

OPELOUSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

On Wednesday April 27th 2011, Chief Perry Gallow and the Opelousas Police Department held its 3rd Annual Elderly Awareness Seminar at the Evangeline Downs Racetrack and Casino. This is the fourth seminar in three years which targets individuals 60 years of age and older. The purpose of the event is to educate and inform the elderly of programs available to them in this area.



Steven Johnson from the Dept. of Social Services covered ways the elderly can protect themselves from abuse and scams. Information was provided by Howard Alexander from Lafayette Parish office of Elderly Affairs and Garrett Duplechain of the St. Landry Parish District Attorneys office about the importance of obtaining a Power of Attorney and appointing the best possible individual to handle their finances.



Dr. Joseph Guillory of Opelousas spoke about programs available for the hearing Impaired. There were several vendors present at the Seminar such as LA Urgent Care, Amedisys Home Health, Central LA Home Health, IBC Group Home Health and St. Landry Emergency Medical Services to name a few. Free medical screenings were also provided at the event.



Evangeline Downs Racino provided the meal served to the attendees and Opelousas Police Department provided transportation to the event. The seniors had a chance to win door prizes and participate in Bingo. Senator Elbert Lee Guillory and Representative Ladreka Thierry also spoke at the event about changes taking place in the state of Louisiana that potentially affects each and every one of the seniors.



Present also was Mayor Donald Cravins and Mike Howard CEO of Evangeline Downs Racino. Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Charles Ross St. Landry Parish School Board Representative District 2. Entertaining the crowd was funny men Larry Leger and Murray Conque. The music was provided by the band August Heat.

In addition to everything provided today. The Magnolia State Police Officers Association Central Chapter in conjunction with the Opelousas Police Department offered free Lawn Service to seniors that attended. Chief Perry Gallow sends out a special thanks to everyone who participated in the preparation of the Elderly

Awareness Seminar. “I would like to commend Evangeline Downs Casino/Racetrack and Staff of the Event Center for the awesome job they have done.



Mr. Mike Howard, Evangeline Downs CEO has graciously and abundantly blessed us by hosting the seminar, and for that I along with the staff at The Opelousas Police Department appreciate you.”

According to Chief Gallow from the start of this seminar he had visions and dreams of giving back to the elderly in the community. “My dreams have come true with the help of all of you. I have made a promise to give back to the community, and you have shown your support to me by supporting the Elderly Awareness Seminar.



Thank You for your belief in my dreams, my pledge is to make Opelousas a safe place for everyone I serve.” Chief Gallow stated that the next event is planned for August 17 and November 16 of this year. If anyone has any questions about the upcoming events feel free to contact the Opelousas Police Department.

Any questions please contact Det. Zachary Opelousas Police Department Public Information Officer @ 337-351-1930.

MEDIA PHOTOS













