



Latah County Chapter Newsletter

Latah County Chapter #678

March 2008

AARP Meeting

University Inn Best Western

Friday

March 28, 2008

11:30 a.m.

Meal

Homemade Open Faced Meat Loaf Sandwich served with mashed potatoes and gravy and a vegetable. Ice cream w/chocolate sauce.

Price: \$8.75

Program

Latah County Assessor

Our featured guest speaker will be Pat Vaughan, Latah County Assessor, who will talk about his office, how property taxes are determined, and more.

Meet Your 2008 Officers and Board

Co-Presidents: Susan Roberts and Alice Nau

Past President: Linda Pike

Vice President: Roger Falen

Secretary: Judy Reisenauer

Treasurer: Bob Carver

Executive Committee

Dale Everson, Hugh Homan, Peter Haggart, Sue Hovey, Laura Miller, Shirley Ringo, Lois Samuelson, Pat Scott, and Shirley Newcomb.

Treasurer's Report

New chapter treasurer Bob Carver reported that the current (3/6/08) checking account balance for the chapter is \$748.90

Project Access

Gatekeeper Program

Project Access is a collaboration between the three hospitals on the Palouse, the Area Agency on Aging in Idaho and the Council on Aging in Washington. The primary goals are to increase access to medical care and social services in rural Latah and Whitman counties. It is designed to assist rural communities in helping elders continue to live healthy lives in their own homes while increasing an overall sense of community.

The Gatekeeper program bridges the gap between seniors and social service agencies and trains community members to identify warning signs of seniors in need of assistance.

Gatekeepers are anybody in the community who comes in contact with seniors, such as grocery clerks, bank tellers, pharmacists, mail carriers, neighbors, etc. You can help by becoming a *trained* Gatekeeper and keeping a watchful eye on the seniors in Latah County. **Help others who can't help themselves!**

For more information on this important program please **contact**: Daquarii Rock or Skeeter Lynch at 208-883-6483

Project Access

Transportation Program

Transportation for seniors is available through *Project Access*. If you or someone you know needs transportation to medical/dental appointments, social service (health and welfare, social security, Medicaid) appointments, for meals, shopping or church – even for social outings. Then **contact Coast Transportation** at 1-800-967-2899 **48 hours in advance** of appointments or meetings. You can learn how to **become a volunteer driver** by contacting Dale Murphy at (208) 669-1334

Project Access

Caregiver Support

Caregiver support **groups help caregivers with the frustrations of care giving**. They offer a variety of possible ways to provide care and help in identifying community resources. Plus they provide a social support group for caregivers.

Groups are now meeting in Latah and Whitman Counties – **in Pullman** at the Statesman Apartments on the 2nd Monday of the month from 3-4:30pm – **in Moscow** at Gritman Adult Day Health on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 5 pm, and **in Potlatch** at the City Hall on the 4th Thursday of the month from 1:30 to 3 pm.

If you need a caregiver support program **get more information** from Sarah Rial by calling (800) 526-2273 or 883-6483.

Important Television Program

PBS (check listings for Channels 7, 10, and 12) will run a special on April 2nd at 9 pm on **Caring for Your Parents**. The program is sponsored by AARP and there will include a live phone-in for questions.

Project Access
Seminars on Dementia

A series of free public seminars are being held in our area on topics related to dementia. They are sponsored by Project Access and The Inland Northwest Alzheimer's Associates.

March 26th

The Latest Treatments and Research for Alzheimer's Disease
Gritman Medical Center Conference Room
2-4 pm

April 23rd

Legal Issues: Planning for the Future
Gritman Medical Center Conference Room
9:30-11:30 am

May 14th

Activities for People with Dementia
Pullman Regional Hospital Conference Room D
9:30-11:30 am

June 4th

Maintain Your Brain
Whitman Hospital Annex Conference Room
9:30-11:30 am

Local AARP Tax Aide

If you or someone you know needs help figuring taxes, please take advantage of this excellent AARP service program.

Tax Aide office in Moscow operates from 10 am to 3 pm Wednesday & Friday's in their office on the 2nd floor of the Federal Bldg (Post Office). No appointment necessary. Tax Aide will continue to operate through April 11th.

This AARP program is the nation's largest free volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service.

It is also important to remember that **citizens must file a tax return to participate** in the government "economic stimulus package" program.

AARP Safe Driving Classes

AARP Safe Driving Classes are scheduled for the spring. The cost is \$10. Contact Dick Bull (882-2420) if you have questions.

Safe Driving Class Schedule

April 26th 8:30 am to 5:30 pm
May 21st-22nd 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm
June 24th-25th 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

All classes are held at the Gritman Conference Center. **Remember!** – you must attend both sessions or a Saturday all day session

A Total of 8 Hours!

Legislative Updates

AARP **Idaho** sponsored SB1380 making it easier for citizens to invoke a credit freeze and it has passed both houses and been sent to the Governor. H517, concerning elder fraud, is pending. H530, Property Tax Deferral for qualified seniors, has been signed into law. H588 for grocery tax relief is pending as of this date.

AARP on the **national level** supports S1102 and H.R. 1536 to raise the asset test limits and close the "Doughnut Hole" for more low-income seniors. They are also lobbying Congress to keep Medicare premiums fair.

Andrus Award

AARP is **soliciting applications** for the Andrus Award. If you know of an AARP member or AARP volunteer who you believe is especially deserving for their community service, make a nomination. Applications will be available at the AARP Luncheon or you can contact Linda Pike, 882-5273 or 882-0824.

Next Meeting – Mark The Date

Our next meeting will be a luncheon on **Friday, May 16th** and the program will feature our state legislators giving their views on the 2007 Idaho legislative session. Mark your calendars now!

Also Mark Your Calendars for:

September 11th Start of the Latah County Fair
September 19th AARP Luncheon
October 17th AARP Luncheon
December 12th AARP Luncheon

*The AARP Newsletter is published by
Latah Country Chapter 678
Moscow, ID 83843
Peter Haggart, Writer/Editor
haggart@moscow.com*