

**Coleman Foundation**  
265 W. Main St., Suite 103  
Kent, Ohio 44240  
Phone: (330) 676-6876

For Immediate Release      Contact: Margaret Garmon  
(330) 687-8485 or [mgarmon@earthlink.net](mailto:mgarmon@earthlink.net)  
Contact: Paula Hartman-Stein  
(330) 678-9210 or [cha@en.com](mailto:cha@en.com)

### **Senior Spelling Bee Prep and Practice Session set for Feb. 27**

An introductory prep and practice session for Senior Spelling Bee contenders will be held 3:30 to 5 p.m. Feb. 27 at Coleman Adult Day Services, 6695 N. Chestnut St., Ravenna. Adults 55 years of age and older who want to sharpen their spelling skills and compete in the fourth annual Northeast Ohio Senior Spelling Bee are welcome to attend. Paula E. Hartman-Stein, Ph.D., coordinator and pronouncer of the Bee, will share tips and strategies on becoming a better speller.

This year's Bee will be held May 3 at Coleman Adult Day Services. Registration is at 10:30 a.m., followed by the Bee at 11 a.m. Because May 3 falls during the Kentucky Derby weekend, this year's theme of Senior Spelling Derby will include prizes to win, place or show.

The winner of the Bee, sponsored by the Coleman Foundation, will win a round-trip to the National Senior Spelling Bee to be held June 13 and 14 in Cheyenne, Wyo.

During the prep sessions Hartman-Stein will discuss some of the sources for her Bee's word selection.

"Whether your goal is competing in the Bee or improving your spelling skills, this introductory session will benefit adult spellers," Hartman-Stein said.

Now in its fourth year, the Bee attracts contestants from Portage and surrounding counties in northeast Ohio. Interest in Hartman-Stein's work of promoting spelling as a way for people to keep mentally alert and active was featured in the January issue of the national magazine *Mature Living*. Her learning method SeniorSpeller can help anyone of any age group spell like a winner.

The combination of entertainment – spelling contests can be spirited and fun – along with the education of learning new words shows why bees for adult spellers are growing in popularity. Hartman-Stein organized KAOS or the Kent Area Orthography Society for those interested in socializing and spelling.

Hartman-Stein is founder of the Center for Healthy Aging, a consultant to Coleman Professional Services and director of Geriatric Psychology for the Summa Health System.

For more details on spelling skills and the upcoming Northeast Ohio Senior Spelling Bee, visit the website <http://www.centerforhealthyaging.com/> or call Hartman-Stein at (330) 678-9210.

The Adult Day Service, operated by Coleman Professional Services, is an adult day care service designed to help older adults with limited or declining physical, mental, or social

capabilities to maintain their independence and dignity while offering them opportunities for self-expression and personal growth.

Coleman Professional Services is a nationally recognized not-for-profit provider of behavioral health and rehabilitation programs that improve the lives of individuals, families and businesses in Northeast Ohio. The company relies on an Enterprise Business Model to diversify its funding. Coleman's foundation and three enterprise companies produce more than 40 percent of the company's funding for its award-winning programs.

### February 6, 2008