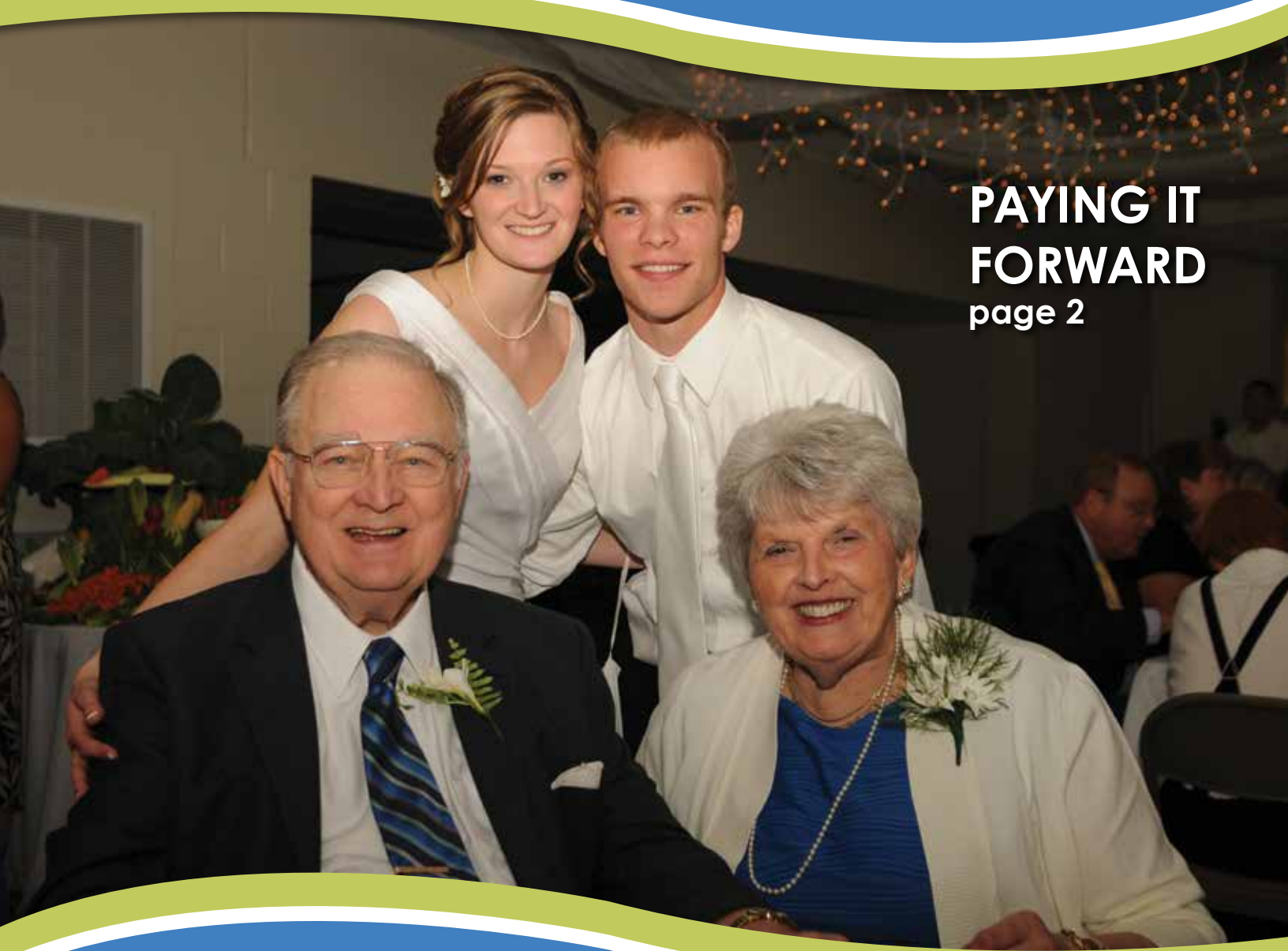




impressions

LEGACIES OF LOVE AND FINGERPRINTS ON THE WORLD



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FORWARD**
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PAYING IT FORWARD

Husband's care inspires wife's gift

Nancy Dodson's recent donation to Senior Independence Hospice was about more than appreciation for the care her husband received – it was about respect.

She and her late husband, Warren, got tremendous support from the hospice staff in Senior Independence's Miami Valley region.

Nancy singled out a few staff members in particular that made her family's hospice experience so meaningful, but she was especially thankful for Kim Leugers, the nurse aide who cared for Warren daily.

Nancy had high praise for the respectful work done by Kim. "On the morning

Warren died, Kim had bathed him and he smelled so good. He was even wearing a brightly colored shirt," Nancy shared.

Warren's ability to communicate was limited at the end of his life, but Nancy is sure he appreciated being clean and dressed nicely.

"Kim helped make a very difficult time liveable," said Nancy, adding that Kim treated Warren the way she might have cared for her own father.

Nancy also appreciated the consistency of care provided by Senior Independence Hospice.

"It's wonderful that they don't leave you when you

have to go into a nursing home," she stated. "They come right along so the same people are providing care."

Nancy also complimented the way hospice staff kept in touch with her to see how she was doing after her husband's death.

"Senior Independence is a wonderful organization. They provided such comfort for us," she said. ●

ON THE COVER: *Inspired by the wonderful care provided to her husband, Warren (bottom left), Nancy Dodson (bottom right) decided to "pay it forward" by making a donation to Senior Independence Hospice. Here, the couple celebrates granddaughter Kenzie's wedding.*

"Even the smallest act of caring for another person
is like a drop of water – it will
make ripples throughout the entire pond."

- Jessy and Bryan Matteo



HARMONIES BRING HAPPINESS

Barbershop quartet helps grant patient's wish

In her final days, hospice patient Verna “Jean” Ritter thought it would be wonderful to hear some barbershop quartet harmonies.

Jean’s late husband had been in a quartet himself, and Jean loved the sound of the vibrant, blended voices.

The Senior Independence Hospice team in the Greater Toledo region jumped into action to help make Jean’s wish come true, as part of the Make it Happen program.

Volunteer Coordinator Jennifer Van Vorhis tracked down Jim Stark of the Commanders of Harmony, a local men’s a cappella chorus.

Through their conversations, Jennifer discovered that Jim not only knew Jean, but had sung with her husband.

Arrangements were made for a quartet from Commanders of Harmony to visit Jean.

Jean clapped and sang along with the quartet, delighted with her special Make it Happen wish.

Among the group was a singer who had once been mentored by Jean’s husband, and he shared some of his memories with Jean.

When the quartet began to sing, Jean clapped, sang along and smiled with delight as she listened to some of her favorite songs.

“We were moved to tears seeing her reaction and her smile,” said Jennifer.



Jim noted that, while he and his fellow singers are always happy to perform, this occasion was special.

The group watched Jean’s reaction as they sang and were glad to help grant a friend’s final wish.

“It’s special when it’s someone you know,” Jim said. ●

ABOVE: Hospice patient Jean Ritter (front) was delighted by her special Make it Happen wish come true: to hear the beautiful harmonies of a barbershop quartet. Happy to grant Jean’s wish were members of the Commanders of Harmony men’s a cappella chorus. Back row, left to right: Scott Vargovich, C.J. Hartman, Jim Stark and Tom Granata.

REMEMBERING DICK SENSENBRENNER

Hospice donor leaves indelible mark on all who knew him

It's not unusual for a family to be so touched by the hospice experience that they make and retain wonderful memories of that time with their loved one. But in one case in particular, it was the hospice staff that came away with fond memories.

Sue Brookins, now the Senior Independence corporate director of hospice, has fond memories of Dick Sensenbrenner from her time serving his wife as a hospice nurse.

"He was truly a kind, generous, compassionate man who was so very dedicated to his wife, Sandy. Her needs came first at all times. Even when she was confused he talked to her, not around her, and that was a beautiful thing to see. I will never forget him," Sue said.

Hospice nurse Julie Maynard kept in touch with Dick after Sandra's

death. "We continued to exchange Christmas cards even after she had passed away. He really was a man of character, integrity and compassion," she said.

Dick's experiences with hospice filled him with gratitude and his support of hospice never wavered, even after Sandra's passing.

Dick was a dedicated donor to hospice and eagerly joined the OPRS Foundation's Hospice Fundraising Council to help oversee the program's charitable efforts.

In addition to his volunteer work with OPRS, Dick was a devoted member, deacon and elder of Overbrook Presbyterian Church. He also worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, the Hilltop Lions Club, Kinder Key, the Alzheimer's Association, the Ohio Air National Guard, the Agonis Club of Columbus, the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels and the Fraternal Order of Police.

Since his passing last March, Dick's mail has been forwarded to his daughter, Karin Waldron, who was surprised at the depth and breadth of his generosity. "I'm just now seeing how many organizations he had dealt with, donated to and reached out to," she explained.

Perhaps it was Dick's faith that influenced his generosity. His brother, the Rev.

Edward "Ed" Sensenbrenner, said Dick never missed church and donated 10 percent of everything he earned. "He was very committed to the Christian faith, to Jesus Christ," Ed said.

Dick was also a successful businessman, having founded Creative Child Care, Inc., in 1970. His public service included work as executive assistant to the mayor of Columbus from 1964 to 1968 and a regional directorship for the Small Business Administration, where he was honored for outstanding work.

"He was a kind, generous, compassionate man... I will never forget him."



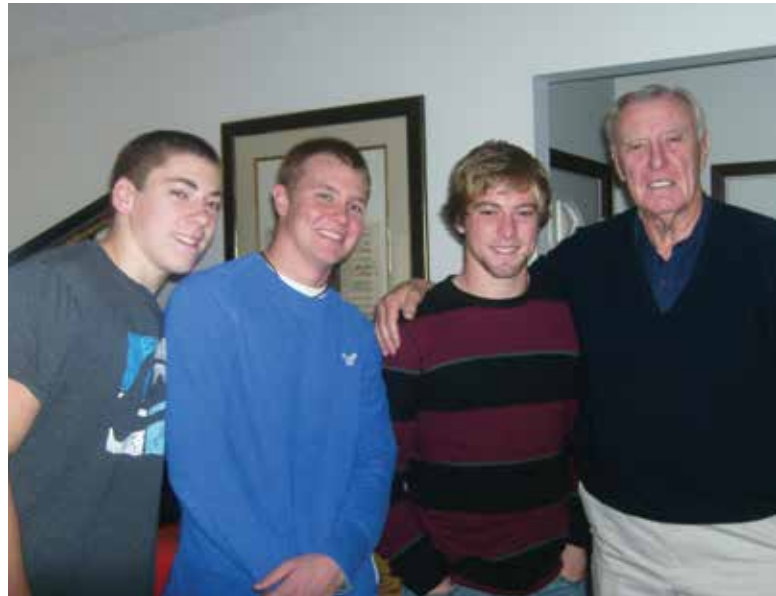
He enjoyed swimming, going out to dinner, taking the family on an annual vacation to Lauderdale-by-the-Sea in Florida and supporting the Ohio State Buckeyes.

The best advice Karin ever got from her dad came during a time in her life when she was newly married and living in Kentucky. She was upset about having lost a job and called her parents for support. Her mom said she should come home for the weekend, but her dad said that she should talk about it with her husband instead. “He really helped me to prioritize. Dad believed in keeping the family strong and that we should turn to each other first,” she recalled.

Her father, like his famous father before him, believed in helping people. Dick was the son of M.E. “Jack” Sensenbrenner, who served as mayor of Columbus in the 1950s and again in the 1960s. Jack also had an OPRS connection; he was a resident of its Westminster-Thurber Community until his death.

Dick Sensenbrenner was one of the most loyal donors and staunchest advocates Senior Independence Hospice has ever had. A man of character and conviction, he left a unique imprint on this world. And Senior Independence Hospice staff is better for having known him. ●

RIGHT: *Senior Independence Hospice donor and advocate Dick Sensenbrenner touched many lives through his philanthropy and volunteerism, and left a lasting impression on those who knew him. Here, Dick is pictured with some of his beloved grandchildren (top to bottom, left to right): Marisa, Kevin, Daniel, Brian and Parin.*



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: A FAMILY AFFAIR

Couple's involvement inspires granddaughter



A special trio of visiting volunteers is delighting Senior Independence Hospice patients in the Miami Valley region.

Bill and Carol Shinall got their 18-year-old granddaughter, Kalah, interested in volunteering, and the three often visit patients together.

Volunteer Coordinator Cara Lageson knows the trio well and pointed out that each person brings his or her own unique attributes to their volunteer work.

Bill

Cara described Bill as a “journey” volunteer, meaning that he is called in when a patient is dying to help ensure no one is alone.

“He has several times spent more than 10 hours at the bedsides of transitioning patients. He is able to always relate to families and help them cope,” Cara said of Bill.

Carol

Carol is particularly skilled with female patients and devotes as much time to hospice as possible, though she works full time.

She encourages others to become hospice volunteers, even though people are sometimes afraid of getting attached to those they visit. “People don’t realize what a blessing it can be to them as well as the patients,” she stated.

Because she sees death as an extension of life, Carol is not uncomfortable being around the dying.

“Even when my mother passed away, it was almost a

relief,” she said. “I knew she had a better place to go; I tell a lot of people that this is just a temporary home.”

Kalah

Kalah works on puzzles with patients, reads to them, talks with them and makes them comfortable and content in any way she can.

Kalah said her grandparents inspired her to volunteer, and that she’s not uncomfortable spending time with those who are nearing the ends of their lives.

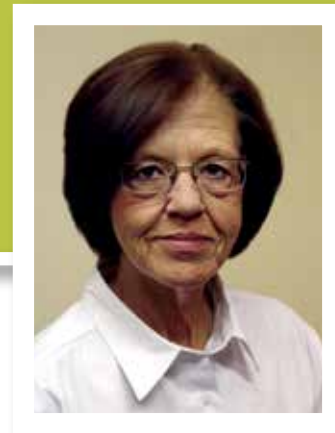
“It’s not what you might expect; a lot of them don’t have family and they are lonely,” Kalah explained, adding, “They are so sweet.”

Carol said she and Bill are very proud of their granddaughter, who is now thinking about pursuing a hospice-related career. ●

ABOVE, LEFT: *Bill and Carol Shinall’s work with Senior Independence Hospice inspired granddaughter Kalah to become a volunteer as well. Here, the trio pauses for a photo during a visit with patient Pat Bartel.*

DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

By Sue Brookins, MSN, RN, ACHPN, CNS
Corporate Director of Hospice



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

When I worked as a nurse, one of my first hospice patients suddenly became restless and anxious, and nothing we did would calm her. When her power of attorney visited, he saw this. Knowing that she had been meticulous about her duties in finance throughout her career, he leaned in and assured her that her own finances were in perfect order. This brought relief and calm to the patient, and she died peacefully the next day.

Unfinished business, real or perceived, can increase pain and anxiety. This is especially true when it comes to relationships.

Palliative care author and advocate Dr. Ira Byock believes that four simple phrases can help mend relationships before it's too late: I love you, Thank you, Please forgive me, and I forgive you. Hospice can help provide opportunities for people to say what they have been unable or unwilling to before.

To learn more about Dr. Byock's perspective on this or to explore his books and articles, visit his website: www.dyingwell.org. ●

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Senior Independence and the OPRS Foundation are wholly owned subsidiaries of Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services (OPRS), Ohio's largest and most experienced not-for-profit provider of continuing care retirement communities and services. The OPRS Foundation provides fundraising and gift administration services for OPRS, including Senior Independence. Please visit the OPRS Foundation website (www.oprsfoundation.org) for more information.

Thank you for your generosity

The following donations were made between September 1, 2014 and November 30, 2014 in support of Senior Independence Hospice. If you believe your name to be omitted or printed in error, please accept our sincerest apologies and call the OPRS Foundation at 800-686-7800.

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Delbert L. Cox
Virginia Hansman
Hilton Auctioneers
William Kestermann
Susan J. Wilson

Shirley Babcock

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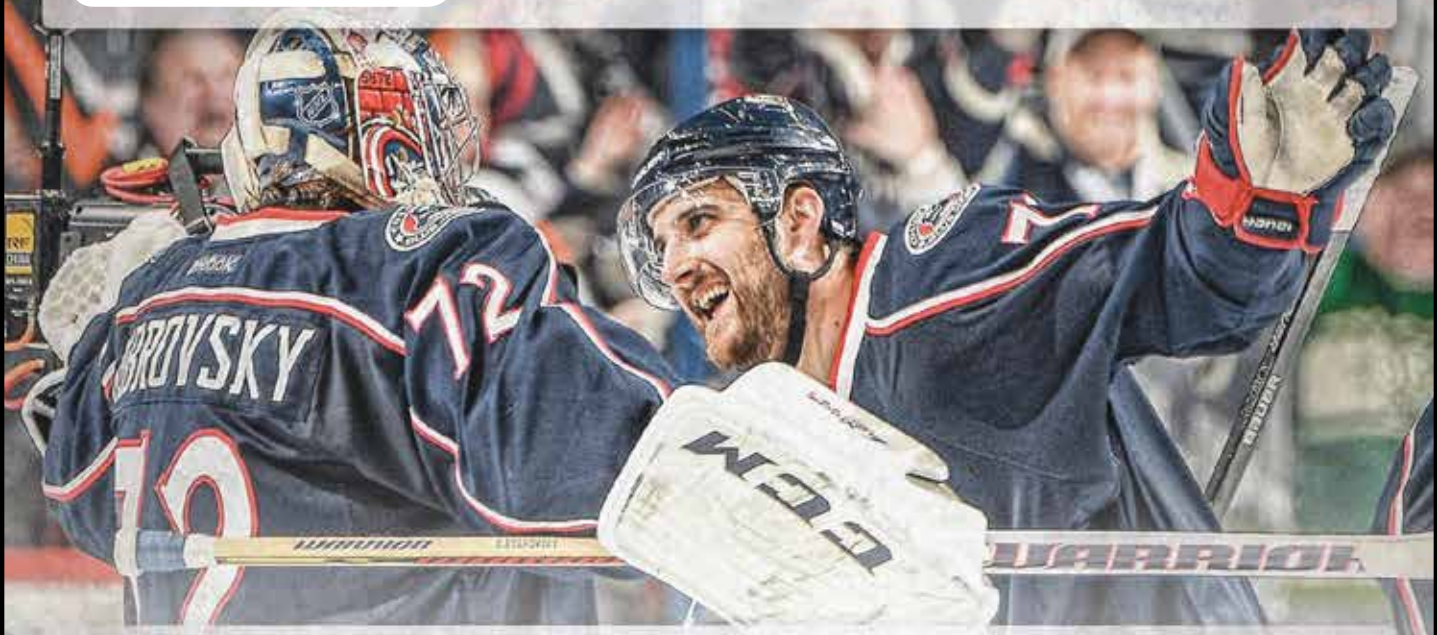
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SENIOR INDEPENDENCE HOSPICE

NIGHT OUT WITH THE BLUE JACKETS



The Blue Jackets and Senior Independence Hospice have partnered for the last game of the season and Fan Appreciation Night! Tickets start at \$39 in our Shoot Twice Section, include a free Blue Jackets hat, and \$3 from every ticket will go back to Senior Independence Hospice to benefit its Make It Happen program in Central Ohio, which fulfills life enhancing wishes to those nearing the ends of their lives.



Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Buffalo Sabres
Friday, April 10th, 2015
7:00 PM, Nationwide Arena

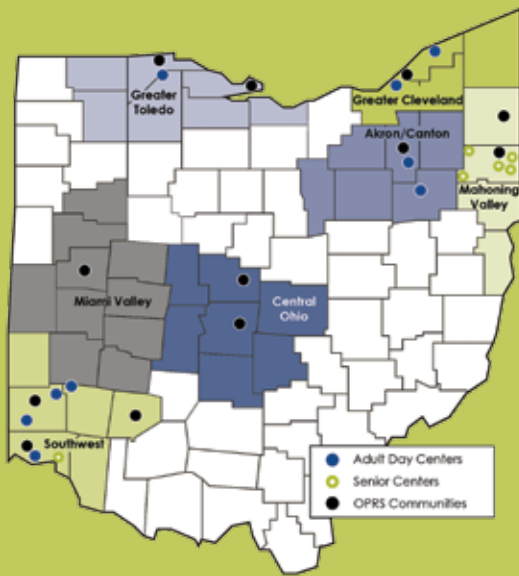


To purchase tickets, go to: www.BlueJackets.com/MakeItHappen

For more information, please contact Mark Hicks at 614-246-3878
or mhicks@bluejackets.com

All sales are final. No exchanges or refunds. All persons 2 years and older require their own ticket.
For more information on parking, please contact Standard Parking at 1-866-300-7275





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24/7 Assistance: Phone: 855-579-4967
Fax: 855-579-4968

GRANT PROVIDES NEEDED TRAINING

Senior Independence Hospice in the Central Ohio region has received a generous grant of \$10,500 from the Harry C. Moores Foundation.

This grant has provided hospice aide certification for 10 home health aides through the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.

The key piece of this process is that one registered nurse also received certification as a trainer. This nurse is now qualified to provide hospice aide certification training to Senior Independence Hospice home health aides in the future at no additional cost.

Continuing education for home health aides has become increasingly crucial to those serving hospice patients, as each patient has special needs and a unique care plan.

Hospice staff must be keenly aware of patient wishes and needs, and also be capable of compassionate communication with patients and their families.

Hospice aides need to have sharp observational skills, high ethical standards, and knowledge of when to alert other team members about changes in patient conditions.

The Harry C. Moores Foundation has supported several Senior Independence programs during the past 13 years. The Foundation was recently recognized as the 2014 Outstanding Foundation by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Central Ohio Chapter, at its annual National Philanthropy Day celebration. ●