

"The Senior Outlook"

..... A Quarterly Publication of the

Older Iowans Legislature

Pursuing Quality of Life for Iowa's Senior Citizens for the past 33 years
Iowa's ONLY Independent Voice for Iowa's Seniors

5835 Grand Avenue – Ste. 106 – Des Moines, IA 50312 - www.olderiowans.org PH: (515) 633-9534

News & Views – from the OIL - February 2010

Issue # 13

OIL's State Board of Directors

Judy Stalkfleet – Chair

jstalkfleet4@aol.com - 319-396-1126

Dave Cavey,; Vice Chair

cityolin@netins.net - (319) 484-2830

Ron Jome, Secretary

ron.jome@agingresources.com (515) 633-953

Frances Thom, Treasurer

billyt9@mchsi.com - (641) 856-2505

Harvey Martens, Central District Rep.

hmartens4@mchsi.com (515) 255-1061

Eileen Heiden, North Central District Rep.

heidenj@witcc.edu - (712) 263-4110

Bob King - South-East District Rep.

king.robert@imonmail.com , (319) 393 4565

Roberta VanDeWalker, North District Rep.

vdw@mchsi.com – (641) 423-3464

Mary Lou Cooley-Hechmer, South Dist. Rep.

mlch@myway.com , (712) 779-3690

~

The OIL Newsletter Production Team

Eve Casserly – Editor

Lila Kramer – Circulation Manager

Ron Jome – Electronic Circulation

Anita Terpstra – Circulation Associate

Jean Oxley – Circulation Associate

Letters to the Editor: Mail to OIL office or to Newsletter at-
Casserly@mchsi.com – 1615 Pine Ridge Ct. – Coralville 52241

We want to thank the Heritage Area Agency on Aging for their generous help printing this four times yearly Newsletter.

In This Issue:

- Iowa Legislature – budget to dominate?
- OIL's 2010 bills and priorities
- News from the Agencies
- How can you contact your Legislator?
- An Open Question to Iowa Legislators
- Iowa Area Agencies on Aging
- Congressman Loeb sack on Health Care
- Medicare/Medicaid – what's the difference?
- AARP has OIL program in Johnson County
- OIL in 2010: **YOU** make a difference!

The Iowa Legislature General Assembly

The 2010 Session of the 83rd General Assembly
convened at 10:00 a.m. on
Monday, January 11, 2010.

Targeted closing date, March 31, 2010

~

OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE State Board
submitted the following
Information Packet to Iowa's Legislators:



(please review this information copies of which were mailed out to Iowa Legislators by our State Board and refer to it when YOU are talking with YOUR State Representatives and State Senators.)

Dear member of the 2010 Iowa General Assembly,

The bills and resolutions of the 2009 Older Iowans Legislature are enclosed in this packet for your review.

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature enacted twelve (12) bills and four (4) resolutions on September 29, 2009 at our annual legislative session in the House Chamber. The Older Iowans Legislature continues to strongly advocate for home and community based services and for programs to identify and minimize elder and dependent adult abuses. The bills and resolutions are first grouped according to issue and are then grouped according to appropriation request.

THE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE 2009 OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS ACCORDING TO ISSUES:

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported home and community based services to keep seniors in their own homes as long as possible.

- OIL BILL 09-04A – (Senior living home and community based service fund)
- OIL BILL 09-05A – (Parity reimbursement of home services)
- RESOLUTION 09-01 – (Resolution to support family caregivers)
- RESOLUTION 09-03 – (Resolution to support Project 2020)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported programs to investigate cases of elder and dependent adult abuse.

- OIL BILL 09-03 – (Expansion of the elder abuse initiative)
- OIL BILL 09-18B - (Defining elder abuse)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported programs to help residents of long term care facilities and their families.

- OIL BILL 09-30 - (Personal needs allowance COLA)
- OIL BILL 09-14B - (Counseling for spouse of nursing home resident)
- RESOLUTION 09-04 – (Resolution to support oversight of assisted living facilities)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported the standardization of long term care insurance policies.

- OIL BILL 09-01 –(Standardization of long term care insurance policies)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported programs to identify and treat mental illnesses in older adults.

- OIL BILL 09-02A - (Mental wellness among older Iowans)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported property tax relief for lower income seniors.

- OIL BILL 09-21A – (Property tax relief for lower income seniors)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature supported intergenerational issues.

- OIL BILL 09-07A - (Prohibiting text messaging while driving)
- OIL BILL 09-06A - (Expansion of entities governed by the Open Meetings Law)
- OIL BILL 09-29A - (Legalizing medicinal marijuana)
- RESOLUTION 09-02 – (Resolution to support mandatory credit training)

THE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE 2009 OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS ACCORDING TO APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature enacted six (6) bills and four (4) resolutions that do NOT ask for appropriations in 2010.

- OIL Bill 09-01 – (Standardization of long term care insurance policies)
- OIL Bill 09-18B – (Defining elder abuse)
- OIL Bill 14B – (Counseling for spouse of nursing home resident)
- OIL Bill 09-07A – (Prohibiting text messaging while driving)
- OIL Bill 09-06A – (Expansion of entities governed by the Open Meetings Law)
- OIL Bill 09-29A – (Legalizing medicinal marijuana)
- Resolution 09-01 – (Resolution to support family caregivers)
- Resolution 09-02 – (Resolution to support mandatory credit training)
- Resolution 09-03 – (Resolution to support Project 2020)
- Resolution 09-04 – (Resolution to support oversight of assisted living facilities)

The 2009 Older Iowans Legislature enacted six (6) bills calling for appropriations in 2010.

- OIL Bill 09-04A – (Senior living home and community based service fund)
- OIL Bill 09-05A – (Parity reimbursement of home services)
- OIL Bill 09-03 – (Expansion of elder abuse initiative)
- OIL Bill 09-02A – (Mental wellness among older Iowans)
- OIL Bill 09-30 – (Personal needs allowance COLA)
- OIL Bill 09-21A – (Property tax relief for lower income seniors)

The Older Iowans Legislature submits the enclosed bills and resolutions as suggestions for House Files and

Senate Files for the 2010 session of the Iowa General Assembly.

Respectfully,
Board of Directors, Older Iowans Legislature

- Judy Stalkfleet, Chair
- David Cavey, Vice-Chair
- Ron Jome, Secretary
- Francis Thom, Treasurer

~

Iowa State Capitol –
House Chambers



~~~~



## Budget to dominate Iowa Legislature in 2010,

lawmakers say *(reprinted from the*

*Quad City Times – Dec. 2, 2009)* A bipartisan quartet of Iowa legislators said Tuesday there won't be much appetite for raising taxes in the coming session. The legislators took part in an hour-long forum at the Figge Art Museum, presented by [IowaPolitics.com](http://IowaPolitics.com). The forum will be shown later on Mediacom cable. The state's budget will clearly be a top priority for the Legislature when it convenes in January, and much of the discussion at the Figge centered on it.

Just last week, the nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency said the state faces a \$1 billion budget gap for 2011. "We're in for, I think, a rough session," said state Sen. Joe Bolkcom, an Iowa City Democrat and an assistant Senate majority leader.

Republicans on the panel, which included state Sen. Shawn Hamerlinck, R-Dixon, and state Rep. Steve Lukan, an assistant minority leader from New Vienna, said Democrats had spent too much money the past two years and ignored warnings of a fiscal crunch. Lukan noted Republicans proposed cuts last year of more than \$300 million. "These are ideas that are going to be back again," Lukan said. Many of the cuts centered on seeking pay reductions and health insurance contributions from state employees.

Meanwhile, Democrats on the panel said they would work to protect education and health care while looking at consolidations. State Rep. Dave Jacoby, a Coralville Democrat, suggested merging the state's economic development, work force development and

cultural affairs agencies. Jacoby is an assistant House leader.

When the talk came to increasing taxes, there was a bipartisan consensus there won't be an increase. Some state union leaders have pushed this. Next year, lawmakers are up for re-election, and Culver already has said he doesn't support a tax increase.

Bolkcom warned, however, that there will be a day of reckoning, particularly with the state's backlogged infrastructure needs. Hamerlinck said the state needs to grow revenue by attracting businesses rather than rely on tax increases. The only local legislator on the panel, Hamerlinck also said he also wants to find a way next session to help small school districts that are seeing cuts as a result of Gov. Chet Culver's across-the-board reductions.

Democrats say districts can dip into reserves or cut their own budgets to make up the money. But Hamerlinck said some districts facing the governor's cuts have told him they face no alternative other than to raise property taxes.



~

**OIL's Senior SHINING STAR Agencies: OIL proudly acknowledges the following Iowa Senior-serving agencies as "PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS" and supporters of the OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE:**

- Aging Resources of Central Iowa
- Aging Services of Linn County
- Area XIV Agency on Aging
- Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging
- Heritage Area Agency on Aging
- Home Instead Senior Care of Iowa
- Seneca Area Agency on Aging
- Siouxland Area Agency on Aging
- Southwest 8 Senior Services
- University of Iowa Center on Aging

# News from the Agencies

**Heritage Area Agency on Aging:** (by Jill Gleason, reporting for Heritage AAA). Economic experts report that the state's economy bottomed out in September, and turn around will be a slow process. The grim reality quite possibly means more state budget cuts in FY 2011. Iowa's Joint Health and Human Services Budget Subcommittee started monthly meetings to prioritize their section of the budget and to explore paths to cut an additional 10% next fiscal year. In these challenging economic times, legislative advocacy is vital to maintaining the service funding older Iowans need. OIL offers critical support to the aging network by educating legislatures on the changing needs of seniors and the service system that is of such vital import. Heritage is exceedingly grateful for the



## Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging

The Health Care Reform legislation has captured the attention of nearly all Americans. Over the last few months, advocates at Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging have been watching and working to ensure that health care reform includes long-term care services and supports, as well as health promotion and disease prevention.

Unfortunately, *Project 2020*, a bill introduced in the house by Representative Bruce Braley, did not make it as an amendment to the House version of the health bill. However, the Senate must still combine their two versions of health care reform, and we are hopeful that an amendment including provisions included in *Project 2020* will make it into the Senate bill. We continue to monitor legislative activity and advocate for services and supports that will help Iowans remain independent and healthy.

Locally, we've also been busy, encouraging our state legislators to remember that "Dorothy had it right!" when it comes to where we want to live. There really is no place like home and we've been working to spread the word about the services and supports HVAAA offers to help people stay where they want to live: in their own homes. We will be heading to Des Moines for our "Day on the Hill" to advocate for older Iowans in February.

Janet Buls – Livable Communities/Advocacy Coordinator

**Home Instead Senior Care:** member Steve Habenicht sent the following news release about a new book just out: **STAGES OF SENIOR CARE: Your Step-by-Step Guide to Making the Best Decisions** – a Comprehensive Resource Book Provides The Tools Needed To Help Readers Make Informed Senior Care Decisions For Themselves And Their Aging Parents – NEW YORK, NY (July, 2009) – With more than 78 million Baby Boomers on

the verge of retirement, America is facing monumental social and economic challenges in the ways in which we care for our seniors. With healthcare concerns at the forefront, and with time and money management a major factor for American families in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, how adult children and seniors can best prepare and plan for their futures have evolved into a complex process that often involves misinformation and injects unwanted stress into our most important relationships.

To ease this tension and give much needed guidance to seniors and their adult children alike, Paul and Lori Hogan, founders of Home Instead Senior Care, the world's largest provider of non-medical in-home care for seniors, have taken their experiences as both family caregivers and senior care professionals and written ***Stages of Senior Care: Your Step-by-Step Guide to Making the Best Decisions*** (November 2009/McGraw-Hill/\$18.95).

**UI Center on Aging** – Administrator Lori Benz sent the following article of interest for seniors

### Iowa's Statewide Effort to Take Away Unused or Expired Medications

In November 2009, over 300 community pharmacies across Iowa launched the program **TakeAway** which is designed to safely dispose of unused medications. Medication disposal practices commonly used today compromise the integrity of water supplies and can increase the likelihood for misuse or abuse.

The *TakeAway* program aims to reverse these trends by providing the public with a safe, easy way to properly dispose of unwanted and expired medications. *TakeAway* uses community pharmacies across the state as take-back sites.

Iowans can bring unwanted and expired medicines to a participating *TakeAway* community pharmacy, which can be found by entering a zip code at this website: <http://www.iarx.org/TakeAway/>

The pharmacist disposes of the returned medications (excluding controlled substances) into a *TakeAway* waste bin specially designed to safely store discarded pharmaceutical products along with their packaging. Once filled, the *TakeAway* system is sealed and shipped to a medication disposal facility where the entire *TakeAway* system and its contents are incinerated. This ensures unused and expired medications do not enter water supplies. Some participating pharmacies also sell *TakeAway* envelopes, pre-addressed, pre-postage paid large envelopes that can be taken home, filled with unused and expired medicine, and mailed through the United States Postal Service to the disposal facility.

For more information please see <http://www.iarx.org/TakeAway/>

## Open Question to Iowa Legislators:

### What are you going to do to ensure that Iowa SENIORS who receive support from the Senior Living Trust to remain independent in their homes still receive the services they need in SFY 2011?

The Senior Living Trust will be bankrupt July 1, 2010. Channeled through the Iowa Department on Aging and implemented by the Iowa Area Agencies on Aging, in SFY '09 the Heritage Area Agency on Aging, along with its partner providers, utilized \$592,787 Senior Living Trust dollars to support 2,200 low and moderate-income seniors in East Central Iowa. Over 22,000 units of service were provided including: case management, adult day care, respite for family caregivers, elder abuse intervention, chore services, emergency response, transportation, and legal services. Without the support of the Senior Living Trust these seniors face expensive nursing home placement.

#### What is the Senior Living Trust?

In SFY 2000, the Iowa State Legislature established the Senior Living Trust to help transform Iowa's health care system to serve its rapidly growing older population. The goal of the Senior Living Trust is to create a comprehensive long-term care system that:

- Is consumer-directed.
- Provides a balance between the alternatives of home and community-based services and institutional care.
- Contributes to the quality of the lives of Iowans.
- Is an ongoing source of funds to support home and community-based services.

The Senior Living Trust not only helps reimburse home and community-based service providers, but it also offers jobs and local match to continue to bring critical federal dollars into Iowa to provide home and community based services.

Iowa's long-term care system is over-reliant on institutional-based care. Our institutional bias impacts older Iowans, people with disabilities, family caregivers, home and community-based service providers, AND our state resources. We must

adequately fund services that help seniors and people with disabilities who are at risk for institutional

placement to remain in their own homes longer, and live as independently as possible.

A Thomson Reuters report presented to the Iowa Elder Affairs Commission February 2, 2009 reported that approximately 9,700 individuals would not be in a nursing facility if Iowa's utilization was the same as the national average and approximately 5,800 individuals would not be in a nursing facility if Iowa's utilization was the average of the six neighboring states.<sup>1</sup>

79% of Iowa AARP members say that it is very important to them to be able to stay at home as long as possible if they, or a family member, need long-term care.<sup>2</sup>

The U.S. Supreme Court's Olmstead decision affirms that people with disabilities who need long-term supports have a right to receive them in the least restrictive setting consistent with their needs. Unnecessary institutionalization is unlawful!

Iowa spends 2/3 of its Medicaid resources on institutional care.<sup>3</sup> Iowa has more nursing home beds per 1,000 residents over the age of 65 than any other state in the U.S.<sup>4</sup>

The monthly cost for Iowans receiving supports under the Medicaid Elderly Waiver averages \$503, compared to \$2,687 in monthly Medicaid costs for nursing home care.<sup>5</sup>

On average, Medicaid dollars can support nearly three older people and adults with physical disabilities in home and community-based services (HCBS) for every person in a nursing home.<sup>6</sup>

#### Sources:

1. U.S. Census Bureau, Population division "Annual Estimates of the Resident population by Single-Year of Age and Sex for the United States and States: April 1, 2000 – April 1, 2007 for population age 65 or older; and U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Minimum Data Set 2.0 Active Resident Information Report: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007 Undated for nursing facility data
2. AARP Iowa Home and Community Based Care Long Term Care Survey 2002
3. Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
4. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Nursing Homes Data Compendium 2005
5. Iowa Department of Human Services, Title 19 Report of Expenditure by Category of Service: statistical report June 2007
6. A Balancing Act: State Long-Term Care Reform AARP Public Policy Institute July 2008

Submitted by Ingrid Wensel

## How can you contact your legislators?

**Attend a community Legislative Forum.** These are held in communities throughout Iowa during the Legislative session. Watch your newspaper for details.

**On the Internet, GO TO:**

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/FindLeg/> Fill in your address and zip code and PRESTO!

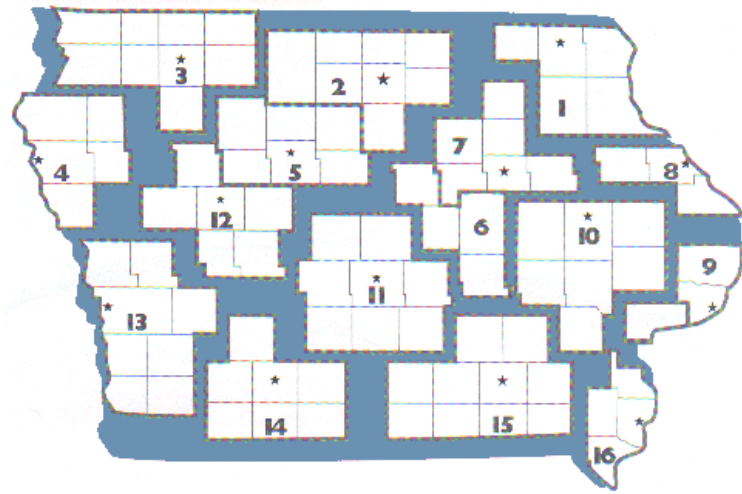
To find Legislators names, county & district of representation, home address, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, look them up electronically at



[www.legis.state.ia.us/asp/Legislators/LegislatorInfo.aspx](http://www.legis.state.ia.us/asp/Legislators/LegislatorInfo.aspx)

**Check with your local librarian at your local library** for help in getting the information. Librarians are there to help.

**Contact your local Area Agency on Aging** and ask for this information.



### **Area 1 • Northland Agency on Aging**

808 River Street  
Decorah, Iowa 52101  
563-382-2941 • 800-233-4603  
[www.northlandaging.com](http://www.northlandaging.com) • [northland@salamander.com](mailto:northland@salamander.com)

### **Area 2 • Elderbridge Agency on Aging**

22 N. Georgia, Suite 216  
Mason City, Iowa 50401-3435  
641-424-0678 • 800-243-0678  
[www.elderbridge.org](http://www.elderbridge.org) • [elderbridge@jumpgate.net](mailto:elderbridge@jumpgate.net)  
Fort Dodge: 515-955-5244 • 800-543-3280  
Carroll: 712-792-3512 • 800-543-3265

### **Area 3 • Northwest Aging Association**

714 10th Avenue East  
P.O. Box 213

Spencer, Iowa 51301  
712-262-1775 • 800-242-5033  
[www.nwaging.org](http://www.nwaging.org) • [naa@nwaging.org](mailto:naa@nwaging.org)

### **Area 4 • Siouxland Aging Services, Inc.**

915 Pierce Street  
Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
712-279-6900 • 800-798-6916  
[www.SiouxlandAging.org](http://www.SiouxlandAging.org) • [sas@pionet.net](mailto:sas@pionet.net)

### **Area 5 • Elderbridge Agency on Aging**

22 N. Georgia, Suite 216  
Mason City, Iowa 50401-3435  
641-424-0678 • 800-243-0678  
[www.elderbridge.org](http://www.elderbridge.org) • [elderbridge@jumpgate.net](mailto:elderbridge@jumpgate.net)  
Fort Dodge: 515-955-3244 • 800-543-3280  
Carroll: 712-792-3512 • 800-543-3265

### **Area 6 • Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging**

2101 Kimball Avenue, Suite 320  
Waterloo, Iowa 50702-5057  
319-272-2244 • 800-779-8707  
[www.hvaaa.org](http://www.hvaaa.org) • [hvaaa@hvaaa.org](mailto:hvaaa@hvaaa.org)

### **Area 7 • Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging**

2101 Kimball Avenue, Suite 320  
Waterloo, Iowa 50702-5057  
319-272-2244 • 800-779-8707  
[www.hvaaa.org](http://www.hvaaa.org) • [hvaaa@hvaaa.org](mailto:hvaaa@hvaaa.org)

### **Area 8 • Scenic Valley Area Agency on Aging**

3505 Stoneman Road, Suite 4  
Dubuque, Iowa 52002-5218  
563-588-3970  
[www.scenicvalley.org](http://www.scenicvalley.org) • [scenicaaa@aol.com](mailto:scenicaaa@aol.com)

### **Area 9 • Great River Bend Area Agency on Aging**

736 Federal Street, PO Box 3788  
Davenport, Iowa 52808-3788  
563-324-9085  
[www.genage.org](http://www.genage.org) • [mwebb@genage.org](mailto:mwebb@genage.org)

### **Area 10 • Heritage Area Agency on Aging**

6301 Kirkwood Blvd. S. W., PO Box 2068  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406  
319-398-5559 • 800-332-5934  
[www.heritageaaa.org](http://www.heritageaaa.org) • [eselk@kirkwood.cc.ia.us](mailto:eselk@kirkwood.cc.ia.us)

### **Area 11 • Aging Resources of Central Iowa**

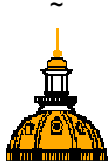
5835 Grand Avenue, Suite 106  
Des Moines, Iowa 50312-1437  
515-255-1310 • 800-747-5352  
[www.agingresources.com](http://www.agingresources.com) • [info@agingresources.com](mailto:info@agingresources.com)

### **Area 12 • Elderbridge Agency on Aging**

22 N. Georgia, Suite 216  
Mason City, Iowa 50401-3435  
641-424-0678 • 800-243-0678  
[www.elderbridge.org](http://www.elderbridge.org) • [elderbridge@jumpgate.net](mailto:elderbridge@jumpgate.net)

**Area 13 • Southwest 8 Senior Services, Inc.**  
3319 Nebraska Avenue  
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501  
712-328-2540 • 800-432-9209  
[www.southwest8.org](http://www.southwest8.org) • [sweight@radiks.net](mailto:sweight@radiks.net)

**Area 14 • Area XIV Agency on Aging**  
210 Russell Street  
Creston, IA 50801  
641-782-4040 • 800-262-0378  
[www.areaxivaaa.org](http://www.areaxivaaa.org) • [areaxiv@mddc.com](mailto:areaxiv@mddc.com)



## Long-Term and Direct-Care in Health Care Bill



As the Health Care debate continues, there are many issues to tackle. While many of these issues do not always take center stage with the media, they are none the less pivotal for Iowans. One issue that I have been working on that carries a great deal of importance to me, and I am sure to many of you, is access to care. In Iowa, we must continue to offer high-quality care and retain high-quality workers. That includes investments in long-term and direct care workers and services. Increased demand for services, as well as the aging of baby boomers, makes it clear that we need a strong, highly trained, quality workforce to promote health and manage chronic disease, among other things.

I have included an amendment in the health care bill that will help Iowa ensure that we have the top-notch care-givers we need and will create long term cost saving through transparency and family assistance. My amendment will make investments in long-term and direct care-givers through workforce development, provide assistance to the families who care for their loved ones at home, and increase transparency so that people can make affordable and educated decisions about the kind of care they choose.

As we move forward on health care, I am committed to making sure that the ultimate bill puts Iowans first, and I look forward to continuing to fight on behalf of the Second District.

Iowa Second District Congressman **Dave Loeb sack**

## Medicare & Medicaid: What is the Difference?

.....Congress created both Medicare and Medicaid in 1965. The programs have different eligibility requirements and different benefits. Many people confuse Medicare with Medicaid because the names sound alike and the programs are available to some of the same groups of people.

**Eligibility:** Both Medicare and Medicaid are directed to those age 65 or older and many younger people with disabilities. Medicare is available regardless of income and resources. Medicaid eligibility is available only to individuals who meet certain income and resource limits. Medicaid has many different programs. Each has its own income and resource limits.

Medicaid is an assistance program that pays certain medical and health care cost of persons who qualify. Medicaid has many different programs. Benefits vary depending on the program. Some Medicaid programs pay for services not covered by Medicare such as prescription drugs, dental care, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and long-term care.

Iowa's Medicaid program is funded by the federal and state government and is managed by the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS). To determine if you qualify for Medicaid, contact your local county office of human services.

Medicare consists of two parts, Part A and Part B. Medicare Part A is hospital insurance and is free to most who are eligible for Medicare. Medicare Part B is medical insurance. Medicare covers medically necessary services for illnesses and injuries. Medicare rules determine how much can be charged for covered services. Most Medicare beneficiaries have supplemental insurance to cover some of these costs.

Whether you are new to Medicare or have had Medicare for a long time, you may have questions about what is covered. Much information is available on the Internet at <http://www.medicare.gov>. You can also get a free copy of the Medicare Handbook by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213

*Information above from the Iowa Department on Aging web site [www.aging.iowa.gov](http://www.aging.iowa.gov)*

# Johnson County AARP sponsors OIL Program



Johnson County AARP has invited OIL State Chair Judy Stalkfleet and her team as featured speaker(s) representing the State OIL Board at a program on the Older Iowans Legislature to be held on February 1<sup>st</sup> in Coralville. Program focus will be on "What is the Older Iowans Legislature?" "What are their Legislative Priorities?" "How are these selected?" It also will be televised for later re-broadcasts. Tapes of the program could be available for purchase at a small fee. This event will be held at 2 PM Monday February 1<sup>st</sup> at the Coralville Public Library – 1401 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Coralville. Free Parking. The public is invited. For further information, call the chapter chairperson at 319.337-8922..

~

## OIL MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010

The new year 2010 has arrived, probably colder than what we would like. The General Assembly is under way and will be debating many of the same issues our Older Iowans Legislature discussed back in September of 2009. Secretary Ron Jome has mailed to all legislative members and state staff the priority items that need to be passed in order to serve the frail elderly of Iowa.

As you know, OIL is a non profit corporation and 2010 dues and donations are payable at this time. Paying your dues will insure that you are aware of the issues being debated in the State Legislature and that you can receive all communications from OIL and contact your representative(s) and encourage him or her to support the issues that concern seniors.

We now have 32 people who are 2010 members. In order to receive your 2010 membership card (\$25 per individual and \$250 per professional organization) please send your checks payable to OIL to:

Francis Thom  
205 S 10th St  
Centerville, IA 52544  
641-856-2505  
[billyt9@mchsi.com](mailto:billyt9@mchsi.com)

We do accept donations to help with expenses and I'm looking forward to hearing from everyone when you renew for 2010. Have a Happy New Year and keep in touch with your legislator(s).

Francis Thom  
OIL Treasurer

## YOU Can Make A Difference!

We encourage you to help us make a difference in the lives of older Iowans and their families by becoming a member of the **Older Iowans Legislature**. According to OIL BY-LAWS ...



- Supporting Professional memberships - \$250 donation -
- Individual membership - \$25 - (Individual membership is open to any adult, however voting privileges are restricted to those aged 60 and above. Those under 60 are considered Associate members.)
- Professional agencies and organizations providing services to seniors or interested in the well being of Iowa's Seniors are encouraged to become PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS of the Older Iowans Legislature. A Sustaining Contributor is a corporation or institution contributing \$1,000 or more. A Silver Contributor is an individual or organization making an annual contribution or grant of \$2,500 for special events.

## Older Iowans Legislature

Membership Application or Renewal of Membership  
(please print) \*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State & Zip  
code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual: \$25 – Professional Agency - \$250  
Sustaining Contributor – corporation - \$1,000  
Silver Contributor –contribution/grant - \$2,500

Send membership contribution to:

**Older Iowans Legislature**  
**c/o Francis Thom, Treasurer**  
**205 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St.**  
**Centerville, IA 52544**

(tax deductible)