



COMING TOGETHER TO ADVOCATE FOR OLDER ADULTS

NC Coalition on Aging Supplement to September 2016 Update

Cancellation of Two Adult Protective Services and Guardianship Listening Sessions – State agencies have temporarily curtailed all non-essential travel due to the fuel shortage that southeastern states are experiencing due to the broken pipeline in Alabama. For this reason, the adult protective services and guardianship listening sessions scheduled in Madison County on September 21 and in Henderson County on September 22 were cancelled. Discussions are taking place at this time about the possibility of rescheduling these sessions once the travel restriction is lifted. Information will be shared once more is known.

AARP Releases Information on Positions of Candidates for Governor – AARP North Carolina has unveiled a three-part series which looks at how Gov. Pat McCrory and Attorney General Roy Cooper, the candidates for Governor, stand on issues import to older North Carolina voters. The first series which addresses financial security was unveiled on September 20. This will be followed by series on support for caregivers and creating age-friendly communities (including transportation, safe and accessible public spaces, social inclusion and the availability of health care services). The series was launched on Facebook and in an e-mail and bulletin that was sent to the more than one million AARP members in the state. AARP also plans to release a survey of voting priorities among those 45 and older. Voters will talk about what they want to learn about candidates before the general election. This exchange will be live-streamed at 8:45 a.m. on September 27 at www.facebook.com/AARPNC.

Older Voters and Election 2016 Public Policy Breakfast Forum – AARP North Carolina will sponsor a free forum on older voters and the 2016 election on Tuesday, September 27, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. at the Marriott Raleigh City Center (University Ballroom). The forum which is open to the public will feature a panel of diverse state policy experts who will examine what is on the mind of North Carolina’s voters age 45+. Members of the panel will be Mitch Kokai, Director of Communications for the John Locke Foundation; Rob Schofield, Policy Director for *NC Policy Watch*; Tommy Goldsmith, freelance writer and former Wake County editor for the *News and Observer*, and Donna King, Managing Editor for *North Star Journal*. At the forum, AARP will release the results of a new statewide survey that defines the top-of-mind voting issues for older registered voters. The survey also explores what they want to learn about from the candidates between now until Election Day. To register for this free event, go to aarp.cvent.com/OlderVoters16.

Deadline for Submitting Issues Is Next Week - Do you have an issue you want the Coalition to consider for its 2017 legislative agenda? If so, issues for consideration need to be submitted by **September 30**. A form for submission is attached to this *Update*. The following information is requested for each issue being proposed: the problem which needs legislative action, the proposed legislative action, and the rationale for including this in the Coalition's 2017 legislative agenda. Submissions will be shared with Coalition members at the October 28 monthly Coalition meeting. At that time, each person submitting a proposed issue will be given three minutes to speak on the issue. Coalition members will vote on the legislative agenda at the December 9 Coalition meeting. After that, the Coalition's agenda will be shared with relevant agency officials and with members of the General Assembly.

Social Services Institute Announces Keynote Speaker – Dave Pelzer has been announced as the keynote speaker for the 2016 Social Services Institute that will be held on October 19-21 in Hickory.



Pelzer has received personal commendations from four U. S. Presidents, has been honored as one of the *Ten Outstanding Young Americans*, and later, was the only American to be honored as *The Outstanding Young Person of the World*. He is also the recipient of the National Jefferson Award which is considered the Pulitzer Prize for public service. Other recipients include Sandra Day O'Connor and Colin Powell. He is an accomplished author of eight inspirational books and has been on the Best Sellers lists for well over 13 years combined. His latest book is *Too Close to Me*. His popular book *A Child Called "It"* has been on the *New York Times* bestsellers list for over six years. He is the first author to have four #1 International Best Sellers and to have four books simultaneously on the *New York Times* Best Sellers List. To register for the Institute, click [here](#).

October Coalition on Aging Meeting – The Coalition is pleased that Secretary of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Rick Brajer, will join us for the Coalition's monthly meeting on October 28. Secretary Brajer will give very brief remarks but he wants to spend most of his time at the meeting hearing from Coalition members about the needs of older adults and their family caregivers and about what is working well as well as where challenges exist in providing programs and services for our state's older residents. Time at the meeting will also be devoted to hearing presentations about issues for consideration for the Coalition's 2017

legislative agenda. The meeting will be held at the offices of the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services located at 693 Palmer Drive, Raleigh (Taylor Hall on the Dix Campus) at 10:00 a.m.

Submitting Information for Updates – If you have news or information on activities and events you would like to have included in an *Update* to Coalition members, please send details to Mary Bethel, Coalition President, at mmbethel72@gmail.com.

Coalition on Aging Membership – Are you interested in getting more involved in being an advocate for older North Carolinians? If yes, consider becoming a member of the Coalition on Aging. Membership in the Coalition is open to any agency, organization, group, or individual who is interested in aging in North Carolina. To renew your membership or to sign up for the first time, go to <http://www.nccoalitiononaging.org/membership.aspx>.

Have questions about the Coalition on Aging or need more information? Check out our website at <http://www.nccoalitiononaging.org/>.