

FANS Network

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



March 2016

Celebrate March! It's Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Each year Ohio Public Images announces an awareness campaign theme. The 2016 Campaign is "What's Your Story?". **Everyone has a story and each story holds a promise to educate and inspire others!**

We will be keeping this theme in mind as we work to promote awareness throughout the month of March and all year long.



Awareness Month Initiatives



★ Billboard ★

Check out the ECBDD billboard on Cleveland Road in Huron! (near Jordan's Country Diner)

We are proud to showcase Linda, Heather and Carly on our March billboard. All three of these ladies have wonderful stories & lead active lives.

★ OPI Awareness Awards ★

On March 10th, Ohio Public Images held the Annual Awareness Awards at Nationwide Hotel & Conference Center in Columbus. **We are proud to announce that not one, but two of our nominees were selected for prestigious awards!**

Harry Miller was selected for the **Self Advocate Merit Award**. He is an incredible leader and plays a crucial role in many organizations: Self-Advocates of Erie County, Council of Ohio Leaders, and Project STIR, to name a few.

The Volunteer Center of Erie County earned the **Employer Excellence Award**. As an organization, they have made outstanding efforts to employ, support and customize a position that sees past disability and focuses on value.



Above: Connie Beverly, Amber Hunter and Karen Camella from The Volunteer Center of Erie County with ECBDD Superintendent, Carrie Beier, and Jennifer Yingling at the Annual Awareness Awards luncheon in Columbus.

Left: Harry Miller poses with his award.

Awareness Month Initiatives cont.

★ Art & Advocacy Show ★

Thursday, March 10th marked Opening Night of the Art and Advocacy art show at the Sandusky Artisans Gallery. The gallery room was buzzing with over 30 guests walking through to view the collection. Pieces will be displayed through April, so stop by and show support for these talented artists!



Left: Savahna Stewart talks about her beautiful piece. **Middle:** The final group art piece from the Garden of Advocacy event. **Right:** Marcee Esposito proudly shows off one of her many works of art.



Braelynn: 3rd Grade @ Meadowlawn



Fun 2016 bookmarks!
*Available at ECBDD



Ryley: Kindergarten @ Furry



Lauren: 2nd Grade @ SCCS



★ K-3 Coloring Contest ★

Sandusky Mall

With the help and generosity of many local businesses, a partnership with Jimmy John's & the Sandusky Mall and the support of local school districts and teachers, we launched our first annual DD Awareness Month coloring contest. Grades K-3 in six Erie County districts received a coloring page, custom drawn by Doodle Picture Studios in Enfield, CT, promoting awareness of developmental disabilities. Following the 2016 theme, 'What's Your Story', each student was given an ECBDD bookmark and their classroom received an age-appropriate list of books that help educate about a variety of disabilities.

Over 1,200 completed pages were returned and we are excited to say that each participant will receive a sub certificate from Jimmy John's and four lucky classrooms won a sub party! The Sandusky Mall is showing their support by displaying all completed pages in their windows for the remainder of the month! Additionally, all participants were entered into a randomly drawn prize pool and received some amazing prizes from local businesses: Toft Dairy, Eats N' Treats, Quarry Hill Orchards, Sky Zone Westlake, Monsoon Lagoon, Kalahari, Cedar Point and African Safari Wildlife Park.

FANS Opportunities

Donate Board Games

Game Night at Chet & Matt's Pizza starts next week and we are still collecting gently used or new board games!

Some specific requests: Uno, LCR, Dominos, Life, Trouble, Sorry, Phase 10, playing cards



Donate Trophies

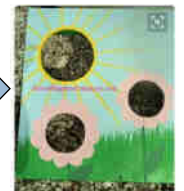
Special Olympics Erie County is always on the lookout for new or used trophies.



Many ECBDD staff volunteer for Special Olympics—donations can be dropped off at our board office.

Enjoy painting?

Help Me Grow has recently acquired a wooden cornhole board. They want to utilize this for their March of Dimes event & for future kid activities. Do you enjoy painting? Can you turn their blank board into a sunshine & flower design?



Need completed by April 27th. Time and paint supplies would be considered a donation.

FANS Opportunities cont.

Looking for Open Studio Instructors



Our Art & Advocacy event was such a great success that we are in the planning stages for potential Open Studio nights. We are looking for community members that want to share their artistic skills! (professional and/or amateur artists welcome!). Ideally, we would like to start each session with a 'community artist' sharing their personal skills then move into an open ability concept where attendees can work in whatever style they choose, but can also be mentored by the 'community artist.' **Want to learn more? Know someone willing to share their skills? Please contact us! We have many talented & aspiring artists who want to network & share creative space!**

Come hang out with Community Connections!



FANS (of all ages!) are invited to come have fun with our Community Connections group! Please see some activities/dates below & let us know if you want to join us! Call 419-626-0208.

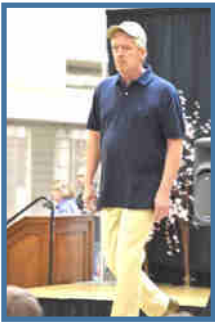
- Game Night at Chet & Matt's Pizza Buffet: Tuesday, April 5th or Tuesday, April 19th: 5 pm to 8 pm
- Three Season Bowling at Cedar Lanes: Friday, April 15th or Friday, April 29th: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
 - Art and Coffee Downtown: Friday, April 22: 3 pm to 4:30 pm
- Let's Make & Eat a Chocolate Candy Bar: Tre Sorelle Cioccolato: Thursday, April 28: 6 pm to 8:30 pm

FANS Special Updates



Rodney Giles strutted his stuff as a T.J. Maxx model at the Sandusky Mall's Spring/Prom Fashion Show on March 5th.

AWESOME JOB, RODNEY!



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BELOW FANS:

Barb Reed: Donated a large variety of board games

Bob Elder: Volunteered to make our spinning wheel

To aid in increasing community awareness, the Community Engagement department collected donations from local businesses to utilize in our coloring contest & for future FAN recognition. We cannot thank the below companies enough for their support in our initiative & mission!

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| • Toft Dairy | • African Safari |
| • Eat N' Treats | • Wildlife Park |
| • Quarry Hill Orchards | • Cedar Lanes |
| • Sky Zone Westlake | • Arby's |
| • Monsoon Lagoon | • Chez Francois |
| • Kalahari Waterpark | |
| • Cedar Point | |
| • Texas Roadhouse | |



Questions? Interested in a FAN Opportunity?

Please reach out to Jaclene Pisano at jpisano@eriecdd.org or 419-502-4129.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN A VIRTUAL FORMAT & WILL ONLY BE MAILED TO YOU IN PAPER FORMAT UNTIL DECEMBER 2016. Sign up for the virtual newsletter by providing an email address!

Community Happenings

These are public events: *Not ECBDD supervised



APRIL

SANDUSKY LIBRARY

Pages and Pups • Wednesdays, Apr. 13 & 27 @ 4:00pm-5:00pm

Play. Learn. Grow. • Thursdays, Apr. 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 12 @ 10:30am *Must register*

HURON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Lapsit • Tuesdays @ 10:15am, Wednesdays @ 11am

ToddlerTime • Tuesdays @ 11am, Wednesdays @ 10:15am

Storytime • Wednesdays @ 1:30pm

MILAN-BERLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Weekly Story Time

Berlin • Thursdays @ 10:30am

Milan • Tuesdays & Fridays @ 10:30am

Drop-in and Play • Wednesdays, Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27 (6:00pm-7:30pm) & Fridays, Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (9:30am-11:00am) | Erie County Board of DD | *Presented by Parents as Teachers*

Humane Society of Erie County 5K Walk/Run • Saturday, Apr. 2 | 9:00am | City of Sandusky Central Fire Station (600 W. Market Street) | *\$25 Race Day registration*

Build a Butterfly House Workshop • Saturday, Apr. 2 | 9:00am-Noon | The Home Depot | *Register online*

Family Movie: The Good Dinosaur • Saturday, Apr. 2 | 2:30pm | Sandusky Library

Tiny Tot Tuesdays • Tuesdays, Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26 | 3:30pm-4:30pm | Erie County Board of DD | *Presented by Help Me Grow staff*

Get Fit Club: Jazzercise • Tuesdays, Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26 | 6:00pm-7:00pm | Osborn MetroPark | Erie MetroParks

Storytime Playdate • Wednesday, Apr. 6 | 10:30am-Noon | Huron Public Library

Animal Feeding Time • Thursday, Apr. 7 | 4:30pm-5:30pm | Frost Center, Osborn MetroPark | Erie MetroParks

Bald Eagle Watch • Sunday, Apr. 10 | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Osborn MetroPark | Erie MetroParks | **Caravan ride & binoculars provided, bring a camera!*

LIVE! The Moorhens (Celtic & Old Time Acoustic music) • Sunday, Apr. 10 | 3:00pm | Huron Public Library

Tuesday is for Toddlers! • Tuesdays, Apr. 12, 26 | 11:00am-Noon | Center Court | Sandusky Mall

PHS Musical: Curtains • Thursday, Apr. 14-Friday, Apr. 15 (7:30pm) & Saturday, April 16 (2:30pm & 7:30pm) | Perkins High School

EHS Spring Musical: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown • Thursday, Apr. 14-Saturday, Apr. 16 | 7:30pm | Edison High School

SHS Swan Club Show: Pool of Rock • Thursday, Apr. 21-Saturday, Apr. 23 | 7:00pm | SHS Natatorium

50+ Lifestyle Show • Friday, Apr. 22 | 10:00am-2:00pm | Sandusky Mall | *Sponsored by Firelands Regional Medical Center in collaboration with the American Cancer Society*

YMCA Healthy Kids Day 5K & Fun Run • Saturday, Apr. 23 | 9:00am | Sandusky YMCA | **Register by 4/18 for free t-shirt*

Civil War Era Firearms & Memorabilia Show • Saturday, Apr. 23 | 11:00am-5:00pm | The Vermilion News Print Shop Museum

Earth Day Extravaganza! • Sunday, Apr. 24 | 11:00am-4:00pm | Osborn MetroPark

Train Rides! • Sunday, Apr. 24 | 1:00pm-3:00pm | East Sandusky Bay MetroPark, Eagle Point | Erie MetroParks

Go Green Arbor Day Celebration • Saturday, Apr. 30 | 10:00am-1:00pm | Sandusky Greenhouse | *Presented by City of Sandusky Recreation & Horticulture Department*

Erie MetroPark Hikers

Wednesdays @ 10:30am & 5:00pm

April 6 • Edison Woods MetroPark, Berlin Heights

April 13 • Osborn MetroPark, Huron

April 20 • Steinen Wildlife Area, Huron

April 27 • Wyandot Meadows, Huron

Sky Zone Trampoline Park • Westlake, OH

Open Jump for Special Needs (& their siblings)

Mondays • 4:30pm-6:00pm

Toddler Time (6 + under)

Mon/Wed • 1pm-3pm | Tues/Thurs • 10am-Noon | Sun • 9am-11am

Friday Fun Night • 7pm-10pm | **\$20: Unlimited Jump Time, DJ, Karaoke, Games, Contests, Dodgeball, Sky Slam Competition*