

# RNI Chatter



## Richland Newhope Industries, Inc.

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### Richland County People First Officers elected

People First elections were recently held after each candidate was able to tell the audience via a Zoom call why they wanted to be elected to the position they were running for. After the votes were all in Kayla Hetler was elected to the position of Secretary and Melissa Davis was elected to the position of Treasurer. The advisors for the Richland County Chapter are Sean Laird, RNI, Troy Smith, Sherry Minnig, and Anna Salas from the Richland County Board of DD. People First began in Ohio in 1998 by a group of self-advocates who wanted to improve their abilities to represent themselves and to train others to be self-advocates. People First of Ohio has members from teens through adults and helps to set up local chapters of people with disabilities who are self-advocates. The local chapters focus on helping others with disabilities become self-advocates and work mostly on local issues and report to the state what they would like to see happen on a state/and federal level. We believe that all people with disabilities should be treated as equal and be able to speak up for what they want by serving as leaders and working together as a team with all members of the community. People First of Ohio assists people with disabilities who are self-advocates to talk about their needs and rights with people in their communities. Self-advocates make sure people with disabilities have the right to do what they want in their lives, are responsible for their own choices, and have the right to live and do things in the community like other citizens.



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### RNI, Inc. partnership expands with purchase of DeWalt ZTR Mower

RNI, Inc. is the proud owner of a DeWalt Z260 zero turn mower. RNI, Inc. has a long-standing partnership with Stanley Black and Decker (formerly MTD Products). The partnership expanded over the winter months with the purchase of this new DeWalt ZTR mower. RNI would like to specially thank Operations Manager for Stanley Black and Decker/Outdoor, Brad Gray, who handled the purchase from start to finish, all the way to the delivery of the unit. Also in the photo is Maintenance Manager, Carl Egner, who put the unit together once it arrived in Shelby from one of their plants in Tennessee. Carl (left) and Brad (right) are pictured here during the pickup of the unit at their warehouse in Shelby. RNI has provided manufacturing and subcontract services for MTD Products (now Stanley Black and Decker) for a number of years. RNI would like to thank Brad for his fantastic service; we certainly appreciate the relationship between our companies. The RNI Lawn Crew got one look at the new unit and were all smiles. We are reading up on all of the bells and whistles of this new unit and we will put it into service very soon. If you see the crew in the Mansfield area, give them a wave!



# StanleyBlack&Decker

## Unified Exhibition Basketball Game held in Bucyrus

During the month of March, the Crawford County Board of DD (CCBDD) sponsored a coloring contest for second-graders and a middle school poster competition with the theme "Power of Inclusion". One of the highlights of the month was a high school unified basketball exhibition game at 7 p.m. on March 25th at the Bucyrus High School gym. The game featured players from local high schools teaming up with players from the Special Olympics team, Court Sturts, CCBDD Superintendent explained, "We have two players from every high school, we're going to mix them all up with our Special Olympics team and have a unified game". After the game, the high school athletes had an opportunity to share their thoughts about the experience. "Usually they're pretty amazed by the skills some of the Special Olympics people have with the disabilities they have, It's a pretty powerful event." Sturts said. Admission was free, but donations for the CCBDD food pantry were accepted: canned goods, boxed food and drinks, paper products, laundry detergent, cereal, toiletries, according to a news release. The donations help local families served by CCBDD. Monetary donations will benefit local Special Olympics. The turnout for the game was great and they were able to collect a lot of non-perishable items to be donated in the area.



## Frank visits Logan's Roadhouse in Ontario

Frank requested to go to lunch with his old team members and some current ones! We made it happen! Support Specialist, Tara Grove, and Planner/Scheduler, Sequoia Bond, took Frank to Logan's Roadhouse in Ontario for lunch. Frank is pictured here with his old and current staff members.





## May Employee Anniversaries

<b>Dawn Weaver</b>	<b>05/12/1995</b>	<b>27 Years</b>	<b>Joyce Garberick</b>	<b>05/29/2019</b>	<b>3 Years</b>
<b>Sheri Bailey</b>	<b>05/07/1997</b>	<b>25 Years</b>	<b>Jody Wertz</b>	<b>05/29/2019</b>	<b>3 Years</b>
<b>Robert Guegold</b>	<b>05/23/2013</b>	<b>9 Years</b>			
<b>Christina Jones</b>	<b>05/03/2016</b>	<b>6 Years</b>			
<b>Sandy Patton</b>	<b>05/03/2017</b>	<b>5 Years</b>			
<b>Scott Love</b>	<b>05/31/2017</b>	<b>5 Years</b>			
<b>Troy Gilliland</b>	<b>05/29/2018</b>	<b>4 Years</b>			
<b>Shannon Ruhl</b>	<b>05/29/2018</b>	<b>4 Years</b>			
<b>Kaylee Bashline</b>	<b>05/20/2019</b>	<b>3 Years</b>			
<b>Jeanetta Porter</b>	<b>05/20/2019</b>	<b>3 Years</b>			
<b>Nathanial Dehring</b>	<b>05/29/2019</b>	<b>3 Years</b>			

*Congratulations*

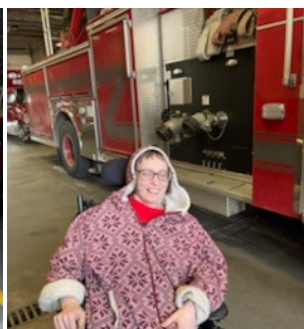
Dawn for 27 years

Sheri for 25 years

THANK YOU all for your  
years of service!

## RNI tours Mansfield Fire Department

RNI recently visited the Mansfield Fire Department Station 1 located at 140 East 3rd Street. Support Specialists, Kennedy Cline and Tara Grove, took Dennie and Irene on an impromptu visit to the fire department. Dennie has always liked fire departments and he loves firefighters and the trucks. Irene just loves the firefighters! A great time was had by all. A BIG thank to the firefighters on duty for taking the time to tour the group around the facility. By the smiles on their faces, they really enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Tara Grove for taking and sharing pictures with the Chatter.





## Earth Day Collection Event was a success



The RNI, Inc. eCycle team collected over 770 pounds of computer waste from entering the local landfill thanks to their efforts during an event held from April 18th to April 22nd. Businesses and residents could drop off old computers, cell phones, TV's, radios and much more. These items are then used to teach job skills to the individuals we support. RNI also has a hard drive shredding service. The eCycle group normally has a dozen or so people work in the department led by LSA, Shannon Ruhl. RNI pays each one of the individuals working in the eCycling department minimum wage. The individuals range in abilities and are paired with a task to help them develop various work skills. As the workers tear the machines apart, they separate the components into bins that are recycled. Once the items are broken down into several types of commodities, they are shipped out. If you have items or know of a business that has items to drop off, please call Shelby Thompson at 419-774-4437. (Photo) Michael is shown here taking apart a networking switch.



## LSA Conley takes the crew downtown for their morning brew



Woodshop LSA, Kaila Conley, told the crew to load up in her vehicle so they could head to Downtown Mansfield and get their morning coffee. From left to right, Dean, Zack and Jack went to visit Frenchie Roast coffee trailer parked on Park Avenue. They all enjoyed the ride, the conversation and most importantly the coffee. Thank you to Kaila for helping put a smile on their face. You can follow Frenchie Roast on their Facebook page where they post a schedule of their location for the upcoming week.

## Wear BLUE day was a big hit at RNI locations

Wednesday April 13th was Wear BLUE day in an annual statewide event to spread awareness regarding child abuse, neglect and dependency. Local schools, offices, factories and retail outlets participate to show their unity against child abuse.



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Like Us On  
**facebook**

**RNI, Inc. Team: Let's increase our presence on social media and increase our LIKES on Facebook. LIKE and SHARE us on Facebook to invite your friends to LIKE us too. UPDATED 05/02/22; we are at:**

City Garden Café is at 427 LIKES, can we get to 500 LIKES, 73 LIKES to go ??

Element of Art Studio/Gallery is at 1,771 LIKES, can we get to 2000 LIKES, 229 LIKES to go ??

Richland Newhope Industries is at 1,924 LIKES, can we get to 2000 LIKES, 76 LIKES to go ??

Trillium Event Center is at 776 FOLLOWS, can we get to 1000 FOLLOWS, 224 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!



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



## ***RNI Safety TOPIC for May: Lockout/Tagout***

An enormous 10% of industry safety incidents could be prevented by effective lockout/tagout (LOTO) procedures, so ensuring your staff are up-to-date with their requirements is key. According to OSHA, good LOTO programs prevent “unexpected energization or startup of machinery and equipment or the release of hazardous energy during service or maintenance activities”.

Often, the most serious workplace injuries involve heavy machinery. And, all machinery has a risk of injury. So, your LOTO program is critical to staff safety. Some questions to ask your coworkers include:

- ♦ What are the LOTO procedures for this piece of machinery?
- ♦ What are the common mistakes that we make?
- ♦ What are the consequences of not following LOTO procedures?
- ♦ Is there anything we can do to improve?

