

March 2017



INSIDE: The Text of Bill Adams' Statehouse Testimony
Together, We Build Meaningful Lives

Scioto County Board of DD

It's Almost Time for Tip-Off!

9th Annual Hardwood Heroes to Hit the Court at Shawnee State on Saturday, April 1

Hardwood Heroes Celebrity Basketball Game has become an event people look forward to for months. The event, which pits local celebrities against Scioto County Special Olympians in a good-natured rivalry on the court at Shawnee State University, is in its ninth year of raising funds to support the local Special Olympics program. It also serves as the finale of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month activities here in Scioto County.

"It is truly amazing that we are getting ready to participate in the 9th Hardwood Heroes Celebrity Basketball Game," said Julie Monroe, superintendent of the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities. "These games are always well attended, and we feel fortunate to have built such great partnerships and friendships within our community. Scioto County is truly a special place where individuals with developmental disabilities are accepted for who they are and what they can contribute."

All proceeds from Hardwood Heroes directly affect the nearly 100 local athletes involved in Scioto County Special Olympics sports, which include basketball, bowling, golf, and track and field. Funds are used for transport costs



Scioto County Special Olympian of the Year 2016 Gabrielle Collins readies a shot in last year's Hardwood Heroes Celebrity Basketball Game. This year's game will be at the James A. Rhodes Athletic Center at Shawnee State University on April 1.

to away games, food costs on away game days, and the upkeep of gear and uniforms.

The game begins at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 1, at the Rhodes Athletic Center on the campus of Shawnee State University. Admission is \$2 per person.

THE CELEBRITY TEAM

DEREK ALLEN

Portsmouth City Manager

MIKE BELL

Autism Project of Southern Ohio

KRISTEN BRADSHAW

PHS softball coach

GERALD CADOGAN

PHS football and swim coach

SHAYE COBURN

SOMC Development Foundation

DIRK "Dirk Extreme" CUNNINGHAM

RCW Entertainment

ANTHONY STIDHAM

Scioto County Dept. of Job & Family Services

SCOT "Trik Nasty" ISAAC

RCW Entertainment

JEFF KLEHA

Attorney and SCBDD Board Member

TOM MARSH

COMPASS Community Health

MARK RICHARDS

Portsmouth Daily Times

ROB WOODWARD

Wheelersburg football coach

Board Notes

The Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities met March 16. In addition to routine business, the Board took the following actions:

- Approved one Direct Service Contract
 - Accepted the Personnel Committee's recommendation to approve the revised Table of Organization.
 - Approved scheduling a special meeting to discuss options for Adult Day Services carry-over employees before the May board meeting.
 - Reviewed bids and recommendations from TSHD Architects for VRS and STAR roof replacements, and awarded contract to Axis Alliance, LLC for replacement of both roofs.
 - Approved/adopted Resolution 2017-3.01 regarding transferring monies from the general to the capital fund to be used for the Capital Improvement Plan and other capital fund expenses the Board is obligated to pay.
 - Approved an employment contract for the Director of School Programs.
- The next regular Board meeting will be conducted at 4:45 p.m., Thursday, April 20, at STAR, Inc., 2625 Gallia St. An Ethics Committee meeting will be conducted at 4:30 p.m. at the same place if there is a need.
- All meetings of the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities are open to the public with the exception of Executive Session.

Have an item to submit to the SCBDD newsletter? Drop Lori a note at lmcnelly@scdd.k12.oh.us or call ext. 34107!

Advocacy Corner

On Wednesday, March 22, STAR Self Advocacy Specialist Bill Adams testified at the Ohio Statehouse about the potential effects of the new budget on people with disabilities and their families and caregivers. This is the text of his testimony.

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Bill Adams. I'm from Scioto County, and today I am representing Advocacy United. Advocacy United is a coalition of different advocacy groups across the state of Ohio, such as People First of Ohio, the Arc of Ohio, the Homestead Act, to name just a few.

I am here today to support the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities' budget for the increasing wages for direct care staff, which is so near and dear to me. I have been using direct care attendants for the past 17 years. I began using them when I moved out of my parents' house to live in a dormitory on the campus of Shawnee State University back in the fall of 2000. I moved back home in the summer of 2004, but I kept my services. I wouldn't know what I would do without my attendant helping me. I lost my mother in the summer of 2011. Dad is still in good health but, still, he is aging, which I don't want to think about. All throughout of my life I had depended on my parents, as most of you did. However, having physical limitations like I do – such as not being able to feed oneself – you have to rely on others for your everyday basic needs. I do support the 2 percent increase in pay for direct care staff because they provide a critical need to the individuals they serve, some on a daily basis.

Without our providers some of us, and I am including myself, would have to live in a direct care facility such as a nursing home or a residential facility. I don't want to spend my life in a place where I won't be happy. I'm 44 years old. I have, hopefully, another 40 more years to live out, and having a care attendant makes me as independent as I can be.

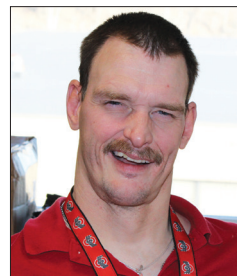
Which leads me to the next thing that is on my list, and that is the supporting of the increasing of the waiver options, for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities budget for 2017. For without a waiver there is no direct care staff. Well, you could have attendant, but the individual would have to pay for it. A waiver program usually pays for your staffing. With this new budget there will be 1,300 new waivers created this year along with the 3,000 last year, which is outstanding. I know from my own personal experience last year, I was fortunate to get on the I.O.

waiver starting in September because, due to new policies to the Ohio Homecare Waiver I had been on for years, I didn't meet the standards anymore. Luckily, I had been on the waiting list for the I.O. waiver since 1993; it seems unreal that a waiting list is backed up for 23 years. I was very fortunate to transfer over with ease from one waiver to another without any disruption of my services, but I am positive there are

families within the state who don't have a waiver at all and are desperately in need of one. I'm not an expert on waivers, but I'm pretty sure that some waivers do more than pay for staff, they also pay for moderate accommodations; for example, wheelchair ramps, walk-in showers, and lifts on vans.

There will always be families in search of assistance because one never knows when either an accident will occur in one's life or a new family member will be born having some type of a disability. Therefore, Advocacy United is totally in favor for more waivers being created for individuals and their families. I just want to thank you for your time for allowing me to explain to you why these two topics are so important to people who are receiving services, for without them we would be struggling to make it through life.

And again, I thank you for giving me your time.



Bill Adams
Self Advocacy
Specialist

New Wheelchair Ramp at VRS Now Open

Construction on a new wheelchair ramp on the Gallia Street side of Vern Riffe School has been ongoing through the winter. The project is now complete, and VRS students Kaliawna Arnett and Angel Rowe cut the ribbon at a short ceremony on Wednesday, March 15, with Scioto County Commissioner Bryan Davis also manning the big scissors.

The project began with site preparations on Jan. 12 and was ready for use on Feb. 8. The ramp project in its entirety cost \$55,565, including landscaping. The Scioto County Commissioners funded \$23,000 of the project with the rest coming from the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

"The ramp project is part of a Board-approved capital improvement plan to keep our buildings as safe and functional as possible for the individuals we serve," said Superintendent Julie Monroe. "It is a project we have wanted to do for a long time, and the Scioto County Commissioners also felt it was important. While we hope we are never in a situation where we have to evacuate the building, it only takes one incident to jeopardize safety and seconds count. We want everyone in our buildings to be as safe as possible, and considering the number of people we serve who need mobility assistance in one form or another, and the size of the building, we simply needed more than one accessible exit."

The building houses not only VRS, which is the SCBDD's school program, but also the agency's administrative, business, and Service & Support Administration offices. The ramp on the Gallia Street side of VRS allows for another entry point for people who utilize mobility devices, as well as



Vern Riffe School students Kaliawna Arnett and Angel Rowe help Superintendent Julie Monroe and Scioto County Commissioner Bryan Davis cut the ribbon on the new wheelchair ramp. The ramp on the Gallia Street side of VRS allows for another accessible entry to the building. The building houses not only VRS, but also the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities' administrative, business, and Service & Support Administration offices.

added safety in case of emergency.

The main entrance for the building remains in the rear, accessible through a parking lot with entrances off both Gallia Street

and Mabert Road. While the main entrance in the rear of the building has long been accessible, the Gallia Street-facing entrance with its original concrete staircase has not.

Birthdays and Workiversaries

BIRTHDAYS

April 1: Sandy Brisker

April 4: Jennifer Newman

April 12: Hannah Cobb

April 13: Hannah Clifford, Tammy Guthrie

April 14: Andrea McClellan

April 15: Tiffany Wallingford

April 26: Sharon Malone

May 3: Sharon Gerkin

May 15: Whitney Horsley

May 19: Margaret Compton

May 20: Michelle Wampler

May 29: Beth Arthurs, Nancy Partlow

WORKIVERSARIES

April 1: Joy Copen, Missy Cassidy

April 2: Kelly Hunter

April 7: Christy Rolfe

April 11: Lana Hill

April 24: Michelle Wampler

April 26: Beth Arthurs

Calendar

APRIL 1

■HARDWOOD HEROES: 12:30 p.m., James A. Rhodes Athletic Center at Shawnee State University. Admission: \$2.

APRIL 3

■!IMPACT: 12:20-2:30 p.m., music at USSA, Inc.

APRIL 4

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-noon, SOMC Laundry; 1 p.m. meeting in the multipurpose room at STAR, Inc.

APRIL 5

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-noon and 1-2 p.m., Weghorst and York Parks maintenance

■STAR: Bowling, 3-4 p.m. (\$1.75 per game)

APRIL 6

■!IMPACT: 9:40 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Salvation Army lunch service

APRIL 7

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., maintain Lock 48

■SPECIAL OLYMPICS: Bowling at Chillicothe

APRIL 10

■!IMPACT: 12:15-2:30 p.m., music at Best Care

■STAR: Library

■VRS: Spring Break

APRIL 11

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Camp Oyo maintenance

■VRS: Spring Break

APRIL 12

■!IMPACT: Snow cone sale

■STAR: Bowling, 3-4 p.m. (\$1.75 per game)

■VRS: Spring Break

APRIL 13

■!IMPACT: 9:40 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Salvation Army lunch service

■VRS: Spring Break

APRIL 14

■CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY

■VRS: Spring Break

APRIL 17

■!IMPACT: 12:20-2:30 p.m., music at Heartland

■VRS: Classes resume

APRIL 18

■STAR: USAF Museum trip

APRIL 19

■!IMPACT: Kiwanis Pancake Day
STAR: Bowling, 3-4 p.m. (\$1.75 per game)

APRIL 20

■!IMPACT: 9:40 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Salvation Army lunch service

■SCBDD: 4:45 p.m., Board meeting at STAR, Inc.

APRIL 21

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Maintain Lock 48

■SPECIAL OLYMPICS: Ramp bowling at Chillicothe

APRIL 24

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-noon (and after lunch, if needed), Mound Park maintenance

■STAR: Library

APRIL 25

■!IMPACT: 11:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m., SOMC Volunteer Awards Luncheon

APRIL 26

■!IMPACT: 9:45 a.m.-noon, music at Edgewood 1

■STAR: Bowling, 3-4 p.m. (\$1.75 per game); Project STIR bake sale; People First meeting, 1 p.m.

APRIL 27

■!IMPACT: 9:40 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Salvation Army lunch service

APRIL 28

■STAR: 12:30-2:15 p.m., bowling (\$1.75 per game)

Birthdays of the Month party

■SPECIAL OLYMPICS: Track and Field Day at University of Rio Grande

Call ext. 34300 before 10:30 a.m. to place your order!

<div>Menu subject to change</div> <div><i>The Lunch Box</i> April, 2017</div> <div>  Every Day at Break Time ICE CREAM • Small 50¢ • Medium 75¢ • Large \$1.00 </div>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Pinto Beans \$ 2.00 Fried Bologna Sandwich 2.00 Corn Bread 1.00	4 Spaghetti w/garlic bread \$ 3.50 Extra garlic bread .50 Cucumber & Tomato Salad 1.00	5 Meatloaf w/roll \$ 3.00 Scalloped Potatoes 1.50 Buttered Corn .50	6 Grilled Chicken Wrap \$ 2.50 Broccoli & Cheese Soup w/crackers 2.50	7 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50
10 Hot Dog — Plain \$ 1.25 Hot Dog w/Sauce 1.50 Tater Tots 1.50 Cole Slaw .75	11 Salisbury Steak (2) w/roll \$ 2.50 Mashed Potatoes & gravy 1.50 Green Beans 1.00	12 XL Loaded Nachos \$ 4.00 Chocolate Pie in a cup 1.00	13 Baked Beans \$ 2.50 w/Smoked Sausage 1.50 Cornbread Casserole 1.50 Kale Greens .75	14 Holiday Workshop Closed
17 Pinto Beans \$ 2.00 Fried Bologna Sandwich 2.00 Corn Bread 1.00	18 Spaghetti w/garlic bread \$ 3.50 Extra garlic bread .50 Cucumber & Tomato Salad 1.00	19 Meatloaf w/roll \$ 3.00 Scalloped Potatoes 1.50 Buttered Corn .50	20 Grilled Chicken Wrap \$ 2.50 Broccoli & Cheese Soup w/crackers 2.50	21 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50
24 Hot Dog — Plain \$ 1.25 Hot Dog w/Sauce 1.50 Tater Tots 1.50 Cole Slaw .75	25 Salisbury Steak (2) w/roll \$ 2.50 Mashed Potatoes & gravy 1.50 Green Beans 1.00	26 XL Loaded Nachos \$ 4.00 Chocolate Pie in a cup 1.00	27 Baked Beans \$ 2.50 w/Smoked Sausage 1.50 Cornbread Casserole 1.50 Kale Greens .75	28 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50

Available Every Day

Sub Sandwich	\$ 2.50
Chips	.75
Snack Cakes	.75
Soda / Water	.75
Tea	.50



Friday Pizza Special

1 Slice Pizza & pop	\$ 1.75
2 slices Pizza & pop	\$ 3.00

Salads

Available Every Day

(Ranch, Red French, Honey Mustard, Italian)

Small Garden Salad	\$ 2.00
Small Chef Salad	\$ 3.00
Large Garden Salad	\$ 4.00
Large Chef Salad	\$ 5.00