



December 2019



# Scioto County Developmental Disabilities

Serving People for a Lifetime.



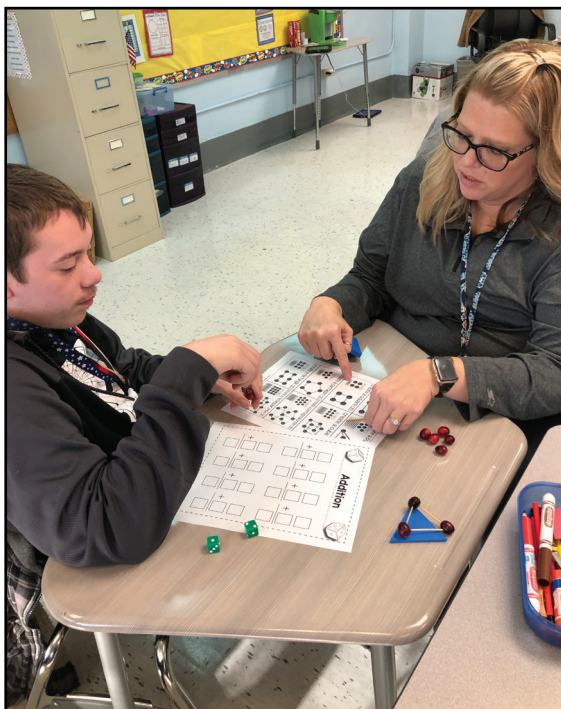
*The complete catalog for this year's VRS PTO holiday basket raffle!*

## Mandatory staff health insurance meetings Dec. 9

SCDD staff members are required to attend one of two meetings on Monday, Dec. 9, regarding health insurance open enrollment.

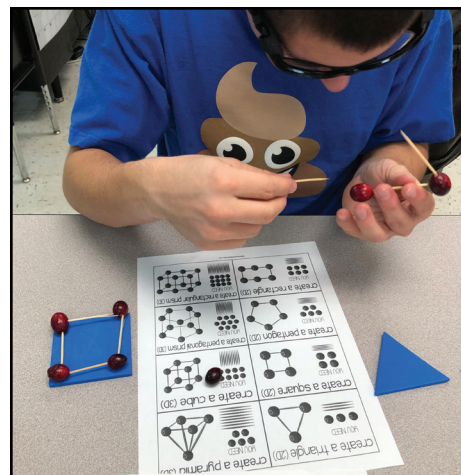
The meetings will be in the Vern Riffe School gym at 2 p.m. and at 3:15 p.m. to accommodate programming schedules.

Staff members opting to not take board-offered insurance must still attend to sign appropriate documentation.



## Room 3 really relished this math lesson!

Students in Room 3 incorporated seasonal celebrations in their studies by utilizing ripe cranberries in a recent math unit.



## 2 join SSA department, VRS gets new secretary



Eddie Davis



Patti Nieto



Tammy Grigson

**Eddie Davis and Patti Nieto** have recently been hired as Service & Support Administrators and are based at the Vern Riffe School building.

Davis lives in Piketon, where he lives with his two ferrets, Butterbean and Fifi. His hobbies include playing guitar and reading.

Asked why he chose the DD field, he said: "I believe it is my purpose to help those in need, and particularly in the field of developmental disabilities. I enjoy witnessing individuals overcoming the obstacles placed in front of them"

## SCDD CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

6: VRS goes to The Nutcracker at SSU  
6: El holiday social with Santa at the Carousel Center, 1 p.m.  
9: Mandatory SCDD staff meeting regarding health insurance; employees must attend either 2 p.m. or 3:15 p.m. meeting whether they intend to take the board's insurance or not; VRS gym  
17: VRS holiday program, 1 p.m.  
19: SCDD Board meeting, 4:45 p.m.  
19: Portsmouth West Chorus, 10 a.m., VRS gym  
19: South Webster Chorus, 1 p.m., VRS  
20: South Webster JH Chorus, time TBA, VRS  
20: Christmas party with Santa, VRS, 10 a.m.  
23: VRS holiday break begins  
25: Christmas Day/SCDD CLOSED

### JANUARY

1: New Year's Day/SCDD CLOSED  
2-3: VRS FT staff training  
6: VRS students return from break  
16: SCDD Board meeting, 4:45 p.m.  
20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day/SCDD CLOSED

### FEBRUARY

17: Presidents Day/SCDD CLOSED  
20: SCDD Board meeting, 4:45 p.m.

### MARCH

19: Annual Rivals Game VRS vs. Open Door at Ironton High School  
19: SCDD Board meeting, 4:45 p.m.  
20: VRS early dismissal (noon) for staff training  
27: VRS/NO SCHOOL

### APRIL

4: Hardwood Heroes Celebrity Basketball Game at SSU  
10: Good Friday/SCDD CLOSED  
16: SCDD Board meeting, 4:45 p.m.

### MAY

8: VRS prom at the Friends Center, 1 p.m.  
15: VRS graduation, 1 p.m.

## A GREAT DAY IN THERAPY



Vern Riffe School student Noah Altman was having a great day in physical/occupational therapy, and PTA Trisha Schmidt snapped a pic. We work hard at VRS, but we have fun too! Awesome work, Noah!

## Lawmaker calls for more adult changing tables in public restrooms

An Ohio lawmaker is calling on the state to require more places to have adult changing tables in restrooms.

Sen. Peggy Lehner wants to require large gathering spaces, such as stadiums and museums, to provide a changing table in their restrooms that can bear the weight

of pre-teens to adults.

Lehner says the lack of these changing tables in public places limits where people with developmental disabilities can go.

"When a person, a child, with a disability can't go out because of the inability to take care of personal

hygiene issues, their family can't go out either, mother, dad, brother and sisters," says Lehner.

The bill, SB249, would only apply to new construction and major renovations.

*Reprinted from StateNews.org*



# Winter Weather Advisory

When winter weather arrives, there will be circumstances when transportation will have to be delayed or cancelled or Vern Riffe School will be closed.

■ On days when VRS is closed, Administration and Service & Support Administration (SSA) offices will typically remain open. This is so individuals can provide their own transportation and continue to conduct SCDD business.

■ Bus drivers are supported in using their own discretion when it comes to winter driving. This may include bus drivers making the choice to avoid certain roads known to be hazardous during inclement weather.

■ Scioto County Developmental Disabilities offers a taxpayer-funded services that is a healthy and safe learning environment. It is an option to attend; individuals may choose not to attend, that is their right.

■ Scioto County Developmental Disabilities never requires people to board a bus if they feel conditions are unsafe. Individuals, family members, and providers are also reminded they can always decide not to send a student to school, even if transportation is on regular schedule. Conditions may vary countywide, and circumstances and health considerations may require individuals stay home.

■ In addition to the one-call system, notifications of scheduling changes and closures are announced on SCDD's official Facebook page beginning as soon as possible. Local media outlets are notified, including radio and TV stations. Please consider monitoring multiple media outlets for up-to-date information.

■ Please make sure your contact information is current with the Business Office if you want to receive one-call notifications and texts. The appropriate forms can be found in your program offices and in the Business Office (VRS 209).

# WELCOME

Cont'd. from Page 1

and shattering any expectations.”

Davis can be reached at edavis@sciottodd.org or ext. 34205.

Nieto is from Worthington, Ky., where she lives with her husband, Brian Elswick, and her Lab-Great Dane mix Fiona. Her son, Jack Tolliver, lives in Portland, Ore., and is attending Portland State University to become a lawyer.

Nieto's hobbies include sports, especially Xavier University basketball. She's a huge Tampa Bay Bucs and Rays fan, as she grew up in Florida, where her dad was stationed in the military.

As for why she chose to work in the DD field, Nieto said she has a brother who was diagnosed with learning disabilities as a child. “We were very close growing up as I was one of his caregivers. My brother had

some form of autism before anyone even could put a label on it.”

Her parents never gave up on him, got him help, and made many sacrifices. “My mom went to his high school every day.”

Her brother not only graduated high school, but also graduated from university and received his law degree, working for several years as an attorney in California.

“I believe if my brother can chase his dreams and succeed, anyone can. I always wanted to work in the DD field and I decided at 40-plus to switch careers, as I believe one person can greatly change an individual's trajectory in life.”

Nieto can be reached at pnieto@sciottodd.org or at ext. 34233.

**Tammy Grigson** is the newly hired secretary at VRS. She lives in Minford

with her husband, Bob. She also has two children, Joshua Williams and Laura Grigson, as well as a daughter-in-law, Rebekka Williams, and a granddaughter, Rowan Williams. She also says she is “so blessed to still have both of my parents.” Grigson also counts three dogs as part of the family: Moe, Toto, and Shinner.

Her interests include: “God comes first and foremost, then my family, which is my world. I have a passion for quilting and enjoy working puzzles and cross-stitching. I love being outdoors.”

As for why she chose the DD field: “I love children and children with special needs are God's special chosen people.”

Grigson is based in the VRS office and can be reached at ext. 34110.

Welcome to Scioto DD!

# Life HAPPENS

Everyone needs an assist at some point. The goal of Friends of Scioto DD is to provide that help for people who are eligible for services at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities.

As a 501(c)3, donations to Friends of Scioto DD are tax deductible. They are used in situations when existing routes are too slow or don't apply.



[www.FriendsofSciotoDD.com](http://www.FriendsofSciotoDD.com)



# 2019 VERN RIFFE SCHOOL



## BASKET RAFFLE

1 FOR \$1 OR 6 FOR \$5

**On back of ticket please include:**

- **Name**
- **Basket #**
- **Phone #**

The back of a raffle ticket with the word "Back" at the top. It has fields for Name, Address, and Phone No. The name "John Doe" is handwritten. The address field contains "#3" and a small drawing of a person. The phone number "123-456-7890" is handwritten. At the bottom, it says "PRINTED IN U.S.A.".

Back  
Name John Doe  
Address #3  
Phone No. 123-456-7890  
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

**DRAWING DEC. 18<sup>TH</sup> @ 1:00PM**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT VERN RIFFE SCHOOL PTO  
TO PURCHASE CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR OUR STUDENTS.**

**IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE FUNDS RAISED BENEFIT OUR STUDENTS IN THE  
GREATEST WAY POSSIBLE, WE ASK THAT ALL BASKETS BE PICKED UP AT:**

**VERN RIFFE SCHOOL  
2619 GALLIA ST  
PORTSMOUTH, OH 45662**

**VERN RIFFE SCHOOL IS NOT ABLE TO SHIP BASKETS.**

VICTORIA'S  
SECRET

# BASKET # 1

Bath  
& Body  
Works

## “SCENT OF THE SEASONS” OVER \$535.00 VALUE

### 4 - \$25 -Victoria 's Secret PINK Gift Cards

*Victoria Secret Beach Tote Bag*

*Victoria Secret Cosmetic Bag*

*Victoria Secret Wrap Towel*

### 4 - \$25 -Bath & Body Works Gift Card

#### Bath & Body Works - Autumn Collection:

*Sweet Cinnamon & Pumpkin Fragrance Mist*

*Sweet Cinnamon & Pumpkin Body Cream*

*Sweet Cinnamon & Pumpkin Lotion*

*Sweet Cinnamon & Pumpkin Shower Gel*

*Large Cinnamon Clover Buds Candle*

#### Bath & Body Works - Winter Collection:

*Winterberry Wonder Fragrance Mist*

*Winterberry Wonder Body Lotion*

*Winterberry Wonder Shower Gel*

*Large Marshmallow Fireside Candle*

#### Bath & Body Works - Spring Collection:

*Japanese Cherry Fragrance Mist*

*Japanese Cherry Body Lotion*

*Japanese Cherry Shower Gel*

#### Bath & Body Works - Summer Collection:

*At The Beach Fragrance Mist*

*At The Beach Body Lotion*

*At The Beach Shower Gel*

*Seaside Daze Small Candle*



MADE BY: ROOM 1



# BASKET #2



## THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

One hand Painted Pumpkin Jack Skellington Metal Wagon

Nightmare before Christmas Sing along Bluray

Tombstone Cakelet pan

Large Santa Christmas Bag

Large Jack Skellington Wood Painting

Jack Skellington Tumbler

Jack Skellington Candy Bowl

Jack and Sally Coffee Mugs

Two Nightmare before Christmas Mystery Figures

Two small strands of Pumpkin Lights

5 and a 1/2 foot inflatable Jack Skellington Santa figure

Nine Faces of Jack Skellington painting.

Nightmare Before Christmas Monopoly

Nightmare Before Christmas Book



MADE BY: ROOM 2

# BASKET #3

*\*Baby It's COLD Outside\**

**32" Zeny Outdoor Fire Pit w/ Rain Cover**

**Set of 8 - Marshmallow Telescoping Roasting Sticks**



**Blanket**

**Hot Cocoa Mix**

**2 - Hot Cocoa Mugs**

**S'mores Ingredients**



**MADE BY: ROOM 3**





# BASKET #4



## NEW YEAR, NEW YOU



Tarte Gift & Glam Collector's Set  
\$246 Value



Joico Shampoo & Conditioner Set



Tarte Lip Ornaments Lip Gloss Set  
\$80 Value



L'Ange Aplatir Flat Iron  
\$109 Value



Free Color, Cut & Style @ Shear Magic Salon  
c/o Terah Cordle



Free Cut & Style @ Shear Magic Salon  
c/o Erica Fontaine



Free Nail Strips  
c/o Jessica Hoffer



Free Wax @ Shear Magic Salon  
c/o Stacey Aeh

MADE BY: ROOM 103

# BASKET #5

## LET'S GET COOKIN'

- ULTREAN AIR FRYER 4.2 QUART HOT AIR FRYER W/ DETACHABLE BASKET & COOKBOOK
- BELLA PANINI GRILL
- AIR FRYER COOKBOOK
- PANINI COOKBOOK
- \$50 KROGER GIFT CARD



MADE BY: ROOM 105



# BASKET #6

## “OUTDOOR FAMILY FUN”



Intex Explorer K2 Inflatable Kayak  
w/ Pump & 2 Oars



Intex Challenger K2 Inflatable Kayak  
w/ Pump & 2 Oars



4 - Universal Life Vests



One Electric Pump/Deflator

MADE BY: ROOM 111

# BASKET #7



## “This Basket Is On FIRE” Over \$580 Value

- 32” TCL Roku Smart TV
- Amazon 7” Fire Tablet
- Amazon Echo Dot w/ Alexa
- Amazon Echo Show 5 w/ Alexa
- Kid’s Amazon 7” Fire Tablet
- Kid’s Amazon 7” Kid Proof Case
- Amazon Fire TV Stick w/remote & Alexa
- \$100 in Amazon Gift Cards

All-new  
**fire 7** Kids Edition

If it breaks, return it and we'll replace it.



All-New  
**fire 7**

Our best-selling Fire tablet — now even better



MADE BY: ROOM 107



# BASKET #8

OVER \$290.00 VALUE



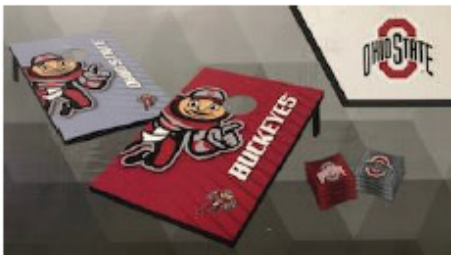
## 6-Foot Wood Ohio State Buckeyes Porch Sign

Ohio State Corn Hole Boards Set

XL Nike Ohio State Football Jersey

Ohio State Memory Fit Hat

2 - 30 oz. Insulated Tumbler Cups



MADE BY: ROOM 102



# BASKET #9



## *Christmas Goodies*



**\$20 STARBUCKS GIFT CARD**

**FANNIE MAY BUCKEYES**

**HARRY & DAVID MOOSE MUNCH**

**ITALIAN TRUFFLES MULTI-PACK**

**PREMIUM NUT COLLECTION**

**HARRY & DAVID PEPPERMINT BARK**

**EUROPEAN CHOCOLATE COOKIES**

**GODIVA ADVENT CALENDAR**



**MADE BY: ROOM 109**

# BASKET #10

## *“A Night In”*

**Sceptre 32” TV**



**Fire TV Stick 4K  
w/ Remote**

**MADE BY: ROOM 110**