

MONTHLY



MURRAY RIDGE COURIER

MAR 2024



Members of Amherst American Legion Post 118 presenting their portion of the donation to Superintendent Amber Fisher (center, holding the donation check)

THANKS, AMHERST AMERICAN LEGION POST 118 & NORDSON ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS!

Last year, **Amherst American Legion Post 118** held two fundraisers, a golf outing and a Poker Run, at which a total of \$6,000 was raised for our Special Olympics Program. Then, **Terry Harper**, an American Legion member who is a retiree

from **Nordson Electronic Solutions** in Amherst, approached his former employer about matching the donation, and **Nordson Electronic Solutions** offered to double-match the donation, bringing it to a combined total of \$18,000! Shawn

Hatcher, our Special Olympics Coordinator, said he was “blown away by this generosity.” We at Murray Ridge would like to extend our heart-felt gratitude to the Amherst American Legion Post 118 and Nordson Electronic Solutions!

March is...
National
Developmental
Disabilities
Awareness
Month!

Every March, Murray Ridge Center joins local, state, and national agencies to recognize **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month** — a time for all of us to celebrate the unique and vital contributions that individuals with developmental disabilities make in our communities. It's also a perfect time to amplify the message about the important role individuals with developmental disabilities play throughout our community as volunteers, co-workers, citizens, neighbors, and friends.

Murray Ridge is a provider of services; and plans, funds, and monitors services provided by other agencies and independent providers to people with developmental disabilities. Through the services and support offered by Murray Ridge Center, every year thousands of children and adults with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to develop critical skills, expand their vocational horizons, and receive necessary care.

GENEROUS DONATIONS

CLEVELAND CLINIC'S 8TH ANNUAL 5K RUN & 1 MILE WALK DONATION

In November, Cleveland Clinic held its 8th Annual 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk at Avon Hospital and Richard E. Jacobs Health Center. Thanks to everyone's efforts, the event raised substantial funds for Friends of Murray Ridge, a not-for-profit organization that collects donations that support the mission of Murray Ridge Center. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the race's organizers and sponsors, and the more than 150 Lorain County community members for their support of and participation in the event.

Pictured at right, left to right: LCBDD Director of Vocational and Transportation Services **Jeff Miller**, Cleveland Clinic Community Relations Program Manager **Marcus Madison**, LCBDD Superintendent **Amber Fisher**, and Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital President **Dr. Rebecca Starck**.



EOVC'S RECENT SERVICE CLUB DONATIONS



Jesse Frisch with a happy recipient of the \$500 donation to Friendship Animal Protection League

Recently, as part of their Service Club program, Adult Program participants from our Elyria Opportunity and Vocational Center voted to donate a portion of the proceeds from their holiday Santa Shop to the Friendship Animal Protective League! **Jesse Frisch** happily volunteered to present the \$500 check and visit the animals. On top of that, EOVC's Service Club recently donated cleaning supplies and personal care items that they collected for Safe Harbor/Genesis House in support of domestic violence awareness.



Rozalyn Everett, Alex Shearer and, Jacob Pantalone dropping off donations at Safe Harbor



Richard Smith swimming for the gold

SPECIAL OLYMPICS WINTER GAMES RESULTS

Special Olympics Ohio's Winter Games were held at Bowling Green State University on February 23rd through the 25th! Murray Ridge had 16 athletes represent our program in three different sports. In the Basketball Skills Competition, **Alexshawn Averett** and **David Zsigray** took 1st

place, **Joseph Linden** won 2nd place, and **Hector Ortiz** earned a 3rd place medal. In Cheerleading, **Taylor Tanner, Kim Nadolski, Cassie Kilgore, Zoey Moore** won 2nd place with their routine! In swimming, **Pamela McClain, Joan Gall, Ruth Squires**, and **Martha Lombeida** participated in

the women's 4x25 Relay Swimming race, taking home a bronze medal. And lastly, **Justin Tucker, Ryan Eliason, Richard Smith**, and **Kenny Martin** participated in the men's 4x25 Relay Swimming race, taking home first place medals. Congratulations, everyone!



Taylor Tanner, Kim Nadolski, Cassie Kilgore, and Zoey Moore with their 2nd place medals



David Zsigray



Alexshawn Averett

WE'RE OUT...



Jorge Garcia with some old friends!

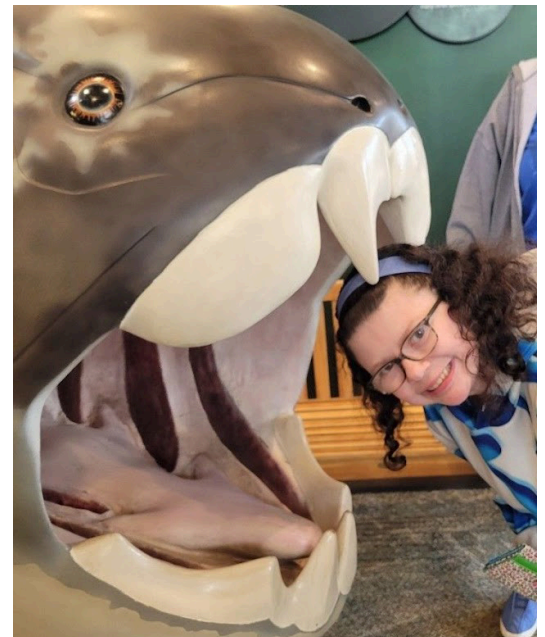
OOVC Volunteering

While volunteering for the Amherst Office of Aging's meal delivery program, Jorge Garcia ran into some community members who remembered him from when he was a child in his old neighborhood in South Lorain!

LOVC's Visit to the Rocky River Nature Center

In February, some Adult Program participants from our Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center took a trip to Rocky River Nature Center.

Lorain County and the surrounding regions have so many wonderful small businesses, local restaurants, and other fun places to offer their residents. Enjoy these photos of our Murray Ridge Center community out on the town!

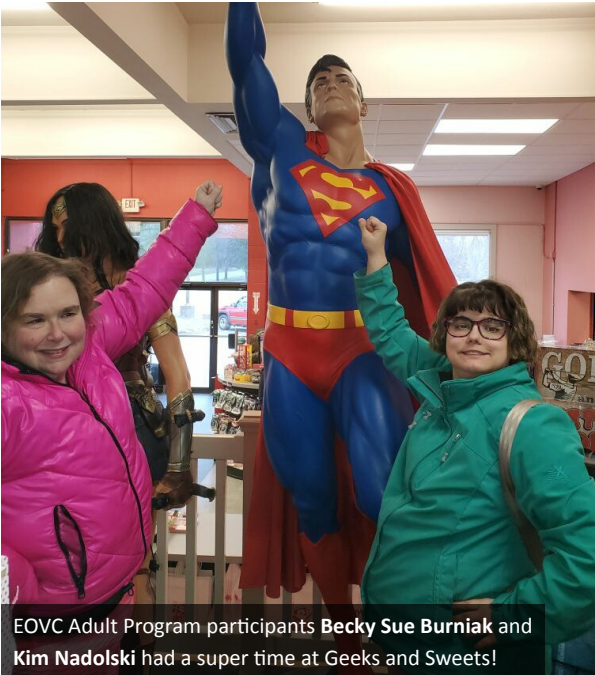


Abby Kisner posing with a life-size model of *Dunkleosteus terrelli*, a giant fish native to Ohio's ancient sea



Pictured, left to right: Chelsie Jenkins, Abby Kisner, Amanda Spreng, Melanie Ranney, Anthony Tenorio, Juliaanna Mason, and Tiajana Crumble

...AND ABOUT!



EOVC Adult Program participants **Becky Sue Burniak** and **Kim Nadolski** had a super time at Geeks and Sweets!



Pictured, left to right: **Michelle Miller**, **Chelsie Jenkins**, **Dee Dowdell**, **Amanda Spreng**, **Jean Morosky**, and **Bobby McFadden**

LOVC's Lunch at Ziggy's

A group of Adult Program participants from our Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center went out for lunch at Ziggy's in Amherst!

EOVC's Visit to the Cleveland Museum of Art

In February, some Adult Program participants from our Elyria Opportunity and Vocational Center took a trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art.



Diana Clement



Alec Jones and **Joseph Linden**

An evening of acoustic music with

The Sweet Judys

A tribute to the music of Crosby, Stills and Nash

All Profits go to support the
2024 Murray Ridge School Prom

Thursday, April 18, 2024 — 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

The Barn/Barnegie Hall
31950 Krebs Rd. Avon Lake, OH 44012

Tickets \$25.00 — BYOB/snacks
Call/text 440.731.9839 or email
Prom@murrayridgecenter.org



Join us for our 2024 Murray Ridge School Prom Fundraiser!

Please join us as we raise funds for the Murray Ridge School Prom with an evening of classic acoustic rock with **The Sweet Judys**, the first all-female tribute to the music and spirit of Crosby, Stills, and Nash (and Young).

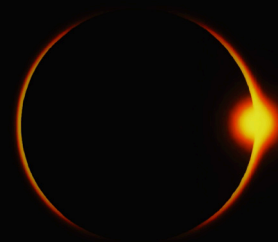
This intimate show will take place at **The Barn** (also known as Barnegie Hall). Seating is limited so get your tickets now!

Want to give back to Murray Ridge Center?

Consider volunteering for the Family Support Services Committee!

- Currently assists more than 600 local families to support members with developmental disabilities
- Meets monthly at Murray Ridge Center's Administration Offices at 1091 Infirmary Rd. in Elyria
- Reviews Family Support applications, and assigns funding levels
- Provides insight on additional resources that could be accessed to meet needs identified by families

Interested? Contact Damita at
Dgvanche@gmail.com!



Special Announcement!

Due to the solar eclipse, Murray Ridge Adult Activity Centers will be closed on April 8th.

Additionally, most Murray Ridge Group Employment sites (enclaves) will not be operating on April 8th; Vocational Placement Specialists will individually contact those who work in enclaves.

Safe viewing is essential during an eclipse! It is not safe to view the eclipse unless you are using eye protection specifically for solar viewing. Per the Ohio EMA website, solar viewers should comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard. Beware of cheap imitations that are not designed to protect you!

Boardroom Briefing

The Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities convened at 6:30 p.m. on February 26, 2024

Superintendent Fisher provided an overview of 2023 Agency spending, as compared to the 2023 Budget and 2022 spending. The Board unanimously approved 2024 Board Member Training Topics and the 2024 Superintendent Professional Development Plan. Dr. Fisher shared issues related to the April 08 solar eclipse, and the Board declared April 08 to be an Agency "calamity day". Consequently, the Murray Ridge Adult Activity Centers will not be open on Monday, April 08, 2024. Dr. Fisher and Director of Adult Programs Gary Lyons provided an update on the discontinuation of Murray Ridge Adult Services at the Elyria Opportunity and Vocational Center (EOVC), and the transition that day of former EOVC attendees and staff to the Oberlin and Lorain OVCs, reporting that all had gone smoothly. Dr. Fisher updated the Board regarding busing arrangements. Board members were provided with information on an upcoming fundraiser for the Murray Ridge School Prom (see opposite page).



MurrayRidgeSchool
9750 Murray Ridge Road

**WELCOME TO
MURRAY RIDGE
SCHOOL &
PRESCHOOL**

**Interested Parties
Invited to Help With
School Wellness Policy**

As part of the National School Lunch Program, Murray Ridge School has a Local School Wellness Policy. If you are interested in being involved with the development, implementation, periodic review, and/or updating of this policy, please contact Dann Swift, Director of Educational Services at (440) 329-3760 or dswift@murrayridgecenter.org.

Now Hiring!

FEATURED positions



Direct Support Professionals (Home Setting)

We have openings available for full-time, part-time, and PRN (as-needed) positions to care for residents of our Meister Road Home. Hours vary based on position and/or assignment.

Assistant Manager, Residential

This is a full time management position at our Meister Road Home.

Direct Support Professionals (Adult Program Setting)

We have openings available for full-time, part-time, and PRN (as-needed) positions to serve participants in our Adult Program. Hours are generally during the day.

Provider Compliance and Resource Specialists

This is a full time position within our Service and Support Administration Department.

Licensed Practical Nurses

We have openings for part-time, full-time, and PRN Licensed Practical Nurses.

Murray Ridge School Teachers

We have openings for full-time and PRN (as-needed) teachers at Murray Ridge School.

School Aides

We have openings for PRN (as-needed) and Full-time (9-month) School Aides at Murray Ridge School.

Lifeguard (Full-time 9-month)

We have an opening for a full-time (9-month) Lifeguard that will function also as a classroom aide at Murray Ridge School.

To see our current openings and to apply, go to the Murray Ridge website and click "Join Our Team"

All candidates Must have valid Ohio drivers license, good driving record, and High School Diploma/GED. Must pass background check, drug test, and physical.

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

Photo of the Month: Our Elyria Opportunity
And Vocational Center staff got together
for a group photo on the Center's last day!

Contact Us

Phone :
440.329.3734

Address :
1091 Infirmary Road
Elyria, OH 44035

Web & Email :
www.murrayridgecenter.org
kevin@murrayridgecenter.org

Be sure to follow us on Facebook!

