

# Dateline

April 2019

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"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"

## Legislative Advocacy Day - April 5

Central Ohio Legislators will be present to hear from self-advocates at the Legislative Advocacy Day, scheduled for Friday, April 5, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bixby Center, 4200 Bixby Road, Groveport.

The event is being coordinated by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Self-Advocate Advisory Council. Every two years, when the state budget is introduced, the event is held to provide individuals with an opportunity to offer suggestions to Central Ohio Legislators. In Central Ohio, there are ten State Representatives and three State Senators.

Christine Brown, member of the Self-Advocate Advisory Council is coordinating the event, which is being co-sponsored by the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA). Christine works closely with Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison to coordinate the details. The event is being hosted at the Bixby Center, where ARC Industries provides services for adults with developmental disabilities.

Arrival time is 10:00 a.m. with introductions and presentations scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m.

## Governor DeWine makes surprise visit

Governor Mike DeWine made a surprise appearance at the Developmental Disabilities Awareness and Advocacy Day held in March.

The Governor was not expected to speak because his State of the State address was scheduled for the same day. Several hundred self-advocates, family members, legislators, professionals and other providers were in attendance.

Other state officials at the event included Lieutenant Governor John Husted, State Treasurer Robert Sprague, DODD (Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities) Director Jeff Davis and OOD (Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities) Director Kevin Miller.



Governor Mike DeWine speaks at DD Awareness Day. (Photo courtesy of OACBDD's Facebook Page)

Shari Cooper served as Master of Ceremonies, Travis Dresbach presented on the value of Stable Accounts and Dustin Wright from Disability Cocoon spoke about the importance of technology and how it can enhance independence and safety.

Congratulations to the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council and OPRA for coordinating the event.

It was a great day!

## Star Award nominations due June 1



Do you know someone or an organization that has done extraordinary work benefitting individuals who have developmental disabilities?

If so, nominations are open for the 2019 Community Star Awards event, which will be held on Tuesday, October 1st at Villa Milano.

Each year, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities joins with other sponsors to celebrate 14 individuals or organizations who help to fulfill the mission of the Board. Each winner is recognized individually with a 'Community Star Award.'

Awards are given to children and adults who have developmental disabilities, family members, staff, volunteers and employees.

The nomination form is included with this issue of 'Dateline.'

All nominations are due June 1, 2019.



# Ohio Opioid Alliance

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) continues to participate in the Ohio Opioid Alliance, with the goal to educate and prevent the next generation of young people from misusing or abusing prescription opioids.

According to Becky Love, Director of the FCBDD Early Childhood Education services, "we know how difficult it can be for young babies who are born addicted to drugs, especially when their mothers are also dealing with addiction. Whatever we can do to educate folks on the dangers of misusing opioids is important."



The Ohio Opioid Alliance is a coalition of business, education, non-profit, civic and government organizations supporting the 'Don't be in Denial' campaign. A series of television advertisements have been on the air to encourage people to talk to their kids, safeguard prescriptions and dispose of left over pills. Opioid use does not discriminate by race, age or socio-economic status – it can happen in all families and teens are most at risk.

Opioids consist of drugs like OxyContin, Vicodin and illegal drugs like heroin. Over 130 Americans die each day from an opioid overdose. It usually starts with pills.

For more details on the 'Don't Live in Denial' campaign go to: [www.DontLiveinDenial.org](http://www.DontLiveinDenial.org).

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## Meet Evelyn *by Jack Beatty* *Shared Living services provide nice option*

Evelyn Fairley's broad smile could warm a cold spring morning and, seeing that, you would never guess that she has faced major struggles in her life. Her childhood and early days were marked by stays in an institution and then a variety of foster homes. Later she was married and had a daughter but eventually found herself alone.

Evelyn's service coordinator describes her as a strong woman who made it through hard times, sometimes with help but often without. She tried living in the YMCA but as her need for some assistance grew, she eventually found her way into a supported living setting with a roommate.

Throughout the years Evelyn always worked hard at diverse jobs that included Kmart, Harley Hotel, ODOT, Arc West, UCP, and Goodwill. When retirement finally came, she faced the vagaries of age and declining health in her supported living apartment where she became increasingly isolated and lonely. But then there was Olivia.

Olivia was the home manager. She developed a quick bond with Evelyn and they began discussing the possibility of moving into an apartment together. Such an arrangement, allowed through Medicaid Waiver funding is called

"Shared Living".

Olivia could get paid for providing some care and they both could share home expenses. They decided to give it a try, located an apartment, and the good times began to unfold.

Olivia helped Evelyn locate her daughter, Crissy, who was living in Kentucky and they now visit her regularly. Through Facebook she was also able to track down Evelyn's brother, Ray.

Unbeknownst to Evelyn, Olivia invited him for a visit. He took a train from his home in Oregon and met an explosively surprised Evelyn at her apartment door. She knew him instantly. He stayed for a week and has invited both women to Oregon for Thanksgiving. They plan to go.

Evelyn also visits with Olivia's family in Indiana and Texas. Olivia has another job to make ends meet and Evelyn attends an activity program three days per week.

But aside from that they are inseparable. Olivia describes Evelyn as her sidekick and partner in crime. In many ways Olivia has opened up Evelyn's world.

So, if you meet Evelyn, she may show you many pictures of her travels with Olivia, tell you about her favorite band, KISS and the recent

concert she attended, or share tales of her cat, Snoopy and her guinea pig, Charlie. She smiles a lot these days.

As is true with everyone, the quality of her life is greatly enhanced by good and caring relationships.

"Shared Living" is not for everyone but it suits Evelyn to a T. At 69 years old, she told her brother that it finally feels like she is "home".



*Pictured from left to right: Olivia - shared living provider, Evelyn Fairley and her brother Ray.*

# Good For You

## Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Special thanks to Charbeth Cooke for coordinating Multi-Cultural Day at West Central School during Black History Month. Staff participated with special lunch offerings and JR Ridgeway designed the display case. Thanks also to all who contributed to the West Central hallway display and other decorations for the event! Pictured are Charbeth Cooke and JR Ridgeway.



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Thanks to Paul Jarvis and the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council and OPRA for coordinating DD Awareness and Advocacy Day at the Statehouse on March 5.

Congratulations to ADAMH (Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health) Board and Nationwide Insurance for 'Don't Live in Denial Ohio' campaign to prevent misuse of opioids.

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Congratulations to Jack Brownley, Director of Schools and Special Services and Brian Parks, Information Specialist and Routing Manager, for establishing a mass communication system for emergency closings due to weather or other reasons.

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Special thanks to Jack Karner and Northeast Center and Ivan Harrington and ARC Industries East for hosting State Representative Mary Lightbody and providing details on services provided by ARC Industries.

Congratulations to Chuck Davis, MUI Coordinator, Larry Macintosh, Director of Administrative Services, and Dot Yeager, Chief Business Officer, on excellent presentations at a Board In-Service.

# Career Milestones

## 30 Years

Debbie Seeds

## 25 Years

Dale Aberegg

## 20 Years

Angel Carter

## 15 Years

Winston Tidwell

Sherry Wade

Marsha Whitehead

## 10 Years

Allison Grimes

Susan Hedges

Robert Piper

## 5 Years

Sara Hodge

Emmanuel Owusu-Boadi

Thank you to the FCBDD Transportation staff for continued reliable services during a challenging Winter!



# Representative Lightbody visits

State Representative Mary Lightbody recently visited several facilities serving children and adults in an effort to learn more about services provided in Franklin County.



According to Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison, Representative Lightbody represents District 19, which includes Westerville, New Albany, and Gahanna. She was particularly interested in visiting Northeast Center and ARC Industries East, which are both located in her District. She had previously visited the Early Childhood Education and Family Center, located on Johnstown Road.



Representative Lightbody was complimentary of the services being provided by ARC Industries and the Early Childhood Center of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities. She also commented on the good work ARC Industries does cleaning the Riffe State Office Tower, where her office is located.



Representative Lightbody was elected in November, 2018 and is serving her first term as a State Representative. Special thanks to State Representative Lightbody.

# Emergency messages



Would you like to receive a text or email when transportation or other services from the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) are cancelled due to inclement weather or other emergencies?

If so, please email your name, cell phone number - (including area code), and complete email address to:

**[emergencyalerts@fcbdd.org](mailto:emergencyalerts@fcbdd.org)**

If you would like to receive other non-emergency communication from FCBDD, sign up for NewsBits by going to [www.fcbdd.org](http://www.fcbdd.org) and click on NewsBits or click on <https://fcbdd.org/resources/newsbits/>.

## OCALI lending library

The Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) has a lending library that collects and shares accessible educational and professional materials and assistive technology.

Examples of assistive technologies include communication devices, switches, sensory supports, magnifiers, text to speech or speech to text software and more.

Located in Central Ohio, OCALI is a resource open to school districts and others who can benefit from their services. Individuals are encouraged to work with their school district IEP team on what is specifically needed, but can also check out items on their own.

OCALI is located in Columbus at 470 Glenmont Avenue in the Clintonville area. For additional details, contact Samantha Brown at 614-410-0753.

## Next Chapter Book Club book

The Next Chapter Book Club recently announced they have published a new book titled New Love, Spilt Milk, and Potbellied Pigs.

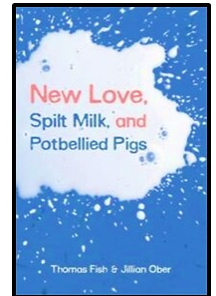
The book includes short stories, plays and poems written in simple language using large print and black and white photographs. It is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble for \$14.99.

Dr. Tom Fish, Founder and President of Next Chapter Book Club, and Jillian Ober are the co-authors of the book.

Next Chapter Book Clubs are now established in many states and other countries. The concept was developed by Dr. Tom Fish, formerly a Professor of Social Work and member of faculty at the Nisonger Center, Ohio State University Medical School.

For more information on the Next Chapter Book Clubs in Central Ohio, contact Jillian Ober at 614-685-6718.

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities continues to support this and other important work at Nisonger Center.



**Franklin County Provider Fair**  
**Wednesday, April 3**  
**11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lausche Building**  
**on the Ohio State Fairgrounds**

## Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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*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 disability.*

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

[www.fcbdd.org](http://www.fcbdd.org)

## Calendar

### April, 2019

- 1 Happy April Fool's Day
- 3 Franklin County Provider Fair at the Ohio State Fairgrounds Lausche Building on 17th Avenue, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 4 Guardianship Training at FCBDD, 2879 Johnstown Rd., Contact Angie Franke at (614) 342-5972 for details.
- 5 Legislative Advocacy Day, Bixby Center in Groveport, 10:00 a.m.
- 10 Family Support, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m.
- 19 Staff Development Day for West Central School, Early Childhood Education and Transportation Staff
- 19-26 Spring Recess for West Central School and FCBDD preschool programs. Classes resume on April 29th
- 25 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Human Resources, Ethics and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 25 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.



# FCBDD Community Star Awards Nomination Form

*Do you know someone who should be recognized for extraordinary accomplishments or service supporting individuals with developmental disabilities?*

If so, please take a moment to complete and return this nomination form. Nominations will be accepted until **June 1, 2019**. All nominations will be considered by an Award Committee, and winners in each category will be recognized at the FCBDD Community Star Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, October 1, 2019. **Please submit this nomination to: Awards Committee, c/o Amy Magginis, 2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, Ohio 43219.**

(PLEASE PRINT)

1. Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Please complete one nomination per form and check the category for which this person or organization is nominated. Nominees are not required to be staff members or affiliated with FCBDD.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Participant / Self-Advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Staff                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Participant                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Staff                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Family Member              | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Staff                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Services Staff              | <input type="checkbox"/> Management/Supervisory Staff          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Staff                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Services/Other Staff          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provider Organization             | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Coordination Department Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer/Good Neighbor           | <input type="checkbox"/> Employer                              |

3. Why should this nominee be recognized? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Please describe any other achievements or information regarding this person or organization to support this nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

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