Fixing the list

A new rule is now in place that allows for a much overdue update of Ohio’s Medicaid waiver waiting list.

A waiver pays for services that are delivered in the home or in a community setting as an alternative to a person going into a large facility, like an intermediate care facility.

The previous rule for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers was complex and confusing and allowed individuals to be on waiting lists in counties where they didn’t even reside. Many of them have no immediate need for services.

Three jobs = busy life

(Editor’s note: October is Disability Employment Awareness Month. This year’s theme is “America’s Workforce: Empowering All.”)
No one can say Maggie Smith is afraid of hard work.

Maggie, 41, has held several jobs over the years at places like Swan Cleaners, Kroger, and the Holiday Inn.

But it’s her current job at Winchester Terrace Nursing Home that she says is the best job she has ever had.

A family tradition
(Editor’s Note: The following is part of a series of stories about providers that Richland Newhope partners with to provide services for people with developmental disabilities in Richland County.)

Taking care of people is something Joan Schoenfelt has been doing almost her entire life. You could say she was born into a life of service.

Joan is the owner/administrator of Marie’s Care Agency, a small provider agency based in Mansfield. She was introduced to direct support care as a child. Joan’s grandmother owned the former Griffith Nursing Home and her mother worked there.

“When my mom and dad got a divorce, mom built a house behind the nursing home and basically, if we wanted to see mom a lot, we had to go to the nursing home,” recalls Joan.
Members of the Mifflin Township Fire Department of Ashland County visited the Early Childhood Center on Oct. 9. The preschoolers were excited to see a real fire truck up-close and spray the hose like a real firefighter.