



STARLIGHT

FEBRUARY
2024

Take the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics

Okay, Polar Bears, are you ready for a dip!

On Feb. 17, 1-3 p.m., the BVC-Hancock County Special Olympics will host the first-ever Polar Plunge at the Heritage Springs Campground, 13891 Township Rd. 199 in Vanlue.

BVC-Hancock County Special Olympics is hoping to raise \$7,000 through the Polar Plunge. Participants are asked to gather pledges in order to take the dip.

The event is part of a statewide fundraiser for the benefit of Special Olympics.

Adult plungers are asked to commit to "Freezin' for a Reason," and raise \$75 in pledges. Junior plungers are asked to raise \$50 in pledges. Plungers who raise \$75 will receive a Polar Plunge T-shirt. Anyone who raises \$250 also will receive a Polar Plunge towel.

And, if jumping into sub-freezing water is not your cup of tea, Special Olympics doesn't want you to feel left out. Non-plunging participants can raise \$50 and receive a "Too Chicken to Plunge" T-shirt.

To register for the Polar Plunge, or to donate, go to: <https://give.soooh.org/event/hancock-co>.



Molly Dible Appointed to Second Term on DD Council

Molly Dible keeps adding to her impressive resume.

Molly, a Findlay resident,

has been appointed to the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) for a second two-year term by Gov. Mike DeWine.

She currently serves as vice chair of the DD Council. She will continue serve on the DD Council with fellow Hancock County resident Matthew LaFontaine. Molly and Matt both receive supports from Blanchard Valley Center.

"I am so proud of Molly and Matthew," said Blanchard Valley Center Superintendent Kelli Grisham. "The governor thought enough of the job Molly did in her first term to appoint her to a second term to the DD Council. That's so awesome. They both do a great job of proudly representing Blanchard Valley Center and Hancock County."

Molly has been involved in Blanchard Valley Center-sponsored advocacy groups since 2012. Locally,



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DATES TO REMEMBER | VISIT WWW.BLANCHARDVALLEY.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

February 3 - 4
**S.O. NW Ohio Regional
Basketball Tournament,
Van Buren**

February 6 - 6:30pm
**Summer Sports Code
of Conduct**

February 7 - 1pm
Provider Meeting

February 17
Polar Plunge

February 19
President's Day / BVC Closed

February 23 - 25
**S.O. State Indoor Winter Games
(BGSU)**

February 24 - 9am
Cabin Fever

February 26 - 5:30pm
Board Meeting

NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

BVC Has Activities to Get You Through the Doldrums of Winter



I know. It's February in Ohio – gray, wet, cold and miserable.

I always feel like if I can get to the end of February, there's light at the end of the tunnel, and spring is within reach. (I know, March can be nasty and that light might be an oncoming train, but let's try to think positive.)

To help everyone get to the end of that tunnel, BVC has some great activities in February.

Our Hancock County Special Olympic basketball team will compete in the Northwest Regional Tournament Feb. 3-4 in Van Buren, and Feb. 10 at the Bowling Green Community Center. Let's get out and support our hoopsters.

The first-ever Polar Plunge will take place on Feb. 17, 1-3 p.m., at the Heritage Springs Campground, 13891 Township Rd. 199 in Vanlue. This is a fundraiser for Special Olympics. Come on out and take a dip.

We will host a Cabin Fever Reliever event on Feb. 24, 9 a.m. - noon, at Blanchard Valley Center. We'll have games and activities. And fun. Did I mention fun? Come on out and let's beat the doldrums back and head toward spring.

Kelli Grisham, Superintendent

BVC Hosting Cabin Fever Reliever

Blanchard Valley Center will host a Cabin Fever Reliever event on Feb. 24, 9 a.m. - noon, at Blanchard Valley Center, 1700 E. Sandusky St. in Findlay.

The Cabin Fever Reliever is a chance to get out of the house and get to know the Blanchard Valley Center community a little better. Simply, it's an opportunity to have some fun.

The conference center will be open for three hours of puzzles, crafts, board games, cards and trivia. There will be an obstacle course set up for kids.

No registration is required. Simply, just show up and have some fun.

CONTINUED "MOLLY DIBLE APPOINTED TO SECOND TERM ON DD COUNCIL"

she has served as secretary of the Aktion Club of Hancock County, is a member of the Speaks Out advocacy group, is a statewide trainer for Project Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility, served as secretary of the Northwest Region of the Ohio Self Determination Association, and is an advocate for We Thrive Together.

At the DD Council, Molly serves on the Community Living Committee, Outreach Committee, Leadership Committee, Bylaws and Policies Committee, and Children and Health Committee.

"Molly is very organized at her meetings," said Danielle Fisher, a Blanchard Valley Center employee who assists Dible at the DD Council meetings. "She is really on top of things and makes sure to voice her concerns at the meetings."

Molly's second term will run through 2026.

Molly advocates for using waivers to pay for assistive technology to ensure safety at home. She uses assistive technology and is happy to share her experience with others. She enjoys attending Challenged Champions Equestrian Center, doing yoga, and being a substitute for a bunco club.

BVC provides resources and supports that empower people with DD to live lives with meaning and purpose.



Blanchard Valley Center

Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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**Service & Support
Emergency Number**
419-722-9262

