



*The County's Voice on Mental Illness — Building hope for recovery through Education, Support, and Advocacy*

**Spring 2018**

## **NAMI Stark County Annual Celebration of Volunteerism, Wellness and Recovery.**



**Kay Raga Executive Director, Bart Fredrick Board President and Shannon Ortiz past board member presented awards to outstanding honorees March 20, 2018.**

More than 125 volunteers, sponsors and supporters helped to make those services possible in the last year. Among those Cindy Knepp, Grady Provance, Sandee Thomas, Gina & Matt Thornsley were named Terry McKnight Volunteers of the Year. The award is named in memory of McKnight, a founding member of NAMI Stark County and a tireless advocate for people with mental illness and their families.

These volunteers are trained NAMI education and support facilitators. Provance, Thomas and the Thornsleys are trained Peer-to-Peer mentors and support group facilitations. Knepp is a support group facilitator using her personal experience to help other families understand and support loved ones who live with mental illness. The award is named in memory of McKnight, a founder of NAMI Stark County and a tireless advocate for people with mental illness and their families.



Jeff Allen, Alyssa Aquino, Andrea Beaver, Anita Ciccarelli, Kristina Drummer, Tonya Hamilton, Samantha Haring, Nicole Herndon, Bianca Hooten, Kristen Kaplanis, James Keller, Tifanie Kukwa, Kelly Mann, William "Will" Maxon-Kann, PhD, Shannon Ortiz, Brenda Parke, Mallory Stevens and Carole Vesley were named *Rene Summerville Professionals of the Year*.

- Allen Executive Director & Vesley Crisis Counselor Crisis Intervention & Recovery Center
- Aquino, Beaver & Stevens Case Manager Coleman Behavioral Health
- Ciccarelli Counselor CommQuest
- Drummer & Kukwa Counselor Compass
- Hamilton LPN NAMI HomeFront Facilitator
- Herndon & Hooten Peer Supporter Hunter House
- Kaplanis Probation Officer Canton Municipal Court
- Keller Director Life Bridge Services, Inc.
- Mann Counselor Phoenix Rising Behavioral Health
- Maxon-Kann Psychologist Total Health & Wellness
- Ortiz Counselor
- Parke Occupational Therapist Heartland Behavioral Healthcare



The professional of the year award is named for Summerville, a founding member of NAMI Stark County and Counselor at Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center.

Summerville worked in service to those suffering with mental illness until her death in January 2015.



Tyler Green, Brandon Jeffers and Grady Provance were honored as *Peers of the Year*. These individuals were nominated by area mental health agencies and professionals for their perseverance and success in managing their own illness and assisting others in doing the same. Peers have the unique position to help others by using their lived experience.

Jeffers and Provance are trained Peer-to-Peer Mentors. Provance also facilitates a support group at Stark State.





# Pegasus Farm 2018 Summer Camp Schedule



## Equestrian Camps

Camps are open to children of all abilities although some eligibility criteria is established for each camp. For safety, there is a weight limit of 200 pounds for riding, 160 pounds for vaulting and 225 pounds for driving.

## Arts Camps

Camps are open to children of all abilities, ages 8 to 18 although some eligibility criteria is established for each camp. Each camp is \$50 and will be held from 9:30 a.m.—noon.

To register call 330.935.2300 ext. 104 or email [tammi@pegasusfarm.org](mailto:tammi@pegasusfarm.org).

Visit [pegasusfarm.org](http://pegasusfarm.org) for more information.  
Pegasus Farm staff and volunteers are background checked.

**All you have to do is EAT ... at Taggarts on Tuesday, March 27th and Papa Gyros April 17th and you'll automatically be supporting NAMI Stark County**

EATING FOR A CAUSE ...

And we don't mean *beCAUSE* you're hungry!

TAGGARTS – a Canton original and home of the delicious BITNER – has selected NAMI Stark County as their charity of choice for **TUESDAY, MARCH 27<sup>th</sup>**.



All you have to do is EAT ... at Taggarts on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and you'll be supporting NAMI Stark County.



Learn more about TAGGARTS: [taggartsicecream.com](http://taggartsicecream.com)  
Learn more about NAMI Stark County: [namistarkcounty.org](http://namistarkcounty.org)



BELDEN VILLAGE 4760 EVERHARD RD NW \* 330.497.1100  
CANTON 2045 CLEVELAND AVE NW \* 330.456.9000  
[papagyros.com](http://papagyros.com)

PAPA GYROS PRESENTS  
**FUNDRAISER DAY**  
Tuesday, April 17

TO BENEFIT:



**Stark County**



With presentation of this stub to your server, 20% of the total sales, not including gift card purchases, will benefit the organization listed below.



PAPA GYROS PRESENTS  
**FUNDRAISER DAY**

Tuesday, April 17

PAPA GYROS PRESENTS  
**FUNDRAISER DAY**  
20% OF LUNCH & DINNER  
SALES WILL BENEFIT:



**NAMI Stark County**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

**NAMI Stark County**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

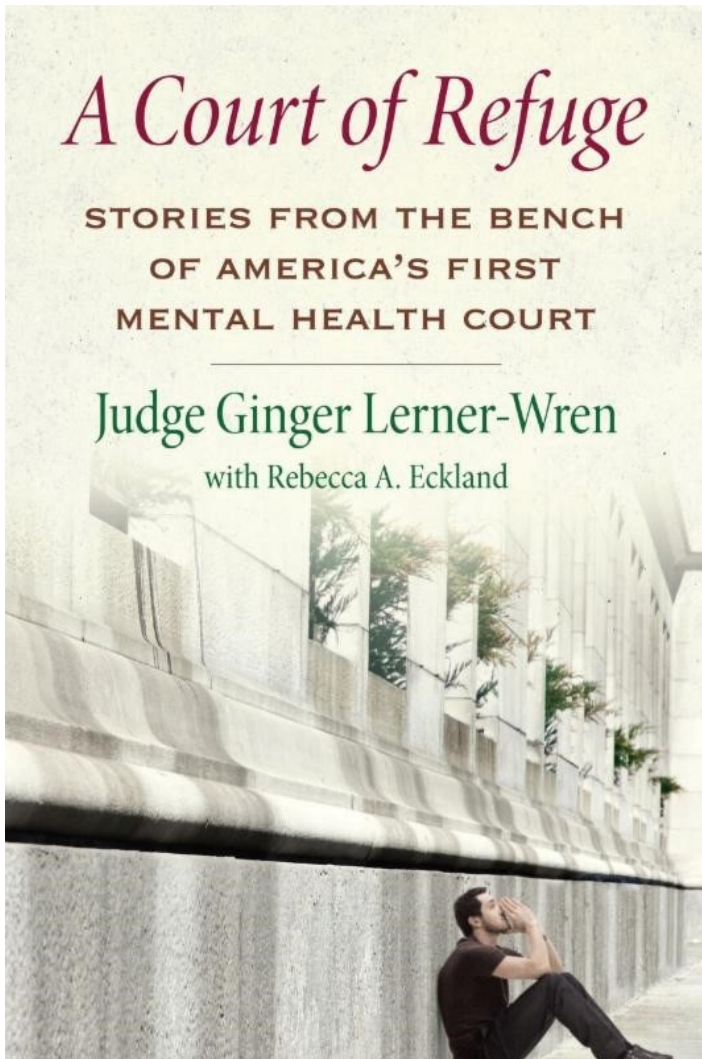
**Tuesday, April 17**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

VALID AT ALL PAPA GYROS LOCATIONS. [papagyros.com](http://papagyros.com)

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With presentation of this stub to your server, 20% of the total sales, not including gift card purchases, will benefit the organization listed above. Flyer distribution on Papa Gyros property is prohibited and will result in the forfeiture of the organization's entire donation.



## New Book on Mental Health Court

Working under the theoretical framework of therapeutic jurisprudence, Judge Wren and her growing network of fierce, determined advocates, families, and supporters sparked a national movement of using courts as a place of healing.

In Mental Health Court, the goal is to humanize justice and to address the stigma surrounding mental illness and promote dignity and respect through active listening, validating the lived experiences of court participants; while acknowledging their strengths and vision of recovery.

As a young lawyer, Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren bore witness to the consequences of an underdeveloped mental health care infrastructure. Unable to do more than offer guidance, she watched families being torn apart as client after client was ensnared in the criminal justice system for crimes committed as a result of addiction,

## Creation of a New Resource Center for Disability Rights in Ohio

Part of protecting and advocating for people with disabilities in Ohio is tracking important legislation proposed at the Statehouse and in Washington, D.C. Disability Rights Ohio monitors dozens of pieces of legislation at any given time and maintains relationships with lawmakers to educate and inform them about how their proposals will affect people with disabilities. We know that many partners and self-advocates rely on us to help them stay informed on these issues. So this week, we have launched our new [Legislative Resource Center](#), which provides information about the most critical proposals currently making their way through the legislative process. Each page provides a summary, names and links to the bill's sponsors, links to the bill's status and important dates, including any hearings that have been held or are scheduled.

[#AdvocacyMatters](#)

*The mission of Disability Rights Ohio is to advocate for the human, civil and legal rights of people with disabilities in Ohio. work.*



**Disability  
Rights** OHIO



## In Memorium...

It is with deep sadness we had to let go of two members of our NAMI family this past quarter. Both gave a great deal of their time helping NAMI Stark County further its mission of providing support, education, and advocacy.

Sandee Thomas was a trained Peer-to-Peer mentor, teaching classes at Hunter House and Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church. She also was a trained support group



facilitator at the Refuge of Hope Men's Shelter. She was a strong advocate for peers around the community as well, especially at Coleman's Social Center.

Jen Powell-Campbell was NAMI Stark County's Board President years ago. She was highly instrumental in the inception of the "Moving Forward for Mental Health" walk as our first walk chairperson, which is still held each October 2011. Jen was a fighter for all peers and volunteered as a Peer-to-Peer mentor for years.

### School-Based Services from CommQuest Expand to meet Growing Need

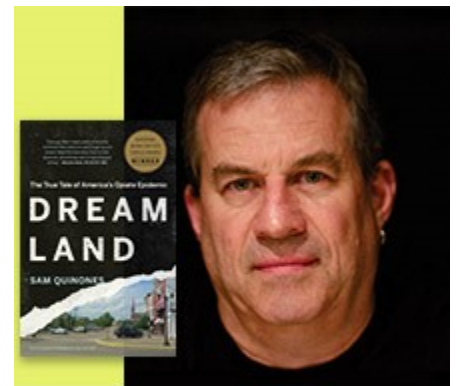
Schools are back in session and this year CommQuest is in more schools than ever before providing services to students from Pre-K all the way through high school.

School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) Services are being provided in 24 schools. New schools for this year include Louisville Middle School, Jackson High School and Stark County Education Services classrooms housed at RG Drage. SBMH Services include a broad spectrum of assessment, prevention, intervention, counseling and consultation. These services are essential to a school's ability to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all students; address classroom behavior and promote students' academic success.

--CommQuest Winter 2017-18 Newsletter

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 6:30-8PM

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THE DR. AUDREY LAVIN  
**SPEAKING OF BOOKS** AUTHOR SERIES

Award-winning journalist discusses his book, Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic. Followed by Q&A and book signing. Books available for purchase.

Come help us with  
Discharge Bags on  
Friday, April 27th



Meet at 9:00 AM at Dollar General  
on the corner of 30<sup>th</sup> and Market  
in Canton or at  
9:30 at Heartland to fill bags.

### **Board of Directors**

**President:**  
Bart Fredrick

**First Vice President:**  
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**Second Vice President:**  
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**Secretary:**  
Elisa Hershey

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Dr. Malholtra  
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Tom Stone

### **Staff**

Kay Raga: Executive Director  
[kraga@namistarkcounty.org](mailto:kraga@namistarkcounty.org)

Sheryl Falcone: Program Coordinator  
[sfalcone@namistarkcounty.org](mailto:sfalcone@namistarkcounty.org)

Diane Mang: Outreach Coordinator  
[dmang@namistarkcounty.org](mailto:dmang@namistarkcounty.org)

Jewell Oppermann: Outreach Liaison  
[joppermann@namistarkcounty.org](mailto:joppermann@namistarkcounty.org)

Kory Miles: Outreach Liaison  
[kmiles@namistarkcounty.org](mailto:kmiles@namistarkcounty.org)

[Mike Rembert, Newsletter Editor](#)

NAMI Stark County Main Office:  
121 Cleveland Ave SW; Canton, OH 44702  
330-455-NAMI [6264]

NAMI Stark County @ Heartland Behavioral Healthcare:  
330 833-3135 ext. 2170

### **Do you know who to call if a behavioral health crisis occurs?**

9-1-1 and ask for a Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) trained officer

Stark County Crisis Hotline: 330-452-6000 or National Suicide Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

National and Ohio Crisis Text Line: Text 4HOPE to 741741 [Veterans can also text to 838255]

Opiate Helpline: 330-454-HELP (4357)

Homeless Hotline: 330-452-4363

Domestic Violence Helpline: 330-453-SAFE (7233)

Trevor Lifeline for LGBTQ Youth: 1-866-488-7386