



UNCG Gerontology Research Network

Facilitating Transdisciplinary Aging-related Research at UNCG

September 2, 2009 • Issue 16

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alzheimer's Association Western NC Chapter has opened in GSO

-We are excited to be in Greensboro, where we serve such a large base of people and have collaborative relationships with so many of you. Please feel free to come by and visit (let me know so I am sure to be here). Looking forward to working closely with you to better serve individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's/dementia. Also, please let me know how we can help your organization grow with us.

-Eileen McGuinness-Vaillancourt, Director of Professional Development

-122 North Elm Street, Suite 800, Greensboro, NC 27401

-Phone: (336) 285-5920 Cell: (336) 455-3499 Fax: (336) 285-5922 E-mail: Eileen.McGuinness@alz.org

Congratulations Dr. Linda Buettner, Ph.D, LRT, CTRS!

-The Alzheimer's Association 2009 Investigator-Initiated Research Grant (IIRG) approved Dr. Buettner's application for funding.

-The submitted application concerns Mentally Stimulating Activities (MSAs) to Treat Apathy in Early Stage AD.

Congratulations Dr. Wu, Ph.D!

-The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently awarded a four year \$1.3 million grant for investigating a link between gum disease and mild to moderate memory loss in a population of West Virginians aged 70 and older.

-Dr. Bei Wu, Associate Professor and Researcher in the UNCG Gerontology Program, is the grant's Principal Investigator. The grant is shared by Richard Crout, D.M.D., Ph.D., of West Virginia University, Brenda L. Plassman, Ph.D., of Duke University, and Jersey Liang, Ph.D., of the University of Michigan.

LOCAL

Advance Care Planning Course for Facilitators *Registration Included*

-On Tuesdays, September 22 and 29, 2009 and the sessions will run from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (both sessions are required to complete the training) at the Williams Education and Counseling Center, Hospice & Palliative Care Center campus, Hospice Lane, Winston-Salem.

-This training is for healthcare and human service professionals, clergy, attorneys, or anyone who assists individuals in advance care planning and completion of advance directives.

Attached is a brochure providing details and registration info. Also attached are driving directions to our facility.

Questions: contact marilyn.barneycastle@hospicecarecenter.org or call The Community Partnership Line at 768-6157, ext. 622.

2009 Senior Health Fair *Flyer Included*

-Connect with community resources and learn about organizations that can help you achieve an independent and a healthy lifestyle.

-FREE: Glucose & Cholesterol Screening - Blood Pressure Check Body Mass Index - Hearing Check - DOOR PRIZES & MORE!

-Tuesday, September 15 from 10 am - 1 at the Central Library, 219 North Church St.

-Check out www.greensborolibrary.org

North Carolina A & T State University- An Education Program for Family Caregivers

-Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia: A Starting Point on Saturday, September 12, 2009 from 1:00pm-4:00pm

-This program will be a panel discussion on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Topics include: legal issues, providing care, and community resources. The presentation will also provide information on the African American Alzheimer's Disease Research.

-Location: NC A&T State University, General Classroom Bldg., Room 218, on the corner of Sullivan St. and Benbow Rd., Greensboro, NC 27411

-Questions: Dora Som-Pimpong, Dept of Biology, phone: 336-285-2176, e-mail: dorasom@ncat.edu

STATE

North Carolina Association on Aging *Registration Included*

-Aging Boot Camp scheduled for October 20 & 21 in Fayetteville

-This is an orientation program most appropriate for brand new employees in the aging network or others wanting a basic understanding of aging issues and services.

-The Boot Camp will be held from 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. on Oct 20 and from 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. on Oct. 21 at the Fayetteville-Cumberland Senior Center.

-Questions about the Aging Boot Camp should be directed to Bill Lamb, UNC Institute on Aging, Phone: 919-966-9444; email: bill_lamb@unc.edu.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

31st Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society

-Mark your calendars for April 8-11, 2010 at The Jefferson Hotel in Richmond, Virginia.

-Call for Presentations coming soon. Please take a moment to visit the hotel website: <http://www.jeffersonhotel.com/>

-Lora Gage, Southern Gerontological Society, PMB #144, 1616-102 W. Cape Coral Pkwy., Cape Coral, FL 33914

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-www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org

Growing Old In America: Expectations And Reality

-The report can be accessed by clicking <http://pewsocialtrends.org/assets/pdf/Getting-Old-in-America.pdf>.

-Getting old isn't nearly as bad as people think it will be. Nor is it quite as good. On aspects of everyday life ranging from mental acuity to physical dexterity to sexual activity to financial security, a new Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends survey on aging among a nationally representative sample of 2,969 adults finds a sizable gap between the expectations that young and middle-aged adults have about old age and the actual experiences reported by older Americans themselves. These disparities come into sharpest focus when survey respondents are asked about a series of negative benchmarks often associated with aging, such as illness, memory loss, an inability to drive, an end to sexual activity, a struggle with loneliness and depression, and difficulty paying bills. In every instance, older adults report experiencing them at lower levels (often far lower) than younger adults report expecting to encounter them when they grow old.

Guilford County Volunteer Opportunity *Application Included*

-Currently, there are several vacancies on the Guilford County Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee.

-The volunteers on this committee serve as grassroots advocates for residents living in local assisted living and family care homes.

This would be a great learning opportunity for anyone interested in working in long-term care.

-Contact: Dorian P. Fredricksen, Senior Regional Long-Term Care Ombudsman Phone: (336) 294-4950; www.ptcog.org