

# Surry Scene

Mount Airy News

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## Celebrating a centenarian plus one



Annie Riggs celebrates her 101st birthday at Twelve Oaks in Mount Airy.

Staff report

Annie Riggs has seen a lot of changes since she was born more than 101 years ago. A Mount Airy native, she's watched her surroundings change as old buildings have been demolished to make room for new and the advancement of technology, which she said has been a blessing and has also presented new challenges.

"These days, it's harder to get a job than when I was growing up," she said. "A lot more schooling is required to get a

good job."

A resident of Twelve Oaks, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Mount Airy, Annie Riggs celebrated her 101st birthday on Sept. 30.

Following high school, Riggs worked at Spencer Textiles. She married Roy Riggs in 1940.

The couple had one daughter, Carol Anne, who died at birth.

The couple was married 56 years before Roy died in 1996. Riggs said her advice to younger generations is to do the right thing, be kind and help others.

"I wouldn't change how or when I grew up for anything," she said. "It may have been harder, but I feel blessed to have had that opportunity."

Riggs' hobbies include knitting, crocheting, sewing and embroidery. Her biggest regret is having never learned to drive.

She received gifts, cards and a bouquet of flowers as part of her birthday celebration.

"Annie is very outgoing," said Activities Director Anna Burford. "She always puts a smile on everyone's face as she is always so happy!"

Submitted photo