

**OFFICE CLOSED
FOR HOLIDAYS**

The ASCOG offices will be closed **Friday, November 11** for Veterans Day and **Wednesday through Friday, November 23 through November 25** for Thanksgiving.

**OMBUDSMAN VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

If you have a passion for helping others, a caring spirit, and a willingness to learn, we need YOU! Become a Volunteer Long-Term Care Ombudsman and help improve the quality of life and care for residents in a nursing home or assisted living facility near you. We provide training, tools and ongoing support from your local Long-Term Care Ombudsman Supervisor. To volunteer, please contact Ombudsman Supervisor **DARIN TERRY** at (580) 736-7974 or email at terr_da@ascoq.org.



Ombudsman Supervisor
DARIN TERRY

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
VOLUNTEER FIRE
DEPARTMENTS**

It is that time of year when many rural fire departments will be hosting their annual fund raisers to help offset the costs of

providing fire protection services in their respective areas. Some have already had theirs and so far attendance has been great. To those who have or will participate and support your local volunteers, THANK YOU very much!

Operational funds have been deposited for what has been received. Hopefully we will have more to be disbursed in April.

Annual inventory for forestry equipment will start this month along with a few ISO ratings.

2 NEW ASCOG EMPLOYEES



Information and Assistance/
Aging Specialist
KRISTINA "KRIS" BROWN

Kris is our new I&A Specialist. Kris's job consists mainly of providing information and referral services for older persons in the ASCOG area as well as assisting with the implementation of the Area Agency on Aging program. She will be providing important information to seniors as listed.

- **November 10** – Purcell Senior Citizens Center 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **November 15** – Lawton North Senior Citizens Center 10-1
- **November 17** – Mayesville Senior Citizens Center 10-3

VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!

In addition to the Presidential race, several state offices will be decided November 8 as well as some very important state questions.

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Managed Care Case Manager
CARI MONTGOMERY

Cari is our newest Managed Care Case Manager. Case Managers work diligently to keep the elderly in their homes longer by assessing client needs and capabilities, developing a plan to provide those needed services and then identifies and coordinates formal and informal resources tailor made for each client. Most of Cari's assignments are in Caddo County although she also has some clients in Comanche, Grady and Stephens Counties.

START CDBG GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW!!

While the first applications are not due until the end of February, every community that has a CDBG eligible project should start making preparations now particularly if a REAP application has been submitted to help fund the same project. Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) Surveys may be necessary to qualify. If federal funds are to be used for engineering, a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process is mandatory. Engineering plans and specs take time, so you should be talking to engineers now. Additionally, you must have an audit or agreed upon procedure for the Fiscal Year ending on June 30, 2016 as part of the application. If you have questions or need help, please contact the **Tom Zigler** (580)736-7971 or **Steve Kelly** (580)736-7965.

REAP APPLICATIONS

There were 50 REAP applications from 55 eligible applicants. Of these there are 3 Regional applications, 1 third year applications, and 13 second year applications. A breakdown of the type of applications include: 12 for water related, 4 for storm sirens, 16 for streets and sidewalks, 7 for sewer, 5 for buildings, and 6 for fire and emergency related equipment. The total requested is \$2,227,827, but there is only \$944,206 available from the state allocation to be awarded. The executive committee will score all applications beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17th prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. The results will be posted Friday, December

16th, on our website www.ascog.org.

LAWTON-FORT SILL JLUS

The grant from the Department of Defense OEA for a Joint Land Use Study for Fort Sill and surrounding communities is getting some traction. Request for Bids were advertised nationally resulting in 4 proposals being submitted. On November 1, the selection committee (appointed by the Policy Committee) will sift through the applications and make a determination for recommending the lowest and best bid. A contract should be signed by the end of November and the project will kick into high gear by the end of the year. If your community is within a 25-mile radius of Fort Sill, be sure your needs and concerns are addressed. Contact **Steve Kelly** for further information.

EDA GRANT AWARDED TO CAMERON UNIVERSITY DUNCAN CAMPUS

Working with Cameron University officials, ASCOG's CED staff submitted a grant application to EDA to refurbish part of the existing building so that chemistry and biology classes including lab requirements could be offered at the Duncan campus. One of the greatest needs is for rural health care workers. Partnering with the Duncan Regional Hospital, Priddy Foundation and the McCasland Foundation, Cameron was able to obtain over half of the funding needed for the project. The EDA grant will fund the balance of about \$850,000. Engineering has already been

completed and construction is expected to begin shortly after receiving a Release of Funds. Kudos to both Cameron and CED staff. EDA representatives remarked that a quick turnaround for requested information was a big factor for obtaining the grant.

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT EVENTS CONTINUE IN NOVEMBER

Medicare Counselors are available to assist Medicare beneficiaries during the open enrollment process on the following dates and locations:

- **November 1st – Lawton** at the Wichita Mountains Senior Center 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **November 3rd - Pauls Valley** Public Library 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **November 8th - Geronimo** Senior Center 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **November 10th – Walters** Public Library 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **November 14th – Frederick** Community Action Agency 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **November 17th – Lindsay** Public Library 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **November 28th – Marlow** Public Library 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **November 29th – Waurika** Public Library 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please contact **Bethany Sullivan** at 580.736.7036 for more information.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Call Ronnie Ward (580) 736-7970 or Nancy English (580) 736-7019. We'd love to hear from you.