



MurrayRidgeCenter
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

The Murray Ridge Courier

April 2016

Murray Ridge Raiders Basketball Teams Finish Great Seasons!

The Murray Ridge Raiders Teams finished impressive seasons at the 19th annual North Section Special Olympics Basketball Tournament at Lorain County Community College, March 3 - 6, 2016.

While our teams 1, 2, and 3, and the Lady Raiders did not advance to the State competition, nine members

of our Skills Team did! Murray Ridge was represented by those individuals at the State competition on March 19th, where they brought home an impressive four gold, one silver, and three bronze medals!

Below are the results from both the qualifying tournament and the State competition!



Results from the 19th annual North Section Special Olympics Basketball Tournament:

Team 1: Won first game against Stark County (59-49). Lost second game against Stark Public (49-50).

Team 2: Lost first game against Portage County (27-31).

Team 3: Lost first game against Stark County (44-29).

Lady Raiders: Lost first game against Medina County (20-43).

Results from the State Basketball Skills Competition held in Hilliard, Ohio:

Gold:
John Aumock
Tracy Horn
Chad Kothe
Mark Oliveras

Silver:
Andy Rivera

Bronze:
Jenna Jones
Kathy King
Spencer Reynolds

4TH Place ribbon:
Kim Herman



April is Autism Awareness Month

Join Murray Ridge Center as we observe April as National Autism Awareness Month. Autism affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. The rate of autism has steadily grown over the last twenty years, and while it is the fastest growing developmental disorder, it is also the most underfunded

Autism is treatable, and early diagnosis and intervention can lead to significantly improved outcomes. Visit <http://nationalautismassociation.org> for more information

or, to learn about programs and services offered by Murray Ridge School, contact Director of Educational Services Dann Swift, or Supervisors Stacie Starr or Linda Lapp at 329-3760. Take time throughout the month of April to learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorders!



Staff from Area G at the EOVC wear blue to support Autism Awareness. Pictured, l-r, Sarah Barnhart, Tom Mangan, Gregory Smith, Jerry Blackford, and Aaron Simmons.

March Declared Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month by County Commissioners

The Lorain County Commissioners adopted a resolution on March 9, 2016, declaring the month of March as "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month" in Lorain County.

Four 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.



Pictured (l-r) are Murray Ridge School student Aiden Harper (held by his nurse, Jessica), Commissioner Lori Kokoski, Murray Ridge adult program participant John Ahart, Commissioner Ted Kalo, Superintendent Amber Fisher, Commissioner Matt Lundy, and Murray Ridge adult program participant Marci Coen.

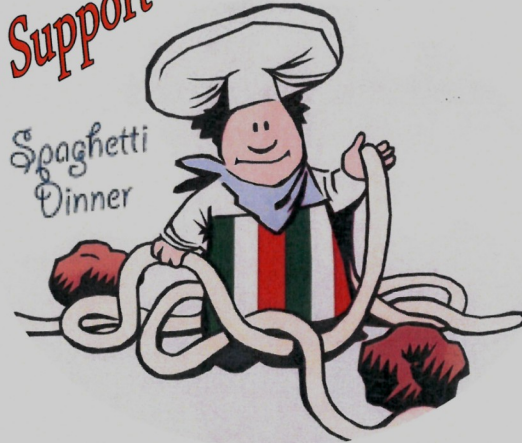
Travelling Art Show Moves to Avon Lake Public Library

Check out the Travelling Art Show in April! Adult Program participants' and Murray Ridge School students' artwork is on exhibit at the Avon Lake Branch of the Lorain County Public Libraries.

If you are interested in submitting art work for future displays, please contact Jenn Judkins at 329-3734 or jjudkins@murrayridgecenter.org.



Murray Ridge Support Group



Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Saturday, April 9, 2016

3 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

AMVETS Post 55 – 530 Abbe Rd.

Sheffield Lake, Ohio



Dinner Includes:

Meatballs, **Sausage**, Pasta, **Roll**,
Beverage & **Dessert**

Tickets - \$8

(kids 5 and under eat free)

Tickets available at the door or prepay by
calling 440-329-3734

Chinese Auction

Take outs are also available.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance from Joaquin Page or Shawn Silvis at EOVC, Tina Tucker at OOV, Cindy White at LOVC, Jennifer Judkins at the Admin. Bldg., Kristin Dickerhoff at Murray Ridge School, and Sherry Lacko at the SSA Building.



Proceeds to benefit the developmentally disabled
residents of Lorain County served by

The Murray Ridge Support Group



Murray Ridge School Teacher Shows Students Possible Opportunities

In honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, Murray Ridge School teacher Cheryl Swierz decided to teach her students a very valuable lesson; people with developmental disabilities can contribute to the workforce in unique and meaningful ways. She accomplished this through a field trip on March 2 to the Two Café and Boutique, a restaurant and store that trains and employs individuals with developmental disabilities.

The Two Café and Boutique, located in Chagrin Falls, is a premier training and employment center for the Two Foundation, a unique staffing agency seeking to enhance workplaces by employing individuals with mild to moderate developmental disabilities. The store strives to bring the two worlds of education and business opportunities together to give employees with developmental disabilities the preparation they need to be successful in the local work force. The individuals receive real life work experience in a fully integrated setting.

Teacher Cheryl Swierz confirmed the positive experiences her students received from the trip. "They got to witness other individuals with disabilities working in the community," she said. "They were able to talk with the employees about what they liked about their jobs."

For more information on the Two Foundation and the Two Café and Boutique, visit its website at: <http://www.twofoundation.com>.



Top left, Kyre Beathea, Kendric Warner, teacher Cheryl Swierz, and Jaquan Warren enjoying their lunches. Right, Kyre Beathea learns how to pay for his meal. Bottom left: Jansen Plumb and Two Café and Boutique Employee smile for the camera.

Murray Ridge Introduces New Cheerleading Squad!

Murray Ridge Center has found another way to keep the fans cheering during Raiders games - Murray Ridge Cheerleaders!



The squad was developed by Board President Michelle Hunt and Murray Ridge School teacher Kristin Dickerhoff as a

way to get more adult program participants involved in the Special Olympics sports. The squad, consisting of (l-r, front row) Elmirya, Alyssa, Tashia, Charity, (back row l-r) Alicia, Darris, and Shari, debuted their skills at a Murray Ridge School assembly before going public at the 19th annual North Section Special Olympics Basketball Tournament at Lorain County Community College, March 3 - 6, 2016!



We can't wait to see the awesome cheers this new squad will develop! Thank you to all who have supported the Murray Ridge Raiders Cheerleaders!

Thank You to all our Murray Ridge Center Volunteers!

National Volunteer Week is April 10-16, 2016. 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:

Lydia Allen	Mary Demmy	Pamela Hills	Karen Moore	Les Spike
Pete Barth	Dave Eliason	Michelle Hunt	Kathy Oblak	Molly St. Marie
Linda Baus	Ann Findlan	Denise Klein	Henry Patterson, Jr.	Jim Uldrich
Jim Berarducci	Gerry Findlan	Rebecca Kobylski	Joan Peterson	Jerry Vessalo
Keith Boey	Rene Fonda	James (Kurt) Koepf	Yolanda Ramos	Daniel White
Bob Burkhardt	Kelsey Fortney	Matt Krivak	Debbie Roberts	Marge Winemiller
Greg Butchko	Robert Gajdos	Kathleen Lewis	Stephen J. Ross	Cindy Worzel
Kern Catenese	Ruben Garcia	Dianne Martin	Terry Schilling	Tina Woskobunik
Sandi Camp	Nadyne Hamner	Elizabeth McDougal	Vassie Scott	Denis Wright
Rebecca Cornman	Betty Hanson	James Miller	Charles Sherry	Littann Yee
Matt Dailey	Linda Herman	Jane Miller	Olivia Sliman	

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

Mega Championship Wrestling Presents "Breaking Down Barriers 6!"

Mega Championship Wrestling, a local entertainment company, will be presenting an event called "Breaking Down Barriers 6."

As in the past, proceeds from this event will go to the Friends of Murray Ridge, a non-profit charitable organization which supports the mission, community education and informational outreach of the Murray Ridge Center.

Although wrestling may not be for everyone, many of our consumers enjoy watching WWE wrestling and would be interested in attending this event.



Date: Saturday, May 21st, 2016
Time: Doors open at 5:00 pm
Showtime 6:30-8:30 pm
Where: St. John's Lutheran Church Gymnasium, 1140 W. River Rd N, Elyria
Cost: \$8/ticket in advance and \$15 at the door

T-Shirts will be available at the door for \$15.00 (2XX plus sizes will cost more). There will be a concession stand open for you to purchase snacks.

To purchase tickets in advance for \$8.00 each:

1. Fill in the section below and cut on the dotted line.
2. Return the completed form below with your money or check in an envelope addressed to one of the buildings below:

Loretta Binder at the Oberlin Opportunity/Vocational Center	(440) 774-7400
Amber Fitzgerald at the Elyria Opportunity/Vocational Center	(440) 284-2720
Christine Mazze at the Lorain Opportunity/Vocational Center	(440) 282-2131
Beverly Monteleone at the Administration Building	(440) 329-3734
Peggy Smith at Murray Ridge School	(440) 329-3760

3. If you are sending a check make it out to: Mega Championship Wrestling OR You can stop in at one of the sites listed to purchase tickets.

If you have any questions call the numbers above.

Breaking Down Barriers 5 Ticket Order Form:

NAME OF PERSON ORDERING TICKETS: _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS (at \$8.00 each): _____

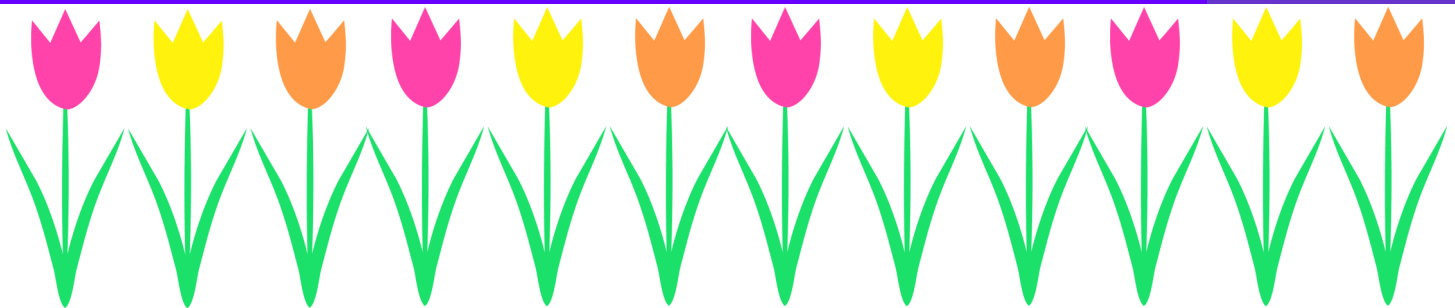
TOTAL AMOUNT MONEY/CHECK ENCLOSED: _____

April 2016

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

Activities & Events

- 4/1 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 12:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria (March meeting)
- 4/12 - Murray Ridge Support Group meeting, 4:15 p.m., Elyria Opportunity/Vocational Center, 1095 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 4/15- Murray Ridge Support Group Dance, 7:00 p.m., Murray Ridge School, 9750 Murray Ridge Road in Elyria
- 4/20 - LCBD Finance Committee meeting, 12:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 4/29 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 12:30 p.m., Administration Building, 1091 Infirmary Rd in Elyria



BOARD ROOM BRIEFING

The Lorain County Board of DD convened at 12:30 p.m. on April 1, 2016:

Board Member Dan White announced that the Exceptional Service Board Award committee had selected a recipient for the award to be presented at the April meeting. The Board approved a resolution to adopt the Strategic Plan Progress Report/Annual Action Plan: Programs & Expenditures - 2016. Superintendent Fisher explained anticipated revenues and variable expenses of the Agency's preschool program for the 2016/2017 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 2016/2017 school year. The Board unanimously established the dollar amount that the Family Support Parent Committee is authorized to approve in the second quarter of 2016. Superintendent Fisher discussed the transfer of Academy Court home bed licenses.

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



Inclusive Playground FREE Admission!

Visit the Lorain County Metro Parks Inclusive Playground! Free at this time, the unique playground incorporates water play (shut down for season), structured play, and natural play environments. People of all ages and abilities will be able to use the area and enjoy the play features. Stop in and visit today at 47160 Hollstein Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

Work at the Ridge!

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

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 Jennifer Judkins, Public Relations/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 at regular scheduled meetings, usually held on the last Friday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in the Board Room. If you have any questions, contact Jenn Judkins at 440-329-3734 or jjudkins@murrayridgecenter.org.