

A MESSAGE TO THE RESIDENTS OF ATKINSON FROM YOUR POLICE CHIEF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS

June 16, 2010

Daily Well Being Call In Service And Medical Alert System

We would like to get more seniors involved in our Daily call- in Service. If you live alone or have recently returned home from a hospital stay and would like someone to make sure that you are okay, than our call- in service is just the program you should consider. Every morning between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM you would call into our department (362-5536) to let us know that you are all right. If we do not hear from you we will give you a call. If there is no response to our call we will send an officer out to make sure you are okay. We also have the medical alert system that is installed at no charge to any Atkinson Senior and you only have to pay the monthly monitoring service which is \$18.00 per month. If you should fall or can not get to a phone you need only to push the call- for- help button and we will respond to check on your well being.

Medical Equipment:

If you should need any medical appliances, please call us (362-4001) before you purchase any appliances. At the Police Station we have walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, shower seats, special lift chairs that will help you get up from the sitting position, hospital beds and even electric scooters. We will even deliver them directly to your home. It seems that on a daily basis we have folks bringing all types of medical equipment to the Police Station wanting to donate this equipment for the use of other seniors that are in need of these medical appliances.

We are fortunate that we have such a large variety of medical appliances on hand right at the Police Station. If you find that you need some type of medical equipment, please contact us prior to purchasing these items, for you will find the nine out of ten times we will have just what you are looking for.

Transportation Services:

The Elderly Affairs Department prides its self in being in a position to be of assistance to all of our seniors in so many ways. We now have three vehicles in our Elderly Affairs fleet, one is a new all wheel drive 2010 the other is a 2007 wheelchair van the third vehicle is a 2007 retired police cruiser. We transport Atkinson seniors to all of the Boston Hospitals and we provide between four to six transports a day. Our wheelchair van is available to all Atkinson Seniors for trips to the doctor's office, trips to the hair dresser or shopping. This van was purchased with donations from our local business and residents. This has now allowed many of our house-bound seniors the opportunity to get out and about. I would like to thank the residents of Atkinson for appropriating \$5,000.00 at this years Town Meeting to go towards our new Elderly Affairs vehicle. The Atkinson Police Charitable Fund raised over \$14,000.00 to go towards this new vehicle which was through donations.

Senior Services:

We provide help to our seniors in many other ways other than for filling their transportation needs. Through the Atkinson Police Charitable Fund we are able to help our seniors in obtaining prescriptions, oil deliveries, help with household expenses and many other services that they may need. The following is only a partial list of chores we have provided to some of our Atkinson Seniors:

- Installed wheel chair ramps to enable the senior to enter and leave their home without any outside assistance.
- During the winter time when a mail box is damaged, we will replace it at no charge to the resident. And if their stairs need to be shoveled we will perform that task as well.

- We have installed several stair chair lifts. By having this lift the senior can now utilize the second floor of their home.
- This year we again sponsored the wellness program put on by the recreation department at the community center.
- This year we sponsored our 14th annual Senior Citizen Flu Shot Clinic and provided over three hundred vaccinations at the Community Center.
- In the 2009 Towns Financial Report it listed under "General Assistance", that they allocated \$16,000 and expended \$2,515.00. In the same year the Atkinson Police Charitable Fund expended over \$9,500.00 in helping our seniors with house hold utilities, medications, minor home repairs and specialty medical equipment. This year the fund also expended \$14,000.00 towards our new Senior Transport Vehicle. These expenditures were accomplished through donations eliminating any burden on the tax rate.
- We have a very simple saying at the Elderly Affairs Department, "*you call we haul one stop shopping does it all*". What ever your needs are we can help, so please do not hesitate to give us a call, especially when you think that there is no help out there for you, just give us a call at 362-4001 or you can reach me at my residence at 362-5627 and you will be pleasantly surprised we can do for you in your time of need.

Reliable Contractors List:

We are constantly updating our senior citizen contractors list. This list can provide you with reliable contractors from electricians to driveway pavers. All of the contractors have agreed to give our seniors a good day's work for a reasonable price and will also give them a 10% discount. If you are in need of a household contractor please feel free to give me a call at the station and I will mail you out a copy of this list. All contractors have been cleared through the N.H. Better Business Bureau. One of the worst feelings a senior can have is to hire a contractor not knowing if this person is reliable or not. By utilizing our contractors list you will find that these contractors realize that if they do not perform their contracted duties as agreed upon, our department will get involved to make sure that the senior is treated fairly. I had a 90 year old resident that gave a contractor a \$2,500.00 deposit and never heard back from the contractor. Within 2 weeks I was able to get all of the seniors deposit back and found him a reliable contractor to perform the work he was looking to have performed.

Annual Donation Drive:

The Elderly Affairs Department is presently conducting our annual donation drive. We do not employ a solicitation company (which retains eighty five (\$.85) cents of every dollar you donate). One hundred (100) per cent of all donations stay right here in town. Over the past year we have used these donations for programs and assistance for our seniors, funding programs for the children at the Academy School, buying equipment for our department and many other worth while projects. We could not continue to provide the assistance to our seniors without the resident's generous donations to the Atkinson Police Charitable Fund. All of the members of the Elderly Affairs and Police Department thank you for your continued support and allowing us to continue to provide the BEST possible services to our seniors. One of my top priorities as the Director of Elderly Affairs is to make sure that all seniors in our town that are in need of any type of services receive the prompt and courteous service that they are entitled to.

If you would like to make a confidential donation to Atkinson Police Charitable Fund, which is now as 501(c)3 tax deductible fund to help further these activities, you can make your check payable to:

Atkinson Police Charitable Fund (APCF)
 c/o Atkinson Police Department
 Post Office Box 321
 Atkinson, N.H. 03811

Attention Seniors

If you have reached the young age of 60 or you are new to our town and would like to be placed on our **CONFIDENTIAL** senior citizen data bank, please fill our senior citizen registration form and return it to the Atkinson Elderly Affairs Department to the attention of:

Philip Consentino
Director of Elderly Affairs
P.O. Box 321
Atkinson, N.H. 03811

Senior Citizen Registration Form **CONFIDENTIAL**

Name Mr. _____

Mrs. _____

Address _____

Date of birth Mr. Day _____ Month _____ Year _____ Optional

Mrs. Day _____ Month _____ Year _____ Optional

Phone number _____

Please keep in mind that if any senior has a problem that they need help with no matter how small or large they only have to call us and we will be there to help them in their time of need. You can call the Police Station at 362-4001 or you can reach me at my residence at 362-5627. As your Police Chief and Director of Elderly Affairs, it has been most rewarding to be able to help all of our seniors. The best part of this program is when a senior looks you in the eye and says "thank you for being there when I needed help". It is my aspiration to be able to continue to provide each and every senior the best possible services, and to let them know that in their time of need, I will be there to provide them with not only friendship, but also to assure them what I will be there to lend them what ever assistance they may need.

Philip V. Consentino
Police Chief
Director of Elderly Affairs

This message was approved and paid for
by the Board of Directors of the Atkinson Police Charitable Fund.

Atkinson Police Charitable Fund

P.O. Box 321 - Atkinson, NH 03811

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**Important
Message From Your
Police Chief And The
Department Of Elderly Affairs**

Atkinson Resident