



BOSSIER Council on Aging

Senior Link

Volume XIII - First Quarter 2025

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
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SENIOR LINK IS PRODUCED
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE BOSSIER PRESS-TRIBUNE.



As we celebrate our 50th anniversary of serving seniors in our community, we reflect on the incredible journey of supporting older adults through changing seasons, both literal and figurative. This winter, we continue to focus on keeping our seniors active, connected, and prepared for whatever comes their way.

The recent cold snap caught many of us off guard! With temperatures plunging overnight, we've been reminded of the importance of staying prepared for

emergency weather situations. Seniors are particularly vulnerable during these times, so we encourage everyone to review their emergency plans, check on neighbors, and ensure that supplies like blankets, non-perishable foods, and flashlights are readily available.

Our ongoing Blanket Drive is one way to make sure no senior is left in the cold. Please consider donating a new or gently used blanket to help someone in need. Drop-off locations are available at all our sites. Together, we can help everyone stay warm and safe this winter.

Our Fall Health Fair on October 23 was a tremendous success! With over 20 vendors offering resources like insurance advice, vaccine information, food assistance, and housing options, attendees left well-informed and equipped for the future. A heartfelt thank you goes to our sponsors, People Health and Blue Cross Blue Shield, for making it all possible. Looking ahead, we're already planning

our next big event in May, where our health fair will coincide with the Older Americans Month Fish Fry. Stay tuned for details—it's an event you won't want to miss!

As election season continues, we remind everyone that staying prepared isn't just for emergencies—it's also about participating in decisions that shape our future. Make sure your voter registration is up to date and know your polling location.

As part of our 50 years of service, we're always looking for dedicated individuals to join us in making a difference. Current opportunities include part-time and full-time homemaker positions in Bossier Parish, as well as Senior Community Service Employment Program roles. Stop by our office to learn more and apply.

Here's to another 50 years of building a strong, supportive community for our seniors. Let's embrace the season together, staying active, prepared, and united. Stay warm and safe out there!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES:



MARDI GRAS, 3/4
GOOD FRIDAY, 4/18

NO SERVICES PROVIDED ON THESE DATES.

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.

Reservations are needed for lunch so we can order the appropriate amount of meals ahead of time.

Rent your car in BOSSIER:

Did you know that a percent of the sales tax from car rentals in Bossier Parish directly supports the Bossier Council on Aging's services? Including home-delivered meals, transportation, and caregiver support?!? This funding helps the Council enhance the quality of life for local seniors by expanding vital programs that empower independence and well-being. So rent your car in Bossier & help us support our seniors.



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.



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.

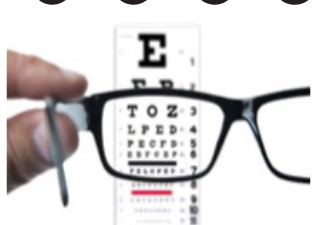
CONTACT US AT
318-741-8302
TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN UTILIZE THIS SERVICE.



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 YOUR LIFE"!

We have FREE rides for clients to go to their eye doctor via our grant from ITN America & Regeneron. Call 318-741-8302 for further details.



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 Printer & toner cartridges

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT!

Thanks to following donors:

- Delta Sigma Theta
- Lagniappe PRIME
- Home Federal Bank
- Kroger Community 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.

WANT TO KNOW MORE:

Our Outreach Director, Tana Wilder is available to speak to your civic or community group to share valuable information about Bossier Council on Aging. Call her now to schedule your speaking engagement.

NOTARY SERVICE:

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.

