

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

On county signs 'accessible' is in, 'handicapped' out



Franklin County Commissioners Marilyn Brown, Paula Brooks and John O'Grady have approved a resolution to discontinue the use of "handicapped" on new and replacement signs at county facilities and to use "accessible" or equivalent symbols instead. The change was approved unanimously on July 30th.

"I like it," said Marci Straughter, a member of FCBDD's Self-Advocate Advisory Council. The group had proposed the change about a month before. The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities adopted a resolution in support on July 25th.

Advocates feel the difference in terminology is significant. Jennifer Cunningham, a supporter of the proposal, explained: "I think 'handicapped' is outdated. I think 'accessible' will be more comfortable."

Commissioner Marilyn Brown described the thinking behind the change in the July 5th issue of *The Columbus Dispatch*.

"We have to be welcoming in our language. It seems natural for us, as we change signage, to change it to be far more positive and use contemporary verbiage."

FCBDD Superintendent Jed Morison praised the Commissioners' action. "I think it is a very positive step and provides a fine example for our community."

Agency recognized as wonderful workplace for young professionals

FCBDD has been named a Wonderful Workplace for Young Professionals by *CitYPulse*, the Young Professional's Guide to Columbus.

The determination of honorees was made by the Columbus Young Professionals Club, a local social networking organization. They reviewed nominated companies in five areas: Coolness (Attraction), Stickiness (Retention), Community Impact, Growth Opportunities and Overall Impression.

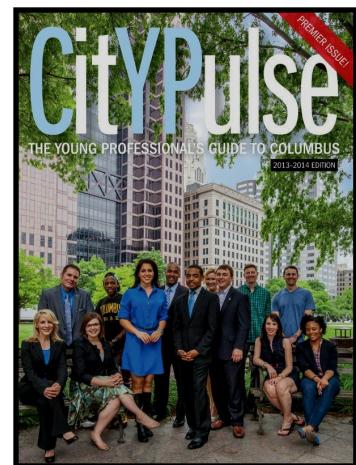
Research for this project began in April when the club sent out a survey looking for top workplaces in the area. FCBDD Director of Special Olympics Ryan Phillips nominated the agency for the honor.

"I'm glad that our organization was recognized," he said. "It is certainly well deserved."

Ryan pointed to several pluses in FCBDD's favor, including the diversity of positions, longevity of many current staff members, potential for career growth and the opportunity to have a career with tangible impact.

"We are very proud to receive this honor," said FCBDD Superintendent Jed Morison. "It is a great reflection on our staff and all they do."

For more information regarding the Columbus Young Professionals Club, please go to www.cypclub.com.



New OACB executive director takes helm



Bridget Gargan began her duties as Executive Director of the Ohio Association of County Boards - Serving People with Developmental Disabilities (OACB) on July 8th. She succeeded Kim Linkinhoker who had served as Executive Director on an interim basis following the departure of Dan Ohler. Kim has returned to his previous position of Associate Director.

In her new position, Bridget serves as OACB's chief executive and is responsible for all management functions.

Bridget served previously as Vice President of Governmental Affairs for the Ohio Hospital Association, a post she held for 11 years. Before that, she worked for the Ohio House of Representatives under longtime Speaker Vern Riffe, and Prentice Hall, Inc.

A native of Kent, Ohio, Bridget is a *cum laude* graduate of Kent State University. She currently lives in Clintonville.

An employment success story

The story of FCBDD consumer John O'Bleness was featured in a presentation by Service Coordinator Lilian Beck to the Spring Conference of the Ohio County Boards of Developmental Disabilities on May 23rd.

In December, 2012, John was chosen for a fulltime, permanent position as a Clerk with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Since his hire, he has performed well, and has even been described by his supervisor as "indispensable." This new fulltime job opportunity fulfilled a lifelong goal for John, "a dream come true."

John lives at home with his parents, who have fully supported his employment goals.

He has also been supported by FCBDD Employment Services staff, with whom he has been linked since high school graduation. Employment Services staff members John Johnson, Jackie Morrow, and Pam Panning have each played a part in this success story.



John chats with co-worker Laura Frazier.

A hero among us by Donna Andrews

What started out as a typical Sunday evening on July 14th, soon changed for Barbara Blubaugh, her housemate, Joyce Hill, and the staff employed by Community Living Experiences, Inc., at their westside home.

Shortly before 6 p.m., during meal preparation, the staff member working at the home fell to the floor in the kitchen, dropping food and cooking utensils. As the staff member lay on the floor unconscious and shaking, Barbara quickly assessed the situation and realized she needed help. So she dialed 911 from her house phone.

Barbara gave an accurate account of the events to the 911 operator as well as her phone number.

Paramedics from Columbus Fire Station 12 at 3200 Sullivant Avenue arrived shortly thereafter and assessed the situation. The staff member, who had suffered a seizure, regained consciousness and didn't require hospitalization, but was able to go home with her family. The on-call supervisor made arrangements to get another staff member to the site.

Many thanks to Barbara for quickly realizing the need for help and taking appropriate steps to respond to the emergency.



Conference on literacy set by Next Chapter



The Next Chapter Book Club, which began in Columbus, now is an internationally known book club for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Affiliated clubs meet at coffee shops and cafes for an hour each week to enjoy each other's company and read aloud.

This year, the Next Chapter Book Club and its parent organization, Chapters Ahead, are holding a first-ever conference on literacy for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The purpose of the

conference is to share insights, experiences, and strategies on literacy and lifelong learning for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The conference will feature brief, engaging, and dynamic presentations and the opportunity to exchange and discuss ideas. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago on Friday and Saturday October 18th and 19th. Registration is \$50 and can be completed at www.chaptersahead.org.

Please direct any questions to Dr. Tom Fish at 685-8723 or by e-mail to Thomas.Fish@osumc.edu.

School days by Toni Jeffers, RDH, Nisonger Dental Program

The first day of school can be filled with fear, excitement, or a little bit of sadness. When I was growing up, the first day meant that I was going to wear something new. Usually my mother picked out my clothing for me, however, that tradition ended my sixth grade year. I begged my mom for a pair of bell bottom hip hugger 501 Levis. I wore my 501s with a Minnie Mouse tee and puka shells for my first day.

Along with new clothing and school supplies, visiting the dentist should be on everyone's back-to-school checklist. Fashions change, but dental health never goes out of style. Healthy teeth and gums are vital to a good education. If you think that I am over exaggerating, please consider this. Studies have shown that 51 million school hours are missed yearly due to dental problems. Many school children have untreated decay which can lead to serious medical complications. You can't concentrate when your tooth hurts. Preventative dentistry can prevent dental decay, but it

might also prevent lost classroom time and potentially having a child fall behind in school.

The Academy of Pediatric Dentistry suggests "first tooth, first checkup." Further, the American Dental Association recommends that everyone should have a dental checkup and cleaning twice a year. Prevention of decay and disease is the goal behind the recommendations. There are five things which can prevent dental problems: Brushing, flossing, fluoride, sealants, checkups and cleanings.

Many parents worry about how their child will behave at the dental visit. Whatever behavior your child may exhibit, chances are that we have seen it before. Did you know that a pediatric dentist has extra skills and training in behavior modification? Everyone has a bad day from time to time and our doctors at Nisonger are here to help.

It is best to call the dental office prior to your visit to discuss your



child's needs and medical history. Early morning appointments work well for most children and please remember not to feed your child a large breakfast prior to the appointment. Visiting the dentist can be a fun event for children. The child will receive positive reinforcement through stickers and prizes.

After your child has a back-to-school checkup and cleaning, when he or she smiles for a school photo, healthy teeth will be showing. All you may need to worry about is what your child might choose to wear for the school picture.

Synergy conference set for Oct. 2-4

An annual conference for DD professionals, advocates and family members is set for Wednesday, October 2nd through Friday, October 4th. Titled "Synergy," the conference is co-sponsored by the Ohio Self-Determination Association (OSDA) and Professionals, Advocates, Resources (PAR). It will be held at the Dublin Embassy Suites, 5100 Upper Metro Place.

Attendees may choose from among 27 sessions allowing the opportunity to earn up to 18.5 hours of training.

For more information, please go to www.par-ohio.org or www.ohiosda.org.

Gardening fever hits ARC East by Glenna Miller

Gardening fever began last year with the addition of patios outside the habilitation rooms. Even though we had some minor issues last year -- mainly a certain groundhog -- we felt it was a great success.

We saved our seeds and decided to give it a go again this year. Garden space was expanded outside the hab rooms and container gardening was added outside each room.

The benefits from the garden and the planters go far beyond crops. They give the opportunity to have ownership and a chance to be responsible for taking care of something.

We have been donating some of the harvest to a local food pantry, Gahanna Residents in Need (G.R.I.N.), and selling some within the building from a produce cart.

At ARC East we like to say "Here we grow again!"



Clockwise from top: Marvin Yates, Ivy Graham, the harvest, Mark Evans.

Learning system clicks at ARC East by Karen Mills

Most people don't look forward to sitting and listening to boring presentations. That is not a problem in the habilitation room of Ivan Harrington and Elizabeth Mulei at ARC East.

Ivan and Elizabeth start the day with a cup of coffee and a morning meeting in which everyone participates.

The consumers in this room are utilizing the Unique Learning System's News-2-You curriculum to receive and discuss such topics as review of the date, weather and top news story of the day.

The adaptive computer is an important part of the meeting because not only does it deliver the information needed to conduct the meeting but it also allows for a "click it" switch so that consumers can respond to questions that are presented.

Unique Learning System is a complete standards-based curriculum program designed specifically for individuals with disabilities. News-2-You is an online newspaper that connects the classroom to the world with news stories that provide information on reader-friendly themes.

So why not start each day off turning on the adaptive computer, enjoying a cup of coffee and learning all about the news with friends?



Terri Starks, Chris Wagner

From Sunapple Studio by Jan Montgomery

Heath Woodruff's painting "Birds on the Mountains," a 4 by 4 feet acrylic painted board, was part of the *Art for Community Expression* exhibition. This is a juried show held annually at the RoyGBiv Gallery in the Short North. Heath welcomed visitors to the exhibit opening night at the July Gallery Hop.

Studio West, one of the programs offered through Sunapple Co., is where Heath has spent his days for 4 years now. He began working in clay where he participated in a large collaborative cityscape project. He has also made many hand crafted ceramic garden totems.

Heath enjoys drawing. With the support of Marge Mitcham and Jeanette Wehrle, Heath was able to project his

cityscape drawing on a large board and transfer it. The finished piece was a 3 by 5 feet acrylic painting detailed with paint markers. It was purchased by Nisonger Dental Clinic. The original design was also used for t-shirts given to individuals who work at ARC Industries West.

Heath participates in Jackie Boyle's art program. His large scale canvas painting, "Emmanuel," was part of the "Now You See Me" exhibit at the Urban Arts Space in June.

Currently enrolled in Columbus State's Community Habilitation/Assistant Certificate Program, Heath enjoys his classes and looks forward to what the future has in store for him.



Heath Woodrow autographs artwork for a young fan, Raymon Weaver, who received the art as a birthday gift.

ARC West names award winners

ARC West presented the second quarter Star Producer and Star Performer Awards on July 25th. The Star Performer was Russell Shepherd.

Russell works hard every day and takes pride in the number of pieces completed. He recently moved to a new residential facility and easily adjusted to his new home. Russell is a huge Buckeye fan.

Richard Wibley was the Star Producer. Richard recently returned from medical leave and has jumped back into work. He loves keeping busy and being around his friends. He is a great role model.



Richard Wibley



Russell Shepherd

2nd learning location to open soon

On Monday, September 30th, Learning Never Ends will open a second location to provide services to individuals with disabilities who reside in Franklin and Fairfield Counties. The facility will be located at 6305 Waterloo Road, NW in Canal Winchester. Services offered will include adult day habilitation, community engagement, vocational habilitation, employment building, discovery and non-medical transportation.

Pre-enrollment is now being conducted. Tours are available at the current north location at 6460 Busch Blvd., Columbus.

For additional information or to schedule a tour, please contact Amanda Kennedy, Managing Director, at 888-8486 (Ext. 100).

A legacy of service

Two longtime ARC Industries South staff members are closing out their careers at FCBDD. The pair has a combined public service of more than 66 years.

After receiving a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Capital University, Debbie Sorrell

began her career at DODD in 1977 as a District 6 Social Worker. In 1979, she was hired by FCBDD and assigned to ARC West, where she worked for three years. After a two-year stint at Licking County Residential Services, she returned to FCBDD as Training Supervisor at ARC South.

Over the years, Debbie has played a key role at ARC South in redesigning services, supervising senior companions and Columbus State students, and coordinating holiday parties for consumers.

"In all that she has done," said ARC South Director Kurt Smith, "Debbie has displayed a deep level of compassion for consumers. She has also displayed a certain flair or style of her own."



Doug Johnson

Doug Johnson, Debbie Sorrell step down

Doug Johnson came aboard as an ARC Industries Sales Representative in 1985. He had served with the Ashtabula County Board of DD. In 1996, Doug left the sales field to become Production Manager at ARC South.

Over his career, Doug has been responsible for overseeing millions of product pieces for ARC customers. Besides overseeing production, he also supervised the cafeteria, janitorial, maintenance and safety areas at ARC South. He proudly notes he was responsible for getting the first FAX machine in the agency.

"Doug has played a huge role in the success of our production activities," said Director Kurt Smith. "He also has volunteered for many extra duties, even taking pies in his face for our levy fundraisers."

The new retirees plan to keep busy. Debbie intends to continue to volunteer with Ohio Pug Rescue. Doug plans to tackle home updates and travel with his wife, Betsy.

Best of luck, Debbie and Doug!



For more information on Ohio Pug Rescue, please go to ohiopugrescue.com.

In memoriam

Vickie Wise

Vickie Wise passed away on June 28th at Kobacker House. Employed with the Service Coordination Department for the past 18 years, she was a valuable member of the clerical staff.

At the old 350 East Broad building, she helped "hold down the fort" before document imaging, laptops, printers, and even before having a file room. Vickie was there to help all staff at Service Coordination.

Despite increasing numbers in those years, Vickie was always there to help. Vickie will be greatly missed by all the staff in Service Coordination.

Our thoughts go out to the Wise family and friends. Vickie leaves behind her husband Thomas, son Andy, daughter Jen, three grandchildren, four brothers, a sister and several nieces and nephews.



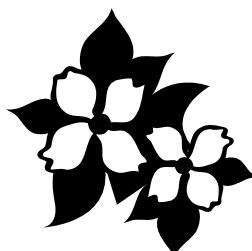
She will certainly be missed!

“Quotable quote”

"If you want others to be happy, practice compassion.

If you want to be happy, practice compassion."

-- The Dalai Lama



Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

FCBDD's **Dot Yeager** was promoted to the position of Chief Business Officer on July 29th. Dot had held the top financial post of Chief Financial Officer since joining the agency in November, 2002.



Congratulations and best of luck, Dot!

An art exhibit at the Brownlee Hall art gallery at **First Community Church**, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., displayed paintings by persons served at **Hague Living Skills Center** last month. According to **Jack Karner**, Behavior Support Specialist, "the overall goal was to give our participants a means of connecting with the community." **Missy Obergefell**, coordinator of the gallery, hoped the paintings help visitors realize that "all things are possible and limitations don't need to stop us from expressing ourselves."

Each year during football season, the parking lot at **ARC Industries West**, 250 W. Dodridge Ave., is used for parking cars of fans attending Buckeye home games. Funds donated by parking patrons support FCBDD's **Special Olympics**. Please keep this in mind if you are attending a game. If you have some free time on Saturdays and wish to lend your support, please call **Ryan Phillips** at 342-5984 for more details. Go Bucks!

ARC Industries has announced the appointment of four new members of the nonprofit corporation's Board of Trustees. They are **Marge Barnheiser**, **Gerald Guy**, **Robin Helper** and **Marcy Unger**. These new members join existing board members **Robert Belz**, **Dominic Cappa**, **Gary Coats**, **Cynthia Hengeli**, **Raymond**

Lawton and **Michael Settineri**. Thanks and best of luck to all board members!

The **American Red Cross** and FCBDD staff members **Mary Martin** and **Jeff Baird**, who coordinated the Summer Blood Drive on July 24th, are expressing their appreciation to agency staff for their strong support of the drive. The goal of 18 productive procedures was met. The agency's next blood drive will be October 1st, so please remember... you're somebody's type!

Franklin County self-advocate **Marci Straughter** joined self-advocates from other counties to make a joint presentation to an All-Staff Meeting at DODD in Columbus on July 30th. They reportedly did a great job speaking to the central office staff and sharing their ideas on the best ways to involve individuals with developmental disabilities at public meetings. Left to right below are: **Marci Straughter**, **Diana Mairose** (Hamilton County), **Tonya Dillon** (Licking County) and DODD Director **John Martin**.



Career Milestones

40 years
Rebecca Love

35 years
Nancy Rossel

30 years
Deborah Sorrell

25 years
Shirley Butcher
Deborah Evans
Debra Hughes
Mark Isenhart

15 years
Tanya Goolsby
Jenny Mercer

10 years
Janet Brunson
Paul Chenderlin
Dominic Delvecchio
Robert Helber
Donald Kantner
Kathleen Lawson

5 years
Kathrin Baldridge
Courtney Dalton
Kristen Fink
Deborah Matthews
Betsy Selbe
Sherry Boyd

Reader Survey

Feedback sought on agency's website

Is FCBDD well represented by its website? Does the site need improvement? If more could be done to communicate effectively with those who visit www.fcbdd.org, what do you suggest?

If you have an opinion, please let us know by e-mail at: fcbddwebsite@fcbdd.org.

Any suggestions will be welcome.



Rick Guidotti coming to OSU

Nisonger Center has invited Rick Guidotti, photographer and director of Positive Exposure, to Columbus to present two art galleries celebrating the beauty of difference.

He will come to COSI on Sunday, October 20th, where he will speak at the opening of the Positive Exposure Gallery at 12 noon. The exhibit will be displayed there from September 21, 2013 to January 5, 2014.

The next day he will appear at OSU's Prior Hall, 376 W. 10th Avenue, where a gallery of photographs will be displayed from October 21st till November 27th.

Positive Exposure allows one to see individuals as they are seen by their parents and close friends, as valuable and positive members of society, thus transforming public perceptions.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Dean Fadel, President
Renée Stein, Vice-President
Linda Craig, Secretary
John Bickley
Marie Crawford
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.

The following staff contribute to the monthly *Dateline*:

Martin Kerscher	Carl Scott	Linda Fleming
Amy Magginis	Jennifer Cunningham	

News releases, story ideas, and suggestions should be sent to:

Martin Kerscher, Editor
2879 Johnstown Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219
(614) 475-6440 FAX (614) 342-5001
e-mail: marty.kerscher@fcbdd.org

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

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

September, 2013

- 2 Labor Day
- 10 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 12 Self-Advocate Advisory Council, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10 a.m.
- 18 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 22 Buddy Walk, sponsored by the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, Columbus Crew Stadium. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Opening ceremony at 9:45 a.m.
- 23 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 26 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 26 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.

The green spot by Carrie Vamos

During a tour of Hague Living Skills Center less than a year ago, art consultant Carrie Krochta discovered that we had been experimenting with several dog treat recipes but hadn't quite come up with a process that made them shelf stable. At the time, Carrie was living across the street from the Middle West Spirits distillery and was a friend of some employees there.



Coincidentally she knew that the distillery had consulted with Ohio State University to come up with a use for the leftover grain, or mash, from the vodka and whiskey they produce and by so doing, had come up with a dog biscuit recipe that uses the spent grain.

Carrie mentioned to Ryan Lang, a co-owner of the distillery, that she had toured our facility and that we were experimenting with dog biscuit recipes. He gave her the recipe and some containers of mash to bring over to us. Since then, we've been producing dog biscuits.

Consumers make the biscuits with adaptive equipment thanks to Doug Smith, Rehab Engineer. They are able to mix the dough, roll the dough out, and cut it into dog bone shapes. After the biscuits have been baked and dried, consumers package them in bags.

The treats have been sold at special events -- a craft show, during Nationwide Insurance's Operation Feed, and at a Harley-Davidson event -- under the Sunapple label.