

# all about **US**

News & Updates from 

## Ursuline Senior Services

Winter 2011

### NAPSA Conference a Success

The 21st Annual National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) Conference was held November 2010 in San Diego, California. "Healing the Culture of Abuse" was the theme for the conference. This interdisciplinary conference included fifty diverse workshops, three plenary sessions and other events relative to professionals who share a common vision: Advocating, protecting and serving adults who are victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation. Michelle Smart, Director of Protective Services attended the conference after receiving a Professional Award Scholarship given by the Office for Victims of Crime and the U.S. Department of Justice. Michelle attended one very informative and timely workshop on the recently passed Elder Justice Act of 2010. This workshop emphasized the impact this law will have on state and local adult protective services agencies. She also had the opportunity to meet many

*NAPSA cont. on Page 4*

### Federal Elder Justice Act summary

*Reported on Saturday, July 3, 2010*

The federal Elder Justice act was signed into law in March 2010. The legislation, which, for the first time coordinates efforts to prevent elder abuse on a federal level, authorizes \$757 million over four years for the Elder Justice Act, which:

- Establishes an Elder Justice Coordinating Council to make recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the coordination of activities of federal, state, local and private agencies and entities relating to elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. Recommendations contained in a report are due in two years.
- Establishes a 27-member Advisory Board on Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation. They are to submit a report within 18 months (September 2011) to create a short and long-term

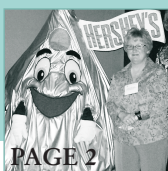
*"The legislation, which, for the first time coordinates efforts to prevent elder abuse on a federal level..."*

multidisciplinary strategic plan for the developing field of elder justice.

- Adult Protective Services (APS) funding. Provides \$400 million in first-time dedicated funding for adult protective services. Provides \$100 million for state demonstration grants to test a variety of methods to detect and prevent elder abuse; provides \$26 million for establishment and support of Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Forensic Centers to develop forensic expertise regarding and provide services relating to, elder abuse, neglect and exploitation; Provides \$32.5 million in grants to support the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program and an additional \$40 million in training programs for national organizations and state long-term care ombudsman programs.

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*Ursuline celebrates 30 years with Art of Aging event in May.*

## 2010 National Guardianship Conference a Huge Success

The Guardianship Program of Ursuline Senior Services was well represented at the National Guardianship Association (NGA) 2010 National Conference held in Hershey, PA from October 2-5, 2010. The conference theme "Keystones of Excellence" described the emphasis of the conference on education, networking, personal development and motivation for an event specifically tailored to guardians, conservators and fiduciaries from across the country, as well as judges and attorneys responsible for the legal side of guardianships.

The Conference Welcome Reception was hosted by Ursuline Senior Services and Good News Consulting, Inc. of York, PA. Attendees were given the opportunity to have photographs taken with the Hershey Kiss and Reese's Peanut Butter Cup

characters representing the locale hosting the conference.

NGA Conference workshops covered topics of guardianship for both Guardians of Person and Guardians of Estate including


Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. The conference also gave one additional program guardian of person, Karol Kerr, the opportunity to test for and achieve her National Certified Guardian (NCG) credential.



(L-R) Richard Murphy, Carole Cupp, Hershey Kiss, Patricia Halligan, Ann Mason

ethics; dealing with difficult clients and family members; fiduciary responsibilities; bonding; health care decision-making; and legal issues. There were plenary sessions by national representatives of the Veterans Administration, plus sessions on

Attending the conference from Ursuline Senior Services were the Guardianship Program's Director Ann Mason, NCG and Coordinator Hilary Mamaux, NCG; along with Guardians Carole Cupp, NCG; Patricia Halligan; Yvonne Keever, NCG; and Richard Murphy, NCG. Executive Director Anthony Turo also attended the event to represent the agency at the vendors' expo.

"It was an excellent opportunity to interact with and learn from a nationwide group of guardians and subject matter experts," said Ann F. Mason. The 2011 conference is scheduled for October 1-4 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. 

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Ursuline Senior Services

### Administrative Staff

Anthony J. Turo, MPA  
*Executive Director*

William Brickner, MEd, PHR  
*Director of Human Resources & Administration*

Dianne Mettrick, BS  
*Finance Manager*

Ann Mason, MAT, MEd, NCG  
*Guardianship Director*

Nancy Scott, BA  
*Service Coordination Director*

Michelle Smart, MS, NPM  
*Protective Services Director*

**Mission Statement—**  
*Helping older adults age with dignity.*

Karen Miller-Tobin, MEd  
*Volunteer Programs Director*

Roxann Tyger, MPA  
*Community-Based Options Director*

*In addition to the administrative staff, the following staff assisted in the development of this newsletter:*

Betty Jane McAllister  
Richard Murphy

Nadine Pcholinsky  
Elaine Resetar



## Seeding the Future...

by Tony Turo  
Executive Director

The generation that came of age in the 1960's—the Baby Boomers— liked to say that you should never trust anyone over 30 years old. Now, that same cohort is marching headlong into their own 60's by the tens of thousands everyday! My guess is that they feel very differently today about whether or not to trust anyone over the age of 30. Remember, this is the same group that now touts 60 as the new 30 (or at least the new 40)! They finally figured out that years of life *add* to trustworthiness, along with other gifts such as experience, skill, perspective and—at times—wisdom.

Later this year, Ursuline Senior Services will be crossing that magic line of recognition when we reach our own 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in December of 2011. A Greek philosopher

once said “*One must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day was.*” I look at events like birthdays and anniversaries in this way, as opportunities to reflect back on what has come before and to take stock on what has been learned, gained, or put into its proper perspective.

As we celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> year of service to this community, we remember the seniors of

# THE Art OF AGING

*A Celebration of Seniors Aging with Dignity*




Western Pennsylvania who have made the history we now hold as our own, who have given us so many treasures, and who have impacted so many lives throughout their years. On behalf of these many seniors supported by Ursuline Senior Services, we ask you to consider *joining us for a unique event!*

We are thrilled to announce that to help US celebrate 30 years of *helping older adults age with dignity*, the River City Brass and Pittsburgh Gospel Choir (under the direction of Dr. James Gourlay and Dr. Herb Jones respectively) have agreed to hold a benefit concert in honor of our agency's tradition and many years of service to the aged, poor and vulnerable of our community! We invite you to join us for this special night of music and fellowship. This second *Art of Aging* event will be held **Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at the Wyndham Grand Hotel** (formerly the Hilton Hotel) adjacent to Point State Park, Downtown.

**The festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m.** By your presence at this special fundraiser, you will further assist in our efforts to give seniors an

opportunity to live out their lives with care and dignity.

More information will be forthcoming. Hope to see you with US on May the 18th to reflect on “*how splendid the day was*” when the evening draws to a close! 

*For more information, or to be added to our mailing list for invitations, please call our office at 412-683-0400 or online at [30thAnniversary@ursulineseniors.org](mailto:30thAnniversary@ursulineseniors.org). A variety of sponsorship and program ad book opportunities exist for those who would like to support the event in a more substantial way. Individual tickets for the event are available for a donation of \$50 each.*

**Ursuline Senior Services**

**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



# Blessed In Aging

—Esther Mary Walker

*Blessed are they who understand  
My faltering step and shaking hand*

*Blessed, who know my ears today  
Must strain to hear the things they say.*

*Blessed are those who seem to know  
My eyes are dim and my mind is slow*

*Blessed are those who look away  
When I spilled tea that weary day.*

*Blessed are they who, with cheery smile  
Stopped to chat for a little while*

*Blessed are they who know the way  
To bring back memories of yesterday.*

*Blessed are those who never say  
“You’ve told that story twice today”*

*Blessed are they who make it known  
That I am loved, respected and not alone.*

*And blessed are they who will ease the days  
Of my journey home, in loving ways.*



## NAPSA cont. from Page 1

high-energy, highly-motivated and talented professionals from across the United States and across the many areas of expertise within the protective services field. Michelle took advantage of the conference to develop new friendships, partnerships and potential collaborations to strengthen Ursuline’s Older Adult Protective Services department and our part of the Allegheny County-wide protective services network.



Michelle Smart (L) poses at the Office for Victims of Crime booth with Emily Bauernfeind and Altrecca Stark. OVC is one of the seven components with the Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice.

## DID YOU KNOW...



# 2011

This year we will  
experience four  
unusual dates...

1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11 and 11/11/11.

## NOW go figure this out...

Take the last 2 digits of the year you were born plus the age you will be this year and it WILL EQUAL ... 111.

*Act cont. from Page 1*

- Authorizes \$67.5 million in grants to enhance long-term care staffing through training and recruitment and incentives for individuals seeking or maintaining employment in long-term care, either in a facility or a community based long-term care entity.
- Authorizes \$48 million for a National Training Institute for Surveyors.
- Requires the immediate reporting to law enforcement of crimes in a long-term care facility and establishes civil monetary penalties for failure to report.
- Provides for penalties for long-term care facilities that retaliate against an employee for filing a complaint against or reporting a long-term care facility that violates reporting requirements.
- Authorizes a \$500,000 study on establishing a national nurse aide registry.
- Authorizes \$15 million for the Department of Health and Human Services to improve data collection and dissemination, develop and disseminate information related to best practices related to adult protective services and to conduct research related to APS.
- Establishes a nationwide program for national and state background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities, and provides \$160 million in funding.

*Source: Elder Justice Coalition*



Indicate  
Ursuline Senior  
Services  
**code #23866**  
when ordering  
tickets.

PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS CONCERT WITH  
**BOYZ II MEN**  
JUNE 23, 2011 • 7:30 PM • HEINZ HALL

Join the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and Resident Conductor Lawrence Loh for the eighth annual PSO Community Partners Concert. This year's performance features the sounds of Boyz II Men and the winner of the renowned 2011 Sphinx Competition, Paul Laraca. The PSO's Community Partners Concerts have raised more than \$539,000 for partnering nonprofit groups since they began in 2004.

TICKET PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE PARTICIPATING NONPROFIT PARTNER OF YOUR CHOICE  
FOR TICKETS CALL 412.392.4900 • 800.743.8560 OR VISIT [pittsburghsymphony.org](http://pittsburghsymphony.org)

LEAD SPONSOR  
**GIANT EAGLE**

Tickets prices range from \$25.75 to \$95.75  
Please indicate your preferred community partner and their code when ordering your tickets.



# Ursuline

## Senior Services


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### In This Issue

 **The Federal Elder Justice Act:** Details about this new legislation and what it means for seniors nationwide.

 **Updates:** News from national conferences, plus details about Ursuline's 30th anniversary celebration in May.

## Ursuline Senior Services' 30th Anniversary Event



**Please join us...**  
*...for a benefit concert offered by*  
**River City Brass and the**  
**Pittsburgh Gospel Choir**



**Wednesday, May 18, 2011**  
Wyndham Grand Hotel



**WTAE-TV's Andrew Stockey**  
*will serve as emcee for the event.*

*For tickets (\$50 donation), call 412-683-0400 or e-mail at [30thanniversary@ursulineseniors.org](mailto:30thanniversary@ursulineseniors.org)*



**[www.ursulineseniorservices.org](http://www.ursulineseniorservices.org)**

United Way Donor Designation Code: 281  
Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Code for 2010: 54651



*Ursuline Senior Services was awarded this Seal of Excellence by the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO), under the Standards for Excellence.*