



# All in the Family

A publication of the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities Summer 2012 • Volume 19 • Issue 1

## Pilot program integrates kids into local schools



**Strategic Direction:** Segregated to Community Environments. We will look at establishing collaborative learning experiences that promote inclusive environments. We will also continue to provide education services and our expertise.

Warstler elementary students (center, l to r) Ty Kuntzman, Baylee Taylor, Kyle Savage and Aaron Savage carried the Stark DD banner during the parade of teams at the 2012 Exceptional Olympics event at Perry High School on May 11. This is the first appearance for students representing the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities in the event, which comprises of teams from special education classes in the county's 13 school districts and the Educational Service Center.

*continued on page 2*

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*“Amazing. Every. One.”*



## Looking Ahead at Stark DD

### August

August 16  
Adult Social Night  
Hoover Park  
7-9 pm

August 18  
Stark DD Board Meeting  
Whipple-Dale Centre, 10:30 am

August 18  
Camp Jukebox at  
Main Street Festival  
North Canton

August 21  
Warstler, Southgate  
First Day of School

August 28  
Day, Eastgate  
Half of preschoolers attend

August 29  
Day, Eastgate  
Other half of preschoolers attend

August 31  
Staff In-service Day  
No program services

### September

September 3  
Labor Day  
Program closed

September 15  
Stark DD Board Meeting  
Whipple-Dale Centre, 10:30 am

September 20  
Adult Social Night  
St. George Serbian Center  
7-9 pm

## Embedded classrooms

*continued from page 1*

Their appearance was possible because of Stark DD's pilot program which embedded classes into neighborhood schools, giving kids with developmental disabilities a greater chance to interact with other children. This pilot program is also part of the Board's three year strategic plan to promote inclusive environments where possible.

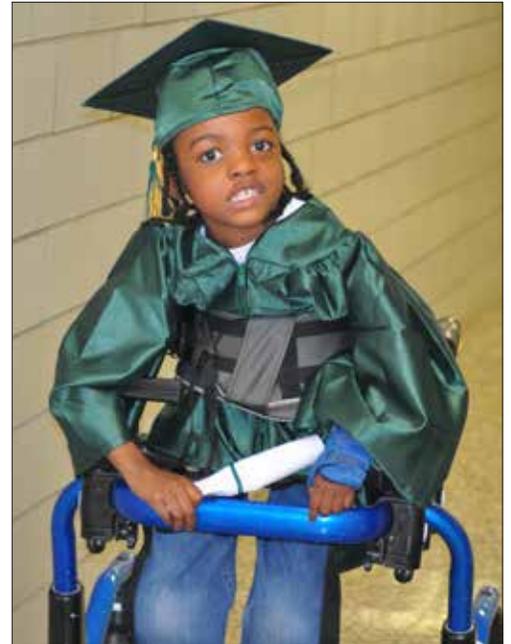
Stark DD Superintendent Bill Green said the philosophy is that special needs and typical students benefit from being in the same environment. "The Stark DD kids would learn positive behaviors from their peers, and the other children could learn to accept them."

Last year, Plain Local School District Superintendent Brent May agreed to host the pilot program. In August, two Eastgate preschool classes took up residence in the Day Early Childhood Center and one multi-age primary grade classroom was embedded at Warstler Elementary School. All three classrooms were staffed by Stark DD teachers and aides. By the Spring, six Eastgate students and four Southgate students filled the Stark DD classrooms.

"No doubt, this year was a success," said Green. "It will only get better."

Plans for the 2012-13 school year include increased enrollment in all three classes; eight students are signed up for next year's Warstler class. The Day Early Childhood classes will host 22 total students within the two Stark DD preschool classes. ■

Read more about this pilot program in the Repository at <http://www.cantonrep.com/news/x1831802945/Stark-DD-kids-thrive-at-Warstler-School>



*Neamiah Fowler pauses with his diploma following his graduation from Day Early Childhood Center. Fowler was just one of nine Stark DD students to graduate from the center, which is a collaboration of the Educational Service Center and Stark DD.*

## Milliken reappointed to state disabilities council



Ohio Governor John Kasich appointed Stark County DD Board member Robert Milliken to another term on the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council. Milliken's term started April 27, 2012 and will continue until September 30, 2014. This is Milliken's second term on the Council.

Federal law mandates that every state that receives federal money to help people with developmental disabilities must have a DD Council. Among its several responsibilities, the council must create and revise a state plan to assist people with developmental disabilities. ■



Representing Stark DD at the State Legislative Advocacy Day was Lenny Terrance (Higgins), Richard Brezinski (Whipple-Dale Centre) and Adam Rizor (West Stark Center).



## Looking Ahead at Stark DD cont.

September 22  
TWi Extravaganza  
Malone University Stadium  
2:30 pm - 10 pm

## October

October 8  
Columbus Day  
Program closed

October 15  
No School  
Day & Warstler students only

October 20  
Stark DD Board Meeting  
Whipple-Dale Centre, 10:30 am

October 27  
15th Annual Great Pumpkin Race  
Whipple-Dale Centre  
8 a.m. to noon

October 31  
Adult Social Night  
St. George Serbian Center  
7-9 pm

## November

November 4  
Stark DD Provider Fair  
Barrette Business/Community Ctr  
Walsh University  
1-5 pm

November 12  
Veterans Day  
All programs closed

November 15  
Adult Social Night  
Meyers Lake Ballroom  
7-9 pm

## Three join State Legislative Advocacy Day

The following story is re-printed from the June edition of the Mount Higgins Newsletter, a publication produced by the Newsletter Club at Higgins Adult Center. There are five individuals and one staff advisor who meet each week and take pictures, interview people, write stories and then compile it into the newsletter.

Three of our individuals representing the three workshops went to Columbus on May 8 to meet with Senator Scott Oelslager, Representative Kirk Schuring, and Representative Stephen Slesnick. Representing Higgins was Lenny Terrance. West Stark was represented by Adam Rizor, and Richard Brezinski represented Whipple-Dale Center.

Accompanying them on the trip was staff members Denise Frangos, Lynn Royer, and Joel Marchand.

The purpose of the trip was to attend the 2012 Legislative Advocacy Day. The Ohio DD Council and several sponsors held the event to give people with developmental disabilities a chance to meet with their legislators. The two main issues discussed were employment and visitability. Visibility is a movement throughout the nation to improve housing accessibility.

It was also a huge boost for House Bill 332 which gives tax credits for house modifications that include accessibility.

### Lenny Speaks His Mind In Columbus

“Both Kirk Schuring and Scott Oelslager are very nice. I got a chance to express my story and my opinion. I talked to them about gaining employment in the community. Some places that I go to, I can’t even get my wheelchair in the door to apply for a job. I just want employers to give me a chance to do the work. One can only hope that we did some good. The idea is to keep pushing the legislators to improve the current legislation concerning disabilities.” Lenny hopes that both the staff and the individuals get involved with making changes that affect so many lives.



Approximately 350 advocates met for the day that started with a morning presentation from various speakers.

After the large group presentations, our group from Stark DD got to meet privately with Scott Oelslager and then Kirk Schuring. ■



# Our community is working together

Adult Services • Carmen Crum, Director • 330-479-3930

## New Hires

Constance Poulton  
Director of Human Resources

Jonathan Miles  
Program Administrator

Lauren Friedman  
Training Coordinator

Tana Morales  
Team Leader

Kristen Swartz  
Mgr. CWE/SE

Sarah Hykes  
Amber Slabaugh  
Service & Support Administrator

Diane Sanders  
Intervention Specialist

Jeffery Lyon  
Mindy Ann McVay  
Chris Price  
Workshop Spec. I

Sonja Galevska  
Administrative Asst.

Susan Neddy-Scopelite  
Linda Greig  
Kerri Simons  
Clerk

Dean Winn  
Custodian

Dean Ormiston  
Mechanic

The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Goodwill Industries have collaborated to provide opportunities to individuals desiring to learn necessary work skills for community employment. This Work Adjustment and Assessment program takes place at several Goodwill stores including Canton, Alliance, Massillon, Canal Fulton and possibly the Canton warehouse.

Currently Stark DD has eight individuals participating in the program at the Canton Goodwill store on Route 62. Training is provided by Goodwill's Developmental Disabilities Case Manager.

Individuals have the opportunity to experience working in a variety of departments, including receiving and sorting donated goods, stocking/organizing store items, greeting and assisting customers, janitorial, cashier and more.

Participants have specific goals and programming developed based upon results of an assessment completed during the first two to four weeks of the program. They may remain in the program as long as they continue to make progress on their goals; however, the ultimate goal is community employment.

Individuals are paid minimum wage and work five hours per day with a half hour unpaid lunch. The program operates Monday through Friday. Individuals are responsible for



(Top) Geraldine Quincy helps stock and tag clothes at the Goodwill store as part of the collaborative program with Goodwill Industries and Stark DD. (Bottom) Jay Blossfield is coached by DD Case Manager Ashley Priest as part of the work adjustment and assessment program. Prior to joining the program both Quincy and Blossfield previously worked at the Higgins Adult Workshop.

arranging their transportation; most participants use Proline or non-medical transportation.

Interested individuals should contact their Service and Support Administrator or Training Coordinator. Tours of Goodwill stores can be arranged by contacting Shelly Taylor (330-479-3798) or Darrel Brinker (330-479-4030). ■

# Board continues proactive financial solutions while eyeing expiring levies

The Stark County Board of DD continues its pursuit of new and inventive management strategies, which allows the Board to remain an efficient and responsive community partner. Through grant programs, maximization of federal Medicaid dollars by increasing the number of Medicaid supported waivers for people going into adult services, and implementing more than \$2.5 million in cost saving reductions; we are reducing the burden on local taxpayers from having to bear the total cost of the increasing service needs. By partnering with Medicaid, the Board has been able to save over \$4 million in local levy funds.

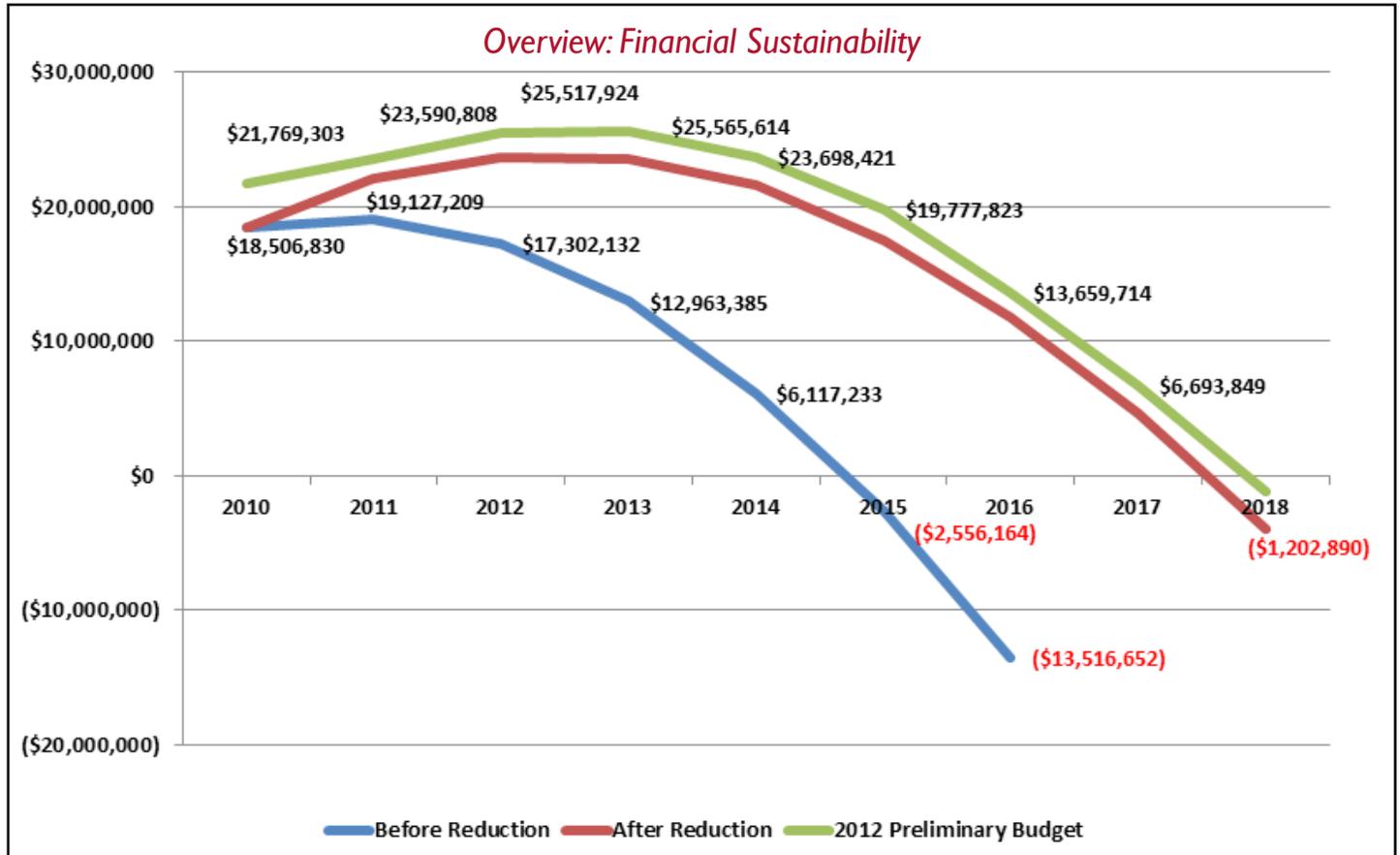
The Stark DD's expenditures in the preliminary budget for 2013 mirror the expenditures that were reported in 2010. By using bold thinking and strategic decision making, Stark DD has maintained its budget, leveraged new technology to ensure effective communications, and has eliminated waiting lists for early intervention and adult services. This has been able to occur at the same time that the Board is losing \$5.6 million in State funding in increments of around \$1.4 million over the next 4 years. Additionally, the Board is planning for an anticipated reduction of \$1.25 million in 2013 local property tax received due to the property being valued less than six years ago. The County Auditor is responsible for valuing property every six years by statute.

The Board's fiscal health extends to 2018 as long as there is success renewing levies that expire in 2013 and 2014. A significant initiative within this annual plan is protecting the Board's present funding level. The Board will continue to examine how services are delivered and continue implementation of its strategic plan to ensure that long term funding projections are addressed proactively. ■

Business Office • Mark Crouse, Chief Financial Officer, 330-479-3928

## New Hires

- Victor Dragomire  
Oral Ray  
Bus Driver
- Geraldine Reese  
Bus Rider
- Rachel Chapman  
Nicole Gerguson  
Katie Johnson  
Holly Vanover  
Christine Asmus  
Deirdre Robb  
Program Substitute
- Michael Heintz  
Angela Griffin  
Jason Zupp  
Workshop Spec. Substitute
- Carissa Leingang  
Intervention Spec. Substitute
- Aaron Geh  
Kayla Marchbank  
Special Olympics Coach





**THE WORKSHOPS, INC.**  
*your partners in business*

The Workshops, Inc. • Tim Casper, Chief Executive Officer • 330-479-3958

# SURESCAN helps businesses

On average it takes 18 minutes to search for a document and every misfiled document is estimated to cost \$125 in lost productivity. Businesses could be spending as much as 50% of the work day just looking for information.



This loss of productivity is exactly why **SureScan** was developed. When paper documents are electronically scanned and stored, retrieval of the information is easier to locate versus digging through paper files stuffed into filing cabinets that may be stored off-site.

“Leaving your desk or your building to retrieve a file is simply not a very good use of time, especially if you do it several times a week,” cautions TWi’s Chief Executive Officer Tim Casper. “SureScan offers area businesses an alternative to lost productivity by scanning paper files and saving them electronically for future reference.”

“Finding a scanned paper document is as easy as typing in a person’s name, or birth date. You can find a customer’s most recent invoice or their entire payment history by typing a few simple key strokes without ever leaving your office. Files, no matter how old, can be accessed easily from a PC,” added Casper.

TWi introduced **SureScan** in 2010 and after several months of testing and refining of the system, the program was up and running. **SureScan** is headquartered at Whipple-Dale Center in a specially designed and secure room that limits access. Security of the documents being scanned is the main concern for customers. Some of the materials being scanned contain sensitive information, and the room is secured accordingly.

**SureScan** employs seven people. SureScan currently has two scanners on-line with hopes of adding additional scanning stations as merited.



*Sure Scan employee Mike Kamarados preps documents for scanning. All fasteners must be removed and documents facing the same way before they can be scanned.*

**SureScan’s** crew performs several tasks each day, including prepping documents for scanning, which includes removal of paper clips and staples. Additionally, the prep work involves making sure all documents are oriented the correct way for scanning and that documents in envelopes are removed and prepared to be scanned.

Workers doing the scanning load documents into the scanning machines, which resemble desk top copiers. Once scanned, each electronic image is checked for clarity and legibility and then indexed according to customer specifications.

“The most critical part of the process is building the customer’s databases and indexing the files as ordered by the customer,” commented Casper, “since accuracy is vitally important. We have zero margins for error since we have to scan and properly index each document correctly so

# recoup productivity

that when the customer accesses the file later they can find it.”

**SureScan** customers depend on having the electronic equivalent of the paper document at their fingertips once the scanning of materials is finished. Customers simply find their documents by opening the file as saved, whether that is by name, birth date or a social security number.

“Working with the database is no different than opening the file cabinet the document came from originally,” Casper said. “When you open a file drawer marked ‘A-M’ you don’t expect to see files starting with ‘Z’. The same goes with the electronic version.”

When you search for John Smith’s file you simply type in the name as it was saved and access the file. If more than one file exists under that name you can use a birth date or social security number to refine your search to save time.

Cost for the scanning service depends on how many index fields the customer wants to add to their database. The more index fields requested the higher the rate per page is because it takes longer to build a database with multiple index fields.

“For capturing and building a database from a single index field the cost is usually around nine cents per document,” said Casper. “The cost per page goes up from there as index fields are added.”



Hillary Ickes is one of seven employees working on the SureScan enclave that is housed at the Whipple-Dale Centre. Ickes works on the computer scanning stage of the process.

**SureScan** works in concert with **SureShred**, TWI’s document destruction unit, since once paper documents are scanned and stored electronically there is usually no need to retain the originals and they are scheduled to be shredded. ■

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**TWIG**  
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GROUNDSKEEPING



The Whipple-Dale Centre  
2950 Whipple Ave. NW  
Canton, OH 44708  
M-F 9:30 am to 5 p.m.



Canton City Hall  
218 Cleveland Ave. SW  
Open Monday - Friday  
7:30 am to 2:30 p.m.

*Don't let yard clean up get you down... hire us to do it for you!*

**TWIG**  
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GROUNDSKEEPING



- Mulching • Raking
- Yard clean-up • Planting

For information on TWIG, contact Dave Ulrich at 330-484-9032

**TW Extravaganza**

**Saturday, September 22**  
Malone University vs. Wayne St. University football game

2:30 pm Tailgate • 4 pm Pre-game  
7 pm Kick Off  
Free Game Tickets • Games • Prizes

Tickets available at each building site beginning September 10

**Open to individuals, families, friend, staff!**



Contact Jim Keller  
330.484.-9050  
for information

## In Memoriam

James Ramsey Croley  
Received SSA services

Rebecca Reeve  
Formerly attended West Stark  
Center; received SSA services

Bonita Jones  
Attended Whipple-Dale Center  
and Higgins;  
received SSA services

Michael D. Klingensmith  
Attended the Board workshops  
and received SSA services

Victoria (Vicky) Abel  
Attended Whipple-Dale Centre  
and received SSA services

Adam Marshall Bertram  
Received Early Intervention  
and SSA services

Ayla Waldman Craighead  
Received Early Intervention  
and SSA services

Douglas Turner  
Employed in the SE Community,  
attended West Stark Center and  
Whipple-Dale Centre and  
received SSA services

Barbara Ann Schumann  
Received SSA services

Patrick F. Mooney  
Attended at Whipple-Dale Centre  
and received SSA services

Christina Faye Cox  
Attended Eastgate  
and received SSA services

Patricia Ann Benko  
Received SSA services

Tammy Jo Hostetler  
Attended Whipple-Dale Centre  
and received SSA services

Eastgate Early Childhood & Family Center • Tammy Maney, Principal • 330-479-3440



Preschoolers from Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center celebrate graduation with a song during the June 5 ceremony.

## Early Childhood Services graduates 34 preschoolers on to kindergarten

This spring, Stark DD Early Childhood Services celebrated the graduation of 34 preschoolers.

On May 31, nine graduated from Day Early Childhood Center, while 25 students from Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center received their diplomas on June 5.

These students will head to a variety of destinations to continue their schooling.

Among the students, eight will attend Stark DD school age

programs for kindergarten, while another 21 students will enter into their respective school districts' kindergarten classes. Five students are moving back to their home districts to continue preschool as they have progressed to the point they no longer need the intense specialized services offered through Stark DD's preschool program.

"We are thrilled to see the growth and progress that being in Stark DD programs has provided for each student," said Maney. "We know that only wonderful things await each child beyond our walls." ■

## Slagle honored as Professional of the Year

Intervention Specialist Ann Slagle was awarded the Professional of the Year by the Arc of Stark County at its March 8 Awareness Dinner. Slagle teaches at Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center.

This award is given to recognize exceptional professional contributions to the welfare of individuals with developmental disabilities and/or their families. In particular, nominees are sought who have demonstrated a personal commitment to enhancing the community's appreciation for the value and dignity of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. ■



# Twelve for 2012 Graduates look toward future

On June 1, the 12 members of the Class of 2012 of RS Southgate School put on their caps and gowns, and received their high school diplomas.

Bill Green, superintendent for the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities, addressed the graduates during the ceremony. Carmen Crum, director of Stark DD Adult Services officially welcomed the graduates to their next stage in life.

Myrna Blosser, principal of Southgate School, wished the graduates best of luck in their next journey. ■



Robert Noretto



Christopher Notman



Devin Digiantonio



Edwin Colegrove



Priscilla Milton



Capriese Justin



Solomon Adams



Christina Mayberry



Vincent Dolph



Luke Freeman



Donald Stark



Skylar Moore



## Teachers honored on Stark All-Teaching Teams



Christine Yoder (left) and Kristen Mayle (right), both teachers at RS Southgate School, were honored at the Education Celebration in May. The annual event honors the dedication of Stark County's top educators.

Mayle was recognized among the Top Rookie Teachers. Rookie educators have less than three years teaching experience, display a passion for his or her students and use innovation in the classroom.

Yoder joined top teachers on the All-County Teaching Team. Honorees must display a history of "going above and beyond" to educate his or her students. The teachers also were honored for inspiring students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn, and for playing an active role in their communities and their schools. ■

School Age Services • Myrna Blosser, Principal • 330-484-2547

### In Memoriam

Noreene Humphrey  
Received SSA services

Kaitlyn McCartney  
Attended Eastgate and  
received SSA services

Neil Eschliman  
Received SSA services

Timothy L. Risher  
Attended the Board workshops  
and received SSA services

Jerry Wagner  
Attended the Board Workshops  
and received SSA services

Alexis Evjen  
Received Early Intervention  
and SSA services

Isaac Matthew Gardner  
Received Early Intervention  
and SSA services

Sarah Jane McNamee  
Attended Whipple-Dale Centre  
and West Stark Center and  
received SSA services

Raymond Gero`  
Received SSA services

Larry E. Sprunk Jr.  
Received Board services

Patricia Ann Worster  
Attended Cohen-Joliet and  
received SSA services

Joseph Cooper  
Received Board services

Donna June Easterday  
Received SSA services

Thomas Ferron  
Attended West Stark Center  
and received SSA services

Carl "Frank" Vermillion, Jr.  
Received SSA services



### Promotions

Mike Headland  
Team Leader

Brandon Haney  
Network Administrator

Larry Beckwith  
Production Coordinator

Kathleen Albright  
Executive Assistant

Elizabeth Strong  
Intervention Specialist

Kirk Greaves  
Special Olympics Coordinator

Julie Butusov  
Melanie May  
Tom Christiansen  
Douglas Bernard  
Holly Minarik  
Mitchell Phillips  
Michael Simon  
Workshop Spec. 2

Robin Hill  
Tristan Hoover  
Christine Smiles  
Christopher Kopp  
Faith Sparks  
Linda Heithoff  
Alicia Diane King  
Sherrie Presutti  
Deidre Robb  
Tammy Young  
Workshop Spec. 1

Annette Fitzgerald  
Vehicle Operator CWE

Richard Becker  
Bus Driver

Joann Brown  
TraVenna Parks  
James Washington  
Cheryl Barrino  
Bus Rider

Carey Smith  
Custodian

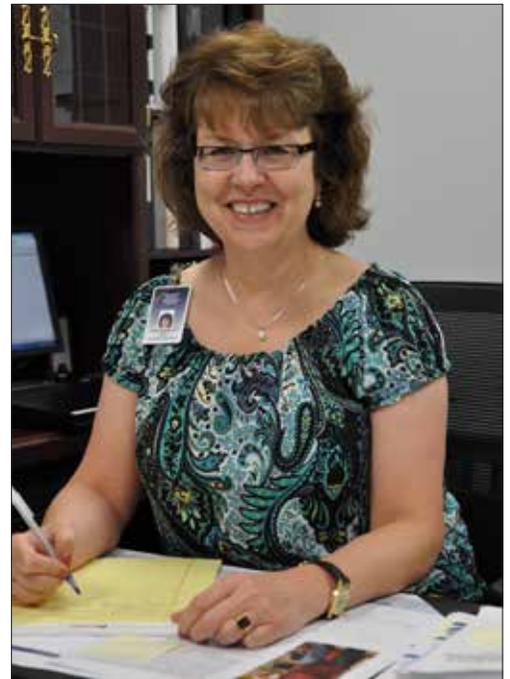
Connie Poulton, Human Resources • 330-479-3914

## Poulton brings expertise to employees

Connie Poulton has been hired as the new Director of Human Resources. She started her new job on June 21, 2012.

Poulton has over 21 years of experience in the field of human resources. In her most recent position as Vice President of Colleague Relations at Alliance Community Hospital, Connie was responsible for overseeing all Human Resource functions of the hospital and physician practices. She has a Bachelor's degree from Malone University, is a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), and is a Past Examiner for the Ohio Award of Excellence.

As Director of Human Resources, Poulton is responsible for the overall human resource functions of the agency, which include: employee recruitment, employee retention, employee relations, staff development, job classification review and monitoring, compensation administration, employee benefit administration, affirmative action, union contract administration, and compliance with the Family Medical Leave Act. ■



## Board website offers more online



The website for the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities has an updated look and navigation so it is more user-friendly for families and community members needing information about services and events.

Found at [www.starkdd.org](http://www.starkdd.org), the website has added a calendar of events, allowing visitors to filter among several categories to find Board and community events of interest to them. Visitors can also sign up to receive e-mail notifications about service information from specific programs or to receive key Board publications via e-mail. ■

# Olympians bring home the gold



Special Olympics • Kirk Greaves, Coordinator • 330-479-3768



Kicking off the games, Stark DD athlete Anthony Anderson ran the Olympic torch into the Ohio State University stadium and lit the Olympic Flame at the opening ceremonies in June.

Special Olympians representing the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities brought home 63 medals from the State Summer Games held June 23-24 at the Ohio State University. More than 50 athletes competed in track and field, bocce, and bowling. The final medal count was 23 golds, 27 silvers, and 13 bronze for the Stark DD team.

Thirteen athletes were double-medal winners. Brian Dunnivan brought home double gold medals for the 100M run and the 200M run. Cherie Brandenstein won the gold medal in the 200M run, a silver in the standing long jump. Four athletes brought home double silver medals: Steven Anderson, Silver-400M Run, Silver-Shotput ; Paul Gines, Silver-400M Run, Silver-200M Run; Anthony Anderson, Silver-1500M

Run, Silver-800M Run; Terry Weekly, Silver-Mini Javelin, Silver-400M Walk.

Indoors, the bowling lanes were hot for Stark athletes as twelve bowlers nabbed gold medals; three silvers medals, four bronze medals, and a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish.

Both of the Stark DD Bocce 4-person teams scored big this weekend, grabbing both the gold and silver medals.

For a complete listing of all the medals winners, visit our website at <http://www.starkdd.org/newsreleases>. ■

## Louisville Eagles donate to Special Olympics Booster Club

The Stark DD Special Olympics Booster Club would like to thank the Louisville Eagles for their continued support of the Spring and Fall Draw Down fundraisers. Monies raised from the two annual Draw Down events goes to support the mission of the Stark DD Special Olympics Booster Club, which provides volunteers, equipment, food for participants when not provided, and extra social events for the Special Olympic athletes.

Booster Club officers include Darla Orenchuk, President; Don Wilson, Vice President; Jamey Riley, Secretary; Shirley Diano, Treasurer. ■



Dave Fisher (center) of the Louisville Eagles presents a check for \$1,000 to the Stark DD Special Olympic Booster Club. Accepting the donation is Cheryl Dinino (left), Booster Club Draw Down committee and Shirley Diano, Booster Club Treasurer.

### Retired

Roberta Covington  
Workshop Spec. 2

Sharon Hunter  
Head Cook

Susan Polka  
Vehicle Operator CWE

Sue Bour  
Intervention Specialist

Charles Goins  
Workshop Spec. 2

Cindy Radcliff  
Bus Driver

### Rehired

Reba Schwab  
Michael Jenkins  
Bus Driver Substitute

David Budd  
Special Olympics Coach

Patricia Minor  
Program Substitute

Kessah Wolfe  
Intvn Spec. Asst. Substitute

### In Memoriam

Pamela Whitted  
Bus Rider

Emma Harper  
Nurse; Recently Retired

**Stark County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities**

2950 Whipple Ave. N.W.  
Canton, OH 44708

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PERMIT #772

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Richard Hoffman, Vice President  
Roger Gines, Recording Secretary  
Tom Bucka  
Jack Calhoun  
Carlene Harmon  
Robert Milliken

**Superintendent**

William Green

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Developmental Disabilities**

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Lisa Parramore, Communications Manager

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