

**BOSSIER
Council on Aging**

Senior Link

Volume XII - First Quarter 2024

Check out our website at www.bossiercoa.org for menus, activity calendars, service listings and upcoming trip details.



Please like us on Facebook @ Bossier Council on Aging

Group participants and supporters can enroll their Kroger Plus Card online at our secure website: www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Every time an enrolled participant of your organization shops at Kroger using their Kroger Plus Card, Bossier Council on Aging accumulates funding.



\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ 
Don't forget about our endowment with the Community Foundation. You can set-up planned giving, paycheck donations & even support for us via their website.

BEARKAT LOCATION
706 BearKat Drive
Bossier City, LA 71111
318-741-8302
contactus@bossiercoa.org
activities@bossiercoa.org

BENTON LOCATION
202 Sibley St.
Benton, LA 71006
318-965-9981
bentonsite@bossiercoa.org

HAUGHTON LOCATION
201 S. Hazel
Haughton, LA 71037
318-470-3821
haughtonsite@bossiercoa.org

PLAIN DEALING LOCATION
600 S. Perrin
Plain Dealing, LA 71064
318-759-2808
pdsite@bossiercoa.org

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SENIOR LINK IS PRODUCED
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Did you know that if you rent a car in Bossier City, you are helping to support our seniors?!! Well you are!! Thanks are due to former Senator Peacock for this continued support via one of his bills. So

now that you know this, please rent that car here in Bossier City instead of across the river... & tell others to do the same.

Some of you have called, come by or even stopped me at the store to ask about an update on our 'new building' from Bossier City. At this time, Bossier City council has allocated \$4 million towards a better building for us from an existing bond. I have also submitted a funding request to the state for \$2 million as a match to what the city has allocated however, it could be a few months before we know anything on this. I will say this, there are many officials dedicated to helping us find the right place that will allow us to continue to serve our seniors for many years. We have been in our current location on Bearkat Drive for over 25 years & it has served our seniors well. We see many areas that need improvement & know that as we look at any location, we will do the best we can to ensure that our current needs/issues

are addressed.

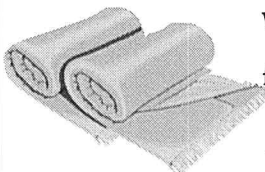
We have a couple of job opportunities that you may want or know someone that can help us. We have a homemaker PT or FT for Bossier parish, PT bus driver & even some part-time Senior Community Service Employment positions. Come by to fill out an application & find out more.

In case you didn't know, Bossier parish has quite a few new faces in Baton Rouge. We also have some familiar ones but they are just in different roles. Please familiarize yourself with your legislators & let them know you appreciate their support for our seniors. Over 20% of funding comes directly from the state so it is important that our legislators know who we are.

Don't forget that we now offer FREE 'signature only' notary services for clients with a current assessment on file. Clients can make an appointment & bring their own documents for notarization.

BLANKET DRIVE:

We are collecting & distributing new blankets for our seniors. Any size, fabric blanket may be donated at any of our sites. Must be new & not electric. Seniors may receive one blanket a year with a Bossier Parish ID at their local senior center.



FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH



NO SERVICES PROVIDED ON THESE DATES.

NEED HELP TO GET TO THE GROCERY STORE?

BOSSIER COUNCIL ON AGING IS AVAILABLE TO HELP. TRANSPORTATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

- PLAIN DEALING - 1ST WEDNESDAY
- BENTON - 2ND WEDNESDAY
- HAUGHTON - 3RD WEDNESDAY
- BAFB - 4TH WEDNESDAY
- BOSSIER CITY - TUESDAY & THURSDAYS
- ALL GROCERY STORE RIDES MUST HAVE MINIMUM OF 3 CLIENTS



THIS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO SENIORS AGE 60 AND ABOVE WITH A CURRENT ASSESSMENT ON FILE. CONTACT US AT 318-741-8302 TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN UTILIZE THIS SERVICE.

Site Snapshots

Seniors are invited to come by their local site to visit, have lunch & get signed up. Each of our sites is unique to its area and the seniors it serves. Of course we are always going to have bingo at least once a week but that's not the only fun thing going on. All clients are required to have a current assessment on file but it only takes about 10 to 15 minutes to complete so don't let that deter you.



Each site will also be doing a food bank distribution on the 2nd & 4th week. Call or go by to find out what days and you may end up with some fresh produce, frozen meats, canned goods or even a dessert or two. We are allowing for grab & go for our lunches at this time.

Reservations are still needed so we can order the appropriate amount of meals but you are not required to eat at the site. Grab & go is available at each location during the designated time.

SAVE THE DATES: Mardi Gras @ Bearkat-2/13, Give for Good @ all sites-5/7, Older American Month fish fry & health fair @ Bearkat-5/24.

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT!

Thanks to following donors:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield, Entergy & Pack Shack
- Bellaire Baptist Golden Eagles
- Kroger Community donors
- Amazon Smile donors
- Pet Pantry of NWLA-dog & cat food for our seniors fur babies

TELEPHONE REASSURANCE - program provided by Bossier Parish Sheriff's Dept. It is one phone call per week to check on home bound seniors. Call 318-965-3500 for more information.

FOR SALE: we have a BRAND NEW lift chair at our Bearkat site. Come by & take it for test 'ride' to see

UPDATE:

AARP classes utilizing the Bossier Council on Aging sites are BACK!!!!

Call for upcoming class dates.

\$20=AARP members.
\$25=non members.

AARP also offers you the opportunity to elect to take the class on line by visiting the secured link: www.aarp.com.



ITEMS WE ARE COLLECTING

... Thank you to everyone who has been bringing these items in for us!

It helps us to be able to **STRETCH** our dollars even FURTHER!

Aluminum cans

Items Available for Seniors in Need: *(with current assessment on file)*

• CAREGIVER CLIENTS: raised toilet seat, wheelchair cushion, incontinence supplies - diapers, pads, pull-ups (sizes vary), Walkers; (subject to availability)

• NOTE: The Bossier Fire Department is offering FREE smoke alarms for our seniors that don't have them. They come and install them for you, and remember: "THEY MAY SAVE