Survey underway

There’s still time to take part in a new survey Richland Newhope is conducting to gather input for our 2018 annual plan.

It only takes a few minutes to complete. Your feedback will help our agency set goals and objectives for the coming year and beyond as we strive to offer the best services and supports possible to Richland County residents with developmental disabilities and their families.

Just click here to do the survey. Your response is greatly appreciated!

Day of Service planned

Richland Newhope/Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities is joining county boards of DD across Ohio to mark a Week of Service from July 17-21.

Each board has been asked to do a service project as a way to say thanks and to show how county
boards are ‘Always There’ for the community as we mark our 50th anniversary.

For its service project, Richland Newhope has decided to assist the Mansfield Parks Department with its Summer Fun Time program for children ages 5 to 17. More than two dozen members of our staff will volunteer at North Lake Park and Johns Park on Tuesday, July 18, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will be assisting with games, the free lunch, and doing some afternoon activities, including some that simulate what it’s like to have a disability.

In addition, we are collecting new and gently-used books to distribute to the children that day. If you have a book you would like to donate, you can drop it off at one of the following locations: Administration Building at 314 Cleveland Ave., Service & Support Administration at 220 Home Ave., the Early Childhood Center at 255 Hedges St., or Raintree at 720 Scholl Rd. Books are being collected through July 14.

**Summer fun!**

The weather was sunny and hot for the annual Richland Newhope Industries, Inc. (RNI) picnic on June 16. In addition to the dunk tank, many individuals got to cool off when the Mansfield Fire Department stopped by to spray a fire hose at the end of the festivities. The individuals look forward to their visit every year. The picnic also featured plenty of games, prizes, and food.

**Coming up in the next The Insider newsletter**

Look for The Summer 2017 edition of The Insider in the coming days.
This quarterly newsletter will include a number of local feature stories. To help mark the 50th anniversary of the Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities, we'll highlight an individual who was born in 1967 and continues to receive supports.

We’ll also share the story of one family’s effort to help their young son using spa pool therapy. In addition, we'll introduce you to one of the newest providers of services for people with developmental disabilities in Richland County, and we'll tell you about an up-and-coming comic book author.

To join our newsletter email list, visit our website to sign up!

**Torch Run**

The annual Law Enforcement Torch run for Special Olympics Ohio stopped in Mansfield on June 23.

This was the 31st 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 15-23.

Several local athletes and their family members were on hand at the Lexington Ave. Kroger store to see the torch before it left for Bellville. Kudos to Burt Skeen from the Richland County Sheriff's Office for participating in the run the past 15 years!

**Artists show off their talents**

Element of Art Studio/Gallery (EOA) participated in the recent ArtiStreet, an outdoor music and arts festival in downtown Mansfield. EOA even hosted the kickoff party during First Friday activities on June 2.
The annual festival features local artists, musicians, and dancers. The artists who participate, like EOA's own Raymond Shaw, create art during the event.

"It’s more experimental than it is about sales," says EOA Art Coordinator Kathy Goodwin.

**July Calendar:**

**July 4** – Independence Day holiday: Richland Newhope Administration Bldg., Early Childhood Center, & Service & Support Administration closed

**July 7** - First Friday, Element of Art Studio/Gallery, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**July 18** – Richland Newhope Day of Service, North Lake Park & Johns Park, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**July 21** – Newhope Charities Golf Outing, Twin Lakes Golf Club, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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