

August 10, 2018

*Message from the Secretary*

On Wednesday, my travels took me to the Jewish Community Center in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, where Governor Wolf met with grandparents who are raising their grandchildren as a result of the opioid crisis. As always, it was a privilege to be with the governor and to meet several area grandparents who have, quite unexpectedly and very unceremoniously, found themselves parenting for the second time around as a direct result of the opioid epidemic. The governor's disaster declaration has allowed for multiple-agency cooperation



to attack the opioid crisis from a variety of angles, including better understanding and response to the needs of grandparents in this situation to get the support and services they need. An estimated 82,000 grandparents are the sole caregivers for nearly 89,000 grandchildren in Pennsylvania, and that number is increasing across the commonwealth due to the opioid crisis.

The conversation with the grandparents who participated was startling, and sobering. The courage shown by Brenda, John, Gerri, John, and Harry was inspiring to everyone, as each grandparent shared their struggles, concerns, desires, needs, and expectations. When asked what the state needs to do for them, the responses came quickly:

- Provide access to trauma therapy for grandchildren who have endured so much
- Engage the courts and revise the laws on custody
- Revisit family reunification as it's not working for the grandparents or the grandchildren caught in the chaos of the opioid epidemic
- Continue the conversation

But, it was Brenda who softly, yet directly said, "Pennsylvania can do better, and Pennsylvania needs to do more for us." Earlier in the roundtable dialogue, Brenda described that she and her husband, Dave, have been raising their 10-year-old grandson since 2009, and they recently adopted him. With a trembling voice she shared they were "blindsided" by their situation and since day one have been forced to operate in a legal system that was not developed for grandparents taking over parenting responsibilities when the parents are incarcerated, in treatment, dead, or simply not in the picture. Brenda shared that her husband is 69 years old and she is 55, adding that she "is tired" and worries about what will happen to their grandson if something happens to them.

Gerri and her husband, John, are raising a special needs granddaughter who will never be able to live on her own, and they are terrified thinking about what her granddaughter's future could be like. Harry, who is raising two grandsons at age 75, explained that he does not have the physical energy to keep up with them, and encouraged the state to revisit subsidized daycare. John and

his wife, Tracy, are raising their grandson and granddaughter, and while they have some financial resources available to support their responsibilities, he knows that there are grandparents who need financial support to access proper mental health treatment and other services. When the emotion-filled discussion ended, the governor pledged to step up his administration's efforts, while also urging the General Assembly to remove barriers to services necessary to ease the burden on grandparents.

Also in attendance were local State Representatives Eddie Day Pashinski, Karen Boback, and Aaron Kaufer. Recently, Representative Pashinski's House Bill No. 1539, which provides a way for grandparents to obtain temporary guardianship while protecting the rights of parents, including those suffering from an opioid addiction, passed the House, and is now being considered in the Senate. Additionally, Representative Kathy Watson has a Kinship Navigator Bill that has passed the House and is being considered by the Senate. Her bill will create a better way for grandparents to locate needed support and services. Governor Wolf has committed to sign both bills when they get to his desk.

Together, may we continue to commit ourselves to finding the pathways necessary to better support and serve Pennsylvania's grandparents in meeting the health, educational, nutritional, and other needs of the children in their care, while ensuring that our grandparents have the supports necessary to meet their own physical and mental health, and emotional well-being.

Teresa Osborne  
Secretary



**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

#### **LGBTQ Aging Summit Registration Open**

The Department of Aging's Inaugural [LGBTQ Aging Summit](#) will be held October 9-10, 2018, in Harrisburg and registration to attend is now open. To learn more, apply for scholarships, or to register your attendance, [click here](#).

#### ***Legislative Update***

#### **Pennsylvania House of Representatives**

The House will return to session on Monday, September 12, 2018, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

## **Pennsylvania Senate**

The Senate was not in session this week and will return on Monday, September 24, 2018, unless sooner recalled.

## ***Ombudsman Office***

### **Pennsylvania's Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Presented at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging's (n4a) 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference and Tradeshow**

#### *Expanding Resident Self-Advocacy Beyond the Facility's Four Walls*

Pennsylvania's State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Office has stepped "out of the box" with their empowerment and outreach efforts with consumers this year. At this year's n4a conference they shared how:

- Facebook Live made our residents superstars this year during Resident's Rights month
- Grassroots advocacy that our residents are spearheading through survey, testimony, and outreach has shaped our methodology
- A Personal Needs Allowance survey allowed us to identify the impact of impoverishment in long-term care, including social isolation.

Their session also addressed how Pennsylvania has empowered residents to obtain leadership roles in outside organizations, panels, and boards.

#### Presenters:

Carolyn Tenaglia, Northeast Regional Ombudsman Specialist

Kimberly Shetler, Northcentral Regional Ombudsman Specialist

## ***Education and Outreach Office***

### **Health and Wellness Program**

The Health and Wellness Program focuses on health promotion and disease prevention activities for older Pennsylvanians with a special focus on health risk screening, nutrition, chronic conditions, fall risk, exercise, and strengthening to prevent fall-related injury, monitoring behavioral health, and managing medications. Please see upcoming wellness workshops below:

#### **Berks** – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life)

Friedens UCC Church/Oley Library

337 Main Street

Oley, PA 19547

Dates: Wednesdays, August 1, 2018 – September 5, 2018

Time: 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Please contact: Kathy Roberts, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 610-374-3195, ext. 230

No charge for this class

Good Shepherd UCC

170 Tuckerton Road

Reading, PA 19605

Dates: Tuesdays, August 7, 2018 – September 11, 2018

Time: 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Please contact: Kathy Roberts, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 610-374-3195, ext. 230

No charge for this class

Hamburg Family Practice

700 Hawk Ridge Drive

Hamburg, PA 19526

Dates: Tuesdays, August 7, 2018 – September 11, 2018

Time: 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Please contact: Kathy Roberts, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 610-374-3195, ext. 230

No charge for this class

**Berks** – Diabetes Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life with Diabetes)

Berks Encore - Strausstown

44 East Avenue

Strausstown, PA 19559

Schedule: Thursdays, August 9, 2018 – September 6, 2018

Time: 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Please contact: Kathy Roberts, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 610-374-3195, ext. 230

No charge for this class

**Berks** – Healthy Steps in Motion (exercise classes for strength & balance)

Berks Encore- Fleetwood

109 W Vine Street

Fleetwood, PA 19522

Dates: Tuesdays and Fridays, August 7, 2018 - September 28, 2018

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Please contact: Kathy Roberts, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 610-374-3195, ext. 230

No charge for this class

**Blair** – Healthy Steps for Older Adults (fall risk screening & education)

Southern Blair Senior Center

15229 Dunnings Highway

East Freedom, PA 16637

Dates: August 22, 2018

Time: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Please contact: Aubrey Lidwell, Community Services Program Coordinator, at 814-946-1235

No charge for this class

Website: [www.blairsenior.org/senior-centers/](http://www.blairsenior.org/senior-centers/)

Williamsburg Senior Center

423 West Second Street

Williamsburg, PA 16693

Dates: August 23, 2018

Time: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Please contact: Aubrey Lidwell, Community Services Program Coordinator, at 814-946-1235

No charge for this class

Website: [www.blairsenior.org/senior-centers/](http://www.blairsenior.org/senior-centers/)

**Bucks** – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program **LAY LEADER TRAINING** and Diabetes Self-Management Program **LAY LEADER CROSS-TRAINING**

Central Bucks Senior Center

700 N. Shady Retreat Road

Doylestown, PA 18901

Schedule: CDSMP four-day training – October 4, 5, 11 and 12, 2018

Time: 8:30 a.m. first day sign-in then 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (lunch provided)

Schedule: DSMP cross-training – October 15, 2018

Time: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (lunch provided)

Please contact: Amanda Mayer, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 267-880-5744 or [amayer@buckscounty.org](mailto:amayer@buckscounty.org)

Charge: No charge to AAA staff, AAA subcontractors or AAA volunteers. Anyone else not covered by PDA's Self Management Resource Center license must provide their own SMRC license at the time of registration. Any questions about PDA's SMRC license may contact Katrina Kyle at [katkyle@pa.gov](mailto:katkyle@pa.gov) or 717-783-8349. Participants are responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals.

**Bucks** – Healthy Steps for Older Adults (fall risk screening & education)

Warwick Twp Building Community Room  
1733 Township Greene  
Jamison, PA 18929

Dates: September 26, 2018 and October 3, 2018

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Please contact: Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, at 267-880-5700

No charge for this class

**Clearfield** – Chronic Pain Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life with chronic pain)

Clearfield Center for Active Living

116 South Second Street

Clearfield, PA 16830

Schedule: Wednesdays, September 5, 2018 – October 17, 2018

Time: 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Please contact: Connie Harris, Clearfield CAL Center Manager, at 814-765-9319

No charge for this class

Mahaffey Center for Active Living

958 Market Street

Mahaffey, PA 15757

Schedule: Tuesdays, September 25, 2018 – October 30, 2018

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Please contact: Sally Hurd, Center Manager, at 814-277-4544

No charge for this class

**Delaware** – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program **LAY LEADER TRAINING** and Diabetes Self-Management Program **LAY LEADER CROSS-TRAINING**

County of Delaware Office of Aging Services

206 Eddystone Avenue, 2nd Floor

Eddystone, PA 19022

Schedule: CDSMP four-day training – November 1, 2, 8, and 9, 2018

Time: 8 a.m. first day sign-in then 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Schedule: DSMP cross-training – November 15, 2018

Time: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Please contact: Ellen Williams, Health & Wellness Program Manager, at 610-499-1937 or (preferred) [williamse@co.delaware.pa.us](mailto:williamse@co.delaware.pa.us)

Charge: No charge to AAA staff, AAA subcontractors or AAA volunteers and refreshments provided. Anyone else not covered by PDA's Self Management Resource Center license must provide their own SMRC license at the time of registration and will pay a small fee to cover supplies and refreshments. Any questions about PDA's SMRC license may contact Katrina Kyle at [katkyle@pa.gov](mailto:katkyle@pa.gov) or 717-783-8349. Participants are responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals.

**Delaware** – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life)

Widener University  
Kapelski Learning Center  
Suite 120 609 Convent Rd.  
One University Place  
Chester, PA 19013-5792

Dates: Mondays, October 15, 2018 – November 19, 2018

Time: 2:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Please contact: Bridget O. Thompson, Assistant Director, Extended Learning Widener University, at 610-499-4279

No charge for this class

Website: [www.widener.edu/olli](http://www.widener.edu/olli)

Our Lady of Angels Convent

609 Convent Rd.

Aston, PA 19014

Dates: Fridays, February 22, 2019 – March 29, 2019

Time: 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Please contact: Ellen Williams, Health & Wellness Program Manager, at 610-499-1937 to get on waiting list

No charge for this class

**Delaware** – Healthy Steps for Older Adults (fall risk screening & education)

Fox Hill Farms Community Center

2300 Fox Hill Circle

Glen Mills, PA 19342

Dates: September 12 and 19, 2018

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Please contact: Class is full not taking any new participants

No charge for this class

Fox Hill Farms Community Center

2300 Fox Hill Circle

Glen Mills, PA 19342

Dates: October 3 and 10, 2018

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Please contact: Class is full not taking any new participants

No charge for this class

**Lackawanna** – Chronic Pain Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life with chronic pain)

Voluntary Action Center

829 Jefferson Avenue

Scranton, PA 19510

Schedule: Thursdays, September 13, 2018 – October 18, 2018

Time: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Please contact: Meredith McCracken, Director of Community Health, at 570-880-7130 ext.115

No charge for this class

**Lehigh** – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life)

Lehigh Valley Active Life

1633 Elm Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
Dates: Wednesdays, September 26, 2018 – October 31, 2018  
Time: 12:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
Please contact: Monica Yastrzab-Kempf, Health and Wellness Nurse, at 610-782-3618  
No charge for this class

**Lehigh** – Diabetes Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life with Diabetes)  
Whitehall Active Lifestyle Center  
West Catasauqua Community Center  
2301 Pine Street  
Whitehall, PA 18052  
Schedule: Mondays, October 15, 2018 - November 19, 2018  
Time: 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.  
Please contact: Monica Yastrzab-Kempf, Health and Wellness Nurse, at 610-782-3618  
No charge for this class

**Montgomery** – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program **LAY LEADER TRAINING**

Montco – Senior Adult Activities Center (SAAC)  
536 George Street  
Norristown, PA 19401  
Schedule: September 25 and 26, 2018 and October 4 and 5, 2018  
Time: 8 a.m. first day sign-in then 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Please contact: Tracey Flynn, Community Program Development Manager, at  
[tflynn@montcopa.org](mailto:tflynn@montcopa.org) or 610-278-3609  
Charge: No charge to AAA staff, AAA subcontractors or AAA volunteers. Anyone else not covered by PDA's Self Management Resource Center license must provide their own SMRC license at the time of registration. Any questions about PDA's SMRC license may contact Katrina Kyle at [katkyle@pa.gov](mailto:katkyle@pa.gov) or 717-783-8349. Participants are responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals.

**Northumberland** – Diabetes Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life with Diabetes)  
Geisinger Shamokin Area Community Hospital  
4200 Hospital Road  
Coal Township, PA 17866  
Schedule: Thursdays, August 2, 2018 – September 6, 2018  
Time: 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Please contact: Geisinger Health and Wellness Department at 1-866-415-7138  
No charge for this class  
Website: [www.geisinger.org/events](http://www.geisinger.org/events)

**Perry** – Healthy Steps in Motion (exercise classes for strength & balance)  
Marysville Sr. Center  
198 Leonard Street  
Marysville, PA 17053  
Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 11, 2018 – November 1, 2018  
Time: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.  
Please contact: Allyson Valentine, Outreach Coordinator, at 717-582-5128  
No charge for this class

Marysville Sr. Center

198 Leonard Street  
Marysville, PA 17053  
Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 23, 2019 – June 4, 2019  
Time: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.  
Please contact: Allyson Valentine, Outreach Coordinator, at 717-582-5128  
No charge for this class

**Philadelphia – Chronic Pain Self-Management Program LAY LEADER CROSS-TRAINING**

Philadelphia Corporation for Aging  
Wallace Building  
642 N. Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
Schedule: Two Day Training Wednesday, August 15, 2018 and Thursday, August 16, 2018  
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Please contact: Diane P. Brown, Health Promotion Consultant, at 215-765-9000 ext. 5119 or [Diane.Brown@pcacares.org](mailto:Diane.Brown@pcacares.org)  
Prerequisite: Must be a certified Chronic Disease Self-Management Program Lay Leader  
Charge: No charge to AAA staff, AAA subcontractors or AAA volunteers. Anyone else not covered by PDA's Self Management Resource Center license must provide their own SMRC license at the time of registration. Any questions about PDA's SMRC license may contact Katrina Kyle at [katkyle@pa.gov](mailto:katkyle@pa.gov) or 717-783-8349. Participants are responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals.

**Schuylkill – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life)**

Orwigsburg Library  
216 W Independence Street  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961  
Dates: Mondays, August 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2018, Tuesday, September 4, 2018 and Monday September 10, 2018  
Time: 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Please contact: Jenny Wagner, Community Wellness Coordinator, at 570-624-3017  
No charge for this class

**Somerset – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program LAY LEADER TRAINING**

Conemaugh Township Senior Center  
959 S Main St  
Hollsopple, PA 15935  
Schedule: September 6, 7, 10 and 11, 2018  
Time: 8:30 a.m. first day sign-in then 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Please contact: Tracy Rhodes-Kovach, Director, Senior Center Services at 814-467-0507 or [trhodes@somersetaaa.org](mailto:trhodes@somersetaaa.org)  
Charge: \$50  
Anyone not covered by PDA's Self Management Resource Center license must provide their own SMRC license at the time of registration. Any questions about PDA's SMRC license may contact Katrina Kyle at [katkyle@pa.gov](mailto:katkyle@pa.gov) or 717-783-8349. Participants are responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals.

**Susquehanna – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life)**

Endless Mountains Health System  
Hospital Drive  
Montrose, PA 18801  
Dates: Thursdays, July 12, 2018 – August 16, 2018



Time: 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Please contact: Hollie Irvine, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 800-982-4346

No charge for this class

**Susquehanna** – Healthy Steps for Older Adults (fall risk screening & education)

Montrose Bible Conference Center

218 Locust Street

Montrose, PA 18801

Dates: September 21, 2018

Time: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Please contact: Hollie Irvine, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 570-265-6121

No charge for this class

Website: [www.montrosebible.org](http://www.montrosebible.org)

**York** – Diabetes Self-Management Program (education on living a healthier life with Diabetes)

York Commons

2406 Cape Horn Road

Red Lion, PA 17356

Schedule: Thursdays, July 19, 2018 – August 23, 2018

Time: 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Please contact: Megan Craley, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 717-771-9610

No charge for this class

911 Center

120 Davies Drive

York, PA 17402

Schedule: Wednesdays, September 12, 2018 – October 17, 2018

Time: 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Please contact: Megan Craley, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 717-771-9610

No charge for this class

***PA Link to Aging and Disability Resources***

**Lackawanna County**

Medicare/Medicaid Training Presented by the Voluntary Action Center

Date: August 23, 2018

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

The Salvation Army

500 S. Washington Street

Scranton, PA

RSVP by August 20 to Julie Mann at [ccaging14@ptd.net](mailto:ccaging14@ptd.net)

**Lancaster County**

FREE Bones, Balance, Brains & Bands seminar

Saint Peter Apartments

400 Union Street, Columbia, PA

Monday, August 13, 2018

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Please RSVP by calling/texting 717-380-9714, email [bllink@mail.com](mailto:bllink@mail.com), or register with Saint Peter Apartments. Please let us know if you require accommodation.

FREE educational Dementia, Loss & Ministry seminar

Charles F. Snyder Funeral Homes and Crematory

3110 Lititz Pike, Lititz, PA 175412

Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at 6 p.m. & Wednesday, August 15, 2018, at 8 a.m.

Register online: [www.snyderfuneralhome.com/workshop](http://www.snyderfuneralhome.com/workshop)

Pennsylvania Link to Aging and Disability Resources Lancaster County partners' network  
monthly cross-training: Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation and Self-Determination  
Housing Project of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Elderwood – Senior Living Lancaster

120 Rider Avenue

Lancaster, PA

Thursday, August 16, 2018

Time: 1 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

For more information, to let us know if you require accommodation, or to RSVP for this FREE  
meeting, text or call 717-398-9714

Welsh Mountain's Welsh Mountain Health Center's National Health Centers Week

Patient Appreciation and Community event

435 South Kinzer Avenue

New Holland, PA 17545

Thursday, August 16, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

### **Lebanon County**

Welsh Mountain's Welsh Mountain Health Center's National Health Centers Week | Patient  
Appreciation and Community event

Lebanon Salvation Army

1031 Guilford Street

Lebanon, PA 17545

Saturday, August 11, 2018

Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

FREE Bones, Balance, Brains & Bands seminar

Stone Ridge | Poplar Run

440 East Lincoln Avenue

Myerstown, PA 17067

Thursday, August 16, 2018

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Please RSVP by calling/texting 717-380-9714, emailing [bllink@mail.com](mailto:bllink@mail.com), or register with  
StoneRidge | Poplar Run. Please let us know if you require accommodation.

Veterans Legal and Domestic Relations Clinic

Lebanon VA Medical Center

1700 South Lincoln Avenue

Building 18 – Third Floor Conference Room 201

Lebanon Village

Lebanon, PA 17042

Friday, August 17, 2018

Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

For more information, please contact Sarah Primak, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist, call  
717-926-0872

### **Lehigh County**

Sustaining our Advocates of Older Adults with Intellectual Disabilities  
Educate professionals about supporting individuals who are aging with an intellectual disability and those that care for them.  
DeSales University Center  
2755 Station Avenue  
Center Valley, PA  
Date: October 25, 2018  
Time: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Kim Melusky, PA Link Coordinator, at [kimberlymelusky@lehighcounty.org](mailto:kimberlymelusky@lehighcounty.org)  
Registration Deadline: October 12, 2018  
Cost: \$45

### **Luzerne County**

“Controlling the Opioid Epidemic in our Aging/Disabled Population”  
Special Agent Janene Holter of the Attorney General’s Office and the Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Services, Inc. will be presenting on spotting the signs of Opioid/drug abuse when meeting with an Aging/Disabled Consumer.  
Mercy Center/301 Lake Street, Dallas, PA 18612  
Date: October 10, 2018  
Time: Registration: 9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m./Training 9:30 a.m. -12 p.m.  
Please RSVP to Lead Link Coordinator [ccaging14@ptd.net](mailto:ccaging14@ptd.net)  
Seating is limited

### **Northampton County**

Drug and Alcohol programs  
Lehigh County Drug and Alcohol will discuss local issues and prevention.  
Northampton County Human Services Building  
2801 Emrick Blvd.  
Bethlehem, PA 18020  
Date: September 19, 2018  
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
Contact: Kim Melusky, PA Link Coordinator, at [kimberlymelusky@lehighcounty.org](mailto:kimberlymelusky@lehighcounty.org)  
Registration Deadline: September 14, 2018

### ***Announcements***

#### **Attorney General Shapiro’s New Text Alert System to protect Pennsylvania seniors, consumers from scams**

Attorney General Josh Shapiro today encouraged Pennsylvania consumers to sign up for a new text alert system through his Bureau of Consumer Protection to raise their awareness about how to avoid becoming a victim of scams. The text alerts – which will be sent at least twice a month – will offer tips for consumers to avoid becoming a victim of a scam, warn about new scams or update subscribers on consumer protection issues. Consumers can sign up by visiting <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/consumer-alerts/> and opt out via text after they receive a text alert. There is no fee to sign up. Mobile carrier rates may apply.

#### **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference**

On October 19, 2018, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Pittston Memorial Library and NEPA Intergenerational Coalition are sponsoring the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference in Wilkes-Barre at Genetti’s Best Western Plus Hotel and Conference Center. Please contact Howard J. Grossman, Pittston Memorial Library, at 570-262-3443 or [grossmanhj@aol.com](mailto:grossmanhj@aol.com) for more information.