

Jerry Saunders to bid agency adieu



Jerry Saunders, president of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities for the past year, will wield the gavel for the last time January 21st.

Mr. Saunders is leaving the board as a result of a planned move to Pickerington in Fairfield County. State law requires board appointees to reside in Franklin County.

Mr. Saunders has served on the board since 2006. In addition to being President in 2009, he was previously a member of the leadership team as Vice-President and Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Saunders is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Africentric Personal Development Shop, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides personal, family and community development programs.

He chairs the boards of 100 Black Men of Central Ohio, Inc., and Columbus After School All-Stars (formerly Inner City Games Columbus).

"Jerry is a true advocate of those who need help," said Superintendent Jed Morison. "He has set a terrific example for all those who have worked with him. I'm personally very appreciative and our entire community owes him its gratitude."

Change was constant in 2009

The philosopher Heraclitus regarded change as central to life. "You cannot step twice into the same river," he famously observed over 2,000 years ago.

Members of the FCBDD community casting a look back over the past year would not doubt that ancient wisdom.

Many changes occurred in 2009, including:

"Mental Retardation" was deleted from the agency's name as a result of the enactment of Senate Bill 79.

New board members Lito Ramirez, Renée Stein and Jean Williams were appointed in January.

Longtime advocacy group, Families United, ceased operations.

A building, located at 1600 Watermark Drive in northwest Columbus, was purchased for use by the Service Coordination Department.

ARC Industries began a new service -- scanning documents.

The Early Childhood Department received over 4,000 books thanks to Barnes and Noble.

Staff donated record amounts to the Combined Charitable Campaign and Operation Feed.

Over 800 persons received H1N1 vaccinations at agency sites.

A blog was created for the Special Olympics program.

Northeast School completed the final phase of its Outdoor Learning Environment featuring accessible playground equipment, gardening areas, walking/ riding paths, and outdoor sports.

Commenting on the year, Superintendent Jed Morison said, "Change, even when for the better, can be unsettling at times. I'm extremely proud of the consistency and flexibility demonstrated by our staff, parents and individuals served."

Board adopts driving policy

According to Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, nearly 80 percent of crashes and 65 percent of near-crashes involve driver inattention within 3 seconds before the accident.

With those statistics in mind, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities adopted a new policy related to distracted driving at its meeting on December 3rd.

The policy prohibits staff from text messaging and using cell phones, portable computers and entertainment devices while driving a county vehicle, and while transporting clients in any vehicle.

Superintendent Jed Morison wants staff to recognize the dangers of distracted driving.

"Texting while driving has been shown to be as dangerous as drinking and driving. When people understand the danger, they will change their behavior."

State law prohibits school bus drivers from texting and using cell phones.

Get ready for bowling fun

The fifth annual *For the Fun of It* bowling event is slated for Saturday, January 30th, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The tournament, which will be held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace, is open to FCBDD staff. Friends may come to watch and cheer.

It is expected that sixty-four teams of four will participate. Each will bowl three games.

Many door prizes will be awarded throughout the festivities.

At press time, opening for teams still existed, but were filling up fast.

Please contact Jack Brownley at 342-5960 for further information.

UCP has new training program

UCP of Central Ohio is offering a new vocational training program in collaboration with Red Roof Inn.

The Housekeeping Training Program is available to Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and Ticket to Work clients. This one-week program provides about 20 hours of training.

"I am excited to get this program off the ground and provide Red Roof with a well trained person who will be ready to work," said Jaynee Jenkins, manager of Careers Unlimited.

For more information, please contact UCP of Central Ohio at 279-0109.

I'll be seeing you

(Editor's note: We present the following in honor of Jimmy Crum, Donna Gillilan, Roger May, Evelyn Meyers, Samuel Shannon, and all other members of the FCBDD community who died during 2009.)

I'll be seeing you
In all the old familiar places
That this heart of mine embraces
All day through

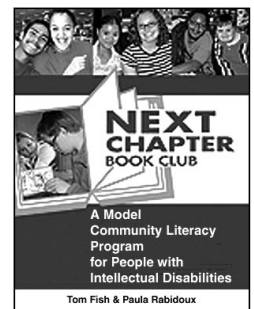
In that small cafe
The park across the way
The children's carousel
The chestnut tree
The wishing well

I'll be seeing you
Through every lovely summer's day
In everything that's light and gay
I'll always think of you that way

I'll find you in the morning sun
And when the night is new
I'll be looking at the moon
But I'll be seeing you

- by Sammy Fain

Book club manual available



A literacy program for people with intellectual disabilities is now available. Written by Tom Fish, and Paula Roberts, with Jillian Ober, and Vicki L.W. Graff, shows how to use an innovative model to set up a successful book club in your community.

The book, priced at \$24.95, can be purchased through Amazon.com or DSACO at 263-6020.

Children's author visits

by Sarah Gillilan

Aaron Zen, an author of children's literature, visited the Early Childhood Education and Family Center on December 8th. The visit was sponsored by Barnes and Noble of Easton.

Aaron read from his popular book, *Hiccupotamus*, to hundreds of children. He signed books and sketched storybook characters on an easel. Barnes and Noble provided books for all of the children.

It was a wonderful day for all the children and adults. Many thanks to Barnes and Noble, and Meg Kuta, sponsoring ECE parent.



Aaron draws, talks to the children and works his hand puppet.



The special smile of Tanie Engendio lights up the morning for this class of listeners.



These YMCA Toddler Classes were among the first to hear the story of the Hiccupotamus.

FCBDD swimmers earn 37 medals

If Colton Showalter had fallen into a swimming pool 3 years ago, he might have drowned. At the Special Olympics Ohio State Swim Meet held in Columbus on December 20th, Colton not only competed, but won a bronze medal in the process.

Colton's progress is a testament to his outstanding commitment and that of the coaching staff.

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Michele Lynn, Colton Showalter and Troy Showalter.



Swimmers from p.3



The second place relay team members are Jeremy Gosser, Kyle Pigman, Hugh Brunney and Bryan Fox.

While Colton's performance may have shown the brightest, it certainly was not the only outstanding swim of the weekend. Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was represented by 23 athletes who combined for 37 first, second and third place medals.

Congratulations to all the athletes and here are those who scored a top three finish:

1st Place:

Kyle Pigman, Jennifer Stanton, Donald Custer, Kevin Cummings, Jason Gregory, Hugh Brunney, Bryan Fox & Lisa Tillman

2nd Place:

David Sutton, Bryan Crosby, Kevin Cummings, Will Hart, Alvin Tolliver, Ken Armentrout, Kyle Pigman, Mary Baumgartner, RELAY TEAM – Bryan Fox, Jeremy Gosser, Kyle Pigman & Hugh Brunney

Linda Harrison, Steve Segal
and Kelli Tolman.

All photos and story by Ryan
Phillips.



Gold medal winner Kevin Cummings.

3rd Place:

Devin Hall(2), Karia Karia, Bryan Fox, Ken Armentrout, Jason Gregory, Jennifer Stanton, Steve Segal(2), Jeremy Gosser, Hugh Brunney, Alvin Tolliver, Colton Showalter, RELAY TEAM – Devin Hall, Lisa Tillman, Lucy Gaston-Tyler & Susan Walker

For more information on the Special Olympics program, to volunteer as a coach, or to get someone involved contact Ryan Phillips at ryan.phillips@fcbdd.org or visit www.franklincountyflyers.blogspot.com



Good For You

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Career Milestones



County Auditor **Clarence Mingo** paid a visit to FCBDD programs on December 8th. The visit was part of the Auditor's efforts to reach out to county agencies and become familiar with their day-to-day operations. From left are: Beverlyn Harvey of the Auditor's office, Director of ECE Becky Love, Auditor Clarence Mingo, Superintendent Jed Morison, and Jerzel Pierre-Louis also from the Auditor's office.

Carole Glasco retired on December 31st after serving as an Account Clerk with the ARC Industries business office for 30 years. Carole had earned a M.B.A. from Franklin University in 2004. Carole's mother, **Ella Glasco**, was a longtime Instructor Assistant at West Central School. Best wishes, Carole, upon your well-deserved retirement.

Mary Seelbach retired on December 31st after 26 years at Northeast School. Mary was a Support Instructor, but served in many capacities for the students.. She was also a strong volunteer for Operation Feed and other committees at the school. Best wishes from many will follow her during her retirement.

FCBDD board member **Dean Fadel** and his brother **Jeffrey Fadel** gave the opening remarks at the 9th annual Ohio Adult Siblings Conference, which was held in Columbus on November 6th & 7th. The conference addresses concerns of adult brothers and sisters of individuals with developmental disabilities.

A special thanks goes to Administration staff members **Frank New** and **Linda Rockwell** for their work on coordinating the 2009 Community Star Awards banquet on November 4th. Thanks in large part to their efforts, the event was a resounding success.

Each year, the Service Coordination Department hosts a holiday party for individuals who are served by FCBDD who do not have families or loved ones with whom to celebrate the holidays. This year, the party was held at the Xenos Christian Fellowship 4th Street Pavilion on December 4th. About 150 individuals attended. Each received a gift bag with a few items of clothing, including socks, gloves, hat and scarf, and a bag of personal grooming items. The event featured lunch, games with prizes, caroling, and a visit from Santa. The following staff were key coordinators of the event: **Bob Thomas, Allison Davis, Amy Morse, Amy Yenkin, Kevin Yuhus, Kim Collins, Kristy Schuyler, Marita Surry, Mary Belfanti, Michael Oliva, Mike Berry, Phillip Johnson, Sharon Post, Tanna Blackman, and Veronica Adamski.**

35 years

Donna Hammond

30 years

Richard Armentrout

Marion Milby

Colette Smith

25 years

Rick Inskeep

Douglas Meier

Pamela Panning

Carmen Salas

20 years

Beverly Mann

Ronna Norman

Laurie Shkolnik

Eileen Steele

15 years

Tamara Frey

Jean George

Laurie Mamula

Vickie Wise

10 years

Annette Ammerman

Jeffrey Rock

Carrie Schatz

5 years

Danielle Abel

Brian Baldrige

Carol Decot

Stephanie Miller

Phillip Mitchem

Tausha Shepherd

FCBDD now a Green Spot

FCBDD has become an official member of Columbus GreenSpot. In so doing, it joined with over 1,500 businesses and groups who have pledged to help make Columbus a greener community.

As a condition of membership, FCBDD committed to taking a number of steps, including creating and displaying an environmental policy or mission statement; measuring its compliance with health, safety and environmental regulations; and performing a waste audit.

Other commitments include reducing paper use, expanding the agency's recycling program, buying office and other supplies made with recycled products, and performing a water audit.

FCBDD's participation in the GreenSpot program is a result of the work of the Green Team, the group of staff appointed by Superintendent Jed Morison in 2008 to raise awareness of opportunities to save energy and improve the environment.

ARC Industries West Production Manager Nick Gulyassy heads the team. Commenting on the GreenSpot program, he said: "Our mission now is to complete the commitments made. That will be our challenge over the next twelve months."

Other members of the Green Team are Kate Dunaway, Jamie Graham, Anthony Jackson, Cindy Massenelli, Jan Montgomery, Clarice Pavlick, Debbie Rose, Brenda Toney, Cindy Wilcox and Rae Wilhelm.

Calendar

January, 2010

- 1 New Year's Day -- all county facilities closed. HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 1 Rose Bowl, featuring Ohio State Buckeyes vs. Oregon Ducks, 5 p.m. GO BUCKS!
- 4 FCBDD early childhood, schools, and adult programs resume.
- 12 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 11 a.m. Please call 844-3800 for location.
- 13 People First meeting, Goodwill Columbus, 1331 Edgehill Rd., 5 p.m.
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed -- all county facilities closed.
- 20 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 21 FCBDD Human Resource and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 21 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Road, 5 p.m.
- 25 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 30 "For the Fun of It" bowling tournament, Columbus Square Bowling Palace, Rte. 161 and Cleveland Ave., 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please call 342-5960 for details.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Jerry Saunders
Helen Ninos
Dean Fadel
Galen Stover
Lito Ramirez
Renee Stein
Jean Williams

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.

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

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

www.fcbdd.org

"Quotable quotes"

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

-- Martin Luther King Jr.