

## EHCAC HOLDS COMMUNITY FORUMS



Attending the EHCAC forum in Willard on May 2nd are Huron County Commissioner, Gary Bauer, EHCAC Board Member Clark Hunter, EHCAC Board Chairperson Lowell G. Etzler, EHCAC Executive Director Janice W. Warner and Huron County Commissioner Mike Adelman.

Erie-Huron Counties Community Action Commission, Inc. held their Second Annual Community Forum in Norwalk and Willard on May 2nd; and in Sandusky on May 8th. The purpose of these forums was to bring together members of the public sector, other service organizations and the general public to highlight the agency's services along with trying to promote partnership and collaboration with other entities.

During these forums, Executive Director, Janice W. Warner described the importance of Community Action in Erie and Huron Counties. Tim Brown, EHCAC Programs Coordinator, talked about the HEAP Program that helps clients with heating and cooling assistance throughout the year; and the senior home repair

program and transportation assistance in Erie County. The agency was also recently awarded a \$100,000 grant for home repairs. Donna Drummer, Head Start Director, discussed the Head Start Program along with all the service delivery areas that are available to children 3-5 years of age and their families. Mary David, Parents As Teachers Program Coordinator, and Linda Border, Parent Educator, spoke about the PAT program and the services that are available to parents with young children birth to 3 years of age.

After the presentations, questions were answered and there were discussions on how to better serve the needs of low income residents in both counties.

## CEDAR POINT DONATES VOUCHERS AGAIN THIS YEAR

Once again, Erie-Huron Counties Community Action Commission, Inc. would like to thank Cedar Point Management for donating 3,500 vouchers which are distributed by our agency to qualifying residents in Erie and Huron Counties. This generous donation allows our local families to enjoy a day at the park.

This year the vouchers are redeemable for three weeks beginning Monday, July 10th through Friday, July 28th.

## Message from the Executive Director



For over 40 years, Erie-Huron CAC has been providing children 3 to 5 years of age with a head start on their education. Since early experiences are the foundation for later schooling, we are pleased to partner with the Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services to provide Early Learning Initiative (ELI) services to Erie and Huron counties.

ELI will complement our Head Start Program by allowing EHCAC to partner with other child care providers in Erie and Huron counties to provide quality service to children, often identified as at-risk for success in school. ELI is not Head Start; but ELI does follow Ohio's Early learning guidelines for quality program improvement, and ensures children and families are linked to receive the support they need from other community resources.

ELI provides to the children the following:

Activities that will support the child's growing understanding of how the world works.

Enhance interest with many different books to promote reading and writing.

Support children's growing social skills, by learning to take turns, play with others, and taking the lead and learning to follow others.

Being creative and play through music and art activities.

We are delighted to be an ELI provider for Erie and Huron counties, and if you need addition information regarding this program, please call:

Sandusky 419-626-2214

Norwalk 419-663-2623

Willard 419-935-6481

## NEWS FROM HURON COUNTY

During the month of June, applications were accepted for Christmas in July sponsored by local churches in partnership with Erie-Huron Counties Community Action Commission, Inc. Eighty children will be helped by this program.

EHCAC Board of Trustee member, Chris Raftery was elected on May 26, 2006 as Board Chairman for the Firelands Chapter of the American Red Cross.

EHCAC employee, Sherry Patterson has been selected as the new Chairperson for the Willard Salvation Army Service Unit. Sherry has been active with Salvation Army, especially with the Blessings Program which is a one on one family mentoring program.

Congratulations to former Head Start Teacher, Shirley Straight whose biography has been published in the 2004-2005 edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*; the 2005-2006 edition of the *National Honor Roll's Outstanding American Teachers*; and for being named as an Associates Member in the 2006-2007 "Honor Edition" of *Manchester Who's Who Executive and Professional Registry*.

## HEAD START HAPPENINGS

### HOOP IT UP!

EHCAC Head Start Program offered a unique opportunity for male involvement with our Head Start children. In conjunction with the Fatherhood Initiative, any male (fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, etc.) could earn points for the number of hours spent volunteering in the Head Start Center. First place winner was grandfather, Lamar Farrah whose grandson Cambryn Farrah attend class at the Sandusky Center. Cambryn and his grandfather both won bicycles and helmets.



Pictured with first place winner, Cambryn Farrah is his uncle, Gary Sage

Pictured at left are the second place winners in the Hoop It Up contest, Edgar Bonner, Jr. with his grandson, Jacques Keahey. They both won fishing poles and gear.



Congratulations to all of our male volunteers who make a difference in these young children's lives.

### BOOK DONATION

Pictured at right are three Head Start employees, Tony Bonner, Transportation Coordinator (in the bus); Charles Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor; and Richard Graves, Custodian at Sandusky Center. They are unloading boxes of books that were donated to our Head Start program by Rose Management in Cleveland, Ohio.



## EHCAC OFFICES IN ERIE AND HURON COUNTIES

908 S. Depot Street  
Sandusky Ohio 44870  
419-626-4320— Main Office  
419-625-2214—Head Start  
419-626-6540—HEAP Office

92 N. Prospect Street  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857  
419-668-9823

Head Start Office  
11 E. League St.  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857  
419-663-2623

Willard Office  
313 Crestwood Ave.  
Willard, Ohio 44890  
419-935-6481-Head Start  
419-935-1010-HEAP

Visit our website at  
[www.ehcac.com](http://www.ehcac.com)

### News Briefs

Erie-Huron Counties Community Action Commission, Inc. would like to thank the Sandusky Wal-Mart Store for the \$500 grant awarded to our agency in June.

The Summer Crisis Cooling program will continue through August 31, 2006. This program provides assistance to eligible applicants to help with an electric bill and/or receive an air conditioner. Call any EHCAC office for more information on this program.

The EHCAC Summer Food Program will run through August 18, 2006. This program provides children 1 to 18 years of age who reside in the City of Sandusky with breakfast and/or lunch. During the month of June, 539 breakfasts, 2,461 lunches and 156 snacks were served at our 13 sites. Call 419-626-6450 ext. 32 for more information.

**ERIE-HURON COUNTIES CAC, INC.**  
**HEAD START PROGRAM**  
**NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 2006/2007 PROGRAM YEAR**

- **Children must be 3 to 5 years of age and meet income guidelines**
- **Full Day classes Monday through Friday—(must meet specific qualifications)**
- **Part Day classes Monday through Thursday (morning or afternoon sessions)**

**This year EHCAC Head Start Program will offer the Early Learning Initiative through the Ohio Department of Education for families who meet the following qualifications:**

- **Have a preschool child at least 3 years of age;**
- **Have at least one parent working at least one hour per week;**
- **Meet income requirements (e.g. a family of four earning about \$36,000 per year);**
- **OR are caring for a preschool child at least 3 year old and receiving child only cash assistance through the Ohio Works First Program.**

For more information please call:

**SANDUSKY: 419-625-2218 OR 419 621-3966**  
**NORWALK: 419-663-2623 OR 419-663-9823**  
**WILLARD: 419-933-3080 OR 419-935-6481**

**ERIE HURON COUNTIES  
COMMUNITY ACTION  
COMMISSION, INC.**  
908 S. Depot Street  
P.O. Box 2500  
Sandusky, OH 44870  
Phone: 419-626-4320  
Fax: 419-626-0964

**EHCAC Board of Trustees**

Pervis D. Brown, Jr.  
Heather Carman  
Lowell Etzler  
Teresa Henry  
Clark Hunter  
Clyde Keels  
Pastor Lee Kent  
Elvira Matthews  
Emma Moore  
Christina Raftery  
Thelma Rodriguez  
Tellie Russell  
Clarence Seavers  
Jerry Shoemaker  
Barbara Smith  
V. Janice Smith  
Mary L. Stewart  
Ann Stoddard