

July 2018



# Scioto County Developmental Disabilities

Serving People for a Lifetime.



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## Fair Booth Slots Available

It's that time of year again! Preparations are well under way for Scioto County Developmental Disabilities' presence at the Scioto County Fair the week of Aug. 6-11.

"The fair is one of our area's biggest cultural gatherings of the year. It is definitely one of those events we can utilize to thank taxpayers and let them know the great things going on at Scioto County DD," said SCDD Community Relations Coordinator Lori McNelly.

SCDD will again have its own fair booth setup that will feature staff volunteers there to greet fairgoers and answer any

questions they may have about programming. We will also have literature available at the booth, as well as giveaways such as drawstring backpacks and candy.

A volunteer sign-up sheet has been posted on pubshare under the file name "2018 Fair Booth Schedule." Anyone who wants to volunteer but doesn't have pubshare access should contact McNelly at [lmcnelly@sciotodd.org](mailto:lmcnelly@sciotodd.org) or ext. 34107 to be put on the list.

Volunteer slots are four hours and it is preferred to have two staff per shift, if at all possible.

### In Search Of ...

Do you have any empty copy paper boxes lying around? We are looking for about 20 boxes to use for organizing fair booth giveaways by shift.

Please drop boxes off in Room 211 at Vern Riffe School or call Lori McNelly at ext. 34107 or email [lmcnelly@sciotodd.org](mailto:lmcnelly@sciotodd.org) to arrange for pickup.

## Cleanup and maintenance projects to happen at VRS before August school start

July is the perfect time for sprucing up around the buildings, and that's just what's happening at Vern Riffe School.

Staff should be aware that areas will be receiving deep cleaning this month in order to welcome back students and 9-month staff in August. Some areas that are being addressed include:

- Floors being stripped and waxed
- Carpets being cleaned
- General cleaning around the building

Also being addressed is the parking lot itself. The lot will be sealed and striped this month, so alternate parking may be required on certain days. More information will be provided as that project comes about.

Vern Riffe School students return to class on Monday, Aug. 27.

## Pumped Up Kicks



Dreama, Jacee, Justin, Bret, and Maddi show off their new shoes on the last day of school. Brand new kicks were provided to all students at Vern Riffe School by LifePoint Church.

## Board Notes

The Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities met June 21, 2018 at 4:45 p.m. In addition to routine business, the Board took the following actions:

- Received an update from the Superintendent on the "Fix the List" (Waitlist) project
- Agreed to reschedule the Board In-Service training to July 19, 2018. Approved payment for an overage in STAR's contract for the month of May 2018
- Approved having the Help Me Grow program return to SCDD at The Carousel Center
- Approved one Direct Service contract

Received updated information on progress of STAR, Inc. bathroom project. The next regular Board meeting will be conducted at 4:45 p.m., Thursday, July 19, at STAR, Inc., 2625 Gallia St., Portsmouth. An ethics committee meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. at the same place if there is a need. All meetings are open to the public with the exception of executive session.

## Calendar

### WEDNESDAY, July 4

- SCDD PROGRAMS CLOSED in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

### THURSDAY, July 19

- BOARD MEETING: Regular monthly meeting at 4:45 p.m., at STAR, Inc. An ethics committee meeting will be at 4 p.m., if needed.

### FRIDAY, July 20

- 50th ANNIVERSARY of SPECIAL OLYMPICS: Ice cream social for our adult Special Olympics athletes in the gym at Vern Riffe School. Hot dogs, drinks, ice cream, and games. A staff hot dog sauce contest, the 1st Annual Awesomesauce Challenge, will be determined by popular vote to see who gets the First Place Wiener trophy.

## Legislative Corner

### Legislative fix for PERS 9- and 10-month employee issue clears House, heads to Senate

The Ohio House of Representatives unanimously approved HB 572, a bill that would address issues related to service credit accrual for 9- and 10-month non-teaching employees at county board of DD schools.

The bill would allow non-teaching board school employees working 9- and 10-month calendars to receive a full year of service credit from the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). As a result of OACB advocacy efforts, the version of the bill approved Wednesday includes language making the service credit accrual fix retroactive to the beginning of 2017.

The legislation must now be approved by the Ohio Senate before December 31, which marks the end of the two-year legislative session. The Senate, which is about to adjourn for its summer recess, is expected to reconvene in September. OACB will continue to engage with policymakers over the

summer to further refine the bill's language. OACB would like to thank the county board leaders who have contributed to the advocacy efforts on HB572, and the association will update members in future editions of the PolicyBrief. Questions about this topic should be addressed to Erich Bittner (ebittner@oacbdds.org) at 614-431-0616.

### House approves bill allowing for joint guardianship services boards

The Ohio House of Representatives voted unanimously Wednesday in favor of HB 595, which contains language that would allow county boards of DD to partner with probate courts and county ADAMH boards to establish specialized guardianship services boards for indigent, service-eligible adults without guardians.

The version of the bill passed by the House contains language clarifying that the creation of guardianship services boards is optional and based on the willingness of all agencies involved.

*Reprinted from OACB PolicyBrief*

## Birthdays

July 4

Samantha Vetter

July 7

Lashawnda Biggs

July 15

Kim Miller

July 18

Joy Copen

July 20

Tara Rodino

July 23

Lynne Webb

July 29

Dannielle Pavick

LeAnn Shultz



## Work Anniversaries

July 6

Adam Sylvia

July 13

Lori McNelly

July 15

Whitney Horsley

July 17

Steve Sowkulech

July 23

Tara Rodino

July 30

Keiliana Wright

**Do You Have What it Takes to be Crowned**

**Sovereign of the Sauce?**

**Champion of the Chilidog?**

**1st Place Wiener?**



**1st Annual Staff**

# **AWESOMESAUCE CHALLENGE**

**Sauce chefs should bring a crockpot of their most awesome hot dog sauce to the VRS gym kitchen by 10 a.m., Friday, July 20. Adult athletes and staff attending the ice cream social celebrating the 50th anniversary of Special Olympics will be the judges.**

**Hot dogs, ice cream, and drinks will be provided.**

# More Than Just a Holiday

Memorial Day is more than a holiday, full of fun in the sun, cookouts, and being with friends and families. The most important part of Memorial Day is to honor the past, present, and future men and women in our armed forces who both had risked and given their lives in pursuit of our American freedom.

This year I had never been more prouder on Memorial Day, because I was in the Lucasville Memorial Day parade walking with the Sons of the American Legion, who walked for the first time with the American Legion Post 23. The Sons of the American Legion in Lucasville formed in January, and it's for men whose parents or grandparents served in the Military. Women also have a part in the American Legion, participating in the auxiliary, who also walked in the parade and served hot dogs and other

refreshments after a ceremony in Lucasville cemetery.

I felt the spirit of my grandfather Ray Altman, who was in the Army and was stationed at the Philippines in World War II. He was a medical technician with a MASH Unit. I couldn't join the military due to my physical limitations, as I have cerebral palsy. I was so glad that Post 23 was going to have the Sons of the American Legion unit. Alongside of walking with the American Legion in the parade, we also assist them with funerals, offering poppies for donations to help the with the war memorial, plus other things such as pancake dinners to raise money.



**Bill Adams**  
Self Advocacy  
Specialist

I love my country and what it stands for, to promote freedom. I may have the desires to change some things around – that is why we have freedom of speech, to try to get laws passed. That is why we

have democracy, so we want to improve the lives for all Americans. So if we see things that need improved for the citizens of this country, with or without disabilities.

I have never been in combat, and I thank all of the brave men and women who gave everything that they have to promote our values throughout the world when they were called upon. I can still represent and serve my country in numerous ways based on my own skills.

As John F. Kennedy once said: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." All people have limitations on what they are able to do; however, we all should think of things that we are capable of doing and craft our skills to promote our abilities to help our community.

*(Bill Adams is the Self-Advocacy Specialist at STAR, Inc., and a contributor for the Portsmouth Daily Times. Bill can be reached at badams@sciotodd.org)*



**FRIENDS OF SCIOTO DD**

*As a 501c3 organization, Friends of Scioto DD works to fill the gaps where urgent monetary intervention is necessary for people served by Scioto County Developmental Disabilities to remain independent and active in their community.*

[www.FriendsOfSciotoDD.com](http://www.FriendsOfSciotoDD.com)