

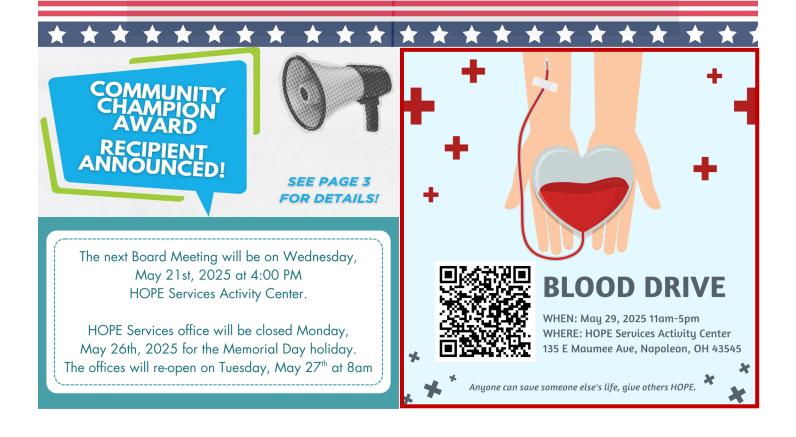
May Brings Growth, Gratitude, and New Opportunities

As the days grow longer and the flowers bloom, May is a time of renewal and progress—and that's exactly what we're celebrating here at HOPE Services. This month, our teams are focusing on supporting individuals as they transition into summer programming, prepare for job opportunities, and take part in community activities that highlight inclusion and independence.

We're especially proud of the efforts being made across our departments to ensure that everyone we serve has access to resources that promote personal growth and empowerment. Whether it's through Early Intervention, Adult Services, or Self-Advocacy groups like Voices of HOPE, we are continually inspired by the goals being set and achieved.

As we approach Memorial Day, we take a moment to honor and remember the brave individuals who gave their lives in service to our country. Their sacrifice reminds us of the importance of community, resilience, and the freedom to live life to the fullest—values we strive to uphold in all we do at HOPE Services.

Here's to a meaningful and motivating month ahead!



HOPE Services

SERVICES

PRESENTS

H.

FREE WILL DONATION THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH, 2025

11AM – 1PM (OR UNTIL WE RUN OUT)

DRIVE THRU • EAT IN • CARRY OUT SO DON'T MISS OUT!

Proceeds go to: VOICES OF HOPE SELF-ADVOCACY GROUP

Financial Assistance provided by





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Community Champion Award



HOPE Services is proud to announce that Randy Barnes has been selected as the recipient of this year's prestigious Community Champion Award. This honor recognizes Randy's unwavering commitment and advocacy for individuals with developmental disabilities, highlighting his significant contributions to our community.

Randy has been a steadfast supporter of individuals with developmental disabilities, tirelessly working to create an inclusive environment where everyone is valued and empowered. Through his dedicated efforts, he has not only raised awareness about the challenges faced by this community but also inspired others to take action in supporting their needs and rights.

Randy has collaborated with various organizations and community members to develop programs and initiatives that promote inclusivity and accessibility. His ability to connect with others and foster meaningful relationships has paved the way for numerous collaborative projects, benefiting countless individuals in our community.

Randy's passion and advocacy have made a profound impact on the lives of many. His selfless dedication serves as a beacon of hope for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. We are honored to recognize him with this award.

Congratulations and THANK YOU, Randy, for your remarkable dedication to championing the rights and dignity of people with developmental disabilities!

Pictured above is Randy Barnes and Kelly Rieke, Superintendent

Mark your calendars for some fun upcoming events....

Thursday, June 5th – Henry County Special Olympics Torch Run/Walk and HOPE Services Brats Bash – 10:30 am Downtown Napoleon and HOPE Services

Sunday, June 22 – Henry County Special Olympics Golf Scramble – Iron Wood Country Club, Wauseon 2-6 pm

Saturday, July 19 – Napoleon Cork & Keg Festival 5-9 pm, downtown Napoleon. All proceeds benefit our local athletes.

We look forward to next month's quote!



QUOTE OF THE MONTH FROM JESSICA

May The Fourth Be With You!

"Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi. You're my only hope."

Is spoken by Princess Leia in the film Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope

KELLY'S COLUMN

MAY 2025

May Is A Time To Celebrate Potential Within Our Community

by Kelly Rieke Superintendent



As we step into May, it's time to celebrate the blooming potential within our community!

Just like flowers breaking through the soil, our individuals with developmental disabilities are growing, blossoming, and reaching new heights. This month let's focus on cultivating connections – whether it's sharing a laugh during our upcoming events or lending a hand to a neighbor in need.

Remember, growth is not just about reaching goals but also about nurturing relationships. So, grab your gardening gloves and let's dig into a season of support, growth, and of course, a little fun!

"The earth laughs in flowers." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

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May Early Stervention Playgroup

Join us on Tuesday May, 13 to enjoy fun with sports! Morning Group 9:30am-11am Evening Group 5:30pm-7pm

Come to one or both groups! Hope Services 135 E. Maumee Ave. Napoleon, Oh 43545







by HARC Inc



This month the group prepared cream cheese alfredo sauce over pasta, green beans, bread & butter, and peach cobbler with cake mix. These recipes were prepared by Linda, Jacob, and Abbie. This was a quick, easy and filling meal! We added the new recipes to our cookbooks and discussed our thoughts about the meal. If you love trying new recipes, have a passion for cooking, and are interested in joining the group sign up by contacting Randy Barnes at 419-591-6498 or 419-599-2892. HOPE to see you next month!



Your feedback is important to us!



Please take a few minutes to complete the Employment Satisfaction Survey. If you need assistance with completing the survey, please contact Melinda Camp at 419-599-2892 Ext. 240.



https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YG3LB3R



The clock is ticking! If you haven't submitted your paperwork for the Summer Youth Experience, now is the time to get it in! **The deadline is May 9**th.

Follow Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities on Facebook to keep up to date with all the latest updates and information!



CELEBRATING IN MAY

Employment Anniversaries

- Job Knepper celebrating 1 year at Napoleon Lynx
- Vincenzo Simone celebrating 2 years at Sauder Village
- Matt Hines celebrating
 7 years at Kroger
- Jody Farber celebrating 10 years at HOPE Services
- Stephanie Jones celebrating 10 years at HOPE Services
- Chris Scarberry celebrating 13 years at McDonald's Napoleon
- Bethany Mathers celebrating 19 years at Chief
- Aaron Delgado celebrating I year at McDonald's Wauseon

• Theresa Myles celebrating 22 years at HOPE Services

May Birthdays

Zach Meister Tito Martinez Bret Light Jennifer Jenkins Molly Boylan Shane Swartzlander Amber Arnette Steve Burkholder Lance VanZandt Joan Kerwin Cadince Ramirez Derrick Maassel Kristin Willard Jordan Guerrette Matthew Wright Maysin Salinas Amanda Grant

Know someone who would make an awesome volunteer?

Share this opportunity with them and help us reach more individuals who are eager to make a difference!

Are you passionate about creating inclusive and empowering experiences for individuals with special needs? Do you want to make a positive impact in your community? If so, we invite you to volunteer with us for our upcoming Special Olympics and HARC recreational events!

Contact Zach Meister for Special Olympics at 419-260-2176 or Randy Barnes for HARC Recreation at 419-591-6798.

ental health, as defined by the World Health Organization, is "a state of mental well being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, realize their abilities, learn well and work well and contribute to their community." In the United States , the National Alliance on Mental Illnesses estimated that almost 1 in 5 adults experience mental health problems each year. In 2021, an estimated 14.1 million adults in the US psychological condition, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. In the US, depression is one of the leading causes of disability.

Several studies report that traumas, such as abuse, parental loss or other loss, separation, and illness can significantly effect mental and physical health.

Types of disorders include: anxiety disorders, mood disorders and schizophrenia disorders.

People may experience physical symptoms, including:

Restlessness Fatigue Poor concentration Tense muscles Interrupted sleep



Do you have an article or photos to submit? We are always looking for stories. Submit items of interest to Keri Bunke: kbunke@henrydd.org

This information was found on https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/154543

-submitted by Stephanie Jones

Earth Day Shout Out





For Earth Day, James Guinn picked up 3 big garage bags of trash and 2 bags of cans in the Florida, OH area! He picked up a stretch of 8 miles!!

AWESOME job James!!!

What are some ways you are making a difference?

HOPE Services



April has been a very busy month for the Cougars. We started the month out at the Stevie Kimpel Classic. Each year during the basketball senior classic that showcases graduating seniors and their basketball skills, area Special Olympics programs are invited to bring 4-5 of their players to showcase in a special game versus other county programs. The event raises money for all the area Special Olympics programs. This year we were able to take four of our players, these included Tyler Silveous, Keith Rose, Lydia Kuehner, and Skylar Miller. We played on the South team alongside Defiance and Paulding County programs, with the South coming out victorious. Skylar Miller won the Special Olympics 3-point contest. It was a great time, and we appreciated all the hard work put in by the volunteers of the Stevie Kimpel Classic.

Two of our Team 2 basketball players, Skylar Miller and Zach Parcher, took part in a Unified basketball opportunity at the University of Toledo alongside Lucas County Special Olympics athletes. This led to our very own Skylar Miller getting the chance to take a trip to Madison, Wisconsin to compete in the NIRSA National basketball championship. This



team plowed through the brackets and came out as NIRSA National Champions. What a great opportunity and we thank Lucas County Special Olympics, and the University of Toledo for taking Skylar on this journey!

Volleyball games are in full swing. We played through 4 games, and the traditional team is 4-0, Modified team is 3-1. Our game with Marion County was very fun, we even had the opportunity to intermix the two teams and play against each other. Games for May will be on the road.

On May 5th, we were able to host the Life Guide Friends Bowling Bash. We want to thank Life Guide Friends and Blue Ridge Property Management for sponsoring the event. We had over 130 bowlers from Fulton, Williams, Wood, Lucas County programs, as well as our own Henry County athletes competing. It was a great time with friends and preparing bowlers for upcoming competitions at Summer Games.

On April 19, we took the powerlifting team to an Open meet at Knight Fitness in Defiance. The lifters were getting some extra practice in preparation for competing at Spring Regionals on April 27th. We had 3 new lifters, Aaron Delgado, Tyler Silveous and Zach Parcher. It was a great way to get some competition practice in, but in a relaxed setting. Thanks to Knight Fitness for being so supportive of our team and encouraging them. The powerlifting team also traveled to Fulton County to lift with their new powerlifting team. It was a nice evening getting prepared for the Regional Games. At Regionals on 4/27, this team set some new records for themselves. Krysta Delgado placed 1st in her division and cemented her lifting in the 300lb club and setting a new personal best for

herself. Anthony Delgado placed 1st in his division and retained his personal best of 415 lbs. New lifter Aaron Delgado placed 4th in his division and set a new Personal best as he sets his sight on breaking into the 300 lb club.

The track team has been keeping busy. Thanks to Defiance College, we have use of their indoor Track at the Smart Center to practice. This has given our athletes the ability to get much needed practice. We have been able to hold practice at times, we normally would have had to cancel due to cold and rain. The athletes' hard work paid off at Spring Regionals Track meet on 4/27.

Here are the standings for the track team that day:

James Guinn -100M Walk - 6th place, Standing Long Jump - 4th place Bob Rosebrock - 100M Walk - 3rd place, Softball throw - 2nd place Scott Micheal - 100M Walk - 1st place, Shotput - 4th place Keon Fields - 100M Dash - 1st place, Softball throw - 4th place Brandon Baker- Softball throw - 3rd place David Rose- 400M Dash - 1st place, Mini Javelin - 1st place Tracy Rose- 400M Dash - 2nd place, Mini

Javelin - 2nd place Keith Rose- 400M Dash - 1st place, 100M Dash - 3rd place Elijah Harris- Standing Long Jump - 1st place, 100M Dash - 2nd place Caty Kuehner- 100M Dash - 1st place, Mini - Javelin - 2nd place

Savannah Rose - 200M Dash - 1st place, 400M Dash - 2nd place Virginia Michael - 200M Dash - 2nd place, Shotput - 1st place Victoria Michael- Shotput - 5th place, mini javelin - 1st place Kathy Michael- Mini Javelin - 2nd place, Shotput - 4th place Relay race - Keith, Tracy, David, and Savannah Rose - 2nd place



GO TEAM



On April 25, along with Lucas and Wood County Special Olympic programs, we hosted a Spring Fling prom. Several of our athletes traveled to Bowling Green for this fun event. It allowed athletes to help build onto friendships that they make during the season with athletes from other counties. This was an event loved by everyone who attended, and we cannot wait until next year.

We are very excited to announce that we will have the official Special Olympics Ohio torch – The Flame of HOPE - in Henry County for our Law Enforcement Torch Run. Our event will be held a week before we leave for Columbus on *Thursday, June 5, 2025*. We will be lining up at Pocket Park starting at 10 am, and our walk will start when the torch arrives by 10:30 am. We will have local celebrities kicking off our walk with the athlete oath, and we will begin our "March to Columbus" when this is done. This event is open to all community members to come and walk with us. The walk will take us to HOPE Services at 135 E. Maumee Avenue. The Voices of HOPE Self-Advocacy group will be holding their annual Brats Bash luncheon and food will be available for a free will donation. We will also have popcorn and water available for our participants. If you would like to sign up or have questions, please call us. Zach (419-260-5631) or Renita (419-601-2372). All athletes participating in the event will be given a

Henry County shirt sponsored by Frozen Specialties, Inc. To ensure your size, you must contact Zach or Renita by 5/19.

Some dates to mark on your calendars.....

Thursday, June 5 – Henry County Special Olympics Torch Run- Line up in Pocket Park starting at 10 am. The walk starts at 10:30 am and ends at HOPE Services.

Friday, June 13 – 8 am – Send off for athletes heading to Special Olympics Ohio Summer Games. – HOPE Services -135 E. Maumee Avenue, Napoleon. Stop out by 8 am to send off the athletes as they head to Columbus to compete at Summer Games

Sunday, June 22 – 2 pm – Henry County Special Olympics Golf Scramble – Iron Wood Club – Wauseon, Ohio

Saturday, July 19 – Napoleon Cork & Keg Festival – Napoleon, Ohio – all proceeds benefit Henry County Special Olympics

Friday, August 15 – Hear Our Voice Concert sponsored by Life Guide Friends 4 pm – 10 pm – The Barn at Honey Blossom - 2950 Enterprise Avenue, Napoleon

To keep up with all the Cougars are up to, please follow our Facebook page, *Henry County Special Olympics and Young Athletes*. We keep the schedules posted, events going on, and all the latest current news for our program. *We hope to see you at the Torch Run on Thursday, June* 5th *in downtown Napoleon.*

Have a wonderful May!!

Coach Zach and Coach Renita

HOPE Services

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities













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HARC Recreation Adult Calendar

May-June 2025

Contact Randy Barnes at 419-591-6798 or 419-599-2892 to sign up and pay ONE WEEK prior to the event

DATE	EVENT	TIME	COST	LOCATION
Friday, May 9, 2025	CopperMoon glass art	4:30pm-9:00pm	\$22.00	Toledo
Sunday, May 11, 2025	Toledo Air Show	11:00am-4:30pm	\$35+ \$ to eat	Toledo Airport
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	Cook Night	5:00pm-7:00pm	\$5.00	HOPE Activity Center
Saturday, May 17, 2025	Out to Eat and Movie	11:00am-6:30pm	\$35+	ТВА
Tuesday, May 22, 2025	Cedar Point day	8:00am-10:00pm		Cedar Point
Sunday, May 25, 2025	Mud Hens	Mud Hens 4:00pm-9:30pm		Fifth Third Field
Saturday, June 7, 2025	NASCAR Truck Race	9:30am-8:00pm	\$40+ \$ to eat	MIS
Wednesday, June 11, 2025	Cook Night	5:00pm-7:00pm	\$5.00	HOPE Activity Center
Friday, June 20, 2025	Movie at HOPE	5:00pm-8:00pm	\$5.00	HOPE Activity Center
Wednesday, June 25, 2025	BINGO	6:00pm-8:00pm	\$5.00	HOPE Activity Center
Saturday, June 28, 2025	Wright Patterson Air Base	7:30am-8:30pm	\$ to eat	Dayton

HARC Recreation Events – Kids Calendar Ages 6-15 May-June 2025

Contact Randy Barnes at 419-591-6798 or 419-599-2892 to sign up (required) Pay ONE WEEK prior to the event



HARC SUMMER ADULT CAMP



Swimming MARURA MARIAS Canocing gamp pares HARC, Inc. Smores ANDMAL STUDY Tall Tales Sergerg Find Us On Facebook Games ABTS & OBAFTS

Dates: July 30 - August 2, 2025 (4 days/3 Nights) Who: Adults 16 & Up Where: Camp Palmer, Fayette, Ohio Cost: \$250 per person (scholarships available)

Come for just the day \$60

Sign up by calling: Randy Barnes: 419-591-6798

Sponsored By: HARC, INC.

HARC SUMMER School Age CAMP

Dates: August 3-6, 2025 (4 days/3 Nights) Who: School Age (ages 6-15) Where: Camp Palmer, Fayette, Ohio Cost: \$250 per person (scholarships available) Come for just the day \$60



Find Us On Facebook

CAMP

Sign up by calling: Randy Barnes: 419-591-6798

Swimming **Camp Fires** Singing Nature Hikes Crafts

Canoeing **Animal Study** Tall Tales Games

Sponsored By: HARC, INC.

Ryan's Restaurant Review

Hello to my restaurant review fans and friends. This month I want to let you know about a great place to get breakfast in Napoleon. Did you know that Top Dog is open for breakfast Monday through Friday? It is located at 2525 Oakwood Avenue.

Top Dog is best known for their variety of gourmet hot dog creations, but the menu now includes delicious breakfast choices. I recently tried the Southwest Breakfast Wrap, with eggs, sausage, home fries, red peppers, green peppers, onions, cheddar cheese, and salsa. I would recommend the breakfast wrap to anyone who is a fan of wraps. The breakfast wrap tasted so good that I want to get it again.

I also tried the house baked cinnamon roll, with house made icing, and it was one of the best cinnamon rolls ever! I hope anyone who likes cinnamon rolls tries one for themselves! I guarantee you will be impressed by it for sure.

Another great choice is the Mya's Messy Scrambler, a tasty combination of eggs, sausage, home fries, shredded cheese, smothered with country gravy. It tastes so amazing and is a top favorite of mine.

You may also want to try the French Toast, or the Sunrise Special with your choice of two eggs, toast, home fries, and bacon or sausage. If you are hungry for breakfast, Top Dog is an excellent choice. I hope you start your day with a Top Dog breakfast soon!

Thanks for following along with my reviews. Have a delicious day! Your friend, Ryan







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Voices of HOPE – April Recap

April was a busy and exciting month for Voices of HOPE!

We started with a Fire Safety event, where members learned important tips from Napoleon firefighters about staying safe in an emergency and making sure we are prepared at home and in the community.

Next, we went on an educational airport tour, getting a behind-the-scenes look at how airports operate and learning about different accessibility and sensory things that have been put in place at Toledo Express.

To wrap up the month, several of our self-advocates traveled to Tiffin University to attend OSDA training. They spent the day learning what it take to be on the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, new skills and connected with other advocates from around the region.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make these events a success!

5



Join Us for a Community Service Project!

Voices of HOPE is teaming up with Special Olympics to help plant flowers in downtown McClure! Let's work together to brighten up our community just in time for spring.

When:	Thursday, May 8th
Time:	5:00 PM – Meet downtown McClure
Need a ride?	Meet at the HOPE Services Activity
	Center by 4:30 PM

All are welcome to join—bring your green thumbs and community spirit!

It's time for some new Voices of HOPE Apparel!



Order forms are on the next page. Direct any questions to Keri Bunke kbunke@henrydd.org or call 419-599-2892





Orders D May 23	ue:	F	u	n d	r a	HO isen ER FOF	•		
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	Hoodie \$22.00	s	м	L	XL	2XL +\$2.00	3XL +3.00	4XL +4.00	Total
	Crewneck \$18.00	s	м	L	X L	2XL +\$2.00	3XL +3.00	4XL +3.00	Total
	a self-advocacy group en							UBTOTAL	
developmental disabilities to promote inclusion and inspire positive change, is selling apparel to raise funds for future projects and events. Support our mission and help us make a lasting impact—get your apparel today!					ΤΟΤΑΙ	DUE			

For questions on your order, contact Keri Bunke, kbunke@henrydd.org or call 419-599-2892

419-599-2892 | www.henrydd.org | 135 E Maumee Ave, Napoleon, OH 43545

Contact Us

www.henrydd.org

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

Scan Code to sign up

for the newsletter!





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

