

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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O'Neill Recognizes Bingo Volunteers Room Dedicated to Long Time Volunteer, Louise Gray

Marietta, OH – Louise Gray of Lowell, Ohio was honored by O'Neill Senior Center for her twenty years of volunteer service as bingo manager. At a recent event, the Center dedicated the facility's main area to Mrs. Gray. Over sixty people attended the dedication which included recognition of all volunteers who assisted with the weekly bingo operation.

As bingo manager, Louise Gray devoted thousands of hours to the bingo program. The weekly fundraiser was an important factor in O'Neill's success, generating more than two million dollars over its twenty-year run. Mrs. Gray scheduled all volunteer help, ordered necessary supplies, and supervised the evening games. She was also the primary bingo caller and rarely missed a Friday night at the O'Neill Senior Center.

All good things must come to an end. Declining attendance and decreased profits were the main reasons cited for discontinuing the game. "Bingo will be missed. It will be hard not seeing the volunteers and regular players every Friday evening. Yet, we knew it was time to move on." said Terry Zdrale, Executive Director.

The senior center plans to offer other Friday night activities for the community including such things as dinners, concerts, and similar events. The goal of O'Neill Senior Center is to help area seniors be HIP: Healthy, Independent, and Productive. O'Neill is a nationally accredited multi-purpose senior center providing a full array of life enrichment activities as well as vital services such as day care and medical transportation to the seniors of Washington County.

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