



MurrayRidgeCenter
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

The Murray Ridge Courier

May 2019

Springtime Arrives at Murray Ridge



'Earth Day' Cleanup

Seniors Group members from the Elyria Opportunity/Vocational Center (EOVC) shared with staff that they wanted to do something to celebrate Earth Day 2019 on April 22. The group traveled to Elyria's scenic Cascade Park and picked up trash they saw on their walk through the park - another great example of how Murray Ridge program participants volunteer and contribute within their community. Shown cleaning up the park are Leroy Davis and Karen Bridge.



Helping Those in Need at Easter

The Lorain Opportunity/Vocational Center (LOVC) Service Club recently held an Easter Basket drive, with different groups of participants competing in the endeavor to win an ice cream party. A total of more than 500 items were collected, sorted, packaged, and delivered to Haven Center -- Lorain County's only 24-hour, 365-day emergency shelter for men, women, and children. Congratulations to Area 1 for winning the ice cream party with 122 items donated!



Annie Cirilo and Ali Piechota filling plastic Easter eggs.



Annie Cirillo, Stephanie Bastock and Donna Wolfe sorting items to be delivered to Haven Center.

'Egg-citing' Happenings at the OOVVC . . .



The Oberlin Opportunity/Vocational Center's recent incubator experiment was a success! Multiple chicks hatched from the incubator and program participants learned all about the early life of chickens from being in eggs to emerging from their shells! Shown above left are program participants Falguniben Patel and Christopher "John" Hall.

. . . And



Congratulations to Program Specialist Mary VanAlmen from the Lorain Opportunity/Vocational Center (LOVC) for competing in her first Boston Marathon on April 15 and finishing in a time of 4:14:08. A few days before the race, staff and program participants from the LOVC showed their pride and support for Mary by giving her a 'clap out' as she ran a simulated 'marathon' around the facility. Shown helping Mary 'cross the finish line' is program participant Anthony Smith.



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:

DANN SWIFT
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
MURRAY RIDGE SCHOOL
9750 MURRAY RIDGE ROAD
ELYRIA, OH 44035
440.329.3760
DSWIFT@MURRAYRIDGECENTER.ORG
WWW.MURRAYRIDGECENTER.ORG



MurrayRidgeCenter
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

WWW.MURRAYRIDGECENTER.ORG

Special Olympics Spring Sports Now Underway

Congratulations to Murray Ridge's Modified Volleyball Team (right) for winning three consecutive matches in the season opening tournament at Oberlin College to become Northeast Sectional Champions.

Modified and Traditional Volleyball is just one of several spring Special Olympics sports now underway. Other Spring Sports are Soccer, Bocce, Tennis and Track. If you're interested in checking out some Murray Ridge Raider contests, below are schedules for Soccer and Volleyball.



Pictured front, Chad Kothe. Second Row (l-r): Kim Herman, Jeff Torres, Megan Craig, Eric Johnson, Joe Bellottie, Coach Ric Rovere, Ryan Brown. Back row (l-r): Coach Jen Coleman, Doug McCartney, Noah Griffiths, Kurt Caris.

Soccer Schedule

Tue. 5/14 - Away vs. Geauga Co. (5 p.m.)

**Thu. 5/16 - Home vs. Geauga Co.
(5 p.m.)**

**Wed. 5/22 - Home vs. Lake Co.
(5:30 p.m.)**

**Thu. 5/30 - Away vs. Lake Co. and
Gauga Co. (2 games)
(5 p.m and 6 p.m.)**

**Wed. 6/19 -Away vs. Sandusky Co.
(6:30 p.m.)**

**Wed. 6/26 -Home vs. Sandusky Co.
(6:30 p.m.)**

Volleyball Schedule

**Wed. 5/8 - Away vs. Sandusky Co.
(5:15 p.m.)**

**Tue. 5/21 - Home vs. Medina Co.
(Time TBD)**

**Thu. 5/23 - Home vs. Sandusky Co.
(6:30 p.m.)**

**Thu. 5/30 - Lake Co. Tournament
(5 p.m. and 6 p.m.)**

6/28-30 - State Games/Columbus

***For More Info on Game Times and
Locations Go to 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

'Donors Choose' Donors Continue to Support Murray Ridge School Projects



Murray Ridge School teachers continue to receive much appreciated support for special class projects through the Donors Choose civic crowd funding program. Shown above (left) is **C.J. Martin** from Cheryl Swierz's class which received funding for their "Blankets and Bins for Boys" project. **Sam DiCello** (center) and **Mathew McKinney** (right) from **Lissa Lopez's** class are shown enjoying the new wobble chairs while building core strength and experimenting with the new lollipop drum and Twist Shakers purchased by donors for the "Filling the Need" project. For more information on Donors Choose, log onto donorschoose.org

An Introduction to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD): Comorbidity, Red Flags and Interventions



May 21, 2019
12:00pm-2:00pm

Lorain County Transportation Center
40 East Ave. (Rear of building)
Elyria, OH 44035

Registration Link:
<https://reg.planetReg.com/E425534112216>

Contact: Alexis.Martin@odh.ohio.gov

Join us as we discuss FASD and interventions to assist clinicians, individuals and families. The event is free and open to the public. Application for CEUs will be submitted.



'Pete the Cat' Was Rockin' at Murray Ridge School



In the description of the new bestselling book **"Pete the Cat: Rockin' in My School Shoes,"** the popular fictional cartoon cat *"discovers the library, the lunch room, the playground, and lots of other cool places at school — all the while moving and grooving and singing his song, because it's all good."*

This story was performed as a play recently by the primary classrooms at Murray Ridge School, which featured students and staff doing their own "moving, grooving, and singing" during a fun performance!

Pictured above is Sam Shaw's class.

Right, Dorian Dye and his personal aide Amy Mittler help decorate.

Far right, Peggy Smith announces the start of the program.



Kristin Dickerhoff's class gets ready to perform.










Principal Dann Swift entertains the crowd before the program begins with Jonathan Powell.



May 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	25
26 	27	28	29	30	31 	

- 5/3 - Murray Ridge School Prom
- 5/4 - Breaking Down Barriers, sponsored by Mega Championship Wrestling, 6:30 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church Gym, Elyria
- 5/8 - Family Support Parent Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 5/8 - LCBDD Finance Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 5/20 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 6:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 5/22 - Murray Ridge School Graduation
- 5/27 - Agency closed in observance of Memorial Day holiday
- 5/31, 6/3, 6/4 School make-up days



BOARD ROOM BRIEFING

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

Superintendent Fisher reviewed provisions of Ohio Revised Code 2111.52 related to Guardianship Services Boards; further discussion is expected about exploration of this arrangement in Lorain County. The Board resolved unanimously to recommend to the Lorain County Commissioners for approval a negotiated agreement with the Ohio Association of Public School Employees; the agreement pertains to the period July 01, 2019 – June 30, 2022. The Board approved an Action Plan for Educational Services and the Meister Rd. Home, and Agency calendars for 2019/2020. The Board unanimously approved revisions to the Murray Ridge School Wellness Policy, as well as policies on (Intermittent Employee) Compensation, and Reimbursement of Work-Related Expenses. Dr. Fisher updated the Board on highlights of the proposed state biennial budget, including provisions related to Direct Support Professional wages, the reimbursement rate for Non-Medical Transportation, the provider suspension process, and county board of DD cash forecasts. Superintendent Fisher and the Board established topics for the Board's 2019 continuing education credits; topics will include the New MUI/UI Rule and Responsibilities of Board Members as Mandated Reporters, Proposed Changes to Non-Medical Transportation, and the Status of Vocational Habilitation.

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

Return Service Requested

Work at the Ridge!

Check out our website
murrayridgecenter.org
to see our open positions!



News You Can Use

Down Syndrome Day with the Indians

- **Sunday, May 26 / 1:10 p.m. — Indians vs. Tampa Bay**
- \$26 ticket price includes: the game, a parade around the warning track prior to the game; an opportunity for kids to run the bases; and a 'meet and greet' with Slider and the Hotdogs
- For more information, contact Tony Stenulson at (216) 420-4539 or at tstenulson@indians.com

Techsummit 2.0 (a program of the Ohio Technology Project)

- **Friday, June 21 / 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.** / Crowne Plaza, Columbus North – Worthington, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus.
- From tablet and phone apps to in-home remote support systems, this one-day event offers attendees a chance to learn about different kinds of technology available to support people with developmental disabilities who want more independence in their lives.
- For more information, contact: Jordan B. Wagner, Coordinator, Technology Project / Phone: (614) 688-3155 / Email: Jordan.Wagner@osumc.edu