

## Helen Ninos continues to lead board



The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities re-elected its officers at its meeting on January 27th.

They are: Helen Ninos, President; Dean Fadel, Vice-President; and Jean Williams, Secretary. Other board members are Linda Craig, Lito Ramirez, Leah Reibel and Renée Stein.

Appointed to the board by the County Commissioners in 2006, Ms. Ninos was first elected president in January, 2010. She is employed as the Deputy Executive Director of the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio.

Ms. Ninos and her husband, Michael Underwood, are Gahanna residents. They have three children.

The board welcomed a special guest that same evening. Blaine Brockman, Vice-President of the Ohio Association of County Boards Serving People with Developmental Disabilities, shared concerns relating to the state's budget difficulties.

"It is important that we remain focused on quality of life issues despite the difficult economic situation," he said.

A member of the Madison County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Mr. Brockman is an attorney based in West Jefferson.

## DD theme stresses togetherness

People with developmental disabilities don't want to be on an island by themselves. They want the challenges and rewards that can only come by being together with everyone else. To promote this concept, the sponsors of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month have selected "Together, the Future Is Brighter" as the campaign's theme this year.

The statewide kickoff celebration will be held at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium on Thursday, March 3rd, from 10 a.m. to noon. Co-sponsored by the Ohio Department of Disabilities and Ohio Public Images, the event will focus on the many opportunities for embracing the spirit of togetherness throughout Ohio.

Last year's kickoff attracted more than 350 participants. All are encouraged to attend.

FCBDD will recognize DD Awareness month in a variety of ways.

Northeast School will hold its traditional spaghetti dinner on Saturday, March 19th, from 4 to 8 p.m. Dinners will be available on either a dine-in or take-out basis. For more information, please call 476-0530.



# Board requests replacement levy

At its monthly meeting on February 24th, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities adopted a resolution asking the County Commissioners to put a 3.5 mill replacement levy before the voters in November. The levy would replace an existing 3.5 mill, 10-year levy that expires in 2012.

The replacement levy is critical, according to Superintendent Jed Morison. "Our levy support is our lifeblood," he said. "This funding allows

us to maintain basic services, and bring in federal dollars in the process."

FCBDD serves more than 16,000 children and adults with developmental disabilities.

The number receiving services is growing by 4 to 5 percent per year, Superintendent Morison noted, while state subsidies are expected to decline in the wake of Ohio's budget shortfall.

The proposed levy would generate approximately \$94.5 million per year,

and cost the homeowner about \$27 per year more per \$100,000 of property valuation.

The County Commissioners are the taxing authority for FCBDD. Their approval is required to place a levy on the ballot.

In other business, the board approved a proposed 3-year contract with the Ohio Association of Public School Employees. The union represents FCBDD bus drivers and assistants. The contract must now be approved by the County Commissioners to become effective.

The board also heard a presentation by five Franklin County graduates of the Project STIR program. Christine Brown, Lisa Tillman, Elizabeth Beau, Mike Barrows and James Creighton expressed their appreciation for the board's support of the program. A total of nine Franklin Countians have graduated thus far.

A self-advocacy training course, Project STIR stands for "Steps to Independence and Responsibility."

From left are: James Creighton, Mike Barrows, and Christine Brown. Not shown, Elizabeth Beau and Lisa Tillman.



## Annual report available

FCBDD's annual report for 2010 is now available, as is the agency's program calendar for 2011-12.

The report is available on the Board's web site at [www.fcbdd.org](http://www.fcbdd.org). You may also obtain a copy by contacting Linda Fleming at 342-5950.



**2010**  
**Annual Report to the Community**



**2011 - 2012**  
**Program Year Calendar**

**Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities**



*"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"*

## FAAC to meet April 5

Family Advocates for Adult Children (FAAC) will meet at 2879 Johnstown Road on Tuesday, April 5th, at 11 a.m.

If your adult child lives at home with you, and you would like to meet other parents for an open discussion of topics of interest, please plan to come.

For more details, please call Elaine Bechant at 939-0992.

## Nick Boyer to retire

Psychology Assistant Nick Boyer will retire on March 25th after more than 30 years of service with FCBDD's Psychology Department.

"Nick has been a valuable asset to our agency," said Joe Edwards, Director of Psychology Services. "We will certainly miss him, but at the same time wish him the very best."

Nick said he intends to volunteer, travel, spend time with his family, play golf, and "just do whatever pops into my head."

He and his wife, Genie, have three adult children and four grandchildren.

Superintendent Jed Morison described Nick as "one of the most positive people I know. He has been a real leader, particularly related to his presentations in crisis intervention."

A Columbus native, Nick is a graduate of Brookhaven High School, Ohio University and Butler University. He also attended Ohio State.

A retired army major, Nick served on active duty for five years beginning in 1971. He also served in the reserves from 1977 through 1993.



Nick Boyer photo by Gloria Church

## Operation Feed campaign underway

FCBDD's 2011 Operation Feed campaign is underway, and will continue through the third week of March.

Operation Feed is central Ohio's community-wide effort to help alleviate hunger and meet the nutritional needs of local residents. Donations of canned and non-perishable food items, as well as money, are sought. Food stuffs are then distributed to food pantries and community kitchens throughout Franklin County.

Last year, members of the FCBDD community donated \$24,461 and 3,994 pounds of food. "We hope to do even better this year," said Mike Davis, campaign coordinator.

According to the United Way of Central Ohio, 36 percent of food pantry clients are children, and 13 percent are senior citizens.

A full 18 percent of those seeking help have been in managerial or professional jobs.

Each week, the campaign targets certain food items because of their nutritional value. Notices of the targeted foods are distributed weekly at all FCBDD locations.



### Coordinators for the 2011 Operation Feed Campaign

Early Childhood & Family Center - **Sarah Gillilan**  
Early Childhood Learning Community - **Natasha Swartz**  
Bixby LSC - **Jackie Suver**  
Hague LSC - **Carrie Vamos, Mary Jo Allen**  
Northeast School - **Robyn Wright**  
West Central School - **Debbie Osborn**  
ARC N. - **Marianne Patronite, Sharon Evrard**  
ARC W. - **Carolyn Dailey, Jo Ellen McKnight**  
ARC E. - **Mike Doran**  
ARC ESD - **Shella Ross, Kurt Schmitter, Debbie Schafer, Trish Potenza**  
Transp. E. - **Jason Childs**  
Transp. W. - **Priscilla George, Mary Fairchild**  
Transp. S. - **Dorcas Sharp**  
Admin. - **Michael Davis, Amy Magginis**

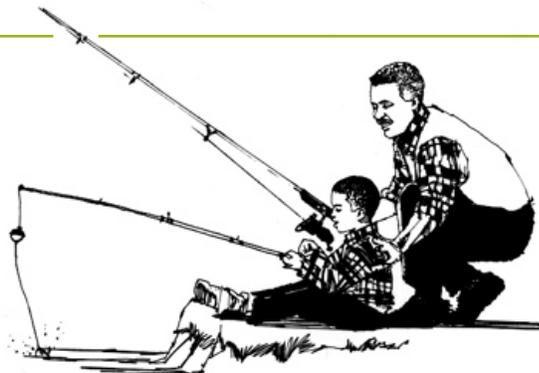
# Fishing licenses free for persons with physical disabilities

Fishing licenses for the period of March 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012 are now available, according to the Ohio Division of Wildlife. The licenses may be purchased from license vendors, or on line at [www.ohiodnr.com](http://www.ohiodnr.com).

Under Ohio law, certain state residents are eligible for free fishing licenses. These include persons born before December 31, 1937; persons with physical disabilities who require assistance of another to fish; residents of state and county institutions; holders

of Veteran license plates displaying the wheelchair symbol; certain veterans with permanent disabilities; and former prisoners of war.

A fishing license is required to take fish, frogs or turtles from Ohio waters. A license is not required when fishing in a private pond, by persons under age 16, or a person assisting an angler with a physical disability if using only one line.



The Division's toll-free information line is 1-800-945-3543.

## Legislative day set for April 14

Now is the time for all those concerned about state disability issues to get involved in the legislative process. The 2011 Legislative Advocacy Day will be held Thursday, April 14th. The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council and the Ohio State University Nisonger Center are co-sponsoring the activity.

The event will get underway at the Statehouse Atrium at 10:30 a.m.

Please register at:

[www.nisonger.osu.edu/legislativeregistration](http://www.nisonger.osu.edu/legislativeregistration).

## Did you know?

*Beyond Us* is a support group for parents and families of young adults with Asperger's Syndrome, High Functioning Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified.

The group's mission statement explains its purpose as "to help each other and the people who work with our young adults to better understand the challenges of Autism Spectrum Disorder."

For more information, please go to [www.wosu.org/autism](http://www.wosu.org/autism).

## Golf event set

ARC Industries has announced plans to hold its second annual Golf Scramble at the Royal American Links in Galena on Saturday, August 6th, at 1:30 p.m.

For further details, please contact Anne Murra at 342-4401.



## How can you help

Besides donating food items and money, you can help Operation Feed by referring a person or family for emergency food assistance. The *Hands On Central Ohio Foodline* telephone number is 341-2282.

When donating money, be sure your check is made out to Operation Feed only. Please do not write a donation check to any other name.

# Good For You

## Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

## Career Milestones

Along with other members of the Thurn family, FCBDD dietician **Bernie Thurn** was mentioned in an article in the winter, 2010, edition of *edible Columbus*. "The Wurstmachers, a Meaty Tale about the Best of the Wurst at Thurn's Specialty Meats," discussed the 124-year history of the legendary meat market on Greenlawn Avenue. The business was started by Bernie's great-grandparents, who immigrated from Germany in 1880.

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A tip of the hat goes to staff members **Larry Macintosh, Tracey Crawford, Karin Crabbe** and **Chris Lopez** for their exceptional work in coordinating the agency's accreditation process in late January. They compiled a wide range of detailed information regarding FCBDD operations in response to requests from the survey team from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

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Congratulations to **Dean Fadel**, Vice-President of the FCBDD, on his recent re-election to the post of President of the Ohio Association of County Boards Serving People with Developmental Disabilities. Mr. Fadel is the brother of **Jeffrey Fadel** who receives services through FCBDD.

A warm welcome goes to **William Reddington**, who was appointed recently as Chief Magistrate to the Franklin County Probate Court by **Judge Robert Montgomery**. This is a "return engagement" for the top magistrate as he served in the same position under former Probate **Judge Lawrence Belskis**.

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Former Franklin County Municipal **Judge Mark Froehlich**, who had served briefly as Chief Magistrate under former Probate **Judge Eric Brown**, has a new job as the Director of Asset Restructuring Services for NAI Ohio Equities. He was featured in an "Update" in the March edition of Columbus C.E.O.

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**Karin Zuckerman**, Chief Executive Officer of Easter Seals Central and Southeast Ohio, will leave that agency on March 25th after 13 years. She will become Director of the Veterinary Medical Center at OSU. Best of luck, Karin!

**30 years**  
**Donald Crabtree**  
**Diane Stahl**

**25 years**  
**Patricia Davis**  
**Melissa Vanscoy**

**20 years**  
**Robert Garrett**  
**Colleen Ziemba**

**10 years**  
**Marc Anglin**  
**Debra Cordle**  
**Jason Justice**  
**Carleen Mortimer**  
**Grace Terry**  
**Cameron Underdown**  
**Faye Williams**

**5 years**  
**Melinda Buhacevich**  
**Jane Clore**  
**Jennifer Cunningham**  
**Susanna Dillon**  
**Jessica Hudson**  
**Kathy Parsley**  
**Kristy Schuyler**  
**Michelle Seymour**  
**Maria Willis**

## Northeast School plans spaghetti dinner



For 19 years people have been going to Northeast School's annual dinner for great spaghetti at a reasonable price. On Saturday, March 19th that tradition will continue.

From 4 to 8 p.m., volunteers will be serving delicious spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert for only \$7 per adult and \$3.50 per child under 12. All meals also include beverages at no additional charge.

Northeast School is located at 500 N. Hamilton Road, Gahanna. For more information, please call 476-0530.

# The green spot by Doug Meier

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The Employment Services Department's Janitorial Division has been making efforts to implement the use of "green cleaning." Green cleaning is the use of safer products and services to help reduce a negative health and environmental impact.

In the past, cleaning products have contained volatile organic compounds, fragrances, dyes, and aggressive chemicals. These products were not good for the indoor air quality at our work sites and facilities. However, chemicals are now being made from renewable resources such as soy, corn, coconut, and many other natural substances. This has given us more options to choose products such as glass cleaner,



disinfectants and all-purpose cleaners that contain these natural renewable resources.

Not only do these new products contain less harmful chemicals, they are also biodegradable. Packaging is made from recycled plastics or cardboard, and they are green seal certified. To learn more about these cleaning products, as well as chemicals you can purchase to use around your home, you can visit [www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org).

As we continue to move forward with green cleaning, new advancement in chemicals and cleaning products are being developed. We will continue to explore ways to make our facilities greener.

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## Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Helen Ninos, President  
Dean Fadel, Vice President  
Jean Williams, Secretary  
Linda Craig  
Lito Ramirez  
Leah Reibel  
Renee Stein

Superintendent 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 handicap.

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

[www.fcbdd.org](http://www.fcbdd.org)

## Calendar

### March, 2011

- 3 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Kickoff, Ohio Statehouse Atrium, 10 a.m.
  - 8 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
  - 10 Self-Advocate Advisory Council, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m.
  - 16 Family Support (*formerly Parent League*), 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
  - 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day!
  - 24 FCBDD Human Resources and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
  - 24 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
  - 25 Staff Development Day
  - 28 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
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## "Quotable quotes"

"We have not journeyed all this way across the centuries, across the oceans, across the mountains, across the prairies because we are made of sugar candy."

- Sir Winston Churchill