

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



SUMMER 2019

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AAA7!

Keller Named Executive Director —

Nina R. Keller, MSW, LSW, was recently promoted to and named Executive Director of the Area Agency on Aging District 7 (AAA7), according to Rick Marriott, President of the AAA7 Board of Trustees. Keller had been serving as Interim Director since November 2018 and the Assistant Director and Director of Planning since January 2001.



“We feel very fortunate to have someone like Nina Keller within our Management Team,” commented Marriott. “The Board of Trustees are confident that Ms. Keller will provide excellent leadership for the AAA7 and we look forward to what she will bring to the organization.”

“I am honored by being named to this position,” said Keller. “One of my mentors here was former Executive Director Pamela Matura who had a vision of what this agency was and could be. We worked together closely throughout my employment at AAA7 and I know the vision we shared with our staff and will work to see that it moves forward as well as expands.”

She added, “We have approximately 180 employees who do an excellent job of running a large number of programs across our ten-county area. I am proud of the work they do in seeing that seniors and those with disabilities and their families get the assistance they need.”

Keller has been with the AAA7 since December 1990 when she was hired as a Care Manager for AAA7’s Care Coordination Program, then moved to being the AAA7 Planner in 1992 and continued in this position until she was named Assistant Director and Director of Planning in January 2001. In her role as Director of Planning, she was responsible for the development and implementation of a four-year Strategic Plan and completion of annual Operational Elements for the AAA7’s ten-county area, as well as the oversight of several state and federal programs. As Assistant Director, Keller was also responsible for Agency operations and oversight of programs.

In her new role, Keller serves as the chief administrator, directing the affairs of the AAA7 and maintaining responsibility for the implementation of policies and programs for the benefit of older adults and/or at-risk individuals. She also

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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. Members of the Ohio General Assembly, Governor Mike DeWine and his cabinet, and leaders from Ohio's aging network were on hand to congratulate and thank the inductees for their lifelong contributions to their communities, their professions, and their vocations.

Nina Keller and Jenni Lewis from the AAA7 were in attendance to enjoy the ceremony with one of the inductees who represents our district, Marianne Campbell from Gallipolis. Marianne is a respected leader and mentor in her southern Ohio community. She helped launch WJEH-AM, the longest running radio station in the region, and drove efforts to raise funds for and grow the Holzer Medical Center. Today, she is an active volunteer for the Gallia County Chamber of Commerce and the Community Improvement Corporation. (You can read more about Marianne's amazing accomplishments at <https://aging.ohio.gov/halloffame>).



The Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame was established in 1977 to honor Ohioans age 60 and older for achievements and contributions to others, the roles they play in their communities, state and nation, and for what they do to promote productive and enjoyable lives. Their stories are compelling and represent lifetimes of dedication, ingenuity, perseverance, kindness and compassion. This year's inductees range in age from 70 to 92. With their additions, the Hall of Fame boasts 486 members.

OAGE Honors Pamela Matura

The Board of the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE) recently honored the legacy of Pamela Matura, past Executive Director of the AAA7, and longtime advocate and member of OAGE, by renaming its Practitioner of the Year award in her honor to the "Pamela K. Matura Practitioner of the Year Award." Pam was a long-time OAGE Board of Trustee and an Emeritus Trustee, who passed away in November 2018.

The announcement of the award occurred this April during OAGE's 43rd Annual Conference in Oxford, Ohio. Four individuals who Pam influenced made remarks on her legacy and role in their careers, including Dan Van Dussen of Youngstown State University; Joe Rossi, CEO of Direction Home: Eastern Ohio; Harvey Sterns of the University of Akron; and Bob Applebaum of Miami University.

Dr. Van Dussen shared, "Pam's dedication to OAGE and serving Ohio's rural seniors will be a part of her legacy. The award will help us remember her every year when other deserving practitioners serving our older adult populations are recognized. The goal of our association is to ensure that Pam's legacy lives on."

Dr. Van Dussen shared that OAGE has also established a fund to help with student participation in OAGE and the annual conference. This was another passion of Pam's and will help students grow to be a part of the aging network.

Keller Named Executive Director _____ (continued from Page 1)

represents the Agency at national, state and local level meetings and conferences, and advocates on behalf of the population served by the Agency. She also serves as the certified HIPAA Privacy Officer for the AAA7.

Keller has participated in a number of national and state level presentations as well as maintaining professional affiliations at state, regional and local levels.

The Area Agency on Aging District 7 administers home and community-based support programs for older adults and those with disabilities utilizing federal, state and local funding for a variety of programs and services in a ten-county southern Ohio area including Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton.

Keller received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Rio Grande and earned her Master's in Social Work from The Ohio State University.

A native of Jackson, Ohio, Keller lives in Jackson County with her husband, Steven, former owner/publisher and then editor of *The Telegram*.

37th Annual Art Show

The artwork of local seniors was recently showcased at the Area Agency on Aging District 7's (AAA7) 37th Annual Senior Citizens Art Show and Essay/Poetry Contest that was held at the Esther Allen Greer Museum, located on the campus of the University of Rio Grande in Rio Grande, Ohio. Individuals age 55 or older were eligible to participate.

This year, a total of 135 art pieces were entered in the Contest with 42 essays/poems. Special Awards were presented: "Victor Potts Best of Show Award" in the Amateur Category went to Carl Murdock of Lawrence County for his photograph, "Amish Maiden"; "Victor Potts Best of Show Award" in the Professional Category went to Pat Thompson of Adams County for her pencil, "Clinton"; the "Mary Peck Friend of Animals Award" went to Elaine Morris of Highland County for her pastel, "Carefree"; People's Choice Award went to Judith Clay of Lawrence County for her counted cross stitch, "Winter Sunrise"; Best Overall Essay went to Anita Gail Belville of Gallia County for "A Passionate Tragedy"; and Best Overall Poem went to David Brown of Gallia County for "The Night Before Christmas (Revised)". Special Award winners are pictured below and a complete list of winners can be found on our website at www.aaa7.org. Go to "About AAA7", "Special Events", "Art Show and Poetry/Essay Contest".



*Left to Right:
Best of Show
Amateur
Category -
Carl Murdock;
Friend of
Animals Award
- Elaine Morris;
and Best Overall
Essay - Anita
Gail Belville.*



*Left to Right:
Best of Show
Professional
Category -
Pat Thompson;
People's Choice
Award -
Judith Clay;
and Best
Overall Poem -
David Brown.*





Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.

F32-URG, PO Box 500 • 160 Dorsey Drive • Rio Grande, OH 45674-0500

Toll-Free Number: (800) 582-7277 • TTY: 711 (Relay Ohio)

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!

August 7th - CEU Training

“Interviewing Those with Age-Related Disabilities”
and
“Humanity in the Workplace: Privilege and Bias”

August 20th - Train the Trainer

“Sensitivity to Aging”

August 23rd - Appreciation Brunch

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.

Quick Bits

Kinship Caregiver Survey

Kinship/Grandparent Caregivers, we need your voice!! The Caregiver Support Program at the AAA7 wants to hear from you! We want to hear more about 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. **Log on to www.aaa7.org and the survey is on our Home Page.** Please share this information with anyone you know who is in this role.

2020 Census

The next census is coming in 2020! Federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on population totals and breakdowns by many factors. Your community benefits the most when the census counts everyone. You can learn more at www.census.gov.