

# Area Agency on Aging of Somerset County



## Senior News

June 2010



### Volunteer Banquet



The theme for the 2010 Somerset County Senior Community Center Volunteer Banquet was "One Person Can Make a Difference." This annual event, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, was held on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Masonic Temple in Somerset. Light snacks were served at 5:00 PM, with dinner at 6:00 PM.

The Area Agency on Aging has hosted the annual senior center volunteer event since 1980. In the past, volunteers who had completed 35 or more hours of service to the centers were invited as guests for the evening. As of April 1, 2010, the total has been increased to 50 hours or more of service to the centers. This year's total volunteer time generated by center volunteers was 20,915 hours. There were approximately 153 volunteers eligible for attendance to the recognition banquet.

Here is a list of each center with their address, telephone number and center manager. Please call and make arrangements to attend the center and volunteer your time.

Boswell Area Senior Center  
332 Stonycreek Street  
Boswell, PA 15531  
(814) 629-9926  
Open Mondays only  
Center Manager: Carol Turner

Central City Area Senior Center  
103 Sunshine Avenue  
Central City, PA 15926  
(814) 754-5615  
Center Manager: Carol Turner

Conemaugh Township Area Senior Center  
120 Whistler Street  
Holsopple, PA 15935  
(814) 479-2216  
Center Manager: Maretta Thomas

Confluence Area Senior Center  
700 Reynolds Street  
Confluence, PA 15424  
(814) 395-5117  
Center Manager: Betty Mancini

Meyersdale Area Senior Center  
120 North Street  
Meyersdale, PA 15552  
(814) 634-0713  
Center Manager: Cinda Yinkey

Somerset Area Senior Center  
1338 South Edgewood Avenue  
Somerset, PA 15501  
(814) 445-7772  
Center Manager: Sandy Nicholson

CFL/Windber Area Senior Center  
700 Fifth Street, Suite 200  
Windber, PA 15963  
(814) 467-5912  
Center Manager: Eleanor Pile



# Legal



# Issues

A partnership between  
the Area Agency on Aging  
and the  
Somerset County Bar Association

The topic for this month's feature is  
"POWERS OF ATTORNEY".

A durable power of attorney is a written document authorizing a named person called the "agent" to handle certain specified types of transactions for the person granting the power of attorney called the "principal".

General Powers of Attorneys are very broad and allow many types of transactions. They can cover financial and healthcare matters. Limited powers of attorneys convey the authority to an agent to handle a specified task, for example, to attend and sign documents at a real estate settlement.

As long as the principal has legal mental capacity, he/she can sign an affidavit to revoke the power of attorney, name a new agent or designate a co-agent on the actions of the first agent. Under Pennsylvania law a power of attorney does not lapse by mere passage of time.

**Disclaimer:** The information presented in the Legal Issues feature has been prepared for informational purposes only. It is not offered for and does not represent legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific fact or issue.

## Know of Someone Who's 100 Years Old?

Should you know of anyone who has reached this remarkable milestone, please contact the Agency at (814) 443-2681 or Toll Free at 1-800-452-0825 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM any Monday through Friday (except those days designated as county holidays). A Centenarian certificate will be presented by the Area Agency on Aging Administrator recognizing achievement, and their biography will be featured in a future edition of the Senior News.

## Caregiver Assistance

### Windber Caregiver Support Group

June 10, 2010 at 10:00 AM

### Somerset Caregiver Support Group

June 24, 2010 at 10:00 AM

Please contact the Area Agency on Aging at (814) 443-2681 or 1-800-452-0825 for further information.

## Save the Date!!

### Senior Picnic

**August 19, 2010**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Picnic will be held on August 19, 2010 at the Hayloft. This year's theme will be Mardis Gras.

Watch for more information in the July edition!

# Medicare, APPRISE & You

The following information is provided by the Area Agency on Aging State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) known as the APPRISE Program in PA. This information is taken from the **2010 Medicare & You Handbook**.

## What is “Assignment in Original Medicare”?

Assignment means that your doctor, provider, or supplier has signed an agreement with Medicare to accept the Medicare-approved amount as full payment for covered services.

Most doctors, providers, and suppliers accept assignment, but you should always check to make sure. You may also want to find out how much you have to pay for each service or supply before you get it. In some cases they must accept assignment, like when they have a participation agreement with Medicare and give you Medicare-covered services.

If your doctor, provider, or supplier **accepts** assignment:

- Your out-of-pocket costs may be less.
- They agree to only charge you the Medicare deductible and coinsurance amount and wait for Medicare to pay its share.
- They have to submit your claim to Medicare directly. They can't charge you for submitting the claim.

If your doctor, provider, or supplier **doesn't accept** assignment:

- They still must submit a claim to Medicare when they give you Medicare-covered services. If they don't submit the claim, ask them to file a Medicare claim for your services. If they still don't file your claim, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. You might have to pay the entire charge at the time of service, and then submit your claim to Medicare to get paid back.
- They may charge you more than the Medicare-approved amount, but there is a limit called “the limiting charge”. They can only charge you up to 15% over the Medicare-approved amount. The limiting charge applies only to certain services and doesn't apply to some supplies and durable medical equipment.

To find doctors and suppliers who accept assignment (participate in Medicare), visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and select, “Find a Doctor or Other Healthcare Professional” or “Find Suppliers of Medical Equipment in Your Area.” You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE.

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## FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

Spring is finally here and that can only mean one thing! The Farmers Market Program will soon be back in Somerset County.

The purpose of the Farmers Market Program is to provide resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers' markets, roadside stands and community supported agriculture programs to low- income seniors

Low-income seniors who are at least 60 years old may qualify for this benefit. At the time that this newsletter was printed income guidelines had not been disclosed by the Department of Agriculture.

Farmers Market checks are distributed through the Area Agency on Aging of Somerset County. Consumers are given a list of approximately 12 participating farmers and farmers' markets when they receive their checks. These checks are then redeemed for fresh fruits and vegetables grown or growable in Pennsylvania. Each consumer receives (4) \$5.00 Farmers Market checks to redeem at qualified farmers' markets or roadside stands.

If an eligible consumer is not able to visit a designated site determined by the Area Agency on Aging to receive their checks, a proxy form must be completed by the consumer and sent with their representative to pick up their checks. When the income guidelines are given to the Area Agency on Aging we will also have the proxy forms available. Please watch the local newspaper for distribution dates/times.

If you have any questions about this program or would like to obtain information regarding eligibility requirements, please contact your local senior center.

## Volunteer Opportunities Through RSVP

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Somerset County provides placement services and support benefits to people age 55 and over who wish to serve their community by volunteering for one of 70 organizations county-wide. For information about these and other volunteer opportunities, please call RSVP at (814) 443-2681 or 1-800-452-0825.

### Learn, teach have fun this Summer!

**Meyersdale Train Station**-This restored station is a key stop for visitors using the Great Allegheny Passage trail. Volunteers are needed to greet visitors on scheduled days during the spring, summer and fall seasons. This is a great way to meet people and serve your community.

**Quecreek Mine Rescue Site**-Volunteers interested in speaking to the public about the miraculous rescue of the nine trapped miners in the summer of 2002 are needed from May to October. Education on facts and events, as well as training on the cash register and Visa machine will be provided. Volunteers are also needed for basic outdoor grooming and maintenance jobs. There are behind-the-scenes jobs, such as preparing a special bear, that can be done in your home. Please phone RSVP for training dates and other information.

**Somerset Historical Center**-Interpreter/guide volunteers are needed for the spring season and school tours, as well as weekend guiding. Training is provided to explain pioneer life to second and fourth grade students. Tours are given throughout the grounds including 1773 settlers' cabin, the log farmstead, covered bridge, cider press and maple sugar camp. To sign up for training, please contact RSVP as soon as possible. This is a fun place to volunteer and will keep the museum viable for future generations.

This Agency is a branch of Somerset County Government under the Commissioners of Somerset County  
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John P. Vatauvuk  
James C. Marker

Arthur N. DiLoreto,  
Administrator  
Nancy Miller, Chairperson of  
the Advisory Council.

This project is funded, in part,  
under contract with the PA  
Department of Aging.

**If you would like to obtain  
further information about  
any newsletter topics or  
Agency services please call  
the Somerset office at  
443-2681 or  
1-800-452-0825**

Find us online at:  
[www.somersetaaa.org](http://www.somersetaaa.org)



Return Service Requested

Website: [www.somersetaaa.org](http://www.somersetaaa.org)  
Email: [webmaster@somersetaaa.org](mailto:webmaster@somersetaaa.org)  
Fax: (814) 445-4398  
Phone: (814) 443-2681

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