



## together in 2011

### 21st Annual Appreciation Awards

## Ron Spencer recognized for lifetime achievement

For close to 30 years, Ron Spencer has given his professional life to helping people with disabilities. On March 10, he found out just how much he has meant to others.

In his three decades with the county board, Ron has worked in various capacities ranging from being a Program Coordinator at MATCO to Quality Assurance to Intake to Case Records to Special Olympics coach to his current position of Support Services Coordinator.

At the annual Madison County Board of DD Appreciation Awards, Ron was presented with the Dorothy Allison Lifetime Achievement Award. It was the highlight of an emotional evening of recognition. Ron received his award from (left) MCBDD Board President Tonya Keaton, State Representative Bob Hackett, and MCBDD Superintendent Jim Canney.



*For the remainder of the awards, see pages 3-4*



### March into DD Awareness

“Together” is the theme for March’s Developmental Disabilities Month. On March 7, representatives from the Madison County Board of DD and the Madison County Commissioners gathered to proclaim March 2011 Developmental Disabilities Month. Pictured (front, left) – Charlie Elliott, Tori Yoder, Blake Toland, Lucas Napier, Leah McCarter, (back, left) County Commissioner Paul Gross, County Commissioner Mark Forrest.

## Madison Advocates for Progress

# Make MAP Your Destination For Self-Advocacy

The first meeting of a new self-advocacy group — MAP: Madison Advocates for Progress — will be held:

**Thursday, March 24**  
**4pm to 5pm**  
**Fairhaven School**

Let your voice be heard in issues that are important to you. The meeting is open to everyone served by the Madison County Board of DD, family and friends



*Putting Self-Advocacy on the Map*

The group is part of the Ohio Self-Determination Association  
*For more information, please call Jeff Gates at 740-845-2765 x14*

## Madison County attends Regional Advocate Meeting

On March 10, Madison County Board of DD's Savannah Wilson and Penny Powers attended the Ohio Self-Determination Association's Central Region meeting in Columbus. They were accompanied by MCBDD staff members Peggy VanHoose and Jeff Gates.



Savannah (right) and Penny got to hear what other counties throughout the region are doing to promote self-advocacy. Some examples included hosting dances, selling items, and staging various tournaments.

The guest speaker was Christina Miller from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Miller spoke about the upcoming SELF (Self-Empowered Life Funding) Waiver. More information about that waiver will be coming in the future.

The vision of the Ohio Self-Determination Association is as follows:

*Individuals with disabilities have the freedom to choose a meaningful life in the community, direct the use of funds, have support to organize resources in ways that are meaningful to that individual and participate, along with family, policymakers and other stakeholders, in advocating for and supporting the principles of self-determination.*

## 21st Annual Appreciation Night Awards for Paula, Penny and Kenny

It was a night to recognize accomplishments.

The annual appreciation awards were held March 10 at Fairhaven School, honoring those individuals who are dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities.

Superintendent Jim Canney introduced each recipient with words from the winners' nominators themselves. MCBDD Board President Tonya Keaton, as well as State Representative Bob Hackett, assisted with distributing the awards.

Longtime MCBDD employee Ron Spencer was presented with the coveted Dorothy Allison Lifetime Achievement Award (see page 1).

Consumer awards went to adult enrollees Paula Manning, Kenny Stischok, and Penny Powers. Paula was acknowledged for the care she has taken with her family, Kenny was awarded for his involvement with many things, and Penny was commended for her helpfulness.

Earning staff recognition were Fairhaven School Supervisor Mike Mast, MCBDD Administrative Assistant Betsy Dodds, MCBDD Maintenance Personnel Scott Duffey and Curtis Kleist, as well as MCBDD Support Service Coordinator AJ Bush.



**Penny Powers, Kenny Stischok, Paula Manning**

Christopher Zeeck, as well as the Miller Family, received Family Awards – 10-year-old Christopher for the help he provides to his brother and mother who both have disabilities, and the Millers for working to improve the life of their son/sibling Chris.

Megan Ballard and Shanda Howard were recognized as individuals who have voluntarily coached Special Olympians. Sandy Roby of ResCare was honored for her dedicated service as a supervisory person in a residential facility for women with developmental disabilities. Ron and Linda Kern earned praise for their support with Tuesday bowling. MATCO Production Supervisor Jim Zornes and Vocational Specialist JJ Cutlip were honored for their assistance with people with disabilities at work sites.

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**Scott Duffey, Mike Mast, Betsy Dodds, AJ Bush**



**The Miller Family, Christopher Zeeck**



**Ron & Linda Kern, Shanda Howard, Megan Ballard, JJ Cutlip, Jim Zornes**

**Awards, continued from page 3**

London Correctional Institution was honored for assistance with the renovation of the county board offices, while Choices in Community Living



**London Correctional Institution, Route 42 staff**

Route 42 home staff were recognized for the commitment to the residents they serve.

Mary Richardson, Steve Hilgeman and Carol Ansel were honored for their advocacy efforts. Mary was praised for her on-going assistance with a family with disabilities, Steve was applauded for creating a church service



**Rev. Lee & Kathy Stanley**

especially for members of the developmental disabilities community, and as MCBDD Family Support Services

Director, Carol was recognized for her work in arranging respite for an individual with disabilities.



**Janet Norris, Beverly Fugate, Liz Blakeslee, Rosemary Blakeslee, Cathy Thum**

Reverend Lee and Kathy Stanley received praise for their public awareness effort of ensuring a local family with disabilities is able to attend weekly religious services. In the parent category, Kay Johnson was applauded for great efforts through volunteering at MATCO.



**Steve Hilgeman, Carol Ansel**

Rounding out the individual awards was the recognition of Beverly Fugate, Janet

Norris, as well as Liz Blakeslee and family, in the category of service. As MATCO Services Habilitation Manager, Bev was honored for her ongoing helpfulness, independent home provider Janet was applauded for the family-like love she gives to the people she works with, and as MCBDD Service Coordinator, Liz (along with Rosemary Blakeslee and Cathy Thum) were thanked for donating essential home items to an individual with disabilities in need of respite.

Also Charlia Herman and Dan Burchnell were both be remembered as integral Madison County community members. They each passed away during the past year.

All in attendance enjoyed a meal catered by Made From Scratch, sponsored by Madison County Community Housing, Inc., Friends of Fairhaven, MATCO Services, Inc., and One Source Lawn Care.

*Special Olympics*

# Spring into Sports Action



**Wanted: Athletes, coaches, volunteers**

Spring sports sign-ups will be:

**Thursday, March 24 at 6pm at Fairhaven School**

Sports will include Track and Field, Bocce, and Unified Volleyball. These sports (as well as bowling) will be the ones Madison County will be participating in during the 2011 Summer Games, held June 24-26 on the campus of The Ohio State University



If you are unable to attend sign-ups and are still interested, please call Lincoln at 740-506-2965



## A DD Month State of Mind

Several individuals involved with the Madison County Board of Developmental Disabilities attended the state-wide DD Awareness Month kickoff event at the Statehouse Atrium in Columbus, held

in early March. The event included comments from members of the State's administration, welcoming several individuals who have been active in promoting positive images of people with disabilities, and discussion of disability-related issues with the individuals that policies affect directly – people with disabilities, their family, friends, and advocates. The contingent from Madison County posed for a photo on the steps of the Statehouse.



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**Madison County Board of DD**

**Monthly Board Updates**

*by Betsy Dodds*

- The Madison County Board of DD's Regular Monthly Board meeting was held Thursday, February 17, 2011 at the Administrative Office. Board members attending were Tonya Keaton, Blaine Brockman, Julie Brand, Mary Hopkins, Diane Miller-Ryan and Sue Mosier.
- Van Viney, MATCO Services CEO: Greg Kavy, MATCO Services Board President; and Sharyn Koelling, Director of Compliance and Standards at MATCO presented to the Board members an update on MATCO Services since the purchase of their new location and facility in 2007.
- A spreadsheet was given to Board members on the number of transportation trips made during 2010.
- An update was given to Board members on the Central Office renovation located in the previous MATCO building. Possible completion date in 6-8 weeks. London Correctional Institute, as part of their Community Service Program, has been providing free labor for this project.
- The 2010 Annual Report booklet was distributed to Board members.
- The 2011 Annual Action Plan was given to Board members for approval at the March meeting.
- The Board was reminded that the DD Awareness Month Kickoff Event will be March 3, 2011 at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium in Columbus from 10:00 a.m. until noon.
- The next Regular Monthly Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Administrative Office.



## Pizza Hut Serves Up a Hit for People First

*Submitted by Sharyn Koelling*

The evening was rainy and cold, but inside the mood was merry as many individuals, both volunteers and patrons, came out to the London Pizza Hut on Friday, March 3rd in support of a worthy cause: the self-advocacy conference to be held March 17,18 and 19 by People First of Ohio. A mix of more than 15 MATCO and CRSI staff and consumers volunteered their time and energy in behalf of our local chapter of People First by taking orders (Rebecca Bell and Alice Kennedy, right), serving food and bussing tables (Penny Powers, left) between 4pm and 10pm.

Brian Herb, the General Manager from Pizza Hut, along with his experienced able crew provided support and assistance to make the night a huge success. In addition to \$250.00 in cash tips received, Pizza Hut will donate back a generous percentage of the night's in-store sales, which topped \$1000.00. All proceeds will go to assist individuals to attend the conference.

The Madison County Chapter of People First and all of its supporters give a great big "THANK YOU!" to Brian, his staff and the Pizza Hut organization for making this event a tremendous positive experience!

