

Leslie Perry retires after 30 years with ACBDD

The end of this month marks the conclusion of 30 years of service for Leslie Perry. She has officially retired from the ACBDD.

Leslie was instrumental in the formation of ATCO Idol, ATCO Seniors, the ACBDD's community inclusion efforts, and establishing our newest division—the Office of Integrate Athens.

Leslie played a key part in helping make the ATCO Transition successful. She made everyone feel comfortable with the changes that came over that three-year process. She spent the past 8 months supporting the efforts of creating the new

division of Integrate Athens, where she supported advocacy efforts, community recreation, created a vacation planning class, and continued to foster community inclusion growth in ATCO Idol. The Integrate Athens team and the ACBDD is stronger because of her ideas and hard work. The essence of ATCO is within Leslie and will continue in the work we all do. Congratulations, Leslie!



Job Developer Angela Carter recognized by Arc of Ohio

Congratulations to Job Developer Angela Carter! Angela received an Honorable Mention for Professional of the Year by The Arc of Ohio.

Angela has been with PersonnelPlus since 2016. Previously, she worked for Employment Connections in Hocking County. Angela's years of experience, drive and hard work have led to record job placements over the past three years. Angela not only has great connections with the job seekers she works with but also the businesses in Athens County.

Congratulations, Angela, on your well-deserved recognition!



Boxing for Books approaches; sell-out show expected

Boxing for Books is right around the corner (Sunday, November 10, at Trimble Local Schools Elementary/Middle School). Both Kevin and Chris continue to work hard, preparing for their big boxing match, which is the main event.

There is a new face to the line-ups. Scott, our MUI Coordinator, has joined the ranks. Let's show up in force to give them our support!

Proceeds from the event will go to the Trimble Local School District to cover the expenses of educational materials. We hope to see you there!



The following story was provided by a mother whose child is enrolled our Early Intervention Program:

Scarlett had physical therapy on Friday [with Adrienne Nagy], and the focus of our appointment was on developing balance and core strength to begin walking. Our physical therapist explained that she'll need to be strong enough to walk with just one hand held before she'll be able to take her first steps. This insight was so helpful because we weren't sure of the best way to support her in developing the right skills.

We've been practicing the one-hand-held walking all weekend and now she's mastered it! It might seem like something small, but for us, it feels HUGE! Hoping she'll be ready to walk into her next clinic visit. ...

We're transitioning to speech therapy now, as she needs a little more support developing her language skills. Sad to say "bye" to Adrienne, but so thankful for all we've accomplished with her help! We've been so lucky to have her as part of our team. Thank you, Adrienne!!



New banners in entryway focus on home school and Beacon School pride

We recently installed new school spirit banners in our entryway at Beacon School.

The ACBDD/Beacon School serves students from all five public school districts. These banners are a reminder that no matter if you're a Spartan, a Bulldog, a Lancer, a Buckeye, or a Tomcat, here we are all Beacon!



Rainier, the therapy dog, visits Beacon students weekly

We are so pleased to share Rainier (and her human mom, Fran Arnold Wymbbs) have decided to volunteer at Beacon School. Rainier has recently passed her Good Canine Citizens Test and is now an official therapy dog. Every Monday, she comes to visit. Everyone loves spending time with her. Thank you, Rainier and Fran!





Athens Fire Department visits Beacon during Fire Prevention Week

The Athens Fire Department visited Beacon School earlier this month to kick off Fire Prevention Week.

Thank you to the fire-fighters for educating our students and staff on this important topic. Everyone enjoyed the experience – and firing the water hose!



Youngsters at Beacon School get their eyes checked

Several of our Beacon School students were sent home earlier this month with fun stickers that said “I got my eyes checked.”

That’s because our wonderful nurse staff did just that! Students from select grades get their eyes checked every two years. This is just one of the many special services offered at Beacon School.





During Community Helpers unit, students meet Mayor & EMS staff



One of our preschool classroom’s units on Community Helpers included special visitors, like Athens Mayor Steve Patterson and MedCare EMS staffers.

Steve sat with students in the classroom and talked about what it means to be a mayor and answered their questions. Their favorite topic was the city pool.

MedCare came in their ambulance and allowed the students to explore inside. They even ran the lights and sirens, which many of the students loved.

Students, staff welcomed fall with visit to Walker Farm

Our students and staff had a great time visiting Walker Farm earlier this month. The weather was perfect for hay rides, exploring the corn maze, picking pumpkins, and learning about wild animals. Welcome, fall! We look forward to visiting again next year.



Beacon hosts inaugural chili cook-off

For the first time, Beacon staff hosted their own chili cook-off. There were so many wonderful chilies, it was difficult to choose. First place went to Heidi, Second place went to Kendall, and Third place went to Sam. Congrats to you all!

Winners from this inaugural event will soon compete against the very best chili makers of the SSA department.

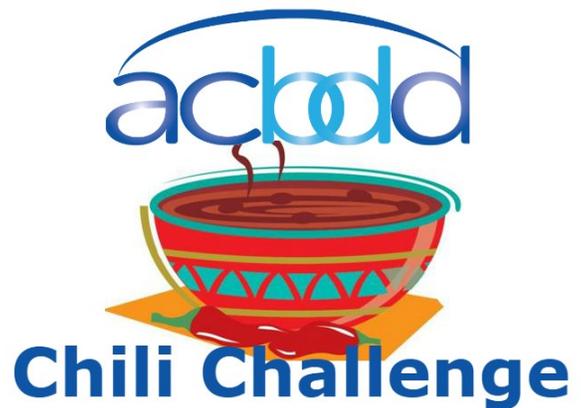
Who will be officially named the best chili maker of the ACBDD? We shall find out soon!

SSA team hosts 5th annual chili cook-off

No team does chili cook-offs like the SSA department. They hosed their 5th annual event earlier this month, as well. This year's celebrity judges included Billy Peacock, Peggy Lewis, Diane Pfaff, and Keith Andrews.

For the 3rd year in a row, Bethany took home the coveted golden ladle trophy, as the Judge's Choice. Clayton was selected as the People's Choice winner. Congrats to you both! And thanks to Davey for serving as the emcee for the day.

As mentioned, these winners will compete against the very best chili makers of Beacon School. Keep an eye out for more details!



ACBDD places first in OU Homecoming Parade contest



We had a great time representing the agency at the annual OU Homecoming Parade. We are also happy and thrilled to say we won FIRST place for our float!

Special thanks to the Integrate Athens team for all of their hard work. They came up with the theme, the design, and recruited many of our friends and colleagues to help put it all together.

In the float you will see featured the College Gateway, the College Green and Cutler Hall on the back (with a group of wonderful people in between).



Employment Options &



PersonnelPlus
Employment Services

Still the one in Athens County after 30 years!

Disability Employment Awareness Month well received

The Employment Options pancake breakfast and the video series on the PersonnelPlus Facebook page have both been great ways to commemorate National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

The pancake breakfast Open House created a welcoming environment for new and old friends to gather. Special thanks goes out to IHOP for donating the supplies.

The video series on the PersonnelPlus Facebook page has showcased successfully employed individuals with disabilities every day of the month. What a great way to celebrate the diversity of our community's workforce and their employers.



National Custodian Day - October 2, 2019

On October 2nd, National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day encourages appreciation to men and women who keep our schools and workplaces across the nation running smoothly. We certainly appreciate our custodian team and the great work that they do! Thank you Ron, Anna, James, David and Andres. We appreciate you!

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Ron Kelley | Anna Dailey | James Marcus | David McKee | Andres Muniz |
| Lead Custodian | Custodian | Asst. Custodian | Asst. Custodian | Asst. Custodian |

THANK YOU

ACBDD in the news

Beacon School gets top rating in state assessment

The Athens Messenger—October 5, 2019



Community News

Athens County well represented in Washington, D.C.



Dara Walburn (second from the left) was in Washington, D.C., earlier this month educating lawmakers like Rep. Steve Stivers (center) on issues affecting Ohioans with developmental disabilities. Advocates were in D.C. with the Ohio Association of County Boards of DD as part of their first Federal Fly-In.

Dara, an Athens County resident, is the Governor-appointed Southeast Ohio Representative on the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council.

Thanks for what you do, Dara!

Work Anniversaries for November

Autumn Brown — 22 years
Jodi Mitchell — 18 years
Stephen Kramer — 6 years
Margaret Casey — 6 years
Kevin Davis — 4 years

Tracy Gillum — 4 years
Kendall Dearing — 4 years
Robert Hutchison — 3 years
Josephine Queen — 2 years

More scenes from OU's Homecoming Parade

