

supporting dreams



SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST:

Did you know that the Sutton Center located in Port Clinton Ohio was named in honor of Esther Sutton for all the great work she did in this community?

In January of 1968, Mrs. Sutton was designated the Administrator of the Ottawa County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Mrs. Glenna Rathbun relieved her of those duties in June of 1969.

Mrs. Sutton founded the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program in Erie County. A CASA or Guardian ad Litem volunteer helps the Court find a safe and permanent home for children where they can thrive.

The Holiday Bureau was set up with the help of Mrs. Sutton, too.

She served as the Welfare Director and was one of the first members of the Board of Health and Social Concerns.

Ottawa County can be very grateful for the deeds she carried out in the 83 years she helped to improve our community.

This newsletter is dedicated to Mrs. Esther Sutton and her pioneering spirit!

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OTTAWA COUNTY BOARD OF DD

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER — FALL 2011

MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure the availability of supports to children and adults with developmental disabilities in gaining inclusion in their community. Further, to assist individuals and their families in achieving a life that they establish for themselves.



On The Move

In a continuing effort to meet the ever-growing demand for safe, reliable, and affordable transportation, the Ottawa County Transportation Agency (OCTA) has begun construction of a new vehicle storage building. This facility will improve security and extend the life of OCTA vehicles by housing the fleet and reducing vehicle exposure to the elements.

Improvements to OCTA's existing facility are also underway, including the addition of a fifty person conference room and new design features that will make the building more energy efficient and environmentally friendly. Highlighted improvements include:

- ⇒ A geothermal heating and air conditioning system
- ⇒ Solar photovoltaic panels to produce electricity
- ⇒ Solar hot water heater
- ⇒ Increased insulation
- ⇒ Passive and smart lighting systems

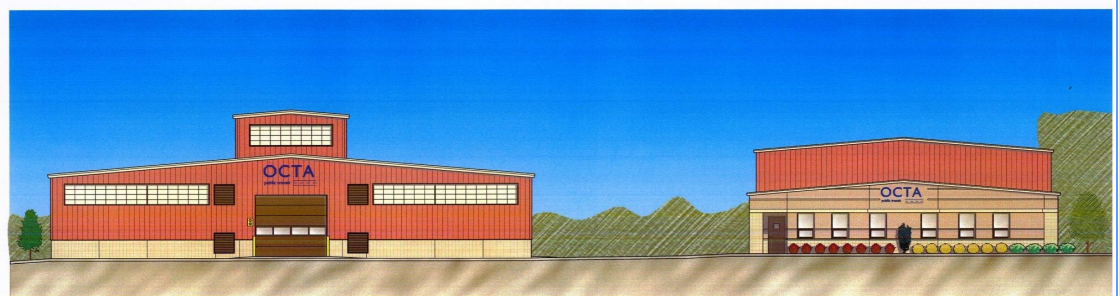
Transit Director Bill Lowe explained the importance of the design features, "Everyone has an obligation to help preserve resources and that is especially true for those of us fortunate enough to live in such a naturally beautiful place like Ottawa County. By investing in energy conserving measures now, we will be saving not just energy, but also substantially reducing costs over the life of the building. OCTA is proud to be a leader in this movement."



November 3, 2011 Groundbreaking Ceremony
Pictured (L to R): Public Transit Manager with the ODOT Office of Transit Skip Dunkle, Commissioner Jim Sass, Ottawa County Transit Board Chairman Gerald Arnold, Commissioner Mark Stahl and Commissioner Steve Arndt

OCTA is the first agency in Ottawa County to pursue LEED certification for a building project. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally-recognized green building certification system. Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) in March 2000, LEED provides building owners and operators with a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations, and maintenance solutions.

Funding for the project came exclusively from the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and will support a significant number of jobs locally. OCTA kicked off construction at a ground breaking ceremony held on Thursday, November 3, 2011. Construction is expected to be completed by the fall of 2012.



A NEW VEHICLE STORAGE BUILDING AND OFFICE ADDITION FOR:
OTTAWA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AGENCY



Spotlight on...



Tim Lazenby

TIM LAZENBY was born in 1973 to Don and Mary Lazenby of Oak Harbor. Tim has two sisters, Diane Schimming & Debbie Lenke, and a brother, Michael. Tim is also the proud uncle of six nieces and one grandniece. While living at home, Tim attended Riverview School. Upon graduation, he worked at RVI (Riverview Industries) for several years. Tim lived at Garden Farms in Carroll Township for 10 years, then moved to NODC for a short stay. He had an apartment in Port Clinton briefly and in 2007, settled into the Northwest Ohio Developmental Center (NODC). His mom reports that he's very happy in his new home. He loves dining at Bob Evans, shopping, going on group trips,

visiting the zoo and doing things for others. At NODC, he thoroughly enjoys the dances, bingo, church services, movies and he has gone on all the hayrides they have hosted. Tim is a member of the church choir and helps decorate the trees for the Christmas party. He's even volunteered at the NODC chili cook-offs.

Being with people and going out on the town are the things that make Tim happiest.

His parents are very proud of the independence and maturity he has acquired. They relish their regularly-scheduled time together, but Tim is also happy to return to his home at the end of the day.

Tim is a full-time employee at Lott Industries in Holland, Ohio. He's been performing assembly work for approximately four years and rides either the bus or the shuttle to work.

The Holidays, especially Christmas, are Tim's favorite times of the year. He also loves summer because he can get outside and ride his bike.

Tim would pick a county fair or heading to a farm to check out the farm equipment as his favorite vacation destinations.

His parents praise the people that work with Tim because they are very kind and caring. They know how to handle situations with dignity as they arise.



Tim & his dad sharing good times together at his niece's wedding

NOVEMBER is National Family Caregivers Month



President Barack Obama has proclaimed November to be *National Family Caregivers Month*, in support of family caregivers in the workplace who balance work and family caregiving responsibilities. In 1994, the National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA) began promoting the celebration of family caregivers during the week of Thanksgiving. Then-President Clinton signed the first presidential proclamation in 1997 and every U.S. President since then has issued an annual Proclamation appreciating family caregivers. As interest grew in family caregiving issues, National Family Caregivers Week became National Family Caregivers Month.

More than 65 million family caregivers fulfill this vital role around the nation, and no one else is in a better position to ensure continuity of care.

Family caregivers are the most familiar with their care recipients' medication regimen; they are the most knowledgeable about treatment needs; and they understand best any dietary or exercise recommendations. The NFCA spotlights National Family Caregivers Month as a time to thank, support, educate, and empower family caregivers. Celebrating Family Caregivers during NFC month enables all of us to:

- Raise awareness of family caregiver issues
- Celebrate the efforts of family caregivers
- Educate family caregivers about self-identification
 - Increase support for family caregivers

ALSO... Please read this! http://thefamilycaregiver.org/national_family_caregiver_month/message.htm



The Nurse Is In

It's that time of year again. When you or your family might be down with a stomach bug.

Everyday Health offers some tips on how to care for yourself and make yourself more comfortable until that upset stomach says adios:

- Keep food intake light if you are vomiting, but make sure you remain well hydrated by resisting withholding fluids for fear of causing more vomiting.
- Don't eat sugary foods or drinks, such as candy, juice or sodas, which can make diarrhea worse.
- Consider taking small sips of a drink such as Pedialyte or Gatorade. (For children 1 year of age and older, give them Pedialyte every one to four hours. For infants younger than 1 year of age, consult your pediatrician).
- Call the doctor if you have diarrhea for more than 24 hours, have both diarrhea and vomiting, have a high fever, severe abdominal pain or blood in stool or vomit, or you show signs of dehydration.
- Continue to eat if you have diarrhea, as long as foods aren't too heavy. Avoid foods or drinks with artificial sweeteners.

PROVIDER CORNER



Sunshine was founded in 1950 by parents of five children with severe developmental disabilities. We offer residential and respite care, along with vocational programs and recreation programs both for our residents and for persons who live with their families. Sunshine, an organization whose main campus is located in Maumee, offers respite services to individuals with developmental disabilities. We have respite beds in our base facility in Maumee & can provide overnight care to children and adults with medical needs and/or behavioral challenges. Sunshine has a large campus with an indoor swimming pool and a large sensory room and gymnasium. In addition to that, Sunshine has a barn with horses, llamas, goats and rabbits. Therapeutic horseback riding is another one of the services offered through Sunshine. Please visit our website at www.sunshine.org. To speak to an intake coordinator—please call 419-865-0251.

REC NEWS

As summer came to a close, the REC program set out on **one last cruise around Lake Erie** to feel the wind in our hair and even a chance to **drive the boat!** As the lake chilled down we headed to Toledo just as the WAVE came into town. We cheered our favorite wrestlers as they entered the ring and body-slammed the other contenders. Feeling motivated by the wrestlers, we decided to try our hand at some physical activity so we went to Camp Cheerful to climb the adapted tower. After **scaling the 50-foot tower**, the group had a chance to fly down the zip line and then be lowered to the ground. The “courageous cootie” bit the Young Adults Club resulting in the decision to take one last camping trip to East Harbor during the chilly weather. We warmed up by the fire while **roasting marshmallows** and learning a few camp songs. Our summer concluded with a big adventure to Hocking Hills...six of us piled into a van and headed south. A few stops and almost four hours later we arrived at the State Park to check into our cabin and unload our bags. Once the van was empty we had room to fill it up again, so we headed to the store to get some food. To our surprise they had Hocking Hills t-shirts at the store so we all picked out our favorite style and color. The next morning we decide to ‘cowboy up’ and headed to a local ranch for **horseback riding**. At Smoke Rise Ranch they had horses, dogs, cats, goats, a cow, chickens, and even a donkey named Ben! After a quick break for lunch the adventure continued as we took to the sky. A few brave souls hopped in a small aircraft to checkout all the local sites from a bird’s eye view and even a **chance to fly the plane**. With these adventures behind us we spent the rest of the evening playing UNO and relaxing. The next morning we sadly packed our bags and after a few stops we headed home. Hocking Hills was a great adventurous time!



“We Are All In This Together,” was the theme of the Ohio Self Determination Association/Professionals Advocates Resources conference held in Dublin, Ohio the first week of

October. The three-day conference was filled with great speakers, workshops and some fun activities thrown in. During the conference we heard from great speakers like Peter Leidy who spent six hours focusing on the importance of working together to benefit each other. He also entertained us with unique songs. A big hit at the conference was Nick Scott, a professional bodybuilder, wheelchair ballroom dancer, and so much more. Nick talked about how he went from being told he would never walk again to getting out of his chair in front of us to take a few steps. He has a very inspirational story and said, “if you believe in yourself - you can do anything.” He also held a muscle man and woman contest at the dance. The Date Doctor, David Coleman, was also a highlight of the conference. David’s life was the basis of the movie, “Hitch.” He talked about making all relationships in your life matter and exceeding your potential. At the conference we also got to hear from several self-advocates who talked about their struggles and successes. The conference as a whole has taught us a lot about having positive relationships with others and ourselves! If you would like information about next year’s conference, contact Michele Bailey at 567-262-3119.

Parents/Guardians, Individuals served and Family Members are invited to meet the Superintendent for an open forum on the third Wednesday of the even numbered months at the Board of DD. Please join Melinda Slusser on:

Tuesday, January 24, 2012
At 5:00 p.m.

Future Forum dates are posted on www.ocbdd.org



Supporting Dreams

Coffee with the Superintendent



Ottawa County Board of DD
235 N Toussaint South Rd
Oak Harbor OH 43449

Phone: 419-898-0400

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY

Disclaimer: While the Board has respectfully changed its name (and corresponding language) through the use of Developmental Disabilities instead of Mental Retardation, the following excerpts came directly from the pages of our archived history records and in no way are meant to degrade or disrespect individuals with Developmental Disabilities or their families.

The home training program was started in Ottawa County in the fall of 1967. In a year and a half, the program developed from no caseload to a caseload of over 20 children, ranging in ages from 10 months to 24 years. This became a very vital part of the program for the children with developmental disabilities in Ottawa County. Some of these children, when ready, went to Riverview School.

In July of 1967, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio approved Senate Bill No. 169 a section of which created in each county a board of mental retardation consisting of seven members, five of whom are to be appointed by the board of county commissioners, and the other two appointed by the probate judge. All must be residents of the county and at least one must be a parent of a child with mental retardation. Four must be people interested or knowledgeable in the matters of mental retardation and other allied fields. Board members will be appointed to serve without compensation.

Ottawa County had such a board and the members worked diligently to improve the school.

When the school closed in the spring of 1969, the board decided that larger quarters must be rented for the fall term. Several locations were checked and it was decided to move the community classes to LaPointe United Methodist Church on State Route 163. Thirty children could be accommodated in that location. This was without any commitment for either preschoolers or adults. Larger quarters could not be found. Therefore, it had become apparent that steps must be taken immediately to develop a more comprehensive program to adequately meet the needs of the community at this time with sufficient vision to plan for the future.

There were 24 children in the two classes and two additional applications came in once school started. A third class had to be considered.

There were two teachers and one assistant on staff. There was an Administrator for the program on a part-time basis.

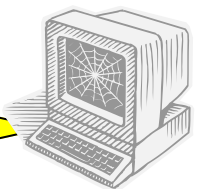
The Ottawa County Commissioners placed a bond issue on the ballot in November of 1969. It was for 3/10 of one mill and would last 20 years for the proposed new school.

.....TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER



Ottawa County Board of DD
235 N Toussaint South Rd
Oak Harbor OH 43449

Check us out on the web at www.ocbdd.org



Upcoming Events

Monthly Board Mtg

November 21:
5:00pm
At OCBDD Building
The public is welcome



Family Advisory Council Mtg

December 9: 10:00am @
OCBDD
Guest Speaker: Barbara B.
Holdcroft, PhD
Families & Professionals are
welcome

OCBDD -RVI-OCTA Closed

December 26

OCBDD Closed

December 27-January 2

Coffee with the Superintendent

January 24: 5:00pm
At OCBDD Building



People 1st Meeting

December 1: 1:30pm
At RVI



Monthly Board Meeting

December 19: 5:00pm
At OCBDD Building
The public is welcome



GO GREEN

If you have an email address & would like to receive this newsletter electronically (saving the agency's paper resources), send your address to bbeck@ocbdd.org.

This newsletter and other information about the OCBDD can be accessed at: www.ocbdd.org

This is a quarterly publication of the Ottawa County Board of Developmental Disabilities. News releases, story ideas, comments and suggestions should be addressed to Ottawa County Board of DD Newsletter, 235 N Toussaint South Rd, Oak Harbor OH 43449.

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