

HOPE Round Up

September 2023

News from HOPE Services

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities



The Gerken Company holds an annual Employee Appreciation picnic, this year they decided to have a dunk tank with the Gerken leaders volunteering to be in the dunking seat to raise money for charities of their choice.

Brad Rittenhouse of M&R Ready mix won the trophy by raising \$6,600 and donating it to the HOPE Services Foundation. This is truly appreciated and will be able to help many individuals.



Mary Ellen is right on the edge of her next big thing! Mary Ellen attends day programs at COREe, Filling Home, and Soaring Arts. While earning a paycheck from her vocational experiences, she's made saving money to accomplish her goals a big priority.

Mary Ellen moved to Holgate from Florida and began working with HOPE Services in 2014. She started her community living experience with COREe Residential and just

last year moved into a home where she is working with Easy Living staff and has two roommates. Mary Ellen has learned many new living skills over the last nine years with the assistance from COREe and Easy Living and is finally able to say that she is moving into her very own apartment. She will miss her roommates greatly but is thankful that her dream is finally coming true! With the help of the Ohio 811 Program, Mary Ellen has been accepted into a subsidized apartment that was newly built in 2018. The Ohio 811 Program allows one or more adults with a disability to live in an integrated setting through rental subsidy and access to supportive services. Mary Ellen will be moving to her new apartment next month and will continue to receive home support from 2Daughters, a provider agency that supports individuals with disabilities.

Since I met Mary Ellen in 2014, her biggest dream was to have her very own apartment someday. Every year she would ask, "Are we closer? Can I have my apartment?" She continued to work hard with her providers and learn the skills needed so that she could finally say, "I'm home".



HOPE Services Foundation Annual Fundraiser



Donation \$8.00 **Pre-Sale ONLY**

Meal includes Pulled Pork Sandwich, Mac-N-Cheese & Baked Beans

Carry Out/Drive Thru

Date: Friday September 22, 2023

Time: 4:30pm-6:00pm

Location: HOPE Services 135 E. Maumee Ave.

Tickets are available at HOPE Services, any HOPE Services employee or from a HOPE Foundation Board Member.

Please make checks payable to HOPE Services Foundation

The office will be closed on September 4th for Labor Day. We will reopen on September 5th at 8:00A.M.



There will be a Board meeting on September 20th at 4:00P.M at HOPE Services in the activity center.

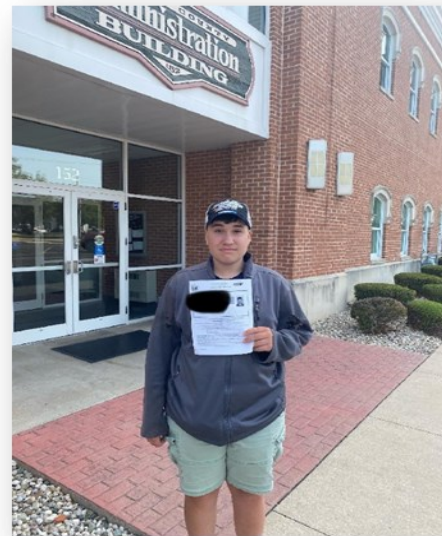
Youth Services



This summer, Keon F. attended Active Day in Defiance and had an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities. He was able to work on communication, daily living skills and developing friendships. Pictured is Keon working on his cooking/baking skills as he prepares a treat. Check out that smile!!



LOOK who obtained his driver's permit. Zachary recently completed the driver's permit study class at HOPE with great results and is now on his way to getting that driver's license. Congratulations Zachary, drive safe!



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



Kelly's Column

Throughout September we will recognize and show appreciation for the many Direct Support Professionals in our community. Providing direct support to individuals with disabilities is crucial because it promotes independence, enhances quality of life, and ensures equal opportunities. It involves assisting with daily activities, personal care, and social inclusion. This support helps individuals with disabilities live fulfilling lives and participate fully in their communities. It fosters empowerment, self-determination and inclusion allowing them to reach their full potential. Direct Support Professionals can create a more inclusive and compassionate society that values and respects the rights and dignity of all individuals, regardless of their abilities.

Sincerely,

Kelly Aldrich

World Alzheimer's Day

World Alzheimer's Day is noted on September 21 and it is on this day that the world concentrates its efforts on creating awareness of this disease which sadly takes its toll on people's lives. It is a form of dementia that affects memory and impairs daily function.



Alois Alzheimer, a German psychiatrist, was the first to identify it in 1901, while treating a German woman in her 50's. The disease was named after him.

The condition is often regarded as a family disease due to the impact it has on those closest to the victim. However, it is not necessarily hereditary, and it is not completely an elderly disease. 200,000 people under the age of 65 struggle with it in the United States alone.

- submitted by Stephanie Jones

Here are the people celebrating birthdays in September:

Dallas Cupp

Jody Farber

Kelsey Wayne

Linda Baser

Jennifer Cordes

Kathryn Keech

Logan Parker

Joel Gerken

Robin Rettig

Lupe Rivera

Edmund Kretzer

Robert Lee, Jr.

Marissa Cortez

Shannon Allen

Kristin Moehle

Rebekah Hoagland

Mary Ellen Ochoa

Brandon Bischoff

Logan Cavazos

Cheryl Lewis

Cassandra Seesholtz

September Work Anniversaries

Jessica Harmon - 5 years at HOPE Services

Cheryl Lewis - 11 years at HOPE Services



Ryan's Restaurant Review

For this month, I chose Eddie J's for my review. Eddie J's is located across from the Henry County Courthouse at 619 North Perry Street in Napoleon.

What are my favorite foods at Eddie J's?

My favorite appetizers are pretzel balls served with queso, fried mushrooms with ranch, and cheese curds. You can enjoy these in an appetizer trio basket, and I highly recommend starting your meal with these tasty starters! My favorite food to order is the chicken kickers, which are chicken breast chunks, with BBQ bacon ranch sauce on them. They have all kinds of tasty wing sauces! I also like to order the weekly specials every now and then, like the Mushroom Swiss Aioli Burger, or the Steak and Cheese Tortilla Soup.

What are my friend's and family's favorites at Eddie J's?

My dad likes the A1 burger, and my mom likes their chicken bacon ranch salad. My mom says the homemade house dressing is so good on any salad, so she orders house dressing with all her salads! My friends like to order the South of the Border Taco Salad that has the choice of chicken or beef, and it looks so good in the big tortilla bowl.

Something that I love about going to Eddie J's?

Trivia Night every Wednesday night! My team has a total of 5 first place victories in the past 3 weeks here! We're looking for a little bit more competition from all the readers and fans of Eddie J's. Anyone can show up at 7:00 on Wednesdays to play 2 rounds of Trivia. Bring your family or friends and have a fun night of good food and fun!

Talk to you again next time my friends and fans! Thanks for reading everyone! Your review writer and friend, *Ryan Moore*.





We recently had a chance to do some volunteering at the production of Joesph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat that was put on by Maumee Valley Civic Theater at Napoleon High School. We enjoy being able to give back to the community



Domenik is helping make popcorn



Robbie handing out programs

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), and we are excited to spread the word!

#NDEAM



Henry County Board of DD celebrates NDEAM throughout the month of October in various ways to bring awareness and education to the topic of Employment First. Make sure you follow our Facebook page this month.



Volunteering at the Henry County Fair



Youth 16 to 22 along with staff and friends of HOPE had the opportunity to volunteer at the dairy booth making milkshakes. This experience allowed them to gain experience in customer service, money skills, food handling and general cleaning. Thank you, Breckin, Collin, Caty, Lydia, Victoria, Domenik, and Aaron; you did an awesome job! Also, a huge shout out to Kathy, Tiffany, Mel, Kelly, Jody, Christina, Jessica, Kierstyn, Christian, Rodney and Taylor for also assisting this year; your help was greatly appreciated!



Fair time has come and gone but we are still excited about our 1st place ribbons for both organizational float and overall best float in the 2023 Henry County Tomato Festival Parade.



DSP
directs
support
professional

Test your DSP knowledge, email your answers to tswihart@henrydd.org

1. What does DSP stand for?
2. T or F DSP's support people and ensure daily needs are met?
3. T or F DSP's unique talents and experiences are an important part of their job?
4. T or F DSP's promote independence while providing necessary support
5. T or F Being a DSP can be hard work, mentally, physically and emotionally?
6. T or F DSP's work makes a difference?

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE WONDERFUL DSP's. WE APPRECIATE YOU!!

Many people took advantage of the beautiful weather to walk in the parade .



HARC had it's annual fundraiser under the grandstand selling popcorn peanuts and that amazing meal deal. It takes a lot of hours to make this happen. Thank you to everyone that helped.





HENRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU
PRESENTS

Shine IN THE Show Ring

The second annual Henry County Farm Bureau Shine in the Show Ring was held on August 15th, at the Henry County Fair. There were 26 participants that showed rabbits, goats, lambs, pigs and calves. A big thank you to Stacy and Bailey Elchinger for putting this together and a huge thank you to all of the mentors that make this possible.



Special Olympics

Fall sports have been keeping us busy. We received donations from the Napoleon Elks, American Legion, and Napoleon Lions Club to help get our Flag football program up and running. We cannot thank everyone for all their help. We are getting our practice time going so that we are ready for State Football in Geneva, Ohio at the end of October!

Softball Regionals did not go as we would have hoped. We will not be advancing to state, but we did play a hard game and had some great plays. This season has brought many new athletes into our mix, and they are all excitedly learning to plays and some are even in new play positions this season. We have faced some tough teams, but so far, our season has been 3-3. On Saturday 8/16 we traveled to Fremont to participate in the Mike Piero Softball tournament hosted by Sandusky County. Our travel team that day placed 2nd in the traditional division. Way to go!!!



Our Golf team traveled to Findlay on August 5 for the Regional tournament. This year we have 3 unified teams and two athletes golfing in singles. Jacob Heath and Khristian Miller both placed first in their singles division. Our unified partners: Juan Delgado and Garrett Burkey placed 1st, Domenik Neumeier and Brad Booth placed 2nd, and Nate Vogelsong and David Little placed 3rd in their division. They all will be advancing to State Golf tournament the last weekend of September. Good luck Cougars!!



Bowling will be starting on September 12. If you have not signed up, please do so right away. You can call/text Zach or Renita. We will remain bowling at River City Bowl-a-Way. Bowling is weekly on Tuesday afternoons. We are excited for this fun sport to get started back up, and we know plenty of you are ready to get back on the lanes.

Our 2023 Summer Competition cheer season went very well. This year we competed at the Wood County Fair, Henry County Fair, Defiance County Fair, Liberty Center Cheer Classic, and the MAD Holgate Cheer Competition. We earned 1st in the Spirit Division at each one of these competitions. Our team is on fire. We cannot wait to start up winter cheer and start prepping for 2024 Special Olympics Ohio Winter Games in March. This year's Summer Competition cheer was Jenny Hartford, Terri Jo Stover, Jessica Clapp, Jordyn Beilharz, Adrienne Gerken, Mia Ramierz, Caty Kuehner, Lydia Kuehner, Virginia Michael, Victoria Michael, Kathy Michael, Savannah Rose, Emmy Miranda, Bella Moon, Linda Baser, Hannah Damman, Beth Holley, and Bishop Nieto. Our Cheer coaches were Kendyl Burkey, Amanda Seiler, Krisma Ramierz, Jordan Arps, and Carly Beman.



We want to thank our athletes for all their hard work not only on the fields and courts, but also out in our community. We had a couple opportunities to help a local organization this past month, and they jumped in and helped both at the theater and at the fairgrounds. We also want to congratulate two of our athletes on their performance in the Maumee Valley Civic Theater production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Lydia and Kuehner and Chris Scarberry did a great job! As we are thinking ahead, all winter sports signups are open. If you are interested in joining basketball, swimming, esports, or winter competition cheerleading, please contact Zach or Renita. Practices will not be starting until October. But we can get you information if you have any questions on practice times and locations.

Thank you, Henry County, for all of your support. We encourage you to Like/Follow our official Facebook page, Henry County Special Olympics & Young Athletes. You will see our upcoming sports sign ups, our game schedules, and all of the great community activities that our athletes are out and about doing.

Have a great September!

Coach Zach and Coach Renita



COUGARS
BASKETBALL
 SIGN UPS OPEN
 PRACTICES WILL START IN OCTOBER
 PLEASE TEXT/EMAIL
 ZACH OR RENITA
 TO GET SIGNED UP!

Congratulations to our Summer Fitness Challenge team! They set a goal of walking 50 miles in July and they completed the month at 54.5 miles and won the Special Olympics Ohio challenge!!!

And the Winner is...

7 HENRY COUNTY COUGARS

2 FITNESS IN THE PARKS TEAM

Special Olympics Ohio | Health

Contact Us

www.henrydd.org

HOPE Services Office	419-599-2892
Special Olympics	419-260-2176
HARC Recreation	419-591-6798

Seeing Potential – Inspiring Opportunities



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.

Napoleon, OH 43545

135 E. Maumee

Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities

