Coloring contest winners saluted

Seventeen Richland County students have been honored as winners of the 25th Annual Richland County Third Grade Coloring Contest sponsored by Richland Newhope as part of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March.

Richland County schools with third grade classes were invited to participate in the contest. Students were asked to color a picture featuring three children, one of whom uses a wheelchair, playing in the snow. The message on the picture simply said ‘Inclusion is within everyone's ability.’

Newhope received 533 entries from 17 schools. One winner was chosen from each school. Ethan Mollett, an artist at Element of Art Studio/Gallery, assisted with the selection of this year’s winners.

The students were honored at a luncheon March 2 at the Early Childhood Center. Special guest was Miss Maple City Outstanding Teen
2018 Ellie Nickoli. Nickoli, a student at Lexington High School, received early intervention services from Richland Newhope when she was a child.

This year’s coloring contest winners are: Lilly Zellner, Auburn Elementary; Erika Hollar, Butler Elementary; Marily Sanchez, Central Elementary; Jada Kuhlman, Crestview Elementary; Brady McQuillen, Dowds Elementary; Caden Bishop, Eastview Elementary; Hayden Johnson, Foundation Academy; Johnathon Byrd, John Sherman Elementary; Kirra Kiser, Madison South Elementary; Michelle Hope, Mansfield Christian School; KeJuan Willis, Prospect Elementary; Charly Milligan, Sacred Heart School; Amelia Raphael, Spanish Immersion School; Peyton Bruskotter, St. Mary’s School; D’Andre Martin, St. Peter’s Elementary; Emilee VanGilder, Western Elementary; and Daniel Thompson, Woodland Elementary.

You can find more photos from the awards luncheon on our Facebook page.

**Commissioners proclaim DD Awareness Month**

The Richland County commissioners have proclaimed March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

On hand to receive the proclamation was Stephen, an individual who receives supports from Richland Newhope. Stephen is active in
the Challenger League and enjoys participating in many community activities.

The proclamation is one of 10 the agency will be receiving during the month-long observance.

Kudos to...

- John Schroeder and Schroeders Grain Farm in Shelby for donating $1,000 to Richland Newhope’s Gift Fund. The check was unexpectedly presented to agency officials during the Feb. 27 meeting of the Richland County commissioners as they proclaimed March DD Awareness Month.

- Knights of Columbus Council 1968 in Shelby for recently donating $2,366.40 to the Richland Newhope Gift Fund. The money was raised in 2017 as part of the K of C’s annual "Measure Up" campaign.

- Papa John’s Pizza for donating 10 pizzas for our annual Richland County 3rd Grade Coloring Contest Awards Luncheon.

- Hempy Water for donating 15 cases of water and Culligan Water for donating seven cases of water for our March awareness activities.

Summer Camperships

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 Summer Campership Program.

The program is designed to provide an opportunity for students with special needs, ages 5-21, to participate in a meaningful summertime activity. Individuals who are eligible are awarded grants for things such
as pool memberships, various summer camps, COSI, Little Buckeye Children’s Museum, and zoo passes.

The deadline to apply is April 27. Click here for more information and an application or contact Tina Baker at 419-774-4309.

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**Calendar**

**March 12** - SCRAP recycling trailer, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., Early Childhood Center, 255 Hedges St., Mansfield

**March 21** - Richland Co. Board of Developmental Disabilities meeting, 11:30 a.m., RichlandNewhope Administration Building, 314 Cleveland Ave., Mansfield

**March 22** – Step Into Spring fun walk, 10 a.m. – noon, Richland Mall, Ontario
April 2 – April 6 – Spring break for preschool classes at the Early Childhood Center

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