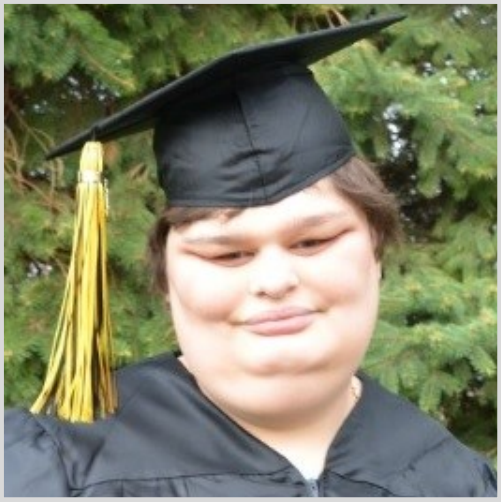
Opportunity Center News

A publication of
The Seneca County
Board of Developmental
Disabilities

Summer 2017

Congratulations

Class of 2017



On Thursday, May 4, 2017 the School of Opportunity witnessed two incredible young adults receive their diplomas. The 2017 graduating class consisted of Alexis Williams, daughter of the late Amy L. Ritchie and the late Todd S. Williams, caregivers and maternal grandparents Bobby and Mildred Ritchie; and Brandon Huff, son of Jamie Zimmerman and the late Gary Zimmerman. The graduates had many family and friends in attendance to support them and celebrate their accomplishments. After the ceremony they were honored with a reception in the gymnasium. The staff at the Opportunity Center have enjoyed watching both graduates grow into fine young adults and we wish them continued success after graduation.

Best wishes Alexis and Brandon!

169 Board Members

Patricia Smith
Sandy Hallett
Amy Kirkpatrick
Joe Moore
Lindsay Parkins
David Shelton

Website

www.senecadd.org

Phone Numbers

SCOC—419.447.7521
Fostoria Re-Ads—419.937.2081
SSA Office—567.938.2381
Family Learning Center—419.447.7674
Early Childhood Center of Fostoria—419.436.0797

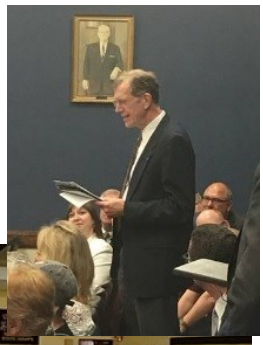
Follow us on Facebook!

Seneca County Board of DD-Seneca County Opportunity Center

SPEAKING OUT FOR **CHOICE**

The Opportunity Center continues to champion the importance of choice for individuals with developmental disabilities. One of the most important choices concerns employment and the right to work in a sheltered workshop if that is the individual's choice. This spring, self-advocates and others from the Opportunity Center took the message on choice to legislators, both locally and nationally. On March 6th, U.S. Representative Jim Jordan visited the Fostoria Division of Seneca Re-Ads. Just two weeks later, the gym at the Opportunity Center was packed for a conference call from Congressman Jordan during the Dessert & Dialogue event. These Seneca County voices were echoed on April 13th, when Superintendent Lew Hurst participated in a roundtable event for Rep. Jordan in Union County with representatives from 10 county boards.

The message reached a crescendo on April 24th-26th when a group of 26 self-advocates, family members and support staff from the Opportunity Center traveled to Washington, D.C. On this trip, sponsored by Seneca Re-Ads, they joined the Accses and Porter Advocacy Groups to meet with congressional representatives and their staffers to advocate for quality choices regarding employment.



If you would like to add your voice to the fight for choice, visit the website for My Voice, My Choice at www.myvoice4mychoice.org.

Special Olympics

Wish all of your Seneca Arrows luck as they go for the gold!

Your Seneca Arrows are currently participating in Spring Sports. Those sports include, Volleyball, Bowling, Bocce Ball and Track & Field. Overall, we have about 50 athletes combined in the 4 sports. The weekend of May 13th was the Track Qualifier where our athletes competed to play in the Summer Games.

Saturday the 3rd of June is the Volleyball tournament, held in Huron County. With the State Summer Games ending our season, June 23rd, 24th and 25th held on the campus of the Ohio State Buckeyes. Wish all of your Seneca Arrows luck as they go for the gold! And mark your calendar on June 21st for the annual Sports Banquet!

School of Opportunity Connects with Crew of US Navy Ship

This February, the School of Opportunity sent care packages to members of the US Navy onboard the USS Philippine Sea. Among the crew members onboard is Bonnie Lucero (far right in the picture below), daughter of Karen Price, an instructional aide in the Intermediate II classroom.

The crew expressed their thanks by dedicating a US flag flown on the ship while in the Gulf of Aden to the School of Opportunity and donating that flag to the Opportunity Center with a medallion commemorating the date it was flown on ship. This flag was presented to the 169 Board at its May meeting and will be displayed at the Opportunity Center.

Saturday, June 24th—11am at SCOC

Please join us in a discussion with your peers about the different successes and struggles facing siblings today. We will provide a deli tray along with beverages. Please invite any family member who may wish to attend, including additional siblings and/or parents.

RSVP to Deb: dplaza@columbus.rr.com or (614) 565-6469

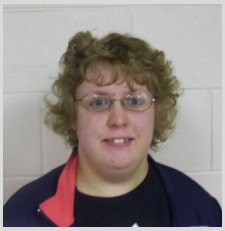
Annual Opportunity Center Program Picnics

Save the Dates!

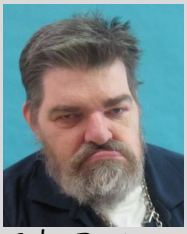
May 26th—Veterans Picnic, 10am-2pm at SCOC
July 13th—Family Picnic, 6pm at SCOC

Seneca Re-Ads Employees of the Month

March 2017

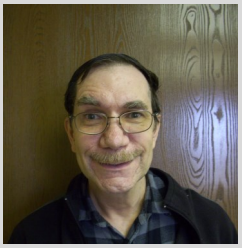


Emily Kleinfelter
Fostoria



John Rogier
Tiffin

April 2017



Dan Nye
Fostoria

Christy Robbins
Tiffin

Seneca County Opportunity Center
780 E. CR 20
Tiffin, OH 44883

The 2017-2018 Program Calendar is enclosed, please save for future reference!

"Faces" - By Alberta Doneghy

Our Mission

To improve the lives of persons with disabilities.

2017 SCOC Calendar

May 26	VETS Picnic, SCOC
May 29	Memorial Day (Program Closed)
May 31	Last Day of School for Students
June 1	Staff In-Service (Workshop Closed)
June 13	169 Board Meeting, SCOC
June 21	Seneca Arrows Sports Banquet
June 22	Special Olympics Torch Run
June 24	Ohio SIBS, 11am at SCOC
June 23-25	Special Olympics in Columbus
July 3-4	July 4th Holiday (Program Closed)
July 11	169 Board Meeting, SCOC
July 13	SCOC Family Picnic, 6:00 pm Opportunity Park
August 8	169 Board Meeting, Fostoria ECCF
August 22	Staff In-Service (Program Closed)
August 23	First Day of School
Sept. 4	Labor Day (Program Closed)
Sept. 12	169 Board Meeting, FLC