

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

Graduation ceremonies held

Graduation festivities for students in FCB MRDD's school-age program were held Tuesday, June 2nd, at West Central School, and Wednesday, June 3rd at Northeast School. A total of 22 students graduated from the program.



Guest speakers were NBC 4 news co-anchor Cabot Rea at West Central, and insurance executive Mickey Jackson at Northeast.

Before joining NBC 4 in 1985, Cabot Rea was a music teacher for Newark City Schools as well as a professional singer and actor. Of all his achievements, he is most proud of twice being named "Teacher of the Year" at Newark Junior High School.

Currently an agency field executive for State Farm Insurance, Mickey Jackson is better known as the offensive backs and receivers coach at Marshall University in the early 1970s. His character was portrayed in the movie, *We Are Marshall*, which tells the story of the tragic loss of the university's football team in a plane crash. He went on

Cabot Rea with Jennifer Cunningham at the state Special Olympics games.

to coach at Ohio State under the legendary Woody Hayes.

Approximately 80 persons attended each of the graduation ceremonies.



Mickey Jackson

Harriet Haniotes to retire in July

FCBMRDD Recreation Director Harriet Haniotes will hang up her cleats on July 31st after 24 years at the post.

"It's been so much fun," she said, regarding her career. "It's going to be very difficult for me to leave."

Harriet began working for the agency in 1978, when she was hired as a recreation specialist. In 1985, she succeeded Alice Wing as Recreation Director.

During her tenure, Harriet has seen the popularity of recreation services increase greatly.

"When I began, about 90 people

participated in the program. Now, we have about 500 participants."

The biggest change has been the addition of many small group activities, and offering participants the opportunity to choose from among them.

She is very proud that "the staff have maintained the high standards that the participants deserve."

Growing up in East Liverpool, Harriet envisioned becoming a teacher or coach. The self-described "sports nut"

continued on p. 2



Harriet Haniotes to retire, from p. 1

played women's rugby in college.

"It is much more of a finesse game than most people realize."

She became interested in the developmental disabilities field after umpiring a Special Olympics softball tournament.

"I just fell in love with it."

Harriet holds a bachelor's degree in public recreation and a master's degree in therapeutic recreation from Ohio State.

"Harriet has done an outstanding job, and all of us will be sad to see her go," said Superintendent Jed Morison.

Looking to the future, Harriet expects to travel, to do volunteer work

and "just enjoy myself a little." She will continue to make her home in Westerville.

Dateline wishes Harriet the very best in her well-earned retirement.

Judge Brown visits FCBMRDD

Franklin County Probate Judge Eric Brown paid a visit to the Pleasnick Center on April 23rd.

Judge Brown spoke to a group of FCBMRDD service coordinators who were attending a training session on guardianships. The training was presented by Magistrate Kelly Patton of the Probate Court.

Accompanied by Superintendent Jed Morison and Early Childhood Director Rebecca Love, Judge Brown then took a tour of the Early Childhood Education and Family Center.

photo by Kara Wetterauer



Readers share views on name change

In our April issue, *Dateline* ran an article -- "What's in a name?" -- on the proposal to delete "mental retardation" from the name of county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities. We invited readers to respond with their opinions.

Of those responding, 63 percent opposed the proposed name change, while 37 percent favored it. A sampling of readers' opinions follows.

"Mental retardation is not a label, it is a diagnosis... We would lose our identity if the words were removed. Many of the voting public would not understand developmental disabilities."

"Changing the name will waste taxpayer money while decreasing service for those who can't find it..."

"Are we putting persons with mental retardation back in the closet again, by not even acknowledging that they exist side-by-side with those who have more acceptable handicaps?"

"I don't have a problem with the name, but it wouldn't bother me if it changes... It is a fact that the name is redundant... I also think that opponents of the name change don't give voters enough credit when they claim future levies won't be supported..."

"...To be sensitive to the feelings of people who have a label that some consider to have negative overtones is

certainly commendable... I suggest a plea be made to legislators that during this time of very tight budgets, every effort be made to make a name change over a period of time in order to minimize waste..."

"I think MR should be removed... there are plenty of developmentally disabled who would not want to be included in a class of clients who have mental retardation."

It's always best to be at home and have a trusted friend at your side when you must see the doctor. That's the theory behind a new medical movement to benefit the residents of Onsite Residence at Goodwill Columbus. This spring, Onsite Residence Director Tiffany Martin and Nursing Administrator Freda Scott began to see the benefits of their planning for a dentist, and ophthalmologist and a podiatrist to bring equipment and services to the third floor of Goodwill Columbus's Edgell Road location where 23 adults with developmental disabilities live. "Where going to be able to provide them with better health care," said Martin." Scott added, "This arrangement will be less traumatic to our onsite residents.

Doctors in the house



Onsite residents are required to receive extensive medical and follow-up care as mandated by the federal government. As a result, Goodwill Columbus currently accommodates five to seven doctors' appointments every weekday, year-round for onsite residents.

In addition to primary care physicians, residents collectively frequent audiologists, allergists, bone specialists, cardiologists, counselors, dentists, ear-nose-throat specialists, endocrinologists, gastroenterologists, gynecologists, neurologists, oncologists, ophthalmologists, podiatrists, psychiatrists, psychologists, sleep

specialists and surgeons. When our primary care physician moved from five minutes to 45 minutes away from Goodwill, we started to think about bringing doctors in-house," said Martin, who credited Scott with pursuing the idea after she learned through her mother that the Heritage Day Health Centers in Columbus had already started this process. "I thought to myself -- we could do this, too, and it would be wonderful for our clients and our staff," Scott said.

Many questions and telephone calls started the investigation into bringing some medical services in-house. "All of our resident's guardians were contacted and given a choice about

care. All of them chose to move into the new, in-house program," said Martin, who can see nothing but benefits for the residents. "With our staff members at their sides in a known environment, our residents will feel more at home. This will decrease negative behaviors and increase the number of medical appointments kept, moving us toward better compliance in this area."

In the past, appointments were often missed and rescheduled because a resident feared going or negative behaviors surfaced when the residents were required to wait too long for medical services. Sometimes basic care was provided at teaching hospitals, resulting in a lack of continuity in the patient-doctor relationship.

Consistency is something Martin and Scott say is important when interacting with individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

"Our new doctors have experience handling clients with MRDD and already have been exhibiting appropriate contact with our residents. It's been very positive," Scott said.

Working with Onsite Residence to make the transition are Doctors from OnSight Health Care in Westerville. They are: Dr. Edward Amos, dentistry; Dr. Timothy Fries, vision; and Dr. Scott Giaimo, podiatry.

Skill centers vie for skillet

For some time, staff at the Bixby and Hague Living Skills Centers have enjoyed a friendly rivalry in their support of Operation Feed. This year, staff at the two centers wanted to turn it up a notch.

What better way to heat up the competition than to give an iron skillet to the center with the better results? Well, in any case, that's the reason the Iron Skillet Award was created.

The competition was intense, but Hague won the right to hold the skillet for 2009. Congratulations are in order for both centers -- they collected 82% more donations than in 2008!

Linda Monroe Director of Bixby LSC presents the award to Annick Parker, Hague LSC Director.



Disaster exercise a success

FCBMRDD and the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus teamed up to conduct a disaster simulation at West Central School on Saturday morning, April 25th.

The exercise was an opportunity for FCBMRDD staff members who had volun-

teered to receive Red Cross training in operating an emergency shelter, to practice what they learned.

Families of, and individuals with disabilities, participated as disaster victims needing shelter.

Jack Brownley, FCBMRDD's Director of Schools, coordinated the exercise. He was pleased with the results.

"We found out some of our strengths and some areas in need of improvement," he said. "Overall, it was a great learning experience."

Forty FCBMRDD staff participated as volunteers in the exercise.

Siebold winners announced

ARC Industries' Board of Trustees presented twelve FCBMRDD staff members scholarships to pursue education in the disabilities field on May 18th.

The scholarship program was established in 2004 in honor of John Siebold, whose untimely death the previous year followed 27 years of exceptional service to ARC and FCBMRDD.

The following individuals received \$1,500 scholarships: Danielle Abel, Administration; Anita Brown, North-east; Danielle Chambers, Service Coordination; Abby Dillon, Service Coordination; Jamie Kingsland, West Central; A.J. McConnell, Intake; Sherri Noecker, West Central; Kristoffer Potridge, ARC North; Karen Reynolds, Administration; Jerry Rose, Administration; Sarah Theil, Early Childhood.



In the front row, from left are: ARC Industries CEO John Mitchem, ARC Board member and Chair of the scholarship committee Cynthia Heageli, recipients Sheri Noecker, Abby Dillon, Jamie Kingsland, Sarah Thiel, Danielle Chambers, Anita Brown and Superintendent Jed Morison. In the back row are: recipient Kristoffer Potridge, ARC Board Chair Ray Lawton, recipients Lucinda Mires-Peebles, A. J. McConnell, Danielle Abel, Karen Reynolds and Jerry Rose.

Attending the presentation ceremony were several members of John Siebold's family, including Jessica Siebold, Sherry Siebold, Lisa Pomeroy, Kyle Siebold and Jim Siebold.

Hague celebrates derby

Hague Living Skills Center held Derby Day on May 1st in recognition of the 135th running of the Kentucky Derby. Activities included a hat parade, a visit with real horses, and wheelchair races.

Participants were very creative in selecting colors and "horses." Taking first place in the race was Halo Heaven, number 25, ridden by Lisa Swishelm, with trainer Corrine Suver. They attribute the win to their horse's organic diet.

Mint juleps (non-alcoholic) and Benedictine tea sandwiches were served to participants, family members, and guests from the Career and Activity Center.

A big thanks goes to Mary Jo Allen, Lisa Bowman, Virgie King, Lauren Barton and all those who created uniforms for the riders and trainers.



Good For You

Notable achievements in the FCBMRDD community

Career Milestones

Beechcroft High School student **Austin Hopkins** has returned home after a jolly good visit to England. There he met **James Henlan**, a young man who, like Austin, has Pollitt syndrome. The very rare, genetic condition limits growth. Austin's trip was covered by the *Columbus Dispatch* and the *Birmingham Post and Mail*. A tip of the hat goes to **Monya Peck** and **Beechcroft students**, whose fundraising made the trip possible.

The Red Hat and Pink Hat ladies of the Get Along Chapter, based at ARC Industries West, took part in the 4th Annual Columbus and Vicinity Red Hat Birthday Bash at the Berwick Party House on April 23rd. Coordinator **Pat Williamson** extends special thanks to **Evelyn Meyers** and all the retired bus drivers for their continued support.

Terry Conti and **Beth Cimprich**, Sales Representatives for ARC Industries, Inc were named the Soroptimist International of Columbus and Franklin County "Co-Rookies of the Year" at a banquet on May 5th at the Columbus Athletic Club. Members voted this distinction to the pair for their hard work and coordination of the Soroptimist International Midwestern Region 102nd Spring Conference. Congratulations, Terry and Beth!

The Ohio Association of County Boards of MRDD was one of only two nonprofit organizations in Ohio to receive the "Standards of Excellence" designation from the Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations. Accepting the honor were Executive Director **Dan Ohler**, President **Robert Milliken** and former President **Dave Dohnal**.

Franklin County Commissioners **Marilyn Brown** has been elected Secretary of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, while Commissioner **Paula Brooks** has been named Vice-Chairwoman of the Solid Waste Subcommittee of the National Association of Counties. Probate Court Chief Magistrate **Mark Froehlich** has been appointed to the advisory board of the African-American and African Studies Community Extension Center at Ohio State University.

Franklin County Auditor **Joe Testa** has announced plans to retire at the end of July. He plans to continue teaching business classes at Ohio State University, and may pursue opportunities in the private sector.

20 years

Mark Barker
Marguerite Crabtree

15 years

Jon Fulmer
Beverly Garrett-Morris
Levester Jackson
Susan Kern
Sandi Kyle
Larry Macintosh
Eyevette Redman

10 years

Jeffery Hudson

5 years

Katherine Barnes
James Blakeslee
Patricia Miliner
Michelle Moxley
Tera Robinson
Jeffrey Wisecarver



Tina Davis, Jan Montgomery and Patty Aellig represented Studio West from ARC Industries West at the sale and auction at Chadwick Arboretum on the OSU Campus. The handicrafts were made by ARC Industries employees.

PAR convention set

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

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, or call (419) 522-6207.

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

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

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FCBMRDD does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or handicap.

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

Next issue to cover 2 months

In keeping with past practice, the next issue of *Dateline* will be a combined one for the months of July and August. The issue will be distributed in mid-July.

Calendar

June, 2009

- 4 Last day of classes - ECE and Schools.
- 9 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 14 Flag Day
- 21 Father's Day
- 17 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 22 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Holiday Inn On-the-Lane, 11:30 a.m.
- 23 ECE Summer Center begins, 2879 Johnstown Rd.
- 24 School-age Summer Center begins, West Central School.
- 25 FCBMRDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 25 FCBMRDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5:00 p.m.
- 26,27,28 Ohio Special Olympics, the Ohio State University. Please call Andrea Stonebraker at 342-5989 for details.

July, 2009

- 4 Independence Day - all county facilities closed.
- 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 p.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.

"Quotable quotes"

"People forget how fast you did a job - but they remember how well you did it."

-- Howard Newton