



MurrayRidgeCenter
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

The Murray Ridge Courier

April 2018

Murray Ridge Raiders Team 1 and Basketball Skills Team Take on State!

The weekend of March 24 and 25, Murray Ridge sent its Murray Ridge Raiders Basketball Team 1 and Skills Team to the State tournaments! These competitions were the culmination of a season of hard work and dedication by the athletes.

On Saturday, March 3, 2018, 23 Skills Athletes competed at the Area Qualifier held at Elyria High School. They all did a fantastic job, bringing home the following ribbons: 12 First place, 9 Second Place, 1 Third Place, and 1 Fourth Place! On March 24, 10 of those athletes travelled to Strasberg, Ohio, where they competed in the State tournament and brought home three 1st place medals, two 2nd place medals, three 3rd place medals, and one 4th place ribbon.

On Sunday, March 4, Raiders Team 1 defeated Summit County to become the Special Olympics North Section Champions! The team traveled south to Dover, Ohio where they finished 4th in the State Basketball Tournament as they fell to the Richland County Bears by the score of 55-47.

We are so proud of BOTH of our Murray Ridge Raiders teams who represented us so well at the State Tournaments and throughout the entire season! Way to go, Raiders!



Above, Murray Ridge Raiders Basketball Skills Team checked in for State competition in Strasberg! Pictured, Front row, l-r: Eronne Chambers, Charity Anderson, April Huhn, Renee Mele. Middle row, l-r: Coach Laura Roby, Pam McClain, Tim Quisenberry, Andrew Prihoda, Coach Jeff Colatruglio. Back row, l-r: Lutz Fazekas, Dennis Johnson, Mike Ward, Michael Elliott.



Left, April Hune celebrates her 1st place medal at the Skills Team State competition. Right, the Murray Ridge van was decked out for the trip to State. Top, Team 1 gets ready for State. Pictured, front, l-r: Jeff Torres, Jon Torres, DJ Overall, Logan Yatson. Back, l-r: Raul Torres, Steve Locurto, Ryan Eliason, Ghost, Ray Behner.



March Declared Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month by County Commissioners

The Lorain County Commissioners adopted a resolution on March 7, 2018, declaring the month of March as "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month" in Lorain County.

Three program participants accompanied Superintendent Amber Fisher to share their stories and to thank the Commissioners for their support of the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities (LCBDD), more commonly known as Murray Ridge Center. During the meeting, Dr. Fisher also highlighted the services that more than 2,000 Lorain county citizens with developmental disabilities receive from Murray Ridge Center.



Above, left: Members of the Murray Ridge family meet with the Lorain County Commissioners to formally declare March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! Pictured l-r, Commissioner Lori Kokoski, Superintendent Amber Fisher, Murray Ridge Adult Program attendee Stephanie Budweg, Commissioner Ted Kalo, Murray Ridge School student Jose Smith, Murray Ridge Adult Program attendee Alexshawn Averett, and Commissioner Matt Lundy. Above, right: Superintendent Amber Fisher stands with Stephanie Budweg as she explains the services she receives from Murray Ridge. Below, left: Commissioner Ted Kalo holds the microphone as Murray Ridge Center's Director of Education Dann Swift helps student Jose Smith thank the Board. Below, right: Alexshawn Averett thanks the commissioners.



CONNECTING FOR KIDS

MEET AND GREET



Visit with
representatives
from more than
70 organizations
to discuss services
and explore
program
options.

WHERE

Don Umerley Civic Center
21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

WHEN

Thursday, April 19, 2018
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

This is a free, public event where families can learn about local resources, therapies, after-school programs and summer camps for their child who is struggling (with or without a formal diagnosis).

Preregister and attend the Meet and Greet to be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Visa gift card!

Desserts provided by Duet Fine Catered and Prepared Foods and coffee donated by Starbucks Coffee Company.

Thank you to our event sponsors:



For full participant list, please visit connectingforkids.org/meetandgreet

Preregister and learn more: connectingforkids.org/meetandgreet

Triumph through the Challenges Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Who should attend?

This course series is for nurses, social workers, counselors, physicians, educators, parents, and caregivers who work with individuals that may have had prenatal exposure to alcohol/drugs.

Learn about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and how to best work with those affected in order to reach his/her fullest potential.

Gather useful tips and local resources!

Discover ways to succeed!

2018 Spring Course Series

Evening Sessions:

April 10, 2018: Section 1, 6-9 p.m.

April 12, 2018: Section 2, 6-9 p.m.

April 17, 2018: Section 3, 6-9 p.m.

April 19, 2018: Section 4, 6-9 p.m.

Location:

Murray Ridge Center LCBDD
Lorain County Board of Developmental
Disabilities Service & Support Administration Bldg.
9740 Murray Ridge Road, Elyria, 44035
Building at the rear of Murray Ridge School
*Evening parking available at Murray Ridge SSA
lot. Please enter in back door.

Register

Contact : Kathy Bevaque, M.Ed., D.S. w/LCBDD
(440) 284-3655
e-mail: kbevaque@murrayridgecenter.org

No fee to attend. Space is limited.

Bring your own personal refreshments and food.

Facilitator:

Kathleen Bevaque, M.Ed., D.S. w/LCBDD



Series Details

- **Section 1:** FASD Basic Facts; Characteristics; Chronological vs. Developmental Age
- **Section 2:** Neurological Issues & Behaviors of FASD: Coping Skills
- **Section 3:** Developing Effective Strategies for FASD: Advocacy & Finding Resources
- **Section 4:** Advocacy in Schools; Discipline; Daily Living & Future Planning for Individuals with FASD

Contact Hours Available

- Social workers, counselors, and chemical dependency RCH: provided by the ADAS Board of Lorain County
- Developmental Disability hours provided by Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Certificate of Attendance for contact hours
- Ohio Approved Specialized Training for Early Childhood SUTQ, ODE, ODH (pending)



Successful Fundraising Leads to Exciting Adventures for Murray Ridge School Students

On March 26th, Teacher Samantha Shaw took her primary class from Murray Ridge Center on a field trip to Art House, Inc. in Cleveland. The studio's purpose is provide high quality visual and creative arts classes for people of all ages and skill levels, and its goal is to enrich the lives of those who live in the community, to encourage and strengthen the careers of local artists, and to promote learning through the arts.

In order to take the field trip, Shaw's students raised \$300 through classroom fundraising efforts to cover the cost of the trip; these fundraisers included a cookie sale every other month for holidays and seasons - Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Spring. Shaw bakes the cookies and brings them to class; the students frost the cookies and decorate them using sprinkles. Shaw's class makes an average of 25 dozen cookies each cookie sale. In addition to cookie sales, this month the class made homemade crunchy and chewy dog treats. Students measure and mix ingredients, then roll small balls or use cutters to make bones. The students will continue to make dog treats during opposite months based on the really great feedback they've received from staff and their pups!

At Art House, each student was able to experience the pottery wheel using clay and a motor pedal. Students also were able to make a couple of pinch pots (or in one case - taco!) at the table. Each student was provided a variety of glazes to coat the clay. Pieces will be fired in the kiln and available to pick up after spring break.

These are not the only trips Shaw has taken through her fundraising efforts. Her class has gone to several different places this year – The Science Center, the Car Show, Hastee Tastee, Old Towne Pizza, Natural History Museum, Playhouse Square, Splash Pad, the Aquarium, Botanical Gardens, and Amherst Movie Theater. Parents have been asked to send in less than \$15 for the entire year to supplement the cost. The remaining funds – more than \$1,250 – have been covered by the hard work and fundraising efforts from the classroom students and staff.



Top: Room B poses together for their routine group picture after an incredible field trip experience. (Back l-r) Miss Renee, Miss Adrienne, Miss Shelley, Owen Richardson, Jaquan Warren, Jacksuel Albarran, Miss Sharon, Nathan Reynolds, Miss Sam (Front l-r) Evan Clarke, Diane Davis, Marra Board. Middle, Owen Richardson and classroom aide Shelley Stipe get their hands dirty and engage in messy sensory play working the clay medium to create ceramics bowls. Bottom, Nathan Reynolds and personal aide Sharon Smith work together to operate the wheel pedal and wet the surface before working with their clay.

MURRAY RIDGE PRESCHOOL

A PRESCHOOL OPTION

The Murray Ridge Preschool Program offers students with a variety of developmental disabilities the advantages of in-room therapies, an array of state-of-the-art equipment, outstanding staff, and an opportunity to learn alongside typically-developing peers. The Preschool Program runs Tuesday through Friday. Children with disabilities must be referred to the Murray Ridge Preschool Program by their local school districts. Applications for typically-developing children are available through Murray Ridge School.

WE OFFER:

- Individualized Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy in the classroom
- An extensive collection of early childhood educational equipment
- Full-time nurse on site
- Door-to-door transportation services
- A well-rounded curriculum based on the Ohio Early Learning Content Standards
- Dynamic, ODE-certified staff
- Physical development through indoor/outdoor physical education classes
- Music classes



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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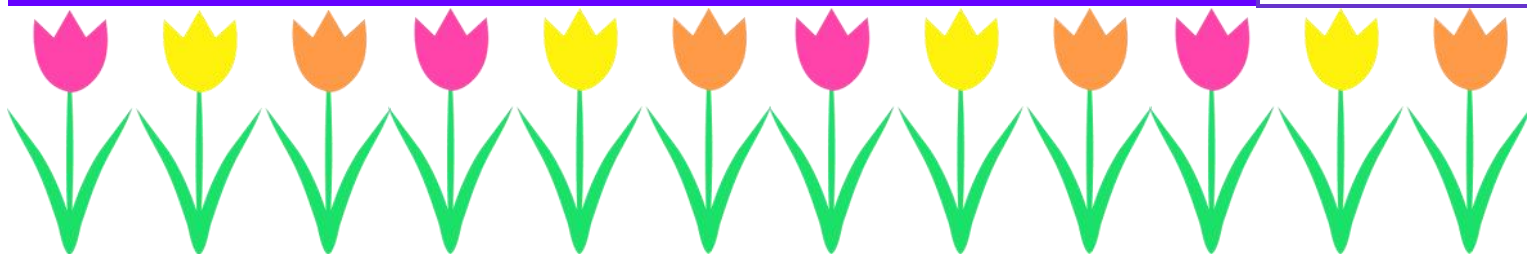


April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	Spring Break - Murray Ridge School			13	14
15	16	17	18 	19	20 	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28 
29	30 					

Activities & Events

- 4/2 - 4/6 - Murray Ridge Preschool and School Closed for Spring Break
- 4/11 - Murray Ridge Support Group meeting, 4:15 p.m., Elyria Opportunity/Vocational Center, 1091 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 4/18 - LCBDD Finance Committee meeting, 12:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 4/18 - Family Support Parent Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 4/20 - Murray Ridge Support Group Dance, 7:00 p.m., Murray Ridge School, 9750 Murray Ridge Road in Elyria
- 4/28 - Murray Ridge Support Group Spaghetti Dinner, 3:00 p.m., AmVets Post 55, 530 Abbe Road in Sheffield Lake
- 4/30 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 6:30 p.m., Administration Building, 1091 Infirmary Rd in Elyria



BOARD ROOM BRIEFING

The Lorain County Board of DD convened at 6:30 p.m. on March 26, 2018

Board member Dan White announced that the Board Award Committee had selected a nominated Murray Ridge employee to receive the next quarterly Exceptional Service Award. Director of Vocational/ Transportation Services Jeff Miller discussed transportation RFP outcomes. Superintendent Fisher explained anticipated revenues and variable expenses of the Agency's preschool program for the 2017/2018 school year; the Board voted unanimously to retain the current rate structure for both school districts and parents of typically developing peers that place students in the Murray Ridge Preschool Program for the 2018/2019 school year. Changes to the Murray Ridge School and Preschool calendars were discussed and approved (revised calendars have been posted). The Board unanimously approved minor revisions to several policies. The Board approved a new policy on *Murray Ridge School Meal Charges*. The Board approved the proposed Strategic Plan Progress Report/Annual Action Plan Programs and Expenditures - 2018. Superintendent Fisher discussed the campaign for **Issue 5**, a five-year **renewal levy that will appear on the May 8th ballot; this levy brings in more than one-third of Murray Ridge Center's funding and, if passed, will not increase taxes.**

Lorain County Board of
Developmental Disabilities

Murray Ridge Center
1091 Infirmary Road
Elyria, OH 44035

Standard Presort
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 146
Elyria, OH 44035



Thank You to all our Murray Ridge Center Volunteers!

National Volunteer Week is April 15-21, 2018. Throughout this week and throughout the entire year, Murray Ridge Center would like to recognize the individuals who give their time as volunteers at Murray Ridge School, in our Opportunity/Vocational Centers, within our Special Olympic Program, and in many other facets of the Agency. Murray Ridge Center extends its sincerest thanks to these community volunteers for making a considerable and lasting difference in the lives of the individuals we serve. In addition to the many staff volunteers, thank you to the following community volunteers:

Pete Barth
Keith Boey
Bob Burkhardt
Greg Butchko
Sandi Camp
Kern Catanese
Rebecca Cornman
Beth Fetzer
Ann Findlan
Gerry Findlan
Robert Gajdos

Beverly Gedid
Betty Hanson
Michelle Hunt
Alison Kirsch
Kurt Koepf
Kathy Lewis
Tim McLaughlin
Kathy Oblak
Shelby Regiec
Stephen J. Ross
Vassie Scott

Terry (Pete) Shilling
Les Spike
Phil Tollett
Jerry Vessalo
Dan White
Tina Woskobunik



For more information on how you can volunteer with Murray Ridge Center, contact Jennifer Judkins at 440.329.3734 or jjudkins@murrayridgecenter.org.