

HOPE HAPPENINGS

APRIL 2026 EDITION

Seeing Potential - Inspiring Opportunities

THIS IS THE FINAL MAILING - SIGN UP SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT

HOPE Services is making the switch to a digital newsletter, and we don't want you left behind! Going digital means you'll get updates faster, access links easily, and never worry about missing an issue.

Stay connected in just a few simple ways:

- Scan the QR code to sign up
- Follow the link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/uTHCLmJ>
- View online anytime: www.henrydd.org/resources/newsletters
- Follow us on Facebook: [HOPE Services – Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities](#)



Join us online and keep up with the latest news, events, and stories from HOPE Services – Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities.



2026 Community Champion

HOPE Services is proud to recognize Joe Bialorucki as this year's Community Champion Award recipient.

Joe exemplifies true community leadership through his dedication to individuals with developmental disabilities. A passionate advocate, he works to ensure every person feels heard, respected, and empowered. His genuine kindness and ability to connect with others help individuals feel valued and included.

Though his involvement in advocacy and Special Olympics is recent, Joe has quickly made a meaningful impact by building strong relationships and offering consistent encouragement and support. His commitment and compassion have made him a valued member of our community.

Congratulations and thank you, Joe, for your continued dedication to helping others thrive.

Pictured: Joe Bialorucki with Board Members and Superintendent

The next Board Meeting will be held
Wednesday, April 15th, 2026 at 4pm
HOPE Services Activity Center



The HOPE Services Office
will close at 12:00 pm on
April 3rd for Good Friday.
We will re-open April 6th
at 8:00am

Let's get cooking



Cook Night
sponsored by
HARC Inc.



Our recent Cook Night was a delicious success and a great opportunity for individuals to build kitchen skills, work together, and enjoy a homemade meal. Participants worked as a team to prepare a tasty menu that included McGriddle casserole, breakfast potatoes, and fruit salad.

Everyone had a role in the kitchen—from measuring ingredients and cracking eggs to cutting fruit and helping with clean-up. The McGriddle casserole was a big hit, combining sweet and savory breakfast flavors, while the crispy breakfast potatoes and colorful fruit salad made the perfect sides.

Cook Night is always a fun way to practice independent living skills, try new foods, and spend time together in a relaxed setting. By the end of the evening, the group not only enjoyed a great meal but also gained confidence in their cooking abilities.

If you are interested in joining the group sign up by contacting Randy Barnes at 419-591-6798 or Trace at 419-906-0759.

Hope to see you next month!



Breakfast



COOK NIGHT



HARC REC Calendar April, May, June 2026

Call Trace at: 419-906-0759

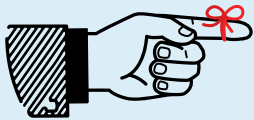
Call Randy at 419-591-6798

To sign up, **Pay ONE WEEK prior to the event**



Saturday, April 4, 2026	Walleye vs. Wheeling Nailers	5-11:30 pm	\$30	Huntington Center
Wednesday, April 8, 2026	Cook Night	5-7 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Friday, April 17, 2026	Star Studded Evening Dance	5-9 pm	?	New Hope Community Church
Monday, April 20, 2026	Craft Night	6-8 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Wednesday, April 29, 2026	BINGO	6-8 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Tuesday, May 5, 2026	Toledo Mud Hens vs. Memphis Redbirds	4-10:30 pm	\$30	Fifth Third Field
Saturday, May 9, 2026	Out to Eat & Movie	10:30-4 pm	\$35	TBA
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Cook Night	5-7 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Monday, May 18, 2026	Craft Night	6-8 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Tuesday, May 26, 2026	Memorial Day Cook Out and Games	4-6pm	\$10	TBA
Wednesday May 27, 2026	BINGO	6-8 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	Cedar Point	8-8:00pm	\$45 + money to eat	Cedar Point
Saturday, June 6, 2026	Paulding County Fair	12-6 pm	(Money for FUN)	Paulding Country Fair Grounds
Sunday, June 7, 2026	Micro Wrestling	2-11pm	\$50	Standard Hall - Columbus, OH
Wednesday, June 10, 2026	Cook Night	5-7 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Friday, June 12, 2026	Toledo Mud Hens vs. St. Paul Saints	5-10 pm	\$30	Fifth Third Field
Monday, June 15, 2026	Craft Night	6-8 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Wednesday, June 24, 2026	BINGO	6-8 pm	\$5	HOPE Activity Center
Friday, June 26, 2026	Eagles "Get Down in Naptown"	6-11 pm	\$5	Downtown Napoleon
Saturday, June 27, 2026	Toledo Zoo	2-7 pm	\$30	Toledo Zoo and Aquarium

Reminder



All HARC events can be found on <https://www.henrydd.org/events/category/harc/>
The 3 month calendar of events will show the 1st of each month on the Events Page as well.

Or follow Rec and HOPE on Social Media!

HARC: <https://www.facebook.com/harchenrycounty>

HOPE: <https://www.facebook.com/HOPEservicesHenryCountyBoardofDD>

HARC SUMMER ADULT CAMP
4 Days of Fun, Adventure & Friendship!
JULY 24 – JULY 27
Camp Palmer • Fayette, Ohio

Who: Adults Ages 12 & Up
Cost: \$250 for 4 Days / 3 Nights
Day Rate: \$80 per day
♦ Scholarships Available

REGISTER NOW!
Call Randy: 419-591-6798

Camp Activities

- Swimming
- Campfires & S'mores
- Nature Hikes
- Canoeing
- Animal Study
- Tall Tales
- Games
- Arts & Crafts

HARC, Inc. Henry County Abilities Resource Council
Find us on Facebook

HARC, Inc.
Henry County Abilities Resource Council

Register Now

CALL TRACE AT 419-906-0759
OR
CALL RANDY AT 419-591-6798

DON'T MISS OUT!

HARC KIDS CAMP
4 Days of Adventure & Fun!
AUGUST 2 – AUGUST 5
Camp Palmer • Fayette, Ohio

Who: Kids Ages 6 - 11
Cost: \$250 for 4 Days / 3 Nights
♦ Scholarships Available

REGISTER NOW!
Call Randy: 419-591-6798

Camp Activities

- Swimming
- Campfires & S'mores
- Canoeing
- Animal Studies
- Hiking
- Fun Games
- Arts & Crafts

HARC, Inc. Henry County Abilities Resource Council
Find us on Facebook



What Is Voices of HOPE?

Voices of HOPE is our self-advocacy group made up of individuals who are passionate about speaking up for themselves and others. The group focuses on building confidence, developing leadership skills, and creating opportunities for members to make their voices heard in the community. Through meetings, activities, and special events, Voices of HOPE encourages independence, inclusion, and positive change for people of all abilities.



SPEAK UP

Voices of HOPE ADVOCACY MEETING ★

What's Your Vision?

APRIL 16

6:00 – 7:00 PM

HOPE SERVICES ACTIVITY CENTER
135 E. Maumee Ave.
Napoleon, Ohio

What are your BIG things?

- Your Goals
- Your Dreams
- Your Vision for the Future

Let's Talk About:

- What I want for my future
- What steps I can take to get there
- How to use my voice and speak up
- Taking charge of my goals

Have Your Voice Heard!

Join us as we talk about dreaming big, making a plan, and taking steps toward the life you want.

"Your voice matters. Your goals matter. Your future matters."

- ★ All self-advocates over 16 years of age welcome!
- Light snacks provided

Interested in Attending?
Please reach out to Keri Bunke at 419-599-2892,
Text to 419-966-3239 or Email at kbunke@henrydd.org

RSVP

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FAIR

THE BIG READ AUTHOR VISIT

APRIL 21, 2026



ADVOCACY DAY at the STATEHOUSE WATCH PARTY



What an incredible day at our DD Awareness & Advocacy Day Watch Party!

Thank you to everyone who joined us to watch and celebrate the important conversations happening across Ohio.

We were honored to hear from Governor Mike DeWine as he spoke about the power of Advocacy, the development of Tech Hubs across the state, and the importance of recognizing individuals with disabilities on EVERY County Board of Developmental Disabilities in Ohio! He also highlighted exciting initiatives like universal changing stations at Ohio rest stops and how Accessible Ohio is helping businesses and venues become more inclusive and accessible.

Director Lindsay Nash shared an inspiring message around "What's Your Why," reminding us all why we do this important work. Luke Dennis did a wonderful job moderating our storytellers – Hope, Christina, and Hunter – who each shared powerful personal stories about how their local county boards of DD have made a meaningful difference in their lives.

We also enjoyed hearing from keynote speaker Jason Benetti, who encouraged everyone to pursue what they love and never let barriers define their future.

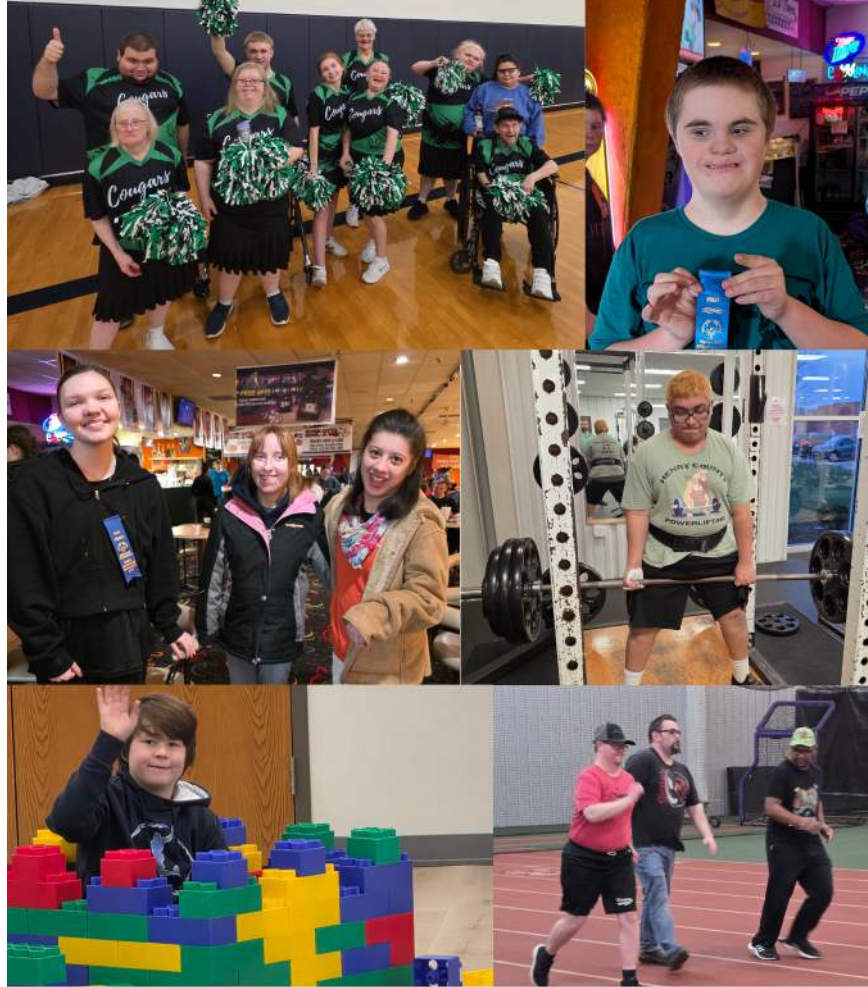
Together, our voices matter – and together, we are stronger.

Special Olympics

March Program Highlights

Powerlifting Shines at March Strength Club

Our powerlifting team had an outstanding showing at the March Strength Club hosted by Knight Fitness. Several athletes earned new personal records, while others advanced to higher levels on the gym's Strength Wall. What began just three years ago with a small group has now grown into a team of 12 dedicated lifters, more than tripling in size. Their commitment shows every time they step onto the platform. Many team members also completed the squat lift for the first time, pushing through nerves and learning new technique. We are incredibly proud of their growth, determination, and teamwork. March Strength Club Highlights: Jacob Parry – New PR in deadlift, Lydia Knepper – New records in bench and deadlift, Warren Ames – New PR in deadlift and squat, Lydia Kuehner and Krysta Delgado – Reached Warrior level (lifting over 450 lbs), Job Knepper, Vinnie Simon, Aaron Delgado – Reached Savages level (lifting over 600 lbs), Anthony Delgado, Tyler Silveous, Zach Parcher – Reached Beast level (lifting over 800 lbs), and Zach Parcher, Job Knepper, Tyler Silveous – New PRs in bench, deadlift, and squat



Four County BPA Hosts Inclusive Bowling Event

On March 15, more than 60 students from Four County Career Center's Business Professionals of America program hosted an inclusive bowling tournament for area classrooms. They welcomed 90 students to River City Bowl-A-Way, creating a fun environment filled with teamwork, encouragement, and new friendships. This event was an outstanding example of leadership, inclusion, and community spirit. Thank you, BPA students!




HENRY COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS

SUMMER GAMES RAFFLE

DRAWING ON MAY 1, 2026

CHOICE OF PRIZES - VALUED AT \$350.00

HALF A HOG FROM SATTLER FAMILY MEATS Or BEEF/BREAKFAST BOX

Tickets
1 - \$10.00 3 - \$25.00

Example

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

GO TEAM!

Cheer Team Lifts Spirits in Wood County

Our cheer team had an exciting opportunity to cheer at the 2026 Wood County Special Olympics Celebrity Basketball Game. They joined the Elmwood cheer squad and friends from Lucas County Special Olympics for a night full of spirit and celebration.

2026 Summer Games Raffle

Henry County Special Olympics is excited to announce our 2026 Summer Games Raffle, happening throughout April in partnership with Sattler Family Meats! All proceeds will help support our athletes and coaches as they travel to The Ohio State University for the 2026 Special Olympics Ohio Summer State Games this May. Henry County will proudly be represented in powerlifting, track and field, bocce, and bowling, making this a truly unforgettable weekend of competition, friendship, and lifelong memories. Your support through this raffle helps ensure every athlete can participate at no cost to them—thank you for helping us get our Cougars to Columbus!

As always, be sure to follow our Facebook page, Special Olympics Ohio – Henry County, where you can stay up to date on all the latest information, upcoming events, and opportunities to get involved and support our athletes. You can also reach out to Zach Meister (zmeister@henrydd.org, 419-260-2176) or Renita Kuehner (rkuehner@henrydd.org, 419-601-2372)

Congrats!

We hope everyone has a wonderful and warm beginning of spring!

COACH ZACH AND COACH RENITA



COORDINATED ENTRY IN- PERSON OUTREACH HENRY COUNTY

HENRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1843 OAKWOOD AVE, NAPOLEON, OH 43545

3/25, 4/29, 5/27, 6/24,
7/29, 8/26, 9/30,
10/28, 11/18, 12/09
9AM-12PM

WHAT TO BRING: ID, PROOF OF INCOME, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

RESOURCES

ASSESSMENTS

HYGIENE BAGS

FURTHER INFORMATION: JESSICA FARNHAM 419-990-5135



2026 FCA All-Abilities Camp



Saturday, May 30, 2026

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Wauseon High School, Wauseon, OH (Football Field)

This free one-day camp with adaptive activities is open to individuals with all disabilities - physical and non-physical, ages 4-65. The experience is one where they get to be athletes and enjoy a time of utilizing their own special abilities that God has given to them. Campers are assisted by trained buddy volunteers.

FUN AND ADAPTIVE SPORTS:

- Basketball
- Soccer
- Boxing
- Softball
- Cheer
- Stretching & Strengthening
- Football
- Kickball
- Obstacle Course

TO REGISTER:

Scan the QR code

OR register online at:

bbfca.org/all-abilities-camp



THE HELP WE NEED:

SPONSORS

Would you like to help sponsor this year's All-Abilities camp? Camp does have many expenses and we would love to have you partner with us in providing the best experience possible!

VOLUNTEERS

Would you or someone you know love to volunteer with us and help put on a phenomenal camp experience? We need adult Huddle Leaders, volunteer buddies, sports stations assistants and so much more!

To Become A Sponsor, Volunteer Or For More Information Contact:
Mindy Cross, Camp Director at: mcross@fca.org

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Wrap-Up

As Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month comes to a close, we want to thank our incredible community for helping us spread awareness, promote inclusion, and celebrate the abilities of all individuals. From proclamations and school visits to community events and everyday conversations—your support truly made a difference.

While March may be ending, the message continues. We encourage everyone to keep the momentum going by asking yourself: What's your why? Why does inclusion matter to you? How can you continue to make a positive impact in the lives of others?

Together, we can build a more inclusive and supportive community all year long.

What's Your WHY?

My "why" is being able to see the progress in the children I work with.

-Caryn Lulfs

My "why" is to give families a place to turn to when they don't know what to ask for or how to ask.

-Adina Richardson

EARLY INTERVENTION APRIL PLAYGROUP

TUESDAY APRIL 14TH

9:30-11am or

5:30-7pm

COME TO PLAY,
SOCIALIZE, AND EXPLORE
WITH YOUR EI TEAM!

CROSSROADS CHURCH
601 BONAPARTE DR.
NAPOLEON

Supporting Strong Starts: The Importance of Developmental Screenings for Infants and Toddlers

At HOPE Services – Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities, we are committed to connecting families with the tools and support they need to help their children thrive. One important way we do this is through developmental screenings for infants and toddlers.

A developmental screening is a simple, quick, and effective way to check how a child is growing and developing. These screenings look at key areas such as communication, movement, problem-solving, and social skills to ensure children are meeting developmental milestones appropriate for their age.

Screenings can be completed for children from birth up to age three, a critical time in a child's development. During these early years, a child's brain is growing rapidly, making it the ideal time to identify any potential delays. Early identification allows families to access support and services sooner, helping children build important skills during this foundational stage of life.

There are many benefits to participating in a developmental screening. For many families, it provides peace of mind, confirming that their child is developing as expected. If concerns are identified, families are not alone, Early Intervention professionals are there to guide them, offering resources, strategies, and personalized support to help their child succeed.

Early Intervention services are designed to empower families and support children in reaching their full potential. Best of all, developmental screenings are free, easy to complete, and focused on supporting, not alarming, families.

If you have questions about your child's development or are interested in scheduling a developmental screening, HOPE Services is here to help. Families can contact the Early Intervention program by calling 419-599-2892.

For more information about HOPE Services or our Early Intervention program, visit www.henrydd.org, call our office, or follow us on social media. Together, we are empowering individuals and strengthening our community, one child, one family, and one step at a time.

Contact Us

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

Find Event Calendars on our website.

www.henrydd.org/events

**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.

