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COSA Director Louis Colbert
Recognized for Leadership in Serving the Elderly

Louis G. Colbert, director of the Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA) and a national leader in the field of aging, will be honored with a DNB First Loyalty to Service Award on April 20 at a breakfast event at the Concord Country Club.

In addition, Colbert was recently elected to a two-year term as chairman-elect of the board of directors for the American Society on Aging, a nationwide organization of professionals in the field of aging.

Colbert will be honored by DNB First as part of the bank's recognition of people in the field of social services who demonstrate loyalty, service, commitment, integrity and professionalism.

Colbert, a Delaware County native, has been director of COSA for ten years and has worked in the field for 34 years. He is recognized for his leadership, creativity and collaborative approach both in the field and among the 105 fulltime employees in the COSA office in Eddystone.

He has a passion for helping people maintain their quality of life as they age, helping them navigate the aging system in search of supports.

Colbert is instrumental in securing funds and grants to bring groundbreaking programs to serve Delaware County residents, age 60 and older. Just this year, he helped secure one of only 16 grants awarded in the United States for a transitional care program that aims to reduce hospital readmissions among at-risk elderly patients.

Under Colbert's leadership, COSA celebrates aging in May with an expo and a centenarian luncheon. COSA also organizes the Senior Games, which engage senior athletes in sports each summer.

He also introduced civic engagement initiatives that have aided seniors with housing issues and volunteer opportunities and he serves on statewide committees that address transportation issues and cultural competency needs in the aging network.

On the national level, he will assume a two-year term as board chairman of the American Society on Aging (ASA) in 2012, leading the largest organization of multidisciplinary professionals in the field of aging.

"I have had a wonderful opportunity to work as a social worker with the elderly for the past 34 years, where I have been able to impact policy, create programs and support seniors and caregivers in Delaware County," Colbert said. "I am humbled and honored with DNB First Bank's Loyalty to Service Award. I am grateful to be a part of local government where I am able to do what I love, and that's providing service to our community."

Colbert is also an active caregiver for his mother and he coordinates an Alzheimer's support group.