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# FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD THE TEA GLASS



MARILYN WEIDMAN, EDITOR MARCH, 2014

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## March is DD Awareness Month



Ability @ Work was the theme for this year's DD Awareness Campaign. Many activities were planned throughout the month at FCBDD. The Transportation Dept. had a Socks in the Box contest to see which driver could bring in the most socks. At the end of the month, the socks were then distributed to people in the DD community.



Spirit Day was held at both buildings. The students wore red for spirit day and the adults wore their favorite sports team which of course was the Dragons!! A proclamation was signed by Tony Anderson, County Commissioner and Joe Denen, City Manager. The Annual Dwight Turner Me-



morial Spaghetti Dinner was held on Friday, March 14th. Approximately 267 people were served. The evening ended with the annual pie throwing with a twist. Mike Clay thoroughly enjoyed throwing a pie in his son, Tony's face. A huge thanks goes to Vicki Clay for once again organizing this event. The Annual Dragons/ Sheriff Dept. basketball game was

held on Wed. March 19th. In conjunction, WCHO also did a play by play on the AM Radio station for those who could not make the game. And finally, a balloon launch was held on March 25th. The children reluctantly let go of their balloon and watched it fly in the sky.





## Perfect Attendance Awards Presented in Transportation

Welcome to Danny Purdum. Danny currently drives the van route and is also licensed to drive a school bus. He lives in Greenfield where he was a sub bus driver for the Greenfield district.

The State Highway Patrol conducted a spot inspection on FCBDD's school buses in February and we are glad to report there were no citations. Congratulations to Teresa Leeth, Sue Kunie and Chris Arbogast for making the buses safe. Keep up the great work!

We would also like to acknowledge the teamwork between Sue Kunie and her bus captain Bethany. Together, they were able to get information which was needed to the authorities; as a vehicle ran Sue's red student lights while at a pick-up. This is the second time in less than a year that a vehicle has been reported to the authorities.

A letter of commendation was also given to Chris Arbogast for being aware of her surroundings while driving her noon route and putting safety first.



Mya



Nancy, Ronnie, Fred, Amanda



Rachel



JJ

*Beginning in January, the Transportation Dept. started awarding passengers with a certificate of attendance. A perfect attendance award was given to the passengers that ride the bus on every day they are scheduled to ride, to and from the adult workshop or the Starting Gate.*

### Adults:

#### January perfect attendance

- ♦ Jeff
- ♦ Becky
- ♦ Dusty
- ♦ Amanda
- ♦ Nancy
- ♦ Fred
- ♦ Doug

### Adults:

#### February perfect attendance

- ♦ JJ
- ♦ Ronnie
- ♦ Nancy
- ♦ Fred
- ♦ Lynn
- ♦ Clarrissa

### Children:

#### January perfect attendance

- ♦ Mya
- ♦ Rachel

**\*\*Not pictured: Jeff, Becky, Dusty, Doug, Ronnie, Lynn and Clarrissa**

# The Good Life

Just reading the title sparks an interest, doesn't it? Isn't this what we all want our life experience to be? That we are happy and we have a "good life". The Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities takes promoting a "Good Life" serious when working with people who receive services. We feel that everyone deserves to live the life they desire. To help people achieve a "good life", it takes everyone who is in the person's life to believe in and be a part of supporting a person in leading their life in the direction that they choose.

While the FCBDD has been focused on promoting a "positive culture"

within the organization and in interactions with people we serve and all stakeholders, we are making a commitment to fully embrace the "Good Life". Two staff from the Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities have been selected with high recommendations to go through an extensive training to be "Good Life" Facilitators. The staff that have been selected are Cheryl Binegar, a Service and Support Administrator, and Tony Clay, a Program Coordinator. This training, the "Good Life Ally and Coach Facilitator Learning Experience" is through the Ohio Association for County Boards of Developmental

Disabilities, who work closely with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and with local County Boards of DD, to provide support and training.

Once the "Good Life" Facilitators have completed the training, they will be qualified to use their toolbox of skills to train staff, stakeholders, and people we serve on what a "Good Life" is. The Fayette County Board's focus will be to view each person individually, and do what it takes to respectfully give people the direction and opportunities to achieve what we all desire in life, and that is to simply have a "Good Life!"

## Employment First

The Fayette County Board of DD has been chosen as one of six pilot sites in the state of Ohio for the Employment First Initiative. Employment First was created as a result of an Executive Order by Governor Kasich and is a priority within Ohio to give individuals access to services and supports to work in competitive jobs within their community. Employment First will also offer a greater quality of life and a sense of self-worth by enhancing the careers of people while utilizing their strengths and talents and offer employers dependable and qualified employees.



range goals, and determine barriers to competitive employment so other counties across the state of Ohio can have a template to use.

Fayette County currently has a successful rate of community employ-

ment placement with over 40 individuals who make minimum wage or higher currently working at community sites. Employment First as well as the Bridges to Transition program will help individuals actively contribute to their community as well as earn a living.





# Preschool classes

Suzie



Early intervention and friends are making the best of indoor fun...counting the days till outdoor fun!!

Trish

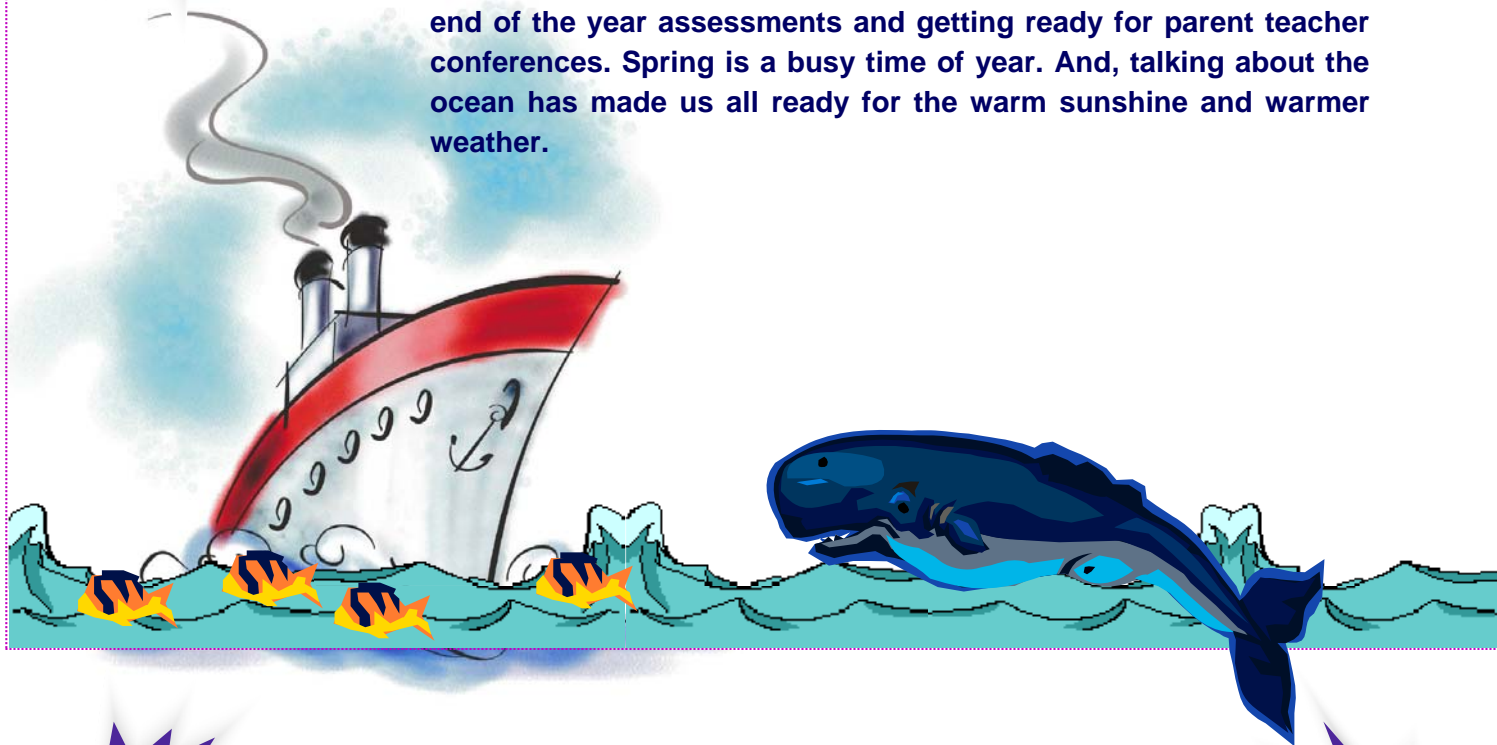


In January, we read the book, "The Snowy Day" and talked about what happens when you put ice in your pocket. The children enjoyed checking their pockets to see if the ice was melting. In February we had our Clifford the Big Red Dog week and made puppy chow. The children loved that. We also had a fun Valentine's day where the children passed out their valentines to their friends. March will be all about rainbows and shamrocks and the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Of course, we will have to dance like a leprechaun!!!!!! All the teachers will begin their assessments that are required by the State in March and April. So hopefully the snow is gone and the spring flowers will begin to grow and we can finally go outside to play.



Erin

This month we have been covering the ocean. The kids have learned about clownfish, jellyfish, dolphins, orcas, and great white sharks. The children have been busy working on their letters, numbers, shapes, colors, and writing their names. We've also begun end of the year assessments and getting ready for parent teacher conferences. Spring is a busy time of year. And, talking about the ocean has made us all ready for the warm sunshine and warmer weather.



Jill

Pictured below is Christine working with the children in Jill's Adaptive Physical Education class. Christine works 2 days a week helping Jill and has as much fun in the class as the children ... and as Jill. And the kiddos as you can see, flock around Chris. <3



The Color is RED!

Jamie



AM Class



PM Class

March 6th was Spirit Day! Jamie's class wore the color red and also did an activity about Dr. Seuss' book "Ten Apples Up on Top".





# Special Olympics

Basketball



Bowling



## Local Heroes Help Some Children

**In a world where we hear a lot about what is going wrong, it is so refreshing to see people step up to make other lives a little better.**

Social media has a big impact on FCBDD. This past Dec., the Behavior Support Advisory Committee (BSAC) in Fayette County registered to have a float in the annual Holiday parade. The children were eagerly waiting for the parade, but due to inclement weather, the parade was canceled.

One mom went on her personal Face Book page and simply stated how disappointed the children were. She then asked for ideas for what the children might do in place of the parade.

That one simple Face Book message went to the heart of several individuals who live in the Fayette County community. They organized a free bowling and pizza night for the children and their families in place of the parade. In addition, they also donated generously to recover what was lost in preparation and decoration of the float. These individuals became heroes to not only the children, but also the parents who are involved in Fayette Counties BSAC program.

Thank you Steve Armstrong, Jason Langley, Barkers Towing, Central Ohio Exterminating, Brady Bryant, Nicki Mick, Kristen McDowell, Gary Campbell (Santa) and the Chamber of Commerce.

For more information on BSAC, please contact Cheryl Binegar at Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities at (740) 335-7453.

## Staff Birthdays, January - June

### January

23 - Jeni Harris

### February

11- Danny Purdum

16 - Betty Reisinger

### March

8 - Trish Thibert

11 - Ria May

23 - Sue Kunie

24 - Mark Schwartz

### April

3 - Kayce Elzey

18 - Suzie Janasov

24 - Linda Mickle

### May

3 - Robin Beekman

4 - Cheryl Binegar

6 - Jill Phillips

6 - Christina Shephard

24 - Tricia Enochs

24 - Nikki Parker

30 - Robyn Runnels

30 - Heather Hoppes

### June

10 - Miranda Bailey

20 - Reatha Davis

21 - Fred Williams

22 - Teresa Leeth

25 - Kristen Whitmer

27 - Nicki Mick





# Nursing Services

We are very fortunate to have Jan Cobb as our nurse at FCBDD. Pictured is Jan teaching the most recent CPR/First Aid class. She makes sure we are all certified in case of an emergency. Thanks, Jan for all you do at FCBDD.



Nurse Jan and Business Director, Lori Moore



# Thank you to the following:

1. Matthew Weidman and the Fayette County Sheriff's Dept. for organizing the Dragons/Dawgs game.
2. Harry Wright and 1250 AM Oldies Radio for the interview, publicity and play by play of the game.
3. Doug Marine & Doug Marine Net.
4. Fayette Travel and Tourism
5. Parrett Insurance
6. Ralph the Tire Man
7. East Ambulance

Doug Marine, Doug Marine Net, Fayette Travel & Tourism, Ralph the Tire Man, East Ambulance and Parrett Ins. all sponsored the play by play of the game and in addition, Parrett Ins. also donated the Clippers tickets for prizes at the game.

Thanks to Ron and Diane Amore of LeElla Lanes for hosting our 5 Year Accreditation Staff Celebration.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- ◆ Cheryl Binegar has been selected from many nominees to be a recipient of the "Exceptional Achievement Award", from the Regional Advisory Council and the Parent Advisory Council of Region 14-Hopewell Center. Cheryl will be presented this award at the Thirty-First Annual Exceptional Achievement Award Recognition Ceremony on April 24, 2014 at the Hillsboro Elementary School. Congrats, Cheryl!!
- ◆ Betty Reisinger is a grandma!! Brantly Ray Free was born on Feb. 14th and weighed 9lbs 6 oz, and 21 1/2 in long. Jessika and Zach parents are the parents. If you've seen the twinkle in Betty's eyes...this is one reason why!
- ◆ Erin Elliott has 3 books coming out soon. One comes out in June/July, one in Oct./Nov. and one in Aril/May of next year. Congratulations Erin!!
- ◆ Linda Mickle is retiring the end of the school year. We are going to miss her. Good luck with this new adventure in your life, Linda.

Thank you to Rob Shipley, one of the parents in Erin's class. He made and donated these shelves/cubbies for Erin's classroom!



"Springtime  
is the land  
awakening  
The March  
winds are  
the morning  
yawn"  
~Lewis Grizzard



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1) April 7 - Movie Trip - Captain America Winter Soldier (Adult Hab Trip)
- 2) April 8 - Columbus Blue Jackets (Adult Hab Trip)
- 3) April 9 - Market Day orders due to FPS \*\* please note: anyone ordering this month will have their name entered into a drawing to receive a \$25.00 Market Day Gift Certificate.
- 4) April 12 - Ohio State Buckeyes Spring Game (Adult Hab Trip)
- 5) April 17 - Market Day pick-up (6:30-7:30 PM at FPI)
- 6) April 18 - Workshop Closed (Good Friday)
- 7) April 18-25 - Preschool Spring Break
- 8) May 5 - Movie Trip - The Amazing Spiderman 2 (Adult Hab Trip)
- 9) May 9 - Staff In-service
- 10) May 12 - Columbus Clippers Baseball Game (Adults)
- 11) May 14 - Columbus Zoo & Aquarium (Adult Hab Trip)
- 12) May 26 - Workshop Closed (Memorial Day)
- 13) May 27 - AM Preschool Zoo Field Trip
- 14) May 28 - PM Preschool Zoo Field Trip
- 15) May 28 - Putt-Putt Golf-Young's Dairy Farm (Adult Hab Trip)
- 16) May 29th - Preschool graduation. Erin's class: 10:00 AM, Jamie's class: 1:00 PM.
- 17) June 11 - The Wilds (Adult Hab Trip)
- 18) June 16 - Movie Trip—How to Train Your Dragon 2 (Adult Hab Trip)
- 19) June 23 - Bridges to Transition Summer Youth starting at St. Catherine's and Le Ella Lanes
- 20) June 26 - LaComedia's- All Shook Up (Adult Hab Trip)
- 21) June 30—Movie Trip—Transformers: Age of Extinction (Adult Hab Trip)

## Welcome New Employees

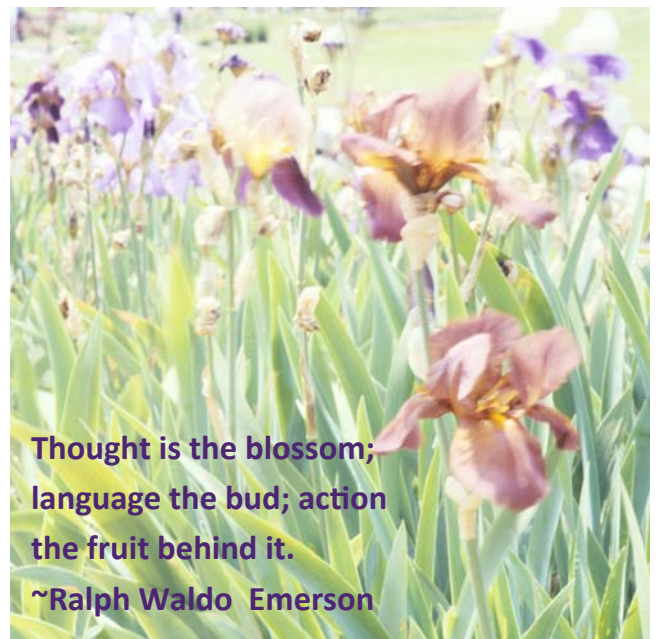
### ◇ Yolande Robinson

Yolande enjoys reading, spending time with her grandchildren, playing board games, attending gospel concerts and visiting her family in Alaska. She has 3 adult children and 6 grandchildren, ages 6-21. She previously taught elementary school in Fairbanks, AK. When asked what she likes most about her job at FCBDD, she replied, "Seeing smiles on peoples faces when you spend time with them and talking one on one with them."

### ◇ Danny Purdum

Danny currently drives the van route and is licensed to drive our school buses. Danny lives in Greenfield where he was a sub bus driver for the Greenfield district and also works at McDonalds. Danny and his wife have one child (2 years old) and one soon to be born within the next month. Danny is also a pastor at the Greenfield Bible Missionary Church. He enjoys wood working and making clocks and shelves. Danny enjoys working with the people here at FCBDD and having a job where he feels he can make a difference in the lives of people.

### ◇ Cathy Jones



Thought is the blossom;  
language the bud; action  
the fruit behind it.

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

# Fayette County Board is Exemplary

By now you have probably heard what most have known for many years. The Fayette County Board of DD is a high performing organization. This notion was confirmed when the state Department of Developmental Disabilities issued the highest honor that can be bestowed on a County Board--- 5 Year Accreditation Award. This past fall, the Department conducted a comprehensive on-site review to assess the quality of services and supports the County Board provides to over 265 people. The survey team

reviewed Individual Plans, Employment records, Health and Safety systems, Early Intervention and Adult Ser-



**Superintendent Fred Williams**

vices, Transportation and everything in between. This is significant in itself and

especially important because the County Board is the only agency in Fayette County that provides services from cradle to the grave.

A big thank you is in order for all staff that put forth a total team effort which is a major strength of the County Board of DD. Also, appreciation goes to all of the people who receive services, their families, The Board, elected officials and the community at large who have supported the program for over 45 years.

*Thank you to our  
dedicated  
volunteer board  
members:*

*President -  
Mitchell Kirby*

*Caryl Bookman*

*Cody Kirkpatrick*

*Larry Mayer*

*Suzie McCracken*

*Janelle Mead*

*James Miteff*

## Strategic Planning

On February 21, 2014 staff representing each department met to develop the 2014 Strategic Plan. The group developed goals and objectives focusing on four specific perspectives: Customer Perspective, Financial Perspective, Employee Perspective, and Innovation and Learning. Once the information was compiled, each staff member in all departments had an opportunity to review the plan and make suggestions. We are currently in the process of developing activities to meet each goal and objectives. If you would like to review the plan, please see your department head.







## Fayette County Board of DD

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The Fayette County Board of DD was started in the basement of a small church in 1967 by a group of parents and concerned citizens. The program has grown from serving eight children to serving 265 children and adults.

**Mission:** We offer quality programs and coordinate available services so that people we serve may realize their dreams and actively contribute to their community.

**Vision:** To empower people to be the best version of themselves.

**Values:** Teamwork, Dedication, Respect, Integrity.

To request our email newsletter, please contact Marilyn Weidman at [mweidman@fayettedd.com](mailto:mweidman@fayettedd.com)

# Martha Wagner Award Presented

The Martha Wagner Community Service Award is presented annually to the person(s) who has personally or professionally enhanced the quality of life of persons with DD and their families. This year's recipient went to Sgt. Matthew Weidman and the Fayette County Sheriff's Dept.

The Fayette County Sheriff's Department has become one of the biggest supporters of the Fayette County DD Special Olympics program since the program's beginning. Sergeant Weidman came up with several fundraising ideas to help generate funds for the local Special Olympics program. The deputies played the Dragons team in basketball. Over 400 people were in attendance at this charity game. Sgt. Weidman also sold tickets, donated items and helped serve at the annual spaghetti dinner. This past summer, the Sheriff's Dept. participated

ed in a softball game against the Special Olympics Dragons. The annual Dime-A-Dog night was held in conjunction, and over 800 hot dogs were sold generating a significant amount of funds for the Special Olympics program. Due to the success of this night, Officer Weidman also set-up a game featuring the Sheriff's Dept. and the Washington Court House Police Dept. Again this event was a huge success and another great fundraiser for the Special Olympics program.

While fundraising was a big result of the Sheriff's Departments' support, the best part was the relationships established between the deputies and the Special Olympic athletes, as well as the public awareness of the Fayette County DD Special Olympics program. The Special Olympics program has continued to grow and would not be possible without the overwhelming

support of the Fayette County Sheriff's Department.



**Matthew Weidman receiving the Martha Wagner award from Caryl Bookman, board member and daughter of Martha Wagner**

**"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." — Albert Schweitzer**