

The Link

Your Senior Resource Connection

November - December 2011

Groundbreaking Ceremony at Future Home of Towns County Senior Center



Photo Courtesy of Jimmy Berrong, Jr.

Pictured from Left to Right (front): Chad Winkler (Builder, Winkler and Winkler), Brenda Brannock (Wellness Coordinator), Gladys Stevens and Tom Ficklin (Senior Center Advisory Council members), Randall Mathis (Van Driver), Pat Nicholson (Center Director), Cora Berrong (Senior Center participant), Jean Grady (local advisory member), Pat Freeman and Lamar Gailey (Legacy Link AAA), Jewell Nicholson (Center Coordinator), and Bill Kendall (County Commissioner).

In the background: Participants from Senior Center.



Photo Courtesy of Mike Freeman

On Wednesday, November 2, 2011, more than 50 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony in anticipation of the new senior center. The new center will be located on US Hwy 76 beside the Towns County Recreation Department. The 7,000 square foot facility will include a back porch overlooking Lake Chatuge. The projected completion date for the new center is April, 2012.

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Legacy Lines



More \$\$\$ for Meals

In the past couple of years, we've heard more about "cuts in funding" than we have about "more funding" for anything. But I am happy to report that we are to receive additional monies for home delivered meals for seniors in this region. We notified the senior centers about this increase some months ago but just recently received the official paperwork from the Georgia Division of Aging Services. Now, we can increase the budgets for meals in our sub-contracts and seniors on home delivered meals waiting lists will be served noon meals.

Additional funding for home delivered meals for individuals on waiting lists in this area is as follows:

Banks County	\$16,791
Dawson County	\$18,886
Forsyth County	\$43,856
Franklin County	\$22,938
Habersham County	\$33,522
Gainesville/Hall County	\$84,664
Hart County	\$28,282
Lumpkin County	\$19,287
Towns County	\$12,364
Union County	\$22,531
White County	\$21,384
Total	\$324,505

Want to help these people on the waiting list receive their meals? Call the senior center in your county and offer to deliver the meals. Even if you are only able to deliver meals one day a month, that will help.

Pat Freeman,
Executive Director

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Georgia Fund for Children and Elderly

You can make a difference by contributing to the fund on your **Georgia Income Tax Return Form 500ez – Line 11** or **Form 500 – Line 27**

Georgia Fund for Children and Elderly helps community agencies boost their capacity to deliver meals to homebound elders; transport seniors to medical appointments; and provide grants to organizations that serve children with special health, educational, and emotional needs.

Half of all donated funds go to Georgia's 12 Area Agencies on Aging, and the other half go to organizations serving special-needs children.

The donated funds enable **Legacy Link** to connect greater numbers of seniors with vital community services.

The **Georgia Fund for Children and Elderly** is jointly administered by the Georgia Department of Human Services Division of Aging Services and the Georgia Department of Community Health Division of Public Health.



New Subscription

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New SilverSneakers® Class at Union County Senior Center

Looking for more from your workout?

Try the **Cardio Circuit Class** offered Monday and Friday mornings at 8:30

MSROM Class continues to be offered Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 2:30

Union County Senior Center
95 Senior Center Drive, Blairsville, 30512
706-439-6105



at other Senior Centers:

Habersham County Senior Center • 706-776-7770
MSROM Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays at 10:30am

Dawson County Senior Center • 706-344-3700
MSROM Mondays 10am and 11:30am
Wednesdays 11:30am and 1pm
Cardio Circuit Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am
YogaStretch Coming soon!

Lumpkin County Senior Center • 706-864-2358
MSROM Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays at 9:30am
Cardio Circuit Thursdays at 3pm

Towns County Senior Center • 706-896-3138
MSROM Mondays and Wednesdays at 2pm

Just for Laughs

Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that the people who have the most live the longest.

"When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years."

--- Mark Twain

Old age and the pain in the leg

An old man went to the doctor complaining of a terrible pain in his leg.

"I am afraid it's just old age", replied the doctor, "there is nothing we can do about it."

"That can't be" fumed the old man, "you don't know what you are doing."

"How can you possibly know I am wrong?" countered the doctor.

"Well it's quite obvious," the old man replied, "my other leg is fine, and it's the exact same age!"

See our new look! Visit us online at www.LegacyLink.org
Find out the latest information and events on the [Legacy Link Facebook Page](#). (You do not have to join Facebook to see our page -- click the link on our website)



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The Date You Receive Your SNAP (Food Stamp) Benefits is Changing

As of November 1, 2011, the day each month your SNAP (food stamp) benefits are available depends on the last 2 numbers of your Client ID.

Your client ID is the 9-digit number to the right of your name and address on materials you receive regarding your SNAP benefits.



Use the chart below to calculate your benefit availability date:

Last 2 Digits of Client ID	Monthly Deposit Date	Last 2 Digits of Client ID	Monthly Deposit Date
00-09	5th	50-59	10th
10-19	6th	60-69	11th
20-29	7th	70-79	12th
30-39	8th	80-89	13th
40-49	9th	90-99	14th

Since your Client ID does not change, this change will ensure that you receive your SNAP benefits on the same date each month. Your Client ID will be the same for any State Program in which you are enrolled or for which you are applying.

This will be the same number you will use to create an account online at www.compass.ga.gov which allows you to apply for eligibility, check your benefits, make changes, and renew your benefits.

Reminder: The Food Stamp Program is now called SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

SCSEP Places 10 Employees

The goal of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is to transition workers from the program back into the work force. Skills gained by senior workers while on the job, as well as through any additional training courses they attend, upgrade their skill-set to make them more qualified to secure employment directly with companies or even start their own business.



Between August and November, 8 SCSEP trainees found placements into permanent positions, 1 is opening his own business and 1 is to be hired in January. Placements have included apartment complexes, schools, restaurants, janitorial services, flower shops and store managers.

Contact Legacy Link AAA (770-538-2650) for more information about SCSEP.

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RSVP Volunteer View

Retired Senior & Volunteer Program



At the Zoo

A man was delivering penguins to the zoo when his van broke down on the highway. A fellow stopped to see if he could be of assistance. "Oh, I'm in some real trouble here" said the first man. "I've got to take these penguins to the zoo today, and now I'm not sure I'll get there."

The helpful fellow volunteered to put the penguins in the back of his car and take them to the zoo. The man with car trouble gratefully accepted this offer and promised to get to the zoo as soon as possible.

A little later, the man was on the road again and went immediately to the zoo. He looked everywhere but did not see the helpful fellow or any of the penguins. In a panic, he drove back into town. Just as he was wondering what in the world to do next, he saw the "volunteer" walking across the street with all the penguins waddling along behind him.

He ran up and said, "What are you doing here? I thought you were going to take the penguins to the zoo!" and the volunteer replied, "I did, and we had such a good time there, we decided to come into town for ice cream."

Moral: *When working with volunteers, clear instructions and good training is always necessary.*

Posted on CyberVPM by Sandy Leonard (source unknown) from www.energizeinc.com

**For more information
and to discover volunteer opportunities in your area,
please contact Dorothy Suchke, RSVP Coordinator,
at 770-538-2650 or email Djsuchke@legacylink.org**

Welcome New RSVP Volunteers!

Lumpkin County Senior Center

Bonnie Driver
Ray Driver
Dana Noland
Daniel Noland
John Palmer

S.A.F.E. (Union County)

Treva Farris

Union County Senior Center

Barbara Colwell
JoAnn Marvel



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Update from GeorgiaCares State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

GeorgiaCares Statewide Toll-Free Number

1-866-55-AGING (1-866-552-4464), OPTON 4

Please use this number for all of your GeorgiaCares needs.

There is one single toll-free number that people can call to connect to Georgia's Aging Network and services for seniors. The number connects Georgians automatically to their local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Gateway, GeorgiaCares, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Adult Protective Services Central Intake, and the Division of Aging Services (DAS) state office. The single statewide toll-free number provides easy access to information about services available in each region. The call menu is available in both English and Spanish.

Callers must select the appropriate option to reach the program they seek to connect with.



Back to Community Living

Money Follows the Person (MFP) allows people in nursing homes or other long-term care institutions who are elderly or have physical or developmental disabilities to move out and receive services and supports to live in their own homes and communities. Money follows the individual by allowing the state to pay for long-term care in a home and community-based setting rather than an institutional setting by providing in-home services and supports.

Legacy Link Area Agency on Aging received the contract from Georgia Division of Aging Services to provide this service beginning July 1, 2011. The primary goal of the MFP Transition Coordinator is to assist individuals in the transition from nursing home to community, breaking down barriers for a smooth changeover.



Carol Teixeira, Legacy Link Transition Coordinator (L), with Susanne Rockett (R) on moving day



On October 14, 2011, Susanne Rockett was the first client in the Legacy Link service area to make this transition from a nursing home to an apartment.

For more information about the Money Follows the Person Program, contact Legacy Link AAA at 770-538-2650; ask to speak with a Transition Coordinator.

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Mall Walkers Meetings

Lakeshore Mall, Gainesville
1st Tuesday of Month at 9am - Food Court

December 6, 2011

Holiday Celebration

Musical Performance by Reverend Gary Cole

January 3, 2012

Keep Hall Beautiful

You can make a difference
Cindy Reed, Executive Director

February 7, 2012

Frances Meadows Aquatic Center

Find out what they have for YOU!
Chris Minor, Recreation Program Manager

Call The Legacy Shoppe
for more information: 770-538-2700