Leah Reibel appointed to board

A Worthington attorney is the newest member of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Leah Reibel was appointed to the panel by former Probate Judge Eric Brown on April 30th.

Ms. Reibel is an attorney in private practice, focusing on criminal defense, juvenile law and domestic relations. She has experience representing both children and adults with disabilities.

The mother of a son in the special education program of Worthington Public Schools, Ms. Reibel is a strong advocate for children with disabilities.

Board President Helen Ninos welcomed Ms. Reibel to her first board meeting on May 20th. "We're very grateful for your willingness to serve," she said.

Ms. Reibel succeeds Galen Stover who resigned from the board on March 24th.

The board is made up of seven members, five of whom are appointed by the County Commissioners and two by the Probate Judge.

Graduation ceremonies set

Graduation festivities for students in FCBDD's school-age program are set for Tuesday, June 1st, at West Central School, and Wednesday, June 2nd, at Northeast School. A total of 17 students are graduating from the program.

Guest speakers are Lenore Schneiderman at West Central and Sherry Abel at Northeast.

Before her retirement last year, Lenore Schneiderman had been the Chairwoman of the Human Services Department at Columbus State Community College since 1980. She is a highly regarded leader in the field of developmental disabilities education.

For the past 10 years, Sherry Abel has been the host of a popular, evening radio program at 104.9, the River. The busy mother of 3 sons also coordinates the station's weekly list of positive thoughts.

The public is invited to the ceremonies.

West Central School is located at 1481 W. Town Street, Columbus, and Northeast School at 500 N. Hamilton Road, Gahanna.

Tell us your opinion -- which term is best?

Discussion is ongoing in the FCBDD community as to the best term to use when referring to a person who is receiving services from the agency. Terms used include: client, consumer, enrollee, individual with a disability, participant, person served by the board, and service recipient.

Do you have an opinion? If so, please let us know by e-mail at linda.fleming@fcbdd.org. Please include the reason for your opinion. Dateline will publish the results in a future issue.
Parent League's name changed

FCBDD's Parent League has had a name change. It is now known as, "Family Support," which emphasizes that family members other than parents are included as well.

The group was established in 1977 as a means to ensure open communication between agency administrators and family members of persons receiving services. There is no roster of members.

Meetings are held at FCBDD's administration building on the third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Superintendent Jed Morison hosts the gatherings.

"The meetings are very informal," he said. "We sit around a conference table, and share news and concerns."

All are welcome to attend.

Jungle jam at Northeast

Northeast School hosted its Junior/Senior Prom on Friday, May 21st. The theme this year was "Jungle Jam." The music was provided by DJ Jimm Burrell and the event was catered by Garrett Saylor, Matt Rogers, Landon Howard, Gabby Mateen, Paul Strominger and Evan Crawford, all of whom are students at Eastland Career Center. The delicious meatballs, chicken fingers, fruit, cheese, and cake were enjoyed by all.

Seniors Thomas Young and Tiara Brockington were crowned King and Queen.

Thanks to Teresa Mulinex and all the staff who helped decorate and transform the gym into a jungle.

Sam Shannon remembered at golf event

Northeast School held a golf outing on Saturday, April 17th. It was a great success, raising over $2,000 for the benefit of the parent group.

The outing was held at Gahanna Municipal Golf Course and was dedicated to the memory of Sam Shannon, the longtime maintenance staff member at the school, who passed away last year.

Organizers of the event were Jeanne Green and Karen Toohey, with valuable help from Carly Rosenbloom, Sarah Belcher, Sherry Wade, Mary Butler, Shannon Shannon, Charlie Shannon, Cole Bragg, Angie Wright and Darleen Hayhurst.

Trophies went to Jason Howard for the longest drive, Josh Boggs for closest to the pin, and to Jim Welte, Michael Boggs, Josh Boggs and Garrett Boggs for the winning foursome.

In addition to golf, participants were treated to a luncheon served at the school.

Organizers hope to make it an annual event.

Photo courtesy of Northeast School
Educators from around the state toured the Early Childhood Learning Community (ECLC) as part of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children/Ohio Department of Education state conference on May 1st.

ECLC was selected as a model of what a 21st century school should be providing for children.

Following the tour, one of the participants wrote, "Thanks so much for sharing your love and passion for young children - it most certainly shows!"

Susan Weber with Local Matters and a partner with ECE is seen talking with Becky Love after the tour.

Individuals with disabilities model clothes made from newspapers by Debbie May

What's black and white and read all over? Clothing made from local newspapers, which was modeled by individuals with disabilities on a Paris-style fashion runway on Friday, April 9th at Goodwill Columbus.

"Our program participants modeled the clothing they designed from sections of The Columbus Dispatch and This Week newspapers," said Diana Simmons, an Activity Specialist for Goodwill's Sage Senior Services.

Sage Senior Services is an adult day services program at Goodwill Columbus for individuals with disabilities age 45 and older.

The fashion show at Goodwill is called "Project Runway" and is modeled after the long-running television show of the same name on Lifetime network.

"Our version of Project Runway engages our program participants in learning how to sew and design outfits," said Goodwill Activity Specialist Jamie Justice. "They can make something as small as a necktie or as big as a dress."

More than 70 individuals with disabilities were involved in helping to make outfits for about a dozen program participants who actually modeled the new designs.

According to contest rules for Project Runway, 75 percent of each piece of clothing must be made from assigned sections of local newspapers. The remaining 25 percent, Simmons said, can include such things as tape, glue, ribbon, buttons or "whatever it takes to make the article of clothing stay together."

"It's so much fun for the program participants and the staff when it all comes together," Justice said.

The spring fashion designs at Goodwill was judged by a panel of five, including Linda Monroe, Director of the Bixby Living Skills Center.

The green spot by Chuck Lamb

Earlier this year, FCBDD became a designated "Green Spot," and as such, committed to achieving a number of environmental goals. The following is an update on the progress at ARC Industries East.

In 2009, ARC Industries East began collecting aluminum, plastic, paper and corrugated cardboard, as well as properly disposing of dead batteries, fluorescent bulbs and chemicals. As a result, the trash was reduced by 12,730 pounds.

This year, we are continuing these efforts as well as reducing our usage of styrofoam and other environmental hazards, and looking at ways to conserve water and energy.

Stay tuned for more updates from the Green Team.
FAAC plans luncheon

Family Advocates for Adult Children (FAAC) are inviting interested parents to join them for an informal lunch on Monday, June 14th at 11 a.m. The location will be the Bob Evans on N. High Street (U.S. Route 23) at I-270 in Worthington.

FAAC was created by ten parents of adult children with disabilities in September, 2009. The group is focused on advocacy for adult children, exchange of information, and overall support of members.

If you are interested in learning more, please call Elaine Bechant at 939-0992, or visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FamilyAdvocatesforAdultChildren/.

A note of thanks by Dianne Kimberling

(Editor's note: The author is a parent as well as a staff member in FCBDD's Administrative Support Services Department.)

My son, David Hoover, started in the early intervention program at ECE in 1988. He had just turned 4, and didn't talk. He was diagnosed with ADHD, and would throw 30-40 minute screaming fits. After several years at ECE, he went to Hamilton Central. In 3rd grade, he went to Jefferson Elementary School in Gahanna. He was in the special education classes in the school system until he graduated. He played sports in high school, and kept busy with scouting and other activities. By age 16, he earned the honor of Eagle Scout.

After graduating, he served a 2-year mission for his church in California. David went to college at Columbus State Community College, Ohio University and Brigham Young University - Idaho (BYUI). He married in May of 2007.

From left are: Bev Ryan, David Hoover, Dianne Kimberling, Noe Farfan and Debbie Rose.

David graduated from BYUI on April 10th with a Bachelor of Health Science. Starting in June, he will be doing a 10-week internship in the Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit at Ohio State.

His wonderful success would not have been possible without the love, hard work, and dedication of the ECE staff.

Special thanks to Noe Farfan, who did the testing to place David, and his teachers, Bev Ryan and Debbie Rose.

Thank you, FCBDD!

Roger May blood drive successful

Donations exceeded expectations at this year's Roger May blood drive. A total of 39 blood units were collected, passing the goal of 30 units by 130%.

The participants included two first time donors. This was also the first time the Red Cross brought a newer machine which allows a donor to give double red cells. Two of the donors, Jeff Baird and Carl Scott, took advantage of the opportunity.

Many thanks to all who participated.

Retirement hasn't slowed Linda Stubbs

Linda Stubbs isn't taking it easy even though she retired on April 12th after 18 years as a bus driver with FCBDD.

Linda is also studying for a Master of Business Administration at Ohio Dominican University, and working with the New Hope for Tomorrow Foundation to help establish a child care center.

We wish Linda the very best in her busy retirement.
Good For You

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Kudos to FCBDD Transportation East Compound staff for their recent efforts to help earthquake victims in Haiti and Chile. They raised a total of $300 through a "Soul Food" sale, and also collected items for health kits. Organizers were Hubert Livesy, Lavonda McLean, Dawn Paris and Linda Stubbs. Marie Kelso, Bobbi Martin, Linda Oliver and many others helped prepare the delicious food.

Creative Housing's program to help homeowners improve accessibility of their homes was highlighted recently in Pipeline, the online newsletter of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. The article cited Allison Komaromy -- who uses a wheelchair -- as an individual who has gained a lot of independence thanks to the program.

A round of applause goes to Patricia Batdorf and Debbie Schafer for their outstanding work in organizing A Laughing Matter, the comedy benefit held at the Funny Bone on May 17th. The event, which featured comedians Christian Altera, Patsy B., Chris Coen, Jay Hendren, Mike Paramore and Jack Wilson, raised $1,483 for the benefit of the Citizens for Persons with Developmental Disabilities.

Former FCBDD nurse Marie Long suffered a stroke in 2008, and now makes her home at SEM Haven nursing home, 225 Cleveland Avenue, Milford, Ohio 45150. Marie celebrated her 88th birthday last December, and would love to hear from old friends.

Clarice Pavlick, Director of ARC Industries East, and Kurt Smith, Director of ARC Industries South, made a joint presentation to the FCBDD senior management staff on May 20th. The subject was the new ARC Information Management System (AIMS). The system is expected to be immensely helpful to staff who have to keep track of a lot of information.

Dr. Mark Tasse, Director of the Nisonger Center, and Dr. Ed Sterling, who heads the Center's Dental Clinic, showed their appreciation for FCBDD's support for the program recently, by presenting a plaque to Superintendent Jed Morison and ECE Director Becky Love. Details about the dental clinic's services may be obtained by calling Diana Zuber at 292-3160.

Career Milestones

35 years
Claudia Simmons

30 years
Robin Ryan

20 years
Geoffrey Armstrong

15 years
Michael Gyugo
Cathy Hutchel
Christopher Meek
Jeffrey Smiley

10 years
Karen Bain
Deborah Charles
Kemberly Conteh
Kevin Kapel
Joshua Marriott
Danielle Norman
Jennifer Siddell

5 years
Jocelyn Baylor
Karen Bunders
Elizabeth Cimprich
Jodi Clemons
Carnell Cunningham
Marcellini Gatorano
Lisa Guay
Amy Frick
Brian Johnson
Shawn Milam
April Miner
Timi Osborne
Courtney Plantz
Patrice Saniel-Banrey
Tammy Willaman
Megan Willcoxon
Sarah Wills
ECLC art show a success
by Denise Henkel

The evening of April 30th marked the 6th annual Art Show and Silent Auction at the Early Childhood Learning Community (ECLC). The evening's events included displays of the students' artwork, musical entertainment by a band from the community, various artists, and a silent auction.

Over 50 items were donated to the auction by families and staff. Auction items included everything from framed photography by the students to designer jewelry. Final bids ranged from 2 to 50 dollars, and totaled over $1,500.

Proceeds from the auction will help purchase a slide for ECLC's Outdoor Learning Environment.

“Quotable quotes”
"Be always sure you are right, then go ahead."

-- Davy Crockett

Calendar
June, 2010

1  Graduation, West Central School, 1481 W. Town St., 7 p.m.
2  Graduation, Northeast School, 500 N. Hamilton Rd., 7 p.m.
3  Last day of classes - ECE and Schools.
8  Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
9  Central Ohio Self-Determination Association meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10 a.m.
14 Flag Day
16  Family Support (formerly Parent League) meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
20 Father's Day
21  School-age Summer Center begins, West Central School.
22  ECE Summer Center begins, 2879 Johnstown Rd.
24  FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
24  FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
25,26,27 Ohio Special Olympics, the Ohio State University. Please call Andrea Stonebraker at 342-5989 for details.
28  ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.

July, 2010

5  Independence Day observed - all county facilities closed.
21  Family Support (formerly Parent League) meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
22  FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
22  FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
26  ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
29  ECE and School-age Summer Center programs end.

Next issue to cover 2 months

In keeping with past practice, 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.