

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

Chamber, others support Issue 29

Franklin County's first MRDD levy in seven years has been gaining support from community leaders and organizations.

The levy, known as Issue 29, will go before voters in the primary election on Tuesday, March 4th. Passage will allow FCBMRDD to continue basic services.

At press time, endorsements of Issue 29 had been made by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Franklin County Family and Children First Council, the Council for Retarded

Franklin County ADAMH Board, Goodwill Columbus, the Educational Service Center of Franklin County, the YMCA of Central Ohio and the Columbus Speech and Hearing Center.

Endorsements were made also by broadcasting legend Jimmy Crum, Bishop James Griffin, Columbus City Auditor Hugh Dorrian, Representative Larry Flowers, Representative Jim McGregor, Bexley Mayor John Brennan and Whitehall Mayor John Wolfe.

Columbus City Council Member Charleta Tavares has introduced an

endorsement resolution which will be considered by the Council on February 4th.

Superintendent Jed Morison is pleased with the positive momentum.

"We're getting the message out that passage of Issue 29 will benefit our entire county, and people are receptive," he said.

See "Issue 29 - frequently asked questions" on p. 3 for more information.

Presidency goes to Ben Hale

Ben Hale will continue serving as head of the Franklin County Board of MRDD for another year.

He was elected President of the Board at its annual organizational meeting on January 24th. Other officers elected were Jerry Saunders, Vice President, and Helen Ninos, Secretary.

Mr. Hale has served as President since last February when he succeeded Dr. Raymond Horn, who passed away.

Mr. Hale is the Board's longest-serving member, having served from 1982 through 1990, and again from 1997 through the present.

In 2003, he was honored by the Ohio Association of County Boards of MRDD with its Ray Ferguson Advocacy Award.

An attorney, Mr. Hale is a partner in the firm of Smith and Hale, where he concentrates on land use and zoning.

Mr. Saunders is Chief Executive Officer and President of Africentric Personal Development Shop, Inc.

Ms. Ninos is Chief Operating Officer of United Way of Central Ohio.

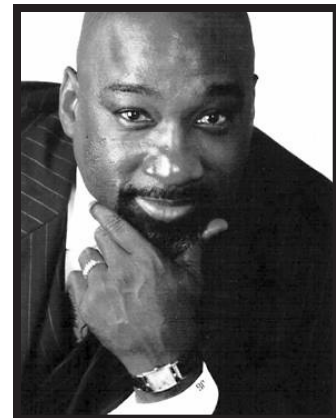
In other action, the Board approved the proposed 2008 Annual Action Plan. The plan contains strategies to meet projected needs as well as the agency's philosophy and vision statements.



Ben Hale



Helen Ninos



Jerry Saunders

Agency earns highest CARF outcome

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) has awarded FCBMRDD a 3-year accreditation, which is the longest term of accreditation granted by the organization.

In a report issued January 23rd, CARF complimented the agency's "exemplary conformance to the standards."

The report went on: "Its (FCBMRDD's) services are of high quality, and persons served as well as the community definitely benefit from the services provided."

The report praised FCBMRDD's Managing for Results initiative, "which enables the leadership to clearly define and focus on its vision, mission and individual results..."



COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION
OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES

Commendation was given also for FCBMRDD's "commitment to community-based employment training..." and its "... emphasis on quality and delivery of services..."

CARF's survey team visited FCBMRDD for three days last November. Their review covered eight areas of the agency's services for adults.

Commenting on the results of the survey, Superintendent Jed Morison said, "It is truly a credit to our staff that we received the longest possible CARF accreditation, particularly after having already received the longest possible accreditation from the state as well."

In May 2006, FCBMRDD received a 5-year accreditation from the Ohio Department of MRDD, which is the maximum period offered.

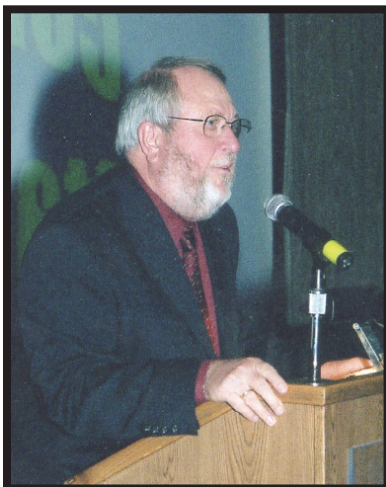
In preparation for the CARF review, FCBMRDD staff conducted a detailed self-review concerning each service area.

New speaker at United

FCBMRDD's Director of Planning Frank New will be guest speaker at the next meeting of Families United, which will be held Thursday, February 14th at 7 p.m. The location will be Overbrook Presbyterian Church, 4131 North High Street.

The topic will be the programs and services of FCBMRDD.

The public is invited.



Spare time guide now on web

ADD's Community Connections has designed a free website to provide information about free or low cost activities that are available in the Columbus and surrounding areas. This site has many different activity categories to choose from.

If you are looking for a resource guide, check out this site: <http://www.spare-time.org>.

Resource Fair set for Mar. 12

The Early Childhood Department's third annual Resource Fair will be held Wednesday, March 12th from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Early Childhood Education and Family Center, 2879 Johnstown Road.

Some participants will include Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, the Ohio Department of Education, Children's Hospital Autism Center, The Outreach Program for Soccer, Jewish Community Center and Habilitation Services, Inc.

Parents, staff and the public are welcome.

Questions may be directed to Carol Owens at 342-5854 or Gretchen Brooks at 342-5808.

Issue 29 -- frequently asked questions



Franklin County Commissioners have placed Issue 29, a levy to support FCBMRDD's services, on the March 4th primary election ballot.

What services will the levy support?

Money raised by Issue 29 will help maintain the basic services required by a growing number of people in Franklin County. These services include: early childhood classes for children from birth to 6 years; schools for children who have multiple disabilities, ages 6 to 21 years; home-based training services for children who are medically unable to attend programs; sheltered workshops, livings skills centers and community employment services for adults; services for senior citizens who have mental retardation or other developmental disabilities.

FCBMRDD also works with various community organizations including Goodwill, Easter Seals, Children's Hospital, the Childhood League and Special Olympics.

How much will it cost?

Issue 29 would have the effect of replacing two existing levies. A 1.65 mill, continuing levy passed in 1982 would be replaced, 1.85 mills would be added, while a separate 2.32 mill, ten-year levy passed in 1998 would be allowed to expire without renewal.

The owner of a \$100,000 home will pay approximately \$47 per year more if Issue 29 is passed, or less than \$1 per week.

Is the demand for services growing?

Yes. FCBMRDD served over 14,000 people in 2007 through its various programs and services. That number is projected to grow by 3 to 5 percent or more in future years.

This growth can be attributed to growth in the community generally, increased efforts to identify eligible individuals, better medical care, and awareness of physicians of available services.

Are these services getting results?

Yes. Some very positive results can be observed. For example, more than 2,000 adults with disabilities are employed thanks to FCBMRDD's programs. As a result, they are less dependent and more self-reliant. Also, 90 percent of those children leaving preschool can attend regular schools.

Is the agency fiscally prudent?

Yes. FCBMRDD's frugal approach to management has enabled the agency to avoid returning to the ballot since passage of a 3.5 mill levy in 2001. The agency's total staff has been trimmed from 1,675 in 2001 to 1,429 in 2007. In addition, the agency has used local tax support as matching funds to bring federal dollars into Franklin County.

How can I help?

The most important way to help is to vote on March 4th. If you are unsure of your polling place, you should call the Franklin County Board of Elections at 462-3100, or visit <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/boe/>. If you would like to volunteer in the Issue 29 campaign, you may call the Citizens Committee for Persons with Mental Retardation at 252-4900, or visit www.voteformrdd.com.

Dr. Horn honored posthumously

The American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has chosen the late Dr. Raymond Horn to receive its 2008 Education Award.

The award will be presented posthumously during the 132nd annual meeting of the organization to be held in Washington, D.C., on May 28th.

Dr. Horn served as a member of the Franklin County Board of MRDD from 2000 until his death last February. He previously served as Assistant Superintendent and Director of Special Education for the Ohio Department of Education before retiring in 1999.

He was the author of the state's Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. In 2003, he was honored by the state as a "Pioneer in Education."

Dr. Horn was survived by his wife Marylee, son Mark, and daughters Jo and Marsha.



Operation Feed to begin soon

For more than a quarter century, Operation Feed has provided food for needy families in Central Ohio. Hunger is most often a condition of poverty. In 2005 nearly one in five Columbus residents lived in poverty (\$19,350 for a family of four).

Hunger hurts the most vulnerable in our community. Forty percent of those helped by Operation Feed are children, more than ten per cent are senior citizens.

Last year FCBMRDD collected 8,034 pounds of food and \$11,700 in cash. That is the equivalent of 31,400 meals.

FCBMRDD staff, parents and consumers have always responded positively to this campaign. Anyone can make a donation of canned or boxed food to any FCBMRDD location or, write a check to Operation Feed and send it to the location of your choice.

Please help in this worthy cause.

The coordinators for the 2008 FCBMRDD Operation Feed campaign are:

- Josh Weisel** - Service Coordination
- Denise Henkel** - Early Childhood Learning Community
- Sarah Gillilan** - Early Childhood & Family Center
- Debbie Schafer, Bob McCarthy, Trish Potenza** - ARC ESD and Sales
- Amy Kulow** - Transprtation East Compound
- Dorcas Sharp** - Transprtation South Compound
- Priscilla George** - Transprtation West Compound
- Michael Davis, Amy Maginnis** - Administration
- Debbie Osborn, Judy Coffey** - W. Central School
- Mary Seelbach, Mary Sevy** - Northeast School
- Marianne Patronite** - ARC North
- Sue Taylor, Marsha Lowe** - ARC South
- Carolyn Dailey, Joellen Warner** - ARC West
- Mark Lowery, Rae Wilhelm** - Hague LSC
- Judy Cousins** - Bixby LSC

LOCATION	POUNDS	CASH	POINTS
ECLC	4th 689	\$828.00	4th 8,969
ECFC	373	3rd \$1,170.75	1,480.5
Northeast School	236	5th \$900.00	9,236
West Central School	302	1st \$2,214.10	1st 22,443
Hague LSC	91	\$215.40	2,245
Bixby LSC	298	\$147.60	1,774
ARC ESD	1st 2,782	\$506.00	5th 7,842
ARC West	217	\$670.50	6,922
ARC South	362	\$420.00	4,562
ARC East	5th 594	2nd \$2,121.00	2nd 21,804
ARC North	3rd 852	\$605.94	6,911.4
Transp. East	45	\$100.00	1,045
Transp. South	2nd 922	\$650.00	7,422
Transp. West	151		151
Service Coord.	120	4th \$1,150.71	3rd 11,620
Administration			
TOTAL	8,034	\$11,700.00	114,426.9

**True overall winners are in the 3rd column in blue blocks.
Places 1-5 are shown separately for each category.**

Every pound of food counts as 1 point, every dollar counts as ten points.

**Congratulations to everyone, this is our best year ever.
Thank you!!!**

“For the fun of it” scores a success



Scott Wallake received the trophy for men's high series. He rolled a 653!

Almost 300 FCBMRDD staff turned out at the “For the fun of it” tournament held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace on Saturday, January 26.

Superintendent Jed Morison distributed awards at the end of the day. Tonia Peoples won the female high series award for Service Coordination. Tonia scored a high 489. Scott Wallake tied Randy Cuenot for men's high series with 653. Scott was also part of the ARC South team that included Jeff Wisecarver, Donna Breedlove and Kelly Plantz for the high team series. Patricia Jordan of ARC ESD won the grand prize, a weekend stay at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North.

According to event coordinator Jack Brownley, over \$3,000 in proceeds was generated. “The most important benefit, he said, was that everyone had a good time.”

Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBMRDD Community

Administration staff members **Jack Brownley** and **Cindy Massenelli** coordinated the 3rd annual "For the Fun of It" bowling event held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace January 26th. Due to their hard work, hundreds enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon.

Robin Agler, a marketing consultant with ARC Industries since 2003, was selected by the Westerville Chamber of Commerce as recipient of its 2007 Chairman's Award. A volunteer with the organization, Robin co-chaired its golf outing last year.

The **Transportation Department** is helping the Ohio Highway Patrol train schoolbus inspectors from throughout the state. **Lt. John Boster** explains that the Patrol requested FCBMRDD's assistance in part because all the agency's mechanics are certified.



Tom Summerford (with flashlight) shows a group of trainees and supervisors from the Ohio Highway Patrol the elements of the bus undercarriage and particular problem spots.

ARC Industries South staff member **Jeff Wisecarver** was featured in the December issue of *Buckeye Bowler*. Jeff has posted forty-seven games of 300 and has four "Top 5" finishes in state tournaments.

Early Childhood staff member **Mary Martin** and Administration staff member **Carl Scott** coordinated another successful blood drive on January 18th. Thanks to their efforts, the Red Cross collected 28 units of blood.

Career Milestones

25 years

Mary Seelbach

20 years

Carl Curtis

John Huntzinger

Debra Rose

Shannon Shannon

15 years

Peter Williams

5 years

Jeffrey Baird

Brenda Carpenter

Bonnie Ford

Julie Maynard

Robert Miller

James Mounts

Valerie Pitts

Danielle Rayburn

David Schmitt

ARC North to raffle quilt

A hand made quilt is the prize for a raffle sponsored by ARC Industries North to be held on March 7. The quilt was made by staff members and measures 84" by 102".

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Please call 436-4800 for more information.



DSACO offers '08 calendar

The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio is offering a 2008 calendar, featuring colorful photos of association members.

For more information, please call 342-5757 or visit <http://dsaco.net>.



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

Superintendent Jed W. Morison

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 to the monthly publication and distribution of Dateline.

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ARC North open house set

ARC Industries North will hold an open house on Wednesday, February 7th, from 1 to 6 p.m.

The facility is located on the northside of Columbus at 6633 Doubletree Avenue.

For details, please call Nan Burns, Director, at 342-5402.

Calendar

February, 2008

- 4 Franklin County voter registration deadline.
- 12 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day!
- 14 Families United Meeting, 4131 N. High St., Columbus, 7 p.m.
- 18 Presidents Day - all county facilities closed.
- 20 FCBMRDD Human Resources Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4:30 p.m.
- 20 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 24 Flag Day
- 25 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 28 FCBMRDD Finance Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 28 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.

"Quotable quotes"

"Inclusion begins in our heart... When we open our hearts and our community to the gifts each person brings, we are all strengthened."

-- Cardinal Joseph Bernardin

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