



Together, We Build Meaningful Lives

Scioto County Board of DD

Staff, students honor vets

VRS recognizes those who served in military with Veterans Day assembly

Vern Riffe School conducts an annual assembly to honor those who have served the cause of freedom. This year, five veterans of multiple eras were in attendance and received artwork and cards of appreciation from students and staff.

In attendance were: Harry Bennett, Rick Bolin, Melissa Gampp, Bill Pennington, and Sgt. Shane Hatfield.

Hatfield was the special guest speaker for the day and discussed what it means to be a veteran and to actively serve, comparing it to a check that's written for freedom and America's service personnel volunteer to pay that debt.

Student Jacee Yearwood sang the National Anthem, Kim Messer's kindergarten class sang "Grand Ol' Flag," and the event ended with a line of students and staff shaking hands with our special guests.



VRS student Dustin Adkins shakes hands with Sgt. Shane Hatfield, who was the featured speaker at the school's annual Veterans Day assembly on Nov. 10. Students made art and wrote cards for the veterans who attended, including Hatfield, SCBDD Board Member Rick Bolin, Harry Bennett, teacher Melissa Gampp, and SSA Bill Pennington.

Trisha Schmidt, center, is surrounded by co-workers who decided to honor her and her mother by promoting Stomach Cancer Awareness Month in November.



Raising awareness of stomach cancer, honoring loved ones

November is Stomach Cancer Awareness Month, and staff at Vern Riffe School have come together for one of their own in an effort to spread awareness of this disease which often takes a public relations backseat to other forms of cancer. They did it in honor of VRS Occupational Therapist Trisha

Schmidt, whose mother passed away after being diagnosed with the disease. According to the American Cancer Society, about 26,370 cases of stomach cancer will be diagnosed before the end of 2016. About 10,730 people will die from this kind of cancer. Most people are diagnosed after the age of 65.

The Vocation Station

Job Placements

- **Alex Sudbrook** - Little Caesar's Wheelersburg - Pizza box staff
- **Virginia Rhoades** - Executive Coach - Shredding
- **Brandon Timmerman** - Rest Haven Nursing Home - Laundry
- **Nick Newton** - Republic Theaters - Usher
- **Jeremy Call** - Pizza Hut Portsmouth - Lobby Attendant
- **Chelsie Stiltner** - Pizza Hut Portsmouth - Lobby Attendant/Cashier
- **Brenda Goodman** - Cool Catz Clothing and Sue's Corner - Associate

Board Notes

The Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities met in regular session Oct. 20 at STAR, Inc. In addition to routine business, the Board took the following actions:

- Received and approved two recommendations from the Personnel Committee regarding health insurance and the employee HRA
- Approved the creation of a Medicaid Services Manager position
- Approved and signed two resolutions regarding the appropriations request for the purpose of satisfying financial obligations through the end of the year and the transfer of funds from the general to the capital fund for use in the capital improvement plan
- Authorized the superintendent to use funds to buy a boiler for STAR, Inc.
- Received update on the Expenditures of Vehicle grant and the authorized match expenditure
- Approved a two-year contract for the Intake/Early Childhood Director

Chatfield receives award



Keith "KC" Chatfield was presented on Tuesday, Nov. 15, with the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities' Denise Joanne Weisenborn Award. Pictured, from left: Tammy Chatfield, Commissioner David Daugherty, Commission Chair Jack Licate, honoree Keith Chatfield, Commissioner Jacqui Romer-Sensky, David Hoover, Kelly Hunter and Paula Currence. Chatfield was recognized for his work with !MPACT. The award honors non-employees of OOD who provide outstanding services to Ohioans with disabilities to make participation in society more meaningful. Denise Weisenborn was a commissioner at the OOD and advocated for people with disabilities.

Birthdays and Workiversaries

BIRTHDAYS NOVEMBER

12: Tammy Nelson
16: Derick Whisman
19: Chad Phipps
23: Lea Cummings

DECEMBER

5: Tammy Bolton
8: Sherry Burney
15: Lori Snyder

16: Trisha Schmidt
18: Donna Howard
20: Janet Barber
21: Steve Sowkulech, Lynn Chaffin
23: Jayne Stone
31: Ceci Sherman

WORKIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER

3: Shonda Cooper

6: Kayla Stone
23: Derick Whisman, Karen Cox, Donna Tackett

DECEMBER

4: Margaret Compton
9: Nancy Partlow, Tiffany Semento, Cindy Newman
10: Debra Duckson
12: Nakia Peters
26: Chad Phipps



Tickets available for basket raffle

Tickets are being sold for the annual Vern Riffe School PTO Christmas basket raffle. They are \$1 each or six for \$5 and can be purchased in the school office. Proceeds will be used by the PTO to buy Christmas gifts for students at VRS. The drawing will be Dec. 16, and baskets may be picked up by at the school office.

BASKET 1: Room 1 DISNEY PRINCESSES #1

Princess toy trunk
Backpack
Jasmine, Rapunzel, Belle, Ariel, and Cinderella Barbie dolls
Disney plush throw
Watch
Castle game
Art set
Lip gloss
Tablets and pencil case
Kite
5-minute Disney Princess book
Playing cards
Wand

BASKET 2: Room 2 GONE TO THE BIRDS

Little Tykes wagon
Rio and *Rio 2* DVDs
Angry Birds DVD
Lego Angry Birds Piggy Plane Attack set
Lego Angry Birds Piggy Car Escape set
Talking parrot plushie
Two Angry Birds *Star Wars* puzzles
Rio plushie
Angry Bird Rio plushie
Candy

BASKET 3: Room 3 A SCENTSY WONDERLAND

Scentsy diffuser
Extra shade
5 Scentsy oils: Peppermint Stick, Christmas Bark, Cinnamon Pine; Warm Vanilla Nutmeg; Eucalyptus Mint
Mini Plug-in Warmer
2 Scentsy bars: Blueberry Cheesecake and World Traveler
Countertop Cleaner
Wash bar
Scent Circle
Coupon for a future order

BASKET 4: Room 103 FAMILY FUN NIGHT

\$25 gift card to Giovanni's
Netflix subscription

Popcorn
Candy: Reese's Pieces, Swedish Fish, Junior Mints, M&M's plain and peanut
Movies: *A Christmas Story*, *Journey 2, The Borrowers*
Games: Pie in the Face, Monopoly
Mugs
Hot chocolate
Amazon FireStick
Cardinal throw blanket
Slippers
Wicker basket

BASKET 5: Room 105 COUNTRY KITCHEN COLLECTION

3-piece mixing bowl set
Oversized serving bowl
4-piece mug set
Floor mat
Dishwasher magnet
Salt & Pepper, spoonrest set
Window valance and hooks set
2-piece towel set
Ceramic jar/vase
2-piece metal stars set
Large wicker basket with liner

BASKET 6: Room 111 BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

Keurig 2.0 K200 Plus Series
Keurig Hot 2.0 Carafe 32 oz.
Assorted Keurig coffees
Coffee creamers
Travel mug
Hot chocolate
Marshmallows
2 coffee mugs
Cozy blanket
Dry soup mix
Basket
CD or DVD

BASKET 7: Room 107 AMAZING AMAZON

Kindle Fire HD8 16G Tablet
Kid's Edition Kindle Fire 7-inch tablet with 1 year Amazon FreeTime subscription and kid-proof case
Kids neoprene tablet sleeve
Amazon Echo speaker
Amazon TV FireStick with remote
Screen protector for tablets
\$100 Amazon gift card

BASKET 8: Room 102 THE OSU BASKET

Ohio State 6-quart crock pot
OSU plush throw

OSU portable snack carrier
2-piece OSU round salad bowl set
16-ounce OSU tumbler & snack cup
OSU serving tray
Football chips and dip tray
Divided fruit and veggie tray
OSU license tag
Microfiber kitchen towel
2 microfiber dish cloths
Oven mitt
2 potholders
Solid serving spoon
Slotted serving spoon
Ladle

BASKET 9: Room 109 CHRISTMAS GOODIES

Caramel-drizzled shortbread and fudge graham
Peppermint Party candy and cookies
Chirardelli milk chocolate squares
Valonia assorted chocolates
Cookie, popcorn candy
Hershey's hazelnut center
CH Wright chocolate
Belgian chocolate truffles
Danis butter cookies

BASKET 10: Room 110 A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Sustaining membership to Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center
5 day passes to the Highlands Museum & Discovery Center in Ashland, Ky.
Tickets to a Cirque D'Art performance
Art supplies
Original student-created art
\$15 Scioto Valley Graphics gift certificate
\$25 Pat Catan's gift certificate
\$25 gift certificate to The Happy Pot

BASKET 11: Room 1 DISNEY PRINCESSES #2

Beach towel
Frozen game
Cinderella toddler doll
Storage container
Frozen jewelry
Frozen crown and shoes
Frozen nail set
Frozen nail accessories
Cinderella wand
Princess stationery
Princess cup
Princess bottle
Memo pads
Crayons and coloring book
Placemat
Markers and Color Ups

Uecker visits VRS

State Sen. Joe Uecker visited Vern Riffe School for the first time on Oct. 31. In addition to meeting with Superintendent Julie Monroe and Director of School Programs Tammy Guthrie, Uecker visited with students in Dana Jones' intermediate classroom. Here, he is reading with student Gabrielle Collins. At right, Monroe and Guthrie observe as Gabby reads to Uecker.



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Developmental Disabilities

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