

Terrorism Awareness Training For First Responders

For the last month, the Appalachian Council of Governments has been conducting Terrorism Awareness training for first responders in the six counties of the Upstate. The training is offered without charge to law enforcement, fire and EMS personnel as part of a pilot program in cooperation with the Greenville County COBRA emergency response team.



(Courtesy WGNX)

The awareness-level course is based upon a U.S. Department of Justice lesson plan and is designed to familiarize first responders with nuclear, chemical, biological and conventional weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and basic emergency response measures. The course satisfies a prerequisite requirement for additional training at the Department of Justice Center for Domestic Preparedness at Ft. McClellan, Alabama. Graduates of the ACOG/COBRA awareness training are awarded Department of Justice training certificates.

The half-day training sessions are being offered over the next few months and are being coordinated through the respective county emergency preparedness directors. Classes



are limited in size and seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Joe Newton at 864-241-4642 or e-mail at newton@scacog.org for further information.

“Be Smart” Series Underway

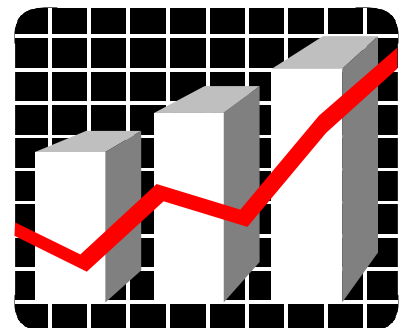
Be Smart is an information seminar that teaches older adults how to protect themselves from various forms of financial and medical fraud and abuse. Individuals are taught how to organize their records and how to detect and report possible incidents of medical fraud, as well as other forms of consumer fraud such as cases involving telemarketers. Sessions will be offered at local senior centers and congregate meal sites in the Appalachian region beginning in October. *Be Smart* is a collaborative project with Clemson Extension Services, the S. C. Department of Consumer Affairs, S. C. De-

(*Be Smart* continued on page 2)

Upstate Economy Gains Momentum

There are signs that the economy of the Upstate may be starting to pick up some speed. Many new industrial announcements were made in Greenville County during the Second Quarter of 2002. An increase in rehiring at facilities in Anderson and Pickens Counties was also reported.

In Anderson County, Owens Corning will reopen part of its plant that was closed last year. The company has rehired a majority of the workers who were previously laid off. In Pickens County, Central Textiles, Incorporated, is hiring workers who were laid off from the closed Mayfair Mills Plant.



Greenville County continues to gain new companies. DDM Foods announced a \$1.75 million facility in Simpsonville that will employ 30 workers. Denver-based Gates Rubber recently opened a plant in the County as well. The Scottish Company, Unit 8, announced plans to open a facility at the Merovan Center in Greenville. Lockheed Martin Aircraft and Logistics is in the process of netting 300 additional positions.

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National Family Caregiver Support Program

Title III E/From 2000 Amendments to the Older Americans Act

Family Caregiver Advocate: Debra L. Brown; Family Resource Developer: Veronica Higgins

The National Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) is designed to provide five major services to two primary groups.

The services the FCSP staff provides are:

1. Information
2. Assistance
3. Support
4. Respite
5. Supplemental

The two groups who are the recipients of these services are:

1. Family caregivers providing care for those family members or older individuals over the age of 60, with an emphasis on those having difficulty with two or more Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) and who are economically challenged.
2. Those older individuals over the age of 60 who are living with and providing informal care for children under the age of 18, with an emphasis on helping those with mental retardation or developmental challenges and who may be economically challenged.

One of the chief goals of our program is to provide a central repository for information regarding the care of these groups. When a caregiver is already struggling with the care of someone else, they may not have time to make multiple calls to find out what services they may be eligible to use. We are endeavoring to provide a network to provide caregivers with a practical way to access services and to provide limited financial assistance.

With almost 54 million caregivers in the country today, meeting their needs is a matter of utmost importance. The formal system of caregiving through institutions could not carry the load were the informal systems to break



South Carolina Family Caregiver Support Program
SC Aging Network
Supporting Caregivers

down suddenly. With the wave of baby-boomers on their way into the roles of both caregivers and seniors, we must be vigilant in understanding the role of the caregiver and what impact the needs of this group will have on our general society.

Now is the time to be proactive in understanding the role the caregiver plays and what things caregivers need to start doing now, long before a situation can become crucial. There are steps we all can take if we find ourselves in the role of being a caregiver:

- Keep records of all medications and reactions. Make notes about what works, what doesn't and when you informed the physician about any problems.
- Keep records of all doctor appointments: the reason for the visit, the doctors' responses to your concerns, any procedures performed, etc.
- Plan for the unexpected. Discuss plans and wishes of everyone involved in the caregiving family. Talk about the final resting places and what arrangements your family will want.
- Have advanced directives filled out and given to the primary physician and all relatives who may need the form.
- Have a last will and testament completed or updated. Without a signed will, the courts will decide how to distribute the possessions of your loved ones.
- Keep a record of where all your important documents are kept. When an emergency or tragedy

occurs, locating information should not be where we spend our thoughts and energies.

When it comes to being prepared, there is no time like the present. For further information concerning the Family Caregiver Support Program, please call the Appalachian Council of Governments' Family Caregiver Advocate at (800) 925-4077. If you are willing to become a resource for this program or know of a beneficial service available to seniors in your area, please share that information with Debra Brown, Family Caregiver Advocate (Fax 864-242-6957 or e-mail brown@scacog.org).

(Be Smart continued from page 1)

partment of Health and Human Services and the Appalachian COG Area Agency on Aging. Components of the program include the File It/Find It financial record keeping and organization through Clemson Extension. The S. C. Department of Consumer Affairs instructs participants how to stop telemarketers from calling and how to protect their financial records and assets. The final component delivered to Medicare beneficiaries is the detection and reporting of incidences of medical fraud and abuse.

The next session of *Be Smart* will be offered October 3 at 10:30 a.m. at Senior Action, 402 East McBee Avenue in Greenville. For information about future sessions, contact Beverly Allen at (864) 242-9733.

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ACOG Information Services Department publishes the "Economic Activity Report of the South Carolina Upstate." This quarterly publication lists details for industrial and commercial projects that involve new construction, expansion, and renovation. Statistics on plant closings, lay offs, and hiring plans are also included. Please contact Beth Lewis at ACOG to purchase the publication for a single quarter or to order a yearly subscription.

SCDAH Announces 2003 Grant Program

The S. C. Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) has recently announced the guidelines for the 2003 State Historic Preservation Development Grant program. Grants are awarded to help preserve South Carolina's endangered historic buildings and structures. Churches, local governments, and non-profit organizations may apply for eligible buildings that have a current or planned public use. (This is a change from previous years' programs). Properties must be listed in



the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as contributing to a historic district. Also, properties that have been determined by SCDAH to be individually eligible may also apply. Allowable costs include those involved in stabilizing historic buildings, costs involved in protecting historic buildings and structures from the weather, and those costs involved in retaining the services of a qualified architect or engineer (not to exceed 15% of the project). Funds cannot be used for routine maintenance, cosmetic repairs, or renovations. These grants are also 50/50 reimbursable and matching. Grant amounts are limited to a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$20,000. Applications for Historic Preservation Grants must be postmarked by October 4, 2002. To request an application form, write or call Mark Doty at SCDAH, 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC 20223-4905, telephone 803-896-6199. He may also be contacted at doty@scdah.state.sc.us.



The application forms may also be obtained from their web site, www.state.sc.us/scdah/hpstatedev.htm.

Omnibus Adult Protection Act

Criminal penalties for abuse of the elderly and other vulnerable adults have been upgraded in the Omnibus Adult Protection Act. Upgraded penalties as amended in 1999 are:

- ⇒ A person who knowingly and willfully abuses or neglects a vulnerable adult is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than five years.
- ⇒ A person who knowingly and willfully exploits a vulnerable adult is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both, and may be required by the court to make restitution.
- ⇒ A person who knowingly and willfully abuses or neglects a vulnerable adult resulting in great bodily injury (injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious, permanent disfigurement, or protracted loss

or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ) is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than fifteen years.

- ⇒ A person who knowingly and willfully abuses or neglects a vulnerable adult resulting in death is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than thirty years.
- ⇒ A person who threatens, intimidates, or attempts to intimidate a vulnerable adult subject of a report, a witness, or any other person cooperating with an investigation conducted pursuant to this law is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than three years.

These paragraphs amending the criminal aspects of the Omnibus Adult Protection Act have also been incorporated into Title 16 (Crimes and Offenses) of the South Carolina Codes.

****This article includes ONLY the crimes and penalties that were amended in 1999. These are NOT all inclusive.**

WHO TO CONTACT

If you know of any vulnerable adults in a nursing home, residential care, disability or special needs or mental health facilities who are being abused in any way, contact the Appalachian Council of Governments' Long Term Care Ombudsman toll free:

Anderson County	225-3268
Cherokee County	489-6960
Greenville County	242-9733
Oconee County	882-7538
Pickens County	855-0163
Spartanburg County	582-1403



SCDOT Announces Transportation Enhancement Grant Recipients

On July 25, 2002, the S. C. Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Commission approved six Transportation Enhancement Grants in the Appalachian region. The recipients include the municipalities of Belton, Campobello, Gaffney and Honea Path. Greenville



The City of Gaffney will expand its current streetscape improvements on Limestone Street from Meadow Street to College Drive.

and Pickens Counties also received enhancement funding. These grants fund community improvement projects that have a relationship to transportation. Typical improvements include street, sidewalk, landscaping, and pedestrian improvements. ACOG staff provided technical assistance to Belton, Campobello and Gaffney in the development of their applications.

The SCDOT announces the application process in early February, with an application due date in March. If considering a project for 2003, start planning now. For more information concerning the Transportation Enhancement Program, contact Shawn Colin or Dan Wagner at the Appalachian COG (864) 242-9733, Vivian Patterson with the SCDOT at (803) 737-1953, or visit SCDOT on the web at <http://www.dot.state.sc.us/community/tep.html>.



Recipients of SCDOT Transportation Enhancement Grants in the Appalachian Region			
Jurisdiction	Location	Project Description	Allocation
Belton	Anderson County	Downtown Revitalization and Streetscape on Main Street (Phase 2 of Downtown Plan)	\$199,461
Campobello	Spartanburg County	Landscape Entryways to Community on US 176 and SC 11	\$36,859
Gaffney	Cherokee County	Expand Current Limestone Street Streetscape from Meadow St. to College Dr.	\$199,912
Greenville County	Greenville County	Preservation, Revitalization, and Access to Poinsett Bridge	\$160,000
Honea Path	Anderson County	Rouse Street New Sidewalk Project	\$56,873
Pickens County (SCDNR, SCPRT)	Pickens County	Jocassee Gorges Visitor and Welcome Center on SC 11	\$100,000

Appalachian Development Corporation

During the month of July, the Appalachian Development Corporation approved two loans through the Revolving Loan Fund.

A loan of \$60,000 was approved for Pro-Tec International, doing business as Enviro-Tek, which is owned by Mark Saville. Funds will be used in conjunction with primary financing from First Piedmont Federal Savings Bank to purchase and renovate a building on the northside of Gaffney to be used as a production facility. Pro-Tek makes automotive additives for distribution through dealers. The loan will allow Mr. Saville to add three additional people to his current staff of two during the next two years.

A loan of \$40,000 was approved for Dr. Arthur L. Smith (Upstate Neurology). Dr. Smith is opening his own neurology practice in Greenville. Primary financing is being provided by Carolina First. The loans will allow Dr. Smith to establish an office and create at least three jobs over the next two years.

The following loan was closed during the month of July: SBA 504 loan to Golden Corner Family Practice in the amount of \$425,000 for permanent financing of its new building in West Union, Oconee County.

VIEWPOINT

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