

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

Futures committee going forward



Laura Glenn

Ohio's MRDD Futures Study Committee, which was created through the enactment of House Bill 119, held its first meeting at the Columbus Developmental Center on August 30th.

The committee is charged with reviewing the state's MRDD

service system and particularly the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of current funding for services. The committee must report its findings to Governor Ted Strickland and the General Assembly by March 30th of next year.

The committee is made up of 22 members representing various stakeholders and groups interested in the field. Among those serving are former FCBMRDD Board Member Laura Glenn, who chairs the subcommittee on Delivering Quality Services. FCBMRDD Superintendent Jed Morison is a member of the subcommittee on Finance.

In opening remarks, ODMRDD Director John Martin emphasized that the committee's work would be characterized by civility and respect for all viewpoints.

Commenting on his assignment, Superintendent Morison said, "I'm excited to have the opportunity to play a part in this process, which could have quite an impact on future services for our county's individuals and families."



Jed Morison

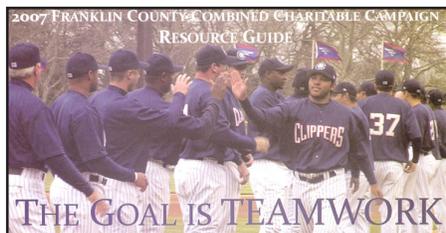
Meetings are planned for the subcommittees on October 25th and for the full committee on November 14th.

Charitable campaign in full swing

When it comes to supporting Franklin County's Combined Charitable Campaign, FCBMRDD staff have long been regarded as heavy hitters. For the past 5 years, the agency has led all county agencies in dollars raised.

Will the FCBMRDD team continue its winning ways? That question will be answered soon. The drive winds up October 5th.

Last year, FCBMRDD staff gave a record-breaking amount, over \$75,000.



This year, Campaign Coordinator Jack Brownley has set the bar even higher, establishing a goal of \$77,000.

"The challenge is great," he said, "but through working together as a team, we can accomplish it."

The annual drive invites contributions to a wide range of charities. Staff may donate to environmental work, education, medical research, social services and many other causes.

The theme of the campaign is "The Goal Is Teamwork."

Going 'green' at FCBMRDD

In recent years FCBMRDD has made strides toward greater environmental sensitivity. Superintendent Jed Morison summarized these efforts in a memo on September 13th. Highlights include:

The Early Childhood Department has developed environmentally friendly outdoor learning areas at both its Johnstown Road and Rudy Road facilities. These include community gardens created in partnership with the Franklin Park Conservatory.

The Transportation Department has switched from ordinary diesel fuel to low-sulphur biodiesel fuel for all buses and delivery vehicles. The

Department also received a grant from the Toyota Clean School Bus program which allowed for retrofitting 80 buses so that they can use ultra low-sulphur fuel.

The agency has permitted the Columbus Metropolitan Library and the Franklin County Educational Center to purchase low-emission fuel through FCBMRDD, thus helping these agencies achieve their environmental goals.

FCBMRDD is now implementing a recycling program for various materials, including paper, glass and plastic bottles, aluminum cans and the like. This program was initiated as part of the agency's contract for trash removal services.

FCBMRDD has supported home weatherization for persons with developmental disabilities. The program is carried out by Creative Housing, Inc., in cooperation with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission.

Many FCBMRDD buildings have been equipped with energy management systems that ensure heating and cooling are provided in an efficient manner.

Looking to the future Superintendent Morison wants to continue the 'green' initiatives. "It is important that we do our part to help the environment," he said.

Crew wins quality award

An ARC Industries work crew at the Parker-Hannifin site has become the first to be recognized for 100% error-free work over an entire month.

A total of 10 ARC Industries crews perform assembly work at the site. All compete for an award developed by Bob Sergent, Parker-Hannifin's Quality Control Manager, in hopes of improving quality and reducing errors in the work.

The winners, known as Crew E, made no errors during the month of May. The crew includes Stephen Boyd, Kim Fechter, Randy Hensley, Amy Lewis, Kara Miller, Rosie Schel, Linda Scowder and Diana Sigers. Along with supervisor Jay Marlowe, they will be treated to lunch.

Congratulations to Crew E and all the on-site crews on their efforts.



Front row: Linda Scowden, Randy Hensley, Kara Miller, and Steve Boyd. Middle row: Parker staff members Amos Stroud and Karen Gray, Michelle Miller, Rosalie Schehl and Amy Lewis. Back row: Jay Marlowe, Parker staff member Bob Sergent, Aileen Burnside, Edd Herrmann and Diane Siders.

Did you know?

The Franklin County Animal Shelter holds its "Mingle With Our Mutts" events

on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, from 12 to 2 p.m. The location is the Franklin County Dog Shelter, 1731 Alum Creek Drive.

It is a great place to look for your new best friend!

Families United to meet

Peggy Martin, Family Advocate with the Ohio Department of MRDD, will speak at the next meeting of Families United, which will be held Thursday, October 11th, at 7 p.m. The location will be Overbrook Presbyterian Church, 4131 N. High Street.

Topics will include the MRDD Futures Study Committee, and the progress of the Statewide Family Council.

The public is invited to attend.

Fire safety tips offered



Columbus Fire Chief Pettus

October is Fire Prevention Month, The Columbus Division of Fire has issued these safety reminders:

Make sure that your house number is clearly visible from the road to ensure that responding emergency personnel can find your home.

Practice your home escape plan at least twice a year so that everyone in the household will know what to do in a fire emergency.

Install working smoke detectors on every level of your home. When a smoke alarm sounds, get out immediately.

Once you are out, stay out! Under no circumstances should you ever go back into a burning building.

“Fire can spread very quickly and sometimes there are only seconds to escape,” said Fire Chief Ned Pettus, Jr. “Having an escape plan that has been practiced saves precious time and ensures everyone can get out safely.”

In memoriam Larry Alsbach

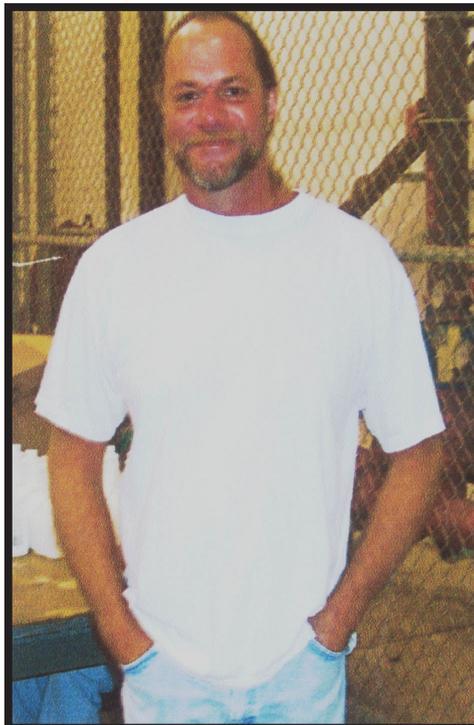
ARC East lost one of its most respected and loved instructors when Larry Alsbach passed away August 26th. Larry lost a brief but courageous battle with cancer.

Employed at ARC East since 1998, Larry was caring and kind to all employees. His gentle ways will long be remembered as will his wit and sense of humor.

Larry cared for all living things. He raised many animals, including birds, goats, dogs, and a llama, birthing and hand feeding many of the babies. He also enjoyed cultivating beautiful gardens.

A celebration of Larry's life was held at the Everal Barn and Homestead on August 31st.

Family and friends remembered him with laughter and love.



Did you know?

Congress has declared October to be National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

The observance highlights that workers with disabilities are an ambitious group eager to pursue careers. Employers who hire people with disabilities find that they have talented and dedicated workers, who often bring a unique perspective to the workplace.



Sports banquet holds big surprise

Special olympics athletes enjoyed a wonderful evening at their annual banquet. The athletes and their guests were treated to a chicken dinner. The surprise came as each athlete was awarded a folding event chair personalized with the FCBMRDD Special Olympics logo. The gifts and "parade of athletes" were followed by a dance. A good time was had by all.

Special thanks to Chuck Zelms for all the photos.



Chris Parks receives his chair from coach Linda Zelms as Dee Hiveley looks on.



Diana Morton pushed Doris Parker after Doris received her award.

Lori Cobb at left and Kathleen Notestine enjoy the opportunity to dance after the banquet.

Siblings conference set

The 7th annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference will be held Friday, October 12th and Saturday, October 13th at the Marriott Airport Hotel in Columbus.

The purpose of the conference is to create an environment where adult siblings can gather together and share family experiences, develop new relationships, obtain information and be recognized as integral parts of their families' success.

Please visit www.ohiosibs.com for more information, or call Tom Fish at 292-7550.

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You may view the current issue as well as past issues going back to June, 2006.

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Dateline editor Martin Kerscher cites two advantages to the electronic subscription option.

"Many readers enjoy the convenience of reading the newsletter on their personal computers. Also, the photos appear in color instead of black and white."

For further assistance, please contact Linda Rockwell at 342-5950, or by email at linda.rockwell@fcbmrdd.org.

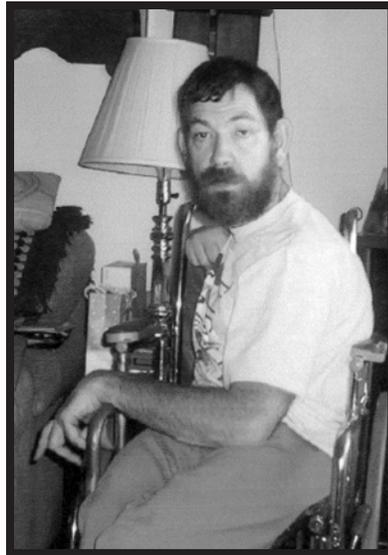
Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBMRDD Community

Congratulations to Service Coordinator **Tim Knapp** who, in a recent feature article in the *Columbus Dispatch*, shared some of his expertise in the arts.

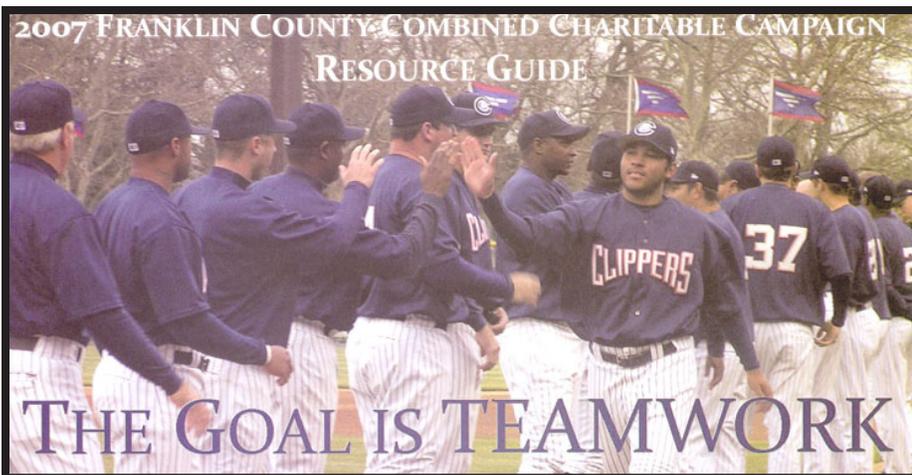
Special thanks goes to **Katie Motsinger**, ARC Industries Sales Director, for coordinating FCBMRDD's hospitality for visitors from the Ukraine last month.

ARC Industries North employee **Tim Prenzlin** ably represented Franklin County in a presentation to Governor Ted Strickland in August. In his free time, Tim designs and sells greeting cards. For more details, please visit www.pw-creations.com.



Tim Prenzlin

We salute the 2007 Combined Charitable Campaign department/ building coordinators: **Cindy Massenelli**, Administration; **Mona Decker**, Psychology; **Mike Doran**, ARC East; **Susan Darbyshire**, ARC West; **Jackie Boyle**, ARC North; **Jim Leake**, ARC South; **Shella Ross**, ARC Sales & Business Office; **Amy Hixenbaugh**, ARC - ESD; **Becky Shannon**, Bixby Living Skills; **Cathy Gordon**, ECEFC; **Gretchen Uhl**, ECLC; **Debby Guyton** and **Pam Barker**, Hague Living Skills Center; **Becky Durr**, Northeast School; **Diane Kaiser**, Service Coordination; **Amy Kulow**, Transportation; **Dorcas Sharp**, Transportation - South Compound; **Mary Fairchild**, Transportation - West Compound; **Steven Testerman**, West Central. Overall Coordinator is **Jack Brownley**.



Career Milestones

35 years

Roger Slagle

30 years

**Christine Andrews
Thomas Bilodeau
Jean Hahn
Nancy Kleshinski
Janice Sullivan**

25 years

Dennis Fisher

20 years

**Bobbie Black
Thomas Critser
Jack Stockley**

15 years

**Brigida Alcaraz
Kim Allen
Deborah Manson
Dorothy Moore
Lynne Spinosi
James Yoder**

10 years

**Amy Hixenbaugh
Nancy Mills
Karen Widmayer**

5 years

**Paula English
Deborah Etienne
Connie Hamm
Alethea Holz
Diana Montgomery
Amy Morse
Cathy Rogers
George Siegler
Gina Ward
Margaret Warner
Theresa Watkins**

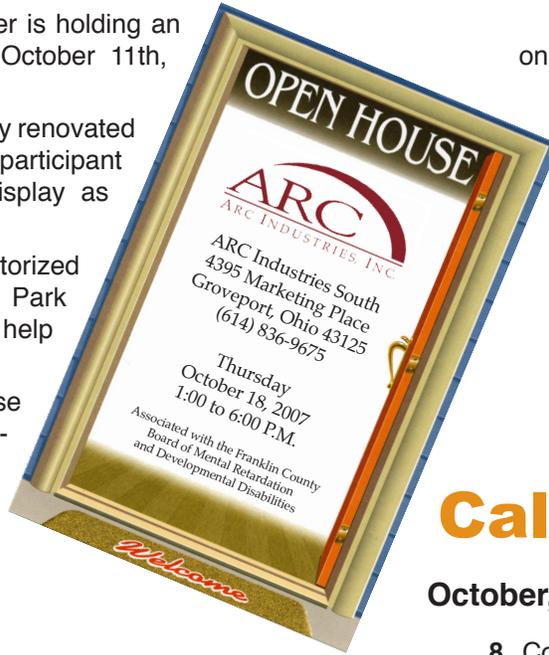
Open houses set at Bixby, ARC South

Bixby Living Skills Center is holding an open house on Thursday, October 11th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visitors can see the newly renovated gym and the sensory room. A participant photo gallery will be on display as well.

Twice during the day, motorized tram rides to Three Creeks Park will also be provided with the help of Metro Park naturalists.

For more details, please call Dave Tisdale at 342-5013.



ARC Industries South will hold an open house on Thursday, October 18th, from 1 to 6 p.m.

The staff will celebrate the facility's 30th year of operation. Currently ARC South serves 315 individuals with a staff of 60.

For more details, please call Kurt Smith at 342-5609.

Calendar

October, 2007

- 8 Columbus Day - all county facilities closed.
- 9 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 11 Families United meeting, 4131 N. High St., 7p.m.
- 11 Bixby Living Skills Center Open House, 4200 Bixby Road, Groveport, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 12-13 Ohio Adult Siblings Conference, Marriott Airport Hotel. Please call 292-7550 for details.
- 17 FCBMRDD Human Resources Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4:30 p.m.
- 17 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 18 ARC Industries South Open House, 4395 Marketing Place, Groveport, 1-6 p.m.
- 22 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 25 FCBMRDD Finance Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 25 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 28 Daylight Savings Time ends.
- 31 Happy Halloween!

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

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

Superintendent Jed W. Morison

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

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“Quotable quotes”

“The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.”

-- Theodore Roosevelt

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