Human Services

Through our Family Caregiver Program, we were granted 8 robotic animals from the South Carolina Department on Aging to use with our seniors who are affected with Alzheimer’s or a dementia related illness. These pets will be given to clients in our region, with a pre and post-test given to capture the benefits of having one of these pets. We are very excited to start this in our program and positively benefit our senior community, and of course love on the sweet little animals. We will be given both dogs and cats, that resemble a stuffed animal. These animals are battery operated and the cats will purr, roll on their backs, and have soft fur. The puppies will lightly bark, pant, and have soft fur as well. If you give these pets some loving, you can feel their sweet heart beat! How cute!

Additional Resources

The SRSRA Retiree Resource Center sponsored by the Savannah River Site Retiree Association is continuing to assist SRS retirees and their families with Medicare enrollments, SRS stipend benefits, and SRS claims for reimbursement with WageWorks, now called Health Equity. You can call the Retiree Resource Center’s telephone message line and leave a message at 803.508.7065, email them at SRSRA@LSCOG.org or drop claims materials in the document collection box in front of the LSCOG building.

The Medication Assistance Program (MAP) is operating by phone two days per week with concentration on the current client’s refills for medications. They can be reached at 803-508-7066.
Planning, Community and Economic Development (PCED)

The LSCOG PCED department started an economic injury assessment at the beginning of January 2021. Through an EDA supplemental planning grant funded through last year’s CARES Act, the assessment’s purpose is to evaluate the overall economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic within the LSCOG region. The feedback from the assessment will help with understanding what economic injury has occurred to the region in the short-term, responding to this economic injury in the long-term, and planning to make the regional economy more resilient for the future.

This comprehensive assessment includes three types of surveys that specifically target the public, businesses (both small business and larger manufacturers) and stakeholders (including educational institutions, health care providers, local governments, and non-profit organizations) in the Lower Savannah region.

Currently, the PCED department has been conducting the general public survey on LSCOG’s Facebook and LSCOG’s website (www.lscog.org) since January 14, 2021. In addition, 400 postcards were mailed to rural areas of the Lower Savannah region to inform the population who may not have internet access that they can go the SC Workforce Centers in their respective county to complete the survey.

The PCED department will be continually working on the survey for businesses and stakeholders in the coming months, and this assessment is estimated to complete by May 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Meizi Wolven (mwolven@lscog.org) or Nathaniel Foutch (nfoutch@lscog.org).

Workforce Development and SC Works Centers

In continuous efforts to provide employers and job seekers new and innovative ways to secure needed talent and obtain sustainable employment, the Lower Savannah Council of Governments is hosting a Virtual Job Fair. The Virtual Job Fair will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. There is NO FEE to register or participate. To register for this event, send an email to LSWDAinfo@lscog.org. For additional information, please contact Wendy Mahuron at (803) 645-9011 or Shakeia Hampton at (803) 522-6434.

Tourism

Sandhills Region Ranger of the Year
In every region of the state, a Ranger of the Year is honored by the South Carolina State Parks system. This ranger is an asset that his manager and regional chief rely on. James Studdard, Park Ranger at Aiken State Park, was awarded the Sandhills Region Ranger of the Year award for 2021. Stop by and congratulate him. Click to read the full article: https://www.tbredcountry.org/Resources/3303.pdf

Thoroughbred Country Adds Fresh New Attractions and Dining for 2021
2020 wasn’t all bad. More than 15 businesses opened in our region since June 2020. From dining to fashion boutiques, discover something new in Thoroughbred Country. Find out more at: https://www.tbredcountry.org/New-Attractions-Dining-for-2021

Upcoming Committee Events
Visit www.lscog.org/events for details.

Mar. 2 | Powerful Tools for Caregivers class – Virtual
Mar. 9 | Powerful Tools for Caregivers class – Virtual
Mar. 11 | LSCOG Executive Committee – Virtual
Mar. 23 | Powerful Tools for Caregivers class – Virtual
Mar. 30 | Powerful Tools for Caregivers class – Virtual
Apr. 6 | Workforce Development Board Meeting – Virtual
Apr. 8 | LSCOG Full Board Meeting – Virtual
Apr. 21 | Transportation TAC Meeting - Virtual

www.LSCOG.org
www.TBredCountry.org
www.LowerSavannahWDA.org
www.BestFriendExpress.com

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