

June 1, 2017

Time for reflection

The recent successful transition of adult services and transportation from the Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities (RCBDD) to Richland Newhope Industries, Inc. (RNI) highlighted the boards' annual joint meeting on May 17.



On Dec. 1, 60 RCBDD staff were transitioned to RNI, which now employs 120 people. RNI is also serving more people and could soon be adding more programs.

“We’re looking at expanding services we provide to include homemaker personal care and are actively looking at directly providing more transportation that we are currently purchasing through various taxi companies,” RNI Executive Director Amanda South told board members.

“The stable influence that has been here for over 50 years was a clear indicator that RNI is here to stay and also that RNI is clearly a gold standard of providers of services to adults with developmental disabilities,” said Richland Newhope Superintendent Liz Prather.

The joint meeting also provided an opportunity for RNI to talk about its efforts to help individuals find jobs in the community, use transportation services, and participate in many social integration activities.

The Class of 2030

Twenty-two children reached an important and exciting milestone at the Early Childhood Center on May 25. Graduation! During the ceremony, the graduates sang “Oh, What a Miracle,” “Colors,” “Category Comedy,” and “ABC You Later,” for their proud parents and many misty-eyed Newhope staff. The theme for the preschool graduation was “Dive into Kindergarten.” Congratulations to the class of 2030!



Carnival fun

Richland Newhope was one of many organizations that participated in the Kids Carnival hosted by Catalyst Life Services on May 11. The event was part of Catalyst’s Outreach Day. Those who stopped by our table had the chance to spin the wheel and take home some prizes – or get information about Richland Newhope’s services. Special thanks goes out to Sherry, Petey, and Allen for manning our table!



Special Olympics

Hundreds of area athletes, including Allen, participated in the Area 4 Special Olympics Spring Games on May 13 at Lexington High School. Many of the athletes will be moving on to the state Summer Games scheduled for June 23 – 25 in Columbus. Congratulations to all of the athletes!



Celebrating mothers

Tea parties are not just for little girls. Ashton and other boys and girls in his preschool class enjoyed a tea party with their moms to celebrate Mother's Day on May 11.



The preschoolers and their special guests were served cookies, hot tea, and iced tea. The kids drank juice in tea cups.

Preschool Instructor Sarah Helms also read a book at the end of the tea party, "I'll Love You Forever."

In Memoriam

Anna Thornsberry

May 20, 2017

June Calendar

June 2 – First Friday, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m., Element of Art Studio/Gallery, 96 N. Main St., Mansfield

June 23 – Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, 8 a.m., Kroger, 1500 Lexington Ave., Mansfield

June 28 - Richland County Board of DD meeting, 11:30 a.m., Administration Building, 314 Cleveland Ave., Mansfield

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