Ford selected for Ohio Senior Citizen HOF

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio Department of Aging, the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging and members of the Ohio General Assembly will induct Ashland resident Dr. Lucille Garber Ford and seven other accomplished and caring older Ohioans from around the state into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame during a special ceremony on Thursday, May 18 at the Statehouse Atrium in Columbus.

"Older Ohioans have a lifetime of accomplishments and experiences that not only make them our elders, but also position them to be leaders and contributors in their communities," said Stephanie M. Loucka, director of the department. "Dr. Ford set the stage for success for many young people in her community and stands as a role model for what we can accomplish when we care deeply for our neighbors."

Ford is a trailblazer and a role model for all women, with an accomplished career as an educator, businesswoman, college administrator and community leader. She taught business and economics and had an impressive administrative career at Ashland University. She was the first woman to run for Ohio's lieutenant governor and founded the Ashland County Community Foundation.

The Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame honors Ohioans for outstanding contributions to their professions, their vocations or their communities after age 60. This year's inductees range in age from 64 to 100. Their stories are compelling and represent a lifetime of dedication, ingenuity, perseverance, kindness and compassion. More than 450 individuals have been inducted into the hall since 1977.

The Ohio Department of Aging works to ensure that our elders are respected as vital members of society who continue to grow, thrive and contribute. It collaborates with state agencies and community partners, including area agencies on aging, to help integrate aging needs into local plans and ensure that aging Ohioans have access to a wide array of high-quality services and supports that are person-centered in policy and practice. Programs include the PASSPORT Medicaid waiver, caregiver support, the long-term care ombudsman program, the Golden Buckeye Card and more. Visit www.aging.ohio.gov.