

# *Elder News*

**Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs**  
**"Serving Seniors Successfully"**

**Spring 2017**  
**Volume 14, Issue 1**



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**OLDER  
AMERICANS  
MONTH**



**AGE OUT LOUD: MAY 2017**

Each May, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) leads our nation's celebration of Older Americans Month (OAM). ACL designed the 2017 OAM theme, **Age Out Loud**, to give aging a new voice—one that reflects what today's older adults have to say.

This theme shines a light on many important trends. More than ever before, older Americans are working longer, trying new things, and engaging in their communities. They're taking charge, striving for wellness, focusing on independence, and advocating for themselves and others. What it means to age has changed, and OAM 2017 is a perfect opportunity to recognize and celebrate what getting older looks like today.

Let's amplify the many voices of older Americans and raise awareness of vital aging issues across the country. Join us as we speak up and out loud for OAM! For resource materials and additional information, visit [www.ACL.gov](http://www.ACL.gov). For information regarding local events and activities, contact your local Council on Aging.



## BOOTS?

Short Boots, Tall Boots, Mid- Calf Boots, Hip Boots and Cute Boots....they come in all sizes, shapes and colors. If you live in Louisiana, you may have a pair or two of these. But, is this all you might need for Spring Rains in Louisiana? **Be Prepared!** Have your boots, umbrella, rain coat and an

emergency plan. In 2016, Louisiana was faced with flooding in March 2016 where more than 20 inches of rainfall in less than 48 hours causing agency closures, road closures, residential and business property damage. There were 30 American Red Cross Shelters and 33 parishes declared for Individual Assistance by FEMA. In August 2016, Louisiana faced yet another flooding event where 31.39 inches of rainfall. There were more than 108,000 single family homes that were not in flood areas that received at least 12 inches of water damage. Of those, 3004 were low income elderly individual homes. There were over 30,000 people rescued from flooding and stayed in shelters. Louisiana continues to recover from both events due to the severity of the flooding and extensive damage. In February 2017, a band of tornadic activity hit Louisiana whereas a federal declaration for Individual Assistance was obtained for Livingston and New Orleans parishes. As we approach hurricane season, we must be mindful of **ALL** emergency situations, remain safe and continue services to the elderly of Louisiana.



## **Be Prepared!**

Have an emergency/disaster plan for your family and agency so that all individuals can remain safe during an emergency and that property and life can be preserved.

For more information about Emergency/Disaster Preparedness, visit [www.getagameplan.org](http://www.getagameplan.org).



As we begin to wrap up the final stages of the MIPPA Louisiana grant activities for year 3, the outreach, education and enrollment assistance for Years 1 & 2 have provided at a glance the following:

Enrollment Assistance for LIS/MSP Program	3887	units
Follow-Up for LIS/MSP enrollment assistance	1886	units
Hosted Events	222	units
Community event participation	190	units
Medicare eligible individuals at events	5272	individuals
Provided Medicare Part D Counseling	3543	units
Provided Medicare Part D Enrollment Assistance	2048	units
Developed New Partnerships	102	units
Staff Development Training Sessions	21	Sessions

Key results for follow-up show that 56.4% of the enrollment assistance provided for Low Income Subsidy Program (LIS) and 35.6% of the enrollment assistance for Medicare Savings Plan (MSP) were determined eligible for the programs. These programs not only assist with the Medicare premiums for Medicare Part B and Medicare Part D, but may also assist with other out of pocket expenses.

Beginning May 2017, a media campaign to outreach Medicare recipients will be conducted. If an event is planned or scheduled before June 30, 2017, please e-mail the event details to Ms. Cheron Brylski at [cbrylski@aol.com](mailto:cbrylski@aol.com) and she can assist with the media publication for the event.

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The **Louisiana Executive Board on Aging (LEBA)** is a 15 member board for which composition is devised from the House of Representatives, Senate and the Governor. LEBA meets quarterly and is comprised of the following members:

Noah Aguiard	Huey P. Beverly	Terry Lee Courville
Grace Garon	Mona Gobert-Cravens	Ann Keene
Willie Lewis	Donald Mallet	Harold Ritchie
Ethel Tabor	Ricco Thomas	Edward Walters, Jr
Blanche Wilks	June S. Williams	Worlita L. Williams

The current Chairman for the LEBA is Mr. Harold Ritchie. The next scheduled LEBA meeting is set for June 2017.

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**American Red Cross**



**LATAN**  
LOUISIANA ASSISTIVE  
TECHNOLOGY ACCESS NETWORK

**FREE** MEDICAL EQUIPMENT  
MEDICAL SUPPLIES  
SMOKE ALARMS  
HOME ACCESSIBILITY  
ASSESSMENTS

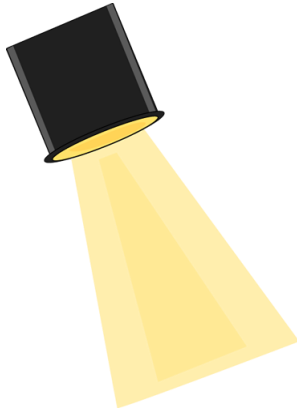
for LOUISIANA RESIDENTS  
with FUNCTIONAL LIMITATIONS  
or DISABILITIES AFFECTED  
by AUGUST FLOODS

**CALL TOLL FREE 1-844-861-4764 TODAY!**



LATAN & the American Red Cross invite residents with disabilities or functional limitations affected by the August 2016 floods to access FREE durable medical equipment to replace ones lost in the flooding, smoke alarms and more. Call (844) 861-4764 Monday through Friday or email: [response@latan.org](mailto:response@latan.org).

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## Spotlight on the Louisiana Aging Network

On March 15-16, 2017, the **State Ombudsman** along with **Regional Ombudsmen** traveled to Marksville, Louisiana for the annual **LEADER Summit**. The ombudsmen were able to gain knowledge to continue the enhancement of “Person Centered Care” for the residents of long term care facilities. Discussion topics which provided a primary focus were:

- The Value of Uninterrupted Sleep for Elders
- How to Involve Families in the Care of their Elders
- Turning Patients, Residents and Families into Outrageously Loyal Fans
- Getting Residents out of Wheeled Chairs

Long Term Care Ombudsmen help residents of long term care facilities, the residents’ families and nursing homes in investigating and resolving complaints. The ombudsmen assist individuals and their family members with long term care options which may include selecting a facility. For more information regarding this program, visit [Louisiana Ombudsmen](#) or call 1-866-632-0922.

Washington Parish Council on Aging

Bogalusa Senior Center  
Grand Re-Opening  
Celebration!

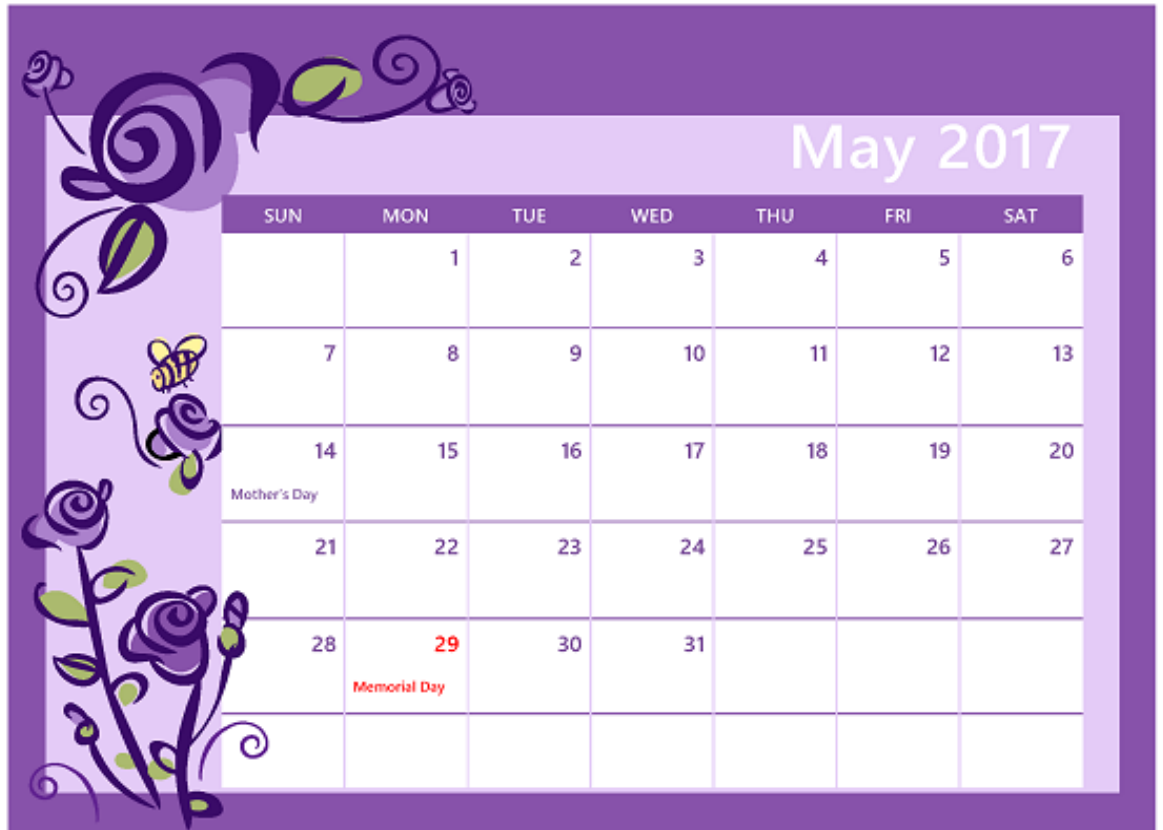


Friday March 10 2017  
From 10 AM - 12 PM  
603 Willis Ave. Bogalusa, La 70427

**Congratulations** to the Washington Council on Aging with the re-opening of the Bogalusa Senior Center. The Bogalusa Senior Center was damaged in the flash flooding of the March 2016 Louisiana floods.



*Save That Date:*



[www.wheniscalendars.com](http://www.wheniscalendars.com)



**LACOADA Spring Conference  
May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center  
Baton Rouge. LA**

**AGENDA**

**Tuesday, May 16, 2017**

11:00 – 1:00	Registration
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch (In Meeting Room) Tom Laughlin Award
1:00 – 2:30	GOEA Training – Financial Reporting – Danielle Stafford
2:30 – 2:45	Break (Refreshments)
2:45 – 3:30	Connect Sprout - Steve Mitchell
3:30 – 4:30	Legislative Training & Updates – Dinah Landry & Mike Rome

Dinner on your own

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

7:30 – 9:30	Legislative Breakfast
9:30 – 10:30	Business Meeting/Legislative Agenda
10:30	Adjourn – Directors to visit legislators at the Capitol

**Thursday, May 18, 2017**

8:30 – 3:30	Rotunda Booth @ Capitol
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The **Ascension Council on Aging** will host the annual Health Fair at Lamar Dixon Center on April 29<sup>th</sup>. For more information about services and activities provided by the Ascension Council on Aging, call 225-621-5750 or 225-473-3789.

The **Beauregard Council on Aging** will host their annual Senior Fish Fry on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Dry Creek Baptist Camp. For more information about the fish fry or other activities and services provided by the Beauregard Council on Aging call 337-463-6578.

The **Bossier Council on Aging** will host the Bossier Council on Aging Style Show at the Hilton Garden Inn on April 27<sup>th</sup>. To participate or get more information, call the Bossier Council on Aging at 318-741-8302.

The **Cameron Council on Aging** will be hosting Senior Citizen's Day on May 12<sup>th</sup>. During the month of May, businesses from Cameron parish will have special treats on different days for the seniors. Senior Olympic games will be held May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 20<sup>th</sup>. BINGO for groceries is played each Monday and Wednesday. For more information about activities and services provided by the Cameron Council on Aging, call 337-598-5158 or visit them at [www.cameroncouncilonaging.com](http://www.cameroncouncilonaging.com).

The **Catahoula Council on Aging** will be hosting Hot Dog for Senior Citizens on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-1:00pm. For more information about this event or services provided by the Catahoula Council on Aging, call 318-339-8111.

The **East Baton Rouge Council on Aging** will host the 2017 Senior Crawfish Boil on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. For more information regarding the crawfish boil and other activities or services, call the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging at 225-923-8000.

The **Iberia Council on Aging** will host a Senior Prom on May 10<sup>th</sup> with a "Roaring 20's" theme. On May 24<sup>th</sup> the Iberia Council on Aging will have their fourth "Senior's Got Talent" show. If you would like more information about these activities or other services provided by the Iberia Council on Aging, call 337-367-1556.

The **Iberville Council on Aging** is hosting a Nottoway Plantation Tour on May 17<sup>th</sup>. On May 25<sup>th</sup>, the Iberville Council on aging will be hosting a “May Day Luncheon” in Saint Gabriel. If you would like more information about this activity or other services provided by the Iberville Council on Aging, call 225-687-9682.

The **Jefferson Council on Aging** will have Senior Day at the Lakeside Mall on May 10<sup>th</sup> and at Oakwood Mall on May 12<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Older Americans Month. For more information about the activities and services provided by the Jefferson Council on Aging call 504-888-5880 or visit [www.jcoa.net](http://www.jcoa.net).

The **Lafourche Council on Aging** will host its annual Senior Dance and Crawfish Boil on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-3:00pm with live music. To register for the dance and crawfish event or find out more about the activities and services provided by the Lafourche Council on Aging, call 985-523-0457 or visit [www.lafourchecoa.org](http://www.lafourchecoa.org).

The **LaSalle Council on Aging** will host a “Mother’s Day” reception on May 12<sup>th</sup> and a “Senior Day” on May 24<sup>th</sup>. To find out more about these events and other services provided by the LaSalle Council on Aging call 318-992-4708.

The **Natchitoches Council on Aging** host to a Talent Show on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. There will be dancing, singing, comedy and story-telling. For more information about this activity or other services provided by the Natchitoches Council on Aging call 318-357-3250.

The **New Orleans Council on Aging** will host their Senior Fest on May 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am till 11:30am at the New Orleans Lakefront Arena. For more information about Senior Fest or other services provided by the New Orleans Council on Aging, visit [www.Nocoa.org](http://www.Nocoa.org) or call 504-821-4141.

The **Plaquemines Council on Aging** is assisting with monthly shopping on May 11<sup>th</sup>, visiting the local casino for lunch on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and will launch the Plaquemines Parish SALT Council on May 31<sup>st</sup>. For more services provided by the Plaquemines Council on Aging call 504-564-0600.

The **Pointe Coupee Council on Aging** will host the annual Crawfish Boil on May 24<sup>th</sup>. To register to attend or receive information about other services and activities at the Pointe Coupee Council on Aging, call 225-638-4402.

The **Rapides Council on Aging** will be delivering snack boxes for Older Americans Month which will include chips, crackers, health bars and cookies. This effort is a partnership with the Food Bank of Central Louisiana. For more information to serve the homebound clients of Rapides parish, call 318-445-7985.

The **St. Charles Council on Aging** will host the Sheriff's Senior Citizen's Easter Luncheon on April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Jerusalem Shrine Temple from 9:00am - 12:00pm. For more information about this event or other services provided by the St. Charles Council on Aging, call 985-307-1447.

The **St. John Council on Aging** will be hosting a Resource and Health Fair on May 19<sup>th</sup> and Fishing in the Spillway on May 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information about these activities or other services provided by the Saint John Council on Aging call 985-479-0272.

The **St. Tammany Council on Aging (COAST)** will host their annual Senior Resource Festival on May 25<sup>th</sup>. To reserve your meal and receive information of other activities, contact COAST at 985-892-0377.

The **Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging** will host their annual picnic and "Walk for Seniors" fundraiser on May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Ponchatoula Community Center. To register for this event or receive information regarding other activities or services, call 985-748-7486.

The **Washington Parish Council on Aging** will host the 2017 Annual Senior Citizen Picnic and Membership Meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Washington Parish Fair Grounds. For more information about this event or other activities and services, please call 985-839-4535 or 985-732-6869.

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