

Agency receives employment grant

The Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission has named FCBMRDD a recipient of a new grant to increase employment opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities.

The *Leveraging Internships for Employment (LIFE) Works* project aims to foster non-traditional employment in a 4-county region that will include Fairfield, Franklin, Hocking and Licking counties.

LIFE Works will offer a variety of paid work internships and other work experiences. It will promote individual choice and attempt to direct students into the community who might otherwise go into sheltered employment.

FCBMRDD will contribute \$241,500 to the project in matching funds, but will receive \$963,735 from the grant.

Superintendent Jed Morison is excited about the project.

"LIFE Works provides a wonderful opportunity for collaboration with nearby counties, while earning an excellent return on our investment," he said.

Marcy Samuel, Director of Program Operations, prepared the grant application.

Support grows for charitable campaign

For the past 6 years, FCBMRDD has led all county agencies in funds contributed to the Combined Charitable Campaign. In 2008, staff again are showing strong support for the campaign, having given over \$37,000 at press time.

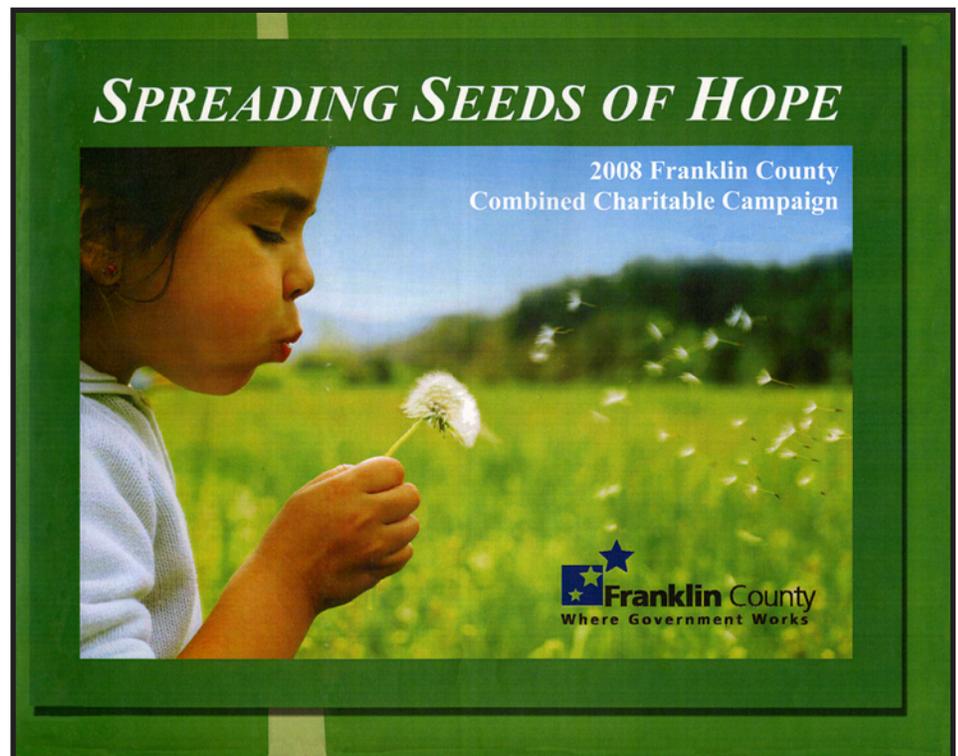
The campaign, which began September 15th, runs through Friday, October 17th.

The annual campaign asks county employees to contribute to one or more of 532 charitable organizations.

Martin Kerscher, FCBMRDD Legal Counsel, is overall coordinator of the campaign.

A prize drawing will be held October 17th, featuring a grand prize of a 19 inch, LCD TV. All staff who give at least \$2 per paycheck, or a one-time amount of \$54, will be eligible to participate.

Dan Schoenstra, OAPSE President, and Scott Snyder, President of COPE/OEA, are honorary co-chairs. All staff serving as coordinators are listed inside in *Good For You*.



West Central hosts Chuck White

Local children's TV legend, Chuck White, brought his folk music magic to the students and staff of West Central School on Friday, September 19th.

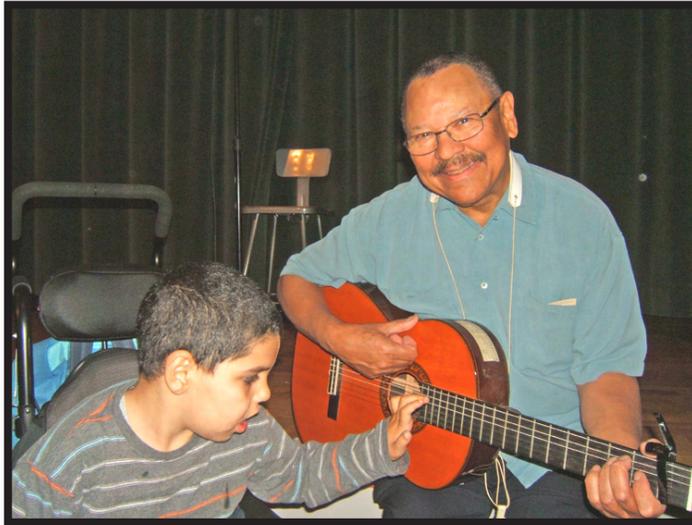
The voice of "Mr. Tree" on WBNS-TV's old Luci's Toyshop show, the talented entertainer serves as the station's public affairs director.

His gentle voice and joyful melodies made the event a special treat.

White kicked off West Central's music in the schools series.

The students and staff thought the sing-a-longs were great fun, and especially enjoyed singing, clapping and stomping to the beat.

Thanks to music teacher, Lynn Turner, for arranging the event.



Families to hear behavior expert

"Positive Approaches to Behavior Management" will be the subject of a presentation by Matt Talicska, Behavior Support Specialist with Franklin County Residential Services, at the next meeting of Families United.

The meeting will be held Thursday, October 9th, at 7 p.m. The location will be Overbrook Presbyterian Church, 4131 N. High Street, Columbus.

The public is invited.

In memoriam *Susan Darbyshire*

On September 9th, FCBMRDD lost a much beloved member of its family. Susan Darbyshire passed away after a short, but brave battle with cancer.

Susan had worked for the agency for 25 years, spending most of those years with Adult Services and West Central School as an Occupational Therapist.

Susan also filled in as the Assistant Principal at West Central, and spent time as the Habilitation Services Manager at ARC Industries West.

While with Adult Services, Susan supervised the therapy assistants at the other workshops.

Susan loved her job and co-workers. To her, being an Occupational Therapist was a large part of her self-identity and she fought hard not to lose that identity.

Those of us lucky enough to know Susan, watched in amazement at the tenacity with which she fought her illness, smiling through the pain, always caring about others first.

Susan will continue to serve as a role model for all of us. She smiled often but honestly; treated individuals with kindness, refusing to hold grudges or feelings of ill will; and she faced adversity with strength and integrity, never complaining.

Susan is survived by her husband Durand "Darby," her son Scott, a student at Ohio University, and many friends at Franklin County who will miss her dearly.



Focus on Combined Charitable Campaign

FCBMRDD's 2008 Combined Charitable Campaign began September 15th and will run through October 17th. This article provides background information about the campaign.

What is the Combined Charitable Campaign?

The campaign is an annual fundraising drive that seeks donations from county employees to help the community by supporting charitable organizations. Key features of the campaign are that it provides donors many options in terms of charities to support, and allows contributions through payroll deduction.

What organizations are supported by the campaign?

Fifteen umbrella organizations -- called "federations"-- are participating in the campaign. Each of the federations is made up of individual charities that have similar missions. These federations are: America's Charities, A Special Wish Foundation, Community Health Charities of Ohio, Community Shares of Mid Ohio, Earth Share

of Ohio, Global Impact, Neighbor to Nation, The United Negro College Fund/UNCF, United Way of Central Ohio, United Way of Delaware County, United Way of Fairfield County, United Way of Licking County, United Way of Clark, Champaign, and Madison Counties, United Way of Pickaway County, and United Way of Union County.

Can I direct my contribution to a particular charity?

Yes, subject to certain limits, donors may designate particular federations as well as particular charities within the federations to receive their contributions. This can be done through filling out a pledge sheet using the appropriate code number(s). The code numbers for the various charities may be found in the resource guide. Your department's campaign coordinator can assist with any questions regarding this.

How can I contribute?

Most agree that payroll deduction is the most convenient method since it allows the contribution to be spread out

over an entire year. One-time contributions are also acceptable but should be accompanied by a completed pledge sheet. Any checks should be made payable to "Combined Charitable Campaign."

Are contributions tax-deductible?

Yes. Every charity in the resource guide is a 501(c)(3) organization.

What is FCBMRDD's past record in supporting the campaign?

Last year, FCBMRDD continued its tradition as the leader among county agencies in total support for the Combined Charitable Campaign. The 2007 campaign generated contributions from FCBMRDD staff in excess of \$77,000.

How can I learn more about the Combined Charitable Campaign?

Contact the campaign coordinator at your facility or department. You may also contact Martin Kerscher, Administration, at 342-5988.

Agonis Club honors Tom Morgan

Franklin County Special Olympics coach Tom Morgan was honored by the Agonis Club as its Jimmy Crum/ Dr. Frank Sobolewski Coach of the Year for coaching athletes with disabilities. He received the award Friday, September 19th, at the Buckeye Hall of Fame.

Tom is the head coach for the Flyers Navy Thunderbolts softball team.

Below is an excerpt from the nomination written by Special Olympics Director Dee Hively:

"Tom brings true joy to his team of athletes... He takes a group of individual athletes each year and turns them into a true team. In addition to being an excellent teacher and skill technician, Tom and his fellow coaches stress team, friendship, having fun and being cheerleaders for each other..."

"... The athletes Tom works with all have an increase in self-esteem and have learned to build stronger interpersonal relationships."



Special Olympics softball a hit

The Flyers White team won gold to become state champs!

Kneeling are: Andrew Johnson, Kevin Ramsey, Evan Ichrist, Mike Mascari, and Jason Gregory.

Standing are: coach Charlie Potts, Brandon Leeper, Will Hart, David Bingle, Marty Berniker, Hugh Brunney, Steve Wahls and coach Paul Loper



The Flyers Gold team won silver at the state tournament on September 6th in Oregon, Ohio. They lost a hard fought gold medal game by one run.

Kneeling are: coach James Rogers, Tracie Smith, Donald Custer, Cindy Grubbs and Brian Zuefle.

Standing are: Coach Dan Glass, Bobby Legg, Alvin Tolliver, Ray Dillon, Bruce Amstutz, Darryl Kelly, Kevin Roddy, Corey Girard, Mike Yost, Victoria Harris and coaches Megan Simmons and Chris Onusko.

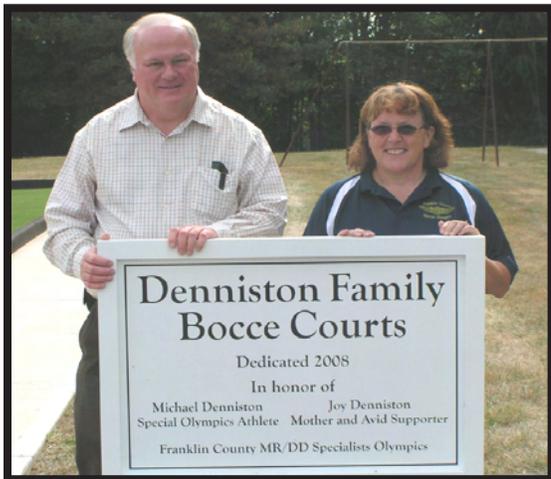
The Flyers Navy team placed second at the Area 6 tournament in August at the Hilliard Municipal Softball Complex.

Standing are: coaches Tom Morgan and Dave Merrell, Shawnta Bowman, Rashawn Smith, Dan Huff, Tony Keith, Rodney Byrd, Richard Kolodgy and Lee Polock .

Kneeling are: Ryan Blanton, Chad Contreras, Jason Freeman, Chad Calloway, Lucas Grayson, Erich Smith and coach Brian England.



Bocce courts dedicated at Bixby



Charles Denniston and Dee Hively stand behind the sign dedicating the three Bocce courts to Michael and Joy Denniston. Michael was a long-time participant, his mother, Joy, was a community advocate and FCBMRDD board member. All photos by Mike Hively.



After the dedication, many people wanted to try state-of-the-art courts.

West Central concert a success

A benefit concert was held on Sunday, September 28th at the Jessing Center, for the benefit of the Parent Group at West Central School.

Mari Kay Dono performed selections from the *Baroque Period, A Journey Through Italy, and A Journey Through America* with songs from Broadway and Jazz. Her encore performance was a tribute to her family.

Craig Courtney composed a song for the children of West Central School, "When I Am Lifted Up", which had a world premiere performance at the event. The lyrics were by Pam Martin Tomlinson.

Barbara Michael-Jones, Principal of West Central School, accompanied Ms. Dono on three songs in the American music section. She also performed a piano solo in memory of her parents.

The event also featured a silent auction.



From left are: Mr. and Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Dono, Barbara Michael-Jones, Mari Kay Dono, Francis Dono and Dr. Dono.

“Planting ahead” at ECLC

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation, a nonprofit group funded by FuitaBu Snack Company, provided the Early Childhood Learning Community on Rudy Road with 50 fruit trees and shrubs to be planted in the Outdoor Learning Environment.

The Foundation, based in Mill Valley, California, is directed by Cem Akin.

The trees and shrubs were planted by children, families, Foundation staff, ECLC staff, and community volunteers on Sunday, September 7th.

Toddlers and pre-schoolers were delighted to “dig” into action to beautify their school and to look forward to healthy fruit snacks in the near future.

According to ECE Director Becky Love, “We can expect some of the trees to start producing fruit next year.”

In addition to the Foundation, Lowes and the Franklin Park Conservatory contributed to this project.



ECLC students are quick to help in the planting of their serviceberry.



Staff member Kim O'Brien and her daughter participate in planting activity.



Students and parents were treated to an informal demo on ways to include more fruit in their diets. Sampling the treats was the favorite activity.

Autism walk slated

The first Autism Speaks walk for Autism fundraiser will be held on Sunday, October 12th, at the Schottenstein Center. The walk begins at 10 a.m., with registration opening at 8:30 a.m.

For more information, please go to www.walknowforautism.org/columbus.

Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBMRDD Community

Career Milestones

Christine Brown of People First made a presentation to the Board of MRDD on September 18th honoring the late **Steve Cooley**, who passed away 3 years ago at age 45. "Steve got self-determination started in Ohio... We all miss him so much," she said.

An article by Franklin County advocate **Debra Petermann** was published in the summer issue of *DD Quarterly*. Titled "To Have Sight but No Vision: Inclusive Congregations," the article set forth Debra's vision of how worship communities can fully include people with disabilities.

Dan Knox, Behavior Support Specialist at ARC Industries West, was recognized for his entrepreneurial efforts in the October issue of *Columbus CEO* magazine. In his spare time, Dan designs and sells t-shirts with non-matching sleeves. The shirts are available at www.oneslev.com.

An article by *Columbus Dispatch* writer **Joe Blundo** on September 20th helped publicize one of Franklin County Special Olympics' fundraising activities. On Ohio State football Saturdays, **Special Olympics volunteers** operate a parking lot at 250 W. Dodridge Street. Buckeye fans park in a clean, convenient location while supporting a great cause.

The following FCBMRDD staff are serving as coordinators of the agency's Combined Charitable Campaign: **Amy Magginis**, Administration; **Maggie Hart**, Administrative Services; **Angela Ray**, Psychology; **Mike Doran**, ARC East; **Jan Montgomery**, ARC West; **Bo Milby**, ARC North; **Jim Leake**, ARC South; **Shella Ross**, ARC Sales & Business Office; **Bob Reardon**, ARC Employment Services; **Grace Fair**, Bixby Living Skills Center; **Debbie Guyton**, Hague Living Skills Center; **Cathy Gordon**, ECEFC; **Gretchen Uhl**, ECLC; **Mark Moxley**, Northeast School; **Barbara Michael-Jones**, West Central School; **Diane Kaiser**, Service Coordination; **Amy Kulow**, Transportation East; **Mary Fairchild**, Transportation West; and **Dorcas Sharp**, Transportation South.

30 years

Michele Brosius

20 years

Michael Boyce
Janet Montgomery
Michael Oliva
Leslie Smith
Elizabeth Trapp

15 years

Debra Dillard
Charles Lindsay

10 years

Thomas Allan
Mary Brooks
Shirley Coleman
Jaime Graham
Dennis Green
Tammy Suttle
Amy Szyal

5 years

Mary Bailey
Krystal Brown
Debra Buckley
Julie Conley
Mary Kerber
Allen McConnell, Jr.
Timothy Neff



Kevin Deering, the sole laundry worker at OSU Harding, is celebrating his successful multi-year placement. Congratulations!

Open house set for Gahanna apartments

Creative Housing will hold an open house of the Apartments at Stoneridge, its newest grouping of fully accessible apartments, on Thursday, October 30th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The apartments are located at the south end of Stoneridge Mall in Gahanna.

This is the sixth apartment location developed by Creative in partnership with FCBMRDD. Major funding for all six locations was provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Officials from HUD and the city of Gahanna, joined by the future apart-

ment tenants, will be on hand for a brief ribbon cutting ceremony at noon.

Please notify Creative Housing at 418-7725 (ext. 20) if you would like to attend this event. Refreshments will be available.

The Huntington Bank is serving as the major corporate sponsor of the event with additional sponsorship provided by City Smith Barney and HRH insurance group.

Parking will be available at the southeast end of Stoneridge Mall. A drop-off area will be at the apartment entrance at 1243 N. Hamilton Road.



Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

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

Superintendent Jed W. Morison

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The following FCBMRDD staff contribute to the monthly publication and distribution of Dateline.

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Information about FCBMRDD is always available on the internet at:
www.fcbmrdd.org

Calendar

October, 2008

- 6 Voting registration deadline. Please call Board of Elections at 462-3100 for details.
- 9 Families United meeting, 4131 N. High Street, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Columbus Day - all county facilities closed.
- 14 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 15 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 23 FCBMRDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 23 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5:00 p.m.
- 27 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 29 FCBMRDD Community Star Awards Banquet, Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Rd., 5:30 p.m. Please call Linda Rockwell at 342-5950 for details.
- 31 Happy Halloween!

“Quotable quotes”

“It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one.”
-- *George Washington*