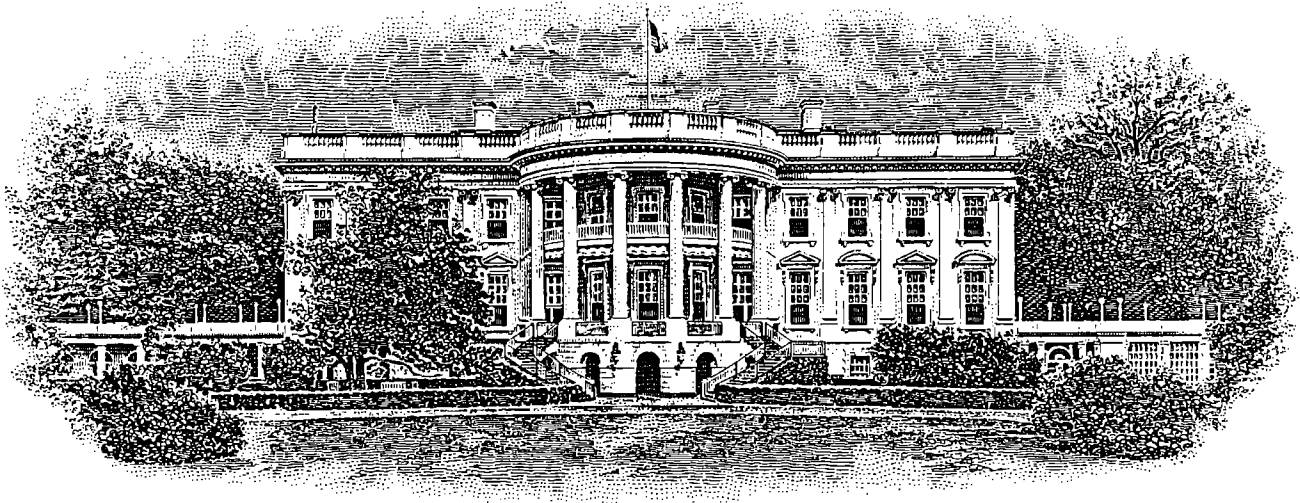


WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

1995



CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

Summary
Final Agenda
Notice Published in the Federal Register on 2/2/95

The Policy Committee of the White House Conference on Aging has developed the final agenda for the May 1995 Conference. To formulate this final agenda, the Policy Committee used public comments received on the proposed agenda published October 12, 1994, in the Federal Register and recommendations emanating from several hundred pre-conference events held around the country.

The notice to be published in the Federal Register contains four sections:

Part I is an overview of the 915 comments received on the four proposed themes and 19 issues in the proposed agenda. The issue on which the most comments were received was health, followed by income security and housing/social and community services.

Part II specifies the theme for the Conference: "America Now and into the 21st Century: Generations Aging Together with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity."

Part III specifies the issues and subissues for which resolutions are to be developed as well as the structure of the Conference program. The four issues are:

- o Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long-term Care
- o Promoting Economic Security
- o Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options
- o Maximizing Options for a Quality Life

There are from four to seven subissues under each issue. Permeating the discussion of these issues and subissues will be the cross-cutting concerns of interdependence of generations/families, lifespan planning and special populations.

The Conference will begin Tuesday, May 2 with a speak out for delegates and on Wednesday morning the Conference will formally open. On Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning and afternoon, each delegate will have the opportunity to participate in developing resolutions for three of the four issues/subissues. Friday will conclude the Conference with delegates voting on resolutions to result from the Conference.

Part IV describes the process to be used to develop and pass resolutions at the Conference. There are two avenues by which resolutions will be acted on by the full White House Conference on Aging. The first is through issue resolution development sessions covering the four major issues of the Conference. Delegates at these sessions will work with a series of proposed resolutions drawn from a variety of sources, including pre-conference recommendations. The other avenue is that any delegate who can enlist support from 10% of the total delegates can introduce a resolution to the full Conference during the closing session. The Policy Committee placed a limit of 40 on the number of resolutions emanating from the issue resolution development sessions without any limit on resolutions from individual delegates.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

10-Apr-1995 01:55pm

TO: (See Below)
FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
Domestic Policy Council
SUBJECT: Aging Meeting

~~AA~~
~~AA~~
(LORI)
~~BARBARA~~
~~COLE~~
~~BARBARA~~
~~BARBARA~~

Final confirmation!

Meeting is at 1:00 Tuesday room 211

I have assembled the following agenda items. Please e mail me with additions. My only suggestion is that we steer away from the big picture questions we can't answer at our pay grade and focus on what we can address - such as the items listed below!

ASU

1. Program for Opening Plenary
- who besides POTUS is/should be invited to speak
Scheduling has suggested we set POTUS time @ 10 am for now.

JULIA
PEGGY + ELAIN

2. Media Strategy
- what media opportunities have been planned
- what requests have been made
- what opportunities exist to plug delegates for regional media
- general brainstorming focussing in particular on speciality/aging press

MICHELLE

3. Satellite sites
- status report on planning, funding, etc.
- how should we reach out to mayors, govs
- what level admin representation should we aim for?

JULIA

4. Pre-Conference rollout
- First Lady event
- Report on other events planned?
- Should we look to a Cabinet pre-rollout?

MARCO
STEVE

5. Discussion re groups/BRIEFING groups
- what sort of outreach to and coordination with the groups pre-conference should we be doing?

I've set the meeting for an hour and a half because I think these are all topics that require some detailed discussion. I hope most of you can come for the whole time and will understand if I try to

6. NEXT STEPS ON POLICY

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

VOL. I NO. 5
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1995



NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Productive Aging

CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR:
MAY 2-5, 1995
WASHINGTON, D.C. HILTON HOTEL

PROPOSED AGENDA NOTICE GENERATES GRASSROOTS RESPONSE

Following the WHCoA Policy Committee's approval of a proposed agenda for the Conference on

ISSUES RECEIVING MOST PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Health/Long-Term Care
2. Income Security and Other Benefits
3. Housing/Social and Community Services
4. Crime and Personal Safety
5. Interdependence of Generations
6. Quality of Life/Meaning in Later Years
7. Special Constituencies
8. Productive Older People
9. Employment
10. Older Americans Act
11. Transportation
12. Rights/Responsibilities/Advocacy Arts and Humanities
13. Image of Older People
14. Research/Education/Training
15. Cultural Diversity
16. Family and Family Life
17. Role of the Private Sector
18. Technology

October 5, 1994, the WHCoA received a total of 915 responses to the notice announcing the proposed themes and issues, which appeared in the *Federal Register* on October 12.

The comments, which arrived by mail, fax, and the internet, represented approximately 275 organizations, including such groups as the Alzheimer's Association, the American Dental Association, the American Foundation for the Blind, the Foster Grandparent Program, the National Senior Citizens Law Center, the American Institute of Wine and Food, and the American Library Association.

The *Federal Register* notice contained four proposed themes, and the public was invited either to choose one from the list of four or to recommend a new theme altogether. A total of 463 comments concerning the proposed themes arrived at WHCoA headquarters. *America Now and into the 21st Century: Growing Older with Independence, Opportunity, and Dignity* received the most support, with *Aging into the 21st Century: Generations Working*



Official White House Photo.

President Clinton greets a senior White House volunteer.

Together for a Better Community a second choice. A significant number of responses concerning the theme suggested either hybrids of the four themes or possible new themes.

The issues generating most of the comments were **Health, Income Security and Other Benefits, Housing/Social and Community Services, Crime/Personal Safety,**

continued on page 2

Focus Groups Spotlight Seniors' Concerns

"Don't mess with Social Security! How long will I be able to remain independent? Change the way the media portrays the elderly!"

These are just some of the messages that have been sent to the Administration through the White House Conference on Aging's ongoing focus group project. The project, conducted by the University of New Mexico Center on Aging in cooperation with the Gerontological Society of America, began its work last February on the same day that President Clinton officially called for the White House Conference on Aging.



Helen Kerschner, of the University of New Mexico, leads focus group in Little Rock, AR.

The focus group project, funded by the Retirement Research Foundation and the Corporation for National Service, involves the collection of candid, qualitative data from seniors at the grass-roots level. The most recent findings came from a group of 192 seniors in 11 different locations across the country who were asked to respond to questions about a) what it means to get older, b) the special concerns of older persons, c) treatment by the media, d) the keys to healthy living, and e) generational relationships.

Courtesy of University of NM Center on Aging

Fears and concerns included health, finances, security, dependency and a sense of worthlessness. The media was often identified as promoting a false, negative image of older people although participants indicated that their local media was more balanced in its portrayals. Other focus group participants pointed to young people as also advancing a false notion of the elderly being helpless and burdens to society. The keys to healthy aging were identified as involvement in daily and regular activities, volunteering, and a good mental outlook.

Participants of the focus groups made it clear that although they are experiencing many challenges, they still possess tremendous wisdom, energy and experience and wish to be treated as such. As one senior remarked, "The elderly are smarter than you think." Another senior at the first focus group in Florida commented that the WHCoA was first to ask him his opinions on aging in the 14 years since he retired."

Focus groups play a vital role in the White House Conference on Aging as it strives to identify and make public both the problems and contributions of older individuals. The WHCoA is hearing the concerns and views of seniors all across the Nation through this project, and through the approximately 600 pre-conference events taking place throughout the country.

Recommendations from the White House Conference on Aging will be the basis for national aging policy for the 21st century.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
ON AGING
501 SCHOOL STREET, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20024

FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
DHHS/NIH
Permit No. G-763

TO:

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

VOL. 1 NO. 6
MARCH/APRIL 1995



NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Productive Aging

CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR:
MAY 2-5, 1995
WASHINGTON, D.C. HILTON HOTEL

POLICY COMMITTEE APPROVES FINAL AGENDA Also Increases Number of Delegates and Approves Observers

Meeting for its third time on January 25, 1995, the WHCoA Policy Committee unanimously approved the final agenda and resolution process for the 1995 White House Conference on Aging. The Policy Committee also increased the total number of delegates by 259 to a total of 2259 and approved 250 observers.

BOTH FINAL AGENDA AND RESOLUTION PROCESS APPROVED

In deciding on issues for the final Conference agenda, the WHCoA Policy Committee, chaired by Sen. David Pryor (D-Arkansas), considered both public comments and reports and recommendations from hundreds of officially recognized WHCoA events throughout the country. Four broad issues comprise the final agenda. They are: (1) **Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long-Term Care**, (2) **Promoting Economic Security**, (3) **Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options**, and (4) **Maximizing Options for a Quality Life**. There are from four to seven subissues under each main issue (see chart, page 2).

Pryor called the agenda "responsive and responsible, ensuring that this White House Conference on Aging will be different than any of its three predecessors." Also commenting on the final agenda, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna E. Shalala noted, "This is the first time in WHCoA history that the public has had a direct impact on the agenda. Senior citizens, volunteers, professionals and advocates all contributed."



Official White House Photo

President Clinton and the First Lady with Medal of Freedom recipient Herb Block, age 85, who, as a nationally syndicated cartoonist, is an excellent example of productive aging in America.

Considering suggestions from citizens and experts, the Policy Committee decided that the 1995 White House Conference on Aging will focus on producing a small number of action-oriented resolutions.

All resolutions must be voted on by the delegates in the final plenary. There are two ways by which resolutions may reach that session for consideration. The first is through issue resolution development sessions covering the four major agenda issues. Delegates at these sessions will work with a series of proposed resolutions drawn from a variety of sources but giving great emphasis to pre-conference event recommendations.

The second method by which resolutions may be considered is

independent of the issue resolution development sessions. Any delegate who can enlist the support of 10% of the total delegates may also introduce his/her resolution to the full Conference during the closing session. The Policy Committee has placed a limit of 40 resolutions on the total coming from the issue development sessions, with no limit on those from individuals.

NUMBER OF DELEGATES INCREASED

The November election produced 18 new Governors and brought about major changes in the composition of Congress. At its January 25 meeting the WHCoA Policy Committee responded to these changes by adding 259 new delegates. Senator Pryor noted, "We offer this proposal in the spirit of bipartisanship to ensure that all new Members of Congress and

each new Governor will have the opportunity to name delegates to the Conference."

Each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will have three additional delegates. Each territory will have one additional delegate. Each new Member of Congress will have one delegate.

With the change, the number of state and territorial delegates could increase to a total of 1062, up from 901. The number of delegates named by Members of Congress could increase to a total of 638, up from 540. Other delegates to the Conference will be named by constituent organizations (including national aging organizations and veterans groups), the White House, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the WHCoA.

250 OBSERVERS APPROVED

The Policy Committee also created 250 observer slots. Observers will be invited to attend the Conference but will be unable to vote on Conference resolutions. In addition, observers must pay all their own expenses, including a nominal registration fee. Observers will be named in March.

Mark Your Calendars!

Conference Date
May 2-5, 1995

Conference Location
Washington, D.C.
Hilton Hotel



Photo by Greg Versen

Senator Bill Cohen (R-ME), WHCoA Executive Director Bob Blancato, and Senator David Pryor (D-AR) attend the January 25, 1995, meeting of the WHCoA Policy Committee.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
ON AGING
501 SCHOOL STREET, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20024

FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
DHHS/NIH
Permit No. G-763

TO:

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING



NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Productive Aging

VOL. 1 NO. 4

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1994

WHCoA PROPOSED AGENDA AWAITS PUBLIC COMMENT

For the first time in the history of White House Conferences on Aging, the public is being invited to help set the agenda for the Conference scheduled for **May 2-5, 1995**.

Following a unanimous vote of approval by the WHCoA Policy Committee, a proposed agenda was printed in the *Federal Register* on October 12, 1994, with the public invited to comment through December 1, 1994. Chairman of the White House Conference on Aging Policy Committee, Senator David Pryor "views this process as being critical to our efforts to ensure maximum citizen and organizational involvement in the planning and conducting of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging."

Of particular interest to the Committee are comments on the four proposed themes for the conference as well as suggestions for linking the individual issues of the proposed agenda together at the conference. The proposed agenda lists a series of nineteen major issue areas with subissues for review and public comment. They range from arts and humanities to transportation, as well



First Lady Hillary Clinton discusses the importance of exercise with a fit senior.

to impact national aging policy over the next ten years.

Major Issues

- Arts and Humanities
- Crime/Personal Safety
- Cultural Diversity
- Employment
- Families and Family Life
- Health
- Housing/Social/Community Services
- Image of Older People
- Income Security and Other Benefits
- Interdependence of Generations
- Older Americans Act and Its Role
- Productive Older People
- Quality of Life/Meaning in Later Years
- Research and Education/Training
- Rights/Responsibilities/Advocacy
- Role of the Private Sector
- Special Constituencies
- Technology

as health and fitness, cultural diversity and the image of older people.

The proposed agenda notes that during the Conference, delegates will begin the process of establishing priorities for action among the recommendations they produce. This will serve as the foundation for future

action toward implementation of these recommendations. WHCoA Executive Director Robert Blancato said that the public was urged to especially provide comment on how best the Conference can link different issues together to ensure a more comprehensive and coordinated series of recommendations

WHCoA RECEIVES OVER 150 REPORTS FROM PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

Participants Make Many Important Recommendations

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging's (WHCoA) four part program of local, state, regional, and mini-White House Conferences on Aging is well underway. The program requires each mini-conference to submit its report within 30 days of the event, and each local event to submit its report within 45 days of the event. The reports contain summaries of issues discussed and recommendations proposed. As the May 1995 WHCoA approaches, the number of reports received by the WHCoA has steadily increased. Reports have arrived from all areas of the nation, stretching from Maine to Hawaii.

As of this date, over 150 reports have been received by the WHCoA. Twenty-six states have been represented, and the reports indicate that of the over 12,000 total number of participants, close to 8,000 are age 55 or older.

Common Issues

The conferences have highlighted a wide range of policy issues. The most common among these are health care, the maintenance of independence for seniors, the importance of the



Centenarians honored at the Colorado Governor's Conference on Aging. **Back Row, Left to Right:** Rita Barreras, Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services; Mr. Robert B. Blancato, Executive Director, WHCoA; CO Governor Roy Romer. **Front Row, Left to Right:** Ms. Bunnie Elliott, Bessie Short's daughter, Ms. Bessie Short, 108 years old; Mr. Paul Flores, 105 years old.

interdependence of generations, and the significance of the contributions the elderly make to the community.

Other events have focused specifically on certain segments

of the elder population. Included among these are immigrants, Hispanics, women and Native Americans. These conferences have also generated important policy recommendations for the May 1995 WHCoA,

such as the need to stress cultural sensitivity in addressing the needs of minority elderly groups and the necessity of eliminating language and literacy barriers.

Variety of Formats

While the reports offer recommendations on a variety of issues, the formats of the events themselves have also been diverse. Roundtable discussions, public hearings, focus groups, and town meetings have all been implemented as structures for pre-WHCoA events. Because the recommendations already made to the WHCoA have been produced from many different types of events, it is obvious that the topics which are identified are important on a number of levels.

The local level WHCoA-recognized conferences serve as vehicles for identifying common interests and concerns at the grassroots level. This grassroots involvement is important to the WHCoA, as it is imperative that the voices of those who will be affected by the policy recommendations made at the 1995 WHCoA are heard.

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING



NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1 NO. 1

MAY/JUNE 1994

Celebrating Productive Aging

CLINTON TO CONVENE LAST WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING OF 20th CENTURY

President Bill Clinton, on February 17, 1994, formally called for a White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) to be convened in May of 1995 -- the first such conference since 1981.

In a press release from the White House detailing the convocation, the President noted, "An older America must soon face a new century. A 1995 White House Conference on Aging allows us to plan for this challenge by working together to build policy recommendations for the 21st century. We owe this to future generations."

As the President was announcing his decision

regarding the '95 WHCoA in Washington, the Conference was conducting its first local forum in Tampa, Florida aimed at obtaining grass roots input on what should be included in the agenda for the Conference.

On March 21, 1994, Secretary Donna Shalala of the Department of Health and Human Services briefed the Domestic Policy Council on the progress of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging. Cabinet officers, agency heads and senior White House staff in attendance expressed interest and support for the Conference.



President Clinton speaks with senior citizen.

Four-Part Strategy Outlined

Pre-Conference Planning and Programs Underway

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging has embarked upon a four-part strategy of programs and activities to be conducted in advance of convening the formal Conference.

The four parts of the strategy involve local, state, regional and topic-specific mini conferences.

This strategy has two purposes: first, to encourage the widest possible participation by individuals and organizations; second, to identify common interests and concerns.

Letters of invitation have been sent to thousands of potential sponsors of local conferences. Concurrently,

to broaden public awareness, an announcement was also published in the March 14, 1994 edition of the Federal Register.

Both the Federal Register announcement and the letter included guidelines for local programs and activities that could be recognized as official 1995 WHCoA events.

States will soon be notified that the WHCoA will provide limited seed money for the convening of State White House Conferences on Aging.

In addition, formal notices will also be sent to regional offices of the Department of Health and Human Services to inform them of limited funds being available for Regional Conferences on Aging.

In the near future, the WHCoA will announce criteria for mini conferences on aging. These mini conferences differ from the

others in that they are to focus on a specific federal aging policy issue or on a special constituency of older Americans.

These four activities will be conducted through the early part of May 1995. They will be followed by the national conference and the writing of a report to the President and Congress containing policy recommendations.

Further, the 1995 WHCoA also intends to develop a post-WHCoA program to help implement priority recommendations produced at the Conference aimed at developing aging policy over the next decade.

President Names Blancato to Head 1995 WHCOA

President Clinton has appointed Robert B. Blancato as executive director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging.

"Bob Blancato is a leading expert in aging policy who has been recognized for his work on numerous occasions," said the President. "I look forward to his work at the White House Conference on Aging."

From 1977 to 1988, Blancato was the staff director of the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Aging's Subcommittee on Human Services. He remained a senior advisor to that subcommittee until its expiration in May 1993. Most recently,

Blancato served as director of Institutes and Public Policy for the National Italian American Foundation. He was also the president of the National Meals on Wheels Foundation.

Blancato has also served as an adjunct faculty member at the New School for Social Research's Gerontological Services Administration and the Post Master Certificate Program in Aging at Hunter College in New York City.

In 1982, he served as a member of the U.S. Delegation to the World Assembly on Aging held in Vienna and as an alternate to the 1981 White House Conference on Aging.

Blancato, 43, holds a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and an M.P.A. from American University and lives with his wife and daughter in Arlington, VA.



INSIDE:

- o *Legacy of Conferences Past* 2
- o *Seniors Speak Out* 3
- o *Focus Groups Sample Opinion*
- o *Calendar* 4

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

VOL. 1 NO. 2

NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST 1994

Celebrating Productive Aging

President: "How will we build upon the sacrifice of D-Day's heroes?"

Tribute to Pathfinders of a Generation Past Becomes A Challenge To Light Paths For Future Generations

"Let us never forget, when they were young, these men saved the world."

In these words, President Clinton characterized the achievements of American troops who fought so valiantly in World War II. His remarks came during D-Day ceremonies at the U.S. military cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, France, June 6th, the fiftieth anniversary of the original invasion.

The President not only credited the fallen heroes of Omaha and Utah Beaches with saving the world, but also noted that those who survived are now the bulwark of the nation's seniors, still contributing to our national pride. Excerpts follow:

"... We come to this hallowed place that speaks, more than anything else, in silence. Here on this quiet plateau, on this small piece of American soil, we honor those who gave their lives for us 50 crowded years



Official White House Photo

ago. Today, the beaches of Normandy are calm. If you walk these shores on a summer's day, all you might hear is the laughter of children playing on the sand, or the cry of sea gulls overhead, or perhaps the ringing of a distant church

bell—the simple sounds of freedom barely breaking the silence. Peaceful sounds. Ordinary sounds.

"But June 6, 1944, was the least ordinary day of the 20th century. On that chill dawn, these beaches echoed with the sounds of staccato gunfire, the

roar of aircraft, the thunder of bombardment. And through the wind and the waves came the soldiers, out of their landing craft and into the war, away from their youth and toward a savage place many of them would, sadly, never leave.

"They had come to free a continent—the Americans, the British, the Canadians, the Poles, the French Resistance, the Norwegians and others. They had all come to stop one of the greatest forces of evil the world has ever known. ...

"Millions of our GIs did return home from that war to build up our nation and enjoy life's sweet pleasures, but on this field there are 9,386 who did not — 33 pairs of brothers; a father and his son; [and] 11 men from tiny Bedford, Virginia killed near these bluffs by a German shell on D-Day. They (continued on page 3.)

WHCoA '95 ACTIVITIES UNDER WAY ACROSS U. S.

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA), officially called by President Clinton on February 17, 1994, is well under way.

Through the WHCoA's four-part program of local, state, regional and mini-White House Conferences on Aging, Americans everywhere, of all ages and from all walks of life, are playing a role in shaping a national aging policy that will take our nation into the 21st century.

Grass roots participation, extremely important in planning the 1995 WHCoA, is evident throughout the country. The response to this appeal is broad.

Local Event Statistics

More than 150 local events in 38 states and territories have been recognized by the WHCoA. As of June 10, a total of 52 local White House Conference events, representing 25 states, the District of Columbia and Guam, have been conducted. California has held the most events, followed by New York and Alabama.

These events have focused on many different issues, but topics receiving greatest emphasis have included: health care reform, especially as it relates to long term

care; elder abuse prevention; community-based services, including those promulgated through the Older Americans Act; and intergenerational programs.

Mandated local event reports are beginning to arrive and some will be reported in the next issue of the WHCoA Newsletter.

President's Personal Appeal To the States

Through a personal letter in April, President Clinton encouraged every governor to participate in 1995 WHCoA activities. The states are responding quite positively.

The states of New York and Georgia kicked off their official WHCoA activities in May. By mid-June, every state had received an application for the funding of state events. Each state will hold a conference or host another kind of event, or both, to produce policy recommendations for the WHCoA.

Regional Activities Begin

The first Regional White House Conference on Aging was convened May 15 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, under the auspices of the National Hispanic Council on Aging's multi-state training conference.

All 10 Federal regions are expected to hold one or more regional White House Conferences on Aging over the next year. More information on these will be included in the next newsletter.

Mini-conferences Being Planned

In addition to the local, state and regional events, the 1995 WHCoA will conduct a series of national mini-conferences specific to certain topics or constituencies. There are two categories of mini-conferences: the first receives WHCoA recognition; the second will receive both recognition and funding. The deadline for organizations seeking funding for mini-conferences was June 27.

Several mini-conferences approved under the first category have been held on such topics as transportation, age related vision loss, wellness and cultural diversity, and technology and aging. These well attended events have generated policy recommendations that will soon be submitted to the WHCoA for consideration as part of the 1995 WHCoA agenda.

Funding Available

Funds have been allotted

for mini-conferences and state and regional conferences in these amounts:

State Conferences	\$600,000
Regional Conferences	\$200,000
Mini-Conferences	\$150,000

Private Organizations Participate, Too

Many national organizations have demonstrated enthusiasm and support for WHCoA through their participation in local, state, regional and national events.

In addition, declarations of public support, through formal resolutions, have been made by the American Medical Directors Association, the National Council on Senior Housing, the National Association of Home Builders and the Gray Panthers.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to become (continued on page 2.)

INSIDE:

- o Sec'y Shalala Outlines Administration's Efforts for Older Americans 2
- o On-line With SeniorNet 3
- o Federal Liaisons Meet 4

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING



NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1 NO. 3 - SECTION ONE

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1994

Celebrating Productive Aging

WHCOA POLICY COMMITTEE CONVENES FIRST MEETING

1995 NATIONAL WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING DATE SET FOR MAY 1-5 IN D.C.

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) will be held May 1-5, 1995, in Washington, D.C. The main location will be the Washington Hilton Hotel. The date and location of the Conference, as well as an initial delegate selection process, were decided at the first meeting of the Policy Committee of the White House Conference on Aging, chaired by Senator David Pryor (D-AR), July 27, 1994.

WHCoA First

This policy meeting is the latest milestone in progress toward the 1995 White House Conference on Aging since it was formally called for by President Clinton on February 17, 1994. Earlier,

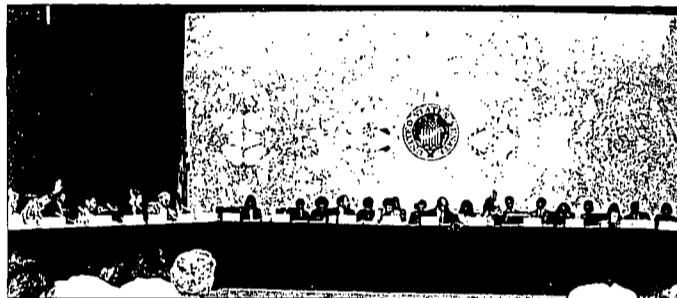
the complete membership of the Policy Committee was formally announced on July 25, 1994. HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala convened the first meeting of the White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) Policy Committee two days later in the Hart

Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. On August 10, an agenda development subcommittee was formed to develop the proposed agenda and theme for the Conference. They will hold their first meeting on August 30, 1994.

Policy Committee's Mandate

This is the first such committee to have this role within the WHCoA. The Policy Committee was created by the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1992, which authorized the White House Conference on Aging. The terms of the act dictate that the 25 members be chosen jointly by the President and the Congress to plan the specifics of the Conference.

In future meetings, the members of the Policy Committee will be considering the theme and agenda for the 1995 WHCoA. (Continued on page 2. See story below for Policy Committee's decisions.)



POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHOWN HERE VOTING DURING THE FIRST MEETING

Delegate Selection Formula Determined

The first issues to be determined by the 25-member Policy Committee were the delegate selection criteria and the need for an agenda development subcommittee.

Delegate Selection

The number of Conference delegates will range from a minimum of 1,666 to a maximum 2,000, depending on the final FY 1995 appropriation for the Conference. Virtually 100 percent of the WHCoA FY 1995 appropriation will go to support delegates. The President requested \$3 million for the WHCoA.

No matter what the total delegate size for WHCoA 95, 45 percent of all delegates will be chosen by the Governors (between 750-900 individuals). The second largest group of delegates will be chosen by Members of Congress, with each House and Senate member selecting one for a total of 540. The next largest group

will be chosen by national aging organizations, veterans organizations, youth organizations, international delegates and others. (The precise number for these categories is not yet known; this too will depend on the size of the WHCoA appropriation approved by the Congress.)

Each state will have a minimum of six delegates and those states with highest percentages of persons 55 years of age and over will be allocated more delegates. A precise state by state delegate breakdown will be in the next newsletter. Furthermore, state delegations must consist of 50 percent persons 55 and over, and have 50 percent women; in addition, percentages of minorities, and persons from rural and urban settings should be equal to their percentage of the population of their state. The Policy Committee also agreed that delegates chosen by Governors and

Members of Congress must be selected by December 31.

Agenda Development

On August 10, Senator Pryor sent formal invitations to those committee members who would form the agenda subcommittee charged with developing the proposed agenda and theme for the Conference; the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1992 require the publication of the proposed agenda in the Federal Register by October 31, 1994.

"The 1995 White House Conference on Aging will make recommendations for a national aging policy to take our country into the next century," said Senator Pryor. "Generations of today and of tomorrow will benefit from the Conference, the fourth and last White House Conference on Aging to be held in this century.

"As an older America faces a new century, the Policy Committee invites citizens from all walks of life,

and of all ages, to become involved in setting the agenda for the Conference and shaping a national aging policy," Pryor said. "Americans everywhere can participate through local, regional and statewide events recognized by the White House Conference on Aging and through mini-conferences. Recommendations from all these events are being studied and used by the Policy Committee in planning the agenda for the 1995 Conference."

NOTICE:

The September/October Issue of the WHCoA Newsletter will be published in four separate sections. This is Section One. The remaining sections will be mailed to you over the next few weeks.

Section 1:

- o WHCoA's Policy Committee
- o Delegate Selection Process
- o WHCoA Comes Alive With Upcoming Events
- o Grassroots Views on WHCoA's Agenda

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

VOL. 1 NO. 3 - SECTION 2



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1994

Celebrating Productive Aging

WHCOA '95 COMES ALIVE ACROSS U.S.

Invitation Extended To Keep The Momentum Building Through Events and Reports From Grassroots

If you thought the 1995 White House Conference on Aging was a single event at a specific location at a certain time for an exclusive group, think again! Note for example:

- the local White House Conference on Aging in Alhambra, California,
- the state White House Conference in Burlington, Vermont,
- the regional Conference in Springfield, Missouri,
- the mini-Conference in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

WHCOA '95 pre-conference events have become a nationwide happening as they spread across the country — engaging the participation, involvement and enthusiasm of growing numbers of citizens in all fifty states.

How Strategy Is Working

Since February, when President Clinton officially called for the Conference, WHCOA '95 has been conducting and recognizing events and programs from coast to coast. Through these activities, the Conference is gaining enormous insight into the views of senior citizens — their thoughts on what should be on the agenda for the national WHCOA '95 as well as their ideas for a national

aging policy that will take our country into the 21st century.

From now until May 1, 1995, when the national White House Conference on Aging officially convenes in Washington, D.C., an average of more than three scheduled events will take place every week all across the country! And this number is expected to continue to increase as the goals and strategy of WHCOA become better known.

This pre-WHCOA strategy accomplishes two significant goals: it ensures the greatest possible individual and organizational involvement in planning, and it provides valuable perspective on issues of concern and interest to seniors.

Each recognized event, local, state, regional and mini-White House Conference on Aging activity, must submit a report containing policy recommendations, to the '95 WHCOA. These reports, as well as WHCOA staff participation in the events themselves, are giving the WHCOA important information on key issues as viewed by senior citizens. WHCOA staff have been privileged to participate in more than 20 percent of all events. This information is the basis for the develop-

ment of the WHCOA '95 agenda.

WHCOA's Goals In Sight

Well over half of all WHCOA events are focused on the closely related issues of home- and community-based long-term care and health care reform. Other subjects at the top of the list are: independence, well-being and security; the interdependence of the generations; income and economic security; issues concerned with minority aging; and housing and coordinated services.

Pre-Conference, grass roots events are critical to the primary purposes of the WHCOA, which are:

- 1) To develop, adopt and work to implement recommendations to shape national aging policy over the next decade, and
- 2) To raise public awareness about issues and problems facing seniors of today, while working to prepare for the aging society of tomorrow.

Senior citizens are playing major roles in pre-Conference activities.

It's Not Too Late To Join In

If your locally-based organization has not conducted a local WHCOA, it is not too late to apply to have your event recognized and your recommendations

considered in the agenda. In fact, you are encouraged to become an integral part of the planning process, as so many organizations are doing.

The only requirements for recognition as a local WHCOA are: that the event focus on one or more federal policy issues, that it involve senior citizens and that a report summarizing its recommendations be submitted within 45 days.

Since March, when WHCOA '95 issued its first invitation to conduct events, more than 350 conferences have been scheduled around the country.

Next May's meeting in Washington, D.C., is of utmost importance, but the White House Conference on Aging is not a single event held in a single place. It is a continuing process, one that both precedes and follows the conference. This process starts with grassroots forums and events leading up to the Conference and continues with post-Conference implementation of policy. People of all ages are involved every step of the way, particularly seniors themselves. It is exciting to watch the process work and to look ahead to the implementation of the policy that is evolving from the hard work and commitment.

DELEGATE SELECTION QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: What are the dates of the national White House Conference on Aging?

May 1-5, 1995.

A: Where will it be held?

Delegate meetings will be held in the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.; however, additional activities are being planned to involve off site locations.

Q: How many delegates will attend?

Under the terms of a July 27, 1994, resolution adopted by the Policy Committee of the WHCOA, the Conference is

planning for between 1,666 and 2,000 total delegates.

A: How are they chosen?

Governors will choose between 750 and 900; members of Congress will choose one each, for a total of 540. The remaining delegates will be chosen by national aging organizations, veterans organizations, youth organizations, international delegates and others (the precise number is not known at this time).

Whom do I contact if I wish to be named a delegate?

Your governor if you wish to be in the state delegation, your

congressman if you wish to be a congressional appointee, or other groups as outlined above that have an interest in aging issues and have been authorized to send delegates to the WHCOA.

What criteria are established for state delegates?

The White House Conference on Aging requires that: 1) each Governor appoint a State Delegate Coordinator; and 2) the demographic profile of the state's delegation reflect that of the aging population of the state being represented, as follows:

- 50% of the delegation

must be 50 years of age or older

- 50% must be women
- minority representation

and rural versus urban must reflect the composition of the state's population based on the

(continued on page 4)

NOTICE:

The September /October Issue of the WHCOA Newsletter is being published in four sections

- Section 2:
- o WHCOA Comes Alive With Upcoming Events
 - o Grassroots Views on WHCOA's Agenda

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING



NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Productive Aging

VOL. 1 NO. 3 SECTION 3

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1994

WHCoA LISTENS TO SENIORS, LEARNS IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENCE

From February through August, WHCoA '95, in partnership with other organizations, has conducted more than a dozen focus groups to gain additional direct input from individuals, primarily seniors, as to what should be on the agenda for the Conference. Long valued as a market research tool, focus groups are small group meetings in which select individuals share, in detail, their views and opinions on specific topics.

One set of focus groups is being conducted as a joint project with the Gerontological Society of America and the National Corporation for National and Community Service. Most recently, these joint focus groups have been conducted in Little Rock, Arkansas, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Corpus

Christi, Texas in cooperation with local Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) chapters. Earlier focus groups were conducted in Tampa, Florida, Los Angeles, California, Chicago, Illinois, and Boston, Massachusetts. More are planned in other cities, including San Francisco, California, and Baltimore, Maryland.

Clearly emerging from the focus groups is the strong desire of seniors to maintain their independence as long as they can. Through the focus groups, seniors are sharing their concern about the high cost of prescription drugs and about crime in their communities. Moreover, older citizens are increasingly concerned about the problems of loneliness and isolation.

Most seniors participating in



Helen Kirschner (top left) and staff conduct focus groups under the auspices of the Gerontological Society of America and NCNCS with the help of RSVP

the focus groups believe the media presents a negative image of older Americans. Seniors also share the positive aspects of aging by pointing out their freedom to travel and pursue special interests and hobbies, the chance to spend more time with their families and the opportunity to volunteer in their communities.

Another set of focus groups is being conducted in collaboration with Temple University's Center for Intergenerational Learning. These focus groups have been held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and New York City. Intergenerational input from seniors and youth in ethnic communities offers a unique perspective on aging and society.

Language barriers, intergenerational value differences and cultural traditions emerge as important issues to both young and old.

To date, focus groups have been held with the Hispanic, Asian and African American communities. A written summary of these focus groups will be included in the next issue of our newsletter.

Focus groups are valuable for many reasons, but particularly because they are an environment created solely for the purpose of giving individuals an opportunity to express their opinions and concerns so that this information can be systematically documented and analyzed to arrive at more relevant and meaningful solutions.

Perhaps more than anything, the focus groups are an effective tool of the WHCoA to bring people at the grassroots level into the process of developing the national agenda for the 1995 WHCoA. Focus groups will help ensure that people from across the country had a chance to be heard and participate in pre-WHCoA activities.



Staff of Temple University's Center for Intergenerational Learning conducted Focus Groups featuring Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans and African Americans on behalf of WHCoA.

CALENDAR REGIONAL EVENTS

As of 8/5/94

27 Regional Conferences 10 Regions participating

REGION I

- 10/94 **Council of Elders, Inc.** Boston, MA
Issue: Health Status of Black Elderly
Contact: Helen Pankey, (617)442-4001
- 10/20,21/94 **MA Council for Adult Foster Care.** Andover, MA
Issue: New England Adult Foster Care.
Contact: Elsie Fetterman, (413)253-7948
- 11/94 **HHS Regional Office.** Boston, MA
Issue: Nutrition, Malnutrition.
Contact: Thomas L. Hooker, (617)565-4511
- 11/94 **North Central CT AAA/Institute for Community Research.** Hartford, CT
Issue: Hispanic Health and Social Concerns.
Contact: Thomas L. Hooker, (617)565-4511
- 12/94 **HHS Regional Office.** Boston, MA
Issue: Health, Economic Security & Elder Abuse.
Contact: Thomas L. Hooker, (617)565-4511

REGION II

- 3/95 **HHS Regional Office.** New York, NY
Issue: Community and Home-based Long Term Care.
Contact: Judith Rackmill, (212)264-2976

REGION III

- 10/26/94 **Philadelphia Corporation on Aging.** Philadelphia, PA.
Issue: Health Reform, Long-term Care, Caregiving, Economic Security, etc.
Contact: Karen Mudd or Andrea Leerman, (215)765-9000

Information regarding events may have changed since date of publication, so if you are interested in attending, please call the organization contact person for latest information.



President Clinton and Veterans Affairs Sec. Jesse Brown participate in the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Awards Ceremony held September 16, 1994

CORRECTIONS:
In Section 2 of the Sept/Oct Newsletter, there was an error in the article on the WHCoA Delegate Selection Process. It should have read:
State delegations must reflect the following matrix:
- 50% of all delegates must be 55 years of age and older
- 50% must be women
The percentage of urban, rural and minorities must equal that of the state's population for each group.

NOTICE:

The September /October Issue of the WHCoA Newsletter is being published in four sections.

Section 3:

- o WHCoA Comes Alive With Regional Events
- o Alzheimer's Support Groups
- o Grassroots Views on WHCoA's Agenda

THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING



NEWSLETTER

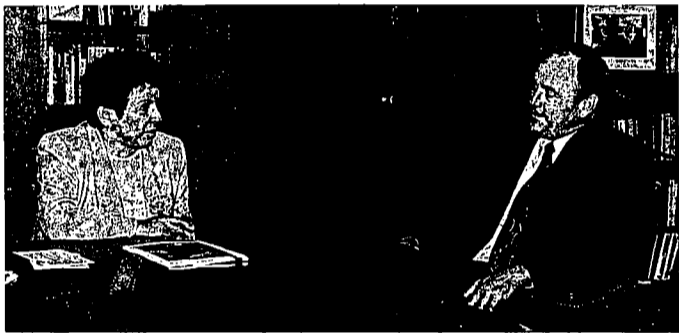
VOL. 1 NO. 3 - SECTION 4

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1994

Celebrating Productive Aging

SHALALA COMMENDS CAMPAIGN TO GET AMERICANS MOVING

In a move to improve the health and well being of millions of Americans, The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and the Advil Forum on Health Education have teamed up to help motivate Americans who are over the age of 40 to participate in regular physical activity. Advil chose Nolan Ryan as its spokesperson to encourage a more active and healthy America.



Sec'y Shalala discusses the PCPF/Advil fitness initiative with Nolan Ryan.

"For 27 years, Nolan Ryan thrilled the world's baseball fans with his pitching wizardry and his dedication to physical conditioning," said Secretary Shalala. "But while we were watching him make magic on the baseball field, too many of us were neglecting our own health. It's not enough to sit in the bleachers or sit in front of the TV watching our favorite teams. We've got to balance being a spectator with being physically active. In short, we've all got to get moving."

"Physical activity and a balanced diet," Secretary Shalala went on to say, "are two of the most powerful ways to prevent illness and poor health -- particularly as we get older. Good health begins with each and every one of us taking direct personal responsibility to get busy and stay physically active. This exciting partnership will help us motivate more people to become physically active. By working together, I know we can strike out poor health and preventable disease."

For more information about the free availability of Mr. Nolan's book for distribution to aging organizations or having Nolan Ryan speak to your organization, contact the Advil Forum on Health Education, 1500 Broadway, New York, New York 19936.

CALENDAR STATE AND LOCAL EVENTS

As of 8/4/94

Information regarding events may have changed since date of publication, so if you are interested in attending, please call the organization contact person for latest information.

ALABAMA

State Events

6/19-22/94 **Governor's Summit on Long Term Care.**
Contact: Claude Hooks, Jr., (205) 242-5743

ALASKA

State Events

9/94 **4 conferences: Medicare, SSI, OAA Programs.**
Contact: Pat Denny, (907) 465-4879

ARIZONA

State Events

9-11/94 **8 area conferences throughout state.**
Contact: Richard Littler, (602)542-4446

Local Recognition Event

10/15/95 **Gila Co. Cooperative Ext. Univ. of Arizona, Payson, AZ.**
Contact: Ruth Carter, (602)425-7179

11/16 **Arizona Community Action Assn., Tucson, AZ.**
Contact: Janet Regner, (602)230-8267

ARKANSAS

State Events

3/27/95 **State Conference**
Issue: Intergenerational Issues, Wellness, Managed Care
Contact: Mary Lou King (501)682-8519

Local Recognition Events

9/7-9/95 **Arkansas Division of Aging & Adult Services, Little Rock, AR.**
Contact: Mary Lou King, (501)682-8519

CALIFORNIA

State Events

TBA **2 state conferences**
Issue: Abuse
Contact: Catherine Arlette, (916) 324-2941

Local Recognition Events

9/29 **Janet Levy Center, Chico, CA.**
Contact: Vicki Paxton, (916)898-6758

10/28,29/94 **Older Women's League of California, San Jose, CA.**
Contact: Mary Charles, (408) 248-3839

COLORADO

State Events

9/26,27/95 **State Conference on health care, housing, security, volunteerism, education, reengineering the business of aging.**
Contact: Rita Barreras, (303)866-5913

Local Recognition Events

9/28/94 **Colorado Senior Employment Network, Denver, CO.**
Contact: Lu Horner, (303)866-5911

CONNECTICUT

State Events

4/7/95 **State Conference on issues TBA.**
Contact: Elissa Breiling, (203) 424-5280

Local Recognition Events

9-11/94 **Southwestern CT Agency on Aging,**
14 towns in SW Connecticut.
Contact: Diana Shoemaker, (203)853-7189

9-10/94 **Lower Fairfield. Coalit'n Pro. Serving Srs., Stamford, CT.**
Contact: Wendy Winnick Wheat, (203)327-4551

9/12-29/94 **Western CT AAA, Waterbury, Cheshire, Sharon, and Thomaston, CT.**

Contact: Christina Fishbein, (203)757-5449

10/28-31/94 **National Shared Housing Resource Center, Stamford, CT.**
Contact: Margaret Harmon, (802)862-2727

11/94 **Westfield Court/Stamford Athletic Club, Stamford, CT.**
Contact: Wendy Winnick Wheat, (203)327-4551

CORRECTIONS:

In Section 2 of the Sept/Oct Newsletter, there was an error in the article on the WHCoA Delegate Selection Process. It should have read:

"State delegations must reflect the following matrix:

- 50% of all delegates must be 55 years of age and older.

- 50% must be women. The percentage of urban, rural and minorities must equal that of the state's population for each group."

NOTICE:

The September /October Issue of the WHCoA Newsletter will be published in four separate sections. This is the final section of the four-part series. The prior sections have been mailed to you over the last few weeks.

Section 1, 2 & 3 contained:

- o WHCoA's Policy Committee*
- o Delegate Selection Process*
- o WHCoA Comes Alive*
- o Grassroots Views on WHCoA's Agenda*

Section 4 features:

- o WHCoA State and Local Events*

C O N T E N T S

1. OVERVIEW
2. OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED WHCOA EVENTS
3. FINAL AGENDA
4. WHCOA POLICY COMMITTEE
5. WHCOA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
6. DELEGATE APPOINTMENTS
7. STATE-BY-STATE DELEGATE'S TABLE
8. SATELLITE LOCATIONS
9. SCHEDULE/AGENDA - MAY 2-5, 1995
10. POST 1995 CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES
11. STATUTE - Older Americans Act
12. NEWS CLIPPINGS

OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED WHCOA EVENTS
(as of April 1, 1995)

I. Local Events	419
Mini-Conferences	247
Funded Mini-conferences	39
State and Governors' Conferences	58
Regional Conferences	32
National Pre-Conferences	6
Total Events	<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> 801

II. Total number of attendees 153,400*

III. Percentage of attendees 55 years old or older 73%

NOTE:

* When all attendance reports are received, we expect that over 153,400 people will have attended a WHCoA event.

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 3, 1995

Contact: Bryan Preston
J. D. Schremser
202-245-0105

WHCOA ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN NUMBER OF CONFERENCE DELEGATES

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) today announced that the number of delegates to the Conference has been increased by 259. The increase, recently approved by the WHCoA Policy Committee, brings the total number of delegates up to 2,259.

The last WHCoA of this century and the fourth in history will be held May 2-5, 1995, in Washington, D.C. Conference delegates will develop resolutions to influence national aging policy over the next decade and begin mapping out a strategy for putting the resolutions into action.

"In the spirit of bipartisanship, the Policy Committee increased the number of delegates to give new Governors and new Members of Congress an opportunity to name delegates to the Conference," said Senator David Pryor (D-AR), who chairs the 25-member Committee. "Every American has a stake in the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, and the Policy Committee's aim is to make the Conference as representative as possible."

Each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will have three additional delegates. Each territory will have one additional delegate. Each new Member of Congress will have one delegate.

With the change, the number of state and territorial delegates will increase to a total of 1,062, up from 901. The number of delegates named by Members of Congress will increase to a total of 638, up from 540. Other delegates to the Conference will be named by constituent organizations (including national aging organizations and veterans groups), the White House, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the WHCoA.

-30-

NOTE: Chart with breakdown of State and Congressional delegations is on back of page.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING
STATE/CONGRESS DELEGATE TABLE

January 31, 1995

State/Territory	State	Congress	Combined Total	State/Territory	State	Congress	Combined Total
Alabama	19	9	28	New Hampshire	11	5	16
Alaska	10	3	13	New Jersey	28	18	46
Arizona	18	12	30	New Mexico	12	5	17
Arkansas	15	6	21	New York	52	36	88
California	69	60	129	North Carolina	25	19	44
Colorado	16	8	24	North Dakota	11	3	14
Connecticut	17	8	25	Ohio	35	26	61
Delaware	11	3	14	Oklahoma	17	12	29
District of Columbia	9	1	10	Oregon	16	9	25
Florida	51	28	79	Pennsylvania	42	29	71
Georgia	22	16	38	Puerto Rico	9	1	10
Hawaii	12	4	16	Rhode Island	12	5	17
Idaho	11	5	16	South Carolina	17	10	27
Illinois	35	25	60	South Dakota	11	3	14
Indiana	22	15	37	Tennessee	21	16	37
Iowa	16	9	25	Texas	43	37	80
Kansas	15	8	23	Utah	12	6	18
Kentucky	18	10	28	Vermont	11	3	14
Louisiana	18	9	27	Virginia	22	14	36
Maine	12	7	19	Washington	20	17	37
Maryland	19	11	30	West Virginia	14	5	19
Massachusetts	23	12	35	Wisconsin	21	12	33
Michigan	30	21	51	Wyoming	10	5	15
Minnesota	19	13	32	American Samoa	2	1	3
Mississippi	15	8	23	Guam	2	1	3
Missouri	22	13	35	Virgin Islands	2	2	4
Montana	11	3	14	Pacific Trust Terr.	4	0	4
Nebraska	13	6	19				
Nevada	12	5	17				
				Grand Total	1062	638	1700

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 1995

Contact: Bryan Preston
202-245-0105

WHCoA CALLS FOR POST-CONFERENCE EVENTS, PUBLIC COMMENTS TO HELP IMPLEMENT RESOLUTIONS

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) has called for a series of post-WHCoA events and public comments to help implement the resolutions to be passed at the May 2-5 Conference in Washington, D.C. "Turning Resolutions into Results: Building the Legacy of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging," the post-Conference strategy for ensuring the effective implementation of the resolutions passed at the Conference is published in the February 28 *Federal Register*.

Sen. David Pryor, Chairman of the 1995 WHCoA Policy Committee, remarked "The 1995 WHCoA is a process devoted not only to developing aging policy but also to putting it into action. With the guidance of these post-conference events and public comments we will do just that."

At the closing plenary session of the White House Conference on Aging, the approximately 2200 delegates representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories will vote on approximately forty resolutions to guide national aging policy into the 21st century. Post-conference events will focus on the practical aspects of implementing these resolutions.

Organizations interested in sponsoring a post-Conference event should contact Karen Goldmeier at (202) 245-7116. The Conference will also accept public comments regarding resolution implementation independent of any sanctioned post-WHCoA events until October 13, 1995. The last WHCoA request for public comments elicited over 900 responses.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1987

[Public Law 100-175, November 29, 1987 (101 Stat. 926)]

TITLE II—WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

SEC. 201. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE AUTHORIZED.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) the number of individuals 55 years of age or older was approximately 52,923,000 in 1990, and will, by the year 2040, be approximately 103,646,000,

(2) more than 1 of every 8 persons 55 years of age or older will be hospitalized during the next year,

(3) the out-of-pocket costs to older individuals for health care increased from 12.3 percent in 1977 to 18.2 percent in 1988,

(4) there is a great need to ensure access and the quality of affordable health care to all older individuals,

(5) the need for a comprehensive and responsive long-term care delivery system is great,

(6) the availability and cost of suitable housing, together with suitable services needed for independent or semi-independent living, still cause concern to older individuals,

(7) the ability to lead an independent or semi-independent life is contingent, in many cases, upon the availability of a comprehensive and effective social service system for older individuals,

(8) the availability and access to opportunities for continued productivity and employment is of great importance to middle-aged and older individuals who want or need to work,

(9) the fulfillment, dignity, and satisfaction of retirees still depend on the continuing development of a consistent national retirement policy,

(10) there is a continuing need to maintain and preserve the national policy with respect to increasing, coordinating, and expediting biomedical and other appropriate research directed at determining the causes and effects of the aging process,

(11) false stereotypes about aging and the process of aging continue to be prevalent throughout the United States and policies should be nurtured to overcome such stereotypes, and

(12) the talents and experience of older individuals represent a valuable community resource which should be developed and more widely shared within the local community.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the Congress that—

(1) the Federal Government should work jointly with the States and their citizens to develop recommendations and plans for action to meet the challenges and needs of older individuals, consistent with the objectives of this section, and

(2) in developing programs for the aging pursuant to this section emphasis should be directed toward individual, private, and public initiatives and resources intended to enhance the economic security and self-sufficiency of elder Americans.

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

SEC. 202. AUTHORIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

May 31, 1995

(a) AUTHORITY TO CALL CONFERENCE.—Not later than ~~December 31, 1994~~ the President shall convene the White House Conference on Aging in order to develop recommendations for additional research and action in the field of aging which will further the policy set forth in subsection (b).

(b) PLANNING AND DIRECTION.—The Conference shall be planned and conducted under the direction of the Secretary in cooperation with the Commissioner on Aging and the Director of the National Institute on Aging, and the heads of such other Federal departments and agencies as are appropriate. Such assistance may include the assignment of personnel.

(c) PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE.—The purpose of the Conference shall be—

(1) to increase the public awareness of the interdependence of generations and the essential contributions of older individuals to society for the well-being of all generations;

(2) to identify the problems facing older individuals and the commonalities of the problems with problems of younger generations;

(3) to examine the well-being of older individuals, including the impact the wellness of older individuals has on our aging society;

(4) to develop such specific and comprehensive recommendations for executive and legislative action as may be appropriate for maintaining and improving the well-being of the aging;

(5) to develop recommendations for the coordination of Federal policy with State and local needs and the implementation of such recommendations; and

(6) to review the status and multigenerational value of recommendations adopted at previous White House Conferences on Aging.

(d) CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AND DELEGATES.—

(1) PARTICIPANTS.—In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the Conference shall bring together—

(A) representatives of Federal, State, and local governments,

(B) professional and lay people who are working in the field of aging, and

(C) representatives of the general public, particularly older individuals.

(2) SELECTION OF DELEGATES.—The delegates shall be selected without regard to political affiliation or past partisan activity and shall, to the best of the appointing authority's ability, be representative of the spectrum of thought in the field of aging. Delegates shall include individuals who are professionals, individuals who are nonprofessionals, minority individuals, and individuals from low-income families.

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

SEC. 203. CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION.

(a) ADMINISTRATION.—In administering this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) provide written notice to all members of the Policy Committee of each meeting, hearing, or working session of the Policy Committee not later than 48 hours before the occurrence of such meeting, hearing, or working session,

(2) request the cooperation and assistance of the heads of such other Federal departments and agencies as may be appropriate in the carrying out of this section,

(3) furnish all reasonable assistance, including financial assistance, to State agencies on the aging and to area agencies on the aging, and to other appropriate organizations (including organizations representing older Indians), to enable them to organize and conduct conferences in conjunction with the Conference,

(4) make available for public comment a proposed agenda, prepared by the Policy Committee, for the Conference which will reflect to the greatest extent possible the major issues facing older individuals consistent with the provisions of subsection (a),

(5) prepare and make available background materials for the use of delegates to the Conference which the Secretary deems necessary, and

(6) engage such additional personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section without regard to provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(b) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall, in carrying out the Secretary's responsibilities and functions under this section, and as part of the White House Conference on Aging, ensure that—

(1) the conferences under subsection (a)(2) shall— subsection (a) (3)

(A) include a conference on older Indians to identify conditions that adversely affect older Indians, to propose solutions to ameliorate such conditions, and to provide for the exchange of information relating to the delivery of services to older Indians, and

(B) be so conducted as to assure broad participation of older individuals,

(2) the agenda prepared under subsection (a)(4) for the Conference is published in the Federal Register not later than

30 days after such agenda is approved by the Policy Committee, and the Secretary may republish such agenda together with the recommendations of the Secretary regarding such agenda,

(3) the personnel engaged under subsection ~~(a)(5)~~ shall be fairly balanced in terms of points of views represented and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or previous partisan activities,

(4) the recommendations of the Conference are not inappropriately influenced by any appointing authority or by any special interest, but will instead be the result of the independent judgment of the Conference, and

(5) current and adequate statistical data, including decennial census data, and other information on the well-being of older individuals in the United States are readily available, in advance of the Conference, to the delegates of the Conference, together with such information as may be necessary to evaluate Federal programs and policies relating to aging. In carrying out this subparagraph, the Secretary is authorized to make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, public agencies and nonprofit private organizations.

(c) GIFTS.—The Secretary may accept, on behalf of the United States, gifts (in cash or in kind, including voluntary and uncompensated services), which shall be available to carry out this title. Gifts of cash shall be available in addition to amounts appropriated to carry out this title.

(d) RECORDS.—The Secretary shall maintain records regarding—

(1) the sources, amounts, and uses of gifts accepted under subsection (c); and

(2) the identity of each person receiving assistance to carry out this title, and the amount of such assistance received by each such person.

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

SEC. 204. POLICY COMMITTEE; RELATED COMMITTEES.

(a) POLICY COMMITTEE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Policy Committee comprised of 25 members to be selected, not later than ~~90 days after the enactment of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1992~~, as follows:

(A) PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES.—Thirteen members shall be selected by the President and shall include—

(i) 3 members who are officers or employees of the United States; and

(ii) 10 members with experience in the field of aging, who may include representatives of public aging agencies, institution-based organizations, and minority aging organizations.

(B) HOUSE APPOINTEES.—Four members shall be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and shall include members of the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Represent-

subsection (a)

December 31, 19

atives, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, and the Select Committee on Aging of the House of Representatives. Not more than 3 members selected under this subparagraph may be associated or affiliated with the same political party.

(C) SENATE APPOINTEES.—Four members shall be selected by the Majority Leader of the Senate, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate, and shall include members of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate. Not more than 3 members selected under this subparagraph may be associated or affiliated with the same political party.

(D) JOINT APPOINTEES.—Four members shall be selected jointly by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Majority Leader of the Senate, after consultation with the minority leaders of the House and Senate, and shall include representatives with experience in the field of aging, who may include representatives described in subsection (a)(1)(A)(ii). Not more than 2 members selected under this subparagraph may be associated or affiliated with the same political party.

(2) DUTIES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE.—The Policy Committee shall initially meet at the call of the Secretary, but not later than 30 days after the last member is selected under subsection (a). Subsequent meetings of the Policy Committee shall be held at the call of the chairperson of the Policy Committee. Through meetings, hearings, and working sessions, the Policy Committee shall—

(A) make recommendations to the Secretary to facilitate the timely convening of the Conference;

(B) formulate and approve a proposed agenda for the Conference not later than ~~60 days~~ after the first meeting of the Policy Committee;

(C) make recommendations for participants and delegates of the Conference;

(D) establish the number of delegates to be selected under section 202(d)(2); and

(E) formulate and approve the initial report of the Conference in accordance with section 205.

(3) QUORUM; COMMITTEE VOTING; CHAIRPERSON.—

(A) QUORUM.—Thirteen members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the business of the Policy Committee, except that 17 members shall constitute a quorum for purposes of approving the agenda required by paragraph (2)(B) and the report required by paragraph (2)(E).

(B) VOTING.—The Policy Committee shall act by the vote of the majority of the members present.

(C) CHAIRPERSON.—The President shall select a chairperson from among the members of the Policy Committee. The chairperson may vote only to break a tie vote of the other members of the Policy Committee.

90 days

(b) ADVISORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall establish an advisory committee to the Conference which shall include representation from the Federal Council on Aging and other public agencies and private nonprofit organizations as appropriate. The President shall consider for appointment to the advisory committee individuals recommended by the Policy Committee.

(2)¹ **OTHER COMMITTEES.**—The Secretary may establish such other committees, including technical committees, as may be necessary to assist in the planning, conducting, and reviewing of the Conference.

(c) **COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES.**—Each committee established under subsection (b) shall be composed of professionals and public members, and shall include individuals from low-income families and from minority groups. A majority of the public members of each such committee shall be 55 years of age or older, and individuals who are Native Americans.

(d) **COMPENSATION.**—Appointed members of any such committee (other than any officers or employees of the Federal Government), while attending conferences or meetings of the committee or otherwise serving at the request of the Secretary, shall be entitled to receive compensation at a rate to be fixed by the Secretary, but not to exceed the daily prescribed rate for ~~GS-18~~ under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code (including travel time). While away from their homes or regular places of business, such members may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized under section 5703 of such title for persons employed intermittently in Federal Government service.

equivalent of
the maximum rate
of pay payable
under section 5

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

SEC. 205. REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE.

(a) **PROPOSED REPORT.**—A proposed report of the Conference, which shall include a statement of comprehensive coherent national policy on aging together with recommendations for the implementation of the policy, shall be published and submitted to the chief executive officers of the States not later than 90 days following the date on which the Conference is adjourned. The findings and recommendations included in the published proposed report shall be immediately available to the public.

(b) **RESPONSE TO PROPOSED REPORT.**—The chief executive officers of the States, after reviewing and soliciting recommendations and comments on the report of the Conference, shall submit to the Policy Committee, not later than 90 days after receiving the report, their views and findings on the recommendations of the Conference.

(c) REPORTS.—

(1) **INITIAL REPORT.**—The Policy Committee shall, after reviewing the views and recommendations of the chief executive officers of the States, prepare and approve an initial report of the Conference, which shall include a compilation of the actions of the chief executive officers of the States and take into consideration the views and findings of such officers.

¹ Indentation error in amendment made by section 834(2) of Public Law 102-375. Should amend so as to align the left margin of this paragraph with the left margin of paragraph (1).

(2) Not later than 60 days after such initial report is transmitted by the Policy Committee, the Secretary shall publish such initial report in the Federal Register. The Secretary may republish a final report together with such additional views and recommendations as the Secretary considers to be appropriate.

(d) **RECOMMENDATIONS OF POLICY COMMITTEE.**—The Policy Committee shall, within 90 days after submission of the views of the chief executive officers of the States, publish and transmit to the President and to the Congress recommendations for the administrative action and the legislation necessary to implement the recommendations contained within the report.

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

SEC. 206. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this title—

(1) the term “area agency on aging” has the meaning given the term in section 102(17) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(17)),

(2) the term “State agency on aging” means the State agency designated under section 305(a)(1) of the Act,

(3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health and Human Services,

(4) the term “Conference” means the White House Conference on Aging, and

(5) the term “State” means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

of the United States.

SEC. 207. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 1992 through 1994 to carry out this title.

(2) **CONTRACTS.**—Authority to enter into contracts under this title shall be effective only to the extent, or in such amounts as are, provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

(b) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (3), funds appropriated to carry out this title and funds received as gifts under section 203(c) shall remain available for obligation or expenditure until ~~June 30, 1995~~, or the expiration of the one-year period beginning on the date the Conference adjourns, whichever occurs earlier.

(2) **UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.**—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any such funds neither expended nor obligated before ~~June 30, 1995~~, or the expiration of the one-year period beginning on the date the Conference adjourns, ~~whichever occurs earlier~~, shall be available to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(3) **CONFERENCE NOT CONVENED.**—If the Conference is not convened before ~~June 30, 1994~~, such funds neither expended

nor obligated before such date shall be available to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965.

(42 U.S.C. 3001 note)

* Section 831 through Section 839 of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1992 (Public Law 102-375) contained: (1) amendments to the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987, which are already reflected in the preceding text, and (2) the following provisions:

Section 837. Savings Provision

All personnel assigned or engaged under section 202(b) or section 203(a)(5) of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3001 note) as in effect immediately before the date of the enactment of this Act shall continue to be assigned or engaged under such section after such date notwithstanding the amendments made by this subtitle.

Section 838. Sense of the Congress

It is the sense of the Congress that the White House Conference on Aging should consider the impact of the earnings test in effect under section 203 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) on older individuals who are employed.

** Section 6 of the Older Americans Act Technical Amendments of 1993 (Public Law 103-171) contained additional technical amendments to the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987 which are noted in the margins of the preceding text.

Revised Agenda
Advisory Committee
White House Conference on Aging
March 3, 1995 9 - 11 AM
Washington, DC

9:00 - 9:10	Welcome	Robert B. Blancato WHCoA Executive Director
9:10 - 9:15	Swearing-in of members	
9:15 - 9:45	Introduction of members (short statements by members)	Members
9:45 - 9:55	Remarks	Richard J. Hodes, MD Director National Institute on Aging
9:55 - 10:00	Purpose of the meeting	Mr. Blancato
10:00 - 10:45	Responsibilities of Advisory Committee	Discussion
	Pre-Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Resolutions process- Facilitators/issue experts- Background papers- Conference agenda	
	Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Agenda implementation- Resolutions process	
	Post-Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Resolutions- Conference report- Post-Conference events	
10:45 - 11:00	Next steps/closing	Members

Advocate on aging visits state to gear for parley

■ Robert B. Blancato of the White House Conference on Aging says topics will cover abuse, child care and disease

By SPENCER HEINZ
of The Oregonian staff

SALEM — Alzheimer's disease. Abuse of the elderly. Health care. Grandparents raising their children's children. Inaccurate media portrayals of older persons.

Those will be some of the hot topics at the upcoming White House Conference on Aging, the executive director of the conference said Wednesday in Salem.

Robert B. Blancato said older people around the nation — when asked what they think of how well the media cover aging — replied that more local reporters were being assigned to the issues. But they said the national media tended to portray them as "greedy geezers" or as "burdens to society."

"Now you name me a community in this state or this country where an older person is not a productive member of that community," Blancato told the crowd of Oregon's conference representatives.

"There are tons and tons of communities and millions of seniors who are actively involved in the community. But that's not the message that often gets out through the national media.

"So the White House Conference sees a 'bully pulpit' opportunity," Blancato said. "Not to convert anybody, but just to level the playing field a little on how the media cover aging, how they portray the elderly

and how they cover the state of relations between the generations in this country."

Blancato made his first visit to Oregon while preparing for the White House Conference on Aging. Blancato, 43, is a Clinton administration appointee who served in the 1980s as staff director of the House Select Committee on Aging's subcommittee on human services. The conference is the fourth such one since 1961 and the last one planned for this century.

Scheduled May 2-5 in Washington, D.C., the conference will make recommendations for a national aging policy to take the country into the 21st century.

The conference will bring together 2,000 delegates selected by Congress, the White House, governors and others.

About 600 meetings have been planned around the nation as delegates develop recommendations and set priorities. Blancato was in town to meet with the Oregon State Conference on Aging, which has been gathering viewpoints to help fine-tune Oregon's priorities for the conference.

Blancato said grandparents have become the primary caregivers for 3.1 million grandchildren. Grandparents also serve as the primary day-care providers for another 2 million grandchildren, he said.

"Another challenge," Blancato said, "is the need for us to recognize aging as a generational issue in this country. We are not having a White House Conference on 'the aged.' It's a much broader and much more challenging issue for us to deal with. Our policy discussions have to recognize that."

“
Now you name me a
community . . . where an
older person is not a
productive member . . .

Robert B. Blancato

”

Circulating at Wednesday's gathering were results of a survey of several hundred Oregon residents. James A. Davis and Associates conducted the survey on behalf of Oregon's planning committee for the White House conference.

Among survey findings:

■ Two out of three of the 380 retirees who participated in the survey listed affordable health care as their top issue. Social Security concerns were a distant second, followed by questions about long-term care. Other top issues included crime and safety, income security, low-income housing, the national deficit, government credibility, education and transportation.

■ Top concerns of the 33 responding service providers included long-term care, affordable health care and Social Security.

Blancato said the success of the upcoming conference would depend on putting recommendations into action.

"The roads that get us there all revolve around the term 'advocacy,'" Blancato said, "because I believe sincerely this is a conference where advocacy is going to be so, so important."

Friday, Feb 17

Conference mixes wit, activism

By L. Kelly

The Wichita Eagle

HUTCHINSON — They want to make the world a better place. They want to share their wisdom. They don't feel "old" and they are not ready to sit quietly in rocking chairs.

And so more than 200 Kansans of many ages continued their two-day conference on aging Friday to talk about their problems and to propose solutions. The resolutions they helped write at the Kansas White House Conference on Aging will be presented at a national conference May 2-5 in Washington, D.C.

The Hutchinson gathering — which was coordinated by the Kansas Department on Aging and the Kansas Association of Area Agencies on Aging — drew members of the general public, along with representatives of organizations and agencies that deal with older Kansans.

Laughter helped lighten the complex and serious topics, which included health care, crime, isolation, stereotypes and regulations.

For example, Art Collins of the Wyandotte-Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging helped lead a discussion on ways to improve the economic security of senior citizens. While presenting the group's ideas,

See AGING, Page 3D

AGING

From Page 1D

he joked that they had strayed from the topic to discuss sex, rock 'n' roll, and violence.

"The group loved sex and rock 'n' roll," he said, "but it's violence that has got to go!"

Such stereotype-busting comments were common; these are people who want to remain in the mainstream of society.

There was Hutchinson resident Samuel Kahalewai, 76, who said he was happy to help define what issues are important to older Americans. He believes that job retraining and volunteering to help others are vital to "productive aging."

There was Lucille Horyna, of Hutchinson, who is 78 and volunteers at her church and in a mentoring program that helps single parents. She attended the state conference because, "Anything that we can do to make our lives a little better, that's what I think we need to be active in."

And there was Marilyn Atkinson, 65, of St. John, who has been retired for two years and has a good role model for active aging in her nearly blind 86-year-old father, who helps her deliver Meals on Wheels.

"If I can go back to my community and talk to people about the issues of aging, I feel like that's good," she said. "And I think that it will make a difference."

Twenty-three Kansas delegates will attend the national conference, where ideas from across the country will be consolidated into 40 resolutions designed to influence national policy for the next 10 years.

Among the dozens of proposals the Kansas delegates will carry:

Times Union 3/9/95

Albany, N.Y., Thursday, March 9, 1995

State to take agenda for aging to Washington

By KENNETH C. CROWE II

Staff writer

SARATOGA SPRINGS — When the state's 88 delegates go to Washington in May to set the course for the next decade on issues confronting the aging, they'll bring a platform hammered out in a statewide convention held here this week.

The 500 delegates to the New York state Governor's Conference on Aging drew together a list of 60 recom-

mendations in six areas that will guide the delegation at the White House Conference on the Aging.

"They did an excellent job," said Maribeth Barsani, executive deputy director of the state Office for the Aging. "It was an ambitious agenda. We have a plan for the next decade in aging programs. They planned for their grandchildren and children, as well as themselves."

The platform was put together under the cloud of state and federal spending cuts.

On Tuesday, more than 100 dele-

gates marched on the Saratoga Springs district office of state Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, R-Brunswick, to protest a \$1.2 billion reduction in state Medicaid programs.

Bonnie Ray of Hoags Corners, Rensselaer County, said working on the program was difficult for the delegates while seeing the state and federal governments propose the "systematic destruction of the safety net for all vulnerable groups."

The people at the conference are a generation who put these programs

in place," said Ray, who is executive director of the New York StateWide Senior Action Council and a delegate to both the state and national meetings.

The conference at the Saratoga Springs City Center was the end result of 125 meetings, involving 30,000 people, that were held across the state during the past year.

The six areas in the platform are health care, housing, long-term care, economic security, serving older minorities and the disabled, and the

future of aging programs.

The platform stresses that the programs serve members of different generations.

Ray said the conference was concerned that people understand there should not be generation conflict.

The platform emphasized that health care, housing and long-term care should be affordable and available.

It also stated that economic security should be provided and funding for aging programs should be continued.

Decks,
Porches

In 1980, an architect
and a builder created a
method to produce
doors

Plan
Now
SPE

3/9/95

METRO

THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

Chisholm encourages seniors

Aging conference to help establish national agenda

BY KARLA SCOON
The Cincinnati Enquirer

FORT MITCHELL — Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to Congress, said Wednesday she was wary of senior citizens' political clout while she was in office.

Chisholm, who kicked off the Tristate White House Conference on Aging at the Drawbridge Inn, said she — like many politicians — feared the tenacity and determination of older Americans who worked to make sure Congress did not overlook their needs.

"Older people have become a political force to be reckoned with in America," said Chisholm, 70, who represented New York in the House of Representatives from 1969 to 1983. "We older Americans are the change agents in this society."

Chisholm challenged conference participants to show their power at the ballot box.

"You can't make people do what they don't want to do, but you can exercise a certain penance," she said. "You can institute certain sanctions."

Chisholm, who in 1972 became the first black woman to run for president, said by the year 2020, more than 40 million Americans will be 65 or older. She said Americans need to view the elderly as people with "human needs, human dignity and worth."

Cecil Wilford Sr., 69, of West College Hill, said seniors do have the power to influence the decisions politicians make. He said he has voted more consistently as the years have passed.

"We know we've got clout. (Politicians) take notice when seniors come out," he said.

Conference chairman A. Eugene Smiley said the event is one of 60 similar events being held nationwide to gather input from seniors on issues they want addressed by the federal government. The Na-

'Older people have become a political force to be reckoned with in America. We older Americans are the change agents in this society.'



— Shirley Chisholm

tional White House Conference on Aging will be held May 2-4 in Washington.

Smiley said a national conference is held every 20 years to help create an agenda for Congress to develop a clear policy on older Americans.

The Tristate event is the larg-

est "preconference" that has been held, he said. There are more than 700 registered participants from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana attending the two-day event, which ends today.

About 60 percent of the participants, who were selected by members of Congress or social service agencies, are 60 or older, he said.

Smiley said five recommendations from the conference will be outlined in a report and forwarded to the national conference committee.

Conference participants took part in workshops Wednesday to learn more about issues from health insurance to abuse of the elderly.

Today, they will meet in caucuses to give input to the Tristate conference report.

Robert Blancato, executive director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, and William Benson, deputy assistant secretary for aging with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also are scheduled to speak today.

Benton Harbor-St. Joe, MI
Herald-Palladium
Benton Harbor Met Area

Friday 0 34,118

MAR 10, 1995

N3222

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

French to attend aging conference

By ANITA SMITH,
H-P Staff Writer

Paula French, executive director of the St. Joseph-Lincoln Senior Center, will serve as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging set for May 2-5 in Washington, D.C.

She was appointed a delegate by U.S. Rep. Fred Upton.

The 2,259 delegates from throughout the country will join President Clinton and others to develop resolutions about the national aging policy over the next decade and begin planning strategy to implement the resolutions.

French said the White House Conference on Aging will deal with 18 issues gathered from public opinion from across the

Health care, income security are top issues with delegates

nation.

"The top five issues people are most concerned about are health/long-term care, income security and other benefits, housing/social and community services, crime and personal safety, and interdependence of generations," French said.

Because all delegates can not deal with all 18 issues in four days, delegates are to select one or two issues of interest to them before breaking into small focus groups. French hasn't yet decided which interest groups she will join.

On Monday and Tuesday, she will attend a pre-White House Conference with all Michigan delegates at the Kellogg Center in Lansing. There they will develop a policy platform to reflect the needs of Michigan's maturing population.

The issues to be discussed in Lansing next week were compiled from issues brought up at smaller mini-conferences held throughout Michigan last fall, she said.

Michigan's delegation for the Washington meeting will include 27 delegates named by Gov. John

Engler and 17 named by members of the state's Congressional delegation.

The number of delegates chosen by the state's governor is based on the state's population of people 55 and older, compared to the nation's total population 55 and older. Delegations selected by governors must be composed of 50 percent people 55 and older and 50 percent women. In addition, minorities, urban and rural residents must be represented according to their representation in the state's total population.

This White House Conference on Aging is the fourth such conference ever assembled and the last of this century.



PAULA FRENCH
Appointed delegate

Lincoln professor to attend national conference on aging

By MIKKI BURLE
News Tribune

Dolores Penn, an assistant professor at Lincoln University and the gerontology specialist for University Extension, will be a Missouri delegate in May to the White House Conference on Aging in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Penn, who was named by Gov. Mel Carnahan, is one of at least 29 delegates from Missouri.

Officials expect 2,259 delegates from around the country to join President Clinton and others for the conference. The delegates will develop resolutions to influence national aging policy over the next decade and map out a strategy for putting the resolutions into action.

Mrs. Penn, who attended the 1981 conference, said delegates have been attending training sessions to discuss policy issues that will be addressed at the conference, including health and income security, long-term care, Social Security and quality of life.

Mrs. Penn, who is 62, said she supports any policies that would improve health care use, promote affordable universal health insurance, and give tax credits toward training opportunities to middle-age and older women who want to return to the workforce or to school for advanced degrees.

The delegates are "concerned about the elderly. We want to make sure that they have a great quality of life," Mrs. Penn said.

Mrs. Penn and her husband, Marshall, have lived in Jefferson City since 1989. He is the retired



Dolores Penn, an assistant professor at Lincoln University, is one of at least 29 Missouri delegates who will attend the White House Conference on Aging.

head of the university's music department.

As part of her duties at the university, Mrs. Penn designs and develops educational programs for older adults throughout the state. She has a special interest in

southeast Missouri counties because women, especially older minority women, who live in the area have the lowest income in the state and the poorest health, she said.

Mrs. Penn also is a member of the state Advisory Council on Aging. She is the project director for two grants for cancer prevention and control, one financed by the Missouri Department of Health and the other by the National Cancer Institute in Washington, D.C. She has been involved

in senior initiatives since 1974.

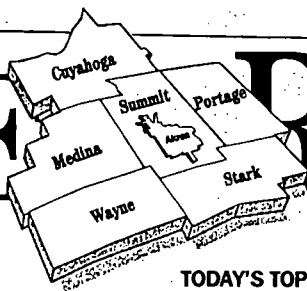
The 1995 conference is the fourth one ever and will be the last of this century. Leading up to the conference are more than 700 officially recognized events across the nation, including local, state

and regional activities as well as mini-conferences and focus groups.

Each Missouri congressman named one delegate to the conference, and Carnahan named 18 delegates.

~~Beacon Journal~~
Beacon Journal
Akron, Ohio

THE REGION



TODAY'S TOPIC: Conference on Aging

Local voices due in D.C.

• Delegates will relay area's collective thinking on issues affecting elderly

The following delegates will represent the region at the White House Conference on Aging, May 2-5. Here are some of the topics they want to discuss at the conference:

"When people go into nursing homes, it can cost \$30,000 to \$36,000 a year. You can run through your life savings... and the spouse who remains at home can suffer financial strain. That's an issue I'm particularly interested in."



Margaret Olds

"Many experts feel that helping people stay in their own homes will help prevent them from these expensive, expensive long-term care costs. I want to be sure there is provision for elderly who need this kind of care to get it, even when their resources are depleted."

"Services such as Mobile Meals and Passport, which helps older Ohioans remain in their homes, are subject to uncertain funding. As the older population increases, the need will also increase."

"Programs that help older well adults stay productive are important to maintain, also."

"One of the roles of the delegates will be to come back and mobilize the people here, to get done what we need to get done. Ultimately, it all goes back to the voter."

— Margaret Olds, Cuyahoga Falls, director of Summit County's OASIS educational program, appointed by Rep. Tom Sawyer.

"I hope to share experiences that will sensitize the government to the ongoing needs of the elderly poor."



Myrtle Peters

"I hope to advocate for continuing the Older Americans Act, and against cutting meaningful programs such as the Foster Grandparent Program, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, and the Senior Companion Program."

— Myrtle Peters, Akron, director of Akron's Foster Grandparent Programs, appointed by Gov. George Voinovich.

"Many important focus issues, ranging from health care to crime and personal safety, will be discussed. I feel that one of the important focus areas includes

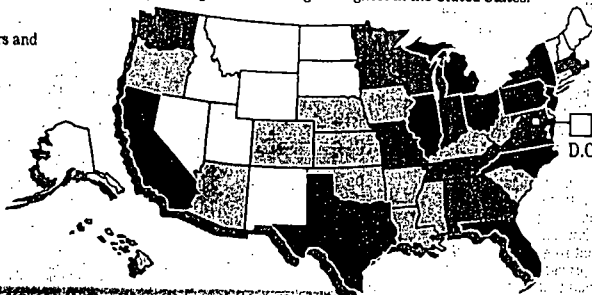
Profiling the older population

Across the nation

The nation's elderly population, 10 times larger now than in 1980, is expected to more than double between 1990 and 2030 as Baby Boomers reach age 65 beginning in 2011. Eleven states could have more than 1 million elderly by 2010. Ohio's elderly population ranks among the highest in the United States.

Population 65 years and over in 1990

- Under 200,000
- 200,000-499,999
- 500,000-999,999
- 1 million or more



Across Ohio



- Almost one-third of older Ohioans live alone; of those age 75 and older, more than half live alone.
- Income for Ohio elders who are minorities is much lower than for white Ohio elders. About 1 in 4 older white Ohio residents takes in less than \$9,500 a year; for older African-Americans in Ohio, over 4 in 10 take in less than \$9,500.
- Fewer Ohio elders live below the poverty rate than the national average.
- Ohio's older population ranks 7th in the nation. The total elderly population is 1.432 million.
- Ninety-five percent of all older Ohioans would prefer to live in their own home, even if they need outside care. Two-thirds of Ohio elders live on their own, depending mainly on help from family, friends and neighbors.
- Slightly over 137,000 older Ohioans are employed.
- Ohioans age 85 and older are part of the fastest-growing age group in the state. The 85-plus group increased by 77 percent between 1970 to 1990.

Across the region

Here are numbers showing the growth in the 65-plus population from 1980 to 1990.

County	Percent population growth	1980 population	1990 population
Portage	38% growth	9,667	13,341
Summit	21% growth	58,997	71,214
Medina	47% growth	8,067	11,860
Stark	25% growth	42,321	62,971
Wayne	27% growth	9,301	11,803

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, Ohio Department of Aging, Knight-Ridder

Here are numbers reflecting the percent of elders in the total population of each area in 1990.

Portage	9.36%
Summit	13.83%
Medina	9.69%
Stark	14.41%
Wayne	11.63%
Ohio	12.6%
National	13.1%

JAMIE TANNER/Beacon Journal

TAKING PART

To attend the preconference: Ohio's preconference for the National White House Conference on Aging will be held April 13 in Columbus. Topics to be discussed are health care, crime, economic security, transportation and housing. Results will be carried to the White House Conference.

The conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Aladdin Temple, 3850 Stelzer Road. To register for the free conference, call the Ohio Department of Aging, (614) 4466-

5500. Registration deadline is April 5.

To attend the conference: There are 250 "observer seats" available at the conference at the Washington (D.C.) Hilton. For more information, contact Shirley Cohen, (202) 245-7826.

To watch the conference: It will be broadcast via satellite. The specific channel will be designated shortly before the conference. For more information, call Mike Callahan at 1-800-800-2172.

the country. These include older adults as mentors for children and their parents in high-risk families, as mentors for first-time juvenile offenders, as tutors, and as staff members in day care centers.

"These programs have enjoyed a high success rate, with benefits for both the young and the old. In a time of decreasing funding, vanishing resources and an approaching intergenerational war based on the use of funds as Social Security, intergenerational programs provide an alternative approach that

subject to uncertain funding. As the older population increases, the need will often increase.

"Programs that help older adults stay productive are important to maintain, also.

"One of the roles of the delegates will be to come back and mobilize the people here, to get done what we need to get done. Ultimately, it all goes back to the voter."

— Margaret Olds, Cuyahoga Falls, director of Summit County's OASIS educational program, appointed by Rep. Tom Sawyer.

"I hope to share experiences that will sensitize the government to the ongoing needs of the elderly poor.

"I hope to advocate for continuing the Older Americans Act, and against cutting meaningful programs such as the Foster Grandparent

Program, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, and the Senior Companion Program."

— Myrtle Peters, Akron, director of Akron's Foster Grandparent Programs, appointed by Gov. George Voinovich.

"Many important focus issues, ranging from health care to crime and personal safety, will be discussed. I feel that one of the most important focus areas includes inter-generational issues.

As delegates develop policy recommendations for any important aging issue, we must consider the impact on all generations.

"The message that I am hearing from local older adults, as well as older Americans across the nation, emphasizes the importance of programs and services that address the needs of the entire family.

"I hope that I have the opportunity to work on shaping policy that will strengthen the family, because strong families produce strong members, young and old alike."

— Nancy Likens, Wadsworth, executive director, Medina County Office for Older Adults, appointed by Voinovich.

"One of my main concerns will be intergenerational programming. It was once said that the way we treat our children in the dawning of their lives and the way that we treat our elders in the twilight of their lives is the mark of a nation's quality of a nation.

"Intergenerational programs bring together the young and old in ongoing relationships that foster understanding. They've taken many forms in pilot programs, such as ours, throughout

More than 8 out of 10 older Ohioans own homes, and more than two-thirds own homes that are mortgage-free.

Fewer Ohio elders live below the poverty rate than the national average.

Ohio's older population ranks 7th in the nation. The total elderly population is 1.432 million.

Slightly over 137,000 older Ohioans are employed.

Ohioans age 85 and older are part of the fastest-growing age group in the state. The 85-plus group increased by 77 percent between 1970 to 1990.

Across the region

Here are numbers showing the growth in the 65-plus population from 1980 to 1990.

County	Percent population growth	1980 population	1990 population
Portage	38% growth	8,667	13,341
Summit	21% growth	68,987	71,214
Medina	47% growth	8,067	11,860
Stark	25% growth	42,321	62,971
Wayne	27% growth	8,301	11,803

County	Percent of total population of each area in 1990
Portage	9.36%
Summit	13.83%
Medina	9.69%
Stark	14.41%
Wayne	11.63%
Ohio	12.6%
National	13.1%

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, Ohio Department of Aging, Knight Ridder

the country. These include older adults as mentors for children and their parents in high-risk families, as mentors for first-time juvenile offenders, as tutors, and as staff members in day care centers.

"These programs have enjoyed a high success rate, with benefits for both the young and the old. In a time of decreasing funding, vanishing resources and an approaching intergenerational 'war' based on the use of funds as Social Security, inter-generational programs provide an alternative approach that may pacify many, bringing together generations united as one caring nation."

— Merle Griff, Canton, director, McKinley Centre Intergenerational Project, appointed by Rep. Ralph Regula.

"I will carry to the conference the following concerns:

"Economic security — protecting the long-term viability of Social Security, discontinuing governmental borrowing from the Social Security fund, and leaving the surpluses intact to adequately fund present and future recipients.

"Health care — protecting Medicare, together with the need for access to affordable and quality health care, including long-term care. Also, increasing the emphasis on preventative health programs.

"Housing — keeping Ohio's Passport program (for elderly home care) open year-round, without a waiting list, increased supportive services, such as transportation and home delivery of meals.

"Quality of life — continued education, advocacy and service to promote independence, dignity and purpose for older people."

— Anne Nixon, Akron, lead volunteer for Area 5 of the American Association of Retired Persons, appointed by Voinovich.

TAKING PART

To attend the preconference: Ohio's preconference for the National White House Conference on Aging will be held April 13 in Columbus. Topics to be discussed are health care, crime, economic security, transportation and housing. Results will be carried to the White House Conference.

The conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Aladdin Temple, 3850 Stetzer Road. To register for the free conference, call the Ohio Department of Aging, (614) 448-6500. Registration deadline is April 5.

To attend the conference: There are 250 "observer seats" available at the conference, at the Washington (D.C.) Hilton. For more information, contact Shirley Cohen, (202) 245-7826.

To watch the conference: It will be broadcast by satellite. The specific channel will be designated shortly before the conference. For more information, call Mike Callahan at 1-800-800-2372.

The needs of the nation's elders will be addressed at the White House Conference on Aging, May 2-5. Five delegates from the region will attend. Pass your thoughts to them by answering the following question:

What should President Clinton know about the problems facing senior citizens in our region?

Please type or print your answer and limit it to the space provided.

Tell The President
Akron Beacon Journal
44 E. Exchange St.
P.O. Box 640
Akron, Ohio 44309

Mail your response to: _____

Mail your coupon by March 28.

Those who cannot write due to physical problems may call the delegates at the following numbers:

- Myrtle Peters (work) 996-4030 (home) 535-2423
- Margaret Olds (work) 633-7814 (home) 945-4327
- Anne Nixon 784-8565
- Nancy Likens 723-9514 336-6657 225-7100
- Merle Griff 456-1014



Keep your messages brief



Myrtle Peters



Nancy Likens



Anne Nixon



Merle Griff

JAMEE TANNER/Beacon Journal

GOALS

• Health care, housing are critical subjects

Continued from Page B1

deficit are now being tossed around like so many bean bags.

For instance, the Senate unveiled another deficit-reduction plan on Monday, one that would include braking Medicare's growth and cutting cost-of-living increases to Social Security beneficiaries.

"... Everything's on the table, everything's being challenged in the interest of change," conference director Bob Blancato said in a telephone interview from Washington. Blancato has been criss-crossing

the country for months, attending pre-conference forums such as last month's Cleveland summit on aging, which drew 1,000 participants, making it one of the largest turnouts in the country.

"We're in an environment where there may not be the ability to put forward a series of major new initiatives (but to) take a look at what is out there and make it better," he said.

The first White House Conference on Aging was held in 1961. It is widely considered the most significant, as it resulted in the creation of Medicare and Medicaid, prompted states to establish commissions on aging, and was responsible for the Older Americans Act, establishing the federal Administration on Aging. Also, the conference resulted in more subsidized housing and transportation for older Americans.

Conferences have been held each decade. The last, held in 1981, was strained because it was jointly planned by the administrations of Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.

It was the least productive, resulting in only the 1983 Social Security reforms.

This year's conference is the first that will have an intergenerational theme, Blancato added.

"We're trying to put out the word that it's a conference on the aging, not the aged." To convey this message, 15 youth delegates will attend the conference, he said.

Blancato said he hopes the conference will help dispel the belief that there is a mounting intergenerational war over entitlements.

"We need to put a coalition together that goes to bat for the needy of both groups," he said.

Conference topics were formulated after a series of several hundred pre-conference meetings. The four main issues will be:

- Assuring comprehensive health care, including long-term care.
- Promoting economic security.
- Maximizing housing and support service options.
- Maximizing options for a quality life.

A bad year for miracles?

Akon, OH
3/16/95

• Conference on Aging achieved major goals in past, but new climate may dictate more modest objectives

BY KATHERINE SPITZ
Beacon Journal staff writer

America is getting older and its money is getting tighter.

The first of the Baby Boomers will turn 50 next year, and there is record growth in the nation's 85-plus population. At the same time, Medicare and Social Security cuts are being pitched in Congress.

All this makes it a crucial time for the century's final White House Conference on Aging, being held May 2-5.

Past conferences have led to

federal policies affecting older Americans, including the formation of Medicaid and Medicare.

Such issues are particularly important to some parts of this region. In most areas, the growth of the 65-plus population has surpassed the national average.

Between 1980 and 1990, that growth was 24.3 percent. But the rate was nearly double in Medina County, making it the highest in the region. The lowest in the region was Summit County, at 20 percent.

Ohio will be heavily represented

at the conference, sending 61 delegates, including five from the area.

The discussion at this year's conference comes at a time when the political climate has drastically

changed. Although the White House conference is bipartisan, and was planned before November's Republican landslide, ideas to shrink the

See GOALS, Page B5



Five area delegates to give input at aging meeting. Page B3.

Health care, Social Security hot topics at aging conference

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 2,250 people are preparing for a three-day debate that will influence the federal government's role in a process no one escapes regardless of their politics — getting older.

As in previous years, health care, income security and housing top the agenda at the fourth White House Conference on Aging in Washington in May.

But don't assume the conference will focus only on people over 55, said Robert Blancato, the event's executive director.

Discussions will touch on employment, mental health and child care as well as retirement and healthy living, he said.

"This is a White House conference on aging, not a White House conference on the aged. The topics are very comprehensive and broad. They impact more than just the older population," said Blancato, a former president of the national Wheels on Meals program and a former staff director for the House Select Committee on Aging.

"It's about redefining images of aging, productivity, training, having a second career, having a third career, education, volunteering," said Fernando Torres-Gil, head of the Health and Human Services Department's Administration on Aging.

"It will include some issues such as support systems, how one relies on friends, neighbors and relatives so as not to be lonely or alone," Torres-Gil said. "We'll be talking about what it means to live a good, long life and have a measure of independence."

Delegates are still working on specific proposals. But as in previous conferences, ideas approved by delegates could find their way into new federal programs, policies and laws.

This year's political fight over a proposed balanced budget amendment to the Constitution probably will make Social Security and Medicare hot topics, organizers said.

"I think the discussion will include the need to establish a home- and community-based long-term health care system," Blancato said. "I think there's strong interest among delegates for reaffirma-

tion on Social Security and its integrity, and I believe there will be a special concentration on the need to assist the rapidly increased number of grandparents providing care for grandchildren."

Grandparents provide full-time care for 3 million American children, he said, at times because of divorce or the imprisonment of one parent. Grandparents also provide primary day care for 2 million more children.

"The problem is that state and federal laws have not kept up with this phenomenon," Blancato said.

Many of this year's topics were developed during more than 700 pre-conference events, including a November forums on risk-free exercises for the elderly in Louisville, Ky., and a discussion on the lives of rural senior citizens in Hudson, N.Y., in December.

Ideas proposed during the first Conference on Aging in 1961 played an important role in the creation of Medicaid and Medicare, Torres-Gil said. The Older Americans Act was passed and amendments to Social Security laws were approved, providing more benefits.

After the 1971 conference, Congress increased Social Security benefits by 20 percent and established cost-of-living escalators. The federal government also began a national nutrition program for the elderly and created the Supplemental Social Security Income program.

Social Security reforms followed the 1981 conference, which was planned by the Reagan and Carter administrations.

This year, conference organizers agreed to increase the number of delegates from 2,000 to 2,259 because of last November's Republican sweep of Congress, conference spokesman Bryan Preston said.

Most of the delegates were chosen by the nation's governors, congressmen and senators. Activists groups, including aging and veterans' organizations, also selected delegates as did the White House and the Health and Human Services Department.

"We've got caregivers, academics, professionals in the field and folks that are simply senior citizens," Preston said.

Las Vegas, NV
SUN
Las Vegas
Met Area

Thursday

D 63.928

MAR 16, 1995

P3954

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

12 to attend aging conference

SUN CAPITAL BUREAU

CARSON CITY - Gov. Bob Miller has named 12 people, eight of them from Clark County, as delegates to the White House Aging Conference in May.

Those from Southern Nevada are Thelma Clark, a lobbyist for seniors and mobile home residents; Patricia Duncombe, co-founder of Lend-A-Hand; Albert Johns, president and founder of the National Council of Senior Citizens; and Thomas Leigh, a member of the Nevada

Commission on Aging.

Others from Clark County are Evelyn McColl, a retired deputy health officer for Clark County; Dalton Wellman, a co-founder of the Nevada Seniors Coalition; Leo Wilner, former executive director of Temple Beth Shalom; and Suzanne Ernst, head of the state Aging Division.

Delegates from outside Clark County are Harry Clemons of Reno and Alice Brown, both of Reno, Dorothy Phillips of Caliente and Charles Knight of Elko.

Titusville Herald

Published June 14, 1865. Oldest Daily Newspaper in Northwestern Pennsylvania

Cooling

Partly sunny today. High 45 to 50. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 25 to 30. Sunday, mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. High around 50.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 18, 1995

35 CENTS

Aging Conference Held Here



SPEAKERS AT CONFERENCE - Robert Blancato (l), executive director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, and U.S. Rep. William Clinger (R-5) were among the speakers at the Mini-White House Conference on Aging, "Myths of Aging," held Friday at Cross Creek Resort. It was sponsored by the Northwest Pennsylvania RSVP Directors' Network. Information gathered at this, and other, mini-conferences will be presented at the White House Conference which will map out the country's aging policy for the next 10 years. (Herald photo by Jon Sherman)

Clinger Says Event Will Help To Form White House Policy

by JON SHERMAN
Herald Staff Writer

Myth: All senior citizens love to babysit their grandchildren.

Reality: Some do, some don't.

Myth: All senior citizens want nothing more than to retire to Florida.

Reality: Some do, some don't.

Posters such as this greeted the approximately 200 residents from 11 counties who attended "Myths of Aging," a recognized White House Conference on Aging mini-conference Friday at Cross Creek Resort.

The Northwest Pennsylvania RSVP Directors' Network hosted the event, one of many held around the country in anticipation of the official White House Conference on Aging to take place in Washington, D.C., in May.

Keynote speaker for the conference was U.S. Rep. William Clinger (R-5), whose district includes nine of the 11 counties

represented.

Also speaking was Robert Blancato, executive director of the White House Conference on Aging.

Clinger, chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, began his remarks by commenting he was "delighted to be out of the pressure cooker of the 100 days and out in the real world."

Clinger explained that the White House Conference on Aging will develop the national aging policy for the next 10 years. Similar conferences took place in 1961, 1971 and 1981.

"The ideas implemented at the conference will impact the new millennium," said Clinger.

The term "aging" at first seems to refer only to the elderly, but Clinger pointed out that everyone is aging, and that this is a component of the conference.

"This is what we're after," said Clinger, "the interdependence of generations. The interaction is important between old

See AGING page two

-aging-

and young."

Clinger outlined the importance of mini-conferences such as the one held at Cross Creek provides "grassroots" input toward the final decisions made at the White House Conference.

"Too many of us at the federal level," said Clinger, "Have gotten the idea that if an idea didn't originate in Washington it couldn't be any good. We're learning, though, that the best suggestions come from the bottom up."

Clinger took time in his remarks to discuss several aspects of the "revolution" under way on Capitol Hill.

One of the objectives, he said, is to "re-define" the relationship between the federal, state and local governments. "We want to take more of the decision-making process away from Washington," Clinger said.

A "cornerstone" of the new Congress is block grants and the end of unfunded mandates.

"We want to preserve the integrity of health and safety programs at the local level, rather than through bureaucrats pushing paper," the congressman stated.

"Local people know better the people they serve." Clinger added that one aim of health care reform is to try to lower costs through insurance reform and the reduction of paperwork.

The school lunch program is not "dead," Clinger assured the

audience.

"There's going to be less mandating and more listening to people," Clinger said.

Speaking of the Senior Citizens Equity Act, Clinger noted there are several objectives:

- Provide more equitable taxation.

- Increase the earnings limit so seniors can work without losing Social Security benefits.

- Repeal the tax increase on Social Security benefits.

- Make available private, long-term health care insurance.

Speaking of the aim to wipe out the federal deficit by 2002, Clinger said attempts are being made to avoid "raiding" Social Security and "absolutely slashing" Medicare.

"Social Security is the ultimate safety net," Clinger asserted.

While saying he is "sensitive" to the "Draconian" effect Medicare cuts would have, Clinger pointed out that if nothing is done, Medicare will be insolvent by 2001. The Social Security trust fund will be depleted by 2029, just about the time the Baby Boomers are reaching retirement age.

"This is the most daunting challenge facing congressmen," said Clinger.

Among the budget-cutting measures Clinger mentioned are "significant" cuts in corporate subsidies. "This current Congress does not represent the

Country Club set," said Clinger. "They're going after Wall Street and Main Street. It's a 'take no prisoners' attitude."

Continuing, he noted, "This Congress came to do what's right, even if it means their reelection. If they lose, they have the satisfaction of knowing they did the right thing. People may not like what we're doing, but we will be passing some pretty profound legislation."

Following his address, Clinger was asked if it were necessary for Congress to discontinue its funding to public television.

He pointed out that the federal government only supplied 15 percent of the funding for public television.

"Nowadays," he explained, "there is a variety of cable stations which carry quality programming. Public broadcasting is no longer alone in providing a high level of programs, Clinger said.

Clinger, Blancato, Rep. Scott Hutchinson and Jorina Ahmed, state director of the Corporation for National and Community Service, presided at a news conference held after Clinger's address.

Blancato was appointed executive director of the White House Conference on Aging by President Bill Clinton.

Blancato commented that of the 750 similar mini-conferences held throughout the country, 65

percent of the 58,000 who attended were 55 years of age or older.

Calling attention to the theme, "Myths of Aging," Blancato said it is important to "give a better balance to how older people are perceived."

Too often, he said, the media (especially the national media) have given a misrepresentation of senior citizens as "greedy geezers" and coming across as cantankerous.

He mentioned the tens of thousands of seniors who are leading productive lives as volunteers.

Clinger was asked whether cost-of-living allowances could be eliminated - not give people less, just don't give them more.

Clinger replied it was a good suggestion, noting that COLAs are not expected by those in the private sector.

Throughout the day, there were workshops on topics such as "Cognitive Functioning and Role Behaviors," "Sexuality and Personality Characteristics," "Employability and New Ageism" and "Social Involvement and Portrayal in Advertising/Media."

In addition to Clinger and Hutchinson, other lawmakers in attendance were Rep. Teresa Brown and Fred McIlhattan representing state Sens. John Peterson and Tim Shaffer.

Aging conference in May will cover important issues

By CASSANDRA BURRELL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - More than 2,250 people are preparing for a three-day debate that will influence the federal government's role in a process no one escapes regardless of their politics - getting older.

As in previous years, health care, income security and housing top the agenda at the fourth White House Conference on Aging in Washington in May.

But don't assume the conference will focus only on people over 55, said Robert Blancato, the event's executive director.

Discussions will touch on employment, mental health and child care as well as retirement and healthy living, he said.

"This is a White House conference on aging, not a White House conference on the aged. The

topics are very comprehensive and broad. They impact more than just the older population," said Blancato, a former president of the national Wheels on Meals program and a former staff director for the House Select Committee on Aging.

"It's about redefining defining images of aging, productivity, training, having a second career, having a third career, education, volunteering," said Fernando Torres-Gil, head of the Health and Human Services Department's Administration on Aging.

"It will include some issues such as support systems, how one relies on friends, neighbors and relatives so as not to be lonely or alone," Torres-Gil said. "We'll be talking about what it means to live a good, long life and have a measure of independence."

Delegates are still working on specific proposals. But as in previous conferences, ideas approved by delegates could find their way into new federal programs, policies and laws.

This year's political fight over a proposed balanced budget amendment to the Constitution probably will make Social Security and Medicare hot topics, organizers said.

"I think the discussion will include the need to establish a home- and community-based long-term health care system," Blancato said. "I think there's strong interest among delegates for reaffirmation on Social Security and its integrity, and I believe there will be a special concentration on the need to assist the rapidly increased number of grandparents providing care for grandchildren."

Grandparents provide full-time care for 3 million American children, he said, at times because of divorce or the imprisonment of one parent. Grandparents also provide primary day care for 2 million more children.

"The problem is that state and federal laws have not kept up with this phenomenon," Blancato said.

Many of this year's topics were developed during more than 700 pre-conference events, including a November forums on risk-free exercises for the elderly in Louisville, Ky., and a discussion on the lives of rural senior citizens in Hudson, N.Y., in December.

Ideas proposed during the first Conference on Aging in 1961 played an important role in the creation of Medicaid and Medicare, Torres-Gil said. The Older Americans Act was passed and

amendments to Social Security laws were approved, providing more benefits.

After the 1971 conference, Congress increased Social Security benefits by 20 percent and established cost-of-living escalators. The federal government also began a national nutrition program for the elderly and created the Supplemental Social Security Income program.

Social Security reforms followed the 1981 conference, which was planned by the Reagan and Carter administrations.

This year, conference organizers agreed to increase the number of delegates from 2,000 to 2,259 because of last November's Republican sweep of Congress, conference spokesman Bryan Preston said.

Most of the delegates were chosen by the nation's governors,

congressmen and senators. Activists groups, including aging and veterans' organizations, also selected delegates as did the White House and the Health and Human Services Department.

"We've got caregivers, academics, professionals in the field and folks that are simply senior citizens," Preston said. "We really have a wide variety based on who chose them."

Because of its population, California is sending the largest delegation - 129. American Samoa and Guam are sending three each.

"Each delegation must be 50 percent senior citizens, and we define senior citizens as people 55 and older," Preston said.

"Each must be at least 50 percent women and must reflect the state - meaning minorities, urban, rural," he said.

Governor Appoints Conference Delegates

Gov. Stephen Merrill has appointed 11 delegates to represent New Hampshire at the 1985 White House Conference on Aging to be held May 2-5 at the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel.

He has also named 11 alternate delegates.

Heading the state delegation as coordinator is Hamilton S. Putnam of Concord, member of the State Committee on Aging.

The group represents the state's disabled, veterans, senior citizens, lawmakers, the professions and those with proven records of service for the elderly.

Gov. Merrill's delegate appointees include:

State Sen. Eleanor Podles and State Rep. Frances Riley, both of Manchester; May Casten of Derry, a former mayor, legislator and new chairman of the State Committee on Aging; Norma P. St. Germain of Hampton, who serves on the legislative committee of the American Association of Retired Persons and Irene Dominici of Charlestown, a former legislator and member of the State Committee on Aging.

Also, Margaret Mary Mongan of Manchester, former Department of Health and Human Services commissioner and now administrator of the Hillcrest Terrace Retirement Center in the Queen City; Ronald Adcock of Concord, director, State Division of Elderly and Adult Services; Raymond K. Conley Jr. of Sandwich, a former state senator and now chairman of the State Commission on Disability; Conrad V. Moran of Manchester, director, State Veterans Council and Richard A. Chevrefils of Concord, director, State Division of Human Services.

Merrill's alternate delegate appointees include:

Ariene Kershaw of Manchester, manager of the Nashua Southern NH Regional Medical Center 65Plus program; Joan T. Doran of New London, member, Keene Area Council on Aging;

Susanne Hovling, director, Pelham Senior Center; Cecelia M. Mozden of Claremont, director, AARP; Constance Strome of Contoocook and Kathleen Sgambati of Tilton, assistant commissioner, NH Department of Health and Human Services.

Also, former state senator and Globe Manufacturing official, George E. Freeze, Jr. of Pittsfield; Roger Vachon of Lebanon, area coordinator, NH Division of Elderly and Adult Services; Donald Miner of Concord, a former legislator and now active in Merrimack County Senior Citizens groups; Weston Gardner of Plymouth Senior Center and member, State Committee on Aging and Robert F. Wilson, MD, of Madbury, a former legislator and retired Dover physician.

NH members of Congress have appointed the following delegates:

Sen. Judd Gregg: Forrest D. McKerley of Penacook, president of the McKerley Health Care Centers, Inc.;

Sen. Robert Smith: Manchester businessman Stephen N. Mathieu;

Rep. William Zeff, Jr.: Ted Lee of Manchester; and

Rep. Charles Bass: Bruce Sowerby of Peterboro.

Before he left office, former Rep. Richard Swett appointed Patricia Russell of Keene.

There will be 2,250 delegates to the conference, appointed by the nation's governors, members of Congress, President Clinton, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Palau and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The goal of the conference is to provide resolutions to influence national aging policy and to develop a blueprint for action to have them implemented. This conference, the last one for this century, will have an impact on aging concerns into the 21st Century.

The Sun Herald
Mississippi 3/23/95

Lodge manager
Country Cajun
Crawfish Fest
Marquee

INSIDE

Ann & Abby ▶ B-6
Fridge ▶ B-6
Business ▶ D-5
Classifieds ▶ C-4
Comics ▶ B-7
F.Y.I. ▶ C-2
Legals ▶ C-3
Movies ▶ B-2
Obituaries ▶ C-2
Opinion ▶ A-8,9
Puzzles ▶ C-6
TV ▶ B-6



WASHINGTON OFFICIAL CALLS FOR BROADER REFORM TO HELP AGING

By **NAN PATTON EHRBRIGHT**
THE SUN HERALD

■ **BILOXI** — One of the country's experts on public policy issues involving the aging says 1995 will be a critical year for anyone interested in those issues.

That means everybody, according to Fernando M. Torres-Gil, assistant secretary for aging in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Thirteen percent of the American population today is 65 or older, Torres-Gil said. By the year 2020, that figure will double to about 70 million

people.

"Ultimately, we are talking about addressing the concerns of an aging society where all of us have a stake," he said. "Aging affects everything — housing, transportation, long-term care, health, crime. We are preparing for the next century, when all of us hope to be older."

Torres-Gil was keynote speaker at the 10th annual Mississippi Joint Conference on Aging which began Wednesday and ends Friday at the Treasure Bay Resort Hotel.

"Quality of Life: Challenges of Aging in a Changing Society" is the conference theme.



Torres-Gil

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Older Americans Act, which is up for reauthorization in Congress. It's also a year when Americans are worried about what the Republican-controlled Congress may do to Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Torres-Gil opposes proposals to switch programs to block grants with options for the states to provide matching funds.

"We feel that's a prescription for dismantling Medicaid," he said. "The answer is not to reduce funds... but to get control of health care costs throughout the private sector. Ultimately, it's the public who is going to have to demand a broader approach to reform."

Torres-Gil said it's also time to make better use of older Americans as "one of our greatest untapped resources."

People who lived through the Depression, World War II and the Cold War, he said, have talents, values and lessons to pass on to future generations.

firms and 150 brokers at 15 regional firms.

Among the findings:

▶ Twenty-six percent of prospective women customers heard testimonials such as "I have invested in this stock myself." Among males, 10 percent heard the tactic.

▶ Women were more than twice as likely not to be asked about their investment history, which is important in determining suitability of different financial packages.

A.G. Edwards scored best among national firms with 81.61 out of a possible 100. Dean Witter Reynolds ranked second.

Among regional firms, Missouri-based Edward D. Jones & Co. was first.

877-558-512
933-428
558-855 ME

Get some news?

...the gathering place in Biloxi... could be grandmas and wear those outfits out...

3/23/95

THE SUN HERALD

© 1995

SERVING THE MISSISSIPPI COAST SINCE 1824

Vol. 111, No.

■ What Mississippians will take to the White House Conference on Aging

Headed to Washington



PHOTO BY MATTHEW/SUN HERALD

Frances R. Shoemaker of Jackson County picks up a prescription from pharmacist Woody Gamble at Calvert-Gamble Pharmacy on Pass Road in Biloxi. Health care is one of the primary concerns being discussed at the 1995 Mississippi Joint Conference on Aging. The conference, scheduled through Friday, is being held at the Treasure Bay Resort Hotel.

Anger boils over in House as welfare bill sparks hotly debated

By JENNIFER DIXON THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Spurred by a House vote that erupted in the House on Wednesday as Democrats bitterly fought to bring a majority Republican bill to the floor through a mean-spirited fare overhaul bill, in the floor fight yet over the "Contract With America."

Democrats accused the GOP of a cruel and inhumane program that would slash welfare benefits. The bill shrinks spending by \$66 billion.

Anti-abortion Republicans tried to derail the bill earlier in the day, but lost a handful of votes, 217-211.

Soon after, tempers boiled as Republicans grouped to offer 11 amendments, including one involving abortion, and scaled back the debate.

"Will you get these high members to sit down and shut up all sit down and shut up," Rep. St. Johns, D-Fla., roared at the floor officer.

Rep. Jim McCrery, R-La., interrupted, asking, "Is that proper form of behavior for a member of Congress?"

"I will be as petulant as I can be," Gibbons boomed back, complaining that the legislation meant to children. Rep. Gibbons boomed.

"Boo if you want to, make out of yourselves if you want." Let 'em boo, Mr. Speaker, said Gibbons.

In a series of votes after the day of angry debate, the approved amendments that allow the savings from the haul, an estimated \$66 billion, to be used to pay for tax cuts, prohibit federal welfare funds from being spent on abortions for women.

Lawmakers also agreed to a ban on cash aid to teen-age mothers, and to allow children born to women already on welfare, by allowing such women to receive vouchers for the purchase of diapers and necessities.

Audit: Broker snub women

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — A cover audit of 21 stock brokers showed they failed to provide customers with vital information they gave them, the San Francisco Chronicle reported Wednesday.

The nationwide survey by San Francisco-based Prophet Research & Consulting Inc. found 150 brokers at the top six firms and 150 brokers at regional firms.

Health care, economic security among concerns

By KAT BERGERON THE SUN HERALD

■ BILOXI — When Mississippi delegates go to the White House Conference on Aging in May, they will highlight elderly Mississippians' concerns about access to health care and home services, nutrition, economic security, job opportunities, affordable housing and quality of life.

The delegates' preliminary report, written after months of local and regional meetings with thousands of citizens, was presented Wednesday afternoon to about 400 people at the 1995 Mississippi Joint Conference on Aging at Treasure Bay Resort Hotel.

Some spoke up to ask the delegates to include other concerns, such as safety, transportation, more involvement of churches and better use of existing funds.

"What we're doing today is very important as we send our messages from Mississippi to Washington, from our house to the White House," said Eddie Anderson, state director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services.

The 60-plus population in Mississippi increased from 392,605 in the 1980 to 427,996 in the 1990 census. Of those, 27 percent are poor, 60 percent are women, 52 percent are rural and 17 percent disabled.

The preliminary report points out that, although some of the aged have gained ground over the past 10 years, many older citizens still need assistance.

"Older people set standards of excellence for succeeding generations," said Anna Marie Barnes, health and human services advisor to the governor.

"This is our opportunity to influence the national policy on aging."

On to Washington

Twenty-three delegates and 13 alternates have compiled the eight-page report after holding 19 smaller conferences across the state. This week's conference, which runs through Friday, is the grand finale before a final report is ready to take to Washington.

Jane Kennedy of Southern Mississippi Area Agency on Aging and one of the national delegates explained:

"We need to help educate these delegates," Kennedy said. "Let's think of the entire society as an aging society. It's wonderful to have luxuries like senior citizens' center. But let's promote healthy lifestyles. We need to help people remain independent."

Each state is holding similar conferences, and all the delegates will convene in six weeks in Washington. The number of delegates is determined by the 55-plus population in each state.

The White House Conference on Aging is a federally mandated event that has occurred about every 10 years since 1961. The last one in 1981 is credited with the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Social Security reform and expanded home care programs.

Having their say

Considered a grassroots effort because it begins at local levels and ends in Washington, this week's conference is attended by a mixture of interested citizens, those in the health care and aging industries, ministers and others.

Those in the audience heard a small amount of speech-making and lot of heartfelt comments by those who took to the microphone.

"What I say comes from self-experience," said Phalange Word of Greenville. "What we need to do is consider aging from birth because if we don't our children, the baby-boomers children and their children will be in the same predicament that we are."

"If you do not prepare for aging when you are young, you will be sacrificed."

Several, including Dr. John Atwood at the U.S. Naval Retirement Home in Gulfport, asked the delegates to concentrate on existing funding.

Please see Aging, Back Page



Phalange Word



Dr. John Atwood



George Jobe



Roscoe Word Jr.

WASHINGTON OFFICIAL CALLS FOR BROADER REFORM TO HELP AGING

THE DE NEWS

For more in 20 years,arren E wnsen l s sperr ch of t s ve doin l jobs -- big d smal at the lation

ownse id work wen 29th ar nu ard. Th / Magn lia n to a er sant co tri

orked i the if the V ter Center or started as a Salvatio ne the apain nd

ting

sal

orks and

NEWS

m

19 95

ISLATI RE

ed by im nome,

signed this \$3 mil on project after to get the Hard son, Beauvir, emiere Ve've got a origina scripts f rning th memb rs. lavis ar d rences: ven to is

and m x e C-2

ANT, VEEF

DAY

Aging

Continued from A-1

"My message is to fight for what we have and to ensure that the funds will be used for what they are supposed to be used for," he said.

Paul Cotten of William Carey College and also president of the Mississippi Gerontology Society, pleaded for equity between mental and physical health for older citizens. Sister Delores Coleman of de l' Epee Deaf Center on the Coast asked that the elderly hearing impaired not be overlooked. Barbara Byrne of Natchez asked that transportation be a priority in a fast-aging society.

Several wanted the delegates to send the message to Washington to stop bi-partisan bickering and publication of half-truths.

"I have a concern about what I see as a spirit of divisiveness in our media and in our halls of Congress," said George Jobe of Biloxi, AARP's new state director. "That puts the younger people against the older people, males against females, and blacks against whites when what we need is unity.

"So carry the torch for us to Washington with that message. Lord knows our country needs it."

A loud round of applause followed, as it did when Roscoe Word Jr., a delegate from Clarksdale, said:

"The problems I have seen in our nursing home business happen because you can't take away the human element. Care starts at home. How many holidays have I seen no family visit our patients.

"You cannot give an injection of love."

Several touched on the need of the state's religious efforts to turn to the older citizen.

"Churches in our communities need to get involved in Mission Mississippi," summed up the Rev. James R. Johnson, a former state aging director.

The conferees indicated that Vikki Polecki, of Greenwood, who represented the North Central Area Agency on Aging, hit the nail on the head when she turned to the delegates and asked them to visit the needy elderly.

The delegates are a diverse group, from a judge to a nursing home em-

ployee, and some indicated they already had.

"When you go out and see someone eating dog food," Poleckie said, "and when you see what's in their refrigerators or how they can't pay for medication, then you'll have something to take to Washington."

Hartford, CT
Courant
Hartford Met Area

Friday

D 232.013

MAR 24, 1995

LUCE N1688
PRESS CLIPPINGS

Senior citizens list needs in Cheshire

By GARY LIBOW
Courant Staff Writer

CHESHIRE — Health and home care were the top priorities of local senior citizens and area providers during a conference on aging Thursday.

There was standing room only at the senior center as about 80 senior citizens and care providers met to develop priorities for a state delegation that will attend a White House Conference on Aging.

Sponsored by the Cheshire Social Service Group, the local conference was moderated by Rodney Lane, a member of the town commission on aging who is a dean at

Southern Connecticut State University. The senior citizens' priorities, in order, were health care, home care, housing, legal rights, transportation, safety, senior center services and mental health.

The care providers set the order of priorities as health care, home care, safety, senior center services, housing, transportation, legal rights and mental health.

"It is important to hear from the consumers to see what the priorities are," said Doreen Pulisciano, town senior services coordinator and municipal agent.

Attending the forum was Leo McIlrath of

Please see Senior, Page B2

But Sutton said with all animals — and has a te them. Two stray near the Burger I spent time at the When she bro Charlotte, she rea Southern Connecticut State University. The senior citizens' priorities, in order, were health care, home care, housing, legal

CHESHIRE

Senior citizens prepare list of needs

Continued from Page B1

the Danbury Senior Center, a state delegation alternate to the White House conference.

"Coming from you, it is most important," he said. "We really want to hear from you."

State Rep. Mary Fritz, D-Wallingford, agreed that senior citizens have to be heard, especially at a time when state and national leaders are proposing extensive budget cuts.

Later, during round-table discussions devoted to separate issues, the participants continued their discussions.

Senior citizen Marge Tobin called transportation a key, saying that without buses subsidized by the town many elderly would be totally at a loss.

"You're cut off from here [the senior center]," she said. "You're cut off from the doctor."

Senior citizen Bella Merola said the ability to receive home health care is critical. She recalled a time when both she and her husband, since deceased, were not feeling well and were able to get outside help through Medicare.

"It was such a blessing. It was a relief to me," she said.

At the safety issues discussion, senior citizen Vera Keane said the

Attending the forum was Leo McIlrath of the Danbury Senior Center, a state delegation alternate.

state must better ensure that some elderly are not driving when they should not be.

"I think it can become a very serious problem. [For some,] it's Russian roulette every trip," said Keane, a board of education member.

Senior citizen Pat Coyle was also outspoken, recommending that housing for senior citizens should include stall showers, and that the town construct a better sidewalk system.

"The town should put in sidewalks for pedestrians. Cheshire is terrible. You cannot walk in Cheshire," she said.

Another senior citizen, Ralph Rowland, urged his peers to make sure house identification numbers are installed, so emergency workers can quickly locate a residence.

"We're going to make sure all of them [White House conference delegates] get a result of our finding," Pulisciano said.

Bryan

Some in House GOP Are Edgy About Davis-Bacon Repeal

Moderates quietly urge leaders Not to rush the measure to floor As they look for alternatives

Opposition to outright repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act of 1931 continues to mount in the House, and not all of the resistance is coming from Democrats.

Davis-Bacon, a Depression-era law aimed at protecting local laborers from being underbid by out-of-town workers, requires federal contractors on construction projects to pay "local prevailing wages," which are often union rates. It applies to projects valued at \$2,000 or more.

Although repeal of the law has been a longstanding GOP goal, a number of Republicans have quickly tried to persuade House Republican leaders not to bring a free-standing Davis-Bacon repeal bill to the floor. Instead, some have suggested including repeal language in a must-pass budget reconciliation or appropriations bill later this year.

Some moderates such as New Yorkers Sherry Boehlert and Ben Gilman have long been supporters of Davis-Bacon and would likely vote against repeal in any form. But some other GOP centrists are anxiously looking for an alternative.

"I think Davis-Bacon is clearly ripe for reform," said Steve Gunderson, Wis., a senior member of the Economic Opportunities Committee. However, he added, "This is not as simple an issue as I thought it would be."

Gunderson said he was concerned that if construction workers' wages were depressed by repeal of Davis-Bacon, their incomes and long-term financial stability would be undermined.

Although a subcommittee approved a bill (HR 500) to repeal Davis-Bacon March 2, the measure has yet to be considered by the full Opportunities Committee, largely because of disagreements over how it should be handled. In the Senate, a repeal measure (S 141) was approved Wednesday by the Labor Committee but faces an almost certain Democratic filibuster on the floor.

House GOP Conference Chairman John Boehner, Ohio, tried to play down controversy over Davis-Bacon. "This Congress is going to deal with it in

some way, shape or form," he said. "It's an important issue. But there are a lot of other priorities."

One Boll Weevil Plans to Sit In With GOP Budget Task Force

Conservative Democratic Rep. Mike Parker, Miss., has struck a unique deal with his Republican colleagues: In exchange for his vote and confidentiality, Parker will be allowed to participate in all meetings of the Republican Budget Task Force and the drafting of the upcoming GOP budget package.

Republicans have not made any promises to incorporate Parker's suggestions into their budget resolution, but he said he hopes he can be a "moderating" influence.

"Unless you've got a seat at the table, you can't have any impact," Parker says. "I may be able to bring some bipartisan support to it."

Parker is one of 23 conservative Democrats known as The Coalition. Many of those members are working on their own alternative budget package, which could put Parker in a tricky situation.

"I will keep everything confidential," he says. "I'm trying not to overhear what the Democrats are doing. When they talk about it in The Coalition, I leave the room."

Parker, who says the cozy arrangement emerged from his longtime friendship with Budget Chairman John Kasich, Ohio, has a list of proposals he intends to offer the Republicans that he hopes will make their package "kinder and gentler."

Parker says he has informed Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt, Mo., and Martin Sabo, Minn., the top Democrat on the Budget Committee, neither of whom had any problems with the arrangement.

"I have no agenda of my own," Parker says. "As a member of The Coalition, my goal is to do what's best for the country."

Conference on Aging Seeks to Dampen Alleged Partisanship

As the 1995 White House Conference on Aging approaches, organizers have moved to broaden the delegate base to guard against charges of partisan tilt.

The 1995 conference, set for May 2-5 in Washington, will be the fourth and last this century — and the first held under a Democratic president. The election of a GOP-controlled Congress in November spurred efforts to increase Republican participation to avoid the kind of political controversy that plagued the last conference, 14 years ago.

The 1981 White House Conference on Aging was initiated by the Carter adminis-

tration but took place under President Ronald Reagan. Republicans elected in 1980 complained about partisan bias in the selection of delegates, choice of issues and administration of the conclave.

The policy committee for this year's conference has increased the number of delegates from 2,000 to 2,259, with most of the extra appointments allotted to the new GOP governors and lawmakers.

The expansion was "done in the spirit of bipartisanship," said Sen. David Pryor, D-Ark., policy committee chairman.

Robert Blancato, executive director, said the 1995 conference will emphasize the interdependence of generations and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lifetime. "Today's child is tomorrow's elder," Blancato said.

The agenda grew out of a series of mini-conferences held in all 50 states last year and attended by more than 57,000 people. It will cover four broad issues: assuring comprehensive health care, including long-term care; promoting economic security; maximizing housing and support options; and maximizing quality of life.

Conference delegates will draft 40 resolutions in these broad areas that will then be returned to the mini-conferences in each state for discussions about implementation. A final report is due at the White House six to eight months after the conference.

Quick Insights

• Talking Point

A Capitol police officer was trying to quiet a group of noisy youngsters yesterday in a Senate hallway. "Talking is a no-no in the Capitol," he said with authority. One wisecracker in the group replied, "I thought that was all they do here."

• Polishing His Backhand

Retiring Sen. Bennett Johnston, D-La., seems to be enjoying life these days. He's been spotted in his tennis whites several times during working hours, most recently Wednesday, when he managed to vote on an amendment to the rescissions bill with minimal interruption to his game. "He gets it coordinated where the clerk will call his name and somebody will crack the door open and he'll say 'aye.' But he won't be on the floor," said a bemused colleague. "He's done it before."

— by Karen Foerstel and Steve Langdon, with Robert Marshall Wells, Michelle Gabea, Richard Sammon and Andrew Taylor.



E, et cetera

Washington Times
4/2/95

Oldsters in media

Depictions in television and movies of older Americans as feeble and inept will evolve into a more complex portrait of the elderly population as more baby boomers reach their 50s, panelists said last week in Los Angeles during a discussion of the images of aging.

The panelists, who included entertainment industry leaders and experts on aging, said most TV viewers born after World War II see themselves as young and would not identify with doddering grandparent types.

The discussion took place before an audience of about 250 during a daylong White House Conference on Aging jointly sponsored by CBS, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and the American Association of Retired Persons.

Hollywood studios also are beginning to pay more attention to the older audience, according to Donald Petrie, director of the movie "Grumpy Old Men."

Mr. Petrie notes that some of 1994's most successful films, in-



Norman Lear says older people are underrepresented on TV series and in movies.

cluding "Forrest Gump," "Four Weddings and a Funeral" and "Nobody's Fool" were geared toward a more sophisticated audience than the teen and young-adult targets most movies seek.

Norman Lear, producer of "All in the Family," "Maude" and other TV series, agrees that changes are under way but argues that negative stereotypes

persist primarily because older people rarely are featured in movies and TV.

"Older people don't exist all that much in film and TV, not in relation to their numbers in society," Mr. Lear says.

"More damage [to the image of the elderly] is done by omission in a world where advertisers believe everything has to be sold by beautiful young men and women," he says.

By the numbers

Where does our money really go? Harper's Index for April has some answers:

- Number of Department of Veterans Affairs employees whose salaries exceed \$100,000 per year: 7,367.
- Number of National Public Radio employees whose salaries exceed \$100,000: 6.
- Percentage of all U.S. corporate sponsorship that goes to the arts: 6.
- Percentage that goes to sports: 65.
- Compiled by Jennifer Pinkerton from staff and wire reports.