMERGENCY.

PREPARE FOR A POWER OUTAGE IF YOU USE ELECTRIC MEDICAL DEVICES.



talk to a health care
provider about what to do



identify an alternative
power source for devices



inform your emergency
contacts of the plan



Plan how you will
communicate
if you have a
communication
disability.



Plan for your
transportation
if you need help
evacuating.



Plan how you will
evacuate with any
assistive devices.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN AN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

- ☒ Contact information for important people and care providers
- ☒ A list of medicines you need, dosage instructions, and any allergies
- ☒ Styles and serial numbers of all medical and assistive devices
- ☒ Need-to-know information for first responders and others who might need to help you



Food, water, and
essentials for
you and pets or
service animals



Medicines,
medical supplies,
batteries, and
chargers



Copies of
Medicaid, Medicare,
and other
insurance cards



Learn more: acl.gov/programs/emergency-preparedness

In the Spotlight

St. Charles Council on Aging: Happy birthday to Mr. Charles Riley, he turned 91 years old on July 28th and happy birthday to Ms. JoAnn Cooper she is pictured below in pink, her birthday was on August 17th.



Rapides Council on Aging: We were excited to partner up with the Cenla Community Action Agency to host our very first Senior Appreciation Day! It was a joy to celebrate our seniors and highlight the strong bond between our organizations and the community. We hope this is the first of many wonderful events to come.

Rapides Council on Aging
— NATIONAL —

Senior Day

CELEBRATING OUR SENIORS
— HONORING THEIR LEGACY —

AUGUST 21, 2026
A DAY TO HONOR. A LIFETIME OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

Where:
204 CHESTER ST. ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301
11AM TO 2PM

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Fun Activities & Games
- Entertainment
- Refreshments
- Door Prizes & Giveaways

SERVICES & RESOURCES

- Homebound Meals Program
- Chores Program
- Transportation Program
- Veteran's Direct Program Advocate

204 CHESTER ST. ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301
11AM TO 2PM

Office: (318) 445-7985
Tamechia Beemon
Executive Director

Our seniors built our community. Today, we celebrate them.

Union Council on Aging: July 21, 2026 marked the 50th anniversary of Louise Denton's hiring as the Director of Union Council on Aging, Inc. in Farmerville, LA. Mrs. Louise has overseen many changes at Union Council on Aging over those 50 years. The Union Council on Aging was awarded a charter on May 14, 1965, signed by then-Governor John McKeithen. Mr. Jack Griffon was the first director hired in 1965. He served as director until July 21, 1976 when Mrs. Louise was hired as director.



Union Council on Aging first shared an office in the parish courthouse with the Louisiana Forestry Service. They later moved across the street to the old school board building, and then to 102 Railroad Street in Farmerville, where they operated for several years. The present facility, located at 606 E. Boundary St, Farmerville was built in September 1995, and an addition was made to the building in January 2013. A millage tax passed to benefit the Council on Aging in 2002. This greatly increased the Council's ability to serve the elderly in the parish.

On Wednesday, July 22, 2026 Mrs. Louise Denton was honored with a reception to celebrate her continuing dedication and commitment to the seniors of Union Parish. Farmerville Mayor John Crow delivered a proclamation to Mrs. Louise, capping off the outstanding achievement. Many stories and memories were shared regarding the Council and Mrs. Louise. Friends, family, and staff enjoyed the opportunity to come together to honor this accomplishment. Mrs. Louise will continue to lead the organization and grow the services to fit the needs of those aged 60 plus in the parish. The Council offers transportation, homemaker services, congregate meals, home-delivered meals, and recreational needs in Farmerville, Marion, Bernice, and Spearsville.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make this reception a success. We appreciate everyone who turned out to this event and made it a special memory for Mrs. Louise.

Union participated in the Senior Games in Bossier City in April, May, and June.



Terrebonne Council on Aging: Wishing our amazing clients a very happy birthday!

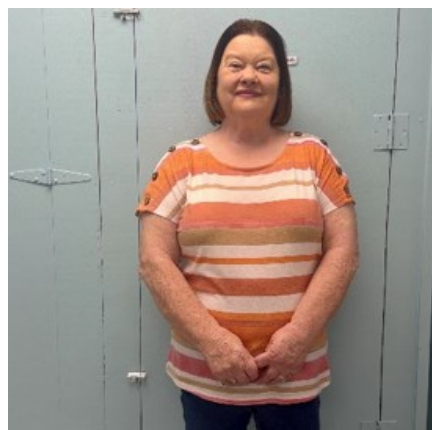
Mr. Daniel Breaux



Ms. Irene Naquin



Ms. Debra Parfait



Ms. Marion Boquet



Ms. Rosalie Blanchard



Schriever Senior Center Birthdays!



Vermilion Council on Aging: Offers sewing, crochet, and embroidery classes at their senior center. All supplies are provided to clients. Skill levels range from beginner to expert, and several projects have been completed.



Pointe Coupee Council on Aging: We are thrilled to announce that our brand-new senior center, will be opening in early 2027!



Sabine Council on Aging: We are saddened by the passing of two former board members, Mr. William E. Ruffin and Ms. Evelyn N. Bush. Ms. Bush joined SCOA as an Outreach Coordinator in 1976, later became the Nutrition Coordinator, and served until her retirement in 1999. She later returned to the Council as a client and passed away at age 101. Both Mr. Ruffin and Ms. Bush are deeply loved and missed.



Mr. I. D. Bostian celebrated his 100th birthday on June 25th and he was also recognized with a certificate and a letter signed by the President of the United States.

Ms. Billie Young celebrated her 92nd birthday on July 30th!



Clients enjoying their annual trip to Ed Lester and Andersons Produce Farm!



Lafayette Council on Aging: Our Carencro Senior Center Belle Rose Dancers are a vibrant and dedicated group who come together every Friday to dance their hearts out. This lively team performs everything from line dancing to jazz, hip-hop, waltz, and zydeco, showcasing their versatility and enthusiasm. They are a faithful group of seniors who bring energy, joy, and passion to every dance session. Their commitment to staying active, expressing themselves through movement, and uplifting one another makes them a shining example of community spirit. The Carencro Senior Center Belle Rose Dancers are truly cherished, admired, and thoroughly enjoyed by all who see them.



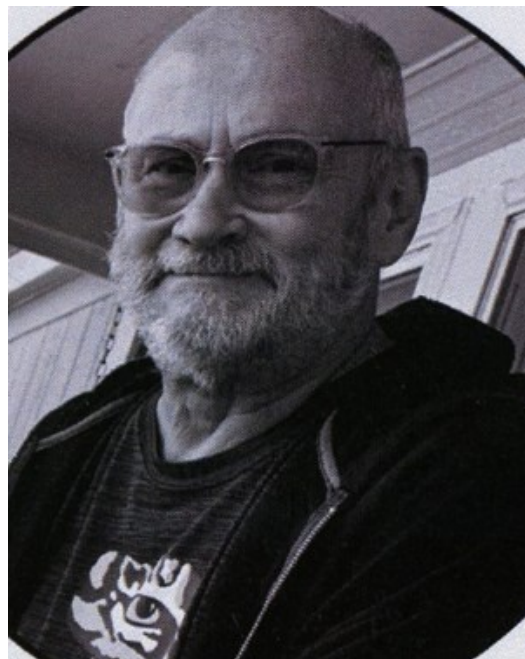
Our Broussard Senior Center, August brings out the BEST in our Broussard family! Here are some of our amazing clients at the Broussard Senior Center enjoying a good meal, laughing through bingo, and soaking up the fellowship that makes this place feel like home. It's joy, connection, and community all wrapped into one beautiful moment.



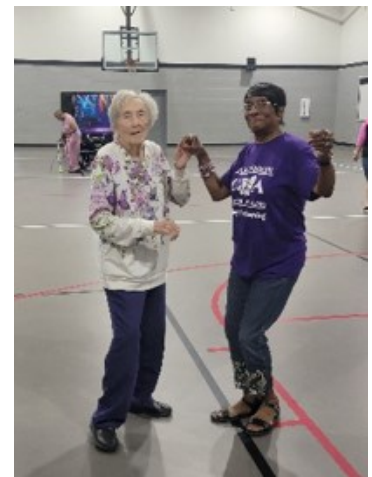
Assumption Council on Aging: Representatives presented some of our clients with fans provided by the Beat the Heat Campaign. We are grateful for this campaign and helping us provide some relief from this heat to our clients in need.



Webster Council on Aging: We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of longtime Executive Director, Johnny Johnson, who passed away on Monday, August 24, 2026. His leadership and kindness touched many lives. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with his family and friends. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



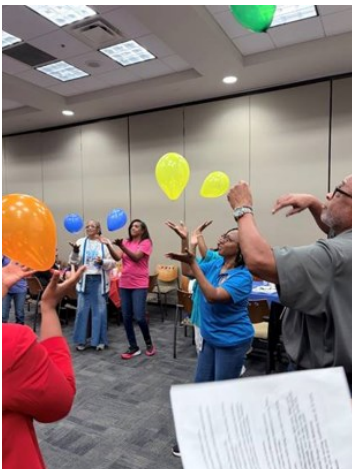
Ascension Council on Aging: Celebrated August birthdays with a tropical Hawaiian party and stepped back in time with a lively sock hop! Check out the fun moments from both events in the photos below.



Caldwell Council on Aging: Hosted Winn COA for a fun-filled Beanbag Baseball Day on August 6, 2026, at the Caldwell Parish Recreation Center. The event brought participants together for a day of friendly competition, fellowship, food and plenty of fun.



Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs: We celebrated Labor Day with a team-building luncheon and our memorable Work-Life Balance Balloon Challenge. Thank you to everyone who joined in. Let's carry that lesson forward: life throws a lot of balloons our way, but we are here to help each other keep them all in the air.



The Louisiana Executive Board on Aging

The next scheduled quarterly LEBA meeting will be held on

October 14, 2026 @ 11:00AM

The Board members are listed below:

Leslie Keen—Chairwoman

Huey Beverly

Ann Keene

Donald Mallet

Heather Prejean



Charles “Buddy” Pugh

Rene Thibodeaux

Ricco Thomas

Blanche Wilks



***Join us in welcoming our new
team members!***

Shawanda Hebert ~ Home & Community-Based Services

Bryan Warner ~ Elderly Protective Services

Alliscent Good ~ Elderly Protective Services

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