



# MESSENGER

Serving Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, and Wyandot Counties

Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

Spring 2014

## Celebrating 40 Years of Service in 2014

### Inside this issue:

Elder	2
Engagement Event	
Spring Spectacular	2
Message from CEO	3
Donor Spotlight	4
Lucky 13 Fundraiser	4
Calendar of Events	5

In 1974, the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) first developed its plan for a comprehensive and coordinated network of services for the elderly. The system was organized based on local values and local strengths within the nine county service area still served today. At this time, Caroline Ford was the Director of the AAA, under the umbrella of Mansfield Memorial Homes.

Plans were made to decentralize and establish an office on aging in each county to serve as a key location for people to contact regarding services. The AAA assisted in the development of local county councils on aging, helping them to incorporate as non-profit corporations and awarded the councils on aging both social service and nutrition funds under the Older Americans Act.

The vision was to build strong local agencies on aging whose boards could be effective advocates with county, city, and township officials. These offices on aging were located, whenever possible, in senior centers. The agencies were designated as focal points, and most were multipurpose senior centers, operating Information and Referral services, transportation and escort services, providing congregate and home-delivered meals, client-finding services and offering a variety of social, recreational, and educational service programs.



Mansfield Memorial Homes, 1974

As we celebrate this milestone in 2014, we thank not only our focal points, but all of our providers, clients, and community partners for helping to build and maintain this coordinated system of services for older adults.

## What were you doing 40 years ago?

As we reflect on our past, and how we have evolved in the last 40 years, we invite you to do the same. Was 1974 a notable year for you? Do you have a special memory or photo from 40 years ago?

We would love to hear your stories! Please share any special memories you have with us, by writing your story in our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memory Book. If you are unable to drop by our office, you may write or type your story and mail or email it to our office. Please send your story to Amy Rose at [arose@aaa5ohio.org](mailto:arose@aaa5ohio.org).

Thank you for helping us celebrate this milestone!

*Sponsored by a Title III Grant under the Older Americans Act, a grant from the Corporation for National and Consumer Service, a State Services block Grant, and other funds administered through the Ohio Department of Aging.*

## AAA to Co-Host Elder Engagement Event

Seniors throughout Ohio remain a vital population, life-long learners, and care for their families. In celebration of their accomplishments and legacy, the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. and The Ohio State University at Mansfield, along with Richland County Children's Services and North End Community Improvement Collaborative, invite you to join us for the **Engaging Elders: Connecting Children, Campus and Community** conference on Wednesday, May 21.

*"Learning is about living and as such is lifelong."*

The event will honor the connection area elders have with children and community by engaging in discussion with local experts. Topics include Richland County history, education, public policy, social media, and wellness. Over a complimentary lunch, guests will also hear remarks by Ohio State Mansfield Dean and Director Stephen M. Gavazzi. The event will conclude with the announcement of the recipient of the inaugural *Hawkins Community Legacy Award*, given to an area senior, group, or organization that embodies life-long learning, strong families, and civic engagement.

We expect nearly 250 area seniors, along with political, community, and business leaders, will join us at Ohio State Mansfield for this special event. Registration and continental breakfast will begin in Ohio State Mansfield's Conard Hall at 8:30 am on Wednesday, May 21, with discussion sessions taking place 9:00 – 11:30 am. Lunch will conclude promptly by 1:00 pm.

Please RSVP to Rhonda Marsh at 419-774-4127 or Heather Petty at 419-774-4164, both at Richland County Children's Services, by May 14, 2014.

In recognition of Older American's month...

# SENIOR SPRING SPECTACULAR

**Tuesday, May 13, 2014**  
General Admission \$3.00  
doors open at 11:30 am, program begins at 12 Noon

*The Renaissance*

Performing Arts Association, Inc.



AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
Ohio District 5 | Serving North Central Ohio

Present

## A Fun Event for Adults of All Ages

Held in the historic Renaissance Theatre  
138 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH  Door prizes, drink, and  
potato chips for attendees

Featured entertainment will be:



# EKG

(Eggerton-Kastran Group) along with:  
**Mansfield Senior High  
student performance**

Questions? Contact us at 419-522-5612 ext.1157 or [broshch@aaa5ohio.org](mailto:broshch@aaa5ohio.org) | Renaissance Theatre 419-522-2726

AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
**FOUNDATION**

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[www.aaa5ohio.org/foundation](http://www.aaa5ohio.org/foundation)

**Message from Duana Patton, CEO  
 Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging Foundation**

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Duana Patton

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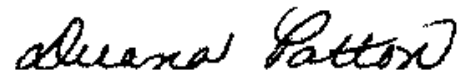
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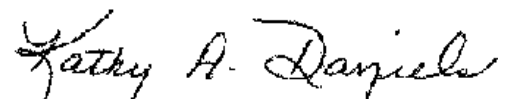
It has been almost eight months since we, at the Area Agency on Aging, and our shared-space partners moved into Hawkins Corner. I am excited to introduce to you those non-profit organizations that make up the Hawkins Corner Community: Alzheimer's Association, Area Agency on Aging, Experience Works, Habitat for Humanity (and the ReStore), Hawkins Medical Center (affiliate of Third Street Family Health Services), VNA Mental Health. Last month we welcomed a new partner as Hospice of North Central Ohio joined us. As we have settled into our new surroundings, opportunities for collaboration have already surfaced. The result has been several successful events, including an art show, two public open houses, a mobile food pantry, several community events, and ongoing training opportunities. As we forge ahead, our shared focus on streamlining processes will provide shared consumers with seamless access to an enhanced array of services. I invite you to visit Hawkins Corner where we are committed to providing answers and resources to support independence, good health, and community engagement.



**Message from the Foundation Board Chair**

It's been an exciting several months from vision, planning, building, to reality. Although you may think our work is done, it's really just beginning. Here is how you can continue to be a part of the success.

When you choose to give to the Area Agency on Aging Foundation, you choose to make a difference in the lives of those who are aging and those with disabilities. Your commitment enhances the teamwork and progress at Hawkins Corner, where non-profit organizations collaborate to improve access to services and collectively strive towards each organization's mission. The generosity of our donors has truly made Hawkins Corner as we know it today a reality! Without the financial support of many, the renovations necessary to turn what was once a grocery store into a place where each shared space partner can serve their consumers would not be possible. The Area Agency on Aging Foundation continues to seek donations to support the mission of Hawkins Corner. Please join me in making a pledge. Remember that every donation makes a difference, regardless of size.




## Donor Spotlight

As the collaborative benefits of the Hawkins Corner facility are being realized, we recognize the role that our major donors have played in producing these outcomes, and are pleased to highlight one such donor in each edition of the Messenger.



We would like to recognize and thank, once again, the **Richland County Foundation** for their generous donation of \$50,000. This donation, made through unrestricted funds, resulted in the official naming of the Hawkins Corner lobby as the “Richland County Foundation Lobby.” Upon entering Hawkins Corner, staff and guests are reminded of this generosity and the Foundation’s dedication to the community. When asked what compelled the Foundation to make such a donation, Brady Groves, Richland County Foundation President, stated:

We recognized the positive impact the project would have on so many levels and for so many people. We felt it was important to contribute because the services offered through the Area Agency benefit Richland and the surrounding counties and make a big difference in the lives of seniors and their families. The Board also wanted to be part of something that would promote collaboration of many non-profit organizations.

The Area Agency on Aging Foundation is grateful for the generosity of the **Richland County Foundation** and for their continued support of the Area Agency on Aging and the Hawkins Corner Project.

## Save the Date!

### The Inaugural



## Lucky 13 Fundraiser

Has been scheduled to take place on the evening of

**Friday, June 13, 2014**

**We are now accepting donated items for the live and silent auctions.**

**For more information or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Krystal Hamilton, at 419-522-5612 x1131 or [khamilton@aaa5ohio.org](mailto:khamilton@aaa5ohio.org).**

## AAA Receives Business Award

The Area Agency on Aging accepted the *Business Excellence Award* at the inaugural Richland Community Development Group (RCDG) Economic Excellence Awards at the Mansfield Art Center. The awards highlighted local businesses, individuals and organizations that have had a significant impact on the growth and development of the local economy.

“Richland County is a great place to live and work,” said John Brown, president of Richland Bank and chairman of the RCDG board of directors. “We believe in promoting small business and success in this region.”

RCDG began almost five years ago, Brown said, out of a love for Richland County and the need for there to be a group to be a “champion” for the county.

Thank you, RCDG, for recognizing the AAA with this award, and for supporting the local business community.



Duana Patton and Joyce Boling, AAA

## May is Older Americans Month



Older adults have made countless contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for future generations. Since 1963, communities across the country have shown their gratitude by celebrating Older Americans Month each May. This celebration recognizes older Americans for their contributions and demonstrates our nation’s commitment to helping them stay healthy and active.

This year’s theme for Older Americans Month is “Safe Today. Healthy Tomorrow.” The theme focuses on injury prevention and safety to encourage older adults to protect themselves and remain active and independent for as long as possible.

## AAA Goes Green!

In an effort to provide more timely information, show respect for our environment, and more efficiently manage costs, we are developing an electronic newsletter. Please notify us if you wish to receive information via email. Please send your email information to Martha Ball, at [mball@aaa5ohio.org](mailto:mball@aaa5ohio.org).



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[www.aaa5ohio.org](http://www.aaa5ohio.org)

## 2013 Annual Meeting Sponsors

### PLATINUM

Simply EZ Home-Delivered  
Meals

### SILVER

Northeast Professional Home  
Care  
Shaw Ott Medical  
Varment Guard

### BRONZE

Caring Hearts of Mid-Ohio  
CenturyLink  
SASCO  
Mechanics Bank  
Thompson Benefit Solutions  
Advanced Eye Care  
Richland Bank  
Schmidt Security Pro  
Visiting Nurse Association of  
Mid-Ohio  
WIPFLi LLP

### COPPER

A-1 Printing, Brethren Care, Crawford County  
Council on Aging, Carol A. Michaels, VRI, Inc.



## Awards Presented at 2013 AAA Annual Meeting

### 2013 AAA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Carol Michaels

### PROJECT COLLABORATION AWARD

Harmony House

Catholic Charities (Richland County)

Catholic Charities (Huron County)

Volunteers of America (Erie County)

Alzheimer's Association of NW Ohio

Experience Works of Ohio

Hawkins Medical Center

Richland County Habitat for Humanity

Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

LifeCare Alliance

Marion Senior Center

Marion United Way

### ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

Tom Joseph

### ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Mayor Marilyn John

### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Bill Danuloff

### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE - YOUTH

Impulse Student Ministries

Central Ohio Youth for Christ