



Vote YES for HOPE Services

Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Paid for by HOPE Services/HCBDD Levy Committee, 135 E. Maumee, Napoleon, OH 43545

MARCH
2016

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Listen to WNDH 103.1 every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. for more information about HOPE Services.

“What’s Your Story?” is the

Theme for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2016

HOPE Services and other related organizations celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March and invite you to consider the true meaning of this year’s theme, “What’s Your Story?”

Statewide, and across the nation, organizations devoted to serving individuals with developmental disabilities are planning special events in March to raise public awareness of the many abilities people have, regardless of disability. “What’s Your Story” encourages people to get to know someone with a disability to better understand that we are all connected and alike in many ways.

“This is a time when our organization focuses on encouraging the public to better understand the individuals we serve,” said Melinda Slusser, superintendent.

“During Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, we encourage people to learn more about the 400+ people in this community who have a developmental disability and to recognize that all of us have talents and strengths that we can offer to make this a better place to live,” added Slusser.

HOPE Services will kick off its recognition of March as DD Awareness Month with our Annual Soup Challenge on March 3 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Other activities planned for March include distributing bookmarks to the local schools, weekly features regarding individuals on Facebook, movie night, a display in the Henry County Chamber of Commerce window and a proclamation by the county commissioners. During March, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, gets acquainted with someone who has a developmental disability. You’ll learn that everyone has a story, and each story holds a promise to educate and inspire others.

LEVY IS IMPORTANT—WHY A SLOW PHASE OF DIRECT SERVICES IS IMPORTANT

We encourage everyone to get out and vote on March 15 for the HOPE Services levy. This levy is a 1.5 mill levy that will generate an additional 1.1 million dollars for a 5 year period. The levy will compensate for the loss of both state and federal funding that has been experienced by HOPE services.

The levy will allow HOPE to gradually phase out of direct service provision, something that is required by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to occur by 2024. The plan is to phase out gradually, which will allow HOPE to build community capacity to provide these same services. Currently there is a lack of capacity in the community to provide supported employment services and transportation during third shift hours, for example.

We hope to gradually phase out of direct services so that there can be consistency for individuals served. Otherwise, some individuals may not receive needed services if HOPE phases out of direct services in an immediate fashion. This will be detrimental to individuals served if we can't find providers to pick up needed services.

HOPE Services asks for your vote to support services to individuals with developmental disabilities in our county!



Giraffes Can't Dance is a book about Gerald the giraffe, who wants nothing more than to dance. With crooked knees and thin legs, it's harder for a giraffe than you would think. Gerald is finally able to dance to his own tune when he gets some encouraging words from an unlikely friend.

The Gerald Award is an award presented among the staff at HOPE Services on the basis of seeing beyond what others believe to be possible. This professional has demonstrated gentle inspiration and a vision based on possibilities, so that every person we serve might be able to reach his/her greatest potential.

Most recently, the award was presented to Deb Slattman. Deb is a training specialist at HOPE Services. She is creative and sees beyond the possibilities in each and every individual.

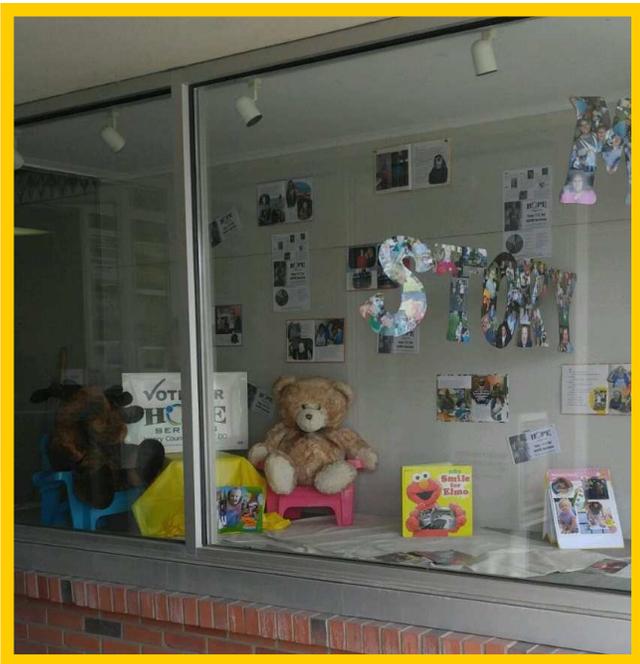
Congratulations Deb and thank you for everything you do for the individuals of HOPE!

Congratulations to Sandy Karmol as she retires from the Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Sandy retired after 29 years. For her dedication and hard work, she deserve the best retirement ever. Enjoy this new journey of your life. Cherish every moment and have fun!



HOPE Services appreciates the hard work and dedication of each of its employees which contribute to the overall success of the agency. We would like to recognize the years of service given by the following employees:

Kelly Verbeke	20 years
Rita Saneholtz	17 years
Chris Schultz	17 years
Kathy Koppenhofer	6 years
Kris Banister	2 years



SASS helped out with Developmental Disabilities month by offering their creative skills and decorated the Chamber window uptown for everyone to see and enjoy!

NEW! WEBSITE!

HOPE Services has a new and improved website!

www.henrydd.org

By accessing this webpage, you can check out all the services that HOPE offers, get to know some of the individuals we serve, e-mail our staff, view Board meeting minutes and much more.

**CHECK
IT OUT!**



Bonding with our children is one of the most important and rewarding parts of being a parent. For families with children who are diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, this critical relationship is sometimes more difficult to form, which is a tough emotional reality. The Play and Language for Autistic Youngsters (PLAY) Project aims to help families bridge this emotional gap with their children. The PLAY Project was developed by Dr. Richard Solomon, a developmental pediatrician, who felt that families needed better options and resources to help aid in the development of their children with autism. PLAY's therapeutic model utilizes a homebased approach which focuses on teaching families to better interact and respond to their children. At the heart of this concept is the idea that having fun with your children will build a closer and more emotional relationship, and will further help children connect with others in their lives.

Our Developmental Specialists are excited to offer this service to children in Early Intervention in Henry County. PLAY offers very real results; children with autism have developmental deficits in socialization and communication, and will often seem withdrawn (called being in the Rabbit Hole in PLAY Project.) When this happens, families sometimes feel that they are locked out of their child's world. PLAY Project teaches parents to coax their children out of the rabbit hole by simple, yet brilliant techniques. During PLAY Project home visits, parents are video recorded while interacting with their child, and then the child is video recorded while interacting with the Consultant. Families review the video to gain insight into how and when their child is offering opportunities for interaction. Paula says adults often miss subtle clues or simple moments that have the potential to lead to richer interaction. The PLAY Project's Rabbit Hole techniques are shared with families by the consultant, following their lead when playing, narrating for them, and building or expanding upon whatever kind of means they choose to engage.

Overall, the process is about having fun! There is no better way to build a relationship with your child than laughing together, or just spending time with each other. Families should enjoy "being in the moment" with their kids, and having fun. When you do what your kids love, they learn to love being with you!

INDIVIDUAL OF THE MONTH



We feature Connie Michael this month. Connie is a fashionable lady who looks so nice every day she attends SASS. It's always fun to see what stylish outfit she'll be wearing. She is very observant and likes to explore the activity center. Connie enjoys being with her friends and they like her sweet personality. Connie also likes her activity box and magazines. She stays active by swimming and walking. Connie is a delightful person and we are happy she attends the SASS Program.

SENIOR AND ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES



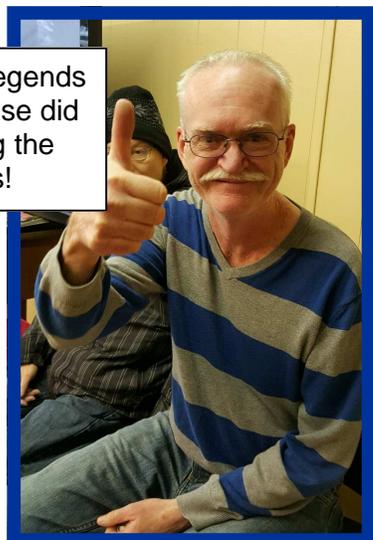
Mike and Isaac going head-to-head with the dealer (Nikki) at blackjack.



Amanda and Vanessa trying their luck at roulette.



The guys took a trip to Legends Barbershop. Ashley Kruse did an awesome job giving the guys stylin' haircuts!



Kent's Korner

March 2016

Upcoming events

March 1st Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way from 4:00pm to 6:00pm

March 3rd Soup Challenge from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Filling Home

March 5th Young Athletes at Filling Home from 10:00am to 11:00am

March 7th Horseback Riding at Dusty Boots in Weston from 5:30pm to 8:30pm

March 8th Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way from 4:00pm to 6:00pm

March 11th Fulton County Homecoming 6:00pm

March 12th Young Athletes at Filling Home from 10:00am to 11:00am

March 14th Horseback Riding at Dusty Boots in Weston from 5:30pm to 8:30pm

March 18th and 19th State basketball in Columbus

March 21st Horseback Riding at Dusty Boots in Weston from 5:30pm to 8:30pm

March 22nd Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way from 4:00pm to 6:00pm

March 28th Horseback Riding at Dusty Boots in Weston from 5:30pm to 8:30pm

March 29th Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way from

Tyra Knepper

Tyra enjoys playing Basketball and has been in Special Olympics for 8 years. Her much loved coach is Randy Barnes .Her fondest memory is Traveling to New Jersey in June 2014 . Her hobbies are playing Sports, camping and hanging out with friends. Tyra's choice of singer is Luke Bryan . Her pick of colors are green and blue . Her preference of movie is Glee.



Basketball Results

Three Cougars teams traveled to Paulding on January 31st to play in the annual Paulding Knights of Columbus Basketball tournament . Team 1 lost to Van Wert 54-38 and beat Lucas County Wildcats 43-42. Team 2 lost to Allen County 36-35 and lost in overtime to Lucas County 60-56. Cougars Women beat Lucas County Wildcats 28-24 and lost to Lucas County 37-25.

On February 2nd Team 1 played the Putnam County Bobcats and lost 58-46 at the Brookhill Center .

On February 3rd Team 1 played Sandusky County at Filling Home and lost 50-32. Team 2 played at Filling Home vs Sandusky County and won 47-33.

February 9th Team 1 played Wood County Wildcats and won 41-34.

Flash Back Of The Month



Cycling 1998

Cheerleading



Be A Fan

Follow Special Olympics Ohio on Face book, Twitter and also on the

If you have any Special Olympic news and or pictures that you would like to see included in the newsletter please contact me at: Kentdawg51@yahoo.com or kspiess@henrydd.org

To celebrate DD Awareness month, HOPE Services will be hosting a movie and popcorn night in the HOPE Services Activity Center.

Friday, March 18, 2016
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



The Voices of HOPE Self-Advocacy group would like to thank Pete Moore for attending our last meeting and for his presentation on the Good Life, a project designed to provide training and technical assistance to OACB members as they develop and maintain positive cultures for the people we serve. Pete talked with the group about what they need to have a Good Life. He also talked about the concept about red, white, black and green hat thinking. Pete is a great motivational speaker and everyone enjoyed working with him.



Gary Cody, president of Voices of HOPE, is shown welcoming Pete.



Vince, Jessica, Theresa and Gary help out Pete as he explains the Hats of Support.



The Voices of HOPE officers include Jessica Clapp, Shannon Allen, Gary Cody, LaNae Thompson and Jenny Hartford

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

WORK WANTED:

SES is currently working with individuals that are seeking employment in the following areas:

Manufacturing Full Time:

The qualities this individual has are a great work ethic and is a very dependable and reliable employee. He is experienced in custodial and landscaping, but seeking full time work in the manufacturing area. He is a team player and goes above and beyond in his work task. Employers that are looking for a long term dependable employee will benefit by hiring this person.

Retail (stocking, cashier, unloading) Full or Part Time:

This individual has worked in various entry level jobs and feels that his passion is in the retail area. Employers will gain a very dependable and quality employee. You can be assured that this individual is very conscientious and obeys the rules. An employer will have a long term employee.

Receptionist/Production Worker/Farm Help/Landscaping/Activities Assistant/Food Service and Custodial Part Time:

Several individuals are currently looking for that first time job and are eager and willing to learn all tasks needed to become successful. If an employer is looking to add meaningful employees to their team they can call on SES and we can match them up with great potential employees. If you are interested in hiring please give SES a call at 419-592-0126. We would be pleased to assist you in finding reliable and dedicated employees.



HOPE HOMECOMING

Friday, April 1, 2016

St. Paul's Gymnasium
6:00 p.m.



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

ALL HCBDD BOARD MEETINGS BEGIN AT 8:00 A.M. IN THE HOPE SERVICES ACTIVITY CENTER

March 28, 2016
April 25, 2016
May 23, 2016

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Supported Employment would like to recognize Kent Spiess this month. Kent has been an insert writer for Special Olympics for 11 ½ years. He started his employment working for HARC which eventually turned into employment with HOPE Services. Kent said that what he likes best about his job is writing articles, getting to talk to different people and meeting new people. In Kent's free time he enjoys watching Ohio State Football, cheering on Liberty Center Tigers and going out to eat at Tilted Kilt. Kent lives in Liberty Center. He is also excited for summer and spending time at their new cabin at the lake. Keep up the good work Kent!!



Job Club members held their monthly meeting in February. This month's topic was about following and listening to directions. The members were given vague instructions for making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. The ingredients were placed in all different areas of the room and they were asked to go gather them. As instructions were given, the individuals began questioning us on what we wanted from them. This led us into the point of the activity, which was to make sure you understand what is being asked of you from your supervisor/manager. This also led us into a conversation regarding listening skills and how important this is at work to make sure all jobs are being completed correctly. It was stressed to the individuals that it is okay to ask questions if you are not sure about something. We made sure that each person knew who to go to in their job if they had a question or concern. The group seemed to really enjoy this activity and they were able to eat their sandwich as a snack at the end of the night.



Todd Rothenberger will celebrate 28 years of employment at McDonald's on March 28.



JOB CLUB

Upcoming Events

- **HOPE Services Soup Challenge**—The Annual Soup Challenge will be held Thursday, March 3, at the Filling Home Gym.
- **Daylight Savings Time** begins Sunday, March 13. Be sure to move your clocks ahead one hour.
- **HOPE Services will be closed** the afternoon of Friday, March 25, in observance of Good Friday.
- **Henry County Board of DD Board Meeting**—The Board meeting will be held Monday, March 28, at 8:00 a.m. in the Activity Center.
- **Voices of HOPE** will be held on Wednesday, March 30, at 4:30 p.m.

HOPE Services does not discriminate in provision of services or employment because of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age. Send news stories and items of interest to Kathy Bishop or Kent Spiess.



Address Correction Requested

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Napoleon, OH 43545

Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities

