

HOPE ROUND UP

NEWS FROM HOPE SERVICES

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities



Join Our *Newsletter*

Subscribe to our newsletter to get our latest news and updates

Scan the code below to sign up!



How Are We Doing? Your Feedback Matters!

Thank you for being a valued member of our newsletter community. Please feel free to reach out at any time to provide your feedback, it matters! Together, let's make the HOPE Round Up even better! Looking forward to hearing from you! Ideas, suggestions and constructive criticism can be sent to: Keri Bunke, Community Relations Coordinator at kbunke@henrydd.org

Happy New Year from HOPE Services!

As we step into 2025, HOPE Services extends our warmest wishes to all for a year filled with hope, happiness, and new opportunities.

Reflecting on 2024, we are filled with gratitude for the incredible support from our community. Together, we've accomplished so much, from successful events like the HOPE Foundation BBQ fundraiser, celebrating self-advocacy through Voices of HOPE, and enhancing accessibility in our community. We thank each of you for your contributions, big or small, that made this past year so impactful.

Looking ahead, we're excited to continue empowering individuals with developmental disabilities and fostering a more inclusive community. Stay tuned for upcoming events, initiatives, and ways to get involved. Let's make 2025 a year to remember!

From all of us at HOPE Services,
Happy New Year!

Board Meeting
Reminder

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday January 15th at 4pm in the Activity Center.

The HOPE Services Office will be closed on January 20, 2025 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Pictured left to right: Dan Bischoff (Board Member), Jessica Harmon (Early Intervention Director), Tracy Deblin (Business Manager), Heather Obermyer (Operations Manager), & Kelly Rieke (Superintendent).

Members of our amazing team from HOPE Services attended the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) Annual Conference in December.

This event provides a fantastic opportunity for learning, networking, and sharing ideas to better serve individuals with developmental disabilities in our community.

We're proud to have represented HOPE Services and have brought back innovative strategies and insights to enhance the support we provide every day.



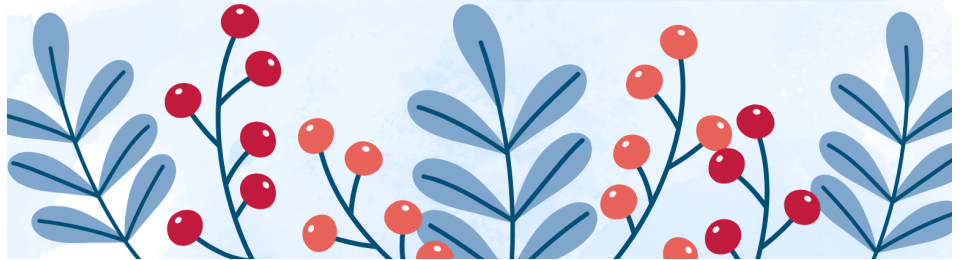
Celebrating in January

January Birthdays

- Kelly Rieke
- Phil Etoll
- Jessica Clapp
- Theresa Peper
- Selena Hernandez
- Jennifer Nagy
- Elizabeth Helberg
- Emilee Schwiebert
- Amanda Laver
- Eric Alonzo

Employment Anniversaries

- Lance Jackson - 2 years at Chief Supermarket
- Eric Smith - 1 year at Ohio Guidestone
- Melissa Beman - 5 years at HOPE Services
- Dawn McBride - 5 years at HOPE Services
- Stephani Arnette - 4 years at Easy Living, LLC
- John Hoover - 15 years at HOPE Services



QUOTE OF THE MONTH FROM JESSICA

"Your future hasn't been written yet. No one's has. Your future is whatever you make it. So make it a good one."

- Doc Brown from Back to the Future Part III

We look forward to next month's quote!



Do you have an article or photos to submit? We are always looking for stories. Submit items of interest to Keri Bunke: kbunke@henrydd.org



2025 UPCOMING EVENTS

VOICES OF HOPE SELF-ADVOCACY GROUP

- 14 JANUARY** Blood Drive
- 20 FEBRUARY** Annual Snowball Fight
- 12 MARCH** Tech House Escape House

See page 10 for details!

You can also follow our Facebook pages for future events!



Kelly's Column

January 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I'd like to take this time to focus on the importance of advocacy in our community. Advocacy is a critical component in ensuring that individuals with developmental disabilities have access to the support and services they need to live fulfilled lives. Advocacy helps to amplify the voices of individuals with DD, their families, and caregivers, and can lead to positive changes that impact lives.

Advocacy plays a crucial role in promoting inclusion and acceptance of individuals in our society. By raising awareness about the abilities and strengths of individuals with disabilities, advocates can help to break down stereotypes and stigmas that may prevent them from fully participating in their communities. Advocates also work to ensure that individuals are treated with dignity and respect and have the same opportunities as everyone else to live meaningful and independent lives.

Let's all work together to be strong advocates for individuals in our community and make a difference in the lives of those who need our support!

"Advocacy is the spark that ignites change, the light that guides progress, and the HOPE that inspires a better world for all." – Unknown

Sincerely,

Kelly Rieke



Left to Right: Sue Hartsworm - 30 Years of Service, Kris Banister - 10 Years of Service, Mel Dachenhaus - 25 Years of Service

HOPE Services is proud to honor three outstanding team members for their years of dedication and service to our mission. These individuals have made a significant impact on the lives of those we serve, and we are thrilled to celebrate their milestone anniversaries.

HOPE Services extends our deepest gratitude to Sue, Kris and Mel for their incredible contributions. Their dedication not only strengthens our organization but also enriches the lives of everyone they work with. Their passion and service truly embody the spirit of HOPE Services.

EARLY INTERVENTION DECEMBER PLAYGROUP AND CHRISTMAS Party

Early Intervention December Playgroup and Christmas Party was held on December 10th in the Activity Center at HOPE Services. We had 8 families that attended and participated in cookie decorating, ornament making, family pictures by the Christmas tree, a sensory bin, and floor activities and toys for all ages.



Everyone had a great time!



VOLUNTEER opportunities



Know someone who would make an awesome volunteer?

Share this opportunity with them and help us reach more individuals who are eager to make a difference!

Are you passionate about creating inclusive and empowering experiences for individuals with special needs? Do you want to make a positive impact in your community? If so, we invite you to volunteer with us for our upcoming Special Olympics and HARC recreational events!

Contact Zach Meister for Special Olympics at 419-260-2176 or

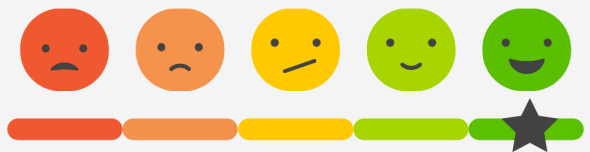
Randy Barnes for HARC Recreation at 419-591-6798.

Welcome TO THE TEAM



Adina Richardson

Adina is a Service Coordinator in our Early Intervention Department. Adina lives in Napoleon, OH with her husband CJ and children Aiden and Lily. She enjoys sports, football, watching TV and taking walks. Welcome Adina!



HELP US IMPROVE!

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK



Voices of HOPE is a self-advocacy group in Henry County. We would like your feedback! We are looking to engage more individuals in advocacy!

Scan the code or visit the link to complete the short survey today! We HOPE to hear from you!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8K8PTCM>

Follow Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities on Facebook to keep up to date with all the latest updates and information!





January 2025 Newsletter

What a month. Winter basketball season is our longest season for a sport. We start practices in October and play into March. It's also one of our busiest seasons. With four basketball teams, there are several games every week.

The School Age Cougars are at 2-1, Lady Cougars currently are at 1-2, Mens Team 1 currently stands at 5-1, and Mens Team 2 currently stands at 3-1. Our January is packed full of games, most of them home, so watch for our February update. The teams are working hard on communication and working as a team.

Our swimming team has been hard at work practicing for their upcoming Regional meet on Sunday, January 19. Our

team currently includes Anthony Delgado, Krysta Delgado, Lydia Knepper, Job Knepper, Jaeson Donnett, Ryan Moore, Griffin Tanner, Juan Delgado, Cody Steen, Selena Hernandez, Aryon Nolan, Josh Babcock, David Rose, Keith Rose, Savannah Rose, Tracy Rose, Domenik Neumeier, Robby Bauer, and Phillip Brown. We have two rookies this year, and they are doing phenomenal.

In December, our State Athlete Leader Council members traveled to Columbus for the weekend to attend meetings on the new and exciting events coming up in 2025. Special Olympics Ohio will be celebrating their 50th anniversary over this upcoming summer. Watch our Facebook page and check out Special Olympics Ohio's Facebook page as they post about the festivities. We are excited to be able to celebrate all our athletes and this awesome program.

We finished up and delivered pies and cookies from our fundraiser we held in November. If your organization is looking for an easy to do fundraising opportunity for your non profit, please check out the Doughbox Bakery in Archbold. They are very easy to work with, and we were able to raise a sizeable chunk of money to put toward our lodging expenses for Indoor Winter State Games in March.

Our fall session of Young Athletes came to an end. This session we had over 30 children ages 2-7 take part in our play program. Special Olympics Ohio sent the athletes ribbons and shirts for the participants. We had a great time meeting new friends. Every session of our program is different. Different children, different personalities. Some sessions the kids love to dance, other sessions they love to climb. This most recent had many creative spirits. Every week we had different challenges, including some that built pretend boats and went fishing. It was fun. Our next session will be starting March 15, 10 am at HOPE Services. Watch for more information and a sign-up.

Our competition cheer team has started practicing their new routine this month. Our competition cheer team will be traveling to Columbus for Indoor Winter State Games in March. They will be working hard to learn that new routine. The basketball cheerleaders are busy cheering at games. They will have many games in January.



Continued...

Cougars Continued...

Some dates to mark on the calendar. We are going to have a lot going on in 2025.

Wednesday, January 15 – River Rivalry versus Defiance County Special Olympics. Games start time at 6 pm. Filling Home Gym, SR 108, Napoleon, Ohio. Come out and cheer on the teams as they play mini-games and compete in half time games. It's a fun battle for bragging rights!

Friday, February 28 will be our annual Homecoming Basketball game and Dance versus Fulton County Special Olympics.

Saturday March 1, we will be hosting our Annual Polar Walk and Pancake Breakfast. This event will be held at HOPE Services, with the walk starting at 10 am. This event will be our kick off to Developmental Disabilities Month.

Sunday, March 2, we will be competing alongside Defiance County Special Olympics with the Defiance College basketball teams. More information to come on this event.

Saturday, March 29 we will be bringing 4 athletes to the Hicksville Senior Classic to compete in the East Vs. West Challenge.

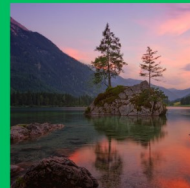
Check our pictures for a full schedule of home basketball games for January 2025.

Thank you for all of your support Henry County! We would not be able to do all we do, without your help!

As always be sure to Like/Follow our Facebook page, Henry County Special Olympics & Young Athletes. We keep this page updated with game schedules, Cougars events and what all the athletes are doing. If you ever have questions about qualifying to play with our program or how to volunteer, be sure to call HOPE Services at 419-599-2892 and ask for the Special Olympics department.

We hope everyone has a warm and safe January.

Coach Zack and Coach Renita



Cougars Continued...

2025 Henry County Special Olympics Polar Walk & Breakfast

Help us recognize March as Developmental Disabilities Month. Join us for a Pancake Breakfast (free will donation) and walk with our athletes. Meet Henry C. Cougar

Saturday, March 1, 2025
HOPE Services, 135 E. Maume, Napoleon
Breakfast starts at 7 am
Walk at 10 -10:30 am



Support our Local Henry County Special Olympics Athletes...

- *Volunteer to coach or help at activities
- *Purchase an item off our Amazon Wish List
- Purchase spirit wear for an athlete
- *Make a cash donation

Henry County Special Olympics
@henrycountyspecialolympics

venmo

Henry County Special Olympics 2025 Homecoming

When: Friday, February 28

Time: 5:30-9:30

Where: St Paul Lutheran Gym
Napoleon

Doors open at 5 pm

Basketball games

Start at 5:30

Dinner starts at 6:30

Dance at 7 - 9 pm



Cougars Continued...

Cougars - Mens Team 1 Home Game Schedule

November 6 - Community Game
 January 8 - Marion Cty - 7 pm
 January 14 - Hancock Cty - 7 pm
 January 15 - River Rivalry vs Defiance - 6 pm
 January 21 - Lucas Cty - 6 pm
 January 22 - Paulding Cty - 7 pm
 January 28 - Fulton Cty - 7pm



All Home Games are at
 Filling Home Gym
 Sr 108
 Napoleon, OH
 Doors open at 5:30



Cougars - Mens Team 2 Home Game Schedule

November 6 - Community Game
 November 20 - Defiance Cty - 7 pm
 December 11 - Allen Cty - 6:30 pm
 January 15 - River Rivalry vs Defiance - 6 pm
 January 21 - Lucas Cty - 7 pm



All Home Games are at
 Filling Home Gym
 Sr 108
 Napoleon, OH
 Doors open at 5:30



Cougars - School Age Team Home Game Schedule

November 6 - Community Game
 November 20 - Defiance Cty 6 pm
 January 15 - River Rivalry vs Defiance - 6 pm
 January 22 - Paulding Cty - 6 pm
 January 28 - Fulton Cty - 6pm
 January 29 - Williams Cty - 6 pm



All Home Games are at
 Filling Home Gym
 Sr 108
 Napoleon, OH
 Doors open at 5:30

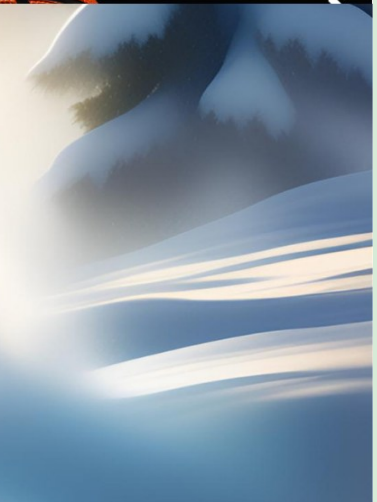


Cougars - Lady Cougars Home Game Schedule

November 6 - Community Game
 January 8 - Marion Cty - 6 pm
 January 14 - Hancock Cty - 6 pm
 January 15 - River Rivalry vs Defiance - 6 pm
 January 28 - Fulton Cty - 6pm
 January 29 - Williams Cty - 6 pm



All Home Games are at
 Filling Home Gym
 Sr 108
 Napoleon, OH
 Doors open at 5:30



Cougars Continued...

RIVER RIVALRY



**HENRY
COUNTY
COUGARS**



**DEFIANCE
COUNTY
TIGERS**



**WEDNESDAY
JAN 15**

**FILLING HOME GYM
SR 108
NAPOLEON, OH**

**6:00 PM
TO
9:00 PM**

**Doors open at 5:30 pm
No Admission Fee**

**Snack Bar
Open**



HOPE Services would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the members of St. John Lutheran Church in Deshler for their incredible generosity and support from their Angel Tree. Their thoughtful gifts bring joy to individuals we serve across Henry County of all ages and needs, making this season truly magical for so many. This meaningful act of kindness is done in loving memory of the late Ann Rettig, and we know her spirit shines through your heartfelt efforts.

Voices of HOPE Events

January 14th—Blood Drive. See the information at the bottom of this page for the Blood Drive information and scan to sign up.

February 20th—This is going to be our Annual Snowball Fight! This year we go up against our friends from Fulton County! We also will have a special guest speaker and a pizza dinner. More details and sign up to come.

March 12th—We will be taking a trip with our friends with HARC to explore the Tech House in Wood County and having dinner after in Bowling Green. They have it set up as an Escape House so we will be following all the fun tech clues to escape! More details to come! Space will be limited.

SNOWFLAKE GALA

The Magic of Uniqueness

Voices of HOPE and HARC would like to thank everyone who joined us for this year's Snowflake Gala! The evening was filled with joy, laughter, and magic!

Highlights from the event:
Amazing live performance by Cody Clark Magic
A delicious meal prepared by Hills Family Restaurant & Catering
Stunning outfits and a lively dance floor.

Your presence and support made this night truly magical. Together, we're making a difference in learning to advocate for ourselves and those that we care for.



BLOOD DRIVE

WHEN: January 14th, 2025 10am-4pm
WHERE: HOPE Services Activity Center
135 E Maumee Ave, Napoleon, OH 43545

Anyone can save someone else's life, give others HOPE.



The Voices of Hope (Self-Advocacy Group) will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on January 14th from 10am to 4pm for whoever wants to donate. This is open to the community and all wanting to donate are welcome! Scan the code to sign up!

Help save a person's life.



Let's get cooking

Cook Night sponsored by HARC Inc.



Christmas is a time of joy, warmth, and coming together, often centered around a delicious meal. As we gather with family and friends to celebrate, why not elevate the holiday experience by combining artistic creativity with cooking? Combining artistic creativity with cooking isn't just for professional chefs; it's something everyone can explore!

One of the most exciting ways to bring creativity into the kitchen is by experimenting with shapes and designs in your cooking. Food that is both visually appealing and delicious can elevate any gathering. Whether you're preparing meals, appetizers, or desserts, you can use fun and innovative shapes to create an unforgettable holiday experience.

Breakfast can be more than just the usual pancakes and waffles – it can be an opportunity for festive designs and fun shapes. Using shaped pans or freehand skills, you can create a holiday morning that feels magical.

- Pancake Art: Use a squeeze bottle to create intricate designs on your pancakes. You can draw simple shapes like snowflakes, reindeer, or Christmas trees. Once the first layer sets, pour additional batter over the outline to fill in the design.
- Fruit and vegetables are the perfect canvases for creating intricate designs. With the right tools, you can transform them into festive shapes that look as good as they taste.

Jacob, Heather, and Kateena had a lot of fun experimenting with this way of cooking. Tonight's meal was pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, and fruit. If you love trying new recipes, have a passion for cooking, and are interested in joining the group sign up by contacting Randy Barnes at 419-591-6498 or 419-599-2892. Hope to see you next month!



HARC Recreation Events

January, February, March 2025

Contact Randy Barnes at 419-591-6798 or 419-599-2892 to sign up and Pay ONE WEEK prior to the event

| DATE | EVENT | TIME | COST | LOCATION |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Wednesday, January 1, 2025 | Harlem Globetrotters | 12:00- | \$30.00 | Fart Wayne Memorial |
| Wednesday, January 8, 2025 | Cook Night | 5-7pm | \$5.00 | HOPE Activity Center |
| Saturday, January 11, 2025 | Out to Eat and Movie | 10:30- | \$35.00 | TBA |
| Wednesday, January 22, 2025 | Game Night | 6-8:00pm | \$5.00 | HOPE Activity Center |
| Sunday, January 26, 2025 | Walleye | 3:00-9:30pm | \$20.00 | Huntington Center |
| Wednesday, February 12, 2025 | Valentine Dance | 6-9:00pm | | Filling Home GYM |
| Thursday, February 13, 2025 | Cook Night | 5-7:00pm | \$5.00 | HOPE Activity Center |
| Sunday, February 23, 2025 | Walleye | 3:15-9:30pm | \$20.00 | Huntington Center |
| Wednesday, February 26, 2025 | BINGO | 6-8:00pm | \$5.00 | HOPE Activity Center |
| Thursday, February 27, 2025 | Tobey Mac | 5:00- | \$50.00 | Huntington Center |
| Saturday, March 1, 2025 | UT Women vs. Central BB | 12:30- | \$5.00 | UT Savage Arena |
| Wednesday, March 12, 2025 | Escape House | 3:30-8:00pm | money to eat | Bowling Green |
| Saturday, March 15, 2025 | Cat and Hat play | 1:00-7:00pm | \$18.00 | Croswell in Adrian, MI |
| Sunday, March 16, 2025 | Monster Jam | 11:30- | \$60.00 | Huntington Center |
| Saturday, March 22, 2025 | Out to Eat and Movie | 10:30- | \$35+ | TBA |
| Wednesday, March 26, 2025 | BINGO | 6-8:00pm | \$5.00 | HOPE Activity Center |



HARC Recreation Events –Kids Calendar Ages 6-15

January, February, March 2025

Contact Randy Barnes at 419-591-6798 or 419-599-2892 to sign up (required) Pay ONE WEEK prior to the event

| DATE | EVENT | TIME | COST | LOCATION |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Saturday, January 25, 2025 | Kids Day at HOPE | 10am-2pm | \$10.00 | HOPE Activity Center |
| Saturday, February 22, 2025 | Imagination Station | 10am-4pm | \$17+ money to eat | Toledo (leave HOPE at 10am) |
| Saturday, March 29, 2025 | Toledo Zoo | 10am-4pm | \$26 + money to eat | Toledo (leave HOPE at 10am) |

Please Circle Shirt Color Desired

All Prices Include Tax

Can also order at
www.companycasuals.com/hopeservices

Submit Orders To Avina's

Community Order Form



| | color | YM | YL | YXL | XS | S | M | L | XL | XXL | 3XL | 4XL | 5XL | 6XL | EACH PC PRICE | TOTAL |
|---|-------------------|----|----|-----|----|---|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|-------|
| Bella Canvas T-shirt Solid Color | Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$15.60 Ea YM-XL \$17.60 Ea XXL \$19.79 Ea XXXL \$21.45 Ea XXXXL \$23.92 Ea XXXXXL | |
| | Silver | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bella Canvas T-shirt Heathered Color | Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$15.96 Ea YM-XL \$17.30 Ea XXL \$18.60 Ea XXXL \$20.01 Ea XXXXL \$21.41 Ea XXXXXL | |
| | Deep Heather | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sporttek Baseball T-shirt | Grey/Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$17.85 Ea YM-XL \$20.60 Ea XXL \$23.72 Ea XXXL \$24.65 Ea XXXXL \$25.60 Ea XXXXXL \$26.98 Ea XXXXXL | |
| | Grey/Blue | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bella Canvas Crew Sweat 3901 | Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$36.74 Ea XS-XL \$37.33 Ea XXL | |
| | Grey Tri | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bella Canvas Crew Sweat 3945 | Dark Heather | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$36.90 Ea YM-XL \$37.33 Ea XXL | |
| | Mauve | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gildan Crew Sweat | Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$23.92 Ea YM-XL \$27.72 Ea XXL \$28.88 Ea XXXL \$29.50 Ea XXXXL \$30.11 Ea XXXXXL | |
| | Dark Heather | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bella Canvas hoodie Sweat 3719 | Athletic Heather | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$40.46 Ea YM-XL \$44.55 Ea XXL \$45.22 Ea XXXL | |
| | Black Heather | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| District dt1100 Full Zip Hoodie | Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$24.58 Ea YM-XL \$26.63 Ea XXL \$27.73 Ea XXXL \$29.58 Ea XXXXL | |
| | Dark Heather Grey | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseball Hat | Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$16.74 Ea | |
| | Khaki | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TOTAL DUE

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AVINA'S
 ANY QUESTIONS CALL Keri Bunke 419-599-2892

Payment Must Accompany Order
 Name _____

Phone Number _____

Contact Us

Seeing Potential – Inspiring Opportunities

www.henrydd.org

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| HOPE Services Office | 419-599-2892 |
| Special Olympics | 419-260-2176 |
| HARC Recreation | 419-591-6798 |



**Scan Code to sign up
for the newsletter!**



Our Mission

HOPE Services is committed to creatively working in partnership with eligible individuals and their families to discover, pursue and achieve what is important to them.

HOPE Services does not discriminate in provision of services or employment because of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age.

