



The Madison Express

Since 2000



Peg O' Their Hearts

Peg Johnson Oversees her Final Graduation

Peg Johnson has left a permanent mark on Fairhaven School and the lives of students with disabilities.

On June 7, Peg participated in the Fairhaven School graduation ceremony for the final time, helping to award certificates to those students who completed pre-school.

"Peg has given a lot to this program, and I appreciate it," said Madison County

Board of DD Superintendent Jim Canney to those assembled, summing up the sentiment of the hundreds who have been influenced by the lifelong educator.

For most years since 1971, Peg has been working at Fairhaven. She had served as the school program's Children Services Director since 1986.

Above, Peg poses with just a sampling of the hundreds of students she has influenced throughout her storied tenure at Fairhaven School.

This year's Fairhaven pre-school graduates included: Brandon Brown, Amy Burchett, Devan Fraley, Alonte Hewston, Lauren Holloway-Drown, Joshua Hysell, Destiny McClain, Landon Minor, Daniel Ordonez, Laura Sampson, Olivia VanDine, Lucas Williams, and Jacob Yearout. Also graduating was Britney Eades, the sole graduate from the London High School class this year.

During graduation, the students showed that they leaned their 'ABCs' as they boogied to the Jackson Five classic. Graduate Destiny McClain led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Assisting Peg with the presentation of the certificates were Superintendent Canney and Tonya Keaton, Board President.



I Love You, Still

Original poem by Veriera Herman

As we the people of the world wish we would foresee
The comings of the tragedies and pain
Unfortunately there is no special key

To unlock deceitful hearts
That distort, so therefore to gain
Punishment for what they do
For which they don't ever have a clue
Be as it may the Darken will enlighten
But why one's mind take a chance of
foretelling their victims not to be
frightened
Be ever wonderful is the song
Of this world we belong

*Ms. Herman is the mother of
Charlia Herman and Ketra Brown,
two women served by the Madison County
Board of Developmental Disabilities*



The new face of Ice Cream



I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. Nowadays, we should all be screaming for Amy Burchett. The recent Fairhaven Pre-School graduate was chosen to have her photo on a Velvet Ice Cream Birthday Cake Ice Cream container.

According to Amy's mother Becky, Amy was nominated to be on the container by Elaine Pierce of Columbus' Nationwide Children's Hospital.

Becky said Amy was born about three months premature, and was in Children's Hospital for about three months. She added that now that Amy is medication-free, she's considered a success story.

According to Becky, it is a fundraiser that is being done in conjunction with the hospital's neonatal unit as a fundraiser.

"We did it because it was for a good cause," Becky said. "How could I refuse?"

Special Olympics

Tigers Athletes Selected for State Games

Madison County Special Olympics has selected 25 athletes and Unified partners to represent the organization at the 2010 Special Olympics Ohio State Summer Games, to be held June 25-27 on the Ohio State University campus. The Games are celebrating their 41st anniversary.

Those selected are (the sport listed, followed by the participants): BOCCE — Brian Goff, Harold Wilson, John Bunn, Sam Elliott, Dale Jones, and Jeff Horn, UNIFIED VOLLEYBALL — John Zeeck, Paul Hiles, Shawn Stewart, Lincoln Comer, Jordan Wolverton, Dustin Pruitt, Alexis Evans, Chris Kohonen, and Terry McClain, and TRACK & FIELD — Jay Large, Bobby Higgins, Jon Weeter, Debbie Morris, Rebecca Bell, Shaundra Sayre, Bridgett Gray, Nick Dummitt, Duncan Gholson, and Tyler Casey.

The event will feature competition for more than 2,700 athletes from across Ohio. The program will include competition in 11 sports, as well as recreational clinics and activities.

The athletes of Madison County plan to start the weekend on Friday, June 25 at noon as the Ceremonial Law Enforcement Torch Run makes its way through London on its way to Columbus. The torch runners will stop at Cowling Park around noon. The public is invited to send off Madison County's Special Olympians.

Law Enforcement sponsors Fun Walk



This year there will be a One-Mile Fun Walk on Friday, June 25 to raise money for Special Olympics following the torch ceremony at Cowling Park.

The walk will begin at the park at 12:15pm. It will go to the Court House, and back to the park.



The cost is \$25, which covers registration and a

t-shirt.

Contact Jeannie or Pat at 740-852-1414 for more information.

PLAY BALL!!

Its time to sign up for Tigers Special Olympics Softball. The Tigers have a rich recent history of having success on the softball diamond.



Sign Up:

**Monday, June 21, 2010
6:15pm
Fairhaven Gym**

If an athlete can't attend the meeting, please contact Lincoln at 740-845-2765 to be added to the roster.

Incredible Trainings

Madison County Family Council, in conjunction with the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Madison County (as well as Clark and Greene), are presenting a pair of events for the community.



Incredible Years Parents Group

Tuesday, July 20

6pm to 8pm

London's Presbyterian Church, 211 Garfield Avenue

The Program is FREE

It is a 12-week program

Advanced Incredible Years Program

(you need to have completed the basic Incredible Years program)

Eight sessions starting Monday, June 21

6pm to 8pm

Fairhaven School

For more information and/or to register for either program, please call 740-852-6342

**Madison County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

**Superintendent
Jim Canney
(740) 852-7050
(740) 852-7051 FAX
jcanney@co.madison.oh.us**

**Organization Services
John LaCivita, Director
(740) 845-2765
jlacivita@co.madison.oh.us**

**Business
Susan Thompson, Director
(740) 852-7050
sthompson@co.madison.oh.us**

**Family Support Services
Carol Ansel, Director
(740) 852-7050
cansel@co.madison.oh.us**

**Children Services
Peg Johnson, Director
(740) 852-7052
pjohnson@co.madison.oh.us**

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

- The Regular Monthly Board Meeting was held Thursday, May 27, 2010 at the Administrative Office. Board members attending were Tonya Keaton, Blaine Brockman, Julie Brand, Mary Hopkins, Sue Mosier, and newly-appointed member Diane Miller-Ryan.
- The Board adopted the program calendars for the Administrative Offices, Fairhaven School and Adult Services Day Program for Transportation for 2010-11.
- The School Age Committee scheduled a meeting for Thursday, June 17 at 3pm — prior to the monthly Board meeting.
- The Board accepted the Early Retirement Program proposal, but amended the incentive amount. The Board also approved the incentive be effective July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, and the period to accept this incentive proposal would be July 1, 2010 to July 14, 2010.
- The Board approved to reinstate step increases for employees for 2010/2011.
- The Board members were informed that Fairhaven Graduation will be Monday, June 7 at 1pm.
- The next Regular Monthly Board Meeting of the Madison County Board of DD will be Thursday, June 17, 2010 at the Administrative Office at 4:00 p.m.

**Laura Cotton and Michael Dillon attend
Self-Advocate Conference**

You have the power.

That was the theme of a recent 'Train the Trainer' Conference sponsored by the Ohio Self-Determination Association. Madison County's Laura Cotton and Michael Dillon participated in the three-day event, accompanied by MCBDD staff members Peggy Van Hoose and Jeff Gates.

The conference, held at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, focused on the importance of everyone participating in the voting process, and your rights and responsibilities relating to voting. The conference outlined a program where self-advocates are trained to educate other individuals with disabilities about how to vote.

The program was presented by two out-of-state self-advocates, as well as well as an employee of Georgia Legal Rights.

Among the many areas covered were — How to register to vote, how to cast a ballot/going to the polls, where you can vote, things that might get into your way, and building community connections.

Another area of discussion was the issue of accessibility of polling places. On hand to provide information and answer questions was Brett Harbage, ADA Coordinator from the Ohio Secretary of State's office.

During the conference, Laura and Michael had an opportunity to participate in some role-playing to help them to become more comfortable with doing presentations.

In the future, Laura and Michael will team together to present the voting program for others served by the Madison County Board of DD.

Stay tuned.

