

ETCOG HAPPENINGS

BUDGET APPROVED, NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT ETCOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The FY 2013 Budget became effective on October 1 with the ETCOG Board of Director's review and vote on September 27th at the Semi-Annual Board of Directors meeting. The budget came in at \$39.2 million with 77% passing through directly to programs and services. Major changes in this year's budget included the restructure of the Workforce division in ETCOG to integrate Economic Development services, the transition of the Finance division into Administrative Support Services, and merging of the 9-1-1 Emergency Services and Public Safety divisions. Employees were also given a 2% cost of living increase. A full copy of the budget may be downloaded on the ETCOG website.

ETCOG also would like to welcome its 2013 Executive Committee Officers and offer special thanks to our outgoing chairman, Lindale Mayor, Robert Nelson, for his excellent service. Congratulations to our new team:

Chairman - Camp County Judge Thomas Cravey
 1st Vice-Chairman - Rusk Mayor Angela Raiborn
 2nd Vice-Chairman - Henderson County Commissioner Wade McKinney
 3rd Vice-Chairman - Carthage Mayor Carson Joines
 Secretary-Treasurer - Anderson County Judge Robert Johnston

DIRECTOR OF AGING WINS ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION AWARD

ETCOG's Director of Aging, Bettye Mitchell, was honored on September 11th with the Rosalie S. Wolf Memorial Elder Abuse Prevention Award during her recent attendance of the International Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) conference in San Diego, California.

This award is dedicated to the memory of Rosalie S. Wolf, PhD who was the driving force behind the elder abuse prevention movement. Dr. Wolf founded and served as the President of the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, edited the Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect, conducted groundbreaking research and served as the founding chairperson of INPEA.

*"This award is given (to Bettye Mitchell) for her dedication as a passionate advocate for elder abuse victims, whether directing Adult Protective Services in the State of Texas or leading the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. Her gracious spirit and inclusive nature enabled her to win supporters to the cause from diverse fields and systems."
 - International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse*

We are so proud of Bettye for this accomplishment and are so proud to have her as a member of the ETCOG Director's Team!

ACHIEVEMENTS



Health Care Reform

COMPLIMENTARY *seminar*

Please join Brinson Benefits and ETCOG for a complimentary Health Care Reform Seminar on October 24th! This interactive seminar will help employers understand and comply with health care legislation, specifically the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Employers will leave the seminar with a better understanding of what is required of them to comply with the regulations, and effectively manage the requirements.

Wednesday, October 24th
Bodacious BBQ
7180 Texas 42 Kilgore, TX 75662
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- **PPACA Guidelines & Steps, featuring Dawn Brinson, President of Brinson Benefits**
 - What this means for your employee benefit plans
 - What you need to do to Comply
- **FMLA, An In-Depth Legal Review, featuring Rob Larson, FMLA Expert at Unum**
 - A clear understanding of FMLA importance
 - Exposure to theories behind FMLA provisions
 - Qualification credits for HRCI and TEC
- **How to Handle Crucial Conversations, featuring Charles Thornton, Motivational Speaker**
 - Understand how to respond to challenging situations with employees
 - Learn how to apply communication principles that nurture healthy relationships in the workplace

RSVP required! The seminar is complimentary, however; no-shows will be billed \$25 post-seminar. Please email Demetra@brinsonbenefits.com to RSVP or call (214) 379-5163. Visit the ETCOG website for a downloadable flyer.

MEDICARE'S ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT IS FROM OCT. 15 - DEC. 7

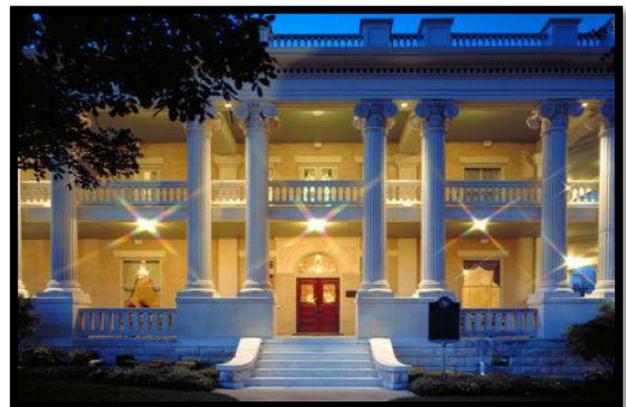
People with Medicare get to explore their options every year and pick the health and drug plans that work best for them. The Open Enrollment period this year is starting earlier - on October 15 - and ending sooner - December 7. People with Medicare get a full seven weeks to compare plans and make decisions so that they will have new benefit information and membership cards in hand when their new coverage begins January 1, 2013. Enrollment events are being hosted all over East Texas. For more information, call the East Texas Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-442-8845.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR THE EAST TEXAS RECEPTION

The East Texas Council of Governments cordially invites all East Texas elected officials, civic, business and not-for-profit leaders to join us as we visit with our legislators in Austin and let them know what is important to East Texans. A lunch reception will be held on Tuesday, February 19th, at the elegant and historic Mansion at Judges Hill to honor the work of our legislators as they are in session.

Sponsorships are available from \$500 to \$5,000 to pay for the event costs. Sponsors will be recognized at the event depending upon their sponsorship level. Sponsorships and event tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.etcog.org/518/East-TX-Reception.htm>.

The deadline for becoming a sponsor or purchasing an event ticket will be February 5, 2013. Tickets to the event are \$50 and require prior registration and payment. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Formal invitations will be mailed in December.



East Texas Council of Governments

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www.etcog.org

ETCOG is an Equal Opportunity Employer / Program. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request, to individuals with disabilities. Relay Texas: 1-800-735-2989 (TTY); 1-800-735-2988 (Voice); 1-800-662-4954 (Español).

