

NEWS RELEASE

For Regional Distribution



For Immediate Release
Date: October 23, 2008

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Getting Ready For Retirement – What Needs To Be Done 5-10 Years Before

ALGONA, IOWA - The Kossuth County Employers' Council (ECI) will be meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 from Noon to 1:00 p.m. at Iowa Lakes Community College, 2111 Hwy 169 N, Algona, Iowa 50511. All employers, human resource personnel, accounting, payroll, and other staff members are invited to attend. Featured speakers will be Deb Woodcock, N.W. Iowa Aging and Anita Zarr, Spencer Social Security Office on "Getting Ready For Retirement – What Needs To Be Done 5-10 Years Before."

If you hope to retire in the next 5-10 years, now is the time to start preparing! "Ready, Set, Retire," a free, one hour workshop, is designed to help make sure you're on track to reach your retirement goals. Workshop topics include information on Medicare and Medicare Supplement policies, Social Security, putting your legal affairs in order, and investing during retirement. Questions will be entertained by Deb Woodcock and Anita Zarr.

Deb Woodcock has been the Advocacy/Caregiver Director at Northwest Aging Association for the past 7.5 years. During this time, she has been trained by the Iowa Insurance Commission through the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) in all aspects of senior insurance issues, including Medicare, Medicaid, Long Term Insurance and Part D, the new drug plan through Medicare. Northwest Aging is the SHIIP sponsor site for the 9 counties that NW Aging services: Emmet, Palo Alto, Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Osceola, O'Brien, Sioux and Lyon.

Anita Zarr is the Branch Manager of the Spencer Social Security Office. She has been with Social Security for the past 26 years, the last four years managing the Spencer office.

Participants are encouraged to register by Friday, Nov. 14, 2008, by calling Paula Seely, (515) 295-4602 or seelyp@mercy.health.com. A certificate of attendance will be provided to attendees for recertification purposes.

The Kossuth County Employers' Council (ECI) is a local employer group supported by Iowa Workforce Development Region 3 and 4, and is part of the statewide Employers' Council of Iowa system. This employer's group addresses workforce issues, and provides both educational and networking opportunities for employers and human resource professionals. Contact Bob Becker at Robert.Becker@iwd.iowa.gov if you have questions about this training session or about the Lakes Area Employers' Council.

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