



STARLIGHT

DEC. 2018
ISSUE

Molly Dible to Lead OSDA Region 1

Molly Dible, an advocate from the Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities, has been elected to lead the northwest region of the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA) in 2019.

Molly will serve as the regional co-chair for 17 counties in the statewide advocacy group. She is the first person from Blanchard Valley Center to be elected to an OSDA office.

"I'm really excited about this," Molly said. "I'm looking forward to leading the training at Tiffin and the meetings at Fort Ball."

Molly, who has been involved in advocacy programs since 2016, will plan the agenda and conduct five regional meetings. She also will plan and facilitate regional Project STIR trainings, which are held quarterly at Tiffin University.

"We are so proud of Molly for this achievement," said Cheryl Strohm, Advocacy and Support Coordinator for

Blanchard Valley Center.

"She has been active in Project STIR and OSDA. Now, she can help others discover their voice through her leadership."

In addition to OSDA and Project STIR, Molly also serves as vice president of the Aktion Club, is a Project STIR Ohio leader, and participates in Hancock Speaks Out and STIR Masters.

OSDA is a non-profit organization that empowers people with disabilities.



BVC Shows Gratitude by Giving



Blanchard Valley Center takes "an attitude of gratitude" to heart throughout the year, and especially during the holiday season. BVC has found several ways to give back to its community and express its thanks for the support we receive from the Hancock County community.

BVC employees have been involved in donating to City Mission, participating in Coats for Christmas, and ringing bells for the Salvation Army. Aktion Club recently provided a Thanksgiving dinner, complete with all the trimmings, to a local family. Finally, Aktion Club and BVC employees jointly created packages for Operation Shoe Box, the annual campaign to collect gifts for children in need.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 7 - 6PM
Sensory Movie

Dec. 13 - 6PM
BVS Christmas Program

Dec. 14 - 9:30AM
Breakfast with Santa

Dec. 19 - 11AM
Provider Luncheon

Dec. 25-Jan. 1
BVC Closed

Jan. 2
BVC re-opens



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER **Rob Scasny**

Last summer, on his own time and dime, Rob Scasny of the Maintenance Department, took a couple of individuals we support to

a Toledo Mud Hens baseball game. He initiated the activity himself and made all the arrangements.

More recently, Rob created the idea of the circus theme for the Halloween parade and designed the entry, helping Blanchard Valley Center defend its Best of Show title.

He put a lot of energy into the design, construction, and painting. He designed the elephants so that individuals who use wheelchairs could participate in the parade.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH **Matthew Reedy**

Matthew has made great gains in occupational therapy. He participates in all tasks presented to him during treatment. He continues to surpass

expectations and completes the tasks with a smile.

Matthew also has improved his communication skills. He reaches out, points, and makes sounds to communicate. He recently started using a trial voice output device and is getting the hang of it. He also uses some sign language.

He works very hard and is always excited to come to therapy. We see much potential in Matthew and can't wait to see what he will accomplish next year.

NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Spirit of the season abounds at BVC



It's that most wonderful time of the year and the spirit of the season abounds at Blanchard Valley Center. Our BVS students will bring us the sights and sounds of the Christmas with their Christmas program on Dec. 13. We also look forward to the joy reflected in the children's faces as they visit with Santa Claus during the annual Breakfast with Santa.

not have been possible. We truly appreciate all that you do to make what we do possible.

So, to everyone, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kelli Grisham
Superintendent

The staff and others have felt the giving spirit as they collected food and household items for City Mission and an assortment of coats for the annual Coats for Christmas drive. They also lent a hand ringing the bell for the Salvation Army.

Congratulations to our own Molly Dible who has been elected co-chair of the OSDA Northwest Region for 2019. We are proud of all our advocates and are especially proud to have Molly representing us with her leadership.

Finally, as we wrap up 2018, we want to thank everyone throughout Hancock County for your continued support of BVC. This has been a great year, but without you, it would

Beautiful blooms everywhere!



Special Olympics coach Lauren Warnement, with athlete Jacob Semmes, sort the more than 250 poinsettias sold this year to support Hancock County Special Olympics programs.

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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