

THE SCOOP

July 11, 2018

Hero with Heart honored

John Caugherty of Lucas is this year's recipient of Richland Newhope's Hero with Heart award.

Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities President Nick Gesouras presented the award to Caugherty during the board's meeting on June 27.

Caugherty has been involved with Special Olympics since 2005. For the past eight years, he coached the school-aged basketball team, winning three state championships and finishing runner-up this past season. He has also helped with track and field.

"He really tries to help these kids succeed in basketball, in school, and in life," the nominator said. "He really pushes the kids to do their best, no matter what their special need."

"All these kids make a better person out of me," Caugherty said.

The Hero with Heart award is one of Richland Newhope's CARE awards presented annually.



CARE stands for Compassion, Advocacy, Respect, and Excellence.

Learn more about John's volunteer efforts in the summer edition of our quarterly newsletter, The Insider, which comes out next week.

Torch Run

The annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Ohio stopped in Mansfield on June 22.

This was the 32nd year for the run, which involves more than 2,000 law enforcement officers across Ohio. It's the largest grassroots fundraiser for Special Olympics and helps to kick off the start of the State Summer Games in Columbus. The 'Flame of Hope' traveled through 150 communities across Ohio from June 14-22.

Several of the 20 local athletes that later competed in Columbus, along with members of the Mansfield Police and Mansfield Fire Departments, were on hand at the Lexington Ave. Kroger store to greet the torch.

Ohio candidate forum

The Ohio Candidate Forum on Disability Issues is coming up Thursday, July 26 in Columbus.

The forum will provide an opportunity for the candidates for Ohio governor and U.S. Senate to inform the disability community about their positions on disability-related issues and policy that impact approximately two million



Ohioans, or at least 13% of the state's population.

The forum will take place from 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at The Ohio State University Fawcett Event Center, 2400 Olentangy River Rd., Columbus.

The keynote address will be given by John Kemp, a life-long advocate and co-author of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The forum is free but you must register. Click [here](#) for more information or call 614-575-8055.

Organizers of the forum are Ohio's 12 Centers for Independent Living, the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council, Ohio Area Agency on Aging, Disability Rights Ohio, Ohio League of Women Voters, the University of Cincinnati Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCCEED), and the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio.

July Employee of the Month

Name: Karen Smith

Position: Recreation Coordinator

Employed since: Dec. 14, 2001

Nominators Comments: "Karen is an amazing employee. She puts the needs of other staff and individuals above hers. She is willing to come in early or stay late to assist at the homes. She fills in whenever needed without question. She is the go to person in the homes when the supervisors are struggling with scheduling. During the most difficult times, she will remain positive and get the team to



regroup and focus on the positive impact that everyone has on the men and women. She is not liked by the men and women - she is loved.”

Employee of the Month Comments: “Being Employee of the Month was a surprise. I just want to keep doing what I’m doing. I truly enjoy my job. I do feel blessed every day. It can be a challenge, but you work through it as a team. What I like best about my job is to be at all of the homes. I love going out with all of the individuals.”

Karen was also Employee of the Month in 2004 and 2010. She was the 2004 Employee of the Year.

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

28 Years – Michele Giess

26 Years – Tara Rogers

24 Years – Juanita Shenberger

23 Years – Kathleen Miller

20 Years – Matt Wentz

17 Years – Jessica Winans

13 Years – Jamie Spotts

12 Years – Shirl Johnson-White, Susan Monastra,

Kimberly Perret, & Andrea Spencer

9 Years – Michele Paxton, Andrew Johnson

7 Years – Gretchen Ashbrook

CALENDAR

July 20 – Newhope Charities Golf Outing, Pebble Creek Golf Club, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 3 - First Friday, 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m., Element of Art Studio/Gallery, 96 N. Main St., Mansfield

Aug. 6-11 – Richland Newhope at the Richland County Fair, Fairhaven Hall, 750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield

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