

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY  
HOLIDAY SEASON ...

# the Loop

... AND A JOYOUS  
NEW YEAR!

The staff newsletter for the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

December 2010

## WE SAY FAREWELL TO OUR TRANSPORTATION FRIENDS

It's been a great ride.

As we close out the year 2010, we say farewell to the LCBDD Transportation Services department.

Although all bus routes were transitioned earlier this month, the new contract with the Licking County Transit Board officially begins Jan. 1, 2011.

Throughout the years, the LCBDD Transportation staff has taken excellent care of our buses and vans. Year after year,

Ohio Highway Patrol inspectors were known to swoon over the condition of our outstanding fleet.

Families and individuals we serve received impeccable service from our drivers and assistants. The office staff handled every

unexpected and complicated issue with ease and grace. You were always there to help. The list of compliments that everyone deserves is endless.

You all served as compassionate stewards to the thousands and thousands of individuals who have boarded LCBDD vehicles.

At this time we thank everyone who contributed to the Transportation component. You have made an indelible mark on the lives of people -- young and old -- with developmental disabilities in our community.

You also have made a tremendous impression on your fellow coworkers and friends. For that, we offer our thanks. Each and every one of you will be greatly missed. We hope your future is bright and that you'll think of us from time to time.



**To the Transportation staff:**  
Best wishes in your new adventures.



### December LCBDD Staff Member of the Month

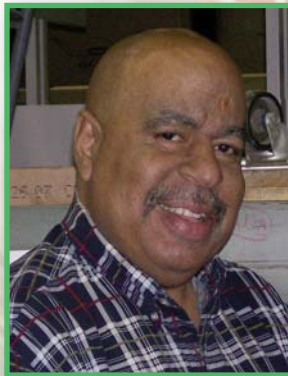
*Beth Rutter*

Because of her efforts to organize "Kaiden's Project," Beth Rutter was selected as the December LCBDD Staff Member of the Month. Kaiden's Project puts informational books in the hands of parents of children enrolled in Early Intervention. Beth helped

with the initial fundraiser in June. Since then, she has volunteered to coordinate and implement the entire project. She even used her thrifty shopping skills to ensure that the LCBDD could get more for its money when purchasing the books. Beth also has developed a database to keep track of the distribution of books.

"The EI staff has benefitted from Beth's willingness to use her organizational skills to develop a system for staff to order books for families," her anonymous nomination states. "EI families will benefit by having books to help them understand their children's special needs."

Thank you, Beth, for your hard work and dedication!



### December LICCO Team Member of the Month

*Albert Hawkins*

Albert Hawkins is deserving of the December LICCO Team Member of the Month award for a multitude of reasons, his supervisors say.

"Albert is a great worker. He completes jobs with exceptional quality," explains Workshop Specialist Lynn Ridenbaugh.

"Always helpful and friendly to his coworkers, Albert is a terrific employee. He is great at keeping the work area safe and clean."

Albert is a Heath resident who started working part-time at LICCO in November 2007. He has since increased his hours to full-time at the workshop.

"Albert likes to keep busy and making money is very important to him," adds Adult Services Facilitator Daryl Waterman. Congratulations, Albert, and keep up the great work!

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."

-- From *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens.



*Editor's note: When we asked for your submissions for this feature, we were overwhelmed with responses. The reason could be the spirit of the season; or maybe your coworkers are great and deserve to be recognized; or both! Whatever the reason, please enjoy these next TWO PAGES of submissions. Thank you all for contributing, and keep 'em coming!*

Thumbs Up!' to **Ronni Bowyer** (Family Support Specialist/Help Me Grow) for organizing a fantastic holiday party for our families in Early Intervention. It was a huge success. Thanks, Ronni, for all you do!

- **Diane Dodson** (Early Intervention)

Thumbs Up!' to **Lori Crosmer** (Service Coordination) for her dedication to making the PALS Group a huge success! Lori planned and implemented a group for teens and young adults with Down syndrome. They are learning about important topics such as relationships, grief and goal setting. Lori has done a great job working with the participants and everyone involved is having fun!

- **Laura Cohen** (Service Coordination)

'Thumbs Up!' to **Dorinda Burley** (Service Coordination) and daughters for putting up the SC tree. 'Thumbs Up!' to **Diana Shannon** and **Tacie Thorne** (Service Coordination) for supporting the People First group with their first holiday party festivities. The group is very enthusiastic.

- **Chanda Busse** (Service Coordination)

I would like to give a big 'Thumbs Up!' to our newest job coach, **Angie Watson** (Adult Services), who is doing an awesome job keeping everything running smoothly in the box area at THK.

- **Keith Kokensparger** (Adult Services)

'Thumbs Up!' to everyone in **Service Coordination** for their support in collecting the new Annual Photo & Publicity Release Forms. Thanks, in particular, to **Chanda Busse** and **Beth Riggs** for helping to get it off the ground, and to **Sue Ormiston** for keeping track of the paperwork that needs to come back to me. 'Thumbs Up!' also to the ladies in the **Early Intervention** component who have recently begun to use the new forms. A final 'Thumbs Up!' to the ASFs, **Daryl Waterman**, **Doug Price** and **Nicki Forrer** (Adult Services) for helping to collect signatures whenever I take photos at LICCO. I appreciate everyone's help and cooperation in this new information-gathering process.

- **Heather Odendahl** (Administration)

'Thumbs Up!' to **Rena Williams** (Administration). She's doing a

great job in her new position and is ready to tackle her first year-end. So far, she is smiling!

- **Teresa McCullough** (Administration)

'Thumbs Up!' to **Lee Balsler**, our contract Behavior Support Specialist at 565. He always takes new referrals with a smiling face and positive attitude. Thanks for all you do!

- **Lori Crosmer** (Service Coordination)

'Thumbs Up!' to **Jay Courson** (Administration) for keeping us safe during this snowy weather. He shovels, spreads salt and places the "wet floor" sign in the work room.

- **Barb Luce** (Administration)

'Thumbs Up!' and a big huge thank you to **Sue Ormiston** (Service Coordination) for all the help she provided when updating loads of IDS information. I couldn't have done it without her!

- **Beth Riggs** (Service Coordination)

Thumbs Up!' to **Mary Spain** (Service Coordination) for being a patient, kind and understanding Team Leader with our Service Coordination team. It is very easy to have confidence in Mary as our go-to person.

- **Bill Godwin** (Service Coordination)

'Thumbs Up!' to **Donna Flack** (Transportation) for 26 years of service, and to all the **Transportation Services staff** throughout the years who have provided safe and friendly services to the individuals we serve. The Transportation component has provided years of fond memories. It will be missed by all.

- **Debbie Freese** (Transportation)

'Thumbs Up!' to all the **Workshop Specialists, LPSSs, LICCO employees**, and especially **Bill Cade** for processing a hot order of 5,040,000 for one of our best customers. Because the customer had problems getting us the material, we did a seven-day job in four days! 'Thumbs Up!' also to LICCO employees **Alison Smathers** and **George Currens** for assisting in all of the LICCO fire drills. Alison holds one door and George the other, making sure that everyone is out at the beginning of the drill, and making sure everyone comes back in the building after the drill.

- **Mike Edgar** (Adult Services)

'Thumbs Up!' to **Sue Ormiston**, **Beth Riggs** and **Brittany Frisbee** (Service Coordination) for typing, filing and keeping everything together at 565. Thanks girls!

- **Molly Butt** (Service Coordination)

**MORE 'THUMBS UP!' SUBMISSIONS ON PAGE 3!**

## ‘THUMBS UP!’, continued from page 2

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Dora Young-Ford, Tacie Thorne, Dorinda Burley** and **Jaime Lawson** (Service Coordination) for helping to make the holidays bright.  
- **Kristen Morris** (Service Coordination)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Lorrie Miller** (Service Coordination) for shoveling and salting the walk in the mornings, and also for having a pot of coffee made!  
- **Sue Ormiston** (Service Coordination)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to Family Support Specialist **Ronni Bowyer** and **Barb Wheeler** (Early Intervention) for organizing a fabulous holiday party for the Love Bugs and their families. A huge ‘Thumbs Up!’ to the **Early Intervention staff members** who volunteered their time to help with the party. A ‘Thumbs Up!’ also to the **family members of EI staff** who also helped. Because of your dedication, the HMG families were able to have an evening to remember. And I almost forgot...thanks, Santa, for joining us and letting us take your picture with all the LoveBugs. ‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Amy Theiken** and **Michelle Rosenberger** (Early Intervention) for completing a literacy project with funds donated by **Granville Kiwanis**. Amy and Michelle were thrifty shoppers and were able to purchase 42 books which will be given to children in the Help Me Grow Program. Good Job, Amy and Michelle!  
- **Judy Buehler** (Early Intervention)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Kristen Morris** (Service Coordination) and the entire **Christmas committee** at 565 for all the holiday decorations and festivities. ‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Beth Riggs** (Service Coordination) for cleaning up our waiting list and getting all our IDS information uploaded! ‘Thumbs Up!’ to the **Service Coordinators** for all the extra work put forth this past year to enroll an additional 40 individuals on Level 1 waivers!  
- **Diana Shannon** (Service Coordination)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Barb Luce** (Administration) for ensuring the gym looked festive for Clinical Committee’s holiday luncheon. ‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Barb Wheeler** (Early Intervention) for sharing office decorations, and **Jay Courson** (Administration) for setting up tables and chairs.  
- **Deb Tehrani** (Children & Families First Council)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Amy Thieken, Beth Rutter** and **Erica Bankston** (Early Intervention) for going above and beyond with our families, especially during the holiday season. Also, a big ‘Thumbs Up!’ to them for being such great people to share an office with! ‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Ronni Bowyer** (Family Support Specialist/Help Me Grow) for organizing a wonderful Christmas party for the Love Bugs on top of the donations to two

EI families from the “Mom to Mom” group. The families and EI are truly grateful!

- **Michelle Rosenberger** (Early Intervention)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Chris Lee** (Adult Services). She is a very patient person and has a lot of positive influence on her crew. Great job!

- **Pamela Richardson, Jaclyn Alexander** and **Kristin Moore** (Adult Services)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to a wonderful partner, **Jaclyn Alexander** (Adult Services). Jaclyn is always very helpful. Thank you for being a great partner!

- **Pamela Richardson** (Adult Services)

A big ‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Daryl Waterman** (Adult Services), who is very helpful. Thanks, Daryl, for all your help!

- **Pamela Richardson** and **Jaclyn Alexander** (Adult Services)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to **Nicki Forrer** (Adult Services) for her patience and skill in working with an individual who requires a lot of time and attention. Nicki’s people skills have helped ease the transition for this individual to the workshop. Keep up the good work!

- **Daryl Waterman** (Adult Services)

‘Thumbs Up!’ to our **Transportation department** for their hard work – from keeping the buses and vans in excellent working order, to transporting the people we serve to and from Adult Services. Your tender loving care of each and every one of your passengers has been appreciated by their families and the LCBDD staff. Good luck in your future endeavors, we’ll miss you all.

- **Patti Gibson** (Adult Services)

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## ‘Caught You Being Safe’ update

The LCBDD Safety Committee recently announced the names of those staff members who were nominated and received certificates for the “Caught You Being Safe” award in the third quarter of 2010.

They were: **Mark Bryant** (Adult Services); **Chanda Busse, Molly Butt** and **Robin Verkest** (Service Coordination); **Chip Kobe** (Administration); and **Betsy Nixon** (Early Intervention). Congratulations to **Mark Bryant** for winning the quarterly gift-card prize drawing.

“Caught You Being Safe” nomination forms can be found in each component. Drawings are held quarterly (prizes vary), but all nominees receive certificates for exhibiting safe workplace behavior.

If you have any questions, please see your Safety Committee representative, or contact **Louise Decker** (Administration) at ext. 6902.

# The Staff SCOOP

This month, we put three staff members in the spotlight (see page 5 for the third SCOOP). Each staff member was randomly selected. They were given questionnaires and instructed to answer any of them that they preferred. Almost all answers appear in their entirety but may be slightly edited, particularly for brevity. We anticipate completing all SCOOPs from the other components within the next few months. When that happens, we'll replace this feature with something equally fun, so stay tuned!



## Sue Ormiston

- **Component:** Service Coordination
- **Title:** Secretary
- **How long have you worked for the LCBDD?** In total, two years this month. Hard to believe it's been that long!
- **What do you like best about your job?** The people I get to work with and the diversity of what happens each day.
- **Where did you grow up?** Right here in Newark.

- **First job:** Babysitting and working at Gene's Ice Cream.
- **What did you want to be when you "grew up"?** I have to grow up????
- **Who was/is an influential person in your life?** My parents -- they were strict with me and my six brothers and sisters, but we learned unconditional love, right from wrong, and a very strong work ethic.
- **Favorite inspirational quote/word of advice:** My mom always said, "This, too, shall pass."
- **Biggest pet peeve:** It's a tie -- drivers who drive slow in the left lane, and reality shows.
- **If you could meet any person (past/present), who would it be?** I did know him, but I wish my Grandpa Ghiloni hadn't passed when I was so young -- he was such a beautiful soul and I would love to have heard more about his growing up in Italy and coming here.
- **Tell us about your family/pets:** Mark and I will be married 30 years next May. We have two grown daughters -- Jessica and her husband Nathan have two beautiful girls, Kirsten and Peighton. Jess is a math teacher in Columbus and Lisa is the Events and recruitment coordinator for the Ashbrook Center for Public Affairs; and of course our furry girls, Zoe and Tess.
- **Hobbies/interests:** My family, reading, playing golf and our dogs.
- **Favorite book and/or author:** I don't think I have a favorite. I like to read a lot of different genres.
- **Favorite movie(s):** "To Have and Have Not," with Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.
- **Favorite TV show(s):** "NCIS" (both of them), "Burn Notice," and "Hawaii Five O."
- **Favorite musical genre and/or artist:** I like all kinds of music except Country.
- **Favorite food(s):** Too many to list here, but dark chocolate has to be at the top.
- **Worst food (s):** There is bad food?
- **Favorite vacation spot:** Without hesitation -- Italy! I can't wait to go back!
- **If I won the lottery, I would ...** Set up funds for my granddaughters' education, pay bills and travel.



## Ronni Bowyer

- **Component:** Early Intervention
- **Title:** Help Me Grow Family Support Specialist (part-time/contract)
- **What do you like best about your job?** I love the interaction with families, getting to know them and developing a relationship with them. When I hear of them getting together and supporting each other outside of our activities, I know that they have a support system in place that will extend

beyond our time together.

- **Favorite inspirational quote/word of advice:** "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." - Maya Angelou. "A child's potential is limited only by the vision of the adults in his world." - Teresa Bengavie.
- **Who was/is an influential person in your life?** My Grandpa Murdaugh. Papaw still lives down the street from my mom, and growing up I spent many days running barefoot in the sunshine down to his house to see what adventures we would have. He taught me so many things just spending time with him, and I was completely unaware because he always just made it fun. He is a carpenter, a gardener, a hunter, a champion skeet shooter, among many other things, and one of the wisest human beings I will ever be fortunate enough to know, admire and love. He taught me that hard work produces great rewards, and that people reap what they sow. He worked life lessons into everything. He taught me how important it is to extend yourself to help those around you. At almost 90 years old, every time I am blessed enough to visit him, I still learn something new. He is very much a part of who I am, and I am very grateful for all he has given me.
- **Family/pets:** I am very grateful to be married to Tom Bowyer. We have 8-year-old identical twin daughters, Katarina and Karianne, a.k.a. Kati and Keri. We have faced many challenges as a family, and together we are still trying to figure it all out! Tom and I are animal lovers and our daughters have talked us into owning several pets. We are pushovers for strays and took in two kittens, Raina (Kati's) and Joya (Keri's); and a rescue dog Madeliene Rose (Maddi), who has to be the cutest and sweetest dog in the world. We also have a fish named Colorbolt, and Kati is begging Santa for a bunny. Tom and I are voting no!
- **Favorite TV show(s):** I never watch television at all. I would love to but I just don't have the time!
- **Favorite musical genre/artist:** I love all music. Some of my favorites are Sarah McLachlan and Jason Mraz and Colbie Caillet.
- **Worst food(s):** I am allergic to chocolate. Some people think that is really sad, and others think I am very lucky.



## Vicki Waterman

- **Component:** Adult Services
- **Title:** Workshop Specialist
- **How long have you worked for the LCBDD?** 14.5 years.
- **Have you worked in other positions at the LCBDD besides your current one?** I worked as a Workshop Specialist Substitute for nearly two years.
- **What do you like best about your job?** I enjoy the people I work with

and I like creating beautiful jewelry in the Spirit Line department.

- **Where did you grow up?** A variety of places in New York state.
- **First job:** Cashier for Grand Union grocery store.
- **When you were a child, what did you want to be when you "grew up?"** I wanted to be a pastor's wife, like my mother.
- **Who is/was an influential person in your life?** My mother. She was creative, talented, smart, hard-working and a God-fearing woman.
- **Favorite inspirational quote/word of advice:** Proverbs 3:5, 6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Lean not on thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."
- **Biggest pet peeve:** People who don't clean up after themselves.
- **If you could meet any person (living in the past or present), who would it be?** Mary, the mother of Jesus. I would like to know what it was like raising Jesus.
- **Tell us about your family/pets:** My brother, Daryl, and his three children live with me. I have two cats -- Fluffy and Koko.
- **Hobbies/interests:** Paper crafting and playing the piano.
- **Favorite book(s) and/or author:** *The Bible*
- **Favorite movie(s):** "The Sound of Music"
- **Favorite TV show(s):** "Dancing with the Stars" and "The Amazing Race."
- **Favorite musical genre and/or artist:** Southern gospel, Sandy Patti.
- **Favorite food(s):** Lasagna, anything chocolate.
- **Worst food(s):** Liver and onions, brussel sprouts.
- **Favorite vacation spot:** Lake Michigan at Ludington.
- **If I won the lottery, I would ...** pay off my mortgage, buy a new car, and give more to my church.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### Coming in January --

- **More SCOOPs (only a few more months to go!)**
- **Healthy recipes are back!**
- **'Thumbs Up!' submissions -- let's see if we can top this month's pages!**
- **'The greater good' returns with a wrap-up of the components' holiday activities.**



## December staff anniversaries

Mark Bryant (11), Lori Crosmer (4), Angie Fink (8), Debbie Freese (19), Pat Kunz (14), Deb Tehrani (2), Tacie Thorne (6), Karl Yost (18).

Editor's Note: These listings indicate the staff members' most recent hire date, although some have prior years of service to the LCBDD or other public/government entities.

## Your 2011 Staff Council

Thank you to those who have agreed to serve on the LCBDD Staff Council in the new year:

- Administration -- **Shelley Hummel.**
- Early Intervention -- **Michelle Rosenberger**; alternate -- **Betsy Nixon.**
- Service Coordination -- **Caley Boyden**; alternate -- **Abby Spear.**
- Adult Services -- **Teresa Valentino**; alternate -- **Chris Brooks.**

Staff Council meets at 2:45 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at various component buildings.

## Welcome aboard!

• **Angela Hall** (Adult Services) is now a full-time Workshop Specialist. She joined the LCBDD just a few months ago as a WS Substitute.

• **Ashley Washburn** recently joined the LCBDD as a Service Coordinator. Her first day on the job was Dec. 13. Ashley is a graduate of Newark Catholic High School and Mount Vernon Nazarene University. She has worked in the insurance industry and is involved in the PTO at John Clem Elementary School. Please welcome her to the LCBDD staff and 565!

## Year-end paycheck notice

On Dec. 20, **Teresa McCullough** (Administration) sent out an e-mail memo to LCBDD staff regarding the final payroll checks of 2010. In case you missed it, here's a recap:

The Licking County Auditor's office will be open on Dec. 30, and is planning to distribute paychecks then.

As you know, the LCBDD is closed that day, so Teresa and the fiscal department have made arrangements for those who normally receive "live" checks to pick them up at the Auditor's office on the second floor of the Licking County Administration Building, 20 S. Second St., Newark, beginning at 9 a.m. You must have a photo ID with you to obtain your check.

Those LCBDD staff members with direct deposit will get their vouchers when we return to work on Jan. 3, 2011. Money will still be deposited into accounts at the regular time, possibly as early as Thursday Dec. 30, depending on your bank or credit union.