

MONTHLY



MurrayRidgeCenter
HELPING PEOPLE... FOR A LIFETIME

MURRAY RIDGE COURIER

JUL 2024



1st Place Soccer Team! Seated, left to right: **George Giganti, Sean Ware**. Standing, middle row, left to right: **Andrew Prihoda, Diana Clement, Megan Craig, Nicol Lazu**. Back row: **Coach Russ Moye, Dorian Chaffin, Victor Elder, Tim Dammeyer, Jeremy Foster, Ryan Eliason, Andrew Westover, Jeffrey O'Brien, Nathan Geezer, Volunteer Coach Scott Geezer**

Special Olympics Summer Games

Congratulations to all the Murray Ridge athletes who competed in the State Special Olympics Games in Columbus on June 28-30!

We are thrilled to report that both the Modified Volleyball and Soccer teams won first place in their matches! In total, individual athletes brought back five gold medals, 17 silver medals, six bronze medals, two 4th place ribbons, and six 5th place ribbons. Great job, everyone!

Murray Ridge Center invites all adults with developmental disabilities in Lorain County to participate in our Special Olympics Program. If you would like to learn more about our upcoming Special Olympics Ohio activities and events and/or how to participate in them, please contact Shawn Hatcher at 440-284-2720 or shatcher@murrayridgecenter.org.



The 1st Place Volleyball Team with Special Olympics Ohio volunteers behind them (in black). Left to right: **Tony Harris Jr., Shari Reitenbach, James Peters, Lutz Fazekas, Coach Leroy Keen, Ryan Brown, Noah Griffiths, Zuleka Perez, Ryan Busher, and Robert Assanakis**

Special Thank Yous...



At our June Board meeting, Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center Program Specialist **Jim Nagy** presented a check for \$1,150 to Friends of Murray Ridge on behalf of Mega Championship Wrestling (MCW). The generous donation was raised at MCW's annual Breaking Down Barriers event, which occurred for the twelfth time this past April. The family-friendly wrestling show was started in 2011 by Nagy and his co-promoters Jeff Traxler and Brandon Xavier for the benefit of Lorain County residents with developmental disabilities.

THANK YOU!



LOVC Program Specialist **Jim Nagy** presenting MCW's donation to Board President **Beverly Gedid** and Murray Ridge Superintendent **Amber Fisher**

Thank You Girl Scout Troop 50291!

Girl Scout Troop 50291, planted flowers in front of Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center on Friday, June 14. We appreciate the girls' hard work in beautifying the outside of our facility!



MURRAY RIDGE VOLUNTEERING

HELPING AT SAFE HARBOR

On June 21st, a group of Adult Program participants from our Oberlin Opportunity and Vocational Center volunteered at Safe Harbor, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. The volunteers helped the Safe harbor staff count newly donated clothing items, placed the clothes on hangers, and organized them according to the size.



Katie Bryant helping fold clothes with a Safe Harbor staff member



Harold Kilpatrick helping hang clothes with a Safe Harbor staff member

Lorain International Princesses Visit

Last month, the Lorain International Princesses visited our Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center. Everyone had a great time hanging out and learning about different places around the world. Be sure to visit our Facebook page for more pictures!



Ladies man **Michael Telloni** with some of the Lorain International Princesses

Steve Slutzker Cheer Zone!



Front Row, left to right: **Ryan Brown**, **Jeffrey Torres**, **Robert Assanakis**, Family Support Coordinator **Diane Lawson**, Adult Program Aide **Sheila Amerla**, **Zuleka Perez**, **Joe Bellottie**, Secretary **Rebecca Cain**, Director of Vocational and Transportation Services **Jeff Miller**, **Cathy Pence**, Coach **Russ Moye**. Middle row: IT Assistant **Missi Obeshaw**, Coach **Joe Croftcheck**. Back row: Director of Adult Programs **Gary Lyons**, **Tony Harris Jr.**, Coach **Leroy Keen**, **Shari Reitenbach**, **Lutz Fazekas**, Recreation Specialist **Tyler Robinson**, **James Peters**



On Wednesday, June 12, we held a hotly contested Staff vs Modified Volleyball Team match at Murray Ridge School. The Staff narrowly won the match, two sets to three! Also at the match, the "**Steve Slutzker Cheer Zone**" was dedicated. As a child, Steve attended Murray Ridge School, and he was a lifetime Special Olympian. Sadly, Steve recently passed away, and his sister made a donation on his behalf. To show our appreciation, we named a section of the gym seating area after him. You will be missed, Steve!

Pictured, left: Superintendent **Amber Fisher** with Steve's sister and brother-in-law, **Sue and Terry Lang**

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARD PRESENTED



LCBDD Board Member **Becky Cornman**, Adult Program Instructor **Penni Shuster**, and Superintendent **Amber Fisher**

The most recent recipient of our Exceptional Service Award was **Penni Shuster**, an Adult Program Instructor. For years, Penni organized the Santa Shop at our former Elyria Opportunity and Vocational Center. For the last Santa Shop before the EOVC closed in February, the staff agreed that she went above and beyond. Thank you, Penni, for your great work!

Do you know a Murray Ridge staff member who has gone "above and beyond"? If so, please submit your nomination to Kevin Naughton, Director of Communications, at (440) 329-3734 or at kevin@murrayridgecenter.org.

MURRAY RIDGE IN THE COMMUNITY



Darryl Jackson, Nicole Dietrich, Alec Jones, and Richard Urban, Adult Program participants from our Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center (LOVC), relaxing at Vermilion River Reservation's Mill Hollow.

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!



James Fink, Dennis Johnson, and Alec Jones enjoyed some frozen delights at K Cream Korner, an iconic ice cream shop in Lorain.

Pictured left, LOVC Adult Program Participant **DaeJon Hamlin** gets his feet wet at Lakeview Beach in Lorain.



Pictured above is the briny seadog **James Fink**, an Adult Program participant at LOVC during a group visit to Romp's Dairy Dock in Vermilion.

Dental Hygiene Clinic



*Lorain County
Community College*

**FREE SPECIAL EVENT
For Murray Ridge
Clients**

SERVICES TO INCLUDE:

- Cleaning, X-rays, and Dentist Exam
- Oral Health Instructions

All Services Provided by LCCC
Dental Hygiene Students
under faculty instruction

**Saturday
11/2/24 @
9am**

**LIMITED APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
CALL TO SCHEDULE**

CALL 440-366-4948

Boardroom Briefing

The Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities convened at 6:30 p.m. on June 24, 2024

Murray Ridge Program Specialist Jim Nagy, on behalf of Mega Championship Wrestling (MCW), presented a check for \$1,150.00; this donation was the proceeds from the 2024 Breaking Down Barriers wrestling event, the twelfth annual MCW fundraiser for the Friends of Murray Ridge. The 2023 Strategic Plan Progress Report was adopted. Dr. Fisher discussed the upcoming visit of Board members to the Murray Ridge Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center.



Nominations Sought for Exceptional Service Awards

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 Kevin Naughton, Director of Communications. Please 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. If you have any questions, contact Kevin at (440) 329-3734 or kevin@murrayridgecenter.org

Now Hiring!

FEATURED positions



Direct Support Professional (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.

Licensed Practical Nurse

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

Service & Support Administrator

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

Adult Program Instructor

This is a full time position in our Adult Services Department, likely assigned to Supported Employment.

School Aide

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

Intervention Specialist

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

Custodial Service PT

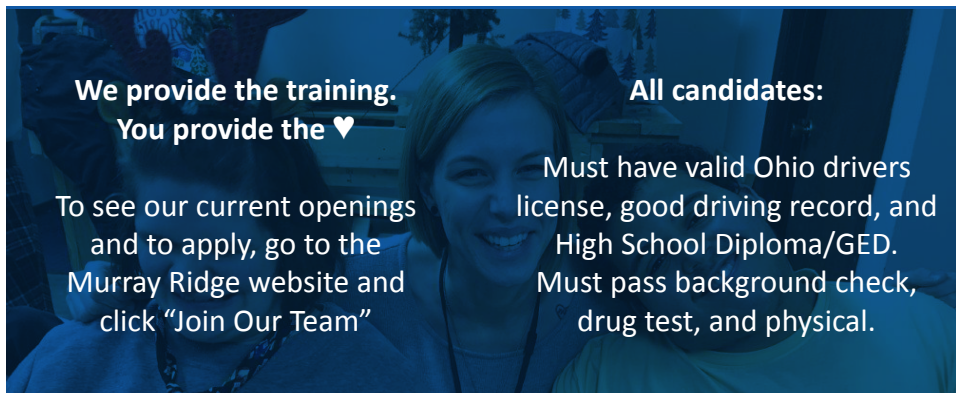
This is a part time position in our Maintenance Department.

**We provide the training.
You provide the ♥**

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

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Photo of the Month: A group of Adult Program participants from our Lorain Opportunity and Vocational Center at one of the outdoor summer concerts held every Thursday at the Ely Square Gazebo. On the left, **Jennifer Bodak**, a former Murray Ridge employee, dances with **James Wilson**, and **Abby Kisner** and **Dylan Stearns** dance behind them

Contact Us

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Be sure to follow us on Facebook!

