

MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT NEWSLETTER

JUDGE KEVIN W. DUNN AUGUST 2015

REVISIONS TO RULE 66 NOW REQUIRE MANDATORY TRAINING FOR GUARDIANS

Two local guardians visit Judge Dunn to present their certificates from the six-hour fundamentals training course. They are the first guardians in Medina County to complete the requirement.

Revisions to Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence 66.01 to 66.09 govern certain criteria that must be met in all of Ohio's 88 counties for the establishment of guardianships. Changes to this rule, which took effect July 1, 2015, are meant to raise guardianship standards and ensure the best interests of wards are safeguarded.

Previously, Probate Courts were left to develop their own rules and procedures, but after several newspaper articles raised concerns about a lack of uniformity and enforcement, the Supreme Court developed changes to better protect incompetent adults and their property. Part of Rule 66 dictates that potential guardians are required to successfully complete, at a minimum, a six-hour fundamental guardianship training course provided by the Supreme Court or, with the prior approval of the appointing court, another entity. Guardians must then complete three hours of yearly continuing guardianship training thereafter, unless exempted.

Although Medina County Probate Court has continually provided guardianship training sessions, Judge Dunn has decided that his Court will support the Supreme Court's changes to Rule 66 and will send appointed guardians to trainings as needed.

"Our court has had a long standing practice of providing guardianship training which provides assistance and education to guardians enabling them to make the best decisions possible for those they care for," Judge Dunn said.

"I believe that our court has been proactive in its approach to education and guardianship training, sharing and accomplishing these same goals for many years."

In July, two of Medina County's guardians turned in their certificates of completion for the required six-hour guardian fundamentals training, the first two in the county to complete the requirement.

"It was definitely a lot of information to take in," said Sharon Anderson, who has co-guardianship of her sister, Donna. "But surprisingly, it went by quickly and was not as overwhelming as I thought it would be. I left there feeling like I know what I need to know, and anything I don't understand or have questions about, I know what resources I can turn to for help."

Anderson, who is co-guardian of her sister along with their mother, Lena

Zeleznik, said the two were initially intimidated by the thought of filing for guardianship of Donna, who is now 56 and was diagnosed with a developmental disability at birth.

"I would ask, 'Why do I need guardianship? She is my daughter,'" Zeleznik said. "But she is getting older and so am I, so I have to take precautions and do what is best for her."

Anderson said that thanks to a thick packet provided at the fundamentals guardianship training she attended in Strongsville, she and Zeleznik know which forms need to be



Guardians Lena Zeleznik and Sharon Anderson holding their required fundamentals training certificates with Judge Dunn.

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Upcoming Guardianship Six-Hour Fundamentals Training Sessions

Date	Audience	Location (Pre-registration required)
September 16	Laypersons	Ashland
September 17	Professionals	
October 7	Laypersons	Beavercreek (Dayton area)
October 8	Professionals	
October 29	Laypersons	Medina County Juvenile Detention Center
October 30	Professionals	
November 18	Laypersons	Columbus
November 19	Professionals	
December 2	Laypersons	Akron
December 3	Professionals	
December 17	Laypersons	Medina County Juvenile Detention Center
December 18	Professionals	

To check on 2016 dates, visit
<http://www.sc.ohio.gov/Boards/judCollege/adultGuardianship/default.asp>

Changes to Rule 66 continued...

completed to maintain compliance, the procedure for guardianship, as well as their responsibilities as guardians. Anderson said that they were also notified of the 211 phone number, a helpline that provides quick and easy access to information about health and human services.

“It is important that we always do what is best for her as our ward, not just what we feel is in her best interest as our daughter or sister,” Anderson said. “But for now, she is in great health. She is smart, strong, and loving. She just wants to go, go, go and doesn’t like to sit at home.”

The Medina County Probate Court will partner with the Medina County Bar Association to offer a local broadcast of the fundamental guardianship training at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center for laypersons on October 29 and for professionals on October 30, 2015. The Probate Court will also offer another broadcast of the training session December 17 and 18, 2015. Guardians may sign up to attend these trainings through the judicial college at www.JudicialAcademy.ohio.gov and may find additional information at www.MedinaProbate.org.

MCPAL GOLF OUTING



On July 20, 2015, Judge Kevin Dunn, Magistrate Dennis Paul and their two teammates played in the 2015 annual MCPAL golf outing scramble at the Weymouth Country Club.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Medina Community

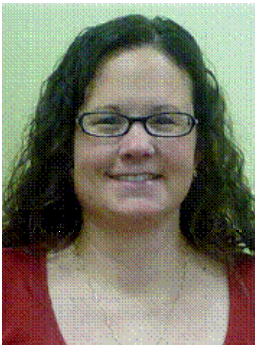
Police Athletic/Activities League, a program supporting the relationship between local law enforcement and youth.

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MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER STAFF MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK

The Medina County Juvenile Detention Center is pleased to announce that two of its employees and the facility's licensed independent social worker have received recognition from the Ohio Juvenile Detention Officers Association for their outstanding work in the Medina community. *-MCJDC Superintendent Ron Stollar*



Carrie Sellers
Licensed Independent Social Worker

Detention Support Person of the Year

"This is the second time Sellers has received this recognition. Ms. Sellers routinely goes above and beyond what is expected of her in her role as mental health clinician. Her focus on addressing our youth's mental and emotional needs is without parallel. She has established solid, positive relationships with our juvenile court as well as many other agencies we work with both inside and outside of Medina County."



Corrections Officer Kathy Schieman

Detention Line Staff Worker of the Year

"Her consistently enthusiastic approach to her work sets her apart from others. No matter what situation arises, Kathy takes it on with a positive outlook. She is esteemed by many throughout the state of Ohio in the field of juvenile corrections, especially for her depth of knowledge and experience. Officer Schieman is an asset to our detention center."



Sergeant Megan Millikin

Detention Services Worker of the Year

"Megan has a strong work ethic and is a natural leader. She is well respected by both staff and detained youth alike, adds much value to the work we do at our detention center, and welcomes new challenges. Sgt. Millikin is an excellent role model for all for our youth and fellow employees."

MEDINA COUNTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSIST WITH BACK TO SCHOOL RALLIES AGAIN



Medina County Juvenile Court Probation Officers and program coordinators attended the annual back-to-school rallies in the county before the start of the 2015-2016 school year.

Each year, Juvenile Probation Officers attend rallies in the school districts they are responsible for monitoring. Pictured is Senior Probation Officer Stephanie Yockey and Drug Court Probation Officer Pamela Ruesch at the Wadsworth Back-to-School rally August 14.

At the rallies, children and their parents may walk around to different tables and learn about various agencies available in their area. The children are then provided with various necessary school supplies such as pencils, pens, notebooks, erasers, and a new backpack to prepare them for the start of the new school year.

Back-to-school rallies were also held in Brunswick and Buckeye school districts this year.

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PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAFETY

Too often, people find leftover prescriptions and simply toss the bottle in their trash can. This makes the medicine accessible to those who may intentionally abuse it.

The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) reports that more than half of teens who abuse prescription pain relievers say they get them for free, from the homes of family and friends. And according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, many teens blame personal and family stress, as well as boredom as reasons to abuse prescriptions and over the counter drugs.

In order to prevent harm from accidental exposure and intentional misuse, it's important to keep track of your medication quantities and follow the specific disposal instructions or utilize local D.U.M.P. (Dispose of Unused Medications Properly) sites.

The U.S. comprises less than 5% of the world's population, but Americans consume 80% of the world's supply of prescription painkillers.

DO'S AND DON'TS:

DO KEEP TRACK OF QUANTITIES

Take note of how many pills are in a bottle or packet and monitor how often you are refilling your prescription. If you are refilling more often than recommended, someone may be stealing and abusing your medication.

DO NOT GIVE MEDICINE TO FRIENDS

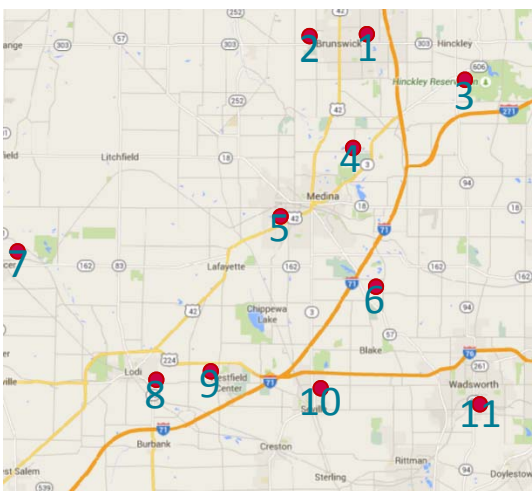
Doctors prescribe medicine based on your specific symptoms and medical history. Something that works for you may be dangerous for someone else.

PROPERLY DISPOSING OF UNUSED OR EXPIRED MEDICATION:

Take advantage of programs that allow the public to take unused drugs to a central location for proper disposal, like the Medina County D.U.M.P. Program or National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.

MEDINA COUNTY D.U.M.P. SITES

Dispose of Unused Medications Properly



D.U.M.P. boxes are funded by the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission ANTI-DRUG LEVY

- 1. City of Brunswick Police Dept.**
4095 Center Road
Brunswick, Ohio
- 2. Brunswick Hills Township Police Dept.**
505 Substation Road
Brunswick Hills, Ohio
- 3. Hinckley Township Police Dept.**
1410 Ridge Road
Hinckley, Ohio
- 4. Medina Township Police Dept.**
3801 Huffman Road
Medina, Ohio
- 5. Medina County Sheriff's Office**
555 Independence Drive
Medina, Ohio
- 6. Montville Township Police Dept.**
6665 Wadsworth Road
Medina, Ohio
- 7. Village of Spencer Police Dept.**
120 Royal Crest Drive
Seville, Ohio
- 8. Village of Lodi Police Dept.**
110 Ainsworth Street
Lodi, Ohio
- 9. Village of Westfield Police Dept.**
6701 Greenwich Road
Westfield Center, Ohio
- 10. Village of Seville Police Dept.**
109 North Main Street
Brunswick, Ohio
- 11. Wadsworth City Hall**
120 Maple Street
Wadsworth, Ohio

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY

SEPTEMBER 26

10:00 am — 2:00 pm

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

Visit the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration website on or after September 1 to find collection sites in your area at:

www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov