



MurrayRidgeCenter  
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

# The Murray Ridge Courier

March 2019

## March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Every March, Murray Ridge Center joins local, state, and national agencies to recognize **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**. This month celebrates the unique and vital contributions that individuals with developmental disabilities make in our communities.

Through the services and support offered by Murray Ridge Center, more than **2,000 children and adults** with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to develop critical skills, expand their vocational horizons, and receive necessary care.

Murray Ridge is a provider of services; and plans, funds, and monitors services provided by other agencies and individual providers to people with developmental disabilities.

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## March Declared Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month by County Commissioners

The Lorain County Commissioners adopted a resolution on March 6, 2019, 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 lifelong services that Lorain County residents with developmental disabilities receive from Murray Ridge Center.

Pictured (l-r) are Superintendent Amber Fisher, Marty Hahn, Ashley Tarrant, Commissioner Kokoski, Commissioner Sweda, Commissioner Lundy, and Diane Davis in front.



# Raiders Basketball Wraps Up Another Great Season . . .



## TEAM 1

Pictured left to right are: Coach Tyler Robinson, Ray Behner, Rob Messenger, Jeremy Foster, Ryan Eliason, Logan Yatson, Dorian Chaffin, Joe Garsky, Jeff Torres, Jonathan Torres, Head Coach Russ Moyer. (not pictured: Isaiah Wicks)

## TEAM 2

Front row (l-r): Ryan Brown, Matt Anthony, Raul Torres, Tom Dammeyer.  
Back row (l-r): Tim Dammeyer, Coach Orlando Jones, Daniel Montgomery, Tony Harris, DJ Overall, Hector Lozano, Leif Hammonds, Coach Leroy Keen.



## TEAM 3

Front row (l-r): David Zsigray, Marko Govich, Jesse Kimbro (kneeling), Sean Ware, Angel Rivera (kneeling), Bill Lacko, Chat Kothe. Back row (l-r); Head Coach Brian Chutes, Noah Griffiths, Kevin Long, Bryon Ragin, Mark Oliveras, Charles Johnson, James Peters, James Papenfuss, Coach Jim Ward. (Not pictured: Robert Assnakis).





## . . . Congratulations on a Job Well Done!

Another exciting Murray Ridge Raider basketball season is in the books! Ten Murray Ridge basketball skills athletes who competed at Elyria High School on March 2, 2019 will be traveling to and competing at the State Skills Competition in Hilliard, OH on Saturday March 23, 2019. Although none of our four Raiders basketball teams advanced to the State Tournament this season, we applaud their excellent performance at Sectionals. The Lady Raiders made an impressive effort, but fell to Sandusky County 37-25 at Bowling Green on February 25<sup>th</sup>. At the Sectional Semi-Final tournament games held February 28 – March 3 at the Lorain County Community College (LCCC), our men's teams played well. Unfortunately, Stark DD's Red team handed Raiders Team 2 a 50-31 loss on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February at LCCC. Team 3 advanced to LCCC only to be stopped by Lake County in a 36-33 thriller of a game our athletes and fans may never forget. Raiders Team 1 advanced to their Division Championship game but fell in a last minute heart stopping loss to Summit County 55-52 at LCCC on Sunday March 3, 2019. Congratulations to all our teams and athletes!

### LADY RAIDERS

Front row (l-r): Stephanie Budweg, Diana Clement, Katie Weaver, Sarah Ward, Elena Reinhold, Megan Craig. Back row (l-r): Brittany Botson, Alicia Lawrence, Maria Poling, Shari Reitenbach, Chelsie Jenkins, Katie Bryant, Katie Mihalek. Third row (l-r): Coaches Diane Landin and Lisa Hardway. (Not pictured: Jennifer Hunsucker).



### SKILLS ATHLETES



Front row (l-r): Eronne Chambers, Lori Rhodehamel, Brenden Stull, Kenny Martin, Michael Hawley, Jenna Jones. Middle row (l-r): Michael Ward, Tim Stewart, Jackie Allen, Kevin Johnson, Dustin Mitchell, Kelly Fath, William Sherrard, Tim Quisenberry, Linda Brewer, Coach Laura Roby. Back row (l-r): Coach Tonya Guitar, Coach Walter Campbell, Jen Moccabee, Michael Elliott, Alexshawn Averett, Mark Vanek, Lutz Fazekas, Cassandra West, Dennis Johnson, Coach Joe Croftcheck.

# 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!

## 2019 Spring Course Series

### Evening Sessions:

April 09, 2019: Section 1, 6-9 p.m.

April 11, 2019: Section 2, 6-9 p.m.

April 16, 2019: Section 3, 6-9 p.m.

April 18, 2019: 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)





# Weather-Related Announcements Reminder

Murray Ridge program closing information will be available on **TV station Fox 8**, on the **Fox 8 website (fox8.com)**, and on **radio stations WEOL 930 AM** and **WOBL 1320 AM**, as it has in the past.

**There will be two separate listings for Murray Ridge Center:**

- **Murray Ridge—Adult Activities Centers**
- **Murray Ridge School**

**REMINDER: Last year there was a change made as to how the information for our Adult Activities Centers is displayed by Fox 8 on its website and on television.**

- **On fox8.com**, the information will be under the 'Daycare' tab in the School Closings section.
- **On Channel 8**, information about the status of our Adult Activities Centers will now scroll from left to right beneath the School Closings information at the very bottom of the television screen under 'Daycare.' These listings are in alphabetical order by county; however, no county names will be listed due to the limitations of Fox 8's computer systems. Therefore, if you choose to use the TV to determine the status of the Adult Centers, you must continue to monitor that 'Daycare' listing until it has run a complete cycle.
- **NOTE:** You can also sign up with Fox 8 to receive text alerts on Murray Ridge School and Adult Activities Centers closings. To do so, click on 'Closing Text Alerts' in the School Closings section of the Fox 8 website.

**Parents and caregivers of school students** should disregard the "Murray Ridge—Adult Activities Centers" listing, and follow only the listing for "Murray Ridge School." Conversely, **adult consumers** who attend our Opportunity/Vocational Centers and their parents/caregivers should disregard the "Murray Ridge School" listing, and follow only the listing for "Murray Ridge—Adult Activities Centers."

If "Open - No Transportation" follows the announcement for "Murray Ridge—Adult Activities Centers," parents/caregivers are welcome to transport adult consumers to their day service sites. Regular programming will be provided. Consumers should be dropped off no earlier than 8:30 a.m. and must be picked up by 3:45 p.m.

In the event of bad weather, the decision to transport individuals to Murray Ridge Center will be based on the ability of our buses to travel safely on city and county roads. Regardless of whether or not transportation is available through Murray Ridge Center, if our Opportunity/Vocational Centers are open, but there is an individual concern about the weather, adult consumers should feel free to stay home. Likewise, parents/caregivers of Murray Ridge School students who have individual concerns regarding the weather should feel free to keep their child at home, even if school is in session.

Please be aware that **transportation to enclave sites** is generally available even if transportation to the Opportunity/Vocational Centers is cancelled. Murray Ridge Center does not broadcast the status of enclave transportation on the television or radio. Consumers should assume that enclave transportation will be available unless they receive a phone call from a member of our Supported Employment Department.

First Student bus company can be reached at 288-2222.



## Autism Event Set for March 21 At Murray Ridge School

A program entitled "**Autism . . . One piece at a time,**" will be held Thursday, March 21 from 6-8 p.m. at Murray Ridge School, 9750 S. Murray Ridge Rd., Elyria.

The free event, open to parents professionals and community members will feature resources from several area organizations as well as a presentation by **Maritza Molis**, author of the book '**Autism in Our Home: The Making of a Bittersweet Family**' which is an essential reference for overwhelmed families of children with autism.

RSVPs are preferred, but not required. To RSVP, email [EI@murrayridgecenter.org](mailto:EI@murrayridgecenter.org) or call (440) 284-3655. For questions, contact Heather Knoble or Stacie Starr at (440) 329-3760.

### Stomper's Reading Club



Students **Patrick Boey**, left, and **Evey Rodgers** (right) with Lake Erie Crushers baseball team mascot 'Stomper' who visited Murray Ridge School to promote his reading club for kids.

### International Day at Murray Ridge School



Student teacher Madison Virgin and student **Brynne Diedrick** are shown at one of many themed booths highlighting cultures from around the world during the recent International Day at Murray Ridge School.

Tyson Saw My Potential;  
**Will You?**  
Thank You Tyson.





**Murray Ridge Center**  
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**Tyson**

**Jerry Ohle** is featured on one of the agency's bus bench signs. The campaign is designed to feature not only competitively employed individuals but their employers as well.

# March 2019

## Activities & Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 	14	15 	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25 	26	27	28	29	30

- 3/6- Family Support Parent Committee meeting, 6:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 3/13 - LCBDD Finance Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 3/15 LCBDD Adult Dance, 7-9 p.m., Murray Ridge School, 9750 Murray Ridge Road, Elyria\*
- \*It is your responsibility to ensure that a Statement of Understanding with all required signatures is on file for you before the date of the dance; this is an Admission Requirement. Contact Jill Camp at 282-2131 with any questions.**
- 3/25 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 6:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria



### BOARD ROOM BRIEFING

**The Lorain County Board of DD convened at 6:30 p.m. on February 25, 2019:**

The Board unanimously approved an allocation for the Family Support Parent Committee to authorize families to use in the second quarter of 2019. Superintendent Fisher provided an overview of 2018 agency spending, as compared to the 2018 budget and 2017 spending, noting that there was no increase in budgeted expenditures in 2018 as compared to 2017. The Board passed a resolution approving for public review a draft of the 2018 Strategic Plan Progress Report, and gave notice that a public forum on this report will be held on March 13, 2019 at 1:45 p.m. at the Administration Building: 1091 Infirmary Rd. in Elyria; a copy of the document can be accessed at any Agency facility or by calling (440) 329-3734.

Lorain County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities

**Murray Ridge Center**  
1091 Infirmary Road  
Elyria, OH 44035

Standard Presort  
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## **Work at the Ridge!**

**Check out our website [murrayridgecenter.org](http://murrayridgecenter.org)  
to see our open positions!**

## **School Wellness Policy**

As part of the National School Lunch Program, Murray Ridge School has a Local School Wellness Policy. If you are interested in being involved with the development, implementation, periodic review, and/or updating of this policy, please contact Dann Swift, Director of Educational Services at 440.329.3760 or [dswift@murrayridgecenter.org](mailto:dswift@murrayridgecenter.org).



## **Exceptional Service Award**

Do you know a Murray Ridge employee whose work efforts reflect remarkable dedication and have significantly contributed to the well being of people with developmental disabilities? Nominate that employee for an Exceptional Service Award!

If you are a community member; consumer; or parent, guardian, sibling or other relative of a Murray Ridge program participant, submit your nomination to Chris Vasco, Community Education/Volunteer Director. Include a brief paragraph outlining your reasons for nominating the employee. All nominations will be forwarded to the Board for consideration. The Board presents Exceptional Service Awards on a quarterly basis. If you have any questions, contact Chris at (440) 329-3734 or [cvasco@murrayridgecenter.org](mailto:cvasco@murrayridgecenter.org)