

NEWS RELEASE – Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.

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<u>AAA7 Seeking Outstanding Older Adults for</u> <u>2015 Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame</u>

Annual Recognition Honors the Role Older Adults Play in Strengthening Ohio and Our Communities

The Area Agency on Aging District 7 (AAA7) is encouraging residents to nominate individuals to the 2015 Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, sponsored by the Ohio Department of Aging. Individuals and organizations interested in nominating a neighbor, colleague, family member or friend may visit www.aging.ohio.gov/news/halloffame/ for more information and to submit a nomination or download the nomination form. The AAA7 encourages nominees from the ten counties in its district including Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton.

"Every day in our district, our older neighbors continue to grow, thrive and contribute to society, and we want these individuals to be represented alongside other outstanding Golden Buckeyes from all over the state," said Pamela Matura, Executive Director of the Area Agency on Aging District 7. "Whether it be for a lifetime of achievement, or for endeavors that began later in life, these individuals deserve to be recognized as role models for all of us to strive to emulate."

Nominees for the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame must be age 60 or older and be native-born Ohioans or residents of the state for at least 10 years. Nominees will be evaluated on the impact that their contributions or accomplishments have had in helping Ohio respond to its changing aging population and/or the degree to which they are respected as vital members of their communities. Nominations must be submitted by March 1, 2015, to be considered into this year's class.

The older Ohioans selected will be honored in a special ceremony in Columbus this May, hosted by the Ohio Department of Aging and the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging. The Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame was established in 1977. Since then, 421 outstanding Ohioans have been inducted. Visit www.aging.ohio.gov/news/halloffame/ to learn more and view past inductees.

Your local Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. provides services on a non-discriminatory basis. These services are available to help older adults and those with disabilities live safely and independently in their own homes through services paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, other federal and state resources, as well as private pay. The AAA7's Resource Center is also available to anyone in the community looking for information or assistance with long-term care options. Available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm, the Resource Center is a valuable contact for learning more about options and what programs and services are available for assistance.

Those interested in learning more can call toll-free at 1-800-582-7277 (TTY: 711). Here, individuals can speak directly with a nurse or social worker who will assist them with information surrounding the programs and services that are available to best serve their needs. The Agency also offers an in-home assessment at no cost for those who are interested in learning more. Information is also available on www.aaa7.org, or the Agency can be contacted through e-mail at info@aaa7.org. The Agency also has a Facebook page located at www.facebook.com/AreaAgencyOnAgingDistrict7.

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