



Minnesota Gerontological Society

Bridging the gap in Minnesota between research and practice in the field of aging, with special emphasis on developing and supporting tomorrow's leaders

News Bulletin

Offering updates in the field of Gerontology and information about MGS for its members

May 2010

Available Now! DVD of Program: Love of Car; Transportation as We Age

This DVD includes the whole program plus a chaptered version which allows you to stop and discuss specific topics. Copies of the DVD are available without cost to Minnesota organizations and residents while supply lasts. Out-of-state requests will be honored with a contribution of \$10 per DVD. Visit <http://www.mngero.org/academics/loveofcar.html> to order the DVD.

Dr. Hal Freshley named Outstanding Gerontologist

It is with great honor and a sincere pleasure for MGS to present the Dutch Kastenbaum award to the Outstanding Gerontologist of the Year, Hal Freshley. Currently, as Planning and Policy Coordinator for the Minnesota Board on Aging, and Minnesota Department of Human Services, he has brought a thoughtful, deliberate and meaningful approach to policy and programs. This has resulted in a strengthened role of the Older Americans Act programs in the state's long-term care system and has given a stronger voice to older Minnesotans. Dr. Freshley was honored at the 2010 MGS Conference on April 30.

MGS Webinar on May 26 from 12-1: Safe Driving and Community Mobility

Catherine Sullivan will be describing and expanding upon the topics covered in the TV documentary co-produced recently by MGS and tpt called "Love of Car: Transportation as We Age". She will first briefly describe how the development of the documentary was based on research about mature drivers. She will then outline the different solutions described in the show and expand on each of them, drawing from her background as an occupational therapist and current experience educating mature drivers on transition issues. She will also highlight some key online resources and books about the topic and suggest practical ways they can be used. Registration for the Webinar will soon be available at <http://www.mngero.org>.

Caring for Person With Memory Loss – June 5, 2010

The University of Minnesota is excited to announce the "Caring for Person With Memory Loss" conference to be held at the UMN (Moos Tower 2-650) from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Saturday, June 5th, 2010. Attendance is free for all participants. The goal of this conference is to provide information, support, and education for adult children, spouses, parents, community care providers, and other individuals concerned with caring for persons with memory loss. The presentations will be lively and focus on exercise, driving behavior management, life care planning, transitional care management, and novel music stimulation approaches for persons with memory loss. We will also have a number of

other information resources for families and professionals as well as free food and refreshments, courtesy of FreedomPointe Assisted Living of Minnetonka! If you would like copies of the conference brochure or flyer, have any questions, or would like to RSVP for the event, please contact Dr. Joe Gaugler, at 612-626-2485 or gaug0015@umn.edu (email preferred).

Rapid Aging, Frailty Common in Older HIV

Frailty is not a diagnosis that typically comes to mind when clinicians examine HIV patients, but with increasing numbers of older people being diagnosed or younger patients growing old with the disease, it should be on HIV clinicians' radar. "HIV infection is really a disease of accelerated aging," says Nur Onen, MBChB, an instructor in internal medicine in the infectious diseases division of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO. Read the full article at the Global Action on Aging website <http://www.globalaging.org/health/us/2010/frailty.htm>.

Training on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Elders

Training to Serve (TTS) is a collaborative effort to assist local providers of aging services with the education and tools to help them meet the needs of GLBT persons as they age and begin to seek services. TTS developed out of a study that was conducted with the UMN and Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging with senior service providers related to serving GLBT elders as well as data from an earlier study by GLBT Generations. In summary the studies showed that elders did not necessarily feel welcome with mainstream providers, mainstream providers were unsure how to work with GLBT elders, and providers were open to training. Based on these results, TTS developed a curriculum (both 2 and 4 hour options) for service providers. More information can be obtained at <http://www.trainingtoserve.org>.

Older Americans Act Reauthorization

Since 1965, the Older Americans Act (OAA) has gained recognition as a unique and highly regarded statute that has stimulated the development of a comprehensive and coordinated service system. This system has contributed greatly to enhancing the lives of older individuals, family caregivers, and persons with disabilities. In 2011 Congress will consider reauthorization and amendments to the OAA effective in FY 2012. In anticipation of this process, the Administration on Aging (AoA) is soliciting input concerning the reauthorization through three mechanisms: (1) AoA-Convended Listening Forums; (2) OAA Reauthorization Input Events; and (3) Direct Input via the AoA Website or Mail. Additional information is provided at <http://www.aoa.gov>.



The Minnesota Gerontological Society (MGS) offers this free Bulletin to its members. To submit items contact mgs@mngero.org. Inclusion in the newsletter does not necessarily mean endorsement by MGS staff or Board. MGS' Bulletin is edited by Rajean P. Moore, PHD.