



CUTLINE: Southern State Community College honorees in the annual AOC Recognition Celebration include (first row, l-r) David Mossbarger, Connie Wilson, Christina Hamm, Melissa Collins, Samantha Kelly, Paul Burke; (second row, l-r) Christopher Gallimore, Stephany Davis, Aaron Collett, Amanda Hurles, Logan Bourne; (third row, l-r) Bethany Rinehart, Nicholas Yoder, Joey Elsass, and Jennifer Ridenour.

SSCC's Adult Opportunity Center holds recognition celebration

Area residents who passed the General Education Development (GED) test were honored June 11 at the 27th annual Adult Opportunity Center's Recognition Celebration at Southern State Community College's Central Campus in Hillsboro.

For the 2014-15 academic year, the Adult Opportunity Center served 658 students. Of those students, 575 enrolled in one of the AOC classes and almost 70 percent improved at least one level. So far, 41 students have received their GEDs, and many have already started their college careers at Southern State.

Guest speakers Netti Newbry and Kelly Schierloh were invited to address this year's honorees.

Newbry shared her decision to enroll in GED prep classes at Southern State.

"After my children were grown, I decided to go back to school," she said. "It took one and half years and I passed it all except social studies so I went back and tried it again. That time I passed and enrolled in college classes right afterward. Last month, I graduated from college. If I can do it, you can do it."

Schierloh addressed the new graduates of the AOC program. "I am so proud of you;

