



February – March 2021

Some Reminders and some new information !

AARP will continue to hold off on In-person meetings still till Further Notice

Well... we hope to have approval for a June Meeting! With Vaccinations becoming more available, we should be able to schedule a June Meeting! We will all have a lot to talk about and what fun it will be to see everyone in person!

Please Mail In Your Dues
Pay Your Dues, \$10 send to

AARP Chapter 678
P. O. Box 9212
Moscow, ID 83843

IDAHO VACCINE TIMELINE

IDAHO'S VACCINE DISTRIBUTION TIMELINE

GROUP 1
Started Dec. 15
(CDC proposed)

- Healthcare personnel (inpatient and outpatient unable to telework)
- Home care providers for older adults and people with high-risk medical conditions
- Emergency medical services
- Long-term care facility residents and staff
- Dentists and staff
- Pharmacists and staff
- Public health and emergency management response workers who are unable to telework

As of Jan. 15th, more than 46,000 Idahoans in these categories have received the vaccine. There were an estimated 100,000 Idahoans eligible to receive the vaccine in Group 1. As additional groups become eligible for the vaccine, people in Group 1 can still get the vaccine. Contact your employer or local public health district for more information if you are in Group 1 and need a vaccine.

GROUP 2
Started Jan. 12
(CDC proposed)

- Florida essential workers

Group 2 can now be vaccinated. We estimate close to 500,000 Idahoans in Group 2 are eligible to receive the vaccine.

Although the vaccine timeline below is what we know today, we may have to adjust schedules and timeframes due to supply or capacity to meet the needs of Idahoans in this category.

Between now and January 31

- First responders (This includes law enforcement officers and dispatchers.)
- Pre-K – 12th grade school teachers and staff
- Child care staff
- Correctional and detention facility staff

If you are in this category, you can contact your employer or your local public health district for more information and to schedule an appointment. Find the Vaccine Hotline for your local public health district.

Early February (final date to be determined)

- Idahoans 65 years and older

There are about 250,000 Idahoans in this group. Depending on supply, a tiered approach may be needed. We will announce a schedule for vaccinating this group prior to Feb. 1. Individuals in this group can contact their local public health district, local pharmacy, or primary care clinician to learn more or schedule an appointment.

Late February to Early March (final date to be determined)

- Food and agriculture workers (including food processing workers; USDA processing plant inspectors; grocery, convenience store, and food pantry workers.)
- Idaho National Guard if not included earlier
- Manufacturing, public transit, and U.S. Postal Service workers

If you are in this category, you can contact your employer or your local public health district to schedule an appointment or determine options for where vaccines are available for your group.

GROUP 3
Starting March or early April*
(CDC proposed)

- Other essential workers
- Individuals 18-64 years of age with high-risk medical conditions

We expect to move to Group 3 sometime the end of March or early April.* Group 3 planning will largely depend on our ability to vaccinate Idahoans in Group 2 who choose to receive the vaccine. We anticipate about 470,000 Idahoans are eligible to receive the vaccine in this category.

This group has not been fully evaluated by the Idaho COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee and approved by the Governor.

It is anticipated that individuals 18-64 years of age with medical conditions that increase their risk for severe COVID-19 and essential workers not included in group 2 will be eligible for vaccine.

GROUP 4
Starting May*
(CDC proposed)


- General public/Individuals 18-64 years of age

We expect to move to Group 4 in May.*

This group has not been fully evaluated by the Idaho COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee and approved by the Governor.

Additional Idahoans based on age (prioritization to be determined)

*Based on supply available.


 IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE



**AARP & IRS has put a hold on
our AARP TAX AID opening
plans.**

This season has been on again and off again due to fears of the virus overtaking the volunteers. This does not mean we will not be able to open, we just do not know yet when they will allow it to happen. It could still be by mid February. We will attempt to take phone calls from people who have our phone number, but they will be placed on a waiting list.

**Randy Baukol
Tax Aide**

Contact 208-310-0193 or email
id1do3@aarpfoundation.org with questions.

TENATIVE SCHEDULE. The AARP Foundation hopes to again providing free tax assistance and preparation through its Tax-Aide program. The service is available to low to middle income taxpayers, with a special emphasis on those age 60 and older.

This year appointments are required. Face masks also are required.

Assistance will be offered at the 1912 Center in Moscow on Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday's from 9:30 to 2:00. This season extends from February 12 thru April 15.

Tax-Aide can prepare most forms including 1040 and supporting schedules, EIC, Child Tax Credit, Other Dependent Credit, Education Credits and Schedule C if no inventory, employees or depreciation.

Taxpayers **MUST** bring social security cards, photo identification, all income and expense documents, and previous years tax returns are requested.



**AARP Idaho Presents
MOVIES FOR GROWNUPS**

Breathe

Thursday, February 11

7:00 p.m. MT

Breathe brings to life the inspiring true love story between Robin and Diana Cavendish (Academy Award® nominee Andrew Garfield, Golden Globe® winner Claire Foy), an adventurous couple who refuse to give up in the face of a devastating disease.

This screening is FREE, but you must [pre-register](#) in order to receive a link and login credentials to watch the movie.

The movies are: **The Upside** (2/4), **Breathe** (2/11) and **The Public** (2/19). Shows begin at 6 p.m.PT. These films are Questions & how to Register? email aarpid@aarp.org. You Must Register for Each Movie.

Informational Welcome Session



**Monday, February 8
10:30 a.m. MT**

Join Idaho State Director, Lupe Wissel, State President, Bessie Katsilometes, and staff to learn more about what to expect during the week, how to advocate, get updated on legislation impacting Idahoans 50 and older, and more.

Those who [register](#) for our lobby week will receive a Zoom link to participate by February 5th.

Are YOU Covid-19 Prey?

By Carrie Bitterwolf

Fear and anxiety among about Covid-19 make welcome prey for scammers today, Senior Citizens comprise one of the most vulnerable groups targeted by these schemers because their ages place them among those with high risk for getting this pandemic virus, so it is imperative that you, as a senior citizen, know about this growing concern in order to protect yourself.

What is a SCAM ?

Here are several definitions of the word scam.

A dishonest scheme, a fraud.

To cheat or defraud

A fraudulent or deceptive act
or operation

A deceptive scheme or trick used
to cheat someone out of
something

An illegal plan for making money,
Especially if it involves money

An illegal trick , usually with the
purpose of getting money from
people

To cheat someone out of their
possessions

Any fraudulent or business or
scheme that takes money or other
goods from an unsuspecting person

The intentional use of false or
misleading information in an
attempt to illegally deprive another
person or entity of money, property
or legal rights

WishAFriend.com

*Valentine's Day is all about
celebrating love, affection and a
bond that holds two people together.
What can be more special than the
special bond of friendship that we
share? Happy Valentine's Day to
you my friend.*

Different Kinds Scams

Many different kinds of scams exist: phone calls, robocalls, spoofing or phone calls from made up or stolen numbers, and texts; money and investment scams; people impersonating others or pretending they are representing Medicare, Social Security, IRS, the US Post Office or other government agencies; cyber or computer scams, social media and web sites and more. Some scammers have even contacted their intended victims in person. Scammers are highly creative and manipulative.

Updated Covid-19 Scam Facts

With constantly changing and contradicting information coming at you from all directions, how do you know what to believe? Here is the **latest information available on coronavirus tests vaccines and cures.**

There are **no home test kits** for the coronavirus. No kits have been approved. Beware of kits advertised on the Internet, in magazines, on television, by phone or text. Call your doctor if you think you need a test.

There are **no specific treatments to prevent or treat Covid-19 infections.**

There are no miracle or holistic cures, and those advertised could be dangerous to your health. Protect yourself by wearing masks, washing hands, social distancing, and not participating in any group activities outside your immediate home. Contact your doctor if you feel you are ill.

Do not pay anyone who says they can get you on a fast tract to get a vaccination.

There are no lists generated that can do that. To get on an appointment list for a vaccination, contact your doctor, local health department, or state information

source (online or by email or phone) for the latest information about getting an appointment if you qualify.

Beware of Contact Tracers who may be trying to locate individuals who have positive tests. They cannot give you the name of the individual with the virus. They cannot ask for any of your personal information, identification numbers, or financial information, and they never set up Covid-19 tests for you or receive payment of any kind. Many contact tracers use a script, which scammers have learned to copy. However, scam text will include a link or you may hear a click that gives them access to your phone and personal information.

No one will contact you to find out if you received a **stimulus payment**. If you get a call, text, or email asking you to verify getting a stimulus payment, it is a fraud. If you receive a stimulus payment as a prepaid debit card, it will come in a plain white envelope from Money Network Cardholder Services, and the card will have a Visa symbol on the front and MetaBank on the back. Beware to not throw out these cards.

Hints to Protect Yourself

A rule of thumb for recognizing scams is **if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.** Don't do it. Another good rule is **when in doubt, don't...** Several other hints to keep yourself from being scammed include:

If you do not recognize a phone number ; do not answer the call; if you do not recognize or know a caller, hang up; give no one any of your personal information.

Do not open email or attachments to an email from any person or business you do not know. Delete them. Create strong pin numbers for your accounts . Purchase a known, strong computer program to protect you and your computer from malware, phishing, and other computer scams.

NO government agency will call you unless you call them first; NO government agency will ask for your Medicare, or social security number; NO government agency will threaten to take away or stop your social security, Medicare or other benefits without prior written notification. ALL Government agencies contact you with written letters sent to your mailing address before taking any action against you.

Ask someone you know or trust about a product or business you do not recognize. Do not let anyone rush you into purchasing or agreeing to do something....just because they want to hurry does not mean that you are in a hurry; take your time.

Do not pay for any purchase with cash, wire transfer, or gift cards. Only make donations to known charities, and make those donations by checks which can be traced. You may also ask that materials be sent to you to look over before you make a donation to give you time to verify the charity.

Where to Get HELP!

There are several places to call to get help locally.

Moscow Police Department
208-883-7000

Latah County Sheriff's Office
208-882-2216
Idaho North Central District
Health Department
208-882-7506



Smart Driver Class Update

At present no drivers sessions have been scheduled. It is not expected that they will resume until late in 2021

AARP Friendly Voice Program
Through phone calls, volunteers help people suffering from loneliness from [//aarp.org/friendlyvoice](http://aarp.org/friendlyvoice) web site
For many whose social isolation has been deepened by the COVID-19 pandemic, little is more nourishing than sharing time with someone warm and trustworthy on the other end of the phone.
AARP's Friendly Voice Program

was set up to break through the wall of loneliness, made more formidable by social distancing. If you or someone you love is feeling isolated or anxious in these challenging times, hearing a friendly voice on the phone may help. That's why AARP Friendly Voice program was created; a trained, caring group of volunteers are standing by, ready to chat, listen, or just say hello. It's easy. Request a call by dialing AARP at 1-888-281-0145 (for English) or 1-888-497-4108 (for Spanish) between 9 am and 5 pm local time. One of the volunteers will be calling you from that number, Caller ID will show it as "800 Service."



Moscow Chamber of Commerce Hosts COFFEE with DISTRICT 5 LEGISLATORS

Dist. 5 Sen. **David Nelson** and Reps. **Caroline Troy** and **Brandon Mitchell** are scheduled to be at the Chamber office for **Coffee with Legislators** every other Saturday at 9:00 a.m. starting **January 23**, followed by February 6 & 20 and March 7 & 21. The public is welcome to attend. COVID safety precautions will be in effect. If you wish more information, please call the Chamber at 882-1800.



Social Security Benefits Adjusted

Your Social Security benefit increased by 1.3%. IF the average benefit is \$1500+/-, it would mean a \$20 increase. But, Medicare premiums (\$124 in 2020) also increased slightly. That means the actual increase in your check is likely to be \$14-16. You should have received your Social Statement confirming your benefit amount by now.

MARCH 14th





Don't miss the Winter 2021 print edition of SWSM Magazine which includes a SWSM Idaho Conference guide! If you are registered by Feb. 1 you will receive a free copy in the mail.



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!

Smart Women Smart Money financial conferences offer women of diverse ages and circumstances an opportunity to learn the necessary information to take control of their financial lives. The range of backgrounds includes young teens to women who are well into retirement. The message of the conference is that it is never too early, or too late to learn about finances. We provide this education through general sessions and smaller breakout sessions. Attendees may choose topics that will lead them on a pathway to financial freedom and success.

One of the most important elements of this conference is it is provided at no cost to the attendees. Our goal is to make financial education available to everyone. The funding for this conference comes from our community, from generous sponsors such as the ones listed on this page. Without these private sponsorships, this conference wouldn't be possible.

Election of Chapter Officers and Board Members

Efforts to conduct an electronic election are not realistic therefore most current board members & officers have agreed to continue to serve into 2021.

According to bylaws, elections must be held after notice and at an 'in person' Member Meeting. Current officers & board will serve until there is a meeting.

Also, we do need some additional Board Members.

If anyone is interested in serving in any capacity, or, wishes to nominate someone, please contact either or both Secretary Carolyn Strong (cstrongsta@yahoo.com) or President Louise Regelin (regelinl@genesee-id.com) at 208-882-2789.



Since March, **Idaho Governor Brad Little**, health officials, financial experts, legal experts and AARP Idaho have participated in statewide telephone town halls to provide updated information and answer questions regarding the ongoing coronavirus situation in Idaho. You can listen to past telephone town halls [HERE](#).

The hour-long conversations (all noon MTN) will continue every two weeks:

- Tuesday, Feb 2 from 12 – 1:00 MT (11:00 – 12:00 Pacific)

There are three ways to participate:

- dialing toll-free 866-767-0637 at the time of the call (participants call then press *3 and be connected to ask their question directly)
- registering to be called in advance at <https://vekeo.com/aarpidaho/>
- streaming live at www.facebook.com/aarpidaho

This is an interactive forum and participants are encouraged to call and speak directly with the Governor. Tens of thousands of Idahoans have joined these calls over the past month. Questions may also be submitted ahead of time via email at aarpid@aarp.org.

This important call is available for anyone regardless if they are an AARP member or not

**Have You Made Your
2021 Resolutions?**

If You Haven't, You Might Try These?

1. DO make some Resolutions
2. DO consider Reducing Some Expenses
3. DO Practice Gratitude -- say Thank You
4. DO call/contact Friends & Relatives
5. DO take steps to Put Your Affairs in Order
6. DO Give Gifts - Time? Money? Ability?
7. DO make specific/measurable Resolutions
8. DO put it in writing & post someplace visible
9. DO Reward Yourself when Make Progress
10. DO Be Flexible AND Keep Trying

Do something! Think about it. Happy New Year!

Louise Regelin, President



President's Comments

Latah AARP Members: 2020 was a year like no other in recent memory. Due to edicts from national AARP, all meetings & events & projects from March to December 31 were cancelled for AARP participation or presentation. That 'deadline' was then extended to March 31, 2021. We are currently in that extension and do Not know if/whether that prohibition will be lifted or extended after that date. We do anticipate the possibility of having programs or meetings in April, May & June IF the prohibition expires on March 31. This would be a 'substitute' for our normal schedule of January, March and May.

In the meantime, we will attempt to provide new & additional information as it becomes available. Latah County is doing relatively well with providing COVID-19 vaccinations. Various entities (i.e. Gritman, Walgreens, etc.) are working together to serve as many people who desire vaccinations as quickly and efficiently as possible. We anticipate the necessary availability and accessibility of vaccines will improve in February. Have you received or made arrangements for your Vaccination? I have!

There will Not be another Newsletter till after Mid-March when we anticipate having more information. Please be patient. In the meantime, I hope you will find information in this newsletter useful - please read it carefully.

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY to ALL,
LOUISE Regelin
Latah AARP President**

Read Your AARP Bulletin

If you haven't, please read your December issue of **AARP Bulletin** which arrived recently. There is excellent information about COVID & many other issues. Idaho is preparing to provide COVID vaccinations to people 65+ soon. If you haven't contacted your Health Provider, you may wish to do so. It seems Walgreen's & Safeway in Moscow might be major providers, as will Gritman Medical Center.

Latah County AARP Chapter 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Officers:

President Louise Regelin (208-882-2789)
Vice President - open
Vice President / Newsletter Rhonda Comstock
Secretary Carolyn Strong
Treasurer Corrine Lyle
Past President Dan Bosse

Board of Directors:

Tom Trail	Joy Lunsford
Carol Bennett	Carrie Bitterwolf
Jane Pritchett	Nancy Lyle
Janie Nirk	Corrine Lyle
Louise Avery	Judy Reisenauer

Interested in Serving Your
Local AARP Chapter?

Your Latah AARP Chapter is looking for people who are interested in serving on the Chapter Board or as Officers.

If you are interested in serving or wish to nominate someone, please contact President Louise at 208-882-2789 or by email at regelinl@genesee-id.com
If you have newsletter information you feel our local AARP Chapter members would be interested in, please email it to Rhonda Comstock at comstock@moscow.com