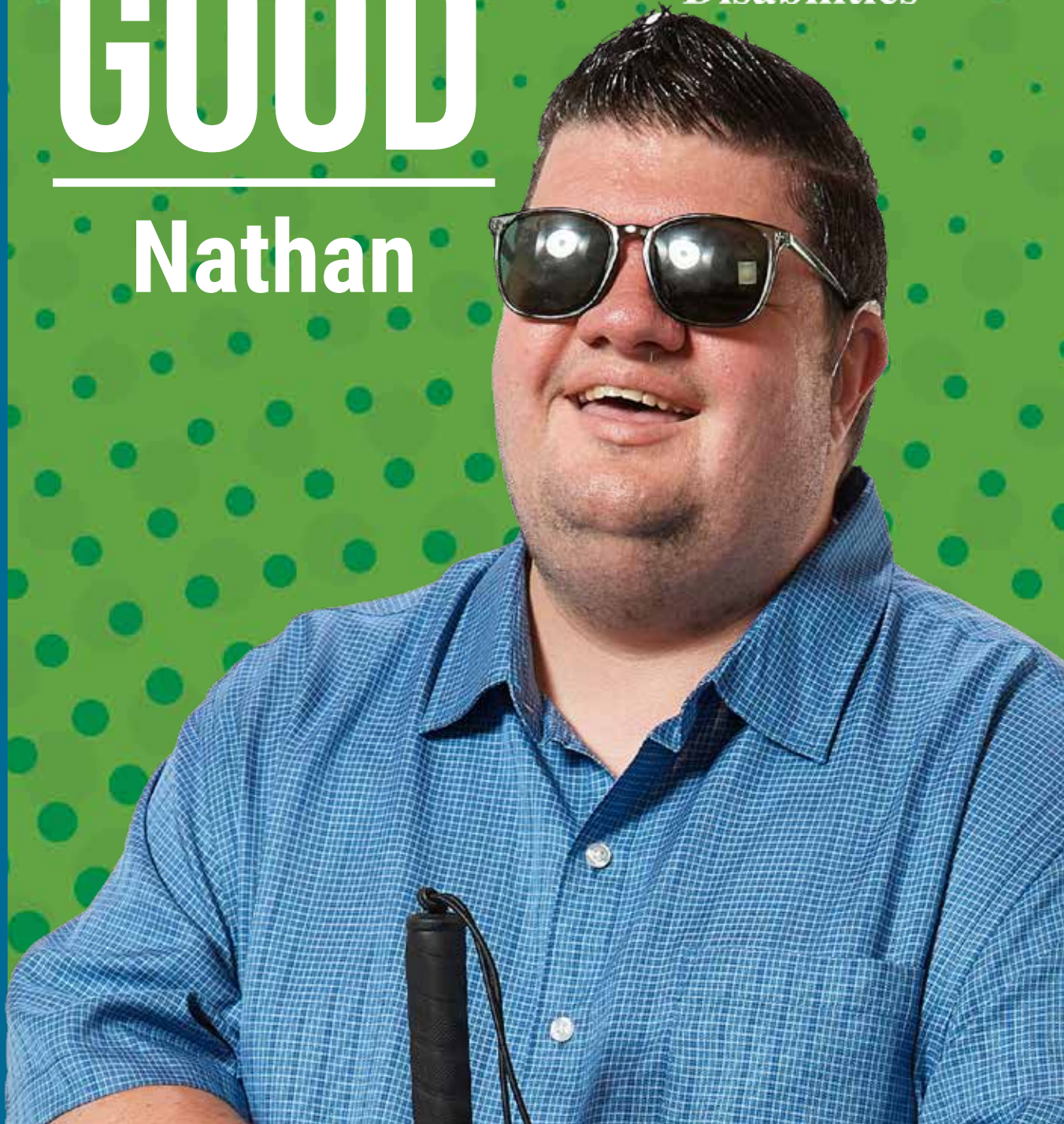


HELP FOR GOOD

Nathan



Stark County
Board of
Developmental
Disabilities



Nathan

Meet 33-year-old Nathan Yoder, Stark DD's June ambassador. Nathan was born blind and developed hearing loss at 7-years-old. However, he can hear with the help of hearing aids.

Nathan grew up in Winesburg, Ohio in Holmes County with his mom, Iva, dad, Alfred, sister Anita, and brothers Dave and Joel; before moving to Canton. He attended the Ohio State School for the Blind during high school in Columbus. After graduation, Nathan returned to Canton to be closer to his church and mentor, Will Turner.

Nathan now lives independently with help from the support staff at Break Thru, a community provider, that comes in to help him. He feels like this has helped him grow.

Nathan is very talented. He can make sound effects with his hands, imitate different accents, play the harmonica, and create woodworking projects that he has learned from Chris Simmons at Break Thru. Recently, he built a special case to hold all of his harmonicas.

Nathan is passionate about making the world a better place, making sure everybody is loved, and southern food. His favorite restaurant is Texas Roadhouse. He is also passionate about his faith and his family. His favorite quote about family is, "Family is everything, don't ever forget that a tree without roots cannot survive".



In the future, Nathan would like to travel to places like NYC, Dallas, Paris, and London. He would also like to volunteer to rock babies in hospitals. Nathan wants to someday have a job out in the community.

Nathan has overcome several obstacles throughout his life. He overcame depression, learning to be a self-advocate, and not having the proper resources. Stark DD has helped him gain the right resources. Nathan and his Service Support Administrator (SSA) Holly Vanover make a great team utilizing his IO Waiver to get him the things he needs and to meet his goals.

[Sing along with Nathan on this YouTube video.](#)



Nathan with Break Thru staff Shannelle Grimes, left, Chris Simmons, Break Thru ower, and Stark DD SSA Holly Vanover (right).



*"Family is everything.
Don't ever forget that a tree
without roots cannot survive."*