



All in the Family

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Team Tom comes together to raise \$50,000 for Fifty



Tom Schneider, front, far right, with his family "Team Tom."

When Tom Schneider turn 50 years old on November 18th, he and his family will celebrate in two, very big ways.

Tom plans to host a birthday dinner at the Canaletto Restaurant inside the Venetian

Hotel in Las Vegas. He's invited everyone to attend, his treat. However, his family knows that not everyone will be able to attend, so they are celebrating his 50 years in another big way.

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Helping the Transition from School to Work

A new team of Service and Support Administration Specialists are onboard to help guide students, families and educators from school to the workplace.

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MOVING TO THE MOVIES

Camp Jukebox

For more Camp Jukebox photos, visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/StarkDD



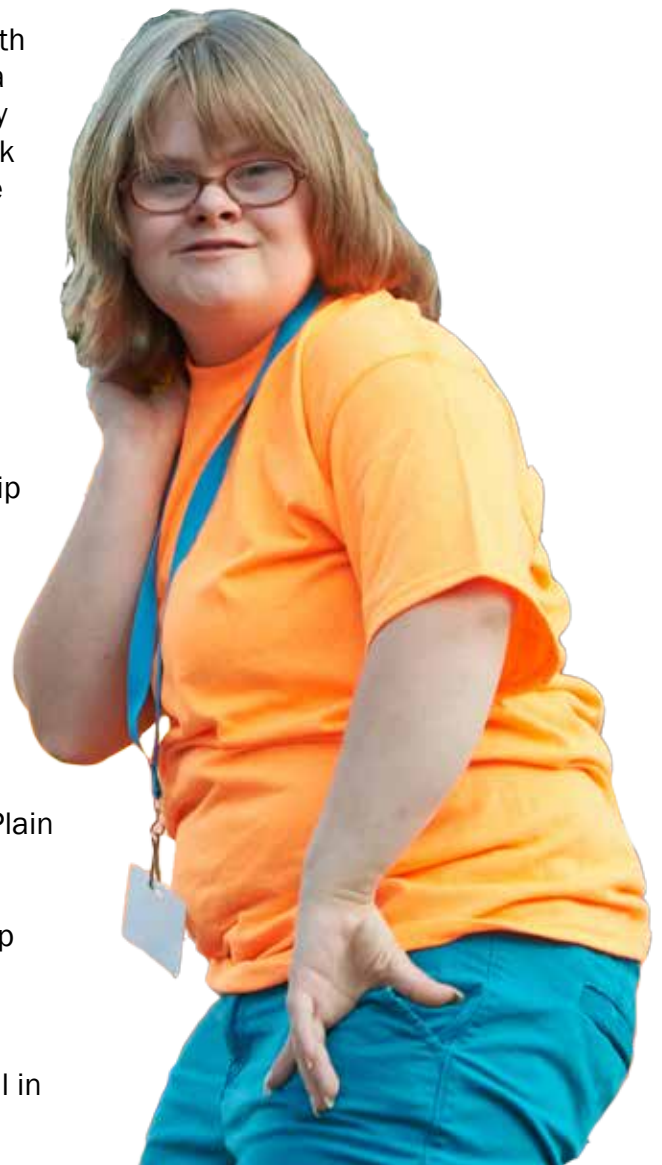
Thirty-eight children and young adults celebrated their talents and various abilities through music and dance at the 2015 Camp Jukebox during July.

Camp Jukebox is a week-long inclusive performance arts camp that brings together children with intellectual disabilities and high school and college aged peers to create a song and dance performance. The peers help campers during the week by providing companionship and helping them with special needs while they are learning the songs, dances and drama acts.

Camp Jukebox, in its 18th year, was lead by Norma Capocci, and directed by Lisa Hicklin. GentleBrook Event Center in Hartville hosted the camp for the second year.

The annual program was spearheaded by Arts for All, an outreach of the North Canton Playhouse, in partnership with Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Other sponsors of the camp included Stark Community Foundation/ SummerTime Kids and the Rotary Club of Plain Township.

The culmination of Camp Jukebox was a public performance on Friday, July 31 at the Historic Warehouse on the Canal in Canal Fulton.



\$50,000 for Fifty

Continued from page 1

In honor of Tom, his family is raising \$50,000 to donate to Stand Up for Downs toward their diagnosis, intervention and education program, and to their Down Syndrome Adoption work.

Tom's sister, Rita Schneider, first learned about the organization's mission in 2014. While gathered at Tom's 49th birthday party, Rita, sibling Teri Bate, and other family members formed Team Tom, and committed to raising the \$50,000 donation.

"It's a fairly new, local organization, and we wanted to further what they do and honor Tom at the same time," Rita said. "Stand Up for Downs wants to bring joy to the Down Syndrome community. Instead of it being gloom and doom, they want to do an about face with the messages coming to families about Down Syndrome."

Tom hopes they can make a difference for other families. "Sometimes parents are a little bit sad when their kid has Down Syndrome...because their kid isn't perfect," said Tom. "But only God is perfect."

With their donation, the family has set two goals: help a family adopt a child with



Henry Snow, left, poses with Tom Schneider. The Snow family founded Stand Up for Downs

Down Syndrome; and help the professional community learn to bring a more positive message to new families.

"In 1965, our parents were encouraged to institutionalize Tom, but they refused," said Teri. "They brought him home to seven siblings and a family who loved him. Tom is the glue for our family."

Teri said their efforts are not only to honor Tom, but also a way to honor their parents.

"I wish Mom and Dad were still alive," said Tom. "I would tell them about this."

So, this November the Schneider family will celebrate all that Tom has brought into so many lives, while helping to ensure that other families will have hope and joy.



Want to be a part of **Team Tom**? Here are a couple of ways to make your gift to Team Tom:

Make your check payable to Stand up for Downs (It's a 501 (c) 3 organization and all donations are tax deductible.)

Mail to:

Rita Schneider
7666 Bentler Ave. NE
Canton, OH 44721
In the memo line write:
Team Tom Schneider

Or

Stand Up for Downs
website: <http://www.standupfordowns.org/>
Under "add special instructions" be sure to note that your gift is for Team Tom Schneider.

WORKSHOP CONSOLIDATION UPDATE

Local providers move to support Senior community integration

During the August 22 meeting of the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Board members approved entering into contractual agreements with three separate Adult Day Care providers who currently serve the senior population in Stark County.

Under this arrangement, Stark DD will send two staff with 10 individuals to each site where they would participate in joint integrated activities, share meals, and join together in community outings.

With this three year agreement, Stark DD will promote and

mentor the development of these providers who agree to deliver daily integrated activities in a community setting to senior citizens with developmental disabilities.

In addition, the agreement states that at the end of three years the provider will become a certified Medicaid provider and continue to serve those seniors with developmental disabilities.

Stark DD would remain provider of record for the next three years, while also offer training, direction, and technical assistance on becoming a certified Medicaid provider.

Picnic Table Sale



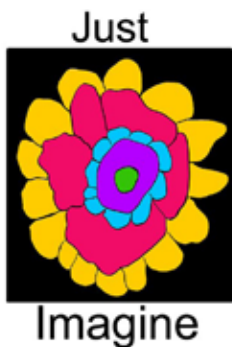
With our Pallet Shop closing at year's end..... so comes the last opportunity to buy one of their great picnic tables. We currently have between 15-20 tables built and ready for sale. This is the end of what was a great experiment that lasted some 30 years! Tables are \$197....multiple purchases at a discount.

If you are interested, please contact Eric Wenhardt directly at 330-479-3814 at the Whipple Dale Centre.

to coincide with the First Friday event in the Art's District.

Until then, shoppers can visit the Whipple-Dale Centre location through October 2. The Just Imagine² Gallery, located inside the Second April Galerie Annex in downtown, will be open through October.

Shoppers can take advantage of the clearance sale currently going on at the Whipple-Dale Centre. All kinds of vintage art and craft supplies are available for sale. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Arts District is new home for Just Imagine Gift Gallery

It's official! Beginning in early November, eight artists and two staff from Stark DD day programs will become a part of the rich canvas of artisans who call the Canton Arts District home.

The Just Imagine Gift Gallery

will relocate to 201 - 6th Street NW, that will include a studio/retail shop featuring one of a kind paintings and ceramics.

The new space will be open for business in November, however a Grand Opening event is planned for Friday, December 4



What's Transition?

Moving from School to Work

www.starkdd.org/ssais

Due to the recent laws passed at federal and state levels concerning Employment First (see page 6 of this publication), three Service & Support Administrator Transition Specialists were hired in late 2014. These new specialists are the point of contact for school Special Education departments, while guiding young adults, ages 14-22, and families as they plan for life after graduation.

Currently, 151 students from the 17 Stark County school districts are receiving transition services.

“We meet with families & schools to provide information, options, and referrals to optimize success after graduation,” said Paula Kovach, SSA Supervisor of the Office of Community Integration and Supports (OCIS). **“We also collaborate with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (BVR & BSVI) for career exploration & community work experiences for the student.”**

The Transition Specialists are

making connections in the community by attending IEP meetings throughout Stark County, participating in the Local Leaders team, and attending State Support Team Region 9 events, School Open House, Transition Fairs, and Parent-Teacher Conferences.

“Within the first year we have increased knowledge to schools and families about Stark DD availability of services, and that we are a supportive link to resources,” said Kovach.

While the transition specialists have worked on forming new relationships in the community, including parents, teachers, school districts and many community agencies, they are also strengthening existing relationships with the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD), Educational Service Center (ESC) and others.

For more information on Stark DD's Transition Services, download their brochure at www.starkdd.org/ssais

Meet the Stark DD Transition Specialists



Jeremy Ballinger, B.A.
Service and Support Administrator
Transition Specialist
330-479-3638
330-479-3639 Fax
ballingerj@starkdd.org

Serving students in these school districts:
Canton Local • Massillon • Northwest • Perry • Sandy Valley • Canton City*



Lisa Boron, M.Ed.
Service and Support Administrator
Transition Specialist
330-479-3600
330-479-3601 Fax
boronl@starkdd.org

Serving students in these school districts:
Alliance • Louisville • Marlington • Osnaburg • Plain Local • Canton City*



Katrina Smith, M.A.
Service and Support Administrator
Transition Specialist
330-479-3918
330-479-3919 Fax
smithka@starkdd.org

Serving students in these school districts:
Fairless • Jackson • Lake • Minerva • North Canton • Tuslaw • Canton City*

*All serve Canton City and referral will be rotated for equal distribution.



WHY ALL THE CHANGES?



This is part three of a series of articles discussing the changes in legislation and regulations affecting the DD system and what this means to us in Stark County.

Previous:

November 2014

The Olmstead Decision, US Department of Justice and Disability Right Ohio mandate community integration

April 2015

The Olmstead Decision, US Department of Justice and Disability Right Ohio mandate community integration

Upcoming:

November 2015

Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act

With the growing national concerns about sheltered workshops, the use of sub-minimum wage and community integration focus in the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare rule, the emphasis on “Employment First”—that is, integrated employment as the first and preferred option for all people with disabilities – has gained significant momentum.

Currently, thirty-two states have an official Employment First policy, either in the form of legislation, policy directive, or Executive Order.

Employment First in Ohio

On March 19, 2012, Governor John Kasich signed an executive order declaring that employment services for individuals with developmental disabilities be directed toward community employment. **Every individual with a developmental disability is presumed capable of community employment.**

Employment First in Stark County

Just after Governor Kasich mandated the Employment First policy, Stark County put two initiatives on the forefront. The first initiative included an Employment First Partnership Interagency agreement between Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) designed to expand community

employment services to county board eligible adults with developmental disabilities to transition from segregated settings into integrated competitive employment. The Employment First Partnership Supported Employment Service Model includes: Embedded Counselors, Person Centered Planning, Plan Match Support Placement Model, Dual Certification Process for Providers, Outcome Based Reimbursement for Services, and Individualized Benefits Analysis.

Partnership Vocational Rehabilitation Performance Statistics for Federal Fiscal Year 2015 (Statewide) as of June 2015:

- **1455 open cases on hand**
- **458 Individuals in Job Ready Status**
- **127 Individuals in Employed Status**
- **181 Individuals with Successful job closures**

Partnership Vocational Rehabilitation Performance Statistics for Federal Fiscal Year 2015 (Stark County) as of August 2015:

- **45 referrals have been submitted; not all referrals have resulted in open cases**
- **3 Individuals in Employed Status**
- **2 Individuals with Successful job closures**

nationally and locally

Under the second initiative, Stark County was chosen to be one of six Local Leader teams in the state. The team brought together all the entities in our county that have a stake in seeing improved employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. The Stark County team has focused on the following projects:

1. Create a county-wide informational website as a resource for parents/guardians and educators seeking guidance on transitional services and the recommended steps to best meet the needs of the child/young adult through all stages of life. The Navigation Tool, branded My Life Map, is in the final stages of development and can be accessed through the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities website at www.starkdd.org.

2. Host a two day Regional Transition Conference for students, educators and families that focused on

competitive, integrated employment. More than 230 transition aged youth, and 130 families attended the two day event in October 2014.

3. Provide Professional Transition Team Training for local educators. Educators from 13 schools districts participated in the year-long professional development that ensures youth transition planning reflects goals of competitive, integrated employment.

4. Establish a Family Advisory Council and host six parent information meetings focused educating and supporting families about available services that support student-based community employment. The Council sponsored events throughout the year focused on skills, advocacy needed for integrated, community employment.

5. Establish an Employer Network that facilitates the placing of individuals with disabilities in competitive, integrated employment. More than 20 job placement professionals and business leaders met monthly to exchange job placement options and leads.



Local Leaders Roundtable

The Stark County team consists of the following community members:

Jennifer Wells, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
Linda Allison, Stark DD; Autumn Lombardi, Siffrin; Jeremy Ballinger, Stark DD; Myrna Blosser, Stark DD; Bob Nicholson, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities; Lisa Boron, Stark DD; John Bryson, Stark DD; Buffie LaBelle, REM Ohio; Carol Lichenwalter, Pegasus Farm; Chris Filler, OCALI; Cynthia Dyer, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities; Don Holley, GentleBrook; Deb Bates, SST9; Eric Smer, Canton Chamber of Commerce; William Green, Stark DD; Jan Dougherty, Parent; Karen Layton, Pegasus Farm; Jim Keller, Stark DD; Paula Kovach, Stark DD; Lauren Todd, Viaquest Inc.; LeeAnn Devore, Canton City School District; Margaret Leitzel, Stark DD; Lisa Rogers, Canton Local School District; Kailynn Marks, Stark DD; Marquerite Hoover, Siffrin; Mary Lynne Offredo, SST9; Holly Minarik, Stark DD; Mike Moore, Stark DD; Rose Morgan, Stark DD; Nikki Miraglia, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities; Patti Fetzer, Mental Health and Recovery Board Services of Stark County; Phil Stauffer, GentleBrook; Ric Brown, Echoing Hills Village Inc.; Katrina Smith, Stark DD; Stacy Collins, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities; Terry L Swejk, SST9 Wes Almond, Viaquest Inc.; Kathy Brand, Jackson Local Schools; Jessica Gallina, Jackson Local Schools; Lisa Parramore, Stark DD; Rachel Knisely, Canton City School District; Cory Lutton, Stark County ESC; Kelly Greaves, Goodwill; Regina Settimio, Goodwill; Kathi Herberghs, Coleman Employment Services; Suzanne Dugan, REM, Ohio; Jack Everetts, Perry Local Schools; Tom Lash, OOD; Michelle Loveland, OOD; Leslie Meneses, OOD

Learn more about Ohio's Employment First at www.ohioemploymentfirst.org

Finding, sharing us on Facebook helps Make Awareness Go Viral

The 2015 Stark County Provider Fair

*Bringing families and
providers together!*

**Sunday,
November 15,
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Walsh University,
2020 East Maple Street,
North Canton, OH 44720
Barrette Business &
Community Center**

*You will have the
opportunity to:*

- Meet Medicaid waiver providers of residential and transportation, Adult Day, home modification services and more!
- Collect information about guardianship, Aultman Wellness on Wheels, Probate Court, Medicaid, and more!
- Attend informational presentations



For more information, call
Mary Lou Chizmar • 330-479-3728



**Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities
(Stark DD)** shared Characters of Canton's photo.

June 1 at 9:26pm · 🌐

Congratulations Seth! You are a great representation of the great people of Canton!



Characters of Canton

Meet Seth Geiselman....Seth is just Awesome! I stopped into Papa Bears this afternoon because I wanted to honor this young man! Seth who is 37 has been working there for 19 years! I walked in and he said, you're Joe Albert and I said, Yes! He was waiting for me and was just so appreciative. Seth told me the Pizza is his favorite item on the menu and I said, mine too! Seth told me that he is an excellent swimmer and that he is a huge Ohio State fan. He also loves the Browns! Everyone whom I talked to at the Papa Bears said he is an ALLSTAR there and they Love him! Steve the owner of Papa Bears said, Seth is the most important man here and without him Papa Bears wouldn't be the same. I asked Seth if I could get a picture with he and I and he was so willing! Thank you, Seth, for making my day and for being a Character of Canton!

2,633 people reached

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Have you found us on Facebook?

Be a part of the movement!

www.Facebook.com/StarkDD

www.Facebook.com/ForStarkDD

www.Facebook.com/JustImagineGiftGallery



Tassel Time



For more graduation photos, visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/StarkDD

Stark County Board of DD celebrated the graduation of 12 students from Rebecca Stallman Southgate School. The graduates are actively working with employment specialists searching for jobs in the community or pursuing their interests in our Stark community through a local provider.

Forty-two preschoolers in our Early Childhood program also celebrated “moving on;” 33 of these students have returned back into their home school districts for kindergarten, while nine are attending specialized programs or additional preschool classes.



Rebecca Stallman Southgate School Class of 2015



Jermelle Poole



Matthew Wunderle



Britney Lorenz



Chad Dunmon



Kayla Taylor



Leigh Montgomery



Michael Carter



Michael Cabassa



Jara Wyant



Chad Swiger



Billy Carper, Jr.

Not pictured:
Daniel Kingsbury



Stark DD Early Childhood 2015 Preschool graduates perform “The Freeze” during the May 28th ceremony.

Calendar

For a complete list visit www.starkdd.org/calendar



Social

Early Childhood Play Group

Each Friday, 10 a.m. - 11:30 am at Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center. An opportunity for you and your children to interact with other children and families in a relaxed, play-based, social setting. Typically developing children and children with developmental disabilities are invited to join this community wide event.



Adult Social Night

September 24, 2015 from 7 p.m.- 9 p.m. at the St. George Serbian Center 4667 Applegrove St., North Canton. Must be 18 years of age and over to attend.

Premier Event Variety Show

September 25, 2015, at First Christian Church, 6900 Market Ave. N, Canton. Show starts at 7:15 p.m. The Arc of Ohio-Stark County presents this annual event, with proceeds to benefit The Arc. For tickets, call 330-492-5225.

Adult Social Night

October 29, 2015 from 7 p.m.- 9 p.m. at the St. George Cultural Center, 364 First St. SE., Massillon. Must be 18 years of age and over to attend.

Exceptional Parents Incredible Children

Free monthly support group for parents of children with special needs. Meets first Tuesday of every month.- Sponsored by E.P.I.C - Next meeting: Tues. October 6, 2015; 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at the Early Childhood Resource Center, Canton; visit www.SST9.org/parents_families for more information.

Recreation

Stark DD Special Olympics Swim Team Sign-Up Day

Swimming sign-ups will be held on Saturday, September 19, from 10 – 12 p.m. at the Louisville YMCA – 1421 Nickel Plate Ave South, Louisville, Ohio. Athletes trying out for the first time for swimming will need to bring swim suit to try out. For more information, contact the Special Olympics Coordinator Bryan Stuck at 330-479-3794.

18th Annual Great Pumpkin Race

October 31, 2015, 8:30 a.m. Proceeds from this 1 mile fun walk/run and 4 mile competitive run benefit Stark DD Special Olympians. Register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Canton/GreatPumpkinRace>



Education

Stark DD Family Information Series

October 19, 2015, 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. at Whipple-Dale Centre, Topic: Provider Certification and Training Requirements. For more information call Kristin Palosi at 330-479-3672.

Community

Monthly Board Meeting

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; September 26, 2015, 10:30 a.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW

Northeast Ohio SIBS Regional Get Together & Info Sharing

September 27, 2015, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at Independence Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 6361 Selig Dr., Independence; Visit www.ohiosibs.com for information.

Stark County Walk Now for Autism Speaks

October 4, 2015, 8:30 a.m. Pro Football Hall of Fame, 2121 George Halas Dr NW, Canton; <http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/StarkCounty>

Autism Summit

November 13, 2015; NEUCOM in Rootstown. The Autism Society of Greater Akron presents a one-day event focusing on the state of autism in the Northeast Ohio area. In conjunction with a public lecture by Dr. Temple Grandin on Thursday evening, Visit www.autismakron.org for information.

Monthly Board Meeting

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; October 24, 2015, 10:30 a.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW.

In Memoriam

The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities extends sincere condolences to the families of the following:

David Thomas Lee

David, age 65, passed away on Sunday, March 22, 2015. He received SSA services and attended the Cornerstone day program.

Debra Kaye Farnsworth

Debra, age 60, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2015. She received SSA services and previously attended the SCBDD workshop program.

Gregory Dean DePriest

Greg, age 60, passed away on Friday, April 10, 2015. He received SSA services and attended West Stark Center.

Kenneth "Kenny" Gene Kolm

Kenny, age 65, passed away on Friday, April 17, 2015. He received SSA services.

Charles "Bud" Marion Dukeman

Charles, age 77, passed away on Monday, April 20, 2015. He received SSA services.

Michael Rocco Gemma

Michael, age 60, passed away on Thursday, April 30, 2015. He received SSA services and had retired from the Whipple-Dale workshop program.

Joseph Lee Justice, Jr.

Joseph, age 30, passed away on Friday, May 1, 2015. He received SSA services.

Mary Sue Hoiles

Mary, age 45, passed away on Thursday, May 7, 2015. She received services from Supported Employment and the SSA Department.

Flanders Elum Blackford

Flanders, age 67, passed away on Wednesday, May 13, 2015. He had received SSA services and previously attended the Stark DD workshop program.

Dennis Richard Gaines

Dennis, age 50, passed away on Thursday, May 21, 2015. He received SSA services and worked at Whipple-Dale Centre.

Carrie Bell

Carrie, age 71, passed away on Friday, May 22, 2015. She received SSA services and previously attended the Stark DD workshop program.

Lorraine A. Clark

Lorraine, age 53, passed away on Saturday, June 20, 2015. She received SSA services and, until just recently, had attended the Whipple-Dale workshop program.

Joseph Harry Eberhart, Jr.

Joseph, age 57, passed away on Monday, July 6, 2015. He received SSA services and attended Stark DD day programs.

Randi Marie Bailey-Starcher

Randi, age 33, passed away on Thursday, July 9, 2015. She received services from the SSA Department.

William "Bill" Craft Barton, Jr.

Bill, age 73, passed away on Wednesday, July 15, 2015. He received services from the SSA Department.

David Allen Harper

David, age 58, passed away on Saturday, July 25, 2015. He received services from the SSA Department, worked with CWE and participated in Special Olympics.

Norma Sue Hupp

Norma, age 59, passed away on Thursday, July 30, 2015. She received services from the SSA Department.

Polly Anna Davis

Polly, age 51, passed away on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. She received services from the SSA Department and formerly attended the Board workshop program.

STAFF

Larry D. Harper – Larry, age 67, passed away on Friday, May 1, 2015. He worked as a Custodian for the Board for almost 20 years. He retired in 2011 but returned and had been working as a Substitute Custodian. His cousin, Cheryl Lovejoy, is a Records Clerk for the Board.

David L. Lange – Dave, age 64, passed away on Friday, July 10, 2015. He worked as a Service and Support Administrator in the non-waiver funded unit.



Published by the
Stark County Board of
Developmental Disabilities

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fax: 330-477-2545

Throughout the course of a year Stark DD serves more than 3,300 infants, children and adults. Nearly 59 percent of our annual operating budget of just under \$50 million comes from a combination of continuing and limited term levies approved by Stark County voters. Federal funds make up 20 percent of our funding, and state funds account for 21 percent.

A seven-member volunteer board oversees our organization. Five are appointed by the Stark County Commissioners; two by the Probate Court's Presiding Judge.

Editor:

Lisa Parramore,
Communications Manager

Amanda Rogers
Communications Volunteer

The All in the Family is a quarterly publication of the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities. News releases, story ideas, comments and suggestions should be addressed to All in the Family at the Whipple-Dale Centre, 2950 Whipple Ave. N.W., Canton, OH 44708. Circulation is currently 2,000.

The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities •
• Accredited by CARF, NAEYC, DODD •
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**Stark County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

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Camp Jukebox Grooves

Mission:

**To be the support that connects individuals and families
with the services they need.**

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**Stark County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

All in the Family