

Christine Donovan and Chris Keenan named Volunteers of the Year

The Senior Connection's volunteers were honored as part of National Volunteer Week on April 13, 2011 in recognition of their wonderful service to seniors living in Montgomery County, Maryland.

About 120 volunteers and guests joined with Montgomery County officials and Senior Connection board members and staff to celebrate this important occasion at The Golden Bull Grand Café in Gaithersburg. A welcome address was offered by Steve Hague, Board Co-President, followed by the blessing of the meal by Board Member, Phyllis Courlander.

Everyone was seated at round tables which facilitated a lively discussion during lunch of prime rib, grilled salmon, chicken chardonnay, and pasta marinara. Once appetites were satisfied, Sue Dollins, Executive Director, presided over the presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Awards given to Christine Donovan and Chris Keenan for the most hours, greatest attitudes, and most consistent willingness to answer the volunteer call to serve.

An audience sing-a-long lead by acoustic guitarists Steve Hage and Peter Jones provided entertainment. Everyone received a gift bag full "volunteer essentials" such as a Hershey Kiss to remind them that they are loved, a caramel to help them chew the fat with friends and pennies to give them the extra "cents" they need.

One volunteer brought her care receiver as her guest (see photo of Patsy Hurst-Moore and Dorothy Vincent). The event ended with Sue praising her staff, board members and the volunteers who give so generously to help our county's older adults.