



# STARLIGHT

APRIL  
2019

## Devin Gallegos Named Lowe's Employee of the Month



Devin Gallegos, who receives supports from Blanchard Valley Center, was recently honored as the Lowe's Employee of the Month.

Devin, who is a 2011 Findlay High School graduate, has been employed by Lowe's for five years.

"Devin has been a tremendous employee for Lowe's," said Cari Taylor, Devin's Service and Support Administrator. "He has such a positive attitude and that translates to a great work ethic. We're all very proud of Devin."

Along with that great work ethic, Devin is a talented artist. He excels at painting cartoon characters like Scooby Doo, Thomas the Train, and SpongeBob SquarePants, and has had his artwork showcased at Kan Du Studios. He is involved with art events at the Jones Mansion and at the Blanchard Valley Center craft shows.

He also is involved with Aktion Club and Speaks Out.

Congratulations, Devin.

## Celebrity Basketball Game a Slam-Dunk Success

The fourth annual BVC Celebrity Basketball Game, held March 19 at the Croy Gymnasium at the University of Findlay, was a huge success. Hancock County celebs teamed up with Special Olympics athletes. We're already looking forward to next year's game.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### Lunch & Learn - April 16, 12-1 p.m.

Become a friend to someone with dementia. This lunch will give you an understanding of the things you can do to make a difference in the life of someone with dementia. The session will be led by Marty Williamson, program director for the Ohio Council for Cognitive Health. To RSVP, contact Denise Roush at 419.422.6387, ext. 1012.

#### Dinner & Dialogue - April 24, 5:30-7 p.m.

This Dinner & Dialogue will focus on Help Me Grow and Early Intervention. A panel of individuals who have had children go through these programs will be on hand to walk attendees through the process. If you are the parent or foster parent of a child who might benefit from these programs, please plan to attend. Childcare will be available. To RSVP, call 419.422.8173.

Both programs will be held at Blanchard Valley Center, 1700 E. Sandusky St., Findlay.



PROVIDER OF THE QUARTER  
**Bridges for Freedom**

Angie Buttles accepts the award.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH  
**Noah George**

## Special Olympics Coaches Needed

Hancock County Special Olympics is seeking volunteers to help coach its teams.

The organization is currently looking for coaches for its Unified Golf and Skills Softball programs.

“Coaching a Special Olympics team can be one of the most rewarding jobs a person can ever take on,” said Special Olympics Coordinator Melanie Williams. “We have an outstanding Special Olympics program, and we’re looking for individuals who will help us continue that level of excellence.”

Both sports require a commitment of overseeing of one practice a week and attending two tournaments. Both sports begin in early June and run through September.

Interested candidates should contact Melanie Williams at 419.422.6387, ext. 1024.

NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

## Many Thanks for the Continued Support of People with Disabilities



March, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, is now in our rearview mirror.

To the many citizens and businesses who helped us raise awareness of people with disabilities who live in our neighborhoods, thank you for your incredible support.

Local businesses graciously hosted our Hot Chocolate Bars/Selfie Stations, which presented an opportunity for local residents to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate

and gave our employees and people we support a chance to talk about the good work that goes on here at Blanchard Valley Center. In particular, I’d like to thank Marathon Petroleum and Blanchard Valley Health Systems for their generous donations. Thanks to the schools and Findlay Library, where our employees read about inclusion. I’d also like to thank our employees for their hard work and continued commitment to the individuals we support.

To be kept up to date on the latest news from Blanchard Valley Center, check out our social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Kelli Grisham, Superintendent

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

1700 E. Sandusky Street, Findlay, OH 45840  
blanchardvalley.org

**Administration Number**

419-422-6387

**Service & Support Emergency Number**

419-722-9262