

# The CCBMRDD Reporter

Newsletter Date: June 2007

## **JUNE ACTIVITIES**

### **EDI CENTRAL**

**June 4**

Summer Afternoon Play Day

**June 8**

Dance and Pay Day

**June 14**

Richard's Golf Course and  
Picnic Field Trip

**June 15**

In-House "Area" Luncheons

**June 22**

Dance and Pay Day

**June 27**

Order Out (Chinese Food)

### **EDI SOUTH**

**June 11**

Area 3-Paint T-Shirts  
Area 2-Father's Day Craft

**June 15**

Area 3-Papa John's Pizza

**June 18**

Area 1-Wii Bowling

**June 19**

Area 3-Broadway Wharf

**June 20**

Long John Silver's June Birthdays

**June 26**

Blazing Buck Petting Zoo

**June 27**

Fast Food Day—KFC

**June 28**

Richardson's Golf Outing

**June 29**

Area 2-Movie Day

## **Former Adult Service Director of CCBMRDD, Jim King, Takes Over as Superintendent of Henry County on June 1, 2007**

"I will be starting the 2nd half of my life."



On the day Jim King will be celebrating his 51st birthday, Jim will also be starting a brand new phase of his life, as Superintendent of Henry County. Jim has been the Adult Service Director of Columbiana County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities since 1998 and has spent the first fifty years of his life in and around East Liverpool, Ohio. Although, Jim does admit he doesn't want to work until he is 102 years old, you can tell the passion still burns strong

when you talk to him about people with disabilities. "Society has a great capacity to support people different from them, although there is still a lot of work to do".

Jim compared the image problems that people with disabilities have with the public to the civil rights movement. Jim said "It's not unlike the movement in the 60's." "Just because people look different from me, doesn't mean they are to be looked on differently".

When asked, how does the public need to change, Jim said "Some community members will react to people with disabilities with sympathy. That is not what they need. All they need is a little guidance, a little help and they can achieve a task themselves."

Jim notes some of his proud-

est moments at CCBMRDD revolve around the years of progress in the attitude and changes made dealing with people with disabilities. "Years ago, physical restraint was used almost everyday, poor technique was used, now we don't use that type of punishment but use more of a positive approach."

Jim reflects on his career at CCBMRDD as a "good experience" and he has plenty of times to share that include funny, touching and sad stories and he is proud of many things that have happened while in Columbiana County, including the enclave at Mountaineer park. Jim's eyes light up when talking about the difficulties implementing plans and overcoming problems that arouse

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## **SUMMARY OF 2006-07 SCHOOL YEAR**

As we close the 2006-07 school year, we look back on some of the events and memories that touched us.

We started the year with sadness, as we had lost an important member of our preschool staff with the passage of Pam Miller. Pam's legacy will live on here at Bycroft as we de-

velop a new playground area for our small ones.

September was a month to get back into the swing and get to know each other. October brought Trick-or-Treat within our own building and a Halloween dance that is always anticipated by clients and staff! During Novem-

ber, we honored our Veterans with our annual Veteran's Day Assembly. This is such a moving tribute for all. We also planned and held our annual Thanksgiving Feast. It is always pleasurable to see the whole school and staff together. December is a very busy, but fun time. We



### **Golf Outing**

The Special Olympics will have a Golf Outing at Beaver Meadows. More details will be coming soon.



## Jim King - *continued*

when trying to staff the enclave for the very first time. "It took seven months of planning and meeting and several times I thought, this is not going to happen, but it finally did and now look at this successful union between our clients and Mountaineer." Jim sites that hard work and diligence of the people at Mountaineer and the staff at CCBMRDD making this project a success.

When Jim was asked what he will miss the most, he says "relationships with the clients". "I will miss getting the copy paper while walking and talking with Danny." "I will miss the relationships with the clients the most" but he is very proud of several accomplishments, most of all the impact that the CCBMRDD has had on people with disabilities and their families.

Jim was asked about his plans for Henry County Board of Mental Retar-

ation and Developmental Disabilities, and immediately answered "a good administrator understands where you are and where you have been". "Henry County has a very good relationship with the community, they just passed their tax levy with a 70% approval rating. They have never turned a levy down and they have just received their four year accreditation." "I will be doing the same as in Columbiana County, impacting the community in a positive light and working with the board to evaluate and improve the quality of life for people with disabilities." He adds "but just because something worked in Columbiana County doesn't mean it will work in another county".

Jim will start the second half of his life three and a half hours away from where he was born and raised, but still with the same passion and drive when he started fifteen years ago in his hometown area.

GOOD LUCK JIM!



Jim King was thrown several goodbye and good luck parties in Columbiana County before his departure to assume duties as Superintendent in Henry County.

## Retiring Staff at Robert Bycroft School

It is with mixed emotions I say "good bye" to two long-time staff members. Donna Holzer and Cynthia Smith both retired June 1, 2007. Donna began her career at Bycroft School September 3, 1974 as a classroom teacher. Cynthia was hired October 17, 1982 as a classroom assistant.

Imagine how many students and families these two women have touched in

their fifty-eight years combined total! Not only were these women reliable and dependable employees, they also helped with extra curricular events like camp, Special Olympics, dances, summer school, scouts and more.

Cynthia and Donna will be missed within our school family. They will be tough acts to follow. On behalf of the school staff, students and families, I

congratulate these women on their retirement and wish them much happiness and good health!

Submitted by Cynthia Stoughton, Education Director of Robert Bycroft School

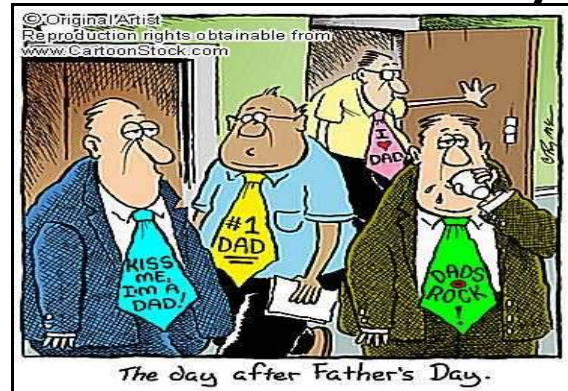


## Special Olympics

A Special Olympics event was held recently at Mangano Field in East Liverpool. Two of the many medal winners are shown to the right.



## Remember Father's Day



Father's Day is June 17. Happy Father's Day from CCBMRDD.

## Summary of 2006-07 School Year . . . *continued*

started December by gathering to decorate our tree, with trimmings each class made. We had several assemblies provided by area schools. The students always enjoy the music. December ended with Santa and gifts, provided by our Adopt-A-Class Project. The communities' generosity is truly awesome in this endeavor.

The year 2007 started with a visit from the Mobile Dentist. This program really helps many of our families. February was the month for Valentines and parties. We also started planning for March MRDD Awareness Month.

In March we celebrated Right to Read Week with guest readers. We invited the community to come and tour our school. The Knights of Columbus from Lisbon held their annual "Free Throw" Contest this month. We held our annual Mini-Relay for Life in March in Pam's memory. Bearemy, the Build-A-Bear mascot, visited to help with the basket drawing for the levy committee. In April we had our annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by United Commercial Travelers. I.E.P. season started also; and staff was very busy with this. In May we celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week

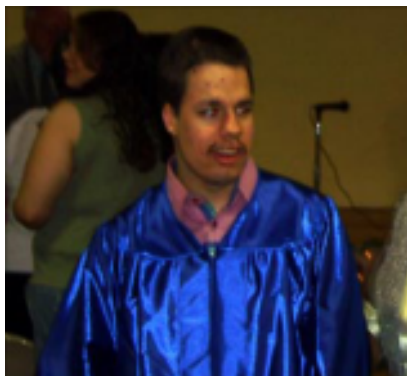
with a luncheon given by office staff for our teachers and assistants for all they do. Transition students had field trips to Cedar Point and Akron Zoo. Graduation was held May 24th for our 2007 graduate, Brandon Teets.

In retrospect, it's been a busy, fun-filled year for learning. Have a safe and happy summer. See YOU in August!

Submitted by Cynthia Stoughton, Education Director of Robert Bycroft School

## It's that time of year! Graduation!!

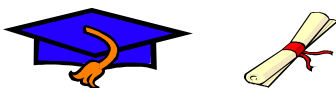
Brandon Andrew Teets graduated on Thursday, May 24, 2007, from Robert Bycroft School. The celebration included Commencement, with family



and friends in attendance, a reception and dance.

Brandon started in the Columbiana County MRDD program in the Fall of 1993. He was then eight years old. Brandon had several teachers and assistants in his time within the school. He learned new skills and achieved goals. Brandon headed to Transition in the Fall of 2003. Here he developed friendships with peers and learned work-related tasks. Brandon enjoys keeping busy and spending time with friends on the computer playing games.

Our graduate lives with his father, Donald Teets, in New Waterford. Brandon is now attending EDI Central. Have a Happy Future Brandon!



Early Intervention graduated 12 preschool students at an informal but very cute ceremony at Robert Bycroft.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE GRADS OF 2007!

Submitted by Cynthia Stoughton, Education Director of Robert Bycroft School.

## FAMOUS WRESTLER'S HEAD SOUTH

Some famous Wrestler's recently paid a visit to EDI South to spend some quality time answering questions about their profession and signing autographs until all were Thrilled with the visit.



World Pro Wrestling stars "Volkoff" and "The Golden Boy" spent about an hour with us at our South workshop in promotion for their match at East Liverpool High School. The Potters Athletic Director, Jay Kiger, brought in the grapplers as part of a fundraising effort for East Liverpool Athletics. Jay was kind enough to schedule a visit at the CCBMRDD South Workshop in Calcutta. There were quite a few relevant questions from the workers at South and some that were very entertaining; the crowd broke out in laughter with the question "are you married" from one of our EDI South female personnel.



Thanks to the World Pro Wrestlers and their Ring Announcer for a very entertaining and informative Friday morning at EDI South.



This is our Superintendent Bill Devon cooking lunch for the clients and staff at the ASC in celebration of the Memorial Day weekend.

### CCBMRDD FOCUS

*Autism Spectrum Disorders*, sometimes called *Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD)*, are a range of neurological disorders that most markedly involve some degree of difficulty with communication and interpersonal relationships, as well as obsessions and repetitive behaviors. As the term "spectrum" indicates, there can be a wide range of effects. Those at the lower-functioning end of the spectrum may be profoundly unable to break out of their own world and may be described as having *Kanner's autism*. Those at the higher-functioning end, sometimes diagnosed with *Asperger Syndrome (AS)*, may be able to lead independent lives but still be awkward in their social interactions. Other, more rare autism spectrum disorders include *Rett Syndrome (RS)*, which affects mostly girls, and *Childhood Disintegrative Disorder (CDD)*, which affects mostly boys; in both cases, there is a period of normal development before the onset of autistic symptoms.

*Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified* may be diagnosed when a child has autistic symptoms but does not fit into another Autistic Spectrum Disorder diagnosis.

Also Known As: autism, pervasive developmental delays, Asperger's syndrome, PDD-NOS

Alternate Spellings: Autistic Spectrum Disorders

Suggested Reading:

[The Mystery of Savant Syndrome Do Vaccines Cause Autism Gifts for Those Who Love Someone With Autism](#)

Good Books

[The Child with Special Needs Not Even Wrong: Adventures in Autism A Slant of Sun: One Child's Courage](#)

Related Conditions:

[Asperger Syndrome Sensory Integration Dysfunction Mental Retardation](#)

### CCBMRDD Rib Cook-Off & Auction

Summer means outdoor fun and at the Columbiana County Board of MR/DD it is NO exception! CCBMRDD will have some fun on August 26th with a Rib Cook-Off and Auction. We are still in the planning stages but we hope to have Rib restaurant's battle it out for the

title of best ribs in and around Columbiana County. The Auction will have various objects up for bid, including sports memorabilia and autographed items to country music stars paraphernalia and more! We will have more details coming soon, but keep August 26th open for Fun!



COLUMBIANA COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL RETARDATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
JUNE 2007

**CCBMRDD**  
**7675 SR 45**  
**Lisbon, OH 44432**

Phone: 1-330-424-7788

Fax: 1-330-420-9561

Please e-mail suggestions and comments to [Stevek@spii.net](mailto:Stevek@spii.net)

Everyone  
Belongs

*We're on the Web*  
[www.columbianamrdd.com](http://www.columbianamrdd.com)

## COLUMBIANA COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL RETARDATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Mission Statement of C.C.M.R.D.D:

Collaborating with the community to maintain a predictable support system for families, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities to help them pursue and achieve what is important to them.

### Board Members

Thomas Snow-President  
Kathy Birch

Richard Rainone-Vice President  
Jane Wilson

Dave Markovich  
Ruth Marhefka

### Superintendent

Bill Devon