

John Martin retains director's post

John Martin, who was appointed Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) initially by Governor Strickland in January, 2007, has been reappointed by Governor Kasich.

This is the first time that a DODD Director has been reappointed to serve after the election of a new governor.

Governor Kasich announced the decision on January 6th, noting, "John's record of accomplishment is highly impressive. He understands many of the challenges faced by Ohioans with developmental disabilities and their families. John is a man of great character, and I look forward to him serving in my cabinet."

Regarding his reappointment, Director Martin said, "I am honored



Governor Kasich and Director Martin confer during a press conference.

to continue to serve... I look forward to working with Ohio's developmental disability community under Governor Kasich's leadership."

The agency oversees the state's system of supports and services

for more than 80,000 Ohioans with developmental disabilities.

For 23 years before coming to DODD, Director Martin was the Executive Director of Sunshine, Inc. of northwest Ohio, a non-profit organization serving people with developmental disabilities.

His educational background includes a bachelor's degree in Special Education from Illinois State University and a master's degree in Community Psychology from Temple University.

FCBDD Superintendent Jed Morison commented, "We are very pleased that Director Martin will continue to provide leadership at the state level. He has been doing terrific work during very challenging times."

Daphne Hawk is new county recorder

A former FCBDD staff member is Franklin County's newest elected official.

Daphne Hawk was appointed County Recorder by the Franklin County Republican Central Committee on January 13th. She will complete the term that runs through 2012. The position was vacated by Robert Montgomery, who began serving as Probate Judge on January 3rd. She will face the voters in November, 2012.

Daphne was Executive Assistant to then FCBDD Superintendent Steve Pleasnick from 1989 through 1996. Since then, she has been a licensed Realtor and a real estate educator. In

her first try at elective office, she was elected Jackson Township Trustee in 2009.

The County Recorder is responsible for maintaining records relating to real estate titles in the county. She also serves on the county's Automated Data Processing Board as well as the Microfilming Board.

Commenting on the appointment, Superintendent Jed Morison said, "Although our agency has very little interaction with the County Recorder, it is an extremely important position. I'm sure that Daphne will do an excellent job."



Daphne and her husband, Keith, make their home in Jackson Township in the Grove City area. They have been members of the Grove City Church of the Nazarene since 1989.

Board OKs action plan

At its regular meeting on January 27th, the board approved FCBDD's Action Plan for 2011. The plan had been the subject of a public hearing in December.

Preparation of the plan was overseen by Martin Kerscher, FCBDD's Legal Counsel. The plan outlines projected needs, goals and strategies for the coming year. Outcome measures are also included.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the plan may call Linda Fleming at 342-5950.

VSA plans day for arts

On Saturday, February 26th, VSA Ohio, the state organization on arts and disability, will hold *A Day of Arts* at the Westerville Community Center, 350 N. Cleveland Avenue, Westerville.

This free event will include art for everyone. An opening ceremony will recognize those accepted and make awards.

For more information, please call 241-5325.

Remodeling planned for West Central

Two major remodeling projects are planned for West Central School this summer.

The playground, which is located in a courtyard area, will be remodeled to function as an outdoor learning environment. This will enable students to enjoy riding, climbing, swinging and other activities.

In addition, all of the major restrooms will be rehabilitated to make them more accessible and modern. The Home Economics Room will also be upgraded to allow better teaching of living skills.

The remodeling projects are expected to be completed before the start of the 2011-2012 school year.

Rick Zarnoch to lead FCRS board

The board of Franklin County Residential Services has chosen new officers. Rick Zarnoch was named President; Jill Tangeman, Vice-President; Mary Anne Ledinsky, Secretary; and Ronald Calhoun, Treasurer.

The new President succeeds Debbie Freece, who had served as President since 2006. She will remain a member of the board. Other board members are Stewart Kemper, Dr. Helen Malone, Tiffany Thompson and Donald Wire.

"We are fortunate to have a great leadership team," said Executive Director Ed Harper. "I'm very grateful for their service."

ARC North's Beth Stoll retires

by Patti Glick

Beth Stoll, a Training Specialist at ARC Industries North, retired on January 31st after 30 years of service.

Beth started her career as a Bus Assistant in 1980, thanks to a little help from a neighbor who was a staff member. A short time later, she became a Bus Driver, eventually taking the route that she had assisted on.

After seven years, she began working as a substitute Training Specialist. In 1990, she became a full-time Training Specialist at ARC North. She began working in the bin board department, then Sunapple department, and most recently with a general vocational group of eleven individuals.

"Beth has been a very professional and compassionate staff member who has built wonderful relationships with those we serve," said Nan Burns, Director of ARC North.

We wish Beth much happiness in her retirement!



Building better relationships in 2011

by Karen Laub

In a column in *The Wall Street Journal* last month, Elizabeth Bernstein raised the subject of New Year's resolutions. She suggested that improving interpersonal relationships is a better resolution than improving the state of one's abs. I immediately abandoned any further thought about my stomach muscles, and you may want to reassess your own New Year's resolutions.

Improving relationships sounds easy. You will be tempted to the usual: *Trying harder*. You will, of course, need to: *Try different*. Trying different is hard because so much of our lives is lived on automatic pilot. You've probably heard about the folly of doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result. If we're going to improve relationships, we're going to have to make that our priority and establish new routines.

Bernstein advises talking to other people. Often when one person feels like talking, the other person does not. This can lead to anger, sometimes including the dreaded "silent treatment" and sometimes spoiling an otherwise "good time."

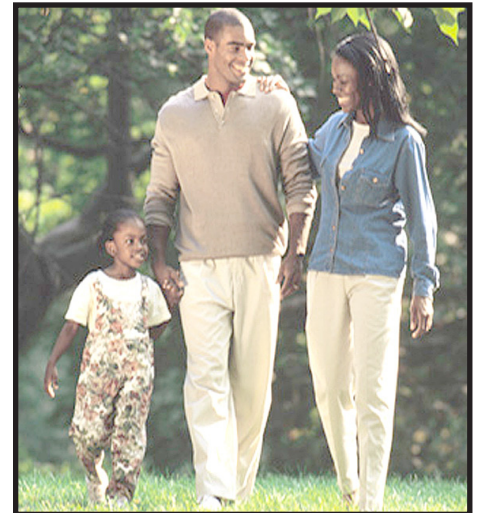


Some talks benefit from being delayed until petty irritation has passed and no talk is needed. Sometimes we need to figure out to whom we really need to talk and schedule a time to really listen and communicate patiently and honestly. Plan ahead by figuring out whether the quality of the relationship is more important than getting what you otherwise think you want.

Some talking should just be fun. I liked Bernstein's suggestion for going outside where the beauty and quietness of the world would reduce stress, and action stimulates talk. Could you walk your child to school one day a week or tend the yard or garden with a family member?

The "old school" practice of family meals, which are associated with healthier eating practices and better school achievement, requires "keeping it pleasant," although you may rudely exclude televisions, phone, etc. Remember how little control you have over what other people do with their mouths, whether it is talking or eating, and avoid fruitless efforts and misery. Remember, the family meal does not have to be dinner. You don't really earn points for every scheduled activity in which you participate nor does your child, so you can still be "a winner" without all of those activities that disrupt family life.

While we are talking "old school," consider the quality of relationships of well-rested persons versus the commonly sleep-deprived American. For example, only 15 percent of adolescents sleep the needed 8 ½ hours, and 26 percent say they sleep 6 ½ hours or less. The practice of routine bed times seems harder to



keep these days with competition from work schedules, activities, television, etc. Remember, you may have to try different.

Bernstein recommends friends. People with whom you only talk on the telephone or "on line" are not fully real. Shared activity is commonly the basis for developing friendships, but workplace relationships tend to disappear when work circumstances change. Do something worth doing, with or without a friend, and get someone to do it with you. How? Ask and, if necessary, ask again. Don't let fear of rejection leave you "bowling alone," as Robert Putnam described in his book on the loss and revival of American community.

Regardless of the potential difficulty, we have much to gain by focusing on improving relationships in 2011. Studies show that the quality of our relationships is the best predictor of our personal happiness.

(Note: Karen Laub, Ph.D., is a Psychology Supervisor with FCBDD.)

Did you know?

All telephone numbers at the Franklin County Probate Court that previously began with 462 have been changed. They now begin with 525.

The court's main telephone number is 525-3894. For more information, please visit www.franklincountyohio.gov/probate.

Bowling event was a hit

Some 172 FCBDD staff took part in the sixth annual "For the Fun of It" bowling event held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace on Saturday, January 22nd. The bowling center was filled with staff, family and friends coming to watch and cheer their team on.

Cindy Wilcox of Transportation West won the top female series with a score of 521. James Bay of Transportation South took the high male series honors with a score of 597.

The top team series award went to Cindy Wilcox, Chris Wilcox, Jennifer Coleman, and Eric Jaycox, who totaled 1,820 pins. The team of Susan Nagy, Tanna Blackman, Lynne Johansson and Lynn Banks was recognized for good effort.

Four grand prizes were awarded this year: Sandy Turner, ARCEast - 8 Admissions to an evening performance of Shadowbox Live; Doris Thomas, Transportation East - City Barbeque party for 6; Ruby Petrowski, Transportation South - 8 Admissions to Shadowbox Live Lunchbox; and Scott Reed, Transportation West - One night stay at Embassy Suites Hotel, Columbus.

Event organizers said over \$3,400 was raised for Special Olympics and the Citizens Committee. "This event is a positive and fun way for staff to meet other agency staff and help promote positive attitudes amongst departments in all locations," added Jack Brownley, Director of Schools.

Special thanks to Ryan Phillips, Coordinator of Special Olympics, acting host of this year's event, as well as volunteers, Carol Rantala, Barbara Michael-Jones, Bonnie Ford, Michelle Linden and Jennifer Linden.



Door prize winner, Doris Thomas, on her way to collect the prize.



James Bay, Transportation South, was the male high scorer.



Superintendent Morison awards the trophies for the top team to Cindy and Chris Wilcox. Also on the team were Jennifer Coleman and Eric Jaycox. Cindy was also recipient of the female high series.

Author completes book, shares insights

Overcoming obstacles to achieve one's goals is an oft-repeated story in the Franklin County community. A marvelous example of such can-do spirit is Herb Beatty, a southside resident who receives services through FCBDD.

Herb has pushed himself for the past four years to write a book about his life and religious faith. Titled *A Legacy of Faith*, the 256-page volume contains a biographical sketch, essays, and sermons he has written for presentation to his church.

"This will give people insight into what I think and care deeply about," he explained. "I didn't want to die and just have the material thrown away."

The 62-year old has received praise over the years for his writing skills, and has put them to use on many "talks" or sermons. "They were read at the pulpit by various people," he said.

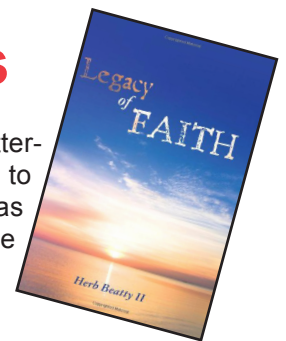
Herb has had cerebral palsy since birth, resulting in a severe speech disability and other physical limitations.

The book takes the perspective of a member of The Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-day Saints, to which Herb has belonged since 1959.

He is "extremely pleased" that the book is finished. "One needs discipline for the lonely task of writing."

A Legacy of Faith by Herb Beatty II was published by Create Space and is available for purchase at Amazon.com.



Good For You

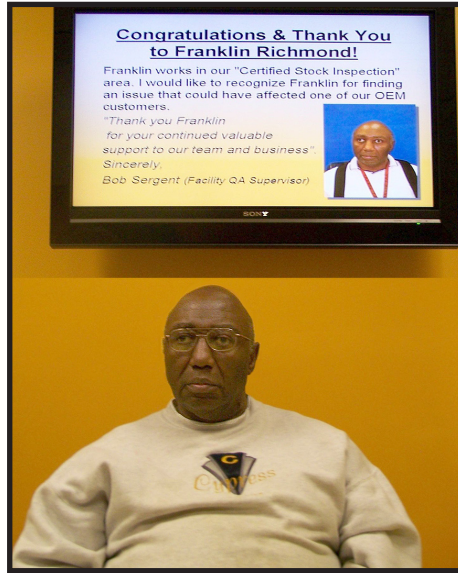
Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

Career Milestones



Robert Montgomery began serving as Franklin County Probate Judge on January 3rd. Elected to the post in November, the judge previously served Franklin County as County Recorder for 10 years. Among those attending the swearing-in ceremony were former FCBDD Board President **Kevin Craine** and Superintendent **Jed Morison**.

A special thanks to **Jack Brownley** and **Cindy Massenelli** of Administration for their hard work in coordinating the "For the Fun of It" bowling event. The 6th annual tournament was held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace on Saturday, January 22nd. A great time was had by all!



A tip of the hat goes to **Franklin Richmond**, a FCBDD participant who works for Parker Hannifin in the Certified Stock Inspection Area. Franklin was recognized recently for his fine work in inspecting parts, and received thanks from **Bob Sergent**, Facility QA Supervisor.

30 years

Nancy Karr
Robert McCarthy
Sherri Noecker
Donna Tracy

25 years

Anne Thomas
Crate Gallion

20 years

Marvin Connor
Judy Cousins
Marva Lovely

10 years

Loretta Bankston
Stacie Black
Isaac Smith
Kathleen Wade

5 years

Erin Harmon
Jamie Moffo
Jeffery Rizzo
Pam Sonagere

OSU seeks children for autism study

The Speech Recognition and Aging Lab at the Ohio State University is conducting a study regarding abilities of children to listen to competing messages in different listening conditions. They are recruiting children with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, or Pervasive Developmental Disability Not Otherwise Specified) between the ages of 10 and 15. Testing will be performed at the Columbus campus.

The child will listen to meaningful words in three listening tasks. In one task, the child will listen to words in quiet and be instructed to repeat what he/ she hears. In another task, two

words will be presented at a time and the child will be instructed to repeat those words. The final task will present words in a background noise, and the child will be instructed to report what is heard.

Each child will have a full hearing evaluation, including visual examination of their ears, a hearing test, and a test of middle ear function. Each will also participate in screening tests of handedness, social communication, and language.

The full study will take approximately three sessions not exceeding two hours. They will be scheduled at

parents' convenience. There will be plenty of time for breaks during each session.

Participants will be compensated for their time in the amount of \$10 per session.

If you are interested in obtaining more information, please respond via e-mail to egelhoff.16@osu.edu or by calling 247-8614.

The green spot

by Anthony Jackson

Like other FCBDD facilities, the Bixby Living Skills Center has made a commitment to "going green." Our efforts have been multi-faceted. A major focus has been on reducing the amount of water being used. By simply changing the aerators on all of the classroom faucets, our water consumption went down from two and a half gallons to one gallon per minute. This was an easy change that was done at a very low cost.

Also, in many areas in the building, lights have been installed that automatically go off when the room is not in use. This is a big help in saving electric.

Here's something to think about -- our grandparents were greener than we are! Instead of electric washers and dryers, they washed laundry in non-motorized tubs with a wringer to expel excess water. They also hung it outside on the clothesline to dry. Instead of driving, they usually walked or took a bus or a streetcar to get from place to place. So much energy they saved!

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

Legislative day set for April 14

Mark your calendar! 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:

nisonger.osu.edu/legislativeregistration.

Calendar

February, 2011

- 8** Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 14** Happy Valentine's Day!
- 16** Family Support (formerly Parent League), 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 21** Presidents' Day - all county facilities closed.
- 24** FCBDD Human Resources and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 24** FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 28** ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.

"Quotable quotes"

"Go into the world and do well.

But more importantly, go into the world and do good."

- *Minor Myers, Jr.*