

Dateline

October 2011

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"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"

Vote on Issue 22 set for November 8

FCBDD's 3.5 mill replacement levy, which will go before county voters on November 8th, is critically important.

Passage of the levy, known as Issue 22, is necessary for FCBDD to continue to provide basic services for six more years. These services are provided to over 16,000 children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Issue 22 Campaign Chairman Bill Wilkins praised FCBDD's work. "They have an outstanding track record of balancing the need to take care of these 16,000 people with the need to watch the bottom line," he said.



The 3.5 mill replacement levy will replace a 3.5 mill levy that expires next year. More details on the levy will be available on the following website: VoteFORIssue22.org.

Regarding the levy campaign, Superintendent Jed Morison was cautiously optimistic, "We are off to a good start and expect good support from our community." He added that a literature distribution will be conducted in the final ten days of the campaign, in which over 200,000 leaflets will be distributed door-to-door.

Justice Chetwood, a preschooler at the Early Childhood Education and Family Center.

"It's about giving back!" is charitable theme

FCBDD staff have launched the 2011 Combined Charitable Campaign. The theme for the campaign is "We all have something to give... it's about giving back!"

The annual drive asks agency employees to contribute money to charitable causes of their choice. Last year FCBDD led all the Franklin County agencies in funds contributed.

The campaign will run through October 28th.

Overall coordinator of the 2011 campaign is Jennifer Schueneman. "Our staff have a great record of supporting the campaign. We're hoping for another strong showing," Jennifer said.



Adult services planning continues

As program enrollment, philosophies, rules and funding evolve and change, planning for adult services continues for ARC Industries and FCBDD.

Under the direction of Marcy Samuel, Director of Program Operations, and John Mitchem, Director of Adult Services/ CEO ARC Industries, the Adult Services directors have been discussing the future. As Board member Jean Williams asked “what will we be in several years?” Discussions have centered on several factors that will influence future services,

Issues and Factors

Funding

One of those factors is funding, so future plans will also relate to “Stability 2011” planning. The recent state budget resulted in reductions of almost \$5 million in state subsidies and an estimated projected loss of over \$20 million in tangible personal property tax replacement funding. Superintendent Jed Morison states that our goal must be to “preserve basic services and our hope is to do this without layoffs if we plan far enough ahead.”

Olmstead

State and federal pressures are also influencing future direction. According to State Director John Martin, the Federal Department of Justice has recently questioned “Sheltered Workshops” in some states, indicating that “segregated” settings may not be consistent with the intent of Olmstead. Olmstead was a lawsuit where the Supreme Court ruled that unnecessary segregation of individuals with disabilities violates the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Employment First Initiative

According to Marcy Samuel, the concept of “Employment First” has been adopted by many states and is now an initiative of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Individuals are encouraged to seek community *employment first*, before considering sheltered employment.

While ARC Industries Sheltered Workshops continue to be an important alternative, increased emphasis is being placed on transitioning from school directly to employment. Future state and federal rules and incentives are expected to encourage more community employment.

Enrollment Shifts

One other factor that is influencing future planning is enrollment trends. Now that many private Medicaid providers are offering habilitation and employment services, there are more choices for adults. ARC Industries and the Living Skills Centers are no longer “the only game in town!” This has resulted in some enrollment shifts from

our adult services programs to other community-based programs, all of which are funded with Medicaid and FCBDD dollars.

Future Plans

What does this all mean to FCBDD, ARC Industries, and the Living Skills Centers? According to Superintendent Morison, it means we need to continue to proactively customize our services to meet needs, to fill gaps where services are needed and to partner with other community organizations. History suggests that our services in the future may be quite different. If we don’t gradually change and adapt to all these factors, we may have much less control of our options in the future. We expect to continue to serve more people, just in different ways.

Based on these trends, the Adult Service’s Directors have developed several ideas for future consideration and are now asking for input and suggestions from those we serve, their families and staff. Following input, decisions will be made regarding future plans, including implementation and timelines. Please send suggestions to John Mitchem, CEO of ARC Industries or Marcy Samuel, Director of Program Operations at 2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, Ohio 43219 or to the following email address: fcbddwebsite@aol.com.

The ideas will be presented in question format to encourage response:

- Recognizing that less than 25% of ARC Industries individuals and staff purchase lunches, should the food service operations of ARC Industries be closed?
- Should the current Workshops become more specialized, with one or two focused on work, one focused on the arts, gardening and retail and another focused on habilitation?
- If enrollment in the adult services declines, should one location close?

Adult Planning from p.2

- If one location closes, should the ARC Industries Business Office be relocated to that building, recognizing that the Marilyn Lane building is leased?
- Should ARC Industries establish some smaller, agency-owned businesses in the community and if so, what types of businesses (e.g. café or art studio)?
- Should some staff throughout adult services be redeployed to support community employment as the need arises?
- Should greater emphasis be placed on training individuals to use public transportation to enhance their independence?
- Should an *employment first* initiative be initiated, with greater emphasis on career exploration and integrated work environments prior to placement in a workshop?
- What other suggestions do you have?

According to Marcy Samuel, it is important to remember that we are still in the planning stages and these ideas are listed to generate comment. Following input, more concrete proposals and timelines will be communicated.

Dr. Gee endorses levy

The Ohio State University President Dr. E. Gordon Gee has announced his endorsement of Issue 22, the developmental disabilities replacement levy, which is on the November 8th ballot. An excerpt from Dr. Gee's letter follows:

The Ohio State University is proud to partner with the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities in several capacities, most notably being

the Board's work with Ohio State's Nisonger Center. The Nisonger Center provides vital services to our community members with developmental disabilities - including preschool programs and dental clinics - and support from the Board is crucial to the center's success.

The Board also plays a significant role in the wider Franklin County community. In 2010, the Board

provided services to more than 16,000 children. The passage of Issue 22 is vital to the Board's continued good work.

Please know of my best personal wishes for the coming fall.

Nisonger taking survey on Down syndrome

The Ohio State University Medical Center and Nisonger Center are working together to investigate the health of Ohioans with Down syndrome. Research shows that people with Down syndrome are at a higher risk for developing chronic health problems than the general population.

It has also been reported that people with Down syndrome have a more difficult time accessing appropriate medical services when they get sick, and sometimes physicians lack the appropriate training or comfort level in dealing with their unique needs.

Nisonger Center is seeking participants to complete an online questionnaire to help assess the health characteristics and access to health care services of adults with Down syndrome. The information will allow researchers to see problems in current health care training of medical professionals.

If you are the parent or legal guardian, grandparent, adult sibling, or caregiver of an adult (over 18 years old) with Down syndrome, you are eligible to participate in this online health survey. Sample questions will include: "Does this person have a primary care

doctor?" "When was this person's last cancer screening?" The questions should be completed regarding the adult with Down syndrome.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating, the following web address will take you to the survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/DS_Health_Survey.

If questions, please contact: Marc J. Tassé, Principal Investigator at 292-2390 or by email at Marc.Tasse@osumc.edu or Matt Grover, Study Coordinator at 247-4801 or by email at Matthew.Grover@osumc.edu.

Living Skills Centers create beautiful art!

The Franklin County Recreation Department started serving the Living Skills Centers in the afternoons. New activities have been developed with the program to give people more options for getting involved. Many activities have been taking place at the Living Skills Centers, such as: musical chairs, obstacle courses, nature walks, picture bingo, wheelchair kickball, paper mâché, and even working with modeling clay. Recreation Assistant Ed Ruiz says, "Kickball has shown to be a very popular sport."

Everyone is invited and encouraged to take part in any activities put on by the department. "We have a regular group of people who like to come and participate. We are always very happy with the turnout," according to Mike Butchko, Recreation Specialist. Participants at Bixby and Hague Living Skills Center have taken a special liking to the art projects. They have decorated their lobbies with paper mâché artwork completed by those who participated in the art activity.



Photo courtesy Linda Monroe.

The green spot

FCBDD will be joining other leading organizations in central Ohio in becoming a partner in Consider Biking's 2 BY 2012 program.

2 BY 2012 is a new bicycling program available to all central Ohio businesses and organizations. It is one of the featured campaigns for the Columbus Bicentennial celebration.

The community goal of 2 BY 2012 is for every central Ohio resident to use a bicycle, instead of a car, to get to work or school or for running errands at least twice a month by the Columbus Bicentennial in 2012. To support this community goal, FCBDD will soon develop its own bicycling goal.

Bicyclists using RideNet now earn the Small Business Beanstalk Bicycle card, which provides discounts at more than 400 independent Central Ohio retailers, restaurants and service providers. The more you bicycle and log your rides on RideNet, the deeper the discounts you earn at bicycle friendly businesses!

So, if you want to train, take the family out for a weekend spin, commute to work or bicycle to the corner coffee shop, the 2 BY 2012 program has something for you.

by Brenda Toney



Oct. 11 is registration deadline

If you wish to vote in the upcoming election you must register by October 11th.

You can register at any public library or at the Franklin County Board of Elections, 280 E. Broad Street.

Eligible voters must be 18 years old. A driver's license or other form of identification is required.

For details on voter registration, please call the Franklin County Board of Elections at 525-3100.

Franklin County Flyers Softball

The Franklin County Flyers' three regulation softball teams and skills team competed in the Area 6 Tournament, the qualifier for the State Softball Tour., on August 17, 2011. While unfortunately our regulation teams were not able to advance to the State competition our skills team did advance to Toledo, Ohio on September 10, 2011. The Flyers' team consisted of 20 athletes competing in areas of: throwing for distance and accuracy, running bases for speed, and hitting off the tee for distance. The tournament results are based on individuals' scores. We are very proud of all the teams that competed in both tournaments. For information regarding the softball tournament or other sports, contact Ryan Phillips, the Special Olympics Coordinator, at 342-5984 or ryan.phillips@fcbdd.org. Also, check us out on Facebook at Franklin County Special Olympics!



Jennifer Curtis and Laura Leeper were worn out after a long competition.



Ron Price and Darryl Beckles atop the podium.



Jesse Climer exhibiting some of the excitement that earned him a gold medal.

Photos by Ryan Phillips



October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October has been designated as National Disability Employment Awareness Month to promote the contributions of workers with disabilities.

The theme for this month is "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities" to highlight the fact that workers with disabilities represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help

employers compete effectively in the global economy.

The Employment Service Department of FCBDD will support this effort. Matching skilled individuals with the right job and then following through with training or coaching and help with benefits are some of the services provided. Each month, *Dateline* features a success story about a person employed in the community.



Bowling now at 2 locations

Franklin County's Recreation Department is offering bowling at two locations on Saturdays.

Bowling will continue at Columbus Square Bowling Palace (Palace Lanes) from 9 to 11. Games will cost \$2 and shoe rental is free. Bowlers may bowl up to three games.

Bowling will also be offered at Stardust Lanes in Grove City from 12

to 2 p.m. Games are \$2.25 each with free shoe rental. Bowlers may bowl up to three games.

A community activity will be available on Saturdays when bowling is not scheduled. For November and December, bowling will be offered two Saturdays, and community activities one Saturday because of holiday weekends.

Sawmill Lanes in northwest Columbus is no longer able to offer bowling as it has in the past. Bowlers from Sawmill Lanes are encouraged to sign up for bowling at either Palace Lanes or Stardust Lanes for the fall quarter.

Les Gillispie completes 23 years at Buckeye ShapeForm

Leslie "Les" Gillispie started working at Buckeye Stamping, now known as Buckeye ShapeForm, over 23 years ago. He works there full-time as a janitor. Les cleans offices, restrooms, and the floor of the factory, to name just a few of his daily tasks.

According to Andy Cable, Les' supervisor of 5 years, "Les is a stellar employee. He is here everyday and a pleasure to work with."

In addition to working Monday through Thursday, Les is very active in the DD community. He is an avid reader of the FCBDD "Dateline" publication, participates in Special Olympics

bowling, attends the monthly dances held at West Central School, and goes to the Spaghetti Dinner that is held at Northeast School every Spring. Les also makes it a point to stay in contact with not only his current FCBDD staff, but former staff as well.

One thing that Les is able to do that fascinates people, is, if given any month, day, and year, he is able to tell you on what day of the week that specific date fell. Congratulations to Les Gillispie on maintaining an excellent work record.

Photo by Michael Japack.



Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

Career Milestones

One of the senior-level classes from **West Central School** decided to check out the Scioto Mile in downtown Columbus recently. The class took pictures of the beautiful scenery so they could make posters to hang in the classroom. They ate lunch near one of the many fountains and watched a film crew make a commercial on the Santa Maria. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful walk and wonderful weather.



From left are: Assistant Instructor Kathy Ahlers, David Cope, Calvin Martin, Calib Thomas, Assistant Instructor Homer Green and Mary O'Day.

The **Recreation Department** has continued to see many familiar faces as well as engage new friends in unique and exciting recreation opportunities. This past quarter, classes in fine arts and gardening were offered, both community-based, as well as a 4-week football class. Several one-time experiences including t-shirt painting, computer skills training, tram rides at local parks, and karaoke were offered. Field trips to the Wilds, the Air Force Museum, and a Cincinnati Reds game, were popular picks too! For more information on FCBDD's Recreation Program, Please contact **Andrea Stonebraker** at 342-5989 or by email at Andrea.Stonebraker@fcbdd.org.

Shifting Perspectives is the name of an exhibit of photographs on display at the **Dublin Arts Council** through November 4th. The photos depict everyday interactions of people with Down syndrome. The exhibit, which has already traveled to Turkey, Canada and Colombia, is making its U.S. debut. The Dublin Arts Council is located at 7125 Riverside Drive. For more information, please call 889-7444.

A tip of the hat goes to **Julie Conley**, a training specialist at ARC Industries North. She is also

a Specialist in the U.S. Army and will soon begin a tour of duty in Afghanistan. The tour is expected to last one year. Thanks, Julie, for your dedicated services, and best of luck!

Blood drives will be held at Administration and the Hague Living Skills Center on October 7th. At Administration, the times will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Hague the times will be 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Staff from other locations are welcome to donate at either Administration or Hague. Please call for an appointment at ext. 5974 (**Carl Scott**) or ext. 5209 (**Beverly Mann**).

30 years
Ann Horton

25 years
Nancy Sommer
Paul Wolfe

15 years
Nina Lechleiter
Joseph Regan

10 years
Lee Childs
Thelma Covey
Darleen Hayhurst
Silicia Hedges
Rita Hopson
Lois Lindsey
Kristoffer Potridge
Steven Sparks
Anne Tipton
Adrian Tolbert

5 years
Maisie Batchler
Monica Klein
Aparna Kommareddi
Karen Reynolds
Shannah Risor
Latonya Wells

Barn dance planned for October 21

Franklin County's Recreation Department will be hosting a barn dance on October 21st from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Big Run Park Shelterhouse on the far westside at 4201 Clime Rd., Columbus.

The dance will be an opportunity for Recreation Gala Square Dancers to show off the steps they learned during the summer quarter. Square dancing and line dancing will both be featured throughout the evening, with opportunities for everyone to join in.

John Wargowski, professional square dance caller, will be providing the music for the evening. Many volunteers from area square dancing clubs will also be at the dance to assist dancers and have fun.

Admission to the dance will be \$3 per person, which includes refreshments and a souvenir photo. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up soon.

Roger Murphy remembered

Roger Murphy, former FCBDD board member, passed away August 16th at the age of 66.

Roger served on the board from 1990 through 1996. He had been instrumental in establishing Creative Housing, Inc. in 1980 which he also served as a board member for several years.

Among other things, Roger's vision led to the donation and development of a playground at Northeast School, and the establishment of a facility adjacent to ARC Industries West serving young adults. Roger also served as a board member of Ohio Special Olympics.

Roger served in the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant from 1968 to 1971, which included service in the Viet Nam war. He was an avid runner, completing 8 marathons.

According to Superintendent Jed Morison, "Roger was a special guy. He had a great sense of humor, was very supportive and provided great service to our board and this community. He certainly will be missed."



Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or handicap.

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

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Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

is always available on the internet at:

www.fcbdd.org

October, 2011

- 5 Community Star Awards banquet at Villa Milano, 5:30 p.m. Please call 342-5950 for details.
- 5,6,7 OSDA/ PAR Conference in Dublin, For details, call 937-776-0502 or 614-679-0194.
- 10 Columbus Day - all county facilities closed.
- 11 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 19 Family Support (formerly Parent League) meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 20 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 20 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 24 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m
- 26 Self Advocacy Conference, Xenos on 4th Street
- 31 Happy Halloween!