Couple Toasts New Life Together at Senior LIFE

Washington, PA – When Mary Rigby stepped into Gary Bird’s cab, he had no idea that she was also stepping into his future as his wife. On Oct. 19 the couple celebrated their pending nuptials at the Senior LIFE Health and Wellness Center with a Blessing of the Union ceremony.

Mary and Gary are members of Senior LIFE Washington, a long-term care program that provides and coordinates all medical and supportive services to seniors so they can remain living in their homes, all at no cost to members. Members for more than three years, they receive medical care and therapies and enjoy playing their favorite games, like bingo, and socializing with friends.

“The Blessing of the Union ceremony was a special way for us to celebrate such a lovely couple,” said Megan Detwiler, executive director of Senior LIFE Washington. “Our members are like family, and families celebrate weddings together. We enjoy opportunities to really be a part of our members’ lives.”

The ceremony had a lot of personal touches. Ernest Ross, the facility manager, officiated the ceremony, a physical therapy assistant walked Mary down the aisle, and another Senior LIFE member sang for the couple. The local community also was involved. Sweetie’s Cinnamon House, a local bakery, donated the wedding cake, and a local DJ played at the reception.

When asked for advice about finding love, Mary responded, “Be friends and be happy first.”

Senior LIFE is a provider of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE®). The LIFE (Living Independence for the Elderly) program is a Medicare- and Medicaid-approved long-term care program that provides complete medical care and supportive services for persons 55 years and over so they can remain living in their home. The LIFE program is an alternative to nursing and personal care homes. There are no costs for services for Medicaid-eligible persons.

Senior LIFE services are customized to meet the specific needs of each individual and include physicians and specialists, nursing care, physical, occupational and speech therapies, personal and home care, medications, meals and nutritional counseling, eye, dental and foot care, durable medical equipment and other medically necessary services.

For more information, call 724-222-5433 or 877-998-LIFE (5433) or visit www.SeniorLIFEpa.com. Senior LIFE is an alternative option to Community HealthChoices.