



The Madison Express

Since 2000



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Joining Jim Canney for his recent award were (from left) his wife Melissa, mother Ruth, and daughter Jamie.

Ohio Association of County Boards

Jim Canney earns prestigious award

The apple of their eye.

Each year the Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities presents the Betty Macintosh Award to a professional who exhibits extraordinary accomplishments in professional leadership and advocacy for individuals with mental retardation and/or other developmental disabilities.

For 2009, the winner is Jim Canney, long-time superintendent for Madison County Board of Developmental Disabilities. It was presented at the 26th annual OACBDD Convention held recently in Easton.

While undergoing some personally-grave medical difficulties earlier this year, Jim has bounced back with his usual commitment to improve the lives of people with disabilities. It is for that commitment – one that

has translated into a 33-year career advocating for individuals with disabilities – that Canney was honored.

“Jim is certainly deserving of this award because he has shown great leadership in his position with the Board of Developmental Disabilities and extraordinary advocacy for our consumers,” said Tonya Keaton, President of the Madison County Board of DD. “He has been an advocate ensuring not only what the citizens of Madison County with developmental disabilities need, but in addition, what they desire.”

Jim’s career began in 1976 as a teacher at Fairhaven School. From there he worked as Adult Services Director previous to serving in his current position as County Board Superintendent for the past 21 years.

“Jim has very personal relationships with the consumers in Madison County, said MCBDD vice president Blaine Brockman. “They know him, and he is just one of their friends.”

Through the years, Jim has been a friend to individuals throughout Ohio with developmental disabilities. One of the ways he has shown this is by taking leadership roles in various state organizations ranging from the Ohio Industries for the Handicapped, Ohio Public Images, and the Citizen’s Advisory Board of the Columbus Developmental Center.

Locally, Jim has been actively involved with organizations such as Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Madison County Family Council, London City Council, London Rotary, and as a Deacon for London’s First Presbyterian Church.

“What Jim does for the community goes far beyond running a program effectively,” Blaine said. “People know him and trust him.”

Tigers say — ‘Hoopy’ New Year



Madison County Tigers 2010 Basketball Schedules
 Home games (in **bold**) are held in the Fairhaven School Gymnasium

Division II Tigers

Monday, January 11 — 6pm against Clark County
 Thursday, January 14 — 6pm at Miami County
 Thursday, January 21 — 6pm at Fairfield County
 Monday, January 25 — 6pm at Franklin County
Monday, February 1 — 7pm against Columbus Public
 Thursday, February 11 — 6:30pm at Pickaway County
Monday, February 15 — 7pm against Goodwill
 Thursday, February 18 — 6pm at Clark County
Thursday, February 25 — 5:30pm against Miami County
Postseason
 Weekend of February 27 — First Round of the Playoffs (TBA)
 Weekend of March 6 — Second Round of the Playoffs (TBA)
 Weekend of March 26 — FINAL FOUR in Columbus



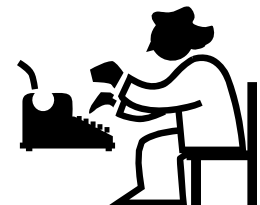
Division IV Tigers

Thursday, January 7 — 6pm at Fairfield County
Wednesday, January 13 — 6:30pm against Clinton County
Wednesday, January 20 — 6pm against Fayette County
 Tuesday, January 26 — 6:30pm at Franklin County
 Wednesday, February 3 — 6pm at Miami County
 Tuesday, February 9 — 6:30pm at Columbus Public
Wednesday, February 17 — 6pm against Clark County
Thursday, February 25 — 6:45pm against Miami County
Postseason
 Weekend of February 27 — First Round of the Playoffs (TBA)
 Weekend of March 6 — Second Round of the Playoffs (TBA)
 Weekend of March 26 — FINAL FOUR in Columbus



VISIT US ONLINE

The *Madison Express*, your monthly newsletter produced by the Madison County Board of Developmental Disabilities, is now online!!



Just follow these easy steps

- **Visit the Madison County, Ohio website — www.co.madison.oh.us**
- **Scroll down the page and click on ‘MCBDD’ in the far left column**
- **Then, you will see options to which newsletter you’d like to see — displayed in FULL COLOR**



Fairhaven visits Beightler

Let the season begin.

For some people, the Christmas season starts when the shopping begins the day after Thanksgiving.

Even others look at the Advent calendar.

For Beth Colvin, the holidays don't begin until she sees the smiling faces of 100-plus children as they unwrap gifts they receive during a special visit from the season's legendary jolly old elf.

Colvin, the Property Management Supervisor for Beightler Armory, has played an integral role the past 18 years in providing a happy holiday for the youth of Columbus and beyond.

This year marked the sixth year that Madison County youngsters were beneficiaries of the hospitality of the military personnel and civilians affiliated with Beightler Armory. For more than 40 years, the military facility has instilled the holiday spirit in countless children.

"The effort that goes in to making sure the day of activities, lunch, and our Santa visit are truly special is tremendous," said Peg Johnson, Children Services Director for the Madison County Board of



It was fun for all at Beightler Armory. Josh Hysell (above) gets his face painted, while Britney Eades (left) receives a gift from Santa.



Developmental Disabilities. "For some of these students, this day will be the biggest part of their Christmas holiday."

The same can be said of Colvin, who regretfully will be relinquishing her leadership of the annual event due to a promotion that she earned.

"I will miss it," Colvin said. "Seeing the kids' joy as they open the presents has meant the most to me."

For many Decembers, Beightler Armory was synonymous with the Columbus schools that serve children with disabilities, but Madison County youngsters have been the grateful recipients since 2004.

This year's Madison County students included ones from Fairhaven, London, West Jefferson, Monroe Elementary, and Jonathan Alder High School multiple disabilities classrooms.

Upon arrival, the kids were greeted by National Honor Society students from Hamilton Township High School – who not only facilitated games and crafts, but

also dressed up as beloved holiday characters such as Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer and Frosty the Snowman.

Much preparation goes into this event by the military and civilian personnel of Beightler. Through fundraisers like their popular Chili Cook-Off, the non-profit organization provides each child with a special gift presented by Santa himself.

Adorned in his trademark red suit, the white-bearded icon – with assistance from Colvin – sent all who participated home with the holiday spirit.

"I don't get into my personal life Christmas until this has been completed," Colvin admitted. "For all of us, it's the kids that make it special."

And for the kids, they were the beneficiaries of yet another one of the countless acts of kindness done by military personnel every day.

**Madison County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

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Madison County Board of DD
Monthly Board Update
by *Betsy Dodds*

- The Regular Monthly Board Meeting was held Thursday, November 19, 2009 at the Administrative Office. Board members attending were Tonya Keaton, Blaine Brockman, Sue Mosier, Mary Hopkins, and Beverly Headings.
- The 2009 Annual Needs Assessment Survey was distributed to Board members, staff, consumers, parents, guardians, staff of collaborative agencies, and community members. The deadline was Friday, December 4.
- The Board nominated Julie Brand as the Delegate and Jim Canney as the Alternate to represent the Delegate Assembly at the 26th Annual Convention December 2-4 in Columbus.
- The Board approved the 2010 Membership dues to the Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities of \$9,000.
- The Board held its four-hour annual training Thursday, December 10 at the Administration Office.
- The final Regular Monthly Board Meeting of the Madison County Board of DD for the 2009 calendar year was held Thursday, December 10, 2009 at the Administrative Office

Madison County Board of Developmental Disabilities

December Schedules

Fairhaven School

Closed – December 18, 2009 Open – January 4, 2010

Adult Services/MATCO

Closed – December 24, 2009 Open – January 4, 2010

Administrative and Family Support Services Offices

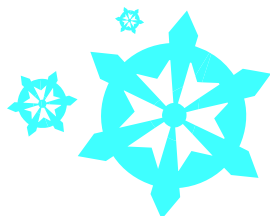
Closed – December 24, 2009 Open – January 4, 2010

Emergency Number — 740-852-8088



Emergency Closings

The following radio and television stations will broadcast if any aspects of the program are closed (or delayed) due to inclement weather:



WTVN (610AM) ... WNCI (97.9FM)
WCOL (92.3FM) ... The FOX (105.7FM)
WSNY (94.7FM) ... WCHM (Channel 4)
WBNS (Channel 10)