



Under the Carroll Hills Umbrella

Carroll County Board of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities

November/December 2007

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 6

Thankful this Holiday Season

Here at Carroll Hills!



You've Made A Difference
As Thanksgiving Day approaches,
Our blessings we recall;
The things we are most thankful for,
We recollect them all.
You are really special,
In all you say and do.
You've made a difference in our lives;
We're thankful now for you.

By Joanna Fuchs, www.poemsource.com

Consumer Satisfaction

One thing I have learned in the MR/DD field is to expect change. The Federal government and the Ohio Department of MR/DD are constantly changing funding, rules, and laws that affect how County Boards do business. However, it seems to me that County Boards sometimes get stuck in a rut when providing services. Yes, the funding and documentation may change, but the habilitation and work opportunities often stay the same. This is unacceptable for county boards since there is competition from providers for day services and MR/DD individuals need to have choices.

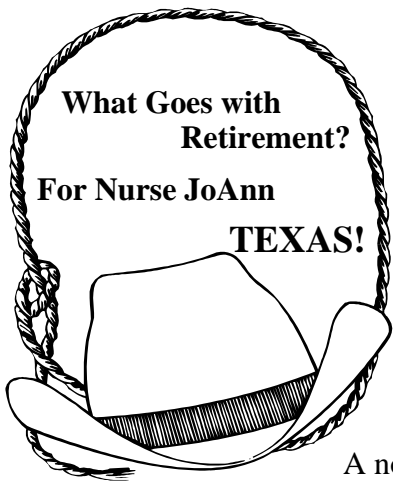


Superintendent Matt Campbell

Carroll Hills Industries and other county boards are looking at ways to improve services to MR/DD individuals. This is where you can help. The Board is looking for ideas and ways to improve services. It is time to think outside the box. Carroll Hills Industries is providing diversified work opportunities through the mowing and landscaping crew, janitorial crews, shredding contracts, promotional buttons, small parts assembly contracts, and simple hand packaging contracts. There is still room for improvement on the work side. However, the area of concern I have is habilitation. It seems to me that the same activities occur for downtime and day programming.

The Board has an exciting opportunity with the addition at the administration building for 15 individuals. Plans are in place to have a covered porch with two porch swings and a fenced in area with a place for a greenhouse and a garden. There has been talk of maybe putting in a pond and a pavilion for recreational activities. The idea of having animals such as horses for therapeutic reasons has been discussed. There is also the possibility of putting in walking trails.

Since we are thinking outside the box, I am asking for your input on our services and on ways to improve these services. I will also be collecting data on MR/DD individual preferences for habilitation services. The ideas for habilitation services at the Carroll Hills Industries property are still in the planning phase and will need your input before they can come to fruition. Please fill out the satisfaction survey and feel free to call with any input or questions on proposed changes. Thank you for your support of MR/DD individuals and the County Board.



HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU!

October 31 saw the end of an era at Carroll Hills School. That was the day JoAnn Rowntree, school nurse for over 23 years, walked out the door for the last time. She has retired and is moving to Texas to be near her children and other family members. Nurse JoAnn's vibrant personality will certainly be missed by the staff, students and all families whose lives she impacted over the years.

A note from Nurse JoAnn



Nurse JoAnn is pictured with Josh Ferguson, student at Carroll Hills.

“As today is my final day here at Carroll Hills, I want to take this time to say how much I have appreciated all of you – students, consumers and employees. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve and work with you and the families. Many great friendships have been formed which I will always treasure. I wish you all the best in your careers with Carroll Hills and also your personal lives. Sincerely, JoAnn Rowntree, RN”



A New **LOOK** for CHI!

David W. Haught

Carroll Hills Industries has a new porch and ramp on the High Street side of the Workshop. We applied for a grant through the Carroll County Commissioners and were unable to get it this year. Our old ramp was falling apart and was becoming unsafe for us to use. Fortunately we were able to include this in the budget this year. Wow, what a blessing!

Our new ramp will make it nicer for everyone to go in and out of our building. We use those two exit doors on that side of our building mostly for emergency exiting during fire drills.

We can now use this ramp for training purposes for ambulatory individuals who start using a wheelchair or those in wheelchairs who switch to an electric wheelchair.

Feel free to stop by and take a look at the finished project. We've had people from the public stop and tell us how much nicer it looks with the new ramp. So, Thank you to Dave McKarns Construction Co. for doing such a nice job.



Limitations – Not on this day!

Rick Goldsmith was glowing with excitement and pleasure in the triumph of being one of the guys as he stopped by CHI on September 14th with his brother, Bob. It made everyone stop and take notice as they looked at Rick, dress in his Harley leathers, on a motorcycle. We're all used to seeing Rick in his wheelchair but a motorcycle, now that's a different story. How did this happen?

Here is the story, as I was told. Rick's brother came up from Florida to visit with him and some of his long time friends. Friday, September 14th, a couple of those friends, Todd and Tim Brace got together with Bob to ride their motorcycles like old times. Not wanting to leave Rick out, they decided to take him with them. Bob's bike was perfect for this, having a high back which allowed them to secure Rick in the seat. Next was how to get him onto the bike. That is when the whole Brace family, (Brace Power Equipment) came into the picture, they came up with a plan to hoist Rick up and then lowered him on to the bike and the rest is history. Rick, Bob, Tim and Todd were off cruising all over the countryside, Atwood, Tappan and back up through Scio - a day Rick won't forget.



Top Picture: Rick surrounded by friends at CHI.



Robert & Rick Goldsmith

Where there's a will –there's a way!

PRESCHOOL TRAINING TIME

Many changes have been afoot in the past 3-4 years for preschool as the Ohio Department of Education tries to make sure the state's preschool classes are successful in preparing students with delays for kindergarten. Each year, a new type of student evaluation has been added. First, we had the Get It Got It Go! Program where teachers assess students on their literacy skills. Next added was the Ages and Stages Social Emotional Questionnaire that involves the parents being interviewed by preschool staff as to their child's behavioral and emotional needs. New this year is the Early Childhood Outcomes Summary Form (ECOSF) which charts progress in how well children function in different areas. Carroll Hills Preschool teacher, Cindy Huber, and Director of Educational Services, Tammy Maney, were asked to be a training team



for Carroll and Harrison Counties. They were required to attend a one-day training in Columbus in August on the ECOSF and, in turn, train other preschool teachers and supervisors on how to use this instrument. The local training was held Sept. 21 at the Friendship Center in Carrollton with preschool staff from Harrison Hills City Schools, Harrison County MR/DD, Tuscarroll-Harrison Educational Service Center, Carrollton Exempted Village Schools, and Carroll County MR/DD in attendance.



Meet Our Preschool Service Coordinator

I would like to introduce myself as I just came on board at Carroll Hills Preschool in the newly created position of Preschool Service Coordinator. In this position, I will be available

to help families in our program access educational and community services. In addition, throughout the year I will be doing home visits and conducting monthly parent meetings. These meetings will be beneficial for the entire family. A few topics that will be offered are Fire Safety, IEP Laws and Successful Behavior Tips.

I'm looking forward to working with all the preschoolers and families. For questions, I maybe reached at 330-627-7651. Thank you, Laurie Farber

Fire Prevention Month

The month of October was Fire Prevention month. On October 25th the Preschool Parent Meeting was on safety. The Fire Safety event included both Carrollton and Perry Township Fire Departments. They held demonstrations for the children, allowing them to sit in a big red fire truck, spray water from the fireman's water hose, climb out of a building onto a ladder and even experience what to do in a smoked filled room. This event was very exciting and educational for the children and families.



November's Parent Meeting will be held at 6-7:30 pm on November 28th at the school on the topic, Discipline. Please RSVP by 11/20/07 by calling Laurie at 330-627-7651. Childcare will be provided.

Ashley Marie Dickson 1993-2007

In ways big and small, Ashley changed our world and left it a better place, touching too many hearts to ever be forgotten.

One of those hearts pictured with Ashley



is Cheryl Rohr, her classroom aide for the past two years. Ashley attended our Middle School Classroom, with Mrs. Shelly Haught as her teacher. We will miss you Ashley, but will never forget YOU!

NEW PLAYGROUND FUN!

You know all those Boxtops for Education, ink cartridges, soda pop bottles, cell phones, etc., that you are constantly reminded to save for the Carroll Hills School playground fund? Well, just look out behind the school and you will see the results of these hassle-free fund raising efforts. To accompany the gazebos and bike/walking path that were installed in the summer of 2006, we now have a beautiful wooden storage building to keep all of the bikes and pedal cars out of the weather and secure. We also purchased a 35 feet long wooden train that allows the children to climb and play all over it. Attached to the train is a rock climbing wall, a swing set with preschool sized swings and monkey bars.

In addition, the already existing large swing set will be moved soon to another site on the playground and new adapted swings will be added that will allow students with physical disabilities to swing alongside their classmates. These swings were purchased thanks to the efforts of Carroll Hills School Middle School classroom assistant Cheryl Rohr. Cheryl has organized 2 LifeShare Blood Drives at the school. For every 25 people who donate, the school receives a \$500 grant from LifeShare. The money from last spring's drive was used to purchase the adapted swings.

SCHOOL YEAR STARTS WITH A BANG!

If school were a poker game, Carroll Hills Family and Children's Program Center would win every hand with a full house. We are at or above capacity in all facets of our children's programs—Early Intervention, special needs preschool and our school-age classes for children with multi-handicaps. Every space in our building is being used to service our children. To demonstrate, we have had to convert a portion of our girl's locker room for the Early Intervention speech therapist to have a place to work with her little ones each week. There was nowhere else! While things are tight space-wise, our full house is a good thing as it means that children from the Carroll County community who have developmental delays are receiving much needed services. Carroll Hills Family and Children's Program Center continues to be a vital asset to the community.

New this school year is a receptionist window in the school secretary's office off of the front lobby. This has been needed for



some time. Not only does it allow office staff to greet visitors and answer questions, it also provides visual access to the lobby area, which, up to this point, could not be seen by anyone unless they were actually in the lobby. For security purposes, we felt it important that our office staff be able to actually see who was walking into the building. It didn't take long for

people to get used to using the window either. Of course, there were many orders placed at first for hamburgers and fries but that has slowed down as the school year has gotten underway. Tammy Maney

WELCOME NEW SCHOOL NURSE

We would like to extend a huge welcome to Kim Yeager, the new school nurse. Nurse Kim comes to us from the Carroll County Health Department where she worked for seven years as the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh) liaison. Through this job, she worked with many of the Carroll Hills families in securing much needed medical assistance. It was felt her knowledge of our children would be very beneficial in making the transition to a new school nurse. We are very pleased to have Nurse Kim on board.

**Happy Birthday
Happy Halloween!**

Trick or Treat? What a wonderful treat for us to have Grandma Betty Eshelman helping in our program. Betty has been

in the Foster Grandparents program (COAD) for a little over 20 years, since 1986. She worked with the children at St. John's Villa approximately 5 years and then joined us at Carroll Hills and has been here ever since. We greatly appreciate Betty and the other Foster Grandmas. The kindness, love and wisdom shared with each of the students means so much to them.

On a personal note: I have a very special place in my heart for Grandma Betty. When my daughter Kim attended Carroll Hills School, she loved working on her reading with Grandma Betty. I believe the Foster Grandparents program is extremely beneficial to our classrooms. Thank you again, Grandma Betty.

Happy Birthday! Happy Halloween!
May we celebrate many, many, more with you.
JoAnn Hilliard



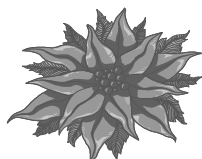
**Halloween
Dress Up!**

Bring in the
Clowns

TRICK
OR TREAT?



Great Pumpkin and Halloween isn't complete without the Witches!



COMING EVENTS

- Nov. 8** - Evening Parent Conferences, 4:30-8pm at the School
- Nov. 13** - Council Meeting - 4 pm at the School
- Nov. 14** - Evening Parent Conferences, 4:30-8pm at the School
- Nov. 15** - CCBMR/DD Meeting, 5:30 pm at Administration Offices.
- Nov. 12** - Veteran's Day Observed - Entire Program Closed
- Nov. 22-23** - Thanksgiving Holiday - Entire Program Closed
- Nov. 26** - Program resumes after holiday.
- Dec. 5** - Holiday Dance, 7-9pm Pizza -6pm.at the School
- Dec. 13** - Christmas Program, 1pm at the School
- Dec.24 - Jan. 2** - Christmas Holiday - Entire Program Closed
- Jan. 3** - Program resumes after holiday.

Seminar/CEU's
CCBMR/DD Classes

A New Class Schedule will be available in January
Approved for 30 hr Seminars & CEU's MR/DD.
We also offer Seminars as Independent Studies.
Call for information call JoAnn - 330-627-6555

Special Olympics

Once again, fall brings with it the start of a new season for Carroll Hills Special Olympians. Carroll County Special Olympics athletes may participate in one or more of the following sports - Basketball, Cheerleading, Bowling and Track.

Over eighty athletes are participating in bowling this year. They began their season bowling at Carroll Lanes on October 26th, again bowling in two sessions to accommodate the number of athletes that have signed up. This year's Team Bowlers practice started earlier in order to be prepared for the State Team Bowling Tournament that was held in Columbus, Saturday, October 27th at Holiday Lanes. Competing were 4 four-person teams who bowled extremely well. The teams were made up of the following: Gene Fankhauser, Jim Craft, John Riley, and Jim Totten (who received Gold Medals), Matt Crough, Frank Dickey, Charlie Weir and Jack Hobson (also Gold Medals), Jeff Samborsky, Randy Rodgers, Arthur Fischer, and Eric Prowe (who earned 4th Place Ribbons) and Shirley Clark, Deb Granger, Kim Hilliard, and Amy Jo Pennock (who also brought home 4th Place Ribbons). Nice Job!

Changes are in store for the Basketball Team this year as well. There will be two teams and all will begin practice on Monday, November 5th. Watch for an article from Coordinator Tomi Moore, featuring the Basketball Team & Cheerleaders in our next issue. Game Schedules may be obtained at either the school or workshop.



HAWY

Partners! Join us at CHS,
December 13, 1:00 pm Sharp!

Christmas at the O.K. Corral



The townspeople of Snowy Gulch prepare to celebrate Christmas with their annual festival at the O.K. Corral on the edge of town. Bubble Gum Bart, who is very annoyed by all the noise and happiness, tries to stop the celebration by threatening to cover the whole town in bubble gum. Frightened and desperate, the townspeople telegraph Santa Claus for help, so he sends The Candy Cane Kid to the rescue. The Kid confronts Bart with his most powerful strategy: communication. Bart breaks down and admits to The Kid that he doesn't really hate Christmas; he's just lonely and feels left out. The townspeople respond by welcoming Bart into their celebration and into their town. The Kid is a hero, Bart is loved, and the celebration of Christmas at the O.K. Corral is the greatest ever.

What could be more fun than dressing up in old-time western garb and letting our children ham it up in this joyous musical?

Our Christmas program is scheduled for Thursday December 13th at 1:00pm. Thank you, Mrs. Baugter.

**Carroll County Board
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and Developmental Disabilities
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