

Published by the Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
"Helping people to live, learn and work in the community"

Levy to go before voters March 4

Franklin County's first MRDD levy in seven years will be on the ballot in the primary election to be held Tuesday, March 4th.

The levy would allow FCBMRDD to continue basic services.

The levy would have the effect of replacing two existing levies. A 1.65 mill levy would be replaced, and 1.85 would be added. **A 2.32 mill levy set to expire in 2008 would not be renewed.**

The owner of a \$100,000 home would see an increase of approximately \$23 in his or her semi-annual real estate tax bill.

FCBMRDD has served over 14,000 people in 2007 through its early childhood, school-age and adult programs. That number is expected to grow in future years.

"We must have stable resources in order to meet our clients' needs," said Superintendent Jed Morison.

"At the same time," he added, "we owe it to the taxpayers to be very responsible in the use of their money."

FCBMRDD's total staff has been trimmed from 1,675 in 2001 to 1,429 currently. Also, the agency has attempted to secure as much federal funding as possible.

Galen Stover named to board

Probate Court Judge Lawrence Belskis has appointed Galen Stover a member of the Franklin County Board of MRDD.

Mr. Stover co-founded and chaired the board of the Children's Center for Developmental Enrichment, commonly known as Oakstone Academy. The non-profit organization works primarily with children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

He is Assistant Vice-President with Nationwide Insurance, where he develops long-term strategy for agency and distribution models.

He previously served as a volunteer reader with the Central Ohio Radio Reading Service, and as a member of the board of the Central Ohio Arthritis Foundation.

A resident of Westerville, Mr. Stover is a 1979 graduate of Ohio State, and holds an M.B.A. from Loyola College of Maryland.

Mr. Stover succeeds Bruce Burns, who served on the board for twelve years.



Cagers to preview at Bixby

Franklin County Flyers basketball teams will participate in the 2008 Flyer Preview to be held at Bixby Living Skills Center, 2400 Bixby Road, on Saturday, January 12th.

Starting times for games will be 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:15 p.m.

and 4 p.m. Fans are invited to attend any or all games. Admission is free.

"We're excited to have five teams participating," said Dee Hively, Director of Franklin County Special Olympics.

"It will be fun to see them in action."

A concession stand will be open to the public.

For more details, please call Dee at 342-5984.

The rest of the Flyers' schedule is available through Dee Hively at 342-5984.

DAY	DATE	TEAM	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION	GAME
Tues	1/8	1	7:00 PM	Delaware	Bixby	home
Sat	1/12	4	9:00 AM	Columbus Gray	Bixby - Flyer Preview	home
Sat	1/12	2	10:45 AM	Columbus Gold	Bixby - Flyer Preview	home
Sat	1/12	1	12:30 PM	Columbus Black	Bixby - Flyer Preview	home
Sat	1/12	5	2:15 PM	Columbus White	Bixby - Flyer Preview	home
Sat	1/12	3	4:00 PM	Columbus Green	Bixby - Flyer Preview	home
Mon	1/14	3	7:30 PM	Delaware	Bixby	home
Mon	1/14	2	7:00 PM	Pickaway	Brook Yates School, Circleville	away
Thur	1/17	1	7:00 PM	Northwest	Weaver Middle School, Hilliard	away
Thur	1/17	4	7:00 PM	Delaware	Bixby	home

Feb. 4 is voting registration deadline

A vital part of being a citizen is helping to choose elected officials and decide ballot issues.

On Tuesday, March 4th, an issue of great importance will be on the ballot in Franklin County.

The MRDD levy will allow FCBMRDD to continue to provide basic services. (See story on page 1.)

In order to vote in the March 4th election, you *must be registered to vote by February 4th.*

The following is additional information you should know about the voting process.

How can I find out if I'm registered to vote?

Contact the Franklin County Board of Elections by calling 462-3100, or visiting the web site at <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/boe/>, or visiting in person at 280 East Broad Street, Room 100.

How can I register to vote?

You may go in person to any public library, any public high school, or the Board of Elections. You may also obtain a registration form from the Board of Elections either by mail or online.

To register you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old on or before the date of the election. You must also have been a resident of Ohio at least 30 days before the election.

Must I declare my party affiliation when I register?

No. Your party affiliation is determined by the ballot you request in a primary election.

What if I've changed my address?

If you are already registered and have moved, you must report the change of address to the Board of Elections. You may do this by mail, in person, or at any public high school or

library. A form may be obtained at the Board of Elections web site.

If I have a developmental disability, can I still vote?

Yes. Citizens with developmental disabilities have the right to participate in the political process. This is expressly stated in Section 5123.62 (W) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Can I obtain help in casting my vote?

Yes. Any voter who tells the poll workers that he or she is unable to actually mark the ballot due to illiteracy or physical infirmity may receive help. Also, if a physical infirmity is apparent to the poll workers, the voter may be aided by a near relative who is permitted to be admitted to the voting booth. A person who is blind may be accompanied in the voting booth and assisted by any person of his or her choice.

Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBMRDD Community



The Pale Imitations, an improv comedy group, with guest **Simon Dowd**, performed at a fundraising luncheon held at Administration on November 30th. **Patricia Batdorf** of the Employment Services Department also performed. All of the performers donated their time and talent for a great cause -- the Citizens Committee for Persons with MRDD.



Bob Konkle recently celebrated his 23rd anniversary as an employee of Paul's Pantry in Grandview. According to owner **Paul Panzera**, Bob is more than an excellent dishwasher. "He's my best PR man... in fact, he is Paul's Pantry." Congratulations, Bob, on your long career and strong work ethic.

Staff members **Carolyn Earnhardt** and **Keith Ogle** helped in the recycling of over 1,000 outdated telephone books. While delivering inter-office mail, the pair picked up old White Pages and Yellow Pages at all agency facilities and then dropped them off

at recycling bins at Northeast School and Bixby Living Skills Center. Thanks Carolyn and Keith, for your extra effort to help our environment.

Good luck to the following athletes who made the Flyers basketball teams this year: **Bryan Fox, Jerry Friley, John Graham, Jason Gregory, Craig Green, Walter Hampton, Darryl Kelley, Brandon Leeper, Bobby Legg, Mike Mascari, Kevin Roddy, Hugh Brunney, Rodney Byrd, Chad Calloway, Craig Doles, Will Hart, Shawn Lemmerhirt, Kevin Ramsey, Joe Robinson, Rashawn Smith, Alvin Tolliver, Bryan Wingo, Bruce Amstutz, Marty Berniker, Ryan Blanton, Mike Bohnlein, Shawnta Bowman, Ray Dillon, Paul Griffin, Maurice Harris, Evan Ichrist, Lee Mullins, Erich Smith, Darlene Farley, Shanae Gray, Cindy Grubbs, Devin Hall, Victoria Harris, Robin James, Tomnica Lowery, Nicole Oliver, Jodi Rock, Donnice Ross, Nikei Tyler, Katie Watts, Chris Ahlers, Chad Contreras, Joe Cook, Nick Genton, Shon Gibbs, Percie Gray, Lucas Grayson, TONY Keith, Richard Kolodgy, Mark LaRue, Tony Moncrief, David Nutt, Jason Robins, Bob Smith, and Bill Stattmiller.**

Career Milestones

30 years

Stephanie Blevins
Mary Morris
Janet Pollard

25 years

Walter Chappellear
Patricia Glick
Pam Hager

20 years

Theresa Cohagen
Donnie Fleure
Pamela Hickman

15 years

Rhonda Miller
Deborah Rinto

10 years

Aleila Kelso

5 years

Victoria Amadu
Ethan Grant
Tracy Hamilton
Pamela Lett
Erika Nienberg
Marcy Samuel
Jennifer Schueneman
Sharon Skaggs
Scott Smith
Leslie Summer
Melissa Wren

Bowling fun set for Jan. 26

The third annual "For the Fun of It" bowling event will be held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace at Rte. 161 and Cleveland Avenue on Saturday, January 26th.

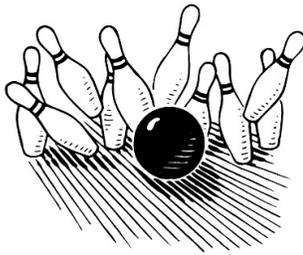
Bowling will run from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Agency staff members, divided into teams of four, will square off in a friendly, fun-oriented tournament. Trophies will be awarded, but the main object is to have fun.

Proceeds will benefit FCBMRDD's Special Olympics program and the Citizens Committee for Persons with MRDD.

The registration fee of \$20 per person will cover three games and shoe rental.

For more information, please call Jack Brownley, Director of Schools, at 342-5960.



Calendar

January, 2008

- 1 New Year's Day -- all county facilities closed.
- 2 FCBMRDD adult programs resume.
- 3 FCBMRDD schools and ECE resume.
- 7 National Championship Game, Ohio State Buckeyes vs. LSU Tigers, New Orleans, 8 p.m. GO BUCKS!
- 8 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 11 a.m. Please call 844-3800 for location.
- 8-9 Youth with Disabilities Juvenile Justice Conference, Educational Services Center of Franklin County, 2080 Citygate Dr. Please call 445-3750 for details.
- 16 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 16 FCBMRDD Human Resources Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4:30 p.m.
- 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day -- all county facilities closed.
- 24 FCBMRDD Finance Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 24 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 26 "For the Fun of It" bowling tournament, Columbus Square Bowling Palace, Rte. 161 and Cleveland Ave., 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please call 342-5960 for details.
- 28 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

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Jerry Saunders
Mildred Blumenfeld
Paul S. Coppel
Dean Fadel
Helen Ninos
Galen Stover

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FCBMRDD does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or handicap.

The following FCBMRDD staff contribute the monthly publication and distribution of Dateline.

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"Quotable quotes"

"The good neighbor looks beyond the external accidents and discerns the inner qualities that make all men human and, therefore, brothers."

-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Information about FCBMRDD is always available on the internet at:
www.fcbmrdd.org