



MurrayRidgeCenter
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

The Murray Ridge Courier

August 2014

Murray Ridge Raiders Softball is Heating Up!

There is still time left this season to support the two Murray Ridge Raiders Softball Teams and our Murray Ridge Raiders Skills Teams! Both Raiders softball teams hold impressive records so far this season; Team 1 is currently 5-2 while Team 2 remains undefeated 5-0!

The softball skills athletes have been practicing hard to improve their hitting, catching, throwing, and running abilities. After all, they know what is on the line—a trip to Oregon, Ohio for the state Softball tournament on September 13th! These athletes must first qualify for the state tournament by excelling at the North Section Qualifying Tournament in Canton on August 16th. Each of these athletes will be tested on the precision of his/her skills and, with athletes coming from all over the region, the competition gets fierce!

Softball Skills Team members are: Todd Buchanan, Jessie Kimbro, Doug McCartney, Andrew Prihoda, Angel Rivera, Correy Sims, William Slater, Alex Shawn Avertt, Robert Conrady, Charles Garn, James Woods, Stephanie Budweg, Michael Ward, Brandon Varner, Kevin Johnson, Dennis Johnson, Alec Jones, Linda Bewer, Kari Sue Dolan, Jenna Jones, Katie Kellogg, Sarah Ward, Cassandra West, Jessica Johnson, Dronda Fleming, Kelly Fath, Lorraine Clark. Coaches are: Cheryl Bieri, Amber Ward, Jim Ward.



Back row (L to R): Mary Lucente, Mike Kovacic, Ryan Eliason, Ryan Busher, D.J. Overall, Raul Torres, Daniel Montgomery, Hector Lozano. Front row (L to R): Steve Locurto, Jeff Torres, Carl Jeans, Jonathan Torres, Rick Rovere, Isaiah Wicks, Ryan Brown.



Back row (L to R): Chris McMichael, Charles Johnson, Robert Baker, Eric Johnson, Tom Dammeyer, Maria Pincura, Tim Dammeyer, Matt Griffin, Jeremy Foster. Front Row (L to R): Diana Clement, Mark Evens, Victor Elder, Leif Hammonds, Megan Craig

TEAM 1 Schedule

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------|--|
| Tuesday, 8/5 vs Erie County | 7:30 PM | Amherst Junior High |
| Wednesday, 8/6 vs Geauga DD | 6:00 PM | Amherst Junior High |
| Saturday, 8/9 Stark Public | 10:00 AM | Amherst Junior High |
| Tuesday, 8/12 vs Erie County | 6:00 PM | Kiwanis Park 2227 First St. Sandusky |
| Saturday, 8/16 | TBA | Details to come |

TEAM 2 Schedule

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|--|
| Wednesday, 8/6 vs Summit County | 5:30 PM | Weaver School 89 E. Howe Rd. Tallmadge |
| Thursday, 8/7 vs Huron County | 6:00 PM | Amherst Junior High North Field |
| Tuesday, 8/12 Summit County | 6:00 PM | Amherst Junior High North Field |
| Monday, 8/18 vs Sandusky County | 6:00 PM | Details to come |

MRC Continues its Participation in Lorain County Parades!

Join Murray Ridge Center at our upcoming events. We will be marching in the North Ridgeville Corn Festival Parade Sunday, August 10.

And come see us at the 167th Annual Lorain County Fair August 18-24 in Wellington. Cheer us on, march in the parade, or stop by our booth to learn more about our services!

Thank you for helping make these events a success!



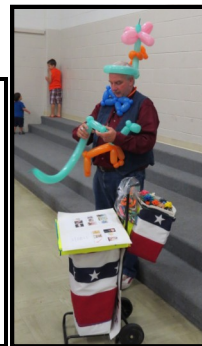
Consumers and staff smile prior to the start of the Avon Duck Tape Parade in June.

Early Intervention Holds its Annual Picnic

Murray Ridge Center's Early Intervention Department held its 10th annual EI Picnic on July 23rd at Murray Ridge School. In addition to lots of great food brought in by attendees, the picnic provided everyone who attended with crafts, bubbles, balloons, motor activities, and more. More than seventy-five current and former EI families (those that have been with the program over the last three years) attended, allowing them the chance to network, socialize, and share experiences. Thank you to all who made this year's EI Picnic another great success!



Jude Cline (upper right) colors at one of the many craft tables. Tony Lawson (left) makes balloon animals, and Nataleigh Hopkins and her sister Danica (right) pose in their new crowns.



Murray Ridge Housing Corporation Sponsors a Night Out at the Lake Erie Crushers Game

On July 22, the Murray Ridge Housing Corporation (MRHC) sponsored an event for tenants of its homes at the Lake Erie Crushers game played at the All Pro Freight Stadium. Ninety-five residents, staff members, and caregivers attended the game, where they ate, danced, and cheered on the Crushers towards its victory against the Frontier Greys!

MRHC is a non-profit housing board, providing financing, acquisition, and management of housing in Lorain County for individuals with developmental disabilities since 1992. MRHC was initiated by the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities, or Murray Ridge Center, as it is more commonly known. Since its inception, MRHC has been committed to the goal of ensuring the availability of community-based living arrangements for eligible Lorain County citizens with developmental disabilities. Collectively, the homes owned by MRHC provide safe and affordable housing for more than 80 individuals with developmental disabilities. All 22 homes are located in traditional residential neighborhoods throughout Lorain County.

The event was sponsored by Midwest Siding, Ross Builders, and Mr. & Mrs. Les Spike. Residents and staff from the homes received admission to the game, food, and a t-shirt!



MRHC resident Robert Kerpics was chosen to throw the first pitch!

VISUAL SUPPORTS

for Individuals with a DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

This session will work with caregivers to develop their understanding of what visual supports do for individuals with disabilities in the home, school, community, and work setting, and provide some best-practice examples of visual supports in these environments.

Day, Date & Time:

Tuesday, August 12th from 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Location:

Murray Ridge Service & Support Administration Offices
9740 Murray Ridge Road
Elyria OH

Intended Audience:

Parents with children and adults on the autism spectrum or with another developmental disability coupled with behavioral issues;
Care-givers to children on the autism spectrum or with another developmental disability coupled with behavioral issues

Trainer:

Sherry Lacko, SSA/Behavior Analyst

RSVP:

By phone to Sherry Lacko, SSA/Behavior Analyst at 440.324.2366 or 440.233.4600.

By email to Sherry Lacko, SSA/Behavior Analyst at slacko@murrayridgecenter.org

NOTE: This is a session for adults only. No child care is available.



It's August and that means it is time to take those last-minute vacations and get ready for kids to return to school. Here are a few simple safety tips to help make back-to-school less stressful for everyone:

- Keep backpacks light for safety. It is easy to overload a backpack with books, lunches, and supplies. Keep in mind that a backpack should not be heavier than 10-20% of a child's body weight.
- Sunscreen! Don't forget to send sunscreen to school so it can be applied for those outside activities while the weather is still nice.
- Getting plenty of sleep. Kids will perform better in school if they have plenty of rest. Now is the time to start back up with set bedtime habits to encourage adequate sleep and rest.
- Communicate with the school's nursing staff. Keeping the school nurses aware of what is going on with a child will ensure continuity of care and will allow closer monitoring of health related conditions. Be sure to let the nurses know of any

Eye On Health

Kevin Eye, Director of Nursing Services



changes in medications, allergies and/or treatments; and to let the nurses know if there are any health issues happening at home that may impact the health of the child or classmates (bed bugs, lice, fleas, flu, etc.). The nurses will work collaboratively with parents to get through any health-related crisis.

- Now that children will be co-mingling, the chance of passing on germs increases. Don't forget to encourage good hand hygiene and remember to keep your child home if he or she is sick.
- And for adult sanity, don't forget to give yourself a few extra minutes to get to where you are going. Remember, there will be some more traffic on the roads and a few more buses to get stuck behind!

Getting Ready to go Back to School!

I hope everyone has been having a great summer. It's hard to believe that it's time to start thinking about the 2014-2015 school year!

To make the transition from summer vacation to school days easier, please read the following information, which includes important dates and helpful reminders to get all parents and students started off in the right direction!

- First day of school is Monday August 25
- Preschoolers start Tuesday September 2
- The school-wide open house is scheduled for August 25 from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Parents should make sure that all school forms for their children have been filled out and submitted. If not, please mail them as soon as possible. Contact the school if you need to have a packet mailed to you.

We will be participating in the National Free/Reduced Lunch program. Free/Reduced Lunch applications will go home the first week of school. However, you may

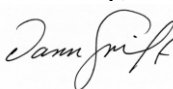
purchase a lunch for your child before the application is processed. The cost for Breakfast is \$1.30, and the cost for Lunch is \$2.35

Parents can contact the bus company to find out bus routes and estimated times for pickup and drop-off. Please note that First Student has a new phone number: (440) 288-2222.

For any other information, please visit our website at www.murrayridgecenter.org or call the school office at (440) 329-3760.

I look forward to seeing you this school year!

Sincerely,



Dann Swift
Director of Educational Services



The Lake Erie Crushers and Murray Ridge Center Present

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Night

**Tuesday, August 19
7:05 pm
All Pro Freight Stadium
Avon, OH**



Come cheer on Murray Ridge Center program participants as they help the Lake Erie Crushers players and staff make this a very memorable night for individuals with developmental disabilities!



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TICKET INFORMATION

**Gateway Grizzlies
at
Lake Erie Crushers
August 19, 2014 - 7:05 PM
All Pro Freight Stadium
Avon, OH**

Discounted Tickets \$8

Cash or check made out to Friends of Murray Ridge.

**Tickets can be purchased at each
of our three
Opportunity/Vocational Centers (OVCs)
and the Administration Building:**

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Darrylin Wargo (Oberlin OVC) | (440) 774-7400 |
| Jessica Kolb (Elyria OVC) | (440) 284-2720 |
| Dianne Knoble (Lorain OVC) | (440) 282-2131 |
| Bev Monteleone (Admin Bldng) | (440) 329-3734 |

Contact Jennifer Judkins at (440) 329-3734 or jjudkins@murrayridgecenter.org for ticketing information/questions.

**Strides
for**



Struggles

5k Walk/Run

**to benefit children and adults
with developmental disabilities**

August 16, 2014

11:00am - 2:00pm

Day's Dam Metro Park
E. 31st & E. River Rd. Lorain, OH 44055

\$20 per runner/walker

(includes t-shirt)

All proceeds to benefit the



**Murray
Ridge
Center**

visit www.stridesforstruggles.com

email stridesforstruggles@yahoo.com

call (440)670-2003

Registration Form

Make checks payable to:

Strides for Struggles, 2427 East 31st St. Lorain, OH 44055

Name _____ **Female** _____ **Male** _____ **Age** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____

Zip _____ **Phone** _____ **Email** _____

T-Shirt Size - S M L XL XXL

WAIVER: In consideration of your accepting this entry, I, the below signed, intending to be legally bound, for myself, my heirs, my executors and administrators, waive and release and any all rights and claims for damages I may have against the race, and sponsors and their representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest that I will participate in this event as a footrace, that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event. Furthermore, I hereby grant full permission to use my name and likeness, as well as any photographs and any record of this event in which I may appear for any legitimate purpose, including advertising and promotion.

Signature _____ Date _____





(Parent's signature required if participant is under 18)

August 2014



Activities & Events

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|
| 31 | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10  | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16  |
| 17 | 18 | 19  | 20 | 21  | 22  | 23 |
| Lorain County Fair | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25  | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29  | 30 |

- 8/10 - Participate in the North Ridgeville Corn Festival parade
- 8/16 - Strides for Struggles 5k, Day's Dam, Lorain
- 8/18 - 8/24 - Lorain County Fair
- 8/19 - DD Awareness Night at Lake Erie Crushers
- 8/21 - LCBDD Finance Committee meeting, 12:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 8/22 - First day of school for staff
- 8/25 - First day of school for students - Murray Ridge School Open House, 6:00 p.m.
- 8/29 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 12:30 p.m., Murray Ridge School, 9750 Murray Ridge Road, Elyria

Murray Ridge Center Early Intervention Specialist Achieves P.L.A.Y. Certification



Please join Murray Ridge Center in congratulating Stephanie Bondra on being the first Early Intervention staff person to achieve certification as a P.L.A.Y. (Play and Language for Autistic Youngsters) Project consultant! This is a rigorous training/certification process that Stephanie started in September of 2012.

Murray Ridge Center is

proud that the MRC staff have dedicated themselves to this process and that the LCBDD will be able to offer evidence-based services to children on the autism spectrum. Congratulations, Stephanie!



Lorain County Board of
Developmental Disabilities

Murray Ridge Center
1091 Infirmary Road
Elyria, OH 44035

Visit our Web site
www.murrayridgecenter.org



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

Further News You Might Use...

We are often in receipt of information from external sources on offerings designed for people with DD. Some examples include summer camps and special interest classes. Many such offerings have an associated cost to the participant. Although we are not in a position to "vouch for" or promote such offerings, we recognize that these opportunities may be of interest to our consumers, their families and/or guardians. If you are interested in learning more about such consumer-oriented events and opportunities, please contact Jeff Neal, Director of Service & Support Administration. You may reach him by telephone at 440-324-2366.

—The Editor

Volunteer This Summer

Have fun and educate the community about Murray Ridge Center. We need volunteers to help us staff booths and participate in parades at several events throughout Lorain County this summer. If you are interested in representing Murray Ridge at an event, please contact Jennifer Judkins at 329-3734.



If you wish to receive future newsletters by email, please visit www.murrayridgecenter.org and click on the Sign Up for Our Email Newsletter link.