



MurrayRidgeCenter  
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

# The Murray Ridge Courier

August 2016

## DD Awareness Night with the Crushers!



Murray Ridge and the Lake Erie Crushers hosted the 3rd Annual Developmental Disabilities (DD) Awareness Night at the All-Pro Freight Stadium on August 2.

As has happened for the last two years, the Murray Ridge Raiders played against the Geauga County Board of DD softball team at the start of the evening; the Raiders won 7-5! Murray Ridge Raiders Team 2 athletes were then announced prior to the start of the Crushers game during the "Field of Dreams" event—with one player, Kevin Long, throwing out the first pitch! Other MRC adult program participants also joined in on the fun, leading "Take me out to the ball game" during the seventh inning stretch, and Murray Ridge consumer Jesse Frisch announced an inning with Crushers staff.



More than 200 tickets were purchased by Murray Ridge attendees, staff, family, and friends for the big game!



Above, left: The Murray Ridge Raiders Team 2 celebrates on the field following the team's victory!  
Above, right: Team 2 prepares for its Field of Dreams event.  
Below, left: Kevin Long throws out the first pitch of the game!  
Below, right: Team 2 player Robert Assanakis runs alongside Crushers for the pre-game announcements.





# THE MURRAY RIDGE SUPPORT GROUP IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS!



*The Murray Ridge Support Group, a not for profit organization that exists to support the mission of Murray Ridge Center and local residents with developmental disabilities and their families, is seeking new members!*

## **Some activities of the Murray Ridge Support Group include:**

- \* Provide education and advocacy for people with developmental disabilities and their families
- \* Conduct fundraisers
- \* Address special financial needs of consumers
- \* Sponsor social activities for the benefit of individuals with developmental disabilities and their caregivers



*For more information on how you can join the Murray Ridge Support Group, please contact Joaquín Page at 440.453.2576.*

## Early Intervention Holds its Annual Picnic

Murray Ridge Center's Early Intervention Department held its 12th annual EI Picnic on August 3 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!



Children and parents alike had a great time at the annual picnic. Pictured left: Zoey Senghas and her mom Cindi Jackson enjoy a craft. Right, Luke Butkowski spends time crawling in and out of the play tube.



## 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 2016-2017 school year!

To make sure you and your child are ready to get the Murray Ridge School year off to a great start, please read the following information, which includes important dates and helpful reminders;

- The school-wide "Meet the Teacher/Open House" is scheduled for Monday, August 29 from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
- First day of school is Tuesday, August 30
- Preschoolers start September 6

Parents should make sure that all school forms for their children have been filled out and submitted. If not, please mail them, or bring them to the school 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 \$1.35, and the cost for lunch is \$2.59

Parents can contact the bus company to find out bus routes and estimated times for pickup and drop-off. First Student: (440) 288-2222.

For any other information, please visit our website at [www.murrayridgecenter.org](http://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





# 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.

## Murray Ridge Preschool Offers:

- Individualized Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy in the classroom
- An extensive collection of early childhood educational equipment
- Full-time nurse on site
- Behavior Support Services
- Music classes



- A well-rounded curriculum based on the Ohio Early Learning Content Standards
- Dynamic, ODE-certified staff
- Physical development through indoor/outdoor physical education classes
- Door-to-door transportation services

## Did You Know...

The Murray Ridge preschool serves children with a wide range of developmental disabilities, from those with mild delays to those profoundly impacted, and Murray Ridge is a recognized leader in its comprehensive approach to teaching children with autism. The Preschool Program runs Tuesday through Friday. Children with disabilities must be referred to the Murray Ridge Preschool Program by their local school district. Applications for typically-developing children are available through Murray Ridge School (see below).

### 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**

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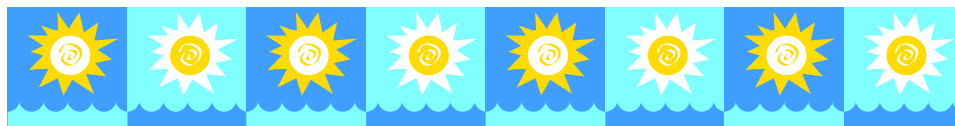
# August 2016



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
Lorain County Fair						
28	29	30 	31			

## Activities & Events

- 8/3 - Early Intervention Annual Reunion Picnic, 11-1:00 at the Murray Ridge School
- 8/14 - Murray Ridge marches in the North Ridgeville Corn Festival parade
- 8/17- LCBDD Finance Committee meeting, 12:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 8/17 - Family Support Parent Committee meeting , 6:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 8/22 - 8/28 - Lorain County Fair
- 8/26 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 12:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 8/29 - First day of school for staff
- 8/30 - First day of school for students



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

- Keep backpacks light for safety: It is easy to overload a backpack with books, lunches, supplies and so forth. Keep in mind that a backpack should not be heavier than 10-20% of a child's body weight.
- Supply sunscreen: Don't forget to send sunscreen to school so it can be applied for those outside activities while the weather is still nice. This is especially important if your child is sensitive to the standard sunscreen with PABA and needs a PABA-free product
- Make sure kids get rest: Kids will do better in school if they have plenty of rest. Now is the time to start back in with set bedtime habits to encourage adequate sleep and rest.

## Eye On Health

*Kevin Eye, Director of Nursing Services*



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

Have a happy and healthy school year!

Kevin Eye  
Director of Nursing Services

Lorain County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities

Murray Ridge Center  
1091 Infirmary Road  
Elyria, OH 44035

Visit our Web site  
[www.murrayridgecenter.org](http://www.murrayridgecenter.org)



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### 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 Nancy Simko, SSA Manager. You may reach her by telephone at 440-324-2366.

—The Editor

## Murray Ridge Support Group 2016-2017 Dance Schedule



Please join consumers from all over Lorain County each month at the Murray Ridge Support Group Dances! See schedule below for dates. For more information, please contact Mary Shimer at 284-2720.

- September 16
- October 28
- November 18
- December 16
- February 10
- March 24
- April 21
- May 19
- June 16