

PAGE
2
4-29-10

Bar association to field seniors' legal queries

Free event at City Hall will include programs on elderly issues

By Tasha Kates

tkates@dailyprogress.com | 978-7265

PROGRESS

Seniors with questions about Social Security, elder rights, the medical system, aging in place and more can get answers during a free event Tuesday.

The Charlottesville Albemarle Bar Association is presenting Senior Law Day from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in City Hall's council chambers.

This is the first time that the local bar association has held this event, said James P. Cox III, the group's president.

"We're looking to put on events

that we think address the public's needs and desires for information,"



Cox

Cox said. "What we're trying to do is provide a forum of legal and personal decisions addressed in one place."

The event will include four presentations and time to answer questions. Ned Sledge, a public affairs specialist with the Social Security Administration, is expected to discuss Social Security and Medicare-related issues.

Claire E. Curry, legal director of

the Legal Aid Justice Center's Civil Advocacy Program, and clinical psychologist Dr. David B. Reid will talk about protecting individual autonomy to make financial and medical decisions and the capacity and competency assessments.

Dr. Timothy Short, chief medical officer at Hospice of the Piedmont, and the Rev. Suzanne Hilton Smith, chaplain at Martha Jefferson Hospital, are expected to discuss how to prepare for a medical crisis and advance-care planning.

Gordon Walker, CEO of the Jefferson Area Board for Aging, will

talk about aging in place, or staying in one's home for as long as possible.

Walker said the event, which JABA is co-sponsoring, would provide timely and useful information for seniors.

"So often older persons and their family caregivers are challenged to fully understand the implications laws and regulations can have on their lives, particularly as life changes occur," Walker said.

Advance registration is required for this free event, which will include a provided lunch. To register, call Kate Callender at 817-5222 or e-mail her at kcallender@jabacares.org.

The event also will be broadcast live on Channel 10.