

THE SCOOP

June 20, 2018

OACB director updates

RCBDD

The head of the trade association that supports county boards of developmental disabilities says the organization is busy working on several major initiatives to help improve the delivery of services in Ohio.

Bridget Gargan, executive director of the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB), recently provided an update during an in-service training for members of the Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities (RCBDD).

Gargan says county board finances are very complicated, in part because Ohio is the only state in the nation where every county funds services for people with developmental disabilities using local property taxes, raising about a billion dollars a year.

At the same time, there has been an erosion of local funding due to the current anti-tax sentiment, especially in the Ohio legislature where representatives have introduced bills to make it more challenging to pass tax levies.



In addition to lobbying efforts, some initiatives OACB is working on include Fix the List, which addresses the state’s waiting list so it better reflects what families need, as well as ProviderGuidePlus – a new tool to help families select agency providers.

“We’re very committed to simplification of the system at every turn,” added Gargan.

Summer Fun

The weather was sunny and hot for the annual Richland Newhope Industries, Inc. (RNI) picnic on June 15. In addition to a dunk tank, many individuals got to cool off when the Mansfield Fire Department stopped by to spray a fire hose at the beginning of the festivities. The individuals look forward to the firefighters’ visit every year. The picnic also featured plenty of games, prizes, and food.



RNI Dance Troupe set to perform

The RNI Dance Troupe will take the stage at the Renaissance Theatre on June 28 at 6 p.m. for a recital entitled “The International Celebration of Dance.”

This will be the third straight year the dance troupe has performed at the Renaissance. This year the troupe will be highlighting dance styles from around the globe. Each dancer has chosen a country for his or her dance solo. There will also be several group dances that



include music and dance routines from other parts of the world.

This free event attracts hundreds of people each year so don't miss it!



Kids eat free this summer

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is sponsoring the Summer Food Service Program, which provides children ages 18 and under with free, healthy meals. Children with disabilities and approved individualized education programs may participate through age 21.

It's easy to participate and no sign-up is required. Just call 1-866-3-HUNGRY (1-866-348-6479), visit education.ohio.gov/KidsEat, or use ODE's mobile app for meal times and locations.

In 2017 more than four million meals were served to Ohio children through the Summer Food Service Program with the help of approximately 1,500 feeding sites.

The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by ODE.

Resource fair

Richland Newhope was among about two dozen area agencies and organizations that participated in the 3rd Annual St. Peter's Neighborhood Resource Fair on June 14. The three-hour event, hosted by Mansfield Memorial Homes, was a way to connect people and provide information about services. It also featured food and plenty of raffle prizes.



June Employee of the Month

Name: Penny Sloan

Position: Administrative Assistant

Employed since: Oct. 14, 1999

Nominators Comments: "She is very dedicated to her job and knows it well! She is the first person people meet and talk to when they walk in to the Administration Building. She always has a smile on her face and a positive attitude! She is at the office early every morning ready to start work. She offers help to every department. Over the years her responsibilities have grown. She is very reliable and can be counted on."

Employee of the Month Comments: "Selected as Employee of the Month means that I'd better keep doing what I'm doing! I don't want to let anyone down. I'm honored that people notice even though I'm doing what I love to do, keeping busy and helping to make their jobs easier! There are a lot of jobs in this organization that are a lot harder than mine, so anything I can do to help them is a honor I gladly do."



EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

43 Years – Rosie Hart

19 Years – Mary Bisesi

18 Years – Irene McConnell

17 Years – Brenda Howard, Lavina Frye

16 Years – Kristin Goon

14 Years – Rebecca Champion

10 Years – Chris White

9 Years – Anita McKee

8 Years – Wanda Board

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