

Council on Aging seeks sponsors for March for Meals

MENTOR – The Lake County Council on Aging is seeking sponsors to help support the 8th Annual March for Meals event to be held at the Great Lakes Mall Saturday, March 9. This year's fundraiser will pay tribute to the veterans of Lake County, while raising awareness and funds for the Council on Aging's nutrition programs for older adults.

"We're hoping that businesses, community organizations and area professionals will show their public support of the meal program by sponsoring at various levels", said Joe Tomsick, CEO of the Council on Aging.

"Our community has shown time and time again that it cares for its seniors. A contribution to March for Meals helps maintain one of Lake County's most important senior service programs, and your sponsorship keeps meal costs to homebound seniors to a minimum."

All money raised through March for Meals stays in Lake County to benefit meal services for local seniors.

Each year, the Council on Aging provides close to 200,000 home delivered meals and meals at senior cafes throughout Lake County. The service ensures clients receive a

healthy, well-balanced daily meal to prevent malnutrition, and the regular contact by a volunteer driver helps monitor a person's well-being. The drivers also bring a little cheer into the client's life with a daily visit, since many of the seniors are quite isolated. Federal and state funding for meal programs has been reduced for 2013, while the cost of the actual per unit meal has increased.

Corporate sponsorship levels range from between \$100 and \$2,500. Sponsors can also form walk teams for individual team members to raise pledges for March for

Meals. All sponsors who commit by Friday, Jan. 18 will be listed in the event brochure and promotional materials.

Honorary Chairman for this year's March for Meals is Painesville resident Joe Bradac, who served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. A color guard will be present along with the singing of the National Anthem.

For an online application, visit the Council on Aging website at www.lcoa.org or contact Maribeth Grablovic at (440) 205-8111, ext. 250 to receive a sponsorship package.

Argeth 1/16/13