

Keeping you
" in THE "
know.



10/16/20

White Cane Safety Day: October 15th

-Cleveland Sight Center recognized White Cane Safety Day on Thursday, October 15th! Every year we celebrate this day and the independence the white cane provides for people who are blind or visually impaired. Cleveland Sight Center's social media channels posted about White Cane Safety Day including educational videos and information about white cane usage. The Marketing team also sent an e-blast to the agency's email database with information about this important day. To see some activity on CSC's Facebook page, visit these direct links:

White Canes and "The Clevelander":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9Mr6ojo01Y&fbclid=IwAR3JvlegqFbCsc-MSCRf9ZoTYovmev6xXXeZ-IIYUhwytCsIJhlamusw5ql>

CSC Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/clevelandsightcenter>

Join Us for Spellbound on Thursday, October 29th!

Spellbound 2020: Let's Make S'more Memories will be held on Thursday, October 29 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. The event will be a virtual BONDfire and will include the following:

- Make s'mores under blindfold (with help and guidance from experts).
- Listen to a campfire story from a staff member and former client, where she will tell us about her earliest memories of Cleveland Sight Center.
- Learn how YOU can make a difference in the lives of our clients.

Invite your family and friends to join you as you get cozy around our BONDfire. It is a great way to introduce them to our agency and your place of work!

Learn more and register online:

<https://www.clevelandsightcenter.org/content/spellbound-registration>

For additional information, contact Megan Sigler, Marketing and Events Specialist at 216-658-4568 or msigler@clevelandsightcenter.org

[Image of Spellbound 2020 with a campfire on the beach next to a lake at sunset]



Educating the Community:

-Melissa Mauk and Bobbie Szabo recently made presentations to the Forum for Volunteer Administrators (FVA), a group of volunteer professionals whose members have been influential in the field of volunteer administration in Northeast Ohio since the 1940s. FVA offers professional development workshops, programs and an annual conference designed to address the needs of those who work with and engage volunteers. Meaningful networking opportunities provide a venue for members to engage each other with innovative ideas and solutions to the ever-changing face of volunteer administration. If interested in learning more about training content please contact Melissa Mauk to request a recorded copy of trainings.

-Tom Sawyer met with and gave a tour to Ophthalmology Intern Patrick G. from Summa Akron, discussing ways CSC staff members provide help to people with vision loss or blind so they can realize their full potential. They also talked about patients who receive low vision care while receiving medical treatment can make a huge difference in treating the whole person and not just their medical diagnosis or disease.

Check Out What's Happening at CSC:

-The Share the Vision (STV) program began training for program volunteers earlier this week. A group of 10 Share the Vision volunteers participated and were very engaged and asked good questions. Moreed Kamal led the training, which included questions for discussion such as "What makes a good STV volunteer?", "What is the role of a STV volunteer?" and "What topics should a STV volunteer steer away from?" Moreed also led the group in discussions about confidentiality, setting appropriate boundaries with STV participants, what to do if a STV participant talks about harming themselves and what to do if the STV participant proposes a question or situation the STV volunteer does not know the answer to. Moreed is now setting up his next training session with another group of STV volunteers and for more information, he can be reached at x7349 or mkamal@clevelandsightcenter.org.

-Check out a few poems written by clients in recent Poetry classes hosted by Leisure and Lifestyle Services. The assignment was to write a poem titled "Praise Is..."

Poem 1:

What do you think praise is?
If you could put a definition to it, what would it be?
It's not the effort, it's the recognition of that effort.
It comes so easily when it's sincere.

Poem 2:

Praise is not presents, it's your presence.
All of our praise is connected to one another.
Some people have praise in spite of their vision loss,
Some people have praise because of their vision loss.

-Upcoming Programs being offered by the Leisure and Lifestyle Services (LLS) include:

October 20th	11:00am Ballroom Dance
October 21st	11:00am Braille Notes (Sign-Up Only)
October 23rd	7:00pm Halloween Party
October 29th	2:00pm Jam Session

For log in information, contact Bobbie Szabo at 216-658-4597 or bszabo@clevelandsightcenter.org or call the Recreation Line at 216-658-2600.

Don't forget these weekly offerings through LLS:

Monday 9am Meditation/Stretching
1pm Poetry (Sign-up Only)
3pm Trivia League

Tuesday 1pm Meditation
5pm Yoga

Wednesday 10am Coffee Chat

Thursday 12pm Activities Vary
2pm Line Dance (Bi-weekly)

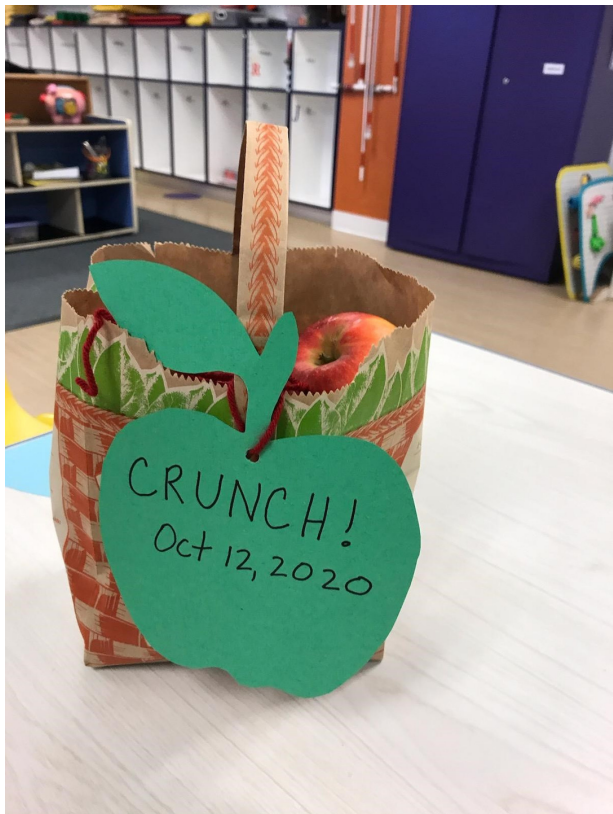
Friday 2pm Fun Friday

-Students in Bright Futures Preschool had a blast celebrating the #GreatAppleCrunch on Monday in support of local farmers and apples! A special thank you to the East Side Delta Gamma Alumna that donated the apples to make this all possible!

[Image of a bag of apples with a label that says "Crunch! Oct 12, 2020"

Image of a preschooler with her family at home on their back deck with a bag of apples

Image of two preschoolers biting into their red apples]





-CSC welcomed a small group of volunteers from the American Medical Student Association to the agency on Friday October 9th, the first group volunteer effort in the building since March! During the team's visit, they learned about the agency, cleaned CSC's Bright Futures preschool classroom, and sent a caring message to CSC's preschoolers! Remember to reach out to Melissa Mauk with any requests for group volunteer support.

[Volunteers from the American Medical Student Association holding papers that read "An apple a day, sending smiles your way!"]

-CSC is collecting pumpkins (needed by October 26th) to benefit clients in CSC's and Leisure and Lifestyle programs and Highbrook Lodge. If you are interested in donating, or would like to learn more please contact CSC's Volunteer Office.

-Volunteer Services held its first Volunteer Engagement Team meeting over Zoom on Thursday October 8th. This team, comprised of four volunteers and two CSC staff members, will be focusing on enhancing engagement efforts of the agency's volunteers to ensure volunteer talent and potential is best nurtured within the CSC community. The first item on the agenda of this team will be collecting volunteer spotlights to be used in CSC's bi-weekly volunteer e-mail, on the CSC website and on social media. More to come about the team in the coming weeks!

-Like the Large Print Calendars, the Eyedea Shop's holiday cards are another item that folks look forward to each year. Check out the Eyedea Shop's website which has three new cards for this year's selection, along with some options from previous years. The cards are \$1.00 each and can be purchased in any quantity. The newest cards feature the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, a Ho Ho Ho Santa and a red truck hauling the traditional Christmas tree freshly cut from the forest. Make your selections early as they have a tendency to sell out quickly. Also available are cards in braille in greetings including "Happy Holidays" "Happy Hanukkah" and "Happy Kwanzaa". Check out the amazing selection of this year's cards at the Eyedea Shop website: eyedeashop.com. Oh - and did you know the Eyedea Shop website is in the process of being updated and refreshed by Jennifer Dean? Check it out today!

[Image of the Ho Ho Ho Santa holiday card by Cyntia Spadafore]



Make Plans to Attend Halloween at Highbrook!

The Highbrook Lodge team is happy to announce that Highbrook Lodge will be open for two single-day trips at the end of October! Celebration Campers are welcome to camp on Saturday, October 31st from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Resort Campers are welcome to camp on Sunday, November 1st from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.! Activities will include pumpkin decorating, a costume party, decorating donuts, and campfire! It is sure to be a spooktacular time filled with chills and thrills!

Halloween at Highbrook Details

Dates and Times: Celebration Day: October 31st, 2020. Resort Day: November 1st, 2020. Activities from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Please arrive 20–30 minutes early so that everyone can be registered and begin the schedule promptly.

Cost: \$5 per person, to be paid upon arrival at camp.

Food: Lunch and light refreshments will be provided.

Costumes: Please come to camp wearing a costume for the costume party!

Transportation: Transportation from Cleveland Sight Center to Highbrook Lodge will not be available due to COVID-19; transportation to camp is the responsibility of the camper and camper's family.

Support: Due to COVID-19, we are limiting the amount of CSC staff and volunteers at these events. We ask that campers who require sighted guide and other additional assistance bring a Support Person with them—whether that is a family member, friend, or health care worker. The Support Person must also register for the event.

COVID-19 Prevention Policies: All campers and Support Staff will be required to wear a mask at all times throughout the event except when eating. Temperatures will be checked upon arrival. Space is very limited for these day trips to ensure that we can adhere to strict 6-foot + social distancing, so register ASAP!

Registration: Register for one of these day trips by calling Bobbie Szabo at 216-658-4597 or by email at bszabo@clevelandsightcenter.org. Registration closes October 10th.

We are so incredibly excited to have our campers back at camp again! We cannot wait to have a safe and spooky time with you all!



[Image of a Halloween at Highbrook flyer. There are hills, trees with leaves changing colors, and ghosts floating in the air. Halloween at Highbrook is written in glowing yellow letters.]

Congratulations, You're Awesome!

-Congratulations to Bobbie Christopher for winning the Random Acts of Awesome Award presented at this week's All Staff Meeting. Bobbie was nominated by Sherry Raymont and also Chris Gruber. Congratulations are also in order to the following nominees for the award: Hugh Littleton nominated by Dawn Jones; Jennifer Dean nominated by Tina Pringpuangkeo; numerous departments nominated by Erin St. Denis; the entire agency nominated by Bobbie Szabo; and the Bright Futures Preschool staff nominated by Susie Meles.

Items of Note:

-Check out Microsoft's AI Blog, which recently posted an article titled "Shrinking the 'data desert': Inside efforts to make AI systems more inclusive of people with disabilities. For the full blog article, click here: <https://blogs.microsoft.com/ai/shrinking-the-data-desert/>

-Apple introduced a slew of new products and technologies during a pre-recorded streaming session on Tuesday, which featured a "new era" for its flagship smartphones. Check out more information by clicking here: <https://www.apple.com/apple-events/october-2020/>

Did you Know?

-Florida is the flattest state in the United States, followed by Illinois and then North Dakota.