



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department for the Aging

Linda Nablo, Commissioner

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**Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.**

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08-123

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** July 1, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Caregiving and Relative Caregivers

**The Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Legacy Awards: APPLICATION Now Available on FCA website**

The National Center on Caregiving at Family Caregiver Alliance (FCA) is pleased to oversee the first annual *Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Legacy Awards* program.

Through a grant from The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation, three awards of \$20,000 each will be given to organizations for unique programs that address the needs of Alzheimer's caregivers. One award will be granted in each of these categories: ***Creative Expression, Diverse/Multicultural Communities***, and ***Policy and Advocacy***.

The application, as well as information and further details about the awards program, are now available on the Family Caregiver Alliance website. To apply online, click [here](http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content_node.jsp?nodeid=2188) or copy and paste into your browser the following link:  
[http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content\\_node.jsp?nodeid=2188](http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content_node.jsp?nodeid=2188)

## **Caregiver Training Program**

**The Copper Ridge Institute** announced the launch of a new caregiver training program, "Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease". It is designed especially for families that are providing care to loved ones with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. This program is available free online at [www.alzcast.org](http://www.alzcast.org) in English and with Spanish subtitles.

The Copper Ridge Institute is associated with the John Hopkins School of Medicine. [www.crinstitute.org/](http://www.crinstitute.org/)

## **Fostering Connections to Success Act (H.R. 6307) Passed by House of Representatives**

The House of Representatives passed the Fostering Connections to Success Act (H.R. 6307), major new child welfare legislation that would create a new kinship care program, provide services for children aging out of foster care, provide new money for training for private child welfare providers, and provide for the educational stability and health care needs of children in the child welfare system. The bipartisan legislation was passed unanimously by voice vote. A more complete summary and analysis of the bill can be found here:

[http://www.alliance1.org/Public\\_Policy/welfare/Fostering\\_Connections.pdf](http://www.alliance1.org/Public_Policy/welfare/Fostering_Connections.pdf)

## **AARP Foundation Women's Scholarship Program**

The second round of the AARP Foundation Women's Scholarship Program opens July 1, 2008. The program is open to women 40+ whose income is within 150% of poverty. Priority is given to women who are raising the children of another family member, those in dead end jobs and those who have been out of the paid workforce for five or more years. Visit <http://www.aarpfoundationwlc.org>



08-124

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen Nau, Program Coordinator

**DATE:** July 1, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Best Practice

Our Place – Shenandoah

Our Place – Shenandoah received the 2008 Anne McKinley Rural Aging Award in March 2008 at the annual Conference of the National Council on Aging and the American Society in Washington, D.C. Anne McKinley attended the conference and presented the award to Shenandoah AAA.

The small social model respite center for individuals with early to mid-stage Alzheimer's disease opened its doors in March 2004. It is located in the middle of rural Shenandoah County in a Parks and Recreation Building that also houses a Senior Center. Group Respite Director Paula Ford has included woodworking, sail boating, color coordination, and coin collection among Our Place's activities. Clients enjoy having lunch with the senior center's attendees.

The respite hours provided by Our Place give a welcome break to the clients' caregivers. Since its opening, Our Place has provided respite to 17 participants and their families. Helen Cockrell, Executive Director of Shenandoah AAA, and Pam Dodge, Director of Community Care Coordination, have established two other group respite centers located in Berryville, Virginia and Front Royal, Virginia. For further information on the centers, please contact Pam Dodge at 1-800-883-4122 Ext. 208.

SUBJECT:

**Best Practice**

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*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

08-125

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Tim M. Catherman  
Director of Administrative Services

**DATE:** July 2, 2008

**SUBJECT:** IRS announced new gas rates

The IRS announced new gas rates. The rate will increase to 58.5 cents a mile for all business miles driven from July 1, 2008, through Dec. 31, 2008. This is an increase of eight (8) cents from the 50.5 cent rate in effect for the first six months of 2008.

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=184163,00.html>

The State Travel Regulations allow approval for mileage reimbursement at IRS mileage rate. The Virginia Department of Accounts has not issued a rate for reimbursement when elected for the convenience of the employee. The present rate of 24.6 cents per mile is in effect until further notice.

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) is requesting your assistance in our nationwide outreach efforts to inform/educate consumers about the upcoming switch to digital television (DTV) on **February 17, 2009**. This undertaking is the **largest consumer education campaign** ever orchestrated by the broadcasting industry and your cooperation is requested to ensure its success.

We have **volunteer representatives from television stations across the Commonwealth of Virginia** who have indicated a willingness to speak to Virginia residents about the DTV transition and how it will affect your communities. Over the next several months, we will be scheduling speaking engagements, and we would like to know when you have a need [or openings] for speakers in 2008. You have an excellent opportunity to be a leader on this issue. Of particular concern, is educating senior citizens about the federal converter box program and how they can apply for coupons to help offset the cost. Below you will find a few bullets should you feel the need to present this information to other members of your staff and/or other colleagues across Virginia:

- National Association of Broadcasters DTV Speakers Bureau – Purpose is to inform consumers about the upcoming switch to digital television (DTV) on February 17, 2009.
- By providing local broadcasters with opportunities to speak to your members at the local level, you will be increasing awareness among your members. Many of your members comprise the target demographic that will be most impacted by the transition.
- Potential positive earned media attention
- Your forums will provide your members with a trusted and familiar place to receive this important message.
- You show active interest in educating your members. Your members will gain respect for you because you are acting as a resourceful and informative leader on a topic that impacts the members and for proactively taking steps to protect its members.
- Your participation is minimal. Speakers are volunteers and event logistics are handled by Dan Woodley
- I am able to provide you with materials to hand out to audience members
- This website, [www.dtvanswers.com](http://www.dtvanswers.com) will provide them with information about the transition

Best regards,  
Dan Woodley  
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