



# NEWS RELEASE

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**This news release can be found and downloaded from the “News Release” page of the Council for Older Adults web site at [www.growingolder.org](http://www.growingolder.org)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 29, 2010**

## **Council for Older Adults Announces Volunteer Award Recipients**

On Saturday, April 24, the Council for Older Adults held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration at the Center for Older Adults, 800 Cheshire Road in Delaware. Celebrated in conjunction with National Volunteer Week, the event honored the Council’s dedicated team of over 700 volunteers for their support. The brunch was emceed by Debbie Martin, a member of the Council’s volunteer board of directors, and was attended by 200 volunteers.

The featured speaker, Robert Horrocks, executive director of the Council for Older Adults, expressed his appreciation for volunteers who provided nearly 35,000 hours of service, worth \$607,900, to over 1,000 clients. Volunteer meal drivers delivered nearly 178,000 meals in 2009.

Reginald Moncur was recognized for 15 years of service this year. Five volunteers were honored with 10-year service pins: Anita Keesecker, Jerry Keesecker, Pat Liggett, Kathy Packham, and Rose Robinson and thirty-one other volunteers received 5-year pins. Presidential Service Awards were also given. A Gold Award was presented to Council volunteer Peter Smith for his volunteer service in the Food and Nutrition department. Laura Bean and her daughter Lily were recognized as the Family of the Year, group awards went out to Delaware Christian Church and Delaware Grace Brethren Church, and the outstanding intern and student awards went out to Kelly Kush and Katie Stanfill.

Winners of the Council’s perpetual awards were announced and recipients’ names will be added to plaques at the Council office. Beth Kastle received the *Whatever It Takes* award for her efforts as our office mailing coordinator, as an office assistant in the Food and Nutrition office and as a medical transportation volunteer. Bernie Workman was given the *Leaping Into Action* award, which is reserved for the Council’s volunteer rookie of the year. Bernie is an indispensable volunteer in the Food and Nutrition department. Dee Watren, who serves

as a Meals on Wheels volunteer and meal delivery driver, dining room assistant, office assistant and as a special events volunteer, was recognized with the *It Takes Teamwork* award. Shirley Philpott received the *Essential Piece* award for her many hours of volunteering in the Food and Nutrition office, volunteer office, outreach department, for special events, as a volunteer trainer, and on our Committee to Save Senior Services levy campaign. Shirley has also been very active in efforts to recruit new volunteers for the Council.

The Volunteer Appreciation Celebration is an annual event held every spring to recognize hundreds of exceptional people, without whom the Council could not exist. Volunteers fill a variety of positions, including drivers who deliver meals for the Council's Meals on Wheels program and those who work at the annual Summer Festival. For more information on volunteer positions, call the Council office at (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.