

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

John Martin, Cindy Hyatt to address 2007 graduates



Cindy Hyatt

Graduation ceremonies for the students in FCBMRDD's school-age program will be held on Tuesday, June 5th at West Central School, and Wednesday, June 6th at Northeast School. Both ceremonies will begin at 7 p.m.

Guest speakers will be John Martin, Director of the Ohio Department of MRDD, at West Central, and Cindy Hyatt, former Principal, at Northeast.

John Martin was appointed to lead the Department of MRDD by Governor Ted Strickland in January. He previously served as Director of



Amanda Dailey is the center of attention as she prepares for graduation night. From left are Diana Barley and Tacey Kastely who are Heinzerling employees and FCBMRDD staff Pam Recko and Amanda Hogan.



John Martin seen here with his son Joel.

Sunshine Children's Home, a not-for-profit provider of residential and other services for persons with developmental disabilities. He is the father of a 22 year old son with disabilities.

Cindy Hyatt served as Principal at Northeast School for 18 years. Since her retirement from FCBMRDD in 2001, she has traveled extensively. She is now Principal of Madison Elementary School in Madison, New Hampshire.

Both graduation ceremonies are open to the public.

ECE groups get in the swim

By Tina Pashovich

Early Childhood swim groups go swimming six times each week. The ages of the groups range from infant to pre-school student. All of these classes are individualized for the particular age group and level of swim experience.

Infant and toddler programs tend to focus on water exploration, swim skill preparation, peer modeling and

imitating the movements of blow-up animals, such as jumping like a frog, or blowing bubbles like a fish. Students are directed to try these activities through songs that encourage some level of independence. Toddler programs are fun-filled and focus on safety. Each child has one-on-one supervision. Mascot Mr. Otter helps



Bob Helber, West Central Aquatics staff member helps a preschool participant.

Continued on page 2

children learn swim skills and swim safely through his very own song.

The pre-school swim program also employs Mr. Otter to lead such activities as getting wet, blowing bubbles, using alternating arm movements, leg movements, going under, and jumping into the water. The program focuses on safety rules such as using walking feet, never swimming alone, only swimming with a lifeguard on duty, and learning safe rescue techniques, such as "throw, don't go," which encourages children to throw a floating object to a distressed swimmer, as opposed to the child entering the water themselves.

The aquatics staff would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to all teachers, therapists and family members who get in the water and help students enjoy their time at the pool. Without this help, all of the benefits of the swim program would not be possible.



ECE and Aquatics staff members and participants work in circle activities. All photos courtesy of the West Central Aquatics staff.

FCBMRDD parent to go to China

Dr. Judy Harris, mother of Joey, who attends Arc Industries East, will travel to the People's Republic of China this spring with the People-to-People Ambassador Program.

She was nominated and chosen by university professors across the nation. Her duties will include professional international exchange in the fields of health and mental retardation.

She will be developing a lecture describing her experiences and will be available to present her findings.



Dr. Judy Harris

Bone marrow drive a success



FCBMRDD'S first bone marrow drive was a great success. Over forty people attended and thirty-five joined the national registry of bone marrow donors on May 15th.

A special thanks goes to all volunteers who helped with the drive, including: C o o r d i n a t o r Michaela Rodgers;



Michaela Rodgers

Affairs by Beth for the wonderful snacks and lunch; and Lloria Beth Lefevre and Susie Sturbaum of the National Marrow Donor Program.

To learn more about marrow donation, log onto www.marrows.org

Special Olympics founder to turn 86

By Martin Kerscher

Eunice Kennedy Shriver, a lifelong advocate for people with developmental disabilities and founder of Special Olympics, will celebrate her 86th birthday on July 10th.

She is still working on a daily basis, serving as Honorary Chairperson of Special Olympics and Executive Vice President of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation.

Mrs. Shriver was the fifth of nine children in her famous family. Growing up, she had a strong interest in sports and a strong affection for her sister, Rosemary, who was born with mental retardation.

The first Special Olympics games were held in Chicago in 1968,



Eunice Kennedy Shriver with Special Olympics athletes in Africa.



Mrs. Kennedy Shriver as she volunteered in the 60s.

however, the roots of the program go back to 1962 when Mrs. Shriver learned of difficulties faced by parents in attempting to enroll their children in summer camp - - children with mental retardation were routinely excluded. She decided to open her home to help.

A family tradition of providing a free summer camp at the Shriver estate in Rockville, Maryland, was begun. The original camp served 35 local children. Today Special Olympics serves over 2.5 million people in 165 countries.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan awarded Mrs. Shriver the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, in recognition of her work on behalf of people with disabilities.

FCBMRDD Superintendent Jed Morison worked with Special Olympics in the 1970s, helping to set up programs in Belgium and Brazil. He vividly recalls Mrs. Shriver: "Mrs. Shriver is a strong, visionary leader who is very practical in her approach. She is incredibly committed to helping people with disabilities."

Mrs. Shriver is no stranger to Franklin County. In 1987, she visited here for 2 days as part of a tour of Special Olympics programs.



Former Superintendent Steve Pleasnick with Eunice Kennedy Shriver and Dee Hively in April, 1987.

On behalf of the FCBMRDD community, **Dateline** extends best wishes to Mrs. Shriver for a terrific 86th birthday, and many happy returns!

Did you know?

New scientific data suggests that eating carrots helps to protect vision by slowing the development of two major eye disorders.

According to Dr. Leland Carr, several, recent studies have shown that vitamin A, which is found in abundance in carrots, helps to reduce the impact of cataracts and age - related macular degeneration.

"One of the best things you can do for your eyes is to eat a diet high in fruits and vegetables, but also low in saturated fats and sugars," adds Dr Carr.

Come, see 'Little E'

Elvis impersonator Kevin True will perform at the Saint Mary Magdalene Parish Festival on Saturday, June 9th, at 7 p.m. Kevin, who is a participant at ARC Industries West, is known throughout the entertainment industry as "Little E."

Saint Mary Magdalene Church is located at 472 South Roys Avenue in the Westgate area of Columbus.



Swimming competition a nail-biter

By Tina Pashovich

The 4th annual swim competition between Northeast and West Central proved to be filled with excitement.

The competition, which was held April 25th, consisted of 12 events, including individual as well as group activities.

Colton Showalter opened with a big win for West Central in the elementary back stroke. Derek Kirksey and Hannah Henderson answered back winning the best jump from the side for Northeast. The stylistic entry by Brittany Brokaw ensured a West Central victory in best jump or dive from the board.

Meanwhile in the shallow end, the running race went to Northeast thanks to the swift feet of Kenny VanGundy. However, the fine shooting by Rahson Gibson and Jason Opalinski in the throw competition allowed West Central to come back with another win. Wrapping up the first round of the contest, Northeast won the group event ball barrage to take the competition to

a palm-sweating, neck-and-neck tie at the turn.

The excitement continued in the second round when Allison Morse amazed everyone with her impressive kicking ability to win the kickboard race for West Central. The rings pick-up went to West Central also with the team effort of David Anthony and Sergio Ramos. Northeast came back strong when Carl Lewis and Austin Van Almsick effortlessly pulled away from the pack to claim a victory in the front crawl. James Fann responded with a big win in the inner tube race.

The highly anticipated staff cannonball challenge went to West Central thanks to the dynamic duo of Brian Luebke and Mike Jones. And, kudos to Mary Flynn and Julie Buren, for their good efforts.

The closing event was a team treasure hunt which included retrieving objects from the bottom of the pool and placing them in a treasure chest. Northeast took the win, but fell short of



Northeast School students Ben Andy and Kenny VanGundy enjoyed the competition.

holding onto the overall title, losing the cup to West Central. The competition over four years is currently tied at two and two. All are looking forward to next year's showdown.

Thanks to all the students who competed and represented their schools with pride, and to the staff who assisted throughout the contest.

Art show a hit

The Early Childhood Learning Community's 3rd Annual Art Show was held at the Rudy Road facility on Friday, April 27th.

The show featured art work created by children enrolled in the program as well as an art sale and silent auction.

Bev Ryan of ECLC reports that over \$4,000 was raised to help toward the construction of a new outdoor learning environment.



Visitors were entertained with classical music as well as children's tunes



ECLC art staff Danielle Williams, Darron Thompson, and Kathy Bernon coordinated the event and credited the cooperation of ECLC staff and volunteers with the success.



Rick and Bobbie Grawemeyer happily purchased this print.

Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBMRDD Community

Career Milestones

Congratulations to **Amy** and **Sean Magginis** who became proud parents of twin daughters on April 26th. **Rebecca Shae** and **Riley Rose** are reportedly doing well, as are the lucky mom and dad. Amy is an administrative assistant at Administration.

Administration staff member **Sree Aswath** (known to most as "Ash") was featured in an article in the **Columbus Dispatch** on May 7th. He performed a puja ceremony at Zangmeister Center, a newly opened cancer treatment facility on Cassady Avenue. The ritual to bless a new space is a Hindu tradition.

ARC Industries West employee **Bryan Becker** will be hitting the books soon. Bryan was accepted recently into Columbus State Community College's new certified assistant program. Good luck, Bryan!

FCBMRDD'S Director of Adult Services, **John Mitchem**, was featured in a news story in the **Madison Press** on April 7th. The article traced John's nearly 30-year career in the disabilities field. John and his wife, Juanita, live in London, Ohio.

FCBMRDD Recreation staff are remembering longtime volunteer, the late **Jim Salvatore**, after receiving a generous donation in his memory from **ARC 14**. According to Recreation Director **Harriet Haniotes**, the gift "means so much to our department and adult participants." Special thanks go to the members of ARC 14!



Jeff Smiley, Pat Batdorf and **Bob McCarthy** did time in "jail" recently, but they didn't mind. To earn their release, the trio from Employment Services raised nearly \$1000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

25 years

David Powell
Nanci Taggart

20 years

Darrell Bruffy
Barbara Davis
Kathy Wade

15 years

Robin Mathis

10 years

Katrina Barnett
Lynne Gullick
Amy Kulow
Pamela Weisbeck

5 years

Roy Nation
Marlene Strayer
Michele Williams

Dehydration risk rises in summer

As temperatures rise, so does children's risk of suffering dehydration. When active in hot weather, children are more susceptible than adults to dehydration and heat illness.

Common warning signs are thirst, headache, dizziness, weakness, fatigue, nausea and muscle cramps.

Dehydration can easily be prevented. Experts recommend that children drink enough fluids to replace the fluid lost through perspiration.

For more details, please visit www.defeattheheat.com.



We're online

Dateline may now be viewed online at www.fcbmrdd.org. Simply click, "To view our newsletter."

You may also subscribe electronically by entering your e-mail address.

Star search to end June 30

If you've been putting off plans to nominate a candidate for a FCBMRDD Community Star Award, please take note - the deadline, June 30th, is fast approaching.

The Star Awards Committee will consider nominees in 14 award categories. A nomination form is enclosed with this issue of *Dateline*.

The awards program was established in 2003 to honor persons and organizations who, through outstanding work, have supported FCBMRDD's mission.

For more details, please call Frank New at 342-5972.

Next issue to cover 2 months

The next issue of *Dateline* will be a combined one for the months of July and August. The issue will be distributed in mid - July.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation
and Developmental Disabilities

Ben W. Hale, Jr.
Jerry Saunders
Mildred Blumenfeld
Bruce Burns
Paul S. Coppel
Dean Fadel
Helen Ninos

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*.

Jed W. Morison	Carl Scott	Mary Linden
Michael Davis	Karen Reynolds	Martin Kerscher
Jennifer Cunningham		

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

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(614) 475-6440 FAX 342-5001

Calendar

June, 2007

- 8 Last day of classes - ECE and Schools.
- 12 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 14 Flag Day
- 20 FCBMRDD Human Resources Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4:30 p.m.
- 20 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 22, 23, 24 Ohio Special Olympics, the Ohio State University. Please call Andrea Stonebraker at 342-5989 for details.
- 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.

July, 2007

- 4 Independence Day - all county facilities closed.
- 11 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 26 FCBMRDD Finance Committee meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 26 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 27 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.

August, 2007

- 14 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 27 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.

"Quotable quote"

"I see America, not in the setting sun of a black night of despair ahead of us. I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun fresh from the burning, creative hand of God."

- Carl Sandburg

Information about FCBMRDD is always available on the internet at:

www.fcbmrdd.org