

GARDEN SPOT VILLAGE FALL FESTIVAL & BENEFIT AUCTION SET FOR SAT., OCT. 8

Fair offers fun and good food for the whole family

NEW HOLLAND, Pa. — Sept. 15, 2010 — From puppets and pumpkins to pre-holiday shopping, from model plane flight simulation to silent auctions, there's something to attract all ages to this year's annual Garden Spot Village Fall Festival & Benefit Auction on Sat., Oct. 8, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the campus of the retirement community at 433 S. Kinzer Ave.

"We're proud to invite the community to our fifteenth annual festival and auction to benefit the Garden Spot Village Benevolent Fund," said Linda Dodge, director of development at Garden Spot Village. "With the rising cost of health care, the Benevolent Fund is more important than ever. We hope the community will join us to enjoy a fun day for a good cause. We have activities for everyone in the family."

Fun for kids

New this year is Meet the Puppets, an interactive experience for children. Other youngsters' activities, scheduled from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., include face painting and pumpkin decorating. Children will also have a chance to experience model airplane flight simulation.

Fun for adults

For adults, the event is an ideal opportunity to get a head start on holiday gift buying. A live auction, called by Audrey Anderson and Bob Rissler, starts at 10 a.m. and features handcrafted furniture and accessories, artwork, hand-sewn quilts and other textiles, wooden toys and more. At the silent auction, theme tables will feature baskets, gift certificates and other items. Themes include food and entertainment, home and garden, health and beauty, automotive and hardware, sports and children. Bidding opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 11 a.m. Festival-goers can also shop in the Village Store, the Share and Care Shop and at craft tables and a book sale.

Food for everyone

No harvest season event is complete without food, and the Fall Festival is no different. Apple dumplings and other baked goods will be available until they are sold out. Soft pretzel sticks, doughnuts, coffee, cider and other beverages, popcorn and ice cream will be sold throughout the festival area. A food court will offer soup, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, hot ham and cheese on pretzel rolls, vegetarian wraps, pickles, chips, pretzels and beverages. A chicken barbecue meal is an annual favorite, with beans, cole slaw, roll, cookie and lemonade.

Once again, the festival will offer the Share-a-Meal program, which has become increasingly popular. For \$20 per person, participants can buy tickets to enjoy a meal prepared and donated by a Garden Spot Village resident, staff member or friend at a future date. Participants can purchase individual tickets to attend the meal, or they can purchase all the tickets available for a meal. In past years, meals have included an Italian Night, Chuck Wagon Night, finger-lickin' ribs, crab cakes and breakfast in the Garden Spot Village main kitchen.

For a good cause

This annual event draws attendees from throughout Pennsylvania and beyond. Proceeds benefit the Garden Spot Village Benevolent Fund, which helps support residents who need financial assistance.

"At Garden Spot Village, we are committed to providing excellent service and quality of living to our residents who are unable to provide for the cost of their own care," Dodge said.

Since the 2007 fiscal year, the cost for benevolent care has risen from \$364,000 to approximately \$1.4 million annually. To pay for this care, Garden Spot Village relies on contributions from individual and corporate donors and fundraising events, such as the Fall Festival and the annual golf outing.

For more information about the Garden Spot Village Fall Festival & Benefit Auction, call 717-355-6000.