



NEWS RELEASE

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This news release can be found and downloaded from the "Press Release" page of the Council for Older Adults web site at www.growingolder.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2010

Delaware County Commissioners Proclaim May as Older Americans Month

Each May, Ohio and the nation celebrate the most significant and rapidly growing segment of our country's population - older adults who are living longer, healthier and more productive lives. The theme for this year's Older Americans Month, is "*Age Strong! Live Long!*" which recognizes the diversity and vitality of today's older Americans who span three generations. In Delaware County, it is estimated that more than 19,000 residents are age 60 and over and by the year 2020, that age group will represent one out of every 5 county residents reaching nearly 43,000 individuals, reflecting a 237% increase from the year 2000.

Each year, the Council for Older Adults celebrates this month with a variety of activities as we take the opportunity to recognize some local role models and focus on important topics affecting local seniors. This year, we have organized or are participating in a number of local and regional events which include the following:

County Commissioners Resolution, April 29

The Delaware County Board of Commissioners presented the Council for Older Adults with a resolution recognizing Older Americans Month in Delaware County and honoring local seniors for their contribution to their community in a variety of ways.

The 35th Annual Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

- Wednesday, May 19, 1:00 p.m.

Each year the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging honors individuals age 60 and above who have enriched the quality of life for others in their communities, by inducting them into the Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. Delaware County has been well-represented with nominees to the Hall of Fame. This year's inductee from Delaware County is Carol Rohde.

Open House and Reception – May 20, 4 – 6 p.m.

Our partner at the Center for Older Adults, Senior Citizens Inc. of Delaware County, has been awarded national accreditation through the National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC). Joining only 11 other senior centers in Ohio and as one of only 168 throughout the country (out of 15,000 senior centers nationwide), Senior Citizens Inc. has served the older population of Delaware County since 1963 by providing motivating activities to help active older adults remain a vital part of Delaware County through education, recreation, socialization, exercise, and wellness.

To celebrate this prestigious recognition, we will host a celebration at the Center for Older Adults. The community is invited to attend. This will also give us the opportunity to recognize Council volunteer Carol Rohde, who was inducted into the Senior Citizens Hall of Fame as the representative from Delaware County.

Caregiver Recognition Day – Wednesday, May 26

Every May, the Council for Older Adults recognizes some very exceptional people in Delaware County - caregivers, who provide on-going support, care and assistance to elderly friends, family or neighbors. We accomplish this by offering a special gift of appreciation for the service they provide as we express our gratitude to the many caregivers who help us keep older adults in their homes.

Delaware County residents of all ages and backgrounds can celebrate Older Americans Month by volunteering and promoting community efforts to serve older adults, and find ways to enrich the lives of the older adults who touch your life. By working together we can improve the health and well being of our older adults and pave the way for future generations. The board and staff of the Council for Older Adults invite the citizens of Delaware County to join with us as we draw special attention to the needs and talents of local seniors and their families through the month of May. Anyone wishing to become involved with these or other activities for local seniors are invited to contact the Council at (800) 994-2255 or (740) 363-6677.

The Council for Older Adults of Delaware County is a non-profit local organization responsible for planning, coordinating and developing local services for older adults, their families and caregivers in Delaware County. The Council is the home of SENIOR CHOICES, the local one stop center for information, assistance and in-home services. The Senior Choices program is supported in part through the local senior services levy.

