

COALITION OF ADVOCATES FOR  
RESPONSIBLE ELDERCARE

# CARE Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE  
CAPITOL DAY  
APRIL 30TH

## New Session, New Speaker, New Era

As legislators prepared for the commencement of the 51st legislative session, members of both the House and Senate were haunted by unpaid taxes. The House of Representatives suffered the greatest impact as the Speaker of the House, Rep. Lance Cargill, stepped down exactly one week before session began after discovering he hadn't paid his income taxes. Days later, Rep. Gus Blackwell, who was named acting speaker and viewed as the front runner, dropped out of the race because he had been repeatedly late paying his property taxes.



As the House of Representatives convened for the first day of session on February 4th, the name of the next Speaker of the House was still uncertain. However, it was Rep. Chris Benge from Tulsa who won by acclamation, gaining support from both political parties. This election signaled a new bipartisan era in the House. Democratic leader, Rep. Danny Morgan stated " We have the opportunity today to reach a very historic level of bipartisanship in this body. Now more than ever, I think it's time we address that."

## Governor Delivers State of the State and Unveils Budget



Governor Henry delivered his 6th State of the State address on Monday, February 4th, outlining a broad agenda to strengthen education, create jobs, improve healthcare, toughen public safety and diversify the state's economy.

The Governor also unveiled his budget proposal for 2008, calling for \$7.3 billion. Republican's criticized the Governor's aggressive proposal, questioning where he will find additional funds considering the significant funding limitations the state is facing this year. However, Gov. Henry says he plans to turn to the state's pocketbook, delinquent taxpayers, and state agencies' spending practices to increase funding opportunities. The fate of Henry's recommendations most likely will not be known until the end of May.

FEBRUARY 2008

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## Senator Johnson Visits OKC Facility

Senator Constance Johnson visited the Grace Living Center NE 21st facility to help celebrate Soul Fest 2008. This annual celebration is hosted by the facility to honor Black History month. Residents, staff and members of the community look forward to this very lively event every year. From live music to delicious food, this event, even in the rain, was full of life.

Senator Johnson is a member of the Health and Human Resource Committee for the Senate. She has been a strong supporter of long term healthcare and the facilities in her district.

## OAHCP Update: Convention Approaching

*"Putting the Essential Pieces Together"*   
May 19-21, 2008 • Cox Convention Center

*Our Annual Convention and Trade Show is our premier educational event bringing together more than 600 long-term care professionals for information and educational opportunities to better serve Oklahoma's long term care community. OAHCP proudly provides our members the latest in laws and regulations, as well as identifying and communicating best practices.*

*Please channel this information to those attending the trade show! Included in this information you will find all the forms needed to be part of this years' event (additional forms are also available on our website): [www.oahcp.org](http://www.oahcp.org)*

*For additional information, please contact:  
Crystal Mappes  
(405) 524-8338 or [cmappes@oahcp.org](mailto:cmappes@oahcp.org)*

## Coalition of Advocates for Responsible Eldercare CORPORATE SPONSORS

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## Featured Sponsor: APN Healthcare, Inc



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*APN Healthcare, Inc is a proud and long time sponsor of CARE.*

## Featured Facility—Gregston Nursing Home



### UPDATE:

#### FIRST GOLF TOURNAMENT

*CARE PAC will be hosting a golf tournament for the first time in the fall to help with our fundraising efforts.*

*We will be looking for sponsors as well as teams to participate.*

*Besides hitting the driving ranges, be thinking about how you can help CARE PAC's first golf tournament be a successful one!*



Established in 1957, Gregston Nursing Home of Marlow, Oklahoma has been a family owned and operated facility. Jeff Gregston and his staff continually strive to provide the quality nursing care and homelike atmosphere that the residents of Marlow and the surrounding communities have become accustomed to over the past four decades.

Gregston Nursing Home is currently licensed as an Intermediate Care and Skilled Nursing Facility with a total bed capacity of 96. Their amenities include occupational/physical/speech therapy and rehabilitation, daily activity programs, on-site beauty shop, transportation services, religious services and a part time chaplain.

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