

Published by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"

## Agency has new name, but services remain same

"We're the same agency," said Superintendent Jed Morison, explaining the effect of a new law signed by Gov. Ted Strickland on July 7th. "Only our name has changed."

With the enactment of Senate Bill 79, the words *mental retardation* were deleted from the name of the county boards serving persons with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities.

The agency's name is now Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) instead of Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (FCBMRDD).

Agency services and eligibility requirements are unchanged.

Proponents of the name change argued that the use of *mental retardation* is offensive. Others countered that the term is medically and historically appropriate.

"Regardless of where we stood on this issue, we now need to come together to focus on serving our community," said Superintendent Morison.

County boards were created in 1967. They were then called county boards of mental retardation. The words *developmental disabilities* were added to the name in 1980 when the boards became responsible for serving persons with other developmental disabilities as well.

Senate Bill 79 was introduced by Senator Jimmy Stewart of Athens. The



measure passed unanimously in both the House and Senate.

The bill deleted *mental retardation* also from the name of the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

## Buddy Walk set for Sept. 13

Please mark your calendar and plan to join the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio and their friends for Buddy Walk, which will be held rain or shine at Columbus Crew Stadium on Sunday, September 13th.

The one-mile walk celebrates the abilities and accomplishments of people with Down syndrome.

The event will include inflatables, facepainting, clowns, Crew Cat, tailgating and live music.

For more information, please call 263-6020 or visit [www.dsaco.net](http://www.dsaco.net).

The poster features a yellow and blue color scheme. At the top, it reads "SUNDAY, SEPT. 13th 10AM At Crew Stadium" in bold blue letters. Below this is the logo for the National Down Syndrome Society, which consists of three stylized human figures holding hands in a circle. Underneath the logo is the text "BUDDY WALK" in large, bold, blue letters with a yellow outline. In the bottom left corner, there are logos for the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, Columbus Crew Stadium, and 10 WBNS-TV. At the very bottom, a blue banner contains the text "REGISTER AT WWW.COLUMBUSBUDDYWALK.ORG" in white capital letters.

# Agency unveils new logo

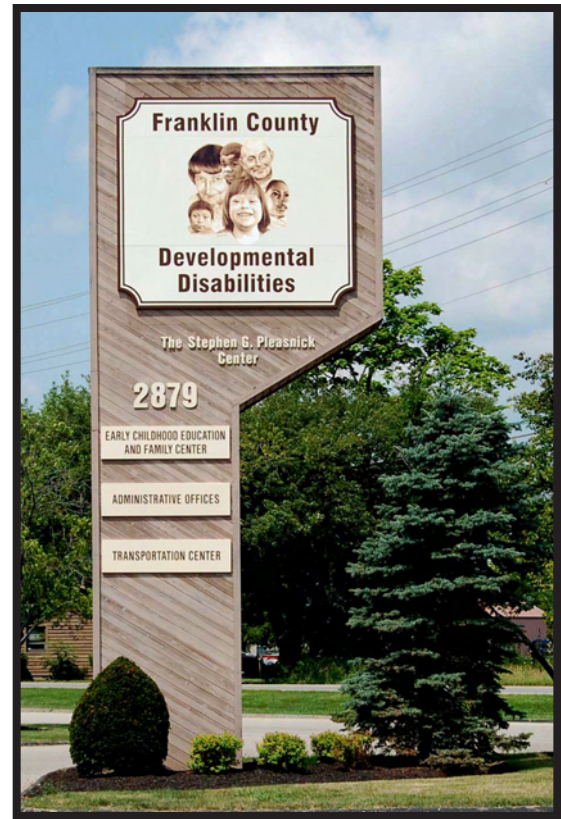
The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) has adopted a new logo to go along with its new name.

The logo features a montage of faces of children and adults with developmental disabilities, representing the persons served by FCBDD.

The illustration was done by artist Martha Perske, who is known worldwide for her drawings of people with disabilities and their friends.

The new design replaces the logo used by the agency since 1997, which showed the letters "FCBMRDD" between two parallel, horizontal lines.

Linda Rockwell, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, designed the new logo as well as the new letterhead.



# Let attitudes toward disability change

by Jed Morison, Superintendent

(Editor's note: The following appeared as a letter to the editor in the Columbus Dispatch on July 14, 2009.)

Is it politically correct to use the term *mental retardation* now that the General Assembly has changed the name of county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities to boards of developmental disabilities?

The short answer is yes, but let's hope that the use of terms such as *retard* disappears from our language. More important, let's hope that attitudes continue to shift, whereby we consider the person first rather than the disability and whereby we recognize that all people have value and can contribute in meaningful ways to our communities.

The term *mental retardation* is a medical diagnosis. It means simply

that a person does not learn at the same pace as most others. Is it more acceptable to say *intellectual disability* or *mentally challenged* or any number of other terms used over the years? If the term *mental retardation* is used to describe a person's ability so that appropriate support is received, then it is acceptable to use it. If the term is used to denigrate a person, it is not acceptable.

Boards of developmental disabilities provide services to many people who have diverse needs. While most have mental retardation, some have other disabilities, including cerebral palsy, brain injury, autism and Down syndrome. A developmental disability is defined as a disability that originates in the childhood years, is expected to last indefinitely and results in substantial limitations in multiple areas such as learning, speech and mobility. For many, the cause of the disability is unknown.

We are fortunate in Franklin County to have accepting communities that recognize that people with disabilities have much in common with everyone else. We all want to live, learn and work in our communities to the best of our abilities. We all want to be accepted as neighbors, co-workers and friends, and we want to be considered as individuals, rather than labeled as a part of a category or group.

Many passionate views have been expressed in the recent debate over name-change legislation. Now that the name of county boards has changed, let's use this opportunity to thank the citizens of Franklin County for recognizing the importance of services to individuals who have mental retardation or other developmental disabilities, and continue to support those who contribute so much to our community.

# Initiative suggests need for stable relationships

by Jack Beatty

Last fall, the Ohio Department of MR/DD began a project called "Positive Intervention Culture," later simplified to "Positive Culture Initiative."

The early focus of their efforts seemed geared toward the reduction of aversive behavior plans across the state. Since then, the discussion has broadened and become more interesting.

While material resources have steadily increased over time, many individuals with developmental disabilities continue to lead lives that are isolated and often very lonely. The Ohio Department of MR/DD has highlighted the effects that this isolation can have on individuals, and is exploring what we, as professionals in the field can do to begin to change the ways we

interact, i.e., to change our culture.

This message is being brought to us through stories that illustrate themes common to most of our childhoods.

We hear of nurturing grandparents, who despite our shortcomings, continued to love us unconditionally, and to encourage us. Similar stories are shared of mentors and friends who have supplied support, guidance and acceptance over the course of our lives.

But consider some individuals whom we serve who did not have the benefit of these long-term, trusting relationships to make them feel safe and respected. Certainly we can envision that sadness, confusion and all manner of antisocial behaviors could result.

So the Department encourages us not to become preoccupied with the symptoms (behaviors) but to address the cause which may be the lack of stable, meaningful relationships in the life of the individual.

How can we do that? The challenge is to find opportunities to modify our work and interactions in ways that promote acceptance, nonviolence, support, and long-term, unconditional relationships.

## Siblings to meet in November

The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference will be held Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott Airport Hotel in Columbus.

The purpose of the conference is to create an environment where adult siblings can gather together and share family experiences, develop new relationships, obtain information and be recognized as integral parts in their families' success.

Conference attendees from across Ohio have had the opportunity to hear presentations from state and national disabilities professionals, meet other adult siblings, and explore areas of interest.

Under the direction of Dr. Tom Fish of The Ohio State University Nisonger Center, and supported by many organizations including the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council,



the Ohio Adult Sibling Conference was the first event of its kind in the country. It has also been used as a model in other states.

Please visit [www.ohiosibs.com](http://www.ohiosibs.com) for more information, or call Tom Fish at 292-7550.

## PAR convention set

The 41<sup>st</sup> annual PAR convention will be held at the Embassy Suites in Dublin from October 14<sup>th</sup> through October 18<sup>th</sup>.

The convention will provide valuable training programs for staff development and opportunities to share with others involved in the field of developmental disabilities.

Attendees will be able to choose from a variety of sessions.

To obtain membership, convention, or other information about PAR, you may go to [www.par-ohio.org](http://www.par-ohio.org), or call (419) 522-6207.

You may also contact Erick Berquist at ARC Industries North at 342-5398.

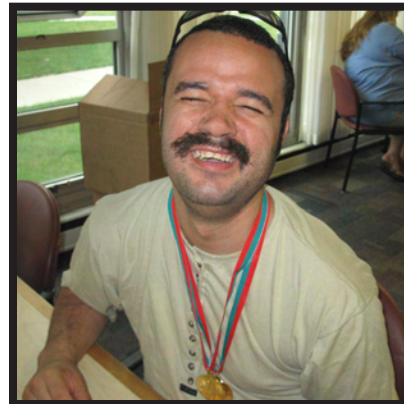
# Special Olympics Update

Photos by Chuck Zelms and Michael Davis

Opening ceremonies included the parade of athletes with the Franklin County Flyers well represented.



Above are participants in the great pizza feed in the dorm rooms at OSU. Volunteer Caroline Miller helps distribute slices, behind her and to the right are Jesse Hodge and Jason Bally.



Jason Freeland shows his medals. He won gold and silver for two roller skating events.

At right Attorney General Richard Cordray, flanked by his two children, ran with police from all over the state bringing the torch to Jesse Owens Stadium for opening ceremonies.





The gold medal winning volleyball team includes: standing are coach Linda Harrison, Jason Gregory, Craig Doles, Hugh Brunney, Barry Warren and Marty Berniker; kneeling are: Lee Mullins, Cindy Grubbs and Victoria Harris.



Jeff Breeze knows you need a good breakfast in order to compete. Jeff later won a bronze medal in Bocce.

## Twenty five Years and Counting

Robert Konkle, "Bobby", is celebrating 25 years of employment. "Bobby" began his full time dish machine operator position on 8/13/84 at Paul's Pantry now called Paul's 5th Avenue.. He received assistance in obtaining this job from Jim Oyer, Placement Representative.

Through Bob's personal & medical issues, Paul & his staff have been supportive of "Bobby" to make this a successful experience. After a series of more recent health issues, Paul modified Bob's schedule so he could work part time hours.

Bob is part of the Paul's 5th Avenue "Family". Thank you to Paul & staff for 25 good years!



# Community garden sprouts at Bixby

It's summer in central Ohio, and like many others in the area, participants at Bixby Living Skills Center are busy tending their garden.

New this year, the community garden at Bixby is a joint project with participants from Bixby, Sage Senior Services and Young Adult Services at Goodwill Columbus.

"Everyone takes turns weeding, watering, and doing all the chores," said Linda Monroe, Bixby Director. "It's been very much a group effort."

The crops include squash, corn, peppers, tomatoes, basil and cucumbers. Any produce that cannot be consumed by participants will be donated to a food bank.

Bixby staff member Joe Ash has spearheaded the effort, while Anthony Jackson has assisted with fertilizing and watering. Dill's Greenhouse donated a variety of plants.



*Joe Ash, Barry Newlin and Chris Parker check the tassels on sweet corn.*



*From left are Barry Newlin, Evonne Goff watering the garden, Joe Ash and Bixby LSC Director Linda Monroe.*

## ARC Industries launches new scanning service

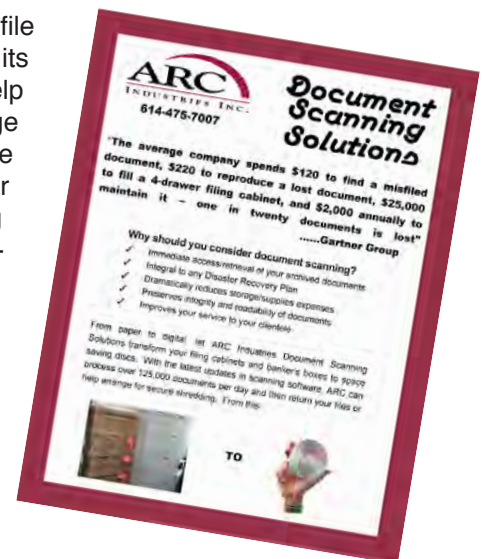
ARC Industries, Inc. has a new service to offer to the central Ohio business community - Document Scanning Solutions. ARC Industries can help give immediate access to archived documents, dramatically reduce storage expenses, as well as preserve the integrity and readability of documents.

Established in 1963, ARC Industries provides employment and training opportunities for more than 2,000 adults with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities in Franklin County.

Recognizing that companies can spend \$120 to find a misfiled document  
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to \$2,000 annually to maintain a full file cabinet, ARC Industries developed its Document Scanning Solutions to help companies reduce costs and manage documents more effectively while creating another job opportunity for ARC employees. With scanning capability of over 125,000 documents per day, ARC Industries can help transform filing cabinets into space-saving discs.

For more information on ARC Industries, please visit their website: [www.arcind.com](http://www.arcind.com) or call 475-7007.



# Good For You

## Notable achievements in the FCBMRDD community

Three staff members of the Transportation Department received Certificates of Appreciation from the Ohio State University Division of Police recently. **Mike Bollinger**, **Paul Chenderlin** and **Jeff Hudson** were recognized for their help with the 2009 Ohio Tactical Officers Conference sponsored by the police division and held in Columbus May 17th-20th.

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FCBDD staff showed their continuing commitment to the American Red Cross on July 13th by donating 26 units of blood. Special thanks goes to **Mary Martin** and **Carl Scott** for coordinating another successful blood drive.

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The **Human Resources Department** hosted the first Education Fair for all agency staff on July 22nd. Ten universities that provide adult education opportunities participated in the event, which was held at Administration. Congratulations to **Dan Darling**, Director of Human Resources, and all the staff who made this program possible.

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**Cina Croy**, a client of the Job Placement Department, celebrated her 15th anniversary on the job last month. She is employed by T.J. Maxx. The company honored Cina with a luncheon, a gift and a day off.

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Honor Flight Columbus is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing World War II veterans a chance to visit the war memorials in Washington, D.C., at no charge. This month, the group honored retired FCBDD staff member **Pat Blum** with an honor flight as a token of gratitude for her service in the Army from 1943 to 1945. Thanks Pat, for your service to our country!

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While on vacation with her family in Daytona Beach, Administration receptionist **Mary Linden** took part in the Richard Petty Driving Experience at Daytona International Speedway. After suiting up, she took the seat of a stock car, and went three times around the 2.5 mile track, reaching a high speed of 170 miles per hour. According to Mary, the experience was "a lot of fun."

Mary's commemorative plaque is at seen at left.

## Career Milestones

### 30 years

**Kathleen Blakeslee**  
**Susan Smith**  
**Sandra Tillet-Ferguson**

### 25 years

**Susan Fast**  
**Susan Galbraith**  
**Trisha Potenza**  
**Marcia Weltz**  
**Cam Yeagley**

### 20 years

**Bill Bartley**  
**Julie Buren**  
**Sheila Myers**  
**Gayle Oberlitner**  
**Christine Parker**  
**Debbie Sokolik**  
**Michael Suver**  
**Frederick Talbert**

### 15 years

**Toni Boyle**  
**Jodi Dayan**  
**Sharon Evrard**  
**Tamara Faught**  
**Elizabeth Gibson**  
**Donna Johnson**  
**Jeffrey Rayburn**  
**Kathryn Renick**  
**Linda Schmelzer**  
**Robin Sprague**

### 10 years

**Judith Conley**  
**Tammara Fields**  
**William Evoy**  
**Nancy Madsen**  
**Roberta Martin**  
**Leslie McLeod-Tucker**  
**Michael Turns**  
**Robert Willie**  
**Michele Yancy**

### 5 years

**Kimberly Batts**  
**Kelly Bowers**  
**Brandon Broussard**  
**Kara Fowler**  
**Sandra Goss**  
**Virginia Harris-Hamilton**  
**Stephanie Heinmiller**  
**Yi-Wen Lo**  
**Megan Nowicki**  
**Angela Ray**  
**Beth Robinette**  
**Amanda Tepfer**  
**Jewel Toone**  
**Rosia White**  
**Lisa Willie**  
**Richard Winbush**  
**Amy Yenkin**

# Golf outing for Special Olympics scores

Thanks to the staff and friends of Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney and Graystone Consulting for continuing to make this event happen on behalf of Franklin County Special Olympics.

Other sponsors include: Canyone Capital Advisors LLC, Freiss Associates LLC, Golden Tree Management LP, Ivory Capital, Penn Square Capital Group, Pointer Management LLC and Tradewinds Global Investors.



From left are: Planning committee volunteer Tracie Nickels, Nicole Oliver, One of the many foursome participants (waiting for the tee on hole number one) and Maurice Harris.



Jennifer Hamant, chair of the 2009 Special Olympics Golf Outing Committee for Morgan Stanley - Smith Barney with Ryan Phillips Director of the Franklin County Special Olympics program.

## Calendar

### July, 2009

- 4 Independence Day - all county facilities closed.
- 15 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 27 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 30 ECE and School-age Summer Center programs end.

### August, 2009

- 7 Staff Development Day for Adult Services and Transportation staff. All adult facilities closed.
- 11 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 24 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 24,25 School Staff Preparation/ Development Day.
- 26 First day of classes, Northeast and West Central Schools.

## Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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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"

"No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars or sailed an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit."

-- Helen Keller