

HOPE Round Up

News from HOPE Services

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportu-

JULY 2023



Hope News



Congratulations



Becky recently received her ten-year pin for her position at the Napoleon McDonald's. Becky has done a variety of tasks over the years but can often be seen working the drive thru window. Please join us in celebrating her employment success. Congratulations Becky! Keep up the good work.



Disability Pride Month

The Americans with Disabilities Act was signed by President H. W. Bush on July 26, 1990, a landmark law that prohibited discrimination against people with disabilities. In that same year, Boston held the first Disability Pride Day.

Although Disability Pride Day isn't nationally recognized, parades are held in a number of places nationwide, such as Los Angeles, New York City, San Francisco, San Antonio and more. In 2015, Mayor Bill de Blasio declared July Disability Pride Month in celebration of the ADA's 25th anniversary.

For some people, it is about recognizing their disability as a part of who they are. For others, it is about accepting that their disability makes them different, not worse.

-submitted by Stephanie Jones



WELCOME



Please help us welcome Caryn Lulfs to our agency!

Caryn is one of our Developmental Specialist in our Early Intervention Department.

Caryn lives in Napoleon with her husband Chad and their children Griffin, Morgan, and Zoe.

She enjoys spending time with her family, friends, chickens, and goats!

Hot Dog and Brats Bash



HOPE Services annual Hot Dog and Brats Bash was recently held. It was a great success; all proceeds benefit the Voices of HOPE Advocacy group. Thank-you to everyone that came out to support the cause. Also, a big thank-you to Thrivent Financial and Henry County Pork Producers for your donations and Ron's SuperValu for ordering supplies for us.



Kelly's Column



June 22, 2023 marks my one year anniversary at HOPE Services. I am very happy that I have been given the opportunity to work with a great group of people in an amazing community. This year I have met some remarkable people who have a passion for working with individuals in Henry County to live their best lives! I am in awe every day as I witness the great work that HOPE Services staff do to better our community.

We officially broke ground on our construction project a week before I started my position. It was quite a learning experience getting to know HOPE Services, the staff, the individuals, families, and other members of the community while learning to read blueprints. Every week we walked the building and envisioned what the finished project would look like. Now all the staff are together in the building and I'm able to get to know the people I work with every day.

During the last year we have hired a new Business Manager, Service and Support Administrator and a new Developmental Specialist. Two new Board members were appointed, and we've spent many hours in board meetings updating policies, updating job descriptions, and making plans for our future. The commitment of our volunteer board of directors is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to starting my second year at HOPE!

Sincerely,
Kelly Aldrich



Bryan Cavins presented at our annual all staff in-service. He talked about team success and team challenges. Staff participated in a team development learning ex-



Listen to WNDH 103.1 every Thursday at 12:20 p.m. for more information about HOPE Services.

Ryan's Restaurant Review

Hello! For this month's restaurant review, I chose the Firepit Grill in Holland, located at 7723 Airport Highway. My family started our meal with an order of Dixie egg rolls, served with South Carolina style honey mustard dipping sauce. The egg rolls were stuffed with BBQ pork and cabbage. Everyone at the table loved the flavor of the egg rolls. For my dinner, I ordered street tacos. The 3 tacos in my order were filled with pork and topped with coleslaw, pineapple and pickled onions - a great combination of flavors. My Mom ordered a BBQ chicken pizza, a new addition to their menu. My mom's pizza was a flavorful thin crust pizza and was easily enough for 2 or 3 people! My Dad ordered chicken wings, and he was impressed with the serving size of the chicken wings. He liked the smokey flavor of the chicken. My brother ordered BBQ chicken which was served with 2 sides. He liked the juicy smoked chicken and rated his BBQ chicken 5 stars out of 5. The rest of us gave our meals 4.5 stars out of 5.

I noticed a few other new menu items, including milkshakes and bacon wrapped shrimp. I tried a strawberry milkshake. The milkshake was good, but it could have used more strawberries and ice cream to make it even better.

The Fire Pit Grill has a nice covered outdoor patio. The patio has a very cool fire pit with plenty of chairs to sit and relax around the fire. Firepit Grill serves a Sunday brunch each weekend, which features amazing breakfast and lunch favorites. The brunch is a great choice for a special occasion.

This has been your friend Ryan. Thanks for reading my reviews and have a great week. Until next time, goodbye readers and fans and friends!



We Are Celebrating

July birthdays:

Kelly Verbeke
Theresa Myles
Sue Hartsworm
Gavin Goodman
Christina Clark
Jennifer Hartford
Amber Pursel
Hunter Rittenhouse
Vincenzo Simon
Michael Brubaker
Lydia Kuehner
Caitlin McCafferty
John Stout, Jr

Matthew Hines
Lydia Knepper
Lawrence Junge
Eric Smith
Amanda Goheen
Andrew Norden
Calvin Sowers
Dana Hockenberry
Gary Cody



Employment anniversaries in July:

Kelsey Wayne at Clubhouse Pizza – 8 years
Jeremiah Sgro at McDonald's – 5 years
Amanda Fahrer - 3 years at Burger King
Mark Morris - 1 year at API Industries
Aaron Delgado - 1 year at McDonald's



The Henry County Fair is fast approaching. This year we will be entering a float in the parade on August 13th. There will be **NO** vehicle for people to ride in this year. If you would like to participate in the parade, you will need to walk the 1-mile parade route or have someone assist you in a wheelchair. We will be lining up at our regular spot, Emanuel Lutheran Church, 810 Scott Street (across from the new Dollar General) between 5:15 and 5:30. You **MUST** have a way back to your vehicle, if you need a ride, we will need to know this in advance for planning. We will also be looking for volunteers to help in the popcorn booth under the Grandstand. If you have any questions, would like to sign up to volunteer or to arrange a ride after the parade contact Tiffany Swihart at 419-599-2892 Ext. 250.

News from Early Intervention

Is It Okay For My Baby To Use A Jumper?

Jodi Warnimont, PT Early Intervention

Baby jumpers can be a great tool to keep your baby entertained and happy, freeing up your hands for other tasks while they get their energy out. But when is the right age for them to start jumping and how long should they do it for?

A baby jumper is a play device for babies which has a suspended seat that a baby can sit on and bounce by pushing their feet on the floor.

The three commonly available types of baby jumpers are:

- Baby jumper with a sling-type seat attached with rubber harness to the doorframe.
- Baby jumper with the seat suspended from a stand with springs, usually covered in fabric.

The seat is surrounded by a playpen with toys.

A playpen that has toyed around the seat with springs placed beneath the seat.

Babies should not be placed in a jumper until they have developed neck stability and head control. Most babies develop complete head control by the time they are five to six months old, so it is safe to use a jumper when the baby is six months old. Most experts recommend leaving your baby in their jumper for only 10 to 15 minutes at a time, no more than twice a day.

Any parent needs time off now and then to do a chore or just take a break, and jumpers are a great way to keep the baby entertained. Most babies enjoy bouncing in a jumper, which is a safe place to leave the baby for a few minutes, but moderation is the key.

If used over longer times and/or more frequently, imbalances in muscle and skeletal development can occur and can lead to problems later in life. The risks of using baby jumpers include the following:

- Jumper seats put the baby's hips in a position that causes strain, which may lead to developmental hip disorders, such as hip dysplasia, or dislocation.
- As babies are seated in a jumper, they mostly lean forward and are on their toes. This leads to their calf muscles getting tight, while gluteus muscles don't get enough exercise, which can lead to toe-walking later.

Head injury can commonly occur with jumpers.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says that babies who spend too much time in confining gear like car seats, strollers, swings, and bouncy seats can experience delayed motor development. The best place for your baby to use their muscles is on the floor! When your baby is on the floor, they can use their muscles without assistance to move and get stronger. Tummy time and lying on their sides help babies develop naturally, lets them explore their surroundings, and develop spatial awareness. Baby gear can keep them busy for a while, but it doesn't require their muscles to work as hard. This means they miss out on opportunities to gain strength and coordination.

Following are some pointers for the safe use of baby jumpers:

- Use a jumper only when the baby has complete head control and discontinue using it at the appropriate age.
- Make sure that the jumper is of good quality.
- Adjust the jumper so that your baby's feet are flat touching the floor when they're in the seat.
- Check for damage regularly and replace worn-out straps.
- Make sure that the baby is properly secured in the jumper.
- Do not leave the baby unattended in the jumper.
- Do not use the jumper for longer than 10 to 15 minutes at a time and use it no more than twice a day.
- Educate older siblings to not push the jumper or play in it themselves.

Make sure to have fun while your baby is jumping. Turn on some happy music, get out their favorite toys, and join in the fun!

Henry County Special Olympics News

As this article is being typed up, we are busy preparing for Special Olympics Ohio Summer State Games in Columbus. Our Summer sports season is winding down. The beginning of July signals the start of our Fall sports program. During June we played our final volleyball games. Our Traditional and Modified teams closed out their seasons with a lot of great learning experiences and skill improvement. We played the Fulton County Jaguars at home and both teams had close wins. Our last travel game was against the Wood County Wildcats, modified won and Traditional had a close loss.

On June 15, the State Modified team scrimmaged with the Fulton County Jaguars for extra practice for the upcoming 2023 Special Olympics Ohio Summer Games in Columbus. We want to thank the Jaguars for hosting us in this extra practice session.

On June 3, we traveled to Stryker for a track and field meet hosted by the Williams County Sharks. It was a great time and the Cougars walked away with several awards in shot put, mini-javelin, running/walking events, softball throw, and long-jump. This was a great event with friends.

New this year for us was hosting and traveling for bocce games. We hosted the Williams County Sharks at the end of May. They hosted us in June. If you haven't heard of bocce ball, it is like bowling but outside. Partners team up to toss the ball as close to the pallina as possible. Closest team gets points. You can play in timed rounds or to a certain point amount. Last year was one of the first years we took teams to State games for bocce, and this year we added small mini tournaments in preparation for State. If you are interested in learning more, we are going to be hosting an introduction to bocce ball at the Henry County Senior Center on July 25 from 5-7 pm. We also learned exciting news that the City of Napoleon will be putting in bocce courts at Oakwood Park later this summer.

Our Henry County Special Olympics Cougars Relay for Life team set up a campsite at the Relay for Life event on June 16. We hosted an obstacle course, mini-golf, face painting, and even had some bocce games going. Our team raised over \$700.00 for the event. We are very proud of all the Cougars for their hard work helping others.

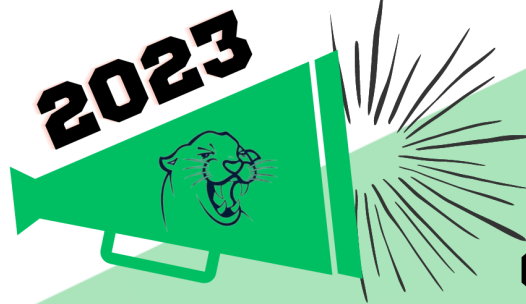
Cougar gear will be on sale starting this month at www.henrycountyspecialolympics.com. You can purchase shirts for most sports that we offer. You can also purchase spirit wear to just show your support for our athletes. New will be yard signs and buttons of your favorite athlete! You can order and pay through the secure website. Shipping is available or pick up at our office. If you have any questions, please contact Zach or Renita with questions.

There is still time to sign up for Fall Sports, including Softball, Bowling, Flag Football, and Esports. Please contact Zach or Renita as soon as possible if you want to participate in any of these sports. Practices will start for some sports the week of July 11. Other sports will start after the fair. If you have signed up already, you will be receiving the schedule soon.

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer!
Keep living your best life!
Coach Zach
Coach Renita



Henry County Special Olympics
Relay for Life Team



HENRY COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS

CHEERS TO END CANCER SHOWCASE

WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 22

TIME: WARM-UPS START AT 11:30

SHOWCASE STARTS - 1 PM

WHERE: NAPOLEON HIGH GYM

701 BRIARHEATH DRIVE, NAPOLEON, OHIO

**WHO: OPEN TO ALL CHEER/DANCE SQUADS/ALL AGES
JUDGES AVAILABLE**

ADMISSION: FREE WILL DONATION

**Bake
sale**

**COST: \$20.00 PER TEAM/DIVISION
**ALL PROCEEDS TO RELAY FOR LIFE
QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**

RENITA KUEHNER: 419-601-2372

RKUEHNER@HENRYDD.ORG

AMANDA SEILER: 419-654-3235

amanda.Barnes2017@gmail.com





State Powerlifting Team – Tyra Knepper and Job Knepper



State Bocce – Linda Baser and Caty Kuehner



State Volleyball Team
Back – Domenik Neumeier, Aaron Delgado, Chad Fritz, Josh Babcock, Juan Delgado, Vinnie Simon
Front Row – Lydia Kuehner, Adrienne Gerken, Caitlin McCafferty, and Sammi Adkins



State Track – Kristen Moehle, Scott Michael, Kathy Michael, Victoria Michael, Virginia Michael, Keith Rose. Front row – Rose, Alex Eis, David Rose



Design A



Design B

First & Last Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

PLACE YOUR ORDER

Cougar Athlete (Design A) Qty: _____ \$20 Amount: _____

Cougars Pride (Design B) Qty: _____ \$20 Amount: _____

Cash, Check, or Venmo accepted

VOICES of HOPE

SELF ADVOCACY GROUP

Be BRAVE | Be BOLD

A Self-Advocate Speaker

As a person living with a rare developmental disability, I believe everybody deserves the opportunity to fulfill their potential. Obstacles can be overcome, and I hope to make a difference in people's lives; being a voice for those who do not have a voice.

Who are my intended audiences?

Service Providers

County Boards

Advocacy Organizations

Legislative Groups



The Voices of HOPE will have a meeting on July 24th from 4-6pm at the HOPE Services office. Michael Marshall will be here to talk about a rare disability he has and how he copes with it. This is open to the public, anyone can attend. It will be a great meeting and we Hope to see everyone there.

The office will be closed on July 4th due to the holiday. We hope everyone has a safe and fun holiday.



Alaina Bowers, from the office of the Ohio Treasurer of State, came to visit Henry County on June 12th. She talked to staff, family and individuals receiving county board services about STABLE accounts. If you would like information regarding STABLE accounts, you can contact your SSA.

Happy
4th of July



The next Board meeting will be held on July 19th at Hope Services 135 East Maumee AVE in the activity center.

Contact Us

www.henrydd.org

Administration Office	419-599-2892
Superintendent	419-599-2892
Early Intervention and	
Employment Services	419-599-2892
Family Support Services	419-599-2892
Transportation	419-592-8726
Special Olympics	419-260-2176
HARC Recreation	419-591-6798
Volunteer Opportunities	419-599-2892

Seeing Potential – Inspiring Oppor-



Our Mission

HOPE Services is committed to creatively working in partnership with eligible individuals and their families to discover, pursue and achieve what is important to them.

HOPE Services does not discriminate in provision of services or employment because of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age.

Address Correction Requested

135 E. Maumee
Napoleon, OH 43545

Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities





HOPE Services

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities

HARC Recreation Events

