

RNI Chatter



Volume 6 Issue 5

MARCH 2024

4th Annual Step into Spring Walk at the Richland Mall

The 4th annual Step into Spring Walk took place on March 1st at the Richland Mall in Ontario. The Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities sponsored the event to kick off Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. There were several vendors that attended the event, including RNI, Inc. Each attendee received a raffle ticket to win prizes given away by the various vendors. A number of folks from RNI, Inc. participated in the event and collected some goodies and even won some prizes. Thank you to Haylie and Cassie for manning the RNI, Inc. booth.



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EOA Artist's bookmark chosen by the RCBDD

Dottie C., was the Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities (RCBDD) 2024 March Awareness Bookmark Contest winner! Dottie met with the authors of Splat the Dinosaur, Kate and Zac Church, at a recent book signing in Shelby! Dottie was thrilled to present them with a copy of her bookmark and she received an autographed copy of the book in return. This children's book, written and recently published by Kate and her son, Zac, who reside in Richland County, is a testament to their personal experiences and feelings about living with autism. RCBDD, in collaboration with the Richland County Youth and Family Council, gave away a copy to all 1st-grade public and private students in Richland County to celebrate developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! Dottie, great job on your artistic bookmark and congratulations on being selected!



March is Developmental Disability Awareness Month



The City Garden Cafe not only has great food, but it also has Brian Moran and Sean Conrad. Chances are if you have been to the City Garden Cafe, you have met at least one of them. They are the faces behind the counter taking orders, preparing food, and providing excellent customer service. Sean has been working at the cafe for 9 years and Brian has been there nearly 5. Both guys love their job and look forward to serving you! Stop by the City Garden Cafe for a meal, a coffee, or just to say hello. #disabilityawarenessmonth #inclusion

Trent Wisdom just celebrated his 27th Birthday with a party at the TownePlace Suites by Marriott. His coworkers partied on his special day with pizza, a racecar cake, pop, and balloons. This summer, Trent will have another reason to celebrate working. He will be employed at TownePlace Suites for 5 years!! He has plenty of tasks to keep him busy. Trent vacuums and dusts all four floors, sanitizes the high touch areas, is responsible for window cleaning and can be seen cleaning tables in the dining area.



For the last two years, Curtis has set the annual goal of increasing the number of boxes he folds during his one-hour shift at Pizza Hut. This past week, he worked extra hard and was able to set a new record high!! Curtis finished 120 boxes during his shift and was so proud of himself. Curtis loves coming to work to socialize with his supervisor and coworkers. He enjoys joking with everyone and ordering his own pizza and pop. Keep up the great work Curtis! This is the year of setting records!

Orange is the official color of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, and it symbolizes energy and positivity. The 971 Crew consists of the E-Cycle and Community Employment departments, and we always enjoy dressing up in support of a worthy theme. Sequoia Bond, Employment Specialist wanted to know if anyone wanted to come into work the following day wearing orange to represent Disability Awareness Month for a photo and everyone was on board!



Just like the majority of us, Mark Kelley cannot wait for warmer weather! Mark loves to spend his work shifts outside at Deer Ridge Golf Course. He helps out inside the restaurant during the colder weather, but loves any opportunity to head outside. When I arrived to visit him, he was all bundled up and cleaning this golf cart. Come on sunshine, the golfers are ready!

March Employee Anniversaries

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Jennifer Huffman | 03/13/2008 | 16 Years |
| Natalie Koch | 03/27/2008 | 16 Years |
| Patricia Bowen | 03/20/2017 | 7 Years |
| Nathaniel Crockett | 03/22/2017 | 7 Years |

Congratulations

Jennifer and Natalie

THANK YOU for your
years of service to RNI, Inc!



Element of Art Studio/Gallery Schedule of Events

Element of Art is open to the public Monday-Friday 8:30am-3pm. Classes with our contracted artists are currently in session. To schedule a class, give us a call at 419.522.2965, or email gyockey@rniinc.com

Our recurring events/classes are open to the public:

Mixed Media - (Every Monday) \$15

Acrylics & Watercolor - (Every Tuesday) \$15

Ceramics - (Every Wednesday) \$30 Must attend two classes (building & glazing).

Jewelry - (Every Thursday) \$15

Art 101 - (Every Friday) \$15

Studio Saturday - on Saturday 4/27 from 11am - 2 pm (Open studio hours—the last Saturday of every month)

Art Happens | April 2nd 3-5pm

Art Happens is back for a summer session now through September. Come in after school lets out to let your creativity out! This free event is open to artists of all ages and levels of ability.

ArtTalk | April 3rd 6-8pm

Calling all artists!! Join the Mansfield Art Sector for our monthly Artist Mixer, bring a friend and a drink or food item to share and come get to know other artists in our community during this laid-back social event. Regardless of your experience level we want to meet you!

First Friday @ EOA | April 5th 5-7pm

Join Element of Art Studio/gallery for Solar Karaoke and the art opening of our new exhibition Sun & Solar on Friday, April 5th from 5-7pm. Break into song, sing along, and help us celebrate the coming solar eclipse.

Umbrella Painting Workshop | April 19th 6-8pm

Join EOA for a creative and fun-filled art workshop where you can prepare in style for the coming April showers!

COST: \$25 per person. Limited seat available. You must call (419.522.2965) or email (gyockey@rniinc.com) to RSVP by April 12th as supplies are limited.



RNI Bucks issued for the month of February and March



Bob Geugold - for treating his riders to donuts on Valentine's Day.

Abbie Bays - Thank you for volunteering to run a route for transportation

Haylie Miller - Thank you for volunteering to run a route for transportation

Tom Kyler - Thank you for volunteering to run a route for transportation

Marilyn Kukowski - Thank you for organizing the Valentines Party at 4th St!

Maggie Dean - Coming over from Crawford to assist Marilyn with Valentines Party!

Ryan Stephen - Nominated by Jane Glaze, Jane stated that Ryan was a tremendous help with the Step into Spring event.

Chris Mitchell - Nominated by Jane Glaze, Jane stated that Chris was very helpful with the Step into Spring event.

Kathy Rhein - for going above and beyond in helping her co-workers navigate the DODD MY Learning system.

Tara Elliott - for helping with transporting people home when there were mechanical issues

SAFETY starts with S, but begins with YOU...

RNI Safety TOPIC for March is: Nutrition

National Nutrition Month® is an [annual campaign](#) created 51 years ago in 1973 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits.

This year's theme is "Fuel for the Future." Eating with sustainability in mind is a tasty way to nourish ourselves during every phase of life and protect the environment.

Week 1: Eat with the environment in mind

- Enjoy more plant-based meals and snacks.
- Purchase foods with minimal packaging.
- Buy foods in season and shop locally when possible.

Start a container or backyard garden to grow food at home.

Week 2: See a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN).

- Ask your doctor for a referral to an RDN.
- Find an RDN who specializes in your unique needs.
- Learn how nutrient needs may change with age.

Receive personalized nutrition information to meet your health goals.

Week 3: Stay nourished and save money.

- Plan your meals and snacks.
- See what food you have at home before purchasing more.
- Use a grocery list and shop sales when purchasing food.

Learn about community resources such as SNAP, WIC and local food banks.

Week 4: Eat a variety of foods from all food groups.

- Include your favorite cultural foods and traditions.
- Eat foods in various forms including fresh, frozen, canned and dried.
- Avoid fad diets that promote unnecessary restrictions.

Practice gratitude for your body by giving it the fuel it needs.

Week 5: Make tasty foods at home.

- Learn cooking and meal preparation skills.
- Try new flavors and foods from around the world.
- Find creative ways to use leftovers rather than tossing them.
- Create happy memories by eating with friends and family when possible.



Visit us on the Web at rniinc.com

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RNI, Inc. Team: Let's increase our presence on social media and increase our LIKES on Facebook. LIKE or FOLLOW or SHARE us on Facebook to invite your friends to LIKE us too. UPDATED 3/25/24; we are at:

City Garden Café is at 513 LIKES, can we get to 750 LIKES, 237 LIKES to go?

Element of Art Studio/Gallery is at 2001 LIKES, can we get 2500 LIKES, 499 LIKES to go?

Richland Newhope Industries is at 2047 LIKES, can we get to 2500 LIKES, 453 LIKES to go?

Trillium Event Center is at 1090 FOLLOWS, can we get to 1500 FOLLOWS, 410 FOLLOWS to go?

Help us increase our social media exposure by liking and sharing our four (4) Facebook pages. City Garden Café, Element of Art Studio/Gallery, Trillium Event Center and Richland Newhope Industries, Inc!



Look how much fun we had last month...

