



COMING TOGETHER TO ADVOCATE FOR OLDER ADULTS

NC Coalition on Aging
November Update – Part 2
November 21, 2017

This supplement to the *Update* which was sent out on November 17 contains information on people in the news, a listing of upcoming meetings and events not previously reported as well as links to recent news articles, news stories and resources.

People in the News

Rep. William Brisson who represents parts of Bladen, Johnston, and Sampson counties has changed his voter affiliation from Democrat to Republican. The switch gives the Republicans 75 of the 120 seats in the House which means that Democrats will have to pick up four seats in the next election to end the Republican veto-proof majority in the House. In the past, Rep. Brisson has frequently aligned with Republican colleagues on major legislation.

Rep. Susan Martin (R-Wilson) has announced that she will not seek a fourth term in the state House next year. She chairs the House Commerce and Job Development Committee, chairs the House Finance Committee, and serves as a vice chairwoman on the House Regulatory Reform Committee. Under a proposed redraw of legislative voting maps, she would have to face Rep. Jean Farmer-Butterfield (D-Wilson) in the House District 24 race next year or move to remain in her current House District 8

Former NC Rep. Samuel Johnson of Raleigh died on October 18 at the age of 90. He served in the state House from 1965 to 1974. After leaving office, he served as a special counsel to the House speaker and to Gov. Jim Hunt and later became a lobbyist.

Chris Fitzsimon, the founding director of NC Policy Watch, is leaving this position after 13 years to work for The Newsroom, a new non-profit incubator that will help establish and manage a network of projects similar to NC Policy Watch in states across the country. He will continue to live in the Triangle area and will also continue as a semi-regular Policy Watch columnist and as a weekly cast member of the syndicated political TV talk show, NC SPIN. Prior to joining Policy Watch, he worked as a reporter, assistant to House Speaker Dan Blue and was founder and executive director of the Common Sense Foundation.

John DeLuca, President of the Civitas Institute, a Raleigh-based conservative think tank, will step down from this position in the spring. The Civitas Institute has been funded over the years

primarily by the John William Pope Foundation and has focused on school choice, lower taxes, and tracking voting records of elected officials.

Dr. John Fagg from Winston-Salem, a senior partner at Forsyth Plastic Surgery, has been appointed by Gov. Roy Cooper as chair of the NC Medical Care Commission. He has been a member of the Commission since 2003 and has also served as president of the NC Medical Society.

Becky Bowden, long-time public health advocate, died on November 10 at the age on 91. After her formal retirement from the NC Division of Public Health in 1988, she was actively engaged in numerous efforts to advance policies and efforts to improve the health of our state's citizens.

Anita Earls, executive director of the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, has announced her candidacy for the seat on the state Supreme Court that will be open in the 2018 elections. She is a lawyer who has played a major role in lawsuits challenging North Carolina's redistricting plans as well as its voter ID law and other voting restrictions.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group established by General Assembly - Unless otherwise noted, the meetings will be from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the UNC School of Government. Meetings may be added or rescheduled. Dates posted to date are as follows: November 28, 2017, December 14, 2017 (online, 2-4 p.m.), January 9, 2018, January 30, 2018, February 8, 2018, February 27, 2018, March 12, 2018, and March 23, 2018.

"Public-Private Partnerships at Work" Webinar from the National Information and Referral Support Center on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Go to <https://nasuad.webex.com/nasuad/onstage/g.php?MTID=eac518532d4db0bfe3785d0935e719932> to register. (Description: Learn the benefits of a private-public collaboration between an AAA/ADRC, local University and local Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Senior Connection Center, the AAA serving Tampa, Florida, has worked in partnership with the University of South Florida and the local FQHC to facilitate older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers to further access home and community-based support through the use of a Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) grant. The grant-funded program, known as the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP), has also helped the AAA to educate new professionals in the medical field, exchange referrals with local community clinics, and gain further exposure among primary care physicians.

Working Together to Build a Network Webinar sponsored by the Aging and Disability Business Institute on November 29, 2017, from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Learning objectives of the webinar are to (1) Understand what Managed Care Organizations (MCO) offer and how services can we enhanced with AAAs and CBOs; (2) Understand why AAAs are a viable community-based partner to support Managed Care Organizations; and, (3) Describe the broad scope of

services provided by the AAA Region One in Phoenix, AZ, that complement the services provided through MCOs to improve patient outcomes. Click [here](#) to register.

Candlelight Reflections to honor and remember those affected by Alzheimer's and related dementias – November 30, 2017. Presented in Partnership with Alzheimer's NC and Alzheimer's Association Eastern NC; Refreshments 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. and Ceremony 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at J.C. Raulston Arboretum located at 4415 Beryl Rd. in Raleigh. RSVP to brathomas@alz.org or (919) 803-8282.

National Influenza Vaccination Week is December 3–9, 2017.

NC Alliance for Health Annual Meeting – December 4 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at American Cancer Society.

Interdisciplinary Care Teams for Older Adults Webinar presented by the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office (MMCO), in collaboration with the Lewin Group and the American Geriatrics Society, on December 7, 2017 from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. [Click here to register.](#) The webinar will identify common challenges and best practices for Interdisciplinary Care Teams (ICT) working with older adults. Presenters will also address the importance of clinical, psychosocial, long-term care, behavioral, and community-based support for older adults, particularly Medicare/Medicaid beneficiaries.

Coalition on Aging Meeting – December 9, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in room 104 of the Brown Building located at 801 Biggs Drive on the Dix Campus in Raleigh, NC.

Subcommittee on Aging of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services – Meeting in December – Date to be Announced.

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services – December 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 643 of the Legislative Office Building in Raleigh.

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice – December 12, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 643 of the Legislative Office Building in Raleigh.

NC Partnership to Address Adult Abuse Meeting – January 17, 2018 at Triangle J Council of Governments.

Association for Gerontology in Higher Education Annual Meeting – March 1-4, 2018 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting – November 14-18, 2018 in Boston, Mass.

Check out the Coalition on Aging [website](#) for additional meetings and events. Please send information on events and activities to Mary Bethel at mmbethel72@gmail.com to be listed in the *Update* and posted on the Coalition's website.

Articles/News Stories/Resources

North Carolina Related:

NC Subcommittee on Aging of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services – [Handouts from November 17, 2017 Meeting](#)

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services – [Handouts from November 14, 2017 Meeting](#)

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice – [Handouts from November 14, 2017 Meeting](#)

NC Partnership to Address Adult Abuse – [Handouts from November 15, 2017 Meeting](#) **(Includes presentation by Lisa Gwyther on Living with Dementia: Unique Vulnerabilities and Risks for Abuse and Neglect)**

Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group established by General Assembly ([Link to Workgroup Meetings and Materials](#))

[2015 – 2016 Report of the Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force](#) (Submitted January 2017)

[NC's Low Income Energy Assistance Program Begins Dec. 1](#)

[Wake Commissioner: 'Granny Flats' Could Provide Low-Cost Rentals in Raleigh](#)

[Helping Older People in North Carolina Age in the Comfort of Home](#) (News and Observer Op Ed)

NC Department of Insurance [Program Helps Residents Challenge Denied Health Insurance Claims](#)

[The Integrated Approach to Health That Could Save Our System Millions](#)

[Message from Va. To NC – Expand Medicaid](#) (New and Observer Editorial)

[Democrats Score Big in Tuesday's Elections – Say NC is Next](#)

[Medicaid Programs Staying Under Budget as Switch to Managed Care Looms](#)

[Despite Trump, ACA Plans Still Affordable](#) (News and Observer Editorial)

[2018 Open Enrollment Period: What NC Consumers Need to Know](#) (Enrollment continues through Dec. 15)

[Cigna OK to Raise NC Obamacare Policies by 25 Percent](#)

[NC Health News: It's Medicare Open Enrollment Time](#)

[The Trump Administration Says NC Owes It \\$41 Million \(due to Medicaid errors\). The State Disagrees](#)

[Judges Rule It Was Proper For Treasurer To Reduce Disability Benefits](#)

North Carolina [State Worker' Pension in Good Shape; Health Care Is Another Story](#)

[How to Protect Your Personal Information Online](#) (WRAL)

[Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic Receives \\$25,000 Grant](#) (From NC Dental Society Foundation)

[UNC Healthcare Wins Right to Buy Morehead Memorial Hospital in Eden](#)

[Here's Why Carolina HealthCare Should Settle Federal Lawsuit](#)

[Elon College November Poll Results](#)

[Durham Neighbors Play It Forward](#)

[Local Man Advocates for Seniors Statewide](#) (Speaker of Senior Tar Heel Legislature Elected)

[Upgraded 911 System Will Help Save Lives Throughout North Carolina](#)

[Duke Energy to Seek Slightly Smaller Rate Increase](#)

[Senior Apartment Complex Breaks Ground in New Bern](#)

[Domestic Violence Includes Elder Abuse](#) (From Legal Aid of NC Senior Law Project)

[Agewise: Help for Caregivers](#) (Compiled by Senior Services, Inc. in Winston-Salem)

[Which Triangle Hospitals Are Safest? Find Out Which Ones Got A's](#)

[For NC, Changing Demographics Point Toward a Daunting Tomorrow](#) (News and Observer Op Ed)

[Walkable Neighborhoods Linked with More Active Older Adults](#) (NC State research)

Other:

[Bipartisan Plan Would Boost Health Insurance Markets](#)

[Maine OKs Medicaid Expansion in First-of-Kind Referendum](#)

[Individual-Mandate Repeal Gains Traction As GOP Scrambles to Close \\$74B Revenue Hole](#)

[Trump Health Agency Challenges Consensus on Reducing Costs](#)

[The Healthcare of Tomorrow Will Move Away from Hospitals](#)

[Rising Health Insurance Costs Frighten Some Early Retirees](#)

[Who Relies on Medicare? A Profile of the Medicare Population](#)

[New Health and Human Services Secretary to Inherit Agency That Faces Criticism](#)

[Nutritional Quality of Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals Offered in the Title III-C Nutrition Services Program: An Examination Utilizing the Healthy Eating Index Tool](#)

[Emerging Innovations in Managed Long-Term Services and Supports for Family Caregivers](#)

[Family Caregivers Overwhelmed and Undertrained – But the Vast Majority Think Their Duties Are Worthwhile and Are Satisfied with Their Role](#)

[A Path to Emotional Support for Caregivers](#)

[Retirement Planning Should Include Long Term Care Cost](#)

[Hearing Loss: A Common Problem for Older Adults](#)

[Depression and Older Adults](#)

[Key Issues in Long-Term Services and Supports Quality](#)

[Honorable Discharged Vets Can Shop Exchanges](#)

[Your Health: Shingles Is Significant Medical Concern Among Ages 50 and Over](#)

[No Excuses, People: Get the New Shingles Vaccine](#)

[What If You Knew Alzheimer's Was Coming to You](#)

[Signs of Progress, Challenges in Fighting Alzheimer's](#)

[Do Memory Problems Always Mean Alzheimer's?](#)

[National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and Family Caregivers Month](#)

[Diabetes Awareness Month](#)

[Bird Flu Spreading In Asia, Experts \(Quietly\) Warn](#)

[Senior Helpers: Private Geriatric-Care Managers Assist Elderly, Their Families](#)

[Want to Lose Pounds After 60? Try Lifting Weights](#)

[Alzheimer's Drug May Also Work for Cavities](#)

[Too Many Americans Take Unnecessary and Potentially Harmful Antibiotics](#)

[For Active Seniors, Cohousing Offers a Cozier Alternative to Downsizing](#)

[Bridging the Health and Housing Gap](#)

[DA: 4 People Remain Unaccounted For, Presumed Dead Following Fire At West Chester \(Pa.\) Senior Living Facility](#)

[U.S. News Names Best Nursing Homes for 2017-2018](#)

[How Smart Home Products Empower People with Disabilities](#)

[Poor Sense of Smell May Double Risk of Dementia](#)

[New Bills Call for Medicare Eligibility Alerts](#)

[Getting Rid of the Negative Stereotypes – and Biases – About Aging](#)

[Vets Who Are Denied Benefits Face Antiquated Appeals System That Can Take Decades](#)

[Koch Groups to Mount Hard Press to Expand Private-Sector VA Services](#)

[The Integrated Approach to Health That Could Save Our System Millions](#)

NPR Aging Series:

- [Medicaid Expansion Takes a Bit Out of Medical Debt](#)
- [An Unexpected Friendship Brought The Sun Out Again For A Grieving Man](#)
- ['The Longevity Economy': What Does It Mean To Be Old?](#)
- [Pop-Ow! 'Popeye' Deformity Can Be A Painful Armful](#)
- [With Stricter Guidelines, Do You Have High Blood Pressure Now?](#)
- [Several States Roll Back 'Retroactive Medicaid,' A Buffer For The Poor](#)
- [AARP Foundation Sues Nursing Home To Stop Illegal Evictions](#)
- [Sleepless Night Leaves Some Brain Cells As Sluggish As You Feel](#)

ADA Survey - The Americans with Disabilities National Network is seeking input through a survey on how older people get and use information about their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The results of the survey will help inform outreach to support older people in understanding their rights and services. The survey takes about 15 minutes to do and will ask questions about how older people with disabilities seek and use information about the ADA. To participate in the survey, click [here](#). Questions about the survey can be directed to the researcher conducting this study, Vicki Chang, at vc337@cornell.edu or at 1-607-255-9056.

Have questions about the Coalition on Aging or need more information, including information about joining the Coalition or renewing membership, please contact us at mmbethel72@gmail.com or check out our website at <http://www.nccoalitiononaging.org/>.

