



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department on Aging Invites Seniors and Their Families to Attend Activities at the Illinois State Fair

August 13 is “Senior Day” when admission is free for those 60 years & older

SPRINGFIELD – August 10, 2012. Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) will host activities for seniors and their families to attend during the Illinois State Fair, which runs August 10 - 19. IDoA is offering a lineup of special events in the senior center, which is the air conditioned setting of the Illinois Building located near the main gate of the fairgrounds. Attendees 60 years of age and older will be admitted to the fair for free, on *Senior Day* which is Monday August 13. (A full list of IDoA State Fair activities is attached.)

“Department staff and our partners are excited to host this year’s activities during the State Fair,” said IDoA Director John K. Holton, Ph.D. “We look forward to the fun while also offering information and services to benefit older adults and their families.”

Some of the programs include the Community Care Program, elder abuse prevention and more. Additional information will be offered to seniors and their families during the fair including presentations about Medicare, presented August 11 (by Blue Cross Blue Shield) and August 13 (by Humana.)

Seniors and their families gear up for fun when they compete in time proven favorites. On *Senior Day* (August 13) couples 50 years of age and older test how much they really know about their spouse in the “NOT SO Newlywed Game.” And the “Grandparent Grandchild Contest” returns August 16 when judges score participants on resemblance, costumes, talent and interviews. To pre-register for the contests, call (217) 785-3390.

Free screenings are offered each day during the fair by St. John's Hospital, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, and the Illinois Lion’s Club. Free screenings include:

- Body Composition
- Blood Pressure/Stroke
- Blood Sugar/Glucose
- Cholesterol Diabetic Eye Testing
- Health/Weight
- Hearing
- Heart Risk Assessments
- Mental Health
- Overactive Bladder
- Pulmonary Function
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Skin Cancer (Derma Scan)

The Illinois Department on Aging thanks representatives from the state agencies and private companies who will be on hand during the entire fair to provide information about services to help older adults. They include:

- The Office of the Attorney General
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois
- Humana
- Illinois Assistive Technology Project and Battery Specialists
- Illinois Bee Keepers
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
- Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
- Illinois Department of Employment Security
- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency
- Illinois Lion's Club
- Illinois State Employees Retirees Association
- Illinois State Treasurer's Office
- Logan County Senior Center Bingo
- Prairie Heart Institute
- The Office of the Secretary of State
- Susan G. Komen for the Cure
- United States Social Security Administration
- Watkins Home Products

For more information about the Department on Aging, call the Senior HelpLine at (800) 252-8966 or (or TTY for the hearing impaired at 888-206-1327), or log on to the website at www.state.il.us/aging.

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2012 Illinois Building Auditorium Schedule

**activities presented by the IL Department on Aging*

Friday, August 10

MC – Debbie Deopere (AAA for Lincolnland)

- 8:30 a.m. 4-H Public Presentation Contests
- 1:00 p.m. 4-H Fashion Revue & Clover Celebration
- 2:15 p.m. Jan's Dance Studio Dazzlers (Springfield)
- 3:30 p.m. Marshal-Putnam-Stark Show Choir
- 5:00 p.m. Female Vocal Solo Contest**

Saturday, August 11

MC's Maureen Squires & Cathy Houghtby (IDoA)

- 10:45 a.m. Springfield Ballet Company
- 11:30 a.m. Fleming Academy of Performing Arts (Springfield)
- 12:15 p.m. Monica Hay (Auburn)
- 1:00 p.m. 4-H Fashion Revue and Clover Celebration
- 2:20 p.m. Marshal-Putnam-Start Show Choir
- 3:45 p.m. "Understanding Medicare" presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield
- 4:30 p.m. Catholic Mass
- 6:00 p.m. Male Vocal/Group Vocal/Keyboard and Instrumental Talent Contest**

Sunday, August 12

MC's – Kelly Dehlinger & Mary Ann Burge (CHIP)

- 9:00 a.m. Lutheran Church Services
- 10:30 a.m. Church of Christ Services
- 12:00 p.m. Troupe Zahava - Middle Eastern Dance Company (Springfield)
- 1:00 p.m. Illinois 4-H Fashion Revue and Clover Celebration
- 2:15 p.m. Silver Steppers (Springfield)
- 3:15 p.m. Golden Girls & Guy (Springfield)
- 4:15 p.m. Gymnastics and Cheer Zone (Springfield)
- 6:00 p.m. Dance Solo and Dance Group Talent Contest**

Monday, August 13 - SENIOR DAY

MC's – Kelly Allen & Chuck Miller (IDoA)

- 8:30 a.m. 4-H Public Presentation Contests
- 11:00 a.m. Illinois 4-H Fashion Revue and Clover Celebration
- 12:15 p.m. "Medicare Education" presented by Humana
- 1:00 p.m. Adults In Ministry Choir (Springfield)
- 2:00 p.m. The NOT SO Newlywed Game – sponsored by Central IL Senior Celebration, Health Alliance, IL Dept on Aging and the Springfield Park District**

***Participants are couples 50 years of age or older. Just how much do you actually know about your spouse after all these years? Cash prizes will be awarded to the couple that answers the most questions correctly. Register no later than Aug. 13 at 1:45 p.m. in the Illinois Bldg.*

Tuesday, August 14 (8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.) IL Farm Bureau Young Leader Agri-Quiz Bowl State Competition

Teams of County Farm Bureau Young Leaders/Young Farmers compete & test their knowledge in areas such as Ag Safety, Mechanics, Management, Animal Science Horticulture, Natural Resources, & Crop Management

- 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. Preliminary Rounds
- 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. Announcement of Achievement Award and Excellence in Agriculture State Winners
- 11:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Preliminary Rounds continue
- 4:30 p.m. Final Round
- 5:00 p.m. Announcement of Championship Team

-more-

Wednesday, August 15

MCs – Mary Killough & Gidget Freeberg (IDoA)

11:15 a.m. Dancing with Pat Lyttaker (Springfield)

12:00 p.m. Songbird Quartet (Chatham)

1:00 p.m. Mob on the Road (Springfield)

2:00 p.m. Mary Bryant Home Singers (Springfield)

3:00 p.m. Central Illinois Irish Dance (Springfield)

Thursday, August 16

MC – Lee Beneze (IDOA)

11:00 a.m. Taylorville Tappers

12:00 p.m. “Understanding Medicare” presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield

1:00 p.m. “What You Need to Know about Tax Fraud & Identity Theft” presented by Internal Revenue Service

2:00 p.m. Grandparent/Grandchild Contest - sponsored by the IL Dept on Aging and Springfield Supportive Living

***Participants are judged on resemblance, costumes, talent and interview. Prizes: 1st Place \$150; 2nd Place \$100; 3rd Place \$50. Register no later than Aug 16th at 1:45 p.m. in the Illinois Bldg at the IDoA booth.*

Friday, August 17 - No Entertainment

Saturday, August 18

10:00 a.m. Peoria Park District POPS Orchestra

11:45 a.m. Peoria Park District Summer Band and Orchestra

12:45 p.m. Peoria Park District Explosion Cheer and Dance Team

1:10 p.m. Hanover Park Park District Allegro Dance Company

2:00 p.m. Oak Forest Park District Oak Playhouse presents Peter Pan

2:30 p.m. Dolton Park District Stars Dance Troupe

3:10 p.m. Rockford Park District Young Eagles Soaring (YES) Club

4:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

Sunday, August 19

9:00 a.m. Lutheran Church Services

10:30 a.m. Church of Christ Services