



MurrayRidgeCenter  
HELPING PEOPLE...FOR A LIFETIME

# The Murray Ridge Courier

December 2016

## Science Fair Fun at Murray Ridge School!

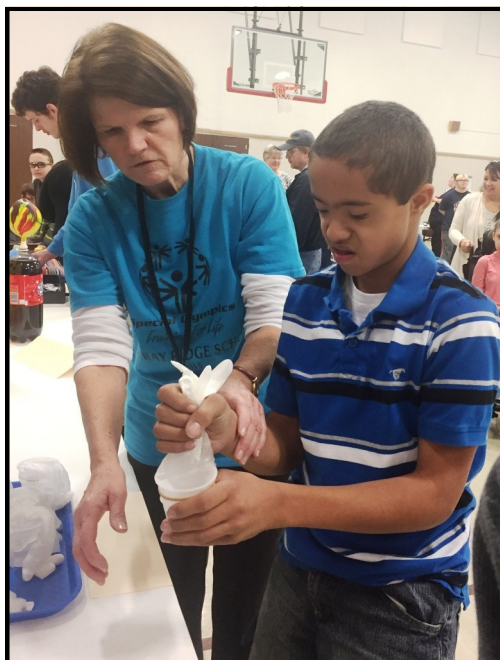
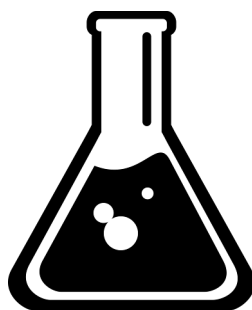
Murray Ridge School has been working very hard this year on teaching and implementing Ohio's Learning Standards Extended; standards which help to ensure that students with significant cognitive disabilities are provided with multiple ways to learn and demonstrate knowledge.

The School's Intermediate team of teachers Cheryl Swierz, Vickie Nagy, and Julie Maurer helped to plan a school wide Science Fair held on November 30. Each class researched and chose an appropriate science experiment for its class, and was asked to document the experiment on a tri-fold with pictures, explanations, and results. Classes learned about the Scientific Method, performed the experiments together, and documented results. At the Science Fair, the students were then able to explain, recreate, and back up the results of their experiments.

Each student at Murray Ridge School has a unique way of dealing with the challenges that he or she faces, and each has a unique way of learning. This Science Fair was a way to highlight each students' talents and abilities. The teachers were able to tap into the students' individual learning strengths, which made it easier to make the science fair projects accessible to each student. The Science Fair had non-verbal students with Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices giving explanations or demonstrating how to perform the actual experiment; and verbal students answered questions from guests, other staff, and students, and provided explanations of the results of the experiments.

"It truly was a group effort and priceless to see their faces as they shared their work with excitement or explored others experiments," said Classroom Supervisor Stacie Starr. "We want everyone to know that our students are capable of creating and performing science fair projects if they are given the right tools, guidance, and support. The hands-on learning and repetition is extremely important to their development and retention of materials taught."

Congratulations to the students of Murray Ridge Center for a fun and informative Science Fair!



Top: Tyler Rudolchick tries out another student's experiment; he had to see which ball made it through the maze the fastest! Middle, Sierra Long sits by her experiment, ready to answer questions. Bottom, Patrick Boey and Aide Joyce Thibo demonstrate how their experiment works.

## **EI Represents Murray Ridge at Annual Zero-Proof Mix-Off**

The Lorain County Safe Community Coalition and Lorain County Community College held its 15th annual Zero-Proof Mix-Off on December 1 at Lorain County Community College's Spitzer Conference Center



Once again, Murray Ridge Center's Early Intervention Department represented the Agency.

Congratulations to our EI team of (l-r) Jen Doseck, Kim Ohl, Heather Knobler, and Amber Bowers who created the drink Merry Mock-Mosa!!



### **Important Weather-Related Announcements**

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**

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



# 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

# M R S G

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

# State Aquatics Meet a Success for Murray Ridge Special Olympics Swimmers

Murray Ridge brought home 15 medals and 11 ribbons from the State Aquatics Meet at The Ohio State University on December 3 and 4.

Participants were determined based on the November 13th Greater Cleveland Aquatics Meet qualifying event where 17 of our swimmers competed; Murray Ridge was represented by 12 athletes at the State Aquatic Meet. Congratulations to all of our hardworking Special Olympics athletes!

## Gold:

James Wilson (50m freestyle)  
Stephanie Budweg (50m backstroke)  
Kenny Martin ( 50 backstroke)  
Amy Trigilio (100m freestyle)  
Melissa Figula (25m breaststroke)  
Womens 4x50 freestyle relay

## Silver:

Richard Smith (100m backstroke)  
Amy Trigilio (50m freestyle)  
Sarah Ward (25m freestyle)  
Kenny Martin (25 freestyle)

## Bronze:

Stephanie Budweg (50m freestyle)  
James Wilson (25m freestyle)  
Shari Reitenbach (50m backstroke)  
Ryan Eliason (100m freestyle)  
Melissa Figula (25 breaststroke)

## Fourth Place Ribbons:

Shari Reitenbach (50 freestyle)  
Sarah Ward (50m freestyle)  
Ryan Eliason (50m freestyle)  
Richard Smith (50m freestyle)  
Lutz Fazekas (50m freestyle)  
Jeremy Foster (50m freestyle)  
Mens 4x50 Free relay

## Fifth Place Ribbons:

Jeremy Foster (50m freestyle)  
Lutz Fazekas (50m freestyle)  
Jennifer Moccabee (25m backstroke)

## Sixth Place Ribbon:

Jennifer Moccabee (25m freestyle)



Above: Special Olympics swimmers at the Strongsville qualifier in November! Right: Richard Smith gets Murray Ridge off to a great start, earning a Silver medal in the 100 meter backstroke!



Left: Amy Trigilio started off day 2 of the Special Olympics State Swim Meet with a GOLD medal in the 100 meter freestyle event! Below: Sarah Ward on the podium receiving her Silver medal!



# December 2016

## Activities & Events

- 12/7 - Family Support Parent Committee meeting , 6:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 12/7 - LCBDD Finance Committee meeting, 12:00 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road, Elyria
- 12/12 - Murray Ridge Support Group Meeting, EOVC, 4:15 pm
- 12/15 - Regular Meeting of the Board and Ethics Council, 6:30 p.m., Administration Bldg., 1091 Infirmary Road in Elyria
- 12/16 - Murray Ridge Support Group Dance, 7-9 p.m., Murray Ridge School, 9750 Murray Ridge Road in Elyria
- 12/22 - 1/3/17 - Murray Ridge School closed for winter break
- 12/26 - 1/2/17 - Agency closed for winter holiday

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

## BOARD ROOM BRIEFING

**The Lorain County Board of DD convened at 12:30 p.m. on November 28, 2016:**

Jerry Ivancic , owner of Strongsville Hobby and member of Super Heroes to Kids in Ohio, presented the Board with the final donations from an Epi-Pen fundraiser for Murray Ridge School that was sponsored by many local organizations. Board Member Henry Patterson provided an update on the recent Public Relations Committee meeting. Board member Vassie Scott provided an update on the recent Special Olympics Committee meeting; it was noted that this program yields a big 'happiness return' on each \$ spent on it. The Board examined fiscal projections for the next several years; Superintendent Fisher and Board members discussed the forecast and its implications. The 2017 budget was approved unanimously. The Board also passed a resolution requesting that the Lorain County Auditor certify availability of Lorain County Board of DD (LCBDD) funds required to pay the non-federal share for Medicaid waiver services in 2017. The Board unanimously established the dollar amount that the Family Support Parent Committee is authorized to approve in the first quarter of 2017. Director of Business John Bonko discussed a proposed policy entitled Federally Funded Grants, and it was passed unanimously by the Board. The Board appointed Amber Fisher to act as its representative, and SSA Director Heather Gurchik to act as representative in Superintendent Fisher's absence, with regard to its business with the NEON Council of Governments. Dr. Fisher presented John Bonko, who will be leaving the agency in December to become the Business Director for the Geauga County Board of DD, with a plaque commemorating his more than 25 years of service with LCBDD.



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



## 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](mailto:jjudkins@murrayridgecenter.org).

## Work at the Ridge!

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

**Murray Ridge Center  
wishes all Lorain  
County  
residents a  
safe and  
joyous  
holiday  
season,  
and best  
wishes for a wonderful  
new year!**



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the Sign Up for Our Email Newsletter link.