

Ben Hale remembered

Ben W. Hale, Jr., former President of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, passed away on May 28, 2015.

According to Superintendent Morison, "Ben served longer than any other Board member and leaves an impressive legacy that will positively impact the lives of thousands of people for years to come."

Ben was first appointed to the Board in 1982, when he served for eight years. During his tenure, he provided the leadership to establish four residential sites located on Morse Road, Dierker Road, Kimberly Woods Parkway, and McDowell Road in Grove City.

In the 1980s, when some were resistant to having "group homes" in their neighborhoods, Ben came up with the novel idea to build our residential properties first and let the neighborhoods build up around us. His zoning and development expertise with his law firm of Smith and Hale, allowed him to know of sites where future development was likely to occur. The four sites developed included six, four bedroom apartments that are now funded with state and federal Medicaid funds.

Following his first eight years on the Board, Ben continued to volunteer, including his work to establish Creative Housing, Inc. On July 10, 1991, Creative Housing had their first corporate meeting with the following people present: Ben Hale, Roger Murphy, Bob Albright, Jed Morison, Martin Kerscher and Patrick Raffer. Ben Hale was the first Chair of the Board. Creative Housing now has over 400 properties in Franklin County that provide a home for people with developmental disabilities.

In 1997, Ben Hale was again appointed to the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities by the County Commissioners. He would serve another twelve years, again serving as President for some of these years. During his second term, the Board passed levies in 1998, 2001 and 2008 and Ben provided additional leadership on statewide committees. In 2003, he was recognized by the Ohio Association of County Boards with its Advocacy Award.



Ben and Jan Hale were grand marshalls at the Marshall University Homecoming parade in 2013.



Benjamin W. Hale, Jr.



Ben W. Hale, Jr. speaks at groundbreaking ceremony for Kimberly woods in 1984.

Ben Hale was a visionary leader with a generous and compassionate spirit. He had a gift of bringing people together with solutions that will have a lasting impact.

He is survived by his wife, Jan, daughters Susan, who is served by FCBDD, and Sarah Underhill and family.

We were fortunate to know Benjamin W. Hale, Jr.

CMS update on conflict free issue

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) has heard back from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the issue of "Conflict Free Case Management."

CMS has told state officials that County Boards of DD will have until March of 2024 to stop providing home and community based services directly. Since Case Management services are provided by County Boards, CMS has indicated it is a conflict if County Boards also provide home and community based services directly. Home and community based services are funded by Medicaid Waivers, including the IO, Level 1, SELF and TDD waivers.

CMS has also said that the State has until 2020 to reduce home and community based services provided by County Boards to no more than 30% of the services provided to individuals who are supported with Medicaid waivers. In other words, County Boards of DD will need to be sure that private Providers are serving 70% of the

individuals who have Medicaid waivers by 2020 and 100% of the individuals by 2024.

This announcement will require the FCBDD Board and the ARC Board to consider future plans and timing on when home and community based services will be privatized. This primarily impacts adult services and adult transportation, which are both funded partially with Medicaid Home and Community Based waivers. This ruling does not apply to early childhood and school services.

According to Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO "similar to when our residential services were privatized over 10 years ago, we are confident that services and staffing will be maintained in a stable and quality manner. In light of this, I have asked Dot Yeager and Marcy Samuel to head up our planning effort to develop recommendations on how we proceed. We are pleased that we will have more time to consider options."

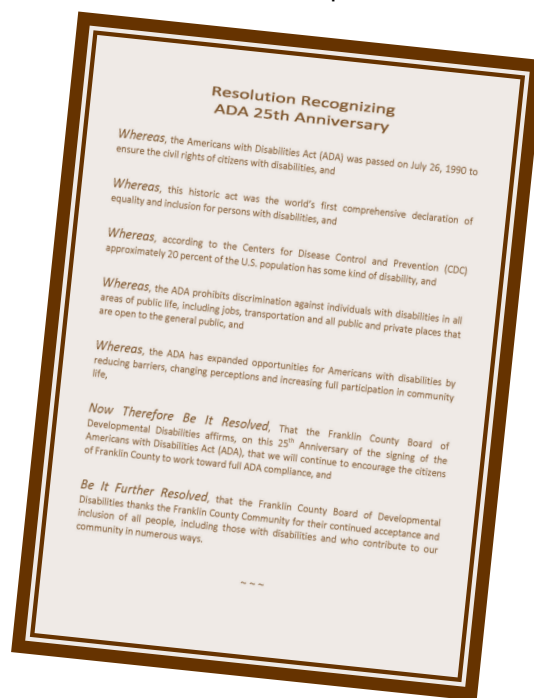
ADA celebrates 25 years

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will celebrate 25 years on July 26, 2015.

In recognition of this, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities has passed a resolution to support events that are planned to recognize this landmark legislation. The ADA Columbus Planning Committee is scheduling a Community Welcome Reception on July 22nd at Columbus State Community College and on July 23rd, vendors, information tables and a special evening concert will be held at Columbus Commons.

The ADA Legislation was signed by President George H.W. Bush. The bill gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age and religion.

For additional details on the celebration, contact ada25columbus@gmail.com or call (614) 575-8055.



Michael Ross appointed Principal

Mike Ross has been appointed to the position of Principal of West Central School.



Michael Ross

Mike comes to the position after serving for nine years as Assistant Principal at West Central. His prior experience includes teaching, service as Lead Vocational Instructor at Goodwill Columbus, principal at Bishop Rosecrans High School in Zanesville and at Saint Vincent de Paul Elementary School in Mt. Vernon. He has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Ashland University.

About his appointment to the Principal position, Mike said "I am excited about this opportunity and look forward to working with great staffs from both Northeast and West

Central. It is a pleasure and privilege to serve these children, their families and this community."

Jack Brownley, Director of Schools and Special Programs, indicated that "Mike Ross is the right person for the job. His enthusiasm, experience and responsiveness will result in excellent leadership as we merge both Northeast and West Central and continue on our path of providing strong transitional services."

Bonnie Ford, former Principal of Northeast School, will continue as Principal, supervising and supporting all the classes located in Reynoldsburg and Southwestern City School buildings. A Curriculum Supervisor position will also be filled to support the curriculum at West Central and the collaborative sites.

Best wishes to Mike Ross!

FCBDD/ OSU vocational partnership

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities has entered into a unique partnership with The Ohio State University to provide career discovery, job shadowing, internships and instruction.

This Pre-Vocational Integrated Education and Campus Experience (PIECE) project is the first of its kind to help adults who are enrolled in facility based programs to explore community jobs or experiences.

An important feature of the program is also to provide Adult Services staff with ideas to prepare individuals for community experiences. The 10 week summer campus experience at The Ohio State University will include skill building and internships at the University. Twelve individuals are enrolled and six FCBDD staff are participating with University faculty, staff and students.

For details on the program, call Bob Gaston, FCBDD Director of Adult Services at (614) 475-7007.



Some of the individuals participating in the PIECE program show their enthusiasm.



Dynalab and DSW honored with best practices by Kris Potridge

The Ohio Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) recently honored two companies for their efforts in furthering the employment progress of people with disabilities.

Dynalab, a design and manufacturing organization serving the electronic industry was recognized with a 2015 Best Practice Award. Over the years, through a partnership with Franklin County Board of DD and ARC Industries, Dynalab has employed 11 individuals with developmental disabilities and currently have 7 associates employed receiving services from FCBDD.

Dynalab has also been active within business advisory committees for ARC Industries and has publically pledged their support for ARC Industries. An example of this can be found at <http://www.myfox28columbus.com/news/features/good-day-marketplace/stories/GDM-ARC-Industries-99186.shtml>.

Designer Shoe Warehouse (DSW) was also presented a 2015 Best Practice Award. DSW has partnered with Franklin County Board of DD, ARC Industries, Fairfield County Board of DD and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities to create a logistics internship under the Project SEARCH model. Six individuals have completed the internship to date with all finding employment within the logistics field. DSW has been instrumental in being a host site and helping design the program to provide the interns with valuable world applications.

Both Dynalab and DSW exemplify companies realizing the valuable contributions all job seekers can bring to any organization.



Sherry Nickell-Simko accepting on behalf of Dynalab.



Doug Billy and Ernestine Carmon accepting on behalf of Jeff Girard and DSW.

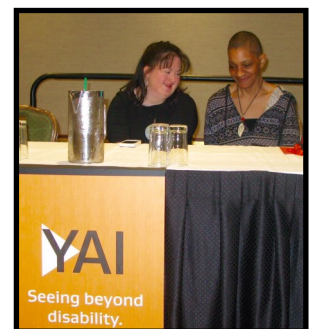
Sunapple artists present

Recently, five ARC West Sunapple Studios members left Columbus to present at the YAI international 2015 Conference in New York. The presentation, titled "Sunapple Studio- Inclusive, Engaged, Effective and FUN!", focused on the studios progressive employment possibilities, social and educational opportunities as well as their ability to foster creativity.

The presentation was 75 minutes long and very well received. Pictured below are two of the Sunapple Artists who assisted with the presentation. Michelle Khourie opened the program by signing to John Lennon's "Imagine" and assisted Lisa Culp, a Contract Production Potter with her portion of the program.

Theresa Whitlow assisted Jackie Boyle with the portion of the program that focused on community engagement and the Cultural Arts Center installation that is coming up in October 2015. Jan Montgomery introduced the audience to Sunapple Studio, providing a short history of the Studio and the philosophy behind it's conception.

The group visited many sites during their short stay, visiting MoMa, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park, FAO Swartz and a view of Times Square! It was a great adventure and wonderful opportunity for the artists to share their knowledge with other professionals in the field.



Michelle Khourie (left), Theresa Whitlow (right)

Barbara Michael-Jones to retire

Barbara Michael-Jones, Principal at West Central School retired at the end of June after a long and successful career of 35 years.

Barbara began her public services with the Washington County Board of Developmental Disabilities, where she worked for 18 years. Her remaining service was with the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities where she worked as a Service Coordinator, Assistant Principal and Principal.

As Principal of West Central, Barbara not only provided leadership at the school, but also supervised classes operated by FCBDD staff and located in the Southwestern City School District. According to Superintendent Morison, "Barb's always positive attitude and excellent organizational skills served this agency very well."

Barbara has also provided strong guidance with many special projects or transitions as school services have evolved over the years. The outdoor learning environment was upgraded, West Central was designated as a Red Cross emergency site in the event of a crisis, and West Central always had outstanding special events such as proms, graduations, sporting events or parent/ family events. More recently, Barbara has been a part of the team that helped the school establish transitional services for 14-22 year old students.

About her work, Barb said "I deeply appreciate the fine and outstanding work of my colleagues, the dedication of so many families and friends and the thoughtfulness our Board members put into the operation of our programs."

Barb plans for retirement to include more time with family, playing her new piano and travel. Best wishes and thanks to Barbara Michael-Jones.



Barbara Michael-Jones

Dancing Wheels Dance Company supports partnership with Starling and West Central Schools

With generous support from the Ohio Arts Council, two of Columbus' Franklinton neighboring schools – Columbus City Schools' Starling STEM PK-8 and Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities' West Central School – recently participated in a weeklong dance residency with Dancing Wheels Dance Company from Cleveland, Ohio.

Starling's third graders and West Central's multi-age students participated together as dance company members facilitated dance studies on anti-bullying and pro-diversity.

Students performed alongside Dancing Wheels' professional company in renowned choreographer, David Rousseve's work, *Daring To Be Dumbo*.

With Dancing Wheels Dance Company's assistance, children engaged in artistic practices that help to: increase their critical and creative thinking, engage common sense concepts and skills, make cross-cultural connections, deepen sensory integration (visual, auditory, tactile, kinesthetic) and grow self-awareness during interactions with others in and outside our immediate learning communities.

Collaboratively, Starling and West Central actively pursue opportunities to deepen students' social skills and develop an appreciation for diverse abilities in its many expressions. Learning in and through the arts helps both school cultures to cooperatively grow a greater understanding of all people.

Caron Myers retires

Caron Myers, Receptionist at the Bixby Living Skills Center, has retired from the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities after over 40 years of service.

She began in 1971 as a part of the instructional staff at St. Francis School under the direction of Pauline Kitchton. She recalls getting a call one night to learn that St. Francis had burned down. In less than a week, school reopened at Sacred Heart School.

Caron recalls so many special relationships with those we serve, their families and staff. Caron said, "These have been absolute wonderful years and I feel blessed to have been part of an organization that has such an important mission."

About her future, Caron looks forward to more time with her husband, Billy, and her two children and grandchildren. Caron's son Jay, lives in Nashville, where he enjoys his music with the Rascal Flatts. Jay and his wife have two children. Caron's daughter, Tiffany, is a nurse at OSU and she has four children. Caron states, "I'm not a big traveler, except to see my children and six wonderful grandchildren, ages 2-17. I love my home and look forward to continued involvement with my church, including bible study and support group."

Superintendent Morison states "Caron has been a wonderful staff member, impacting the lives of so many in such positive ways. Her care for others, her good sense of humor and her generosity is evident in everything she does. She will be missed."

Thanks to Caron Myers and best wishes!

Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Congratulations to recent retirees from the Transportation Department. Retirees pictured with Marcy Samuel, Director of Program Operations (left) and Jed Morison, Superintendent are from left to right:



right: **Steven Enright**, Driver, **Brenda McSwain**, Driver, **Carl Groves**, Driver, **John Clarkson**, Assistant and **Elaine Robinson**, Driver.

Rita Price and **Ben Sutherly** reporters for the *Columbus Dispatch*, recently received a national **Scripps Howard Award** for the Home Healthcare series published by the *Columbus Dispatch*.

Special thanks to **Brian Parks**, Information Specialist (second from the left) with the Transportation Department, for representing FCBDD at a recent Clean Fuels Ohio conference.



Learning while serving at Faith Mission by Sophia Viglione

Beginning in January, a group from ADD's Community Connections did service learning in Faith Mission's Donations Room.

Each week, the group sorted clothing by size, hung it up, and put it in the correct section. By the end of the class, almost everyone in the group could sort small, medium, large, and extra-large clothing as well as shampoo and conditioner, and many group members could sort even more items.



Janice Peters prepares over 100 plates of cookies for lunch recipients at Faith Mission.

Since volunteering in the Donations Room proved to be successful, Community Connections began volunteering in Faith Mission Community Kitchen as well. Faith Mission is the only organization in Franklin County to serve three meals a day, and Community Connection's group is taking part in serving those meals by helping to prepare lunch.

Each week, one individual serves in the kitchen while the rest of the group volunteers in the Donations Room. So far in the Community Kitchen, individuals have set out hundreds of plates of cookies, peaches, and cakes. They have also helped make bulk-containers of lemonade and juices. After her first day volunteering in the kitchen, Janice Peters said, "I didn't think I could volunteer in a kitchen, but then I realized I could do it!"

In addition to gaining confidence and job skills in the Community Kitchen and the Donations Room, the group hears a lesson each week about the importance of volunteering, the services at Faith Mission, and facts about homelessness in and around Columbus. One individual said, "I was so happy and excited that you called me down to go volunteer at Faith Mission!" The individuals truly seem to enjoy doing service learning at Faith Mission. Community Connections plans to continue volunteering there in the future.

Career Milestones

30 years

Gloria Church
Cynthia Franklin

25 years

Paula Balcarcel
Edward Creviston
Carol Elvin
Shanon Mason
Tonya Porter
Eugenia Ray
Cynthia Wilcox

20 years

Elizabeth Aponte
George Cox
Connie Fields
Carolyn Rowland

15 years

Catherine Berner
Michael Crabtree
Debbie Finley
Frederick Hylton
Jack Karner
Julie Manyo
Mary Beth Poe
Monica Powell
Deborah Salter
Scott Sundry
Christine Weaver

10 years

Mohamed Bah
Stefania Celli
Christina Conrad
Rosetta Cousar
James Fisher
William Motley

5 years

Alex Corwin
Megan Middleton
Laura Mongold
Lindsey Musser
Shannon Myers
Stephanie Perez

SAVE THE DATE for Star Awards October 7

The 2015 Community Star Awards will be held on Wednesday evening, October 7, 2015 at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road.

Award recipients and information to register to attend the event will be in the September issue of *Dateline*.

Angie's List accepts providers

Angie's List has indicated that they will let Medicaid Providers of Home and Community Based Services register and create their own listing at no charge.

This will allow users of independent or agency Providers to rate those who provide their care and members of Angie's List will be able to review the Providers ratings.

According to Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO of the Board of Developmental Disabilities, "this is a marketing tool for the Providers and a rating/review opportunity for individuals and family members."

Providers can create their listing at no charge by calling 1-866-843-5478 to reach the Business Center or by going to www.angieslistbusinesscenter.com. It is likely they will be included in the home health care or home health aide listings. Providers should include 'developmental disabilities' in their listing so that they are easily found when one does a 'keyword' search.

Anyone can provide reviews of the Providers, whether members of Angie's List or not. Reviewers cannot be anonymous, however their name would only be released to the Provider they are reviewing and will not be listed publicly.

To become a member of Angie's List, one can call 888-944-5478 and ask for the Member Care Team. Or get more information at www.angieslist.com.

Special thanks to parent Lisa Ryan for assisting with the research to make this possible.

Project Stir

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) and the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA) are again partnering to provide another Project STIR 'train the trainer' session.

The Project STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility) training will be held the week of September 14-17 at the Worthington Holiday Inn. Franklin County participants will be offered scholarships to assist with the majority of costs for the four day event.

This is the second 'train the trainer', FCBDD has sponsored. Individuals from all over Ohio will participate with priority given to Franklin County residents. The training provides individuals with developmental disabilities tools to better advocate for themselves in positive ways. Some of the training is provided by self-advocates.

Superintendent Morison stated "this is a terrific opportunity that our Board has approved."

For more details or to ask about registration, call or email Crystal Schneider at crystal.schneider@fcbdd.org or (614) 342-5545. Individuals from outside of Franklin County should call Dana Charlton at (614) 563-0788.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Renée Stein, President
Linda Craig, Vice-President
John Bickley, Secretary
Marie Crawford
Dean Fadel
Helen Ninos
Beth Savage

Superintendent / C.E.O. **Jed W. Morison**

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 disability.

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

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

July, 2015

- 3 Independence Day Celebrated - all county facilities closed.
- 9 ECE Summer Center programs end.
- 10 School-age Summer Center program ends.
- 15 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 23 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 23 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 27 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.

August, 2015

- 7 Staff Development Day for Adult Services and Transportation staff. All adult facilities closed.
- 24 ECE and School staff returns - Staff Preparation/ Development Day.
- 24 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.
- 26 First day of classes at West Central School.
- 27 FCBDD Special Board Meeting to approve bids, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 31 First day of classes, ECE - please consult program schedule.