

# Area Agency on Aging of Somerset County



## Senior News

October 2010



### SENIOR PICNIC 2010

Another time-honored tradition of fellowship has come and gone in Somerset County. The 36<sup>th</sup> annual senior citizens picnic, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, was held at the Hayloft in Rockwood. The picnic event was possible, in part, because of the generous donations provided by local businesses and organizations.



Mardis Gras was celebrated, not New Orleans style but in Somerset County style, on the beautiful rural property of Dave and Betty Lou Svonavec. Over 500 seniors were in attendance for the day. Many were dressed in traditional Mardis Gras colors of purple, green and gold and accessorized with beads and feathered masks.



Entertainment was provided by the Brouger Brothers, Spencer and Stuart, who played the guitar and sang a selection of Jazz and Country tunes. Linda's Dance Studio also showcased multiple genres of dance, while Mike Beech entertained the crowd with his vocal talents and comedic antics.



Martha Minor, Seanor, and Bill Stahl, Windber, were named the Mardis Gras Queen and King at the morning seating, receiving golden goblets and crowns. In the afternoon, seating Ann Omerzo was crowned as the queen.

The name of the afternoon king was regrettably overlooked, for which the Agency staff offers its sincerest apologies. We look forward to seeing all of our at the 37th annual picnic in August of 2011.



## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MAY BE FOR YOU !**

Is your family in need of a home? Have you been told, several times, that you are not eligible for a home mortgage? Are you willing to help yourself and others get a home?

If the answer to these questions is yes, then the Somerset County Habitat for Humanity may be just the ticket!

The county's Habitat for Humanity is part of an international, Christian-based, non-governmental, non-profit organization. Founded in the state of Georgia in 1976, by Millard and Linda Fuller, Habitat has been responsible for constructing and offering for ownership some 400,000 houses around the world. Its mission is to provide simple, decent and affordable housing to families in great economic and social need.

For more information on the Somerset County Habitat for Humanity program, please call Art Gotjen at 814-445-6274.

## **Caregiver Assistance**

### **Windber Caregiver Support Group**

October 14, 2010 at 10:00 AM

### **Somerset Caregiver Support Group**

October 28, 2010 at 10:00 AM

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



## **ANNA MAE SCHELL LAUDED FOR 100 YEARS OF LIFE**

Mrs. Anna Mae Schell, a resident of Henry Clay Villa in Markleysburg, was recently named the latest honoree for the Area Agency on Aging's Centenarian Program. Surrounded by staff and friends, Mrs. Schell received a special certificate from Agency administrator, Art DiLoreto, at her residence on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Born in Connellsville, Fayette County, to James and Martha Charlesworth, on August 19, 1910, Anna Mae graduated from Connellsville High School and Mount Sinai Nursing School in New York. After nursing school, she married the late Charles Kimmel Schell. This union lasted over 40 years and it produced two children: Elizabeth [deceased] and James of Boston, Massachusetts. Anna has 2 grandchildren.

Anna Mae's work life included 20 years of registered nursing and she eventually was appointed as the nurse in charge of the obstetrics department at Mount Sinai Hospital.

When asked about her hobbies and interesting life experiences, this very personable and witty centenarian spoke very proudly of the 7 year stint she had singing soprano at Carnegie Hall. She also sang in and directed music in her church choir at the Addison United Methodist Church. Other hobbies included knitting, sewing and playing the piano.

Living most of her life in Addison, Somerset County, Anna Mae was active in variety of community causes. She was active in Elderhostel [the world's largest non-profit educational travel organization] and helped organize the first senior citizens club in Confluence.

Her advice on how to live a long life: "Well, it's pretty simple, you know. You just have to live one day at a time. "

# 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**.

## Now is the time to review your coverage

If you are in a Medicare plan, review the Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) your plan sends you each year. The EOC gives you details about what the plan covers, how much you pay, and more. The ANOC includes any changes in coverage, costs, or service area that will be effective in January. If you don't get an EOC or ANOC, contact your plan.

## Things to Consider When Choosing or Changing Your Coverage for 2011

**\*Coverage**-Are the services you need covered?

**\*Your other coverage**-Do you have, or are you eligible for, other types of health or prescription drug coverage? If so, read the materials you get from your insurer or plan, or call them to find out how the coverage works with, or is affected by, Medicare. If you have coverage from an Indian Health or Tribal Health Program, talk to your benefits administrator, insurer, or plan before making any changes to your coverage.

**\*Cost**-How much are your premiums, deductibles, and other costs? How much do you pay for services like hospital stays or doctor visits? Is there a yearly limit on what you could pay out-of-pocket for medical services? Your costs vary and may be different if you don't follow the coverage rules.

**\*Doctor and hospital choice**-Do your doctors accept the coverage? Are the doctors you want to see accepting new patients? Do you have to choose your hospital and health care providers from a network? Do you need to get referrals?

**\*Prescription drugs**-What are your drug needs? Do you need to join a Medicare drug plan? Do you already have creditable prescription drug coverage? Will you pay a penalty if you join a drug plan later? What will your prescription drugs cost under each plan? Are your drugs covered under the plan's formulary (drug list)?

**\*Quality of care**-The quality of care and services given by plans and other health care providers can vary. Medicare has information to help you compare plans and providers.

**\*Convenience**-Where are the doctors' offices? What are the hours? Which pharmacies can you use? Can you get your prescriptions by mail? Do the doctors use electronic health records or E-prescribe?

**\*Travel**-Will the plan cover you in another state?



## Karaoke/Music Night with Gene Smith

Here are a few pictures from the Somerset Senior Center karaoke/music night August 24, 2010 at 6 PM. This event will be held monthly. Come to the center to find out when the next one will be.



## 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.

**Somerset County Blind Center** – Volunteers are needed to assist staff with free vision screening offered to schools, day cares and others in most communities throughout the County. Northern area is in special need at this time. Training on the screening process will be provided. Phone RSVP for details.

**Schools need volunteers** – Volunteers are a great asset to children and teachers. Regular interaction with children enhances their academic, emotional and behavioral success. Working one-on-one or with small groups of children from K through fifth grade improves reading and math skills. Children stay focused and seek approval. Fall placement is available. To learn more about how you can help a child with as little as one hour a week, contact RSVP to learn about September placement.

**Meals on Wheels** – has an urgent need for drivers for the Berlin Route. The Berlin Route is a 5 day a week route and you may choose any regular day or sign on as a substitute. Reimbursement for some mileage is available. Please call RSVP today to learn how you can enhance your day as well as help others.

This Agency is a branch of Somerset County Government under the Commissioners of Somerset County

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**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**

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