

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

## Graduation ceremonies slated

Graduation ceremonies for students in FCBMRDD's school-age program will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd, at West Central School, and



Steve Kelly of SUNNY 95 (WSNY).

Wednesday, June 4th, at Northeast School. Both events will begin at 7 p.m.

Guest speakers will be radio personality Steve Kelly at West Central, and County Commissioner Marilyn Brown at Northeast.

Steve Kelly is a popular afternoon radio host on SUNNY 95 (WSNY), the home of "Columbus' refreshing lite rock." He is a lifelong music buff and former jazz band drummer. As a youth, Steve built his own basement radio station.

Marilyn Brown has been a Franklin County Commissioner since January, 2007. She previously served for eight years as Public Affairs Director for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission.

Commissioner Brown holds a Master of Science degree in Organizational Development from Case Western

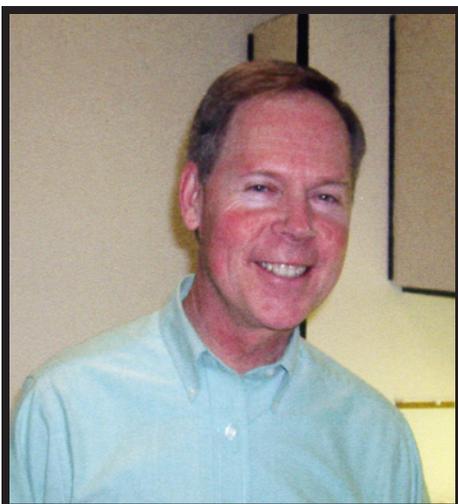


Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown.

Reserve University, and did undergraduate work at Ursuline College and Cleveland State University.

Both graduation ceremonies are open to the public.

## Dave Tisdale to retire soon



"It's been a thrill to have been a part of it, and to have seen the continued improvement of services," said Dave Tisdale, Director of Bixby Living Skills Center, regarding his career with FCBMRDD. After 34 years of service, he will retire at the end of this month.

Dave earned a reputation for exceptional dedication to consumers, and always maintaining a positive outlook.

"Everybody here has been wonderful. Every day has been sunny for me," he said.

Dave became interested in the MRDD field while a student at Ohio State. He worked part-time under a

federal grant at Thurber School at the hourly wage of \$2.85. Before college, he had served in the U.S. Navy, including two tours of duty in Viet Nam.

Dave joined the staff as a full-time teacher assistant in 1974. He went on to serve as an instructor at First Avenue, Northridge and Marburn Schools. In 1983, he became the first Director of Job Placement Services.

Over the past 13 years, Dave has had management positions in the agency's living skills facilities, first at Hague Avenue, and then Bixby.

"Dave's willingness to provide leadership in a variety of areas has

Dave Tisdale, from p.1

demonstrated his strong dedication to our agency and its mission," said Superintendent Jed Morison.

"Dave was instrumental in the early success of the agency's job

placement efforts, the start up of the Hague program, as well as the renovation and upgrading of Bixby," said John Mitchem, Director of Adult Services.

"He will be greatly missed by both the staff and consumers."

Looking to the future, Dave hopes to travel and spend more time with his family.

On behalf of the FCBMRDD community, *Dateline* wishes Dave the best!

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## Brian Parks recognized



From left are Superintendent Jed Morison, previous award recipient Roger May, Brian Parks, Transportation Department, and Mary Martin co-coordinator of the blood drive. Brian, like Roger, was honored for his long standing and unselfish support of both FCBMRDD and Red Cross. The certificate was presented on behalf of Chris Copper, Senior Director, Donor Services for the Central Ohio Region of the American Red Cross.

Staff members **Mary Martin** of Early Childhood and **Carl Scott** of Administration coordinated another successful blood drive on May 20th. The staff donated 34 units of blood, which exceeded the goal by over 10%

### Volunteers needed

"Ready When the Time Comes" is a program of the American Red Cross that provides volunteers to be ready to help in the event of a large-scale, local disaster.

The American Red Cross of Greater Columbus is partnering with FCBMRDD to develop an emergency shelter for area residents with developmental disabilities. Volunteers are needed.

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

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## Goodwill changes program names

In an effort to more easily inform the community about all Goodwill Columbus does to build independence, quality of life and work opportunities for individuals with disabilities, program names at Goodwill Columbus have been changed.

"I am pleased to announce that we have renamed our Adult Day Services programs to be descriptive in nature and to better communicate to the community what we actually do," said Carol Farmer, director of Adult Day Services for Goodwill Columbus.

The new Goodwill Columbus program names are as follows: Sage Senior Services (formerly SAGE - Senior Additional Growth Experiences); Sage Senior Services at Crosswoods (formerly SAGE Crosswoods); Young Adult Services (formerly PACE - Personal Alternatives, Creative Endeavors); and Work and Behavioral Services (formerly UNIWORKS).

According to Farmer, the name changes are part of Goodwill's ongoing branding initiatives and marketing enhancements.

"We are asking our customers and members of the community to welcome these name changes as all of us at Goodwill Columbus are embracing them and the exciting opportunities that await our program participants and those who have yet to serve," Farmer said.

Goodwill Columbus provides services to more than 2,000 people with disabilities through training, job placement and work programs for individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. For more information on Goodwill Columbus, please visit [www.goodwillcolumbus.org](http://www.goodwillcolumbus.org).

## Managing for success

# What's happening in adult services staff training

by Chris Reese, Adult Services Staff Training Coordinator

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One of my major responsibilities is planning two Staff Development Days (SDDS) per year. These are typically held in August and either March or April. These days provide adult services staff the opportunity to earn their required continuing education units (CEUS) needed for certification.

Typical attendance ranges from 400 to 450 adult services staff. Because of the variety of staff positions, it is a challenge to bring in presenters that appeal to all staff. For this reason, I prefer to provide staff a choice from among several presenters.

Finding the right location for 400 is also a big challenge. It is terribly frustrating for staff who attend an all-day seminar to find out that there isn't enough parking, and once you finally find a place to park, you are expected to sit on a hard chair all day! But I think that challenge has been met by holding our events at Xenos Christian Fellowship and Quest Conference Center.

I want staff to know they can call or e-mail me with questions about CEUS, certification, applying for credit hours when attending seminars, courses, requests for conferences on specific disabilities or topics, and actually, anything to do with training. Staff need not go through their supervisors or Directors in order to get this information.

One of my great passions is instructing staff in Systematic Instructional Techniques (better known as "SIT") developed by the late Dr. Marc Gold. The program teaches both a technology and philosophy for working with individuals who have difficulties learning.

Another passion I have is working with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). It is a wonderful system for keeping up our quality services. CARF

commended us for outstanding services, but they also made recommendations as to areas of improvement. We need to make sure recommended improvements are carried out.

Our agency has become extremely supportive for newly hired adult services staff by providing the three core courses that they need. They are: Introduction to MRDD, Principles of Behavior Supports, and Introduction to Habilitation Programming. Service Coordinators and Community Connections staff are also invited to attend.

We provide these classes free of charge to these staff, and they are held during work time. Please call me if you need a class and aren't already on a waiting list. Also, I might be able to assist you with finding a location to take a course without the necessity of being on a waiting list.

Speaking of classes, if you have an interest in a specific topic that would benefit the individuals we serve, then I am always willing to assist with coordinating a location and instructor. This is already done for required trainings such as Defensive Driving, First Aid and CPR, but could be done for other areas of interest.

A new and exciting challenge is the coordination of computer training which is coming "sooner rather than later." The updated technology in our field will enable us to spend more time with our consumers. Believe it or not, we will be spending less time on paperwork because of the efficient technology. Yes, initially there will be time spent on training, but in the end, we'll have more time to provide hands-on services.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 342-5310 or [chris.reese@fcbmrdd.org](mailto:chris.reese@fcbmrdd.org).

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## Bikes now at Bixby

New recreational activities are underway at the Bixby Living Skills Center. Thanks to a grant from the Harry C. Moores Foundation, survey bikes have been purchased, and are now available to participants of the Community Connections program.

These fun-to-ride bikes can be taken directly onto the trail of Three Creeks Park, which is adjacent to Bixby's grounds. Young adults from the Americorps program are assisting with this program. For more information, interested persons can contact Mel Rhoads, Director of ADD's Community Connections at 342-5629.



From left are:  
BLSC Habilitation Specialist  
Diana Morton,  
participant Debra  
Jo Smith and Habilitation Assistant  
Rose Dexter.

# Community shows its support of Early Childhood

This spring has been a busy time for the children, families and staff in Early Childhood. Volunteers from Anthem and the Ohio State University African American Heritage Festival spent several hours on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, planting and weeding gardens. Staff from the Kohl's store on Morse Road also spent a day treating hundreds of children to books and stuffed animals, and reading to them. This was a \$5,000 in-kind donation from the store.

The Early Childhood Education and Family Center received a \$14,000 Organic Gardening Waterworks grant. This funding will provide for improvements of the Outdoor Learning Environment, including a shade structure, a cedar compost bin, willow edging to protect vulnerable seedbeds in the farm garden, and a cistern to harvest rainwater.

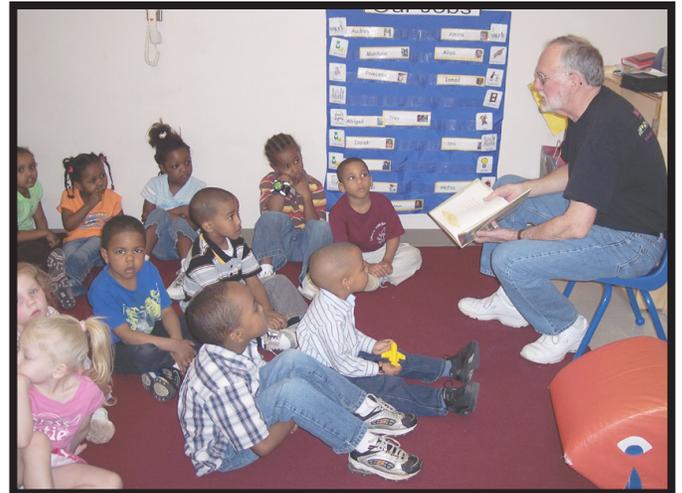
The Early Childhood Learning Community is a grant recipient of The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation of Mill Valley, California. Approximately 12 trees and 25 shrubs (including both cultivated and native varieties) will be planted in August. The foundation is an international charity dedicated to planting fruit trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming and improve the surrounding air, soil and water.

A repeat contributor to Early Childhood is the family of a child who attended the program and passed away several years ago. The Gifts of Joy come to ECE each year following a golf outing in memory of Joy Brokowski. Proceeds are donated to serve children at ECE and their families.

The Golf Outing will occur this year on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. at the Foxfire Golf Club. For more information, visit the website [www.mjbfoundation.org](http://www.mjbfoundation.org) or send an e-mail to [jbrochowski@mjbfoundation.org](mailto:jbrochowski@mjbfoundation.org).



Volunteers from The Ohio State University with Susan Weber (extreme right) of Urban Wild.



A volunteer from the Morse Road Kohl's reads to students.



The Anthem volunteers pose with red monkey on the playground at the Early Childhood Learning Community.



The Brokowski family surround the fountain dedicated to Joy Brokowski. The Outdoor Learning Environment is located at the Early Childhood Education and Family Center.

# Focus on ADDvantage Center

*(Note: The Association for the Developmentally Disabled is celebrating the second anniversary of the ADDvantage Center, its newest day service program)*

The Association for the Developmentally Disabled's ADDvantage Center offers activities ranging from swimming and weight lifting to sewing, painting, and yoga. We offer daily a choice of seven or eight activities.

Our newest acquisition is a Nintendo Wii gaming system. Tennis and bowling are popular, and we are waiting for the racing game to arrive. Four people will have their own steering wheel and be able to race each other, while their friends in the "pit crew" cheer them on.

The ADDvantage Center, located at 810 W. Third Avenue in Grandview, is an adult day services provider where learning, socialization and community integration are our goals. We offer door-to-door van service daily. We provide activities that encourage creative thought and physical fitness. Thanks to the generosity of the YMCA, everyone enrolled receives a free YMCA membership, which they can use while at the center and on their own.

On site, our large arts and crafts room is decorated with artists' works.



Classes offered have included woodworking, jewelry, ceramics and scrapbooking, along with the tried and true arts and crafts activities.

We also have a computer lab where we help people safely "surf the net", play games, write letters and even prepare resumes.

In our classroom, we teach Money Management, Healthy Living, Environmental Awareness, and Street Smarts classes among others.

Our kitchen is the site of many successful cooking classes, while the large recreation room is home to pool and air hockey tables and a big screen color TV.

Each day we head out into the community. In April, we visited Crema Nut Company, Nationwide Arena, and Pepsi Bottling Com-

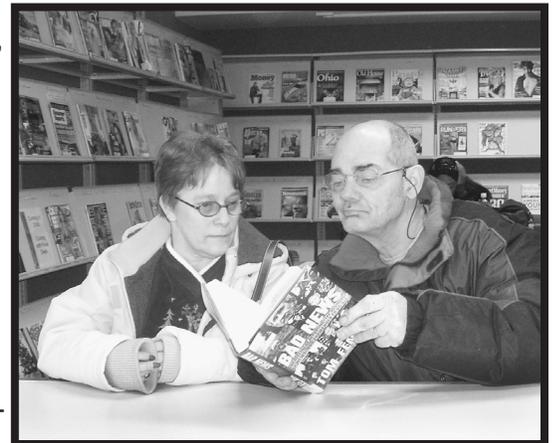
pany for tours. We also traveled to Lancaster for shopping at the River Valley Mall. As part of the end of our civics class, we visited the Statehouse to see a session of the General Assembly and take a tour.

Other outings have included trips to Jeffersonville, Longaberger, and the Ohio State Fair.

We encourage people to participate in our Advisory Council which helps plan all of our upcoming events, and our party planning committee, which is currently working on a "60's" party.

We love to show off our center through tours or day visits. To obtain more information or schedule a visit, please call 291-9411.

*All photos courtesy of the Association for the Developmentally Disabled.*



## Service Coordination goes to fair

Service Coordination Supervisors Jack Smith and Ann Russell attended a job fair at the School of Social Work at The Ohio State University recently.

Their recruiting tools include a new portable display unit with photos, new service brochures and handouts regarding employment with FCBMRDD.

Thanks to Jack, Anne, Kevin Yuhas, Tammie Frazier and Mike Davis for both planning and implementing this project.



Jack Smith and Anne Russell

## Olympians compete in Granville



The campus of Denison University is alive with Special Olympics athletes. Participants from left are: Dan Schole, Julie Dexter, and Brian Lambert, followed by competitors from Madison County. The FCBMRDD Flyers took home 2 first places, 3 second places and 3 third places.

## Recreation rides into Cedar Point



On Wednesday, May 21st, the Recreation Department took a group to Cedar Point for the day. The participants enjoyed the rides and dinner at Friday's. Pictured from left are: Ed Ruiz, Patricia Hiestand, Steve Segal, Roberta Lehman, Craig Green, Vernell Parker, Tom Stevens and Nikki Smith.

## Dedicated retirees gather monthly



Left from back: Susan Starkey, JoAnn Ebner, Carol Evans, Terri Hess.

Right from back: Jean Tague, Dorothy Taggart, Harriet Haniotes, Garnet Knight, Susan Stouffer, Evelyn Meyers.

Despite the passage of more than 22 years since her retirement from FCBMRDD, former bus driver Evelyn Meyers still feels emotionally connected to the agency.

"It stays with you," she said, thus explaining her continued involvement with a group of up to 20 retired drivers and assistants who meet regularly for breakfast each month.

Unofficially dubbed the "Golden Girls," they reminisce about old times, and stay current. There's no formal membership structure. All retired transportation staff are welcome.

"We're all friends, and anyone who'd enjoy getting together would be really welcome," Evelyn said.

The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. at Marie's Scrambler Breakfast Bistro, 5729 N. Hamilton Road.

Please call Evelyn at 476-9283 with any questions, or feel free to drop in at the restaurant.

# Good For You

## Notable Achievements in the FCBMRDD Community

Transportation staff were treated to a cookout at each of the bus compounds during the week of May 5th. The festivities were part of the agency's celebration of Bus Driver Appreciation Week.

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St. Mary Magdalene Church will be the site of the next Elvis concert by "Little E" which will be held on Saturday, June 7th, at 7 p.m. The church is located at 473 S. Roys Avenue. To his friends at ARC West, "Little E" is known as **Kevin True**.

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For the 3rd year in a row, **Creative Housing** has been recognized by the Columbus Board of Realtors for "improving the real estate and housing environment in Central Ohio." This year's award was accompanied by a grant of \$9,000 for construction of wheelchair ramps.

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ARC West staff **Walt Chappellear** and **Constance Chappellear** ran in the Frederick (Maryland) Marathon on May 4th. Walt completed the race in 4:34 hours and Constance 5:02. Congratulations to both!

\*\*\*\*\*

Operation Feed Coordinator **Mike Davis** sponsored a delightful breakfast for all the drive's volunteer coordinators on May 7th. Among the honorees were **Priscilla George** and **Mary Fairchild** of the West Transportation compound, who accepted the Golden Crockpot award on behalf of their co-workers.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to the following winners of the "Biggest Loser" competition: 1st - **Pam Pollock** of Transportation South; 2nd - **Bo Milby** of ARC North; and 3rd - **Michelle Mineo**, also of ARC North. Seventy-five staff participated. Many thanks to **John Fleming** and **Linda Rockwell** of Administration for coordinating the contest.

## Career Milestones

### 35 years

Sally Harrington

### 30 years

Jeri Gilbert  
Ellen Risor

### 25 years

Lenora Evans  
David O'Neil

### 20 years

Teresa Johnson  
Randall Large  
Ricky Loomis  
Wendy Mandel  
Peter Marshall

### 15 years

Michael Christen  
Tacey Kastely

### 10 years

Jennifer Darling  
Deatra Igel  
Stephen Middlebrook  
William Scarberry

### 5 years

Lynn Banks  
Kortez Booker  
Sara Faudree  
Joann Howard  
Maurice Mitchell  
Christopher Noon  
Alan Rafiqy  
Jessica Taylor  
Timothy Whiting



The **Red Hat** and **Pink Hat ladies** of ARC West joined over 185 others at the Berwick Partyhouse to celebrate the 3rd Annual Columbus Red Hat Society Birthday Bash on April 24th. Each lady made a grand entrance at the event, sporting a lovely new hat for the occasion. **Debbie Washington** was recognized for being the youngest in attendance.

# Star nominees due June 30

If you've been intending to nominate a candidate for a FCBMRDD Community Star Award, please don't delay. The deadline, June 30th, is fast approaching!

The Star Awards Committee will consider nominees in 14 award categories. A nomination form is enclosed with this issue of *Dateline*.

The awards program was established in 2003 to honor persons and organizations who, through outstanding work, have supported FCBMRDD's mission.

For more details, please call Frank New at 342-5972.

## Next issue to cover 2 months

The next issue of **Dateline** will be a combined one for the months of July and August. The issue will be distributed in mid-July.

## Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation  
and Developmental Disabilities

Ben W. Hale, Jr.  
Jerry Saunders  
Mildred Blumenfeld  
Paul S. Coppel  
Dean Fadel  
Helen Ninos  
Galen Stover

Superintendent Jed W. Morison

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national origin, or handicap.**

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

Jed W. Morison	Carl Scott	Mary Linden
Michael Davis	Amy Magginis	Martin Kerscher
Jennifer Cunningham		

News releases, story ideas, and suggestions should be  
sent to Martin Kerscher at:

2879 Johnstown Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43219  
(614) 475-6440 FAX 342-5001

# Calendar

## June 2008

- 5 Last day of classes - ECE and Schools.
- 10 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 14 Flag Day
- 15 Father's Day
- 18 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 23 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 24 ECE Summer Center begins, 2879 Johnstown Rd.
- 25 School-age Summer Center begins, West Central School.
- 26 FCBMRDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 26 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 27, 28, 29 Ohio Special Olympics, the Ohio State University. Please call Andrea Stonebraker at 342-5989 for details.

## July, 2008

- 4 Independence Day - all county facilities closed.
- 16 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 24 FCBMRDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 24 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 28 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m. Meeting to be preceded by presentation of Seibold Scholarships.
- 31 ECE and School-age Summer Center programs end.

## "Quotable quotes"

"Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire."

-- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Information about FCBMRDD is always available on the internet at:

**[www.fcbmrdd.org](http://www.fcbmrdd.org)**