

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

Director Martin meets with board's senior staff

Director John Martin of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) was a special guest at the May 13th meeting of FCBDD senior management staff. He had accepted an invitation extended by FCBDD Superintendent Jed Morison earlier in the year.

Director Martin reviewed statewide strategic planning efforts and the challenges involved in complying with a new federal rule requiring that home and community-based waiver services be provided in the most integrated settings appropriate to meet consumers' needs.

The rule -- which became effective March 17th -- emphasizes integrated settings, employment and conflict-free case management.

"About half the states have some conflict in case management," he said. "We don't know yet how aggressive federal officials will be in this regard."

States are required to develop transition plans to ensure compliance with the new rule. DODD has established a committee to assist with the development of Ohio's plan. Superintendent Morison has been named to the committee.



DODD Director John Martin

The 13 staff members attending were asked to cite notable accomplishments and areas where help is needed.

Superintendent Morison thanked Director Martin "for taking time out of a very busy schedule to attend our meeting and for all the excellent support you provide for people with disabilities."

Teresa Kobelt moving to state policy post



Teresa Kobelt, Adult Services Director

FCBDD Adult Services Director Teresa Kobelt has accepted a new position as Assistant Deputy Director of Policy and Strategic Direction for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD).

She will begin her new role in late June, by which point she will have spent 27 months as Adult Services Director. She expects her experience at FCBDD will prove "invaluable" in the new post.

"Many of the issues facing the state and nation right now are the same as those we are facing locally, so I will be able to take along many lessons I've learned here."

Looking back on her service with FCBDD, Teresa points to several highlights, including eliminating exclusionary time-out, implementing a new enrollment process, and increasing wages and expanding benefits for all ARC employees.

"I am proud of the strong team that is Adult Services. I had little to do with that -- almost all were here before me -- but they are such a cohesive unit. That's why we were able to accomplish so much."

Commenting on Teresa's departure, Superintendent Jed Morison said, "Teresa brought excellent leadership and vision to our Adult Services program for which we are very grateful. We are pleased to know she'll be continuing to work in our field at the state level and wish her the best."

Kay Nophsker retires after 16 years

Kay Nophsker, Psychology Department secretary, retired on May 30th. She had worked with the department for 16 years.

Kay was the behind-the-scenes manager of behavior support databases; organizer of all required behavior support reviews; typist/ reviewer of procedure manuals; and the force behind the day-to-day operations of the department. She served as the bridge for the transitions of three different department directors.

Kay was honored with a FCBDD Community Star Award for Support Staff in 2013.

Prior to coming to work for FCBDD, Kay was a teacher of business classes and Chairperson of the Business Department for Marion City Schools. She also taught business classes at Marion Technical College.

Commenting on Kay's retirement, Superintendent Jed Morison said "She was well known for her efficiency and helpful attitude. We will all miss Kay very much."

Kay is looking forward to not having a set schedule or daily routine. "I'm excited to be able to do what I want when I want," she said.



Kay Nophsker

Do marathons bore you?

Why just run a race when you can crawl through mud, jump from a 2-story high plank or take a dip in a dumpster full of ice water?

Seven Special Olympics coaches and supporters, including Director Ryan Phillips, tackled that challenge



Matt Furr, Greg Gernert, Alan Beymer, Wayne Bateman, Jake Howdyshell, Ryan Phillips, C.H. Waterman

in the Tough Mudder competition in Mansfield on May 17th. The 10 mile, 25 obstacle course included obstacles like Boa Constrictor, Mud Mile, Electroshock Therapy (with electric wires charged with 10,000 volts) and Walk the Plank.

According to Ryan Phillips, the most challenging obstacle was the Arctic Enema. "It is a giant dumpster filled with literally tons of ice and a little water. The tough part is the large wooden plank that forces you underwater. It is ingenious and a little sick."

Coach Alan Beymer, who led in fundraising, explained why he likes the event. "I look forward not only to the challenge of the Tough Mudder but also the camaraderie that comes along with a group of friends working together to finish it."

Board supports "dream field"

At its monthly meeting on May 15th, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities passed a resolution in support of the Grove City Little League's proposed "Dream Field" to help allow persons with disabilities the chance to play baseball.

A specially designed field is planned for Windsor Park in Grove City. Only one similar park exists in central Ohio, that being at Darree Fields in Dublin.



Earth Day 2014

Early Childhood children, families, staff and community volunteers celebrated Earth Day 2014 on Saturday, April 26th with activities for the children and outdoor work in the outdoor learning environments for the adult volunteers.

Children's activities included creating plantable paper using recycled paper and donated flower seeds, and building homemade bird feeders from pine cones, seeds and soy butter to improve wildlife habitat.

Staff members, parents, PNC Bank and community volunteers weeded the edible garden areas to prepare for spring and summer programming with Farmer Paul and cut back pathways in the outdoor learning environments to create better access for the children.



The pictures tell the story

The April 25th edition of *Columbus Business First* featured a story about the "untapped work force" of persons with developmental disabilities. In that connection, photographer Janet Adams visited ARC Industries West and found many picture-taking opportunities. She has graciously shared the results.

Photos by Janet Adams, Photographer for Columbus Business First.



Danielle Williams, Barry Adams



Michael Flynn



Mariann Brush, Tim Preslin





Joe Waters



Justin Farley

Margo Crabtree, Daniel Wycuff

We'd love to have you by Susan Coffey

As a student intern at Service Coordination for the past few months, I learned a lot about the funding and paperwork that goes into providing services for individuals with disabilities. Wanting to spend more time getting to know the individuals we serve, I signed up to be the Special Olympics office intern this summer.

Being a Special Olympics intern can mean many different things: data entry, label making, uniform packing, photo collage making, etc. But most importantly, it means that I am able to spend every Thursday evening coaching the best Track and Field team in town. Our track athletes work on a variety of skills every practice, including individual running, relays, and field events.

The team's first track meet took place at Denison University on May 4th, where all of our athletes competed in multiple events and enjoyed a fun day outside. The following week, our next track meet



(L-R) Marty Bernicker, Khalil Carter, Nikei Tyler, Natasha Masser, Bob Smith, David Browne.

was unfortunately cancelled due to bad weather. While I was expecting our athletes to be relieved to get out of the rain and go home, many of them were very disappointed by the cancellation and wanted to stay. These attitudes show how much our athletes love coming to Special Olympics and value the time spent with their friends and coaches.

Currently, we're preparing for and looking forward to taking 30 of our track athletes to State Summer Games, in addition to about 70 other athletes from the other spring sports. Summer Games is a 3 day competition extravaganza held at OSU from June 27-29th. The athletes compete against other Special Olympics teams from all over the state and many have reported that past Summer Games have been "the best weekend ever."

Overall, coaching our Track and Field team has been an awesome experience and I look forward to continue coaching in years to come. If you need a break from paperwork and can spare a few hours each week, consider coaching for a Special Olympics team. You'll form new friendships with athletes and coaches, and get a weekly reminder of how great our athletes are and why you enjoy working for this agency.

Susan Coffey is a student at OSU and an intern with Service Coordination and Special Olympics.

In memoriam

Mary Jo Ritter

Mary Jo Ritter, who served on the staff of Bixby Living Skills Center, passed away on April 16th. She had served at Bixby for 15 years.

Mary Jo and her late husband, Donald Ritter, were the parents of Mary Ellen, Gary Allen and Buster. They also had many foster children over the years.

A mass of Christian burial was held April 23rd at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church on Refugee Rd.



Ron Schull

Ron Schull died on April 21st. Retired in 2002, he had been employed by FCBDD for almost 30 years. He was the purchasing agent and storeroom supervisor.

Ron was a member of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish and the Columbus Table Tennis Club.

Ron's funeral was held in his hometown of Shelby, Ohio at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church. He was survived by his wife Caryl Jo.

Bertha Branham

Bertha Braham passed away on May 8th. She retired in 1987 after serving as FCBDD's Transportation Director since 1971.

Along with her late husband, Frank, she was active as a volunteer with the old Council for Retarded Children in the 1950s. In 1953, they began to drive the old Willy Jeeps then used for transporting children to and from classes.

Bertha was a World War II veteran, having served in the navy from 1946. 1943 to Superintendent Jed Morison reflected on Bertha's service: "She was a wonderful person, who had a positive impact on the lives of many."

Joe Gilbert

Joe Gilbert, former Training Specialist at ARC Industries South, passed away on May 14th. Joe had retired in January after serving FCBDD for 30 years at ARC Industries South. He had also served at VOCA and Goodwill.

Joe was a skilled trainer, strong consumer advocate and dedicated service provider. He was also a gifted guitar player and had a great sense of humor, both of which he shared on a regular basis.

Joe was survived by his wife, Jeri, and their two children, Russell and Leslie.

Good for you Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Mary Beth Ray was commissioned a Lieutenant on May 1st and graduated from OSU's College of Medicine on May 4th. The daughter of Psychology Director Angela Ray, Lt. Ray will serve her first year of residency in family medicine at Bremerton Naval Hospital in Washington beginning June 9th.



Lt. Mary Beth Ray

Director Kevin Miller of **Opportunities for Ohioans** was the special guest of **Christine Brown** and the **Ohio Self Determination Association** Central Region meeting on May 7th. The meeting was held at Whitehall Community Park, 402 N. Hamilton Rd.

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Kevin Miller, Christine Brown

Mohamed Conde of Dungarvin Ohio of Columbus was chosen 2014 Direct Support Professional of the Year for Ohio by the American Network of Community Options and Resources. "This award recognizes the commitment Mohamed has shown to support people with disabilities," said Jennifer Gulley, Dungarvin Senior Director.

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The following Adult Services staff members have received certification from the National Safety Council as instructors in First Aid, CPR and AED: Kara Bradrick, Mike Dancho, Angel Hawkins, Karen Holman, Beverly Mann, Rick Robertson, Michael Russell, Corrine Suver, Grace Terry, Sandy Turner, Pam Waite, and Faye Williams.

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Pat Cloppert, Manager for Parent and Family Support at the Nisonger Center, was recognized by the center with the first ever Nisonger Champion Award. The award was presented at a dinner on May 1st by Nisonger Director Mark Tassé and Assistant Director Paula Rabidoux. Congratulations, Pat!

Career Milestones

25 years Marguerite Crabtree

20 years Levester Jackson Sandi Kyle Larry Macintosh Eyevette Redman

15 years Jeffery Hudson

10 years

James Blakeslee Michelle Moxley Jeffrey Wisecarver

5 years

Donna Dudley Jessica Gill Ivan Harrington Aziza Long

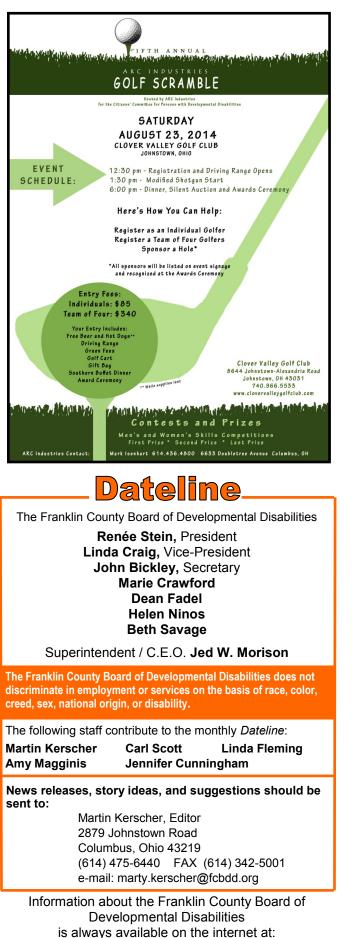
Here's a shout-out for **Brittany Seymour**, a student at Northeast School. One of Brittany's drawings has been selected for display and Nationwide Children's Hospital's Child Development Autism Center, 187 Schrock Rd., Westerville. The drawing will be on display through the remainder of the year.

Andy Lund is the delivery van driver for Value Added Business Services. After successfully completing training with FCBDD's Job Placement Department, Andy took the job in 2009. He delivers office and janitorial supplies as well as furniture to many places in central Ohio, occasionally making runs to southern Ohio as well. Andy reportedly knows the area well and is much appreciated by his customers.

Northeast School held its annual prom on April 25th. With the theme "Garden Party," students enjoyed music, dancing and an excellent buffet prepared by chefs Ben Mulinex and James Lawless-Gibson. Desmon Eane and Molly Curry were chosen king and queen. Committee members were: Teresa Mulinex, Carol Weaver, Sharon Skaggs, Bonnie Dowell, Elizabeth Baumhachl, Monica Klein, Gina James, and Robyn Wright.



Northeast Prom Committee



Calendar

June, 2014

- 10 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 12 FCBDD Self-Advocate Advisory Council, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10 a.m.
- 14 Flag Day
- 15 Father's Day
- 23 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 23 School-age Summer Center begins, West Central School.
- 24 ECE Summer Center begins, 2879 Johnstown Rd.
- 25 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd.,9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.(changed from June 18th)
- 26 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 26 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 27-29 Ohio Special Olympics, the Ohio State University. Please call Andrea Stonebraker at 342-5989 for details.

July, 2014

- 4 Independence Day all county facilities closed.
- 16 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd.,9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 24 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 24 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 25 School-age Summer Center programs end.
- 28 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 31 ECE Summer Center programs end.

"Quotable quote"

"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80."

-- Henry Ford

