Charitable campaign to end November 15

FCBDD staff have until Thursday, November 15th, to show their support for the 2012 Combined Charitable Campaign. The theme is “Make it great - pay it forward."

The annual campaign provides staff the opportunity to contribute to one or more charity of their choice. Sixteen federations are participating in the campaign, which are made up of over 700 charitable organizations.

Employees may donate on a one-time basis or through payroll deduction which many find more convenient. Deductions will begin January, 2013 and last for 26 pay periods. A minimum of $2 per pay period is required for payroll deduction.

Leading FCBDD’s campaign this year is Larry Macintosh, Director of Administrative and Support Services. He is being assisted by 20 building or department coordinators. For more information, please contact Larry Macintosh at 342-5973.

Crew conducts soccer clinic

Beyond wins and losses, the Columbus Crew soccer team is committed to making a difference in the community. Such was evident on October 16th when Crew players and Franklin County Special Olympics coaches teamed up to teach soccer basics to over 50 children with Down Syndrome and their siblings.

The clinic featured traditional skill-building drills such as dribbling, passing and shooting, as well as fun activities that require fast movement and change of direction like keep-away.

Forward Tom Heinemann and Goalkeeper Andy Gruenebaum led the clinic. Both had successfully directed a similar clinic last year.

“The real stars were our emerging soccer players,” said Ryan Phillips, Director of FCBDD Special Olympics. Besides learning skills, they also received some prized keepsakes, including Crew hats and autographs. The soccer clinic is a collaborative effort among the Columbus Crew, the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, and the Franklin County Special Olympics. In its fourth year, the clinic is held at Crew Stadium.
Disability film festival opens Nov. 3

VSA Ohio and the Saul Schottenstein Foundation are kicking off the ReelAbilities Columbus Disability Film Festival at the Columbus Museum of Art on Saturday, November 3rd. The opening night will begin with a keynote at 6:30 p.m. followed by a screening of the film, “Warrior Champions.”

The documentary film features the story of four Iraq War veterans as they set out to do what many thought impossible, turning the nightmares of war into Olympic dreams. Closing the evening will be a reception with desserts and a cash bar.

Opening night tickets are $25, festival passes $75 adults, $60 seniors/students. Single event tickets are $10 adults, $7 seniors/students.

Day 2 of the 4-day festival will begin Sunday, November 4th at 1:30 p.m. with a screening of the film, “Shameless: The Art of Disability” at the Arena Grand Movie Theater. In the film, a comedian, poet, dancers, and others take a look at Hollywood stereotypes of people with disabilities. Following this film, a guest speaker will lead a discussion.

The day’s second film, “Ben X,” will follow. It features a boy named Ben who hides from the harsh reality of school by escaping into an online computer game.

For more information regarding the film festival, please go to www.vsao.org.

Siebold scholarships awarded

Each year ARC Industries assists FCBDD staff members with furthering their education in the developmental disabilities fields through the John J. Siebold scholarship program. The program is named for John Siebold, who was a FCBDD adult services staff member for 27 years.

Staff receive free flu shots

FCBDD staff have been taking advantage of flu shot clinics offered by the agency’s health insurance carrier, United Healthcare. To date, 581 staff have received the shots which have been provided at Administration, ARC North, ARC East, ARC West, ARC South, Hague Living Skills, Bixby Living Skills, Marburn and Service Coordination.

According to Insurance Coordinator Anna Oscard, “The shots were free to staff and dependents covered by the United Healthcare insurance.” Walgreen’s administered the clinics.
Psychology supervisor Karen Laub to retire

Psychology Supervisor Karen Wade Laub, Ph.D., will retire effective November 30th. She will have worked for FCBDD almost 18 years.

Karen’s recent accomplishments include leading the comprehensive revision of the agency’s crisis intervention manual; providing hundreds of psychological evaluations for waiver eligibility, guardianship, and mental health status; and supervising up to six psychology assistants.

When asked about her favorite experiences with FCBDD, she said, “I’ve been very excited trying to acquire the skills needed for therapy for those we serve.” Along with her colleagues, she has taken a variety of courses in Dialectical Behavior Therapy, a counseling method which has proven to be effective for many persons in FCBDD adult services.

“Karen’s colleagues in the Psychology Department may know her best for the high-quality evaluation reports, counseling, training, and supervision she has provided to individuals served and staff,” said Psychology Department Director Angela Ray, Ph.D. “However, her contribution to our agency goes well beyond this.”

Superintendent Jed Morison commented, “Along with many coworkers, I’ll miss Karen’s exceptional dedication and her contagious enthusiasm.”

After completing undergraduate studies at Muskingum College, Karen did graduate work in Developmental and Child Psychology at the University of Kansas. While there, she completed a traineeship with the National Institute of Mental Health.

Karen has worked as a graduate assistant and faculty member at several universities, including Kansas, Penn State and Arizona State.

She is looking forward to spending time with her husband Roger, a retired Lutheran pastor, and her son Aaron. Retirement will allow more time to travel and engage in some of her favorite hobbies: bird watching, reading, and cooking. After relaxing for a bit, Karen hopes to continue using her psychological skills in some way to serve others.

Psychology Department staff will celebrate Karen’s retirement at an open house in the FCBDD board room on Thursday, November 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. All are invited. Please contact Kay Nophsker for more details at 342-5952.

In memoriam  Margie Ann Titus

Margie Titus, who began her career at FCBDD in 1973, passed away on October 7th. She was 65.

She retired as a Habilitation Specialist at the Bixby Living Skills Center in 2005. Margie was exceptionally well liked by coworkers and service recipients.

“Throughout her many years of service, Margie was highly respected and deservedly so,” said FCBDD Superintendent Jed Morison.

Margie was survived by a sister, Nancy Chandler, and brother, David Titus.

PDP program now at Checkrein Ave.

The Parent Directed Program (PDP) has relocated from Johnstown Road to the offices of Franklin County Residential Services (FCRS) at 1021 Checkrein Avenue. Wendy Abel has been named Manager of the program.

“We are very excited to have Wendy and the PDP program joining us here and look forward to the continuing success of the program,” said FCRS Executive Director Ed Harper.

PDP provides services to about 700 persons with developmental disabilities who live with parents or other family members.
The stars were aligned over the Villa Milano party house on the evening of October 2nd. So much so that a remarkably festive atmosphere prevailed as nearly 600 friends of FCBDD gathered for the agency’s tenth annual Community Star Awards banquet.

The awards program recognizes individuals and organizations who display extraordinary dedication in support of FCBDD’s mission.

Superintendent Jed Morison welcomed guests.

“Tonight is a very special night,” he said “We mark ten years of recognizing outstanding achievements that demonstrate what we are all about.”

NBC4 reporter and co-anchor Marcus Thorpe served as emcee. He introduced the 14 award recipients and shared background information regarding them. As each winner was introduced, the crowd broke into resounding applause.

County Commissioner Paula Brooks thanked the recipients for their service and presented them official resolutions adopted by the Commissioners.

Musical entertainment was provided by the Dave Powers Trio. Their numbers included a lively rendition of the Star Spangled Banner.

A surprise Star Award was presented to Linda Fleming of Administration in recognition of her exceptional work in coordinating the awards program.

FCBDD Board President Dean Fadel closed the ceremony with warm words of thanks to agency staff.

“You inspire us and help us do better each year,” he said.

10th annual Star Awards presented

Marcus Thorpe served as Emcee.

Tsewang Chambee received the award for Adult Participant.

Matthew Woodrum, here with his mother, was the Child Participant winner.

Jim Brown was the Early Childhood Staff recipient.

Board President Dean Fadel presented the award for Transportation Staff to Bob Price.

Jennifer Siddell won the School Staff category.
Tammie Brindza was the Service Coordination Staff recipient.

Linda Fleming received a special award for 10 years of organizing the Star Awards.

Bonnie Ford is the winner for Management/Supervisory Staff.

Commissioner Paula Brooks congratulates Joy Washington, winner for Adult Services Staff.

Margaret Burley won in the Parent/Family Member category.

Carrie Keller, at left, brought one of her friends from Sharon Woods Metro Park for her regular visit to ARC E. Carrie won for Volunteer.

Cathy Hutzel, Star Award winner for Support Services.

ADD employee John Conyers shared the award for community Organization with Sara Eppard, V.P. of Individual Support at ADD Employment Services.
King of Vegas at Columbus Commons a hit
by Shawna Spanel

What does the Recreation Theater Club have in common with The Temptations, Sting, Three Dog Night, Ohio State’s Marching Band, and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra? They all have performed on the same stage at the city’s newest downtown amphitheater, the Columbus Commons.

On October 1st the Recreation Theater Club performed The King of Vegas to a crowd of approximately 100, and in so doing, brought the audience to its feet with this original adaptation of the journey to the Land of Oz.

Director Rob Sampson did something unique with the King of Vegas production. Instead of purchasing a script and then practicing the lines, Rob directed the group to collaborate and write its own script. Thus, a hilarious stage adaptation of an all-time favorite movie took root. Instead of Dorothy, the Tin Man, the Lion and Scare Crow, you journeyed with Dorothy, Steely Dan, Leo and Mr. Crow as they all were whisked away into the land of glitz and glamour on their way to find the King of Vegas.

Despite the chilly and damp weather, the actors performed flawlessly. Following the performance, the question “What’s next?” was asked twice -- by the performers and again by the Columbus Commons.

If you missed The King of Vegas, don’t worry! Rumor has it this group can’t be stopped and a tour of this show may be in their future. You can count on seeing them perform this show or another at the Columbus Commons at the end of next summer, so stay tuned to be the first to know what’s next.

Mary Baumgartner is the witch, John Standifer is the Gatekeep and Steven Segal is the King of Vegas.

Serving our country

Chuck Dawson is a Sergeant serving in the Army National Guard’s 137th Assault Helicopter Battalion based at Rickenbacker. A 14 year veteran, he works as a helicopter refueler.

From July, 2009 through June, 2010, Chuck served in Iraq with the 1483rd Transportation Company, 371st Sustainment Brigade. The unit provided transportation of assets to various units. Chuck drove a Heavy Equipment Transporter from base to base, hauling tanks.

Chuck has worked as a FCBDD bus driver for five years and currently is assigned routes to Northeast and West Central Schools.

Carrie Kerscher is a Private with the Army National Guard. In September, she completed basic training with the 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment “Roadrunners” at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina.

Carrie is continuing with advanced, individual training at Ft. Jackson through November and plans to resume college studies at Ohio State in January. She is the daughter of FCBDD Legal Counsel Martin Kerscher.

If you or a member of your family is in the service, please let Dateline know by email at: linda.fleming@fcbdd.org or by phone at 342-5988.

Carrie is at left with some fellow trainees.
Good For You
Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

“I was in shock,” said Megan Ryan, a senior at Bishop Hartley High School, upon hearing her name announced on October 4th as the school’s 2012 Homecoming Queen. The excitement was shared by her many friends, classmates, ten older siblings, and parents Bob and Mary Ginn Ryan. Megan who has Down Syndrome, was accompanied by Homecoming King Jacob Smith.

ARC Industries South staged a successful blood drive on Friday, October 12th. Thanks to staff’s generosity, the American Red Cross collected 14 units of blood. A tip of the hat to Kim Ferrell, R.N., for her work in organizing the drive.

If you managed to survive all the zombies, ghouls, ghosts and other scary creatures prowling your neighborhood recently, you might want to try your luck at our new Evil Witch Guessing Game. You simply need to identify the “evil” FCBDD staff member in this picture. Please submit your entry to Marty.Kerscher@fcbdd.org. Winners will receive a special Halloween prize!

Let’s give a round of applause to all those responsible for the success of the Recreation Theater Club’s production of The King of Vegas on October 1, including actors Chris Oliver, Christy Laflin, Mary Baumgartner, Rebecca Weinberg, Robert Calbert, James Vaughn, Steve Segal, Danielle Williams, David Koontz, Kayleigh McIntosh, Karia Karia, John Standifer; volunteer Lauren Bryant, Recreation Specialist Mike Butchko, Production Coordinator Shawna Spanel and Director Rob Sampson.

Job Placement open house set

FCBDD’s Job Placement Department is celebrating its 30th anniversary with an Open House on Thursday, November 15th. The event will run from 1 to 3 p.m. and will be held at 2879 Johnstown Road.

The department provides services to hundreds of adults in community employment, including job development, placement, on-site training, program management, and long-term follow along. Those served have an overall job retention rate of 86% for a year or more.

The department’s mission is in keeping with Executive Order 2012-05K issued by Governor Kasich in March aimed at expanding community job opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

Career Milestones

30 years
Mark Hurney

25 years
Nicholas Gulyassy
Cristsine Hahn
Bernard Hickman
Patricia Jackson
Stephen Knorr
Bernadine Thurn

20 years
Anna Oscard
James Blanchard
Peggy Cotton
Sherry Gaines
Brenda McSwain

10 years
Sandra Turner
Dorothy Yeager

5 years
Kimberly Bohlen
Sandy Campbell
Marguerite Ott
Felicia Sowell Moon

As he attended the luncheon at the PAR/ODSA conference at the Dublin Embassy Suites on October 4th, Superintendent Jed Morison was surprised to hear his name announced as the winner of the 2012 ESDY Award. The annual award recognizes those who support the principles of self-determination. He was nominated for the award by Christine Brown and Nancy Beu.
The green spot  by Brenda Toney

At the Watermark Building, home of the Service Coordination Department, we are continually trying to maintain an environmentally responsible building and save energy. A big contributor to our green effort is our ARC cleaning crew. This year the crew has gone to greener hours and is using greener cleaning products. They also take part in collecting the building’s waste for recycling.

Previously the whole crew worked from 4:30 to 11:30 p.m. Now the last of the crew leaves at 9:30 p.m., saving electricity as a result of having the building unoccupied for two additional hours.

Lindsay Sauder is now the Day Porter. She works from noon to 8:30 p.m. and helps out tremendously with many tasks that turn up during the day. Tommy Carroll is the other fulltime employee, working from 2:30 to 9:30 p.m. Two members of the cleaning crew are Kathy Eiselstein and Marte Henderson. They work part-time.

According to Training Specialist Rod Frye who supervises the crew, the adjustment in hours allows employees to get home earlier and saves energy as well.

From left are: Lindsay Sauder, Tommy Carroll, Kathy Eiselstein and Training Specialist Rod Frye. Photo by Kim Rudisill.

“I'm thankful that we have greener hours. The two things that have allowed us to have success here are carefully planned work routines and the support of the people here at Service Coordination.”

Calendar

November, 2012

6  Election Day - please vote!
12  Veterans Day - all county facilities closed.
13  Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
13  Family Advocates for Adult Children (FAAC) meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. FCBDD Adult Services Director Teresa Kobelt to speak.
15  FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
15  FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
21  Family Support (formerly Parent League) meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
22  Thanksgiving Day - all county facilities closed.
23  Thanksgiving Recess - Early Childhood, schools and adult facilities closed.
24  Michigan Wolverines vs. Ohio State Buckeyes at OSU. GO BUCKS!
26  ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.