

The Aging Network

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.

Serving Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike,
Ross, Scioto and Vinton Counties in Ohio

FALL 2019



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AAA7!

Annual Appreciation Brunch Held —

Many individuals were recently recognized for their contributions to the community and the programs and services through the Area Agency on Aging District 7 (AAA7) at the AAA7 Annual Appreciation Brunch held at the Southern Ohio Medical Center Friends Center in Portsmouth, Ohio. The AAA7 serves ten counties in southern Ohio including Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton.



A tribute to former AAA7 Executive Director Pamela K. Matura, who passed away November 2018 after 29 years with the Agency, was a special part of the program with Matura's family, friends and colleagues in attendance to share special memories.

Special awards and recognitions that were presented by the Area Agency on Aging District 7 at the event included:

William A. Jenkins Award (Outstanding Contributor to Our Southern Ohio Aging Network)

This year's Area Agency on Aging District 7 "William A. Jenkins Award" was presented posthumously to Pamela K. Matura, former Executive Director of the AAA7. The AAA7 presents the award annually to an outstanding contributor to the southern Ohio aging network. The award is named in memory of William A. Jenkins, a native of Gallia County, who helped build the aging network in southern Ohio through the AAA7. Pam's family was in attendance at the special event to accept the award on her behalf.

Pam joined the Area Agency on Aging District 7 as Executive Director in 1989 and had previously served as Superintendent of the Gallipolis Developmental Center in Gallipolis, Ohio. She was very involved throughout her profession in the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging, American Society on Aging and the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education.

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Pam was an advocate for rural aging issues and established a national rural aging interest group that has resulted in additional research and monies to rural programs. Her dedication to seniors and those living with a disability defined her life-long career. Through Pam's vision, the Agency has grown to provide a number of invaluable services and programs that have changed the lives of individuals and families living in rural, southern Ohio. Her commitment to serving others and her staunch advocacy for those in need is something that will always be admired and remembered. Accepting the award was Pam's family. They are pictured on Page 1 with AAA7 Executive Director Nina R. Keller and AAA7 Board of Trustees President Rick Marriott. Representing Pam's family is her husband, Ray; daughter Meagan and her husband, Joel; and son Ryan and his wife, Stephanie.

In her memory, the AAA7 and Pam's family have established the Pamela K. Matura Fund at the Area Agency on Aging District 7. Pam's dream was to create a fund that would provide monies as needed to help secure funds for new programs or help those in most need with existing services. The AAA7 believes this is a beautiful way to honor their leader of 29 years, who was so instrumental in working on behalf of older adults and those living with a disability on the local, state and national levels. Contributions to this special Fund can be made to the Area Agency on Aging District 7, F32-URG PO Box 500, Rio Grande, Ohio, 45674, Attn: Pamela K. Matura Fund.

Regional Long-Term Care Ombudsman Associates

Ombudsman Associates were recognized for their volunteer work with visiting nursing homes on a regular basis to help lessen the isolation and loneliness many residents experience, and to provide an essential voice for residents, providing advocacy and assistance for those who have concerns about their care.

Volunteers recognized included: Wendy Bartholomew, Sharon Bell, Sharon Hallam, Jeannette Hayburn, Sue Henson, Charles Hoy, Mary Huffman-Sheridan, Frances Marcum, Kris Moore, Dena Morris, Deborah Neal, Oscar Perry, Stephanie Rollins, Sharon Stout, Brittany Tatman, Teresa Wharff, Madison Williams and Joseph Young.



The following AAA7 Ombudsman Associates received recognition from the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman: 100-plus hours achieved were Sharon Hallam, Sharon Stout and Dena Morris. Dena Morris was also recognized for five years of services as an Ombudsman Associate, and Sharon Stout was recognized by the Governor for her nomination for the 2019 "Serve Ohio Award".

Wellness Coach Volunteers

Wellness Coach Volunteers help others in their hometown or county discover ways to live with their chronic diseases and become empowered to take better care of themselves through classes and workshops that discuss caregiving, chronic disease, chronic pain, diabetes and falls management.

Volunteers recognized included: Sharon Bell, Teresa Carr, Don Davis, Lillian Elkins, Brittany Farley, Patricia Fleming, Cindy Goodman, Mary Grote, Tiffany Hadsell, Jacqueline Jones, Cheryl Lytten, Doreenia Meddock, Amy Montgomery, April Porter, Mary Stout and Donna Williams.



Art Show and Essay/Poetry Contest Volunteers

The AAA7 appreciates the assistance of RSVP of the Ohio Valley, who helps provide volunteers to host gallery hours at the AAA7 Annual Senior Citizens Art Show that is held each Spring.



Kinship/Grandparent Caregivers We Need Your Voice!!!

The Caregiver Support Program at the Area Agency on Aging District 7 (AAA7) wants to hear feedback from you – what you need and how you can be better supported.



If you are raising a grandchild or other relative because their own parents are unable or unavailable to care for them, please take a few moments to log on to our website to take a special survey and share with us what you need and how we can help. If you know someone in this role, please share the survey information with them.

**Find the survey at the AAA7's website on the Home Page:
www.aaa7.org**

Volunteers recognized included: Joan Arrowood, Jane Bragg, Dennis Crabtree, Penny Crabtree, Diana Evans, Doris Evans, Hazel Fields, Joyce Haag, Virginia Horn, Bonnie Harris, Carolee Lewis, Mary Maxson, Rushie McAllister, Annabelle Miller, Lavon Shields and Irena Skaggs. Those in attendance are pictured at the bottom of Page 2.

Also recognized were winners at this year's Art Show, including: Carl Murdock of Lawrence County – "Victor Potts Best of Show Award" in the Amateur Category; Pat Thompson of Adams County – "Victor Potts Best of Show Award" in the Professional Category; Elaine Morris of Highland County - "Mary Peck Friend of Animals Award"; Judith Clay of Lawrence County – "People's Choice Award"; Anita Gail Belville of Gallia County – "Best Overall Essay"; and David Brown of Gallia County – "Best Overall Poem."



Outstanding Seniors (As Selected by Each County Senior Center)

Adams County – Mark Tolle; Jackson County – Marlene Sexton; Lawrence County (Sybene-Chesapeake Senior Center) – Ramona Kelley (pictured at right, second from left); Pike County – Robert Downing; and Ross County – Gary Watkins.

Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

The Ohio Department of Aging inducted 12 outstanding older Ohioans into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame on May 30th at a special ceremony at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus. One of this year's inductees represented the AAA7's district, Marianne Campbell from Gallipolis in Gallia County (pictured above right, second from right). The AAA7 was proud to have Mrs. Campbell as a representative of our southern Ohio region in the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. You can read more about Mrs. Campbell in our Summer *The Aging Network* newsletter at www.aaa7.org.



The Area Agency on Aging District 7 was pleased to host another successful Appreciation Brunch to extend its thankfulness and appreciation to all the individuals and groups who make the district a great place to call home.



Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.

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Website: www.aaa7.org • E-Mail: info@aaa7.org • Find Us on Facebook!

Your local Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. serves the following counties in Ohio: Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton. Services are rendered on a non-discriminatory basis. Those interested in learning more about the services provided through the Area Agency on Aging District 7 can call toll-free at 1-800-582-7277. Here, individuals can talk directly with a specially-trained Resource Specialist who will assist them with information surrounding the programs and services that are available to best serve their needs.

Mark Your Calendar!

October 21st - Community Wellness Leader Training

October 23rd - CEU Training "Sensitivity to Aging"

November 8th - CEU Training "Engaging the Customer to Enhance Case Management Outcomes" *and* "Domestic Violence Later in Life"

Wellness Programs

Stay up-to-date on upcoming class dates through our website - www.aaa7.org. Link to our Wellness Schedule is located at the bottom of the page in the yellow box.

Medicare Check-Up Days

Medicare's Annual Coordinated Election Period starts October 15th and ends December 7th. During this time, Medicare beneficiaries can evaluate their current coverage and make the determination on whether they should switch to a plan that will better support their needs. Remaining Medicare "Check-Up Days" in our district include:

Adams County - Tuesday, October 8th

Brown County - Monday, October 7th

Gallia County (AAA7 Rio Grande Office) -
October 25th, November 15th and December 6th
by appointment only.

Highland County - Tuesday, October 15th and
Tuesday, November 19th

Jackson County - Thursday, November 7th

Lawrence County - Tuesday, October 29th

Scioto County - Wednesday, November 20th

Call 1-800-582-7277, extension 250 for more information about time, location and pre-registration.