

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

Mayor Ginther visits

Mayor Andy Ginther recently visited the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities to learn more about services and to spend time in the Early Childhood and Education Center.

"This is the best part of my day" stated the Mayor as he talked to the children and staff. Rebecca Love, Director of Early Childhood Education, provided a tour of the Center and the Outdoor Learning area and visits to several classes.

Prior to the tour of the Center, the Mayor and his Special Projects Director, Stephen Sayre, met with Superintendent/ CEO Jed Morison to hear an overview of all the services provided by the Board. He learned that over 20,000 children and adults are supported by the Board with the mission to help people, live, learn and work in our community.

The Mayor was impressed with the scope of services and pleased to see all the programs for children as well as the support provided to help adults with disabilities secure employment.

Superintendent Morison stated that "the Mayor has always seen the need and supported our services in his elected roles on the Columbus School Board, City Council and now as Mayor."



Mayor Ginther visits with Oliver Shipley at the Early Childhood Education and Family Center.



Mayor Ginther, Rebecca Love, and Jed Morison.

Ohio Siblings Conference

The 16th Annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference will be held on November 11-12 at the Embassy Suites in Dublin.

Featured speakers include Rachel Patterson from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation; Megan Rothermel, Self-Advocate; Tabitha Woodruff, Special Needs Attorney; Colleen Beard, Founder of Care Spotlight.com; and Dr. Shannon Skiba, Associate Professor and Dentist at the Nisonger Dental Clinic. Dementia, History of Disability, Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Trauma are additional topics that will be covered.

Scholarships are available for Franklin County siblings. For more information, contact Bobbi Montenegro at (330) 705-8367 or <u>www.ohiosibs.com</u>.



Star Award winners recognized

Over 500 were in attendance at the 2016 Community Star Awards to recognize some extraordinary individuals and organizations.

Superintendent Morison said "it's like a family reunion and our version of the academy awards" where awards are given in fourteen categories. Those present included individuals supported, family members, staff, providers, state and county leaders and elected officials. Marcus Thorpe served as Master of Ceremonies and the Dave Powers Trio provided entertainment.

Special thanks to Linda Fleming, Executive Assistant for coordinating the many details and to the Citizens Committee for Persons with Developmental Disabilities for serving as lead sponsor of the event.



Marcus Thorpe, Master of Ceremonies



John Wilson with Linda and Hershel Craig



Carol Middaugh, Early Childhood Staff with her daughter and mother.





Ethan Boerner provides introduction for Master of Ceremonies Marcus Thorpe.



Jeanie Kunkle, School Staff

Carl Scott, Support Services with Superintendent Jed Morison



Austin VanAlmsick, Youth Participant



Linda Fleming did great work coordinating the many details of the event.



Bridget Alcaraz, Adult Services Staff 2 11/2016



Christine Brown, Self-Advocate



Amy Morse, Service Coordination Staff



Cody Parker and Jordanna Tomblin for Dublin Methodist Hospital/ Ohio Health, Employer.



Tim Edwards, Transportation Staff and Angie Waderker.



Linda Craig, Board President



Darin Easley, Management/ Supervisory Staff



Pat Cloppert, Parent/ Family Member



Rick Conner/ Career Camp, Provider Organization

Special thanks to Lisa Farnholtz from *Portraits By Lisa* for providing photography for the 2016 Community Star Awards.



Karen Duemmel, Volunteer



It's no secret that Marcus loves Villa Milano cake—Thank you Linda Craig!

Eric Frentzel, Residential Staff

ARC Wellness and Healthy Lifestyles celebrate by Marcia Duffy, ARC Industries

ARC Wellness and Healthy Lifestyles kicked off its second 12-week session of 2016 on September 6th. Participants from ARC West, ARC North, Bixby and Northeast Centers are excited to take part in this popular program. Forty-four participants completed the first session of ARC Wellness in July and are eager to serve as mentors for new enrollees.

Wellness participants embrace the Mission to educate, initiate and integrate healthy lifestyles. Over the next three months they will complete in-house, handson education classes in nutrition and movement followed by taking their enthusiasm for wellness into the community.



Verticle Adventures

Extended collaborations with Local Matters, Kroger, and the YMCA are joined by new

partnerships with OSU Extension, Vertical Adventures, The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition and Fred Astaire Studios for a variety of healthy-minded community outings.

We commend our new Wellness participants as they embark on their commitment to healthy lifestyles!



Local Matters

Dr. Ray helps educate on Mental Illness

Earlier this year, Dr. Angela Ray, Director of Psychology for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, participated in a forum on Behavioral and Mental Health in the Central Ohio Pediatric Community.

Facilitated by Nationwide Children's Hospital, a panel of local mental and behavioral health leaders came together to discuss the challenges faced by families seeking help. They spoke about gaps in services; resources; and proposed ways to improve access for struggling children and teens. Their discussion also focused on ways to reduce stigma associated with diagnosis and treatment of mental illness.

In response to questions regarding gaps in service and reducing stigma, Dr. Ray stated, "Increasing services for brain health can translate to life-long support for children. We need to look at our zero to three-year-olds and build that foundation on a solid rock rather than sand. You can see the broken arm; you can't see the broken brain. One cannot "see" mental health or mental illness."

Other participants on the panel included experts from Nationwide Children's Hospital, ADAMH, Buckeye Ranch, Syntero, and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. To review a complete copy of the published report, contact Dr. Angela Ray at (614) 475-6440 or go to www.fullpotentialbehavioralhealth.org.

Northeast artists partner with Gahanna

Northeast Center has been asked to collaborate with Gahanna's City leaders in an initiative called "Art is for Everyone".

Three separate Teach/Reach ceramics classes will be conducted through the Gahanna Parks and Recreation Department in early 2017.

These community classes will be taught by Teach/Reach artists and will be at various locations, including Northeast Center. Workshops will be offered to children, adults and seniors.

In addition to these teaching opportunities, Northeast has also been awarded a gallery show for the month of December in Gahanna's City Hall Galleries. Art for this exhibit will include mixed media, clay and painting all done collaboratively at Northeast Center.

Ohio Family to Family

Ohio Family to Family is a family-staffed, virtual center that provides free information and training to families and professionals, and connects them to local and state resources for children with special healthcare needs.

The Informational Center helps families of children with disabilities navigate the health care system. Their mission also includes work on improving partnership.

Ohio Family to Family is headquartered at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center with a Family Specialist located in central Ohio.

For more information on Family to Family, call Lynne Fogel at (844) 644-6323 or go to the following link: <u>www.ohioF2F.org</u>.

Good for you Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Congratulations to **Debbie Hughes**, Instructor Assistant for 31 years, on retirement. Debbie did excellent work, beginning at Southeast School, then at Northeast School, then was one of the pioneers to work in FCBDD classes located in many Reynoldsburg Schools. Debbie looks forward to more time with her grandsons and family. She also will continue some part-time supported living work. Best wishes!

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Kudos to Bixby Center for being awarded a Neighborhood Arts Grant from the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education. Bixby artists designed templates, painted and assembled a sculpture which is now on display at the Groveport Town Hall.

Congratulations to Sunapple Studio artists for a recent presentation at the Arts and Autism Conference at the Columbus Museum of Art.

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Special thanks to all staff for pledges to Combined Charities. This year's campaign was led by Becky Love, Director of Early Childhood Education and an outstanding team of coordinators. Congratulations!

Special thanks to the Early Childhood Education Department for Hosting a statewide 'Ohio Voices for Learning Reggio Inspired Conference' on Saturday, September 24th. The Creative Arts Specialists presented and there were 110 attendees, who expressed gratitude and were inspired by the environment and the programs for children.

Congratulations to Jack Brownley, Director of Schools and Special programs, for being appointed to serve on the Board of The Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD). The Ohio organization, led by Margaret Burley, offers parent mentoring, advocacy and support services for all school districts in Ohio.



Congratulations to ECE Creative Arts Specialists, Danielle Norman, Sharon McJannet, Therese Brady, Darren Thompson for a very well received presentation at the 2016 Arts & Autism Conference: Creating, Learning, Living at the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio on September 20th.

Career Milestones

30 Years **Debbie Barte**

20 Years **Brenda Fletcher**

15 Years Emmanuel Madueme

10 Years

Pamela Waite Lauren Barton Marrianne Bobo Janet Bond Tim Hendren Nancy Rinehart Jo Rodehaver

5 Years Brenda Whiting

Public Hearing planned

A public hearing will be held on December 12th at 4:00 p.m. at 2879 Johnstown Road on the draft of the 2017 Annual Action and Strategic Plan.

The plan will outline proposed plans, projected needs, goals and strategies for the upcoming year.

> The public is invited to attend

Staff recognized for blood donations

Staff of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities were recently recognized by the American Red Cross for blood donations.

The staff placed 3rd in the Franklin County Government category, thanks to the number of successful blood drives held at the Administration building and Northeast Center.

Superintendent Morison indicated that "all the credit goes to the donors and our staff who have voluntarily coordinated the blood drives. Mary Martin, Jeff Baird, and Kim Ferrell have done a terrific job."



Infant care video available

A new video on infant care has been produced and will be shown to all new mothers in Franklin County before they leave the hospital.



CelebrateOne, the organization working to reduce infant mortality in Columbus produced the video with support from Columbus Public Health and the Central Ohio Hospital Council. The Franklin County Board is also supporting the CelebrateOne goals with funding to the Franklin County Family and Children First Council.

Over 19,000 women are expected to see the video each year. The goal is to reduce the infant mortality rate by 40%. Recent statistics indicate that 3 babies die each week in Franklin County. This video will help new parents learn more about what they can do to ensure that their babies have a healthy first year of life and thrive every year after that.

To view the video, go to https://vimeo.com/ ctvcolumbus/review/174676475/b28f93d0a4.



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Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is always available on the internet at:



Calendar

November, 2016

- 8 Election Day.
- 11 Veterans Day all county facilities closed.



- 11,12 Ohio Sibs Conference at the Embassy Suites in Dublin. For more information, contact Bobbi Montenegro at (330) 705-8367 or at www.ohiosibs.com.
- 14 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.
- 16 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 16,17,18 OCALICON, Greater Columbus Convention Center, for more information about the conference, contact OCALI at (614) 410-0321.
- 17 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 4 p.m.
- 17 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 24 Thanksgiving Day all county facilities closed.
- 25 Thanksgiving Recess Early Childhood, schools and adult facilities closed.
- 26 OSU Buckeyes v. Michigan football game, Ohio Stadium. Go Bucks!
- 30-12/2 OACB Annual Convention, Hilton Columbus at Easton Town Center, located at 3900 Chagrin Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43219.

OCALICON ~ Nov. 16-18

OCALICON, the nation's premier conference for autism, sensory disabilities and low-incidence disabilities will be held on November 16-18 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Over 1500 participants from across the country are expected to attend and select from over 150 sessions on topics ranging from classroom interventions to systemslevel capacity building. Over 200 scholars, practitioners and experts from across the nation will present.

For more details, call (614) 410-0321 or go to <u>www. ocalicon.org</u>.

