PRESENTER: Theresa Collins, Senior Services Plus
WINNER: Senior Services of Central Illinois, Springfield
ACCEPTING: Karen Schainker, Senior Services of Central Illinois, Executive Director

The staff of the hard-working Senior Services of Central Illinois (SSCI) and its leader, Karen Schainker, were chosen for the Mind, Body and Spirit Award this year to recognize efforts and sacrifices made over the course of the last few years. Due to economic difficulties, the management, staff and board of SSCI decided to make budget cuts that have made it fiscally sound today. Previously operating on a $3.3 million budget, approximately $1 million was trimmed away. This included cutting the operation from five days a week to four, cutting staff retirement benefits, eliminating 23 positions, and making dozens of other eliminations. According to Karen Schainker, “We continued to ask staff to provide the services for seniors that were previously provided with 23 more warm bodies. Our service units did decline in some areas but actually increased in others.” Karen said SSCI did re-implement some cuts but it is now “leaner and more efficient.” Further, she said, “It has taken the mind, body and spirit of all the staff of this agency to continue to forge ahead and provide what are often the frailest in our communities with services they deserve.” Most recently, SSCI has celebrated its 45th anniversary by refreshing and revitalizing the senior center with major cleaning and remodeling.
**Menu**

**Spinach Salad**
Fresh spinach salad with roasted pecans and gorgonzola with warm mustard vinaigrette.

**Frenched Chicken Breast**
Frenched chicken breast with garlic mashed potatoes
Assorted fresh rolls

**Beverages**
Iced tea and coffee

**Dessert**
Fresh fruit flan with Chantilly cream

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**2012 D. Jeanne Tippett Scholarship**

**PRESENTER:** Robert Thieman, Jr., CAE, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers, Springfield and Marsha Johnson, Director of Case Coordination Unit Services, Community Care Systems, Inc., Springfield

**WINNER:** Lindsey Colgan, Henry County Health Department, Kewanee

Lindsey is currently enrolled at Black Hawk College where she is pursuing her degree and licensure as a Physical Therapy Assistant. Lindsey has been a remarkable Homecare Assistant for the Henry County Health Department since 2011. As a single mother of two boys, she makes working and going to college an amazing balancing act. Her drive to become a physical therapy assistant is centered on demonstrating to them that you can do anything. While at Illinois Central College, Lindsey repeatedly made the Dean’s List. She continues to maintain academic excellence at Black Hawk. Her work for Henry County as a HCA is characterized by many compliments on her dedication and quality of care that she provides. She is able to handle difficult participants others cannot and offers passionate care for those going through medical uncertainty. Upon completion of her degree and license, Lindsey plans to continue working with the elderly in a skilled nursing/rehab facility.
Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units

Supervisor of the Year

**PRESENTER:** Robert Thieman, Jr., CAE, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers, Springfield

**WINNER:** Judith K. Tribble, InTouch Home Care, LSSI, Canton

Judith is the Lead Supervisor of Home Care of the Canton office of InTouch Home Care for the Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Initially, Judy joined InTouch as a Home Care Assistant. Recognizing her leadership ability she was soon promoted to supervisor and in 2009 she was promoted to lead supervisor.

Her position is one that encompasses a wide array of responsibilities including scheduling, monitoring, as well as significant elements of payroll and expense reimbursement. In simple terms, Judy cares. She is committed to excellence and is there to help counsel and guide her HCAs in all activities whether they be job related or personal. Judy takes ownership and responsibility for her work, and holds herself accountable to her high standards of excellence as she holds her HCAs to those same standards. In her work, the overall job satisfaction rating among the HCAs has reached an unprecedented 96 percent! In her own words, Judy states: “I try to handle myself with integrity and act responsible each day. I take pride in my work and enjoy my job. I have a lot of respect for my co-workers and staff as well as the clients. I put my trust in my co-workers. There are days that are overwhelming, but the rewards of helping clients and Homecare Assistants make up for the trying times.”

Charles D. Johnson

Leader of Excellence Award

**PRESENTER:** John Holton, Director, Illinois Department on Aging, and Mary Killough, Deputy Director, Illinois Department on Aging

**WINNER:** Diane Drew, Executive Director, Community Home Environmental Learning Project (CHELP), Decatur, and President, Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers

Diane Drew has worked at CHELP since 1985 and was chosen as its Executive Director in 1999. She possesses over 25 years of professionalism in the prevention of elder abuse and in working for older adults in Illinois. She tirelessly shares her expertise with the Illinois Department on Aging as well as the Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers and the Community Care Program Advisory Commission. Her dedication to sharing her knowledge with fellow caregivers led her to assisting in the development and presentation of the current Homecare Supervisor Training offered on-line through the Department. Diane is not only a respected leader and friend to the Department, she is a respected leader in her community. She serves on many committees and boards, including the Utility Advisory Committee, Decatur Community Partnership Board, RSVP Advisory Board, Institutional Review Board at Decatur Memorial Hospital, Macon County Coalition for Senior Productive Living, Macon County Alliance for Behavior Health and Maturity, the Kiwanis and Lions Clubs, and more. The Department thanks her for giving her time and leadership so generously and proudly awards her the Charles D. Johnson Leader of Excellence Award for 2012.
James “Jim” Blanton has been employed at Amboy Healthcare and Rehabilitation for nearly eight years. Administrator Lynn McCoy calls Jim “our everything man;” he is a maintenance man, groundskeeper, transporter and performs any other tasks needed. Jim’s hours do not start until 8 a.m., but he is usually at the healthcare facility at 6:30 a.m. to greet residents in the morning and help start their day off with a smile. According to his nomination, Jim will do anything to ensure the resident’s needs are met. Residents without family make Jim their family. Jim helps out in the dining room and always takes the time to make sure residents are eating well. His nomination states, “Jim Blanton is the greatest friend any person could have, the best employee an employer could want and the finest example of what compassion, love and kindness really are. Our residents and staff have truly been blessed to have had the opportunity to know and spend time with Jim Blanton.”

Lois has been a supervisor for Adult Comprehensive Human Services for the past 13 years. Prior to that she was a Home Care Aide, therefore she knows the industry very well. She is a patient person and excellent at handling difficult situations, clients and family members. She has a dedicated work force of Home Care Aides that will go out of their way to make the participant feel right. If there is an incident, Lois is right on it documenting all the necessary information and following up with the HCA as well as the CCU, family and participant making certain that all things are resolved. If a HCA is sick or on vacation, Lois makes certain that the participant is familiar with the substitute. She is there always, even on holidays, weekends and when the need demands.
Joyce Still Memorial Award

PRESENTER: Amy Voils, Director of Daily Bread, Senior Services of Central Illinois

WINNER: Linda Toepfer, Daily Bread, Senior Services of Central Illinois

Linda Toepfer is dedicated to senior nutrition. She has been with Senior Services of Central Illinois’ Daily Bread program for eight years. In that time, she has been instrumental in making the program run smoothly, picking up any duty needed without complaint. She has personally secured many program donations and has been the driving force behind nutrition education, as well as staff education. Linda has overcome many personal and physical obstacles in her time with Daily Bread, and they have not affected her quality of work. She exemplifies the quality of an outstanding, dedicated employee who possesses personal and professional integrity. Her giving spirit, creative talents and gifts, as well as the poise she radiates no matter how demanding the situation, is admired by all.

Illinois Department on Aging Outstanding Caregiver Award—Illinois Senior Housing

PRESENTERS: John Holton, Director, Illinois Department on Aging; Lisa Rogers, Director of Human Resources, Pathway Senior Living, Alexian Village of Elk Grove, and Jerry Finis, Vice President, Affordable Assisted Living Coalition

WINNER: Sue Peters, Nursing Administrative Assistant, Pathway Senior Living, Alexian Village of Elk Grove

When Sue Peters converses with residents, co-workers and visitors, it goes deeper than, “Hi” or “How are you?” She takes the time to get to know those she meets. She is a careful listener and remembers the smallest details. She uses this insight to better residents’ lives. Knowing how important it is for residents to feel connected, Sue started an intergenerational reading program at an elementary school where she has worked part-time as a custodian for 30 years. The program features seniors reading to students. According to Sue’s nomination, “there is a joyful song in her heart that sings out to all of the seniors’ lives she touches.” She champions their quality of life and works hard to make them comfortable and happy, whether it is holding their hand in hospice or getting someone a new pair of socks. One co-worker describes Sue as having boundless energy. “Whenever a resident needs help, Sue is there,” she said. “She knows their likes and dislikes, passions and fears. She is respected by staff, residents, and families and inspires her team to also be happy and fulfilled in their roles.”
**Illinois Department on Aging**

**Outstanding Caregiver Award—Older American Act Services**

**PRESENTERS:** John Holton, Director, Illinois Department on Aging and Carol Ann Worthington, Tri-Cities Faith in Action Program Manager, Granite City

**WINNER:** Millie Clements, Madison County Catholic Charities – Tri-Cities Faith in Action Program, Granite City

Millie Clements is a volunteer with the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program through Southwestern Illinois College. Millie has been a caregiver in the program for eight years and faithfully fulfills her duties without complaint. Over the years, she has become friends with the care receivers, many of whom need help with transportation and shopping and request her help by name. Millie takes what she does very seriously and does nothing half-heartedly. When one individual needed to go grocery shopping but didn’t have the stamina, Millie offered to go and shop on her behalf. She dropped the individual at home to rest, went back to shop for her and then brought back the purchases and put them away. She often will rearrange her own busy schedule if someone needs her. In fact, Millie is so busy driving for the program that Program Manager Carol Ann Worthington says she and staff have a hard time keeping up with her. Carol Ann says, “Millie is a compassionate person and seniors love her.”

**Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units**

**2012 Care Coordinator of the Year**

**PRESENTER:** Marsha Nelson, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors, Carterville

**WINNER:** Kathy Etters, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors, Carterville

Kathy Etters has been an outstanding care coordinator in her 12 years with Shawnee Alliance. She has been a team leader, mentoring new coordinators, and building a strong professional relationship with community leaders and networks in the area. She is calm in the midst of unsettlement and strong when advocacy is needed. She has a strong understanding of rules and limitations of programs. One program participant lived in a trailer without water or electricity and many dogs. Kathy did not shy away from the problems and addressed them while allowing the participant to keep her dignity and right to self-determination. Kathy works at a steady pace giving supervisors confidence all work is being completed in a timely fashion and with great accuracy. She goes about her work without complaint, hesitation or regret. She is a SHIP counselor, stays abreast of all the changes to resources and shares with all in need. According to Marsha Nelson, “Kathy is the person you know is going to give you a smile and look at the best in persons. She is kind to all and willing to help everyone. She can find humor in most situations to break the stress or to lighten the tension. She does not let frustration show in front of others and understands change is part of the process. She is someone you want influencing others.”
Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly

Pillar of Service Award

**PRESENTER:** Awilda Gonzalez, Board President, Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly

**WINNER:** Helen Nakayama, Japanese American Service Committee, Chicago

Helen Nakayama was born and lived in Chicago all her life. All her grandparents emigrated from Japan and settled in California in the early 1900s. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Roosevelt ordered all people of Japanese ancestry into internment camps. Her mother and father’s families lost their homes, property and savings, but they never lost their sense of identity as Japanese American citizens. Helen graduated from the University of Illinois Chicago and worked in social service programs at Rush University Medical Center, International Visitors Center and Japanese American Service Committee. After she became acquainted with the Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly, she worked with CLESE staff and members on program development for the Japanese American Service Committee. In 1997, the Japanese American Service Committee received its first Community Care Program contract. In Helen’s words, “The best way to remember and honor the help she and her agency received from CLESE staff and members for almost two decades is to assist others in the CLESE spirit of sharing and ultimately becoming friends.”

Illinois Department on Aging

Outstanding Caregiver Award—Illinois Home Care and Hospice

**PRESENTER:** June Dehlin, PRN, Iroquois Memorial Hospice, Watseka

Previously Presented

This award recognizes a direct care worker over the age of 55 who has provided outstanding direct caregiving to seniors through the Illinois home care or hospice industry. According to winner June Dehlin’s co-workers, “We could all use a dose of June’s kind spirit, humor and wisdom. Too often in this society, we think once someone reaches a certain age they should retire. Both our patients and hospice team members are richly blessed each day we have June in our lives.” June received the award mid-March at the Illinois Home Care and Hospice Council’s annual conference.

AARP

Legislator of the Year Award

**PRESENTERS:** Nancy Nelson, AARP Manager of Outreach and Advocacy, Springfield; Bob Gallo, AARP State Director, and Dave Vinkler, AARP Associate State Director

**WINNER:** The Honorable State Senator Jacqueline Collins, Chicago

Illinois State Senator Jacqueline Collins is an accomplished advocate of political activism and social justice, fighting for legislation to increase the levels of staffing for Illinois nursing
Senator Collins has served the constituents of the Chicago-area’s 16th Legislative District since 2003. She began her advocacy in her first year in office. She successfully sponsored and passed legislation that prevented public utility companies from disconnecting LIHEAP participants during the winter months and a law allowing more Illinois seniors to qualify for the Homestead Exemption based on the number of days they lived at their residence. As a chair of the Senate Committee on Financial Institutions, Senator Collins has a long history of leading efforts to protect consumers on issues ranging from foreclosure to payday lending. She continues to fight for financial security and quality care in all nursing homes, protecting seniors in her district and throughout the state. AARP proudly names Senator Collins its Legislator of the Year for 2012.

Sid Granet Aging Network Achievement Award for Individual Excellence

**PRESENTER:** Barbara Eskildsen, Director, Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging and Vice-President, Illinois Association of Area Agencies on Aging

**WINNER:** Honorable State Senator Mattie Hunter and Honorable State Representative Joe Lyons

State Senator Mattie Hunter and State Representative Joe Lyons, both of Chicago, have been chosen for the 2012 Sid Granet Aging Network Achievement Award for their attention to the needs of older adults. Specifically, Sen. Hunter and Rep. Lyons were instrumental in helping the Illinois Association of Area Agencies on Aging achieve the passage of Senate Bill 3267. This law requires financial institutions to train their employees to prevent financial fraud of older adults. As a result, nearly 150 bank trainings have been conducted by elder abuse provider agencies, resulting in a total of 2,755 financial institution employees receiving training. Further, financial institutions conducted 55 trainings, which resulted in 429 employees receiving training, and the Illinois Department on Aging elder abuse program staff trained 69 banks throughout the state. The Department also worked with the University of Illinois Springfield to develop a DVD on the Bankers and Seniors Against Financial Exploitation (B*SAFE).

Illinois Adult Day Service Association Sunlight Award

**PRESENTER:** Kathy Wyatt, Leader of Day Health Services, McDonough District Hospital, Macomb, and President, Illinois Adult Day Services Association

**WINNER:** C. Kay Waller, LPN, McDonough District Hospital Adult Day Care, Macomb

Kay Waller, a part-time retired Licensed Practical Nurse at the Day Health Services program at McDonough District Hospital in Macomb, has spent her lifetime of work caring for participants in the day center. She tends to those who have brought their physical and emotional concerns to her. She has addressed issues and become a true friend to those that she has cared for as well as staff, so much so that she has been genuinely impossible to replace. The Sunlight Award is proudly given to Kay to reflect her dedication and compassionate spirit she so generously gives at the hospital adult day care.
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Pillar of Service Award

**PRESENTER:** Awilda Gonzalez, Board President, Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly

**WINNER:** Helen Nakayama, Japanese American Service Committee, Chicago

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Illinois Department on Aging
Outstanding Caregiver Award—Illinois Home Care and Hospice

**PRESENTER:** June Dehlin, PRN, Iroquois Memorial Hospice, Watseka

Previously Presented

This award recognizes a direct care worker over the age of 55 who has provided outstanding direct caregiving to seniors through the Illinois home care or hospice industry. According to winner June Dehlin’s co-workers, “We could all use a dose of June’s kind spirit, humor and wisdom. Too often in this society, we think once someone reaches a certain age they should retire. Both our patients and hospice team members are richly blessed each day we have June in our lives.” June received the award mid-March at the Illinois Home Care and Hospice Council’s annual conference.

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**WINNER:** The Honorable State Senator Jacqueline Collins, Chicago

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**Illinois Department on Aging**

**Outstanding Caregiver Award—Older American Act Services**

**PRESENTERS:** John Holton, Director, Illinois Department on Aging and Carol Ann Worthington, Tri-Cities Faith in Action Program Manager, Granite City

**WINNER:** Millie Clements, Madison County Catholic Charities – Tri-Cities Faith in Action Program, Granite City.

Millie Clements is a volunteer with the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program through Southwestern Illinois College. Millie has been a caregiver in the program for eight years and faithfully fulfills her duties without complaint. Over the years, she has become friends with the care receivers, many of whom need help with transportation and shopping and request her help by name. Millie takes what she does very seriously and does nothing half-heartedly. When one individual needed to go grocery shopping but didn’t have the stamina, Millie offered to go and shop on her behalf. She dropped the individual at home to rest, went back to shop for her and then brought back the purchases and put them away. She often will rearrange her own busy schedule if someone needs her. In fact, Millie is so busy driving for the program that Program Manager Carol Ann Worthington says she and staff have a hard time keeping up with her. Carol Ann says, “Millie is a compassionate person and seniors love her.”

**Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units**

**2012 Care Coordinator of the Year**

**PRESENTER:** Marsha Nelson, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors, Carterville

**WINNER:** Kathy Etters, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors, Carterville

Kathy Etters has been an outstanding care coordinator in her 12 years with Shawnee Alliance. She has been a team leader, mentoring new coordinators, and building a strong professional relationship with community leaders and networks in the area. She is calm in the midst of unsettlement and strong when advocacy is needed. She has a strong understanding of rules and limitations of programs. One program participant lived in a trailer without water or electricity and many dogs. Kathy did not shy away from the problems and addressed them while allowing the participant to keep her dignity and right to self-determination. Kathy works at a steady pace giving supervisors confidence all work is being completed in a timely fashion and with great accuracy. She goes about her work without complaint, hesitation or regret. She is a SHIP counselor, stays abreast of all the changes to resources and shares with all in need. According to Marsha Nelson, “Kathy is the person you know is going to give you a smile and look at the best in persons. She is kind to all and willing to help everyone. She can find humor in most situations to break the stress or to lighten the tension. She does not let frustration show in front of others and understands change is part of the process. She is someone you want influencing others.”
Joyce Still Memorial Award

**PRESENTER:** Amy Voils, Director of Daily Bread, Senior Services of Central Illinois

**WINNER:** Linda Toepfer, Daily Bread, Senior Services of Central Illinois

Linda Toepfer is dedicated to senior nutrition. She has been with Senior Services of Central Illinois’ Daily Bread program for eight years. In that time, she has been instrumental in making the program run smoothly, picking up any duty needed without complaint. She has personally secured many program donations and has been the driving force behind nutrition education, as well as staff education. Linda has overcome many personal and physical obstacles in her time with Daily Bread, and they have not affected her quality of work. She exemplifies the quality of an outstanding, dedicated employee who possesses personal and professional integrity. Her giving spirit, creative talents and gifts, as well as the poise she radiates no matter how demanding the situation, is admired by all.

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**WINNER:** Sue Peters, Nursing Administrative Assistant, Pathway Senior Living, Alexian Village of Elk Grove

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Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units
Supervisor of the Year

PRESENTER: Robert Thiemann, Jr., CAE, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers, Springfield

WINNER: Judith K. Tribble, InTouch Home Care, LSSI, Canton

Judith is the Lead Supervisor of Home Care of the Canton office of InTouch Home Care for the Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Initially, Judy joined InTouch as a Home Care Assistant. Recognizing her leadership ability she was soon promoted to supervisor and in 2009 she was promoted to lead supervisor.

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Charles D. Johnson
Leader of Excellence Award

PRESENTER: John Holton, Director, Illinois Department on Aging, and Mary Killough, Deputy Director, Illinois Department on Aging

WINNER: Diane Drew, Executive Director, Community Home Environmental Learning Project (CHELP), Decatur, and President, Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers

Diane Drew has worked at CHELP since 1985 and was chosen as its Executive Director in 1999. She possesses over 25 years of professionalism in the prevention of elder abuse and in working for older adults in Illinois. She tirelessly shares her expertise with the Illinois Department on Aging as well as the Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers and the Community Care Program Advisory Commission. Her dedication to sharing her knowledge with fellow caregivers led her to assisting in the development and presentation of the current Homecare Supervisor Training offered on-line through the Department. Diane is not only a respected leader and friend to the Department, she is a respected leader in her community. She serves on many committees and boards, including the Utility Advisory Committee, Decatur Community Partnership Board, RSVP Advisory Board, Institutional Review Board at Decatur Memorial Hospital, Macon County Coalition for Senior Productive Living, Macon County Alliance for Behavior Health and Maturity, the Kiwanis and Lions Clubs, and more. The Department thanks her for giving her time and leadership so generously and proudly awards her the Charles D. Johnson Leader of Excellence Award for 2012.
Menu

Spinach Salad
Fresh spinach salad with roasted pecans and gorgonzola with warm mustard vinaigrette.

Frenched Chicken Breast
Frenched chicken breast with garlic mashed potatoes
Assorted fresh rolls

Beverages
Iced tea and coffee

Dessert
Fresh fruit flan with Chantilly cream

2012 D. Jeanne Tippet Scholarship

PRESENTER: Robert Thieman, Jr., CAE, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers, Springfield and Marsha Johnson, Director of Case Coordination Unit Services, Community Care Systems, Inc., Springfield

WINNER: Lindsey Colgan, Henry County Health Department, Kewanee

Lindsey is currently enrolled at Black Hawk College where she is pursuing her degree and licensure as a Physical Therapy Assistant. Lindsey has been a remarkable Homecare Assistant for the Henry County Health Department since 2011. As a single mother of two boys, she makes working and going to college an amazing balancing act. Her drive to become a physical therapy assistant is centered on demonstrating to them that you can do anything. While at Illinois Central College, Lindsey repeatedly made the Dean’s List. She continues to maintain academic excellence at Black Hawk. Her work for Henry County as an HCA is characterized by many compliments on her dedication and quality of care that she provides. She is able to handle difficult participants others cannot and offers passionate care for those going through medical uncertainty. Upon completion of her degree and license, Lindsey plans to continue working with the elderly in a skilled nursing/rehab facility.
Association of Illinois Senior Centers
Mind, Body, Spirit Award

**PRESENTER:** Theresa Collins, Senior Services Plus

**WINNER:** Senior Services of Central Illinois, Springfield

**ACCEPTING:** Karen Schainker, Senior Services of Central Illinois, Executive Director

The staff of the hard-working Senior Services of Central Illinois (SSCI) and its leader, Karen Schainker, were chosen for the Mind, Body and Spirit Award this year to recognize efforts and sacrifices made over the course of the last few years. Due to economic difficulties, the management, staff and board of SSCI decided to make budget cuts that have made it fiscally sound today. Previously operating on a $3.3 million budget, approximately $1 million was trimmed away. This included cutting the operation from five days a week to four, cutting staff retirement benefits, eliminating 23 positions, and making dozens of other eliminations. According to Karen Schainker, “We continued to ask staff to provide the services for seniors that were previously provided with 23 more warm bodies. Our service units did decline in some areas but actually increased in others.” Karen said SSCI did re-implement some cuts but it is now “leaner and more efficient.” Further, she said, “It has taken the mind, body and spirit of all the staff of this agency to continue to forge ahead and provide what are often the frailest in our communities with services they deserve.” Most recently, SSCI has celebrated its 45th anniversary by refreshing and revitalizing the senior center with major cleaning and remodeling.