

Keeping you
" in THE "
know.



11/13/20

In Memoriam: Jamelle Scribner - Workman

-Sadly, CSC announces the passing of a colleague as this past Saturday we lost Jamelle Scribner - Workman, former Bright Futures Preschool Aide, Customer Service Representative, and Product Specialist.

Jamelle was involved with CSC in so many ways and over many years, starting as a client at a very early age, working in many roles and most recently being a Product Specialist in the Eyedea Shop, showing and teaching others how to use tools to help them be successful. She overcame many difficulties over the years. May we all be so resilient. Jamelle will be greatly missed.



Picture from a Facebook post of
Jamelle Workman smiling

What's Happening at CSC:

-The Outreach team presented CSC's services with an emphasis on the Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) Program through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) to The Rotary Club of Mentor on Thursday. There were 10 members in attendance who had many questions after the presentation.

-Did you know CSC has many new poets? Check out a few of these poems from the Poetry workshops recently held. For more information on this program, contact Bobbie Szabo (x4597).

To Be Grown Up

Ballerina (too bad I can't dance)

Writer

Pediatrician

Nurse

On Broadway (singing and dancing, of course)

Work with Braille

Mother (It wasn't glamorous)

Nursery School Teacher

Nightclub Singer (on the piano in the slinky dress)

Braille Teacher

Childhood, Explained

Little pans shaped like corn,
Buttering that heavenly bread;
Memories of childhood are born,
My heart and soul are fed.

Ribbon candy and the little mints,
Melting on your tongue;
Corning ware bowls sticky fingerprints,
Dance with music unsung.

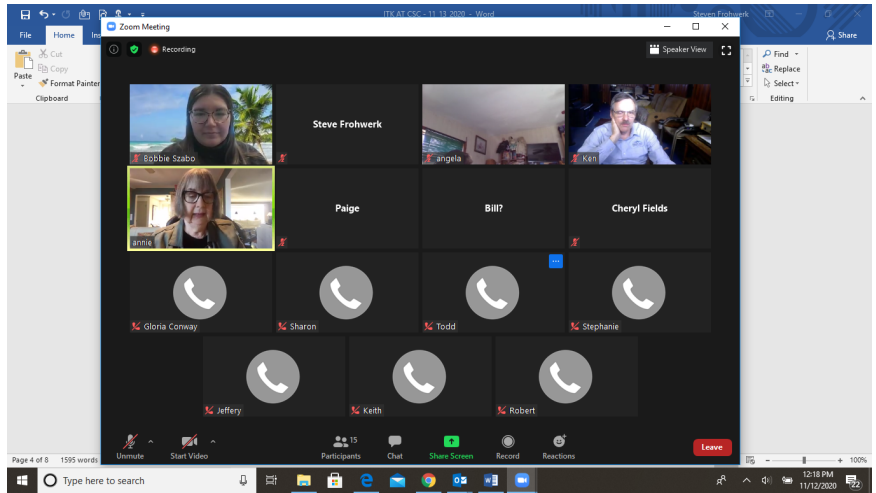
Granny, Noni, Nana, Love,
Jergen's lotion and Chapstick smell;
Blessings from the stars above,
Remember the stories she would tell.

Rubber fruit in the big brown dish,
Chlorine and the sun;

Perry Como dancing, skirts a 'swish,
Chinese Checkers just for fun.

Holidays 'round the family table,
Don't forget the strays;
Camaraderie that is stable,
The familiar turn of phrase.

Interlocked and inter-threaded,
Family fabric in all the hues;
Memories good and bad are wedded,
Past and present fuse.



-Book Discussion Group met virtually on Tuesday, November 10th from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. and the group discussed *The Unexpected Gift* by Brenna King, a story of a young lady who is blind.

-The Leisure and Lifestyle Services welcomed special guest speaker for the first-ever Virtual Winner's Club Author Annie Hogsett at Thursday's session. The author of the *Somebody's Bound to Wind Up Dead* mystery series spoke to the group of about 20 attendees about becoming an author, using writing as catharsis and answered questions from the audience. Following the talk, the attendees enjoyed a game and raffled off some prizes!

Image of a screen shot of the Winner's Club attendees listening to Author Annie Hogsett

-The LLS team has had to jumble around a few of their upcoming recreation activities in the near future, so please note these two schedule changes: the Meditation session listed for 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays will now be from 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Ballroom Dance, which was listed for 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. bi-weekly on Tuesdays will now be from 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

-Pause. Let's take a moment. Let's breathe.

Let's stop what we are doing for one minute. Just one minute.

Take a look around. What do you see? What do you hear? Smell? What do you notice?

In life, it seems, that sometimes the little moments are a lot bigger than they might initially seem. That first sip of coffee. Making a new friend. A clean house. A fresh start. Watching someone learn a new skill. Hearing someone laugh.

If you notice something like this today, take a moment and email a quick sentence or brief reflection to Melissa Mauk. Take a moment and share; what are you thankful for? Volunteer Services is building a community of gratitude this upcoming holiday season, a space to be shared amongst staff, volunteers, and friends of Cleveland Sight Center. So, thank you for taking the time to consider doing this today, for taking a brief moment to share what you are thankful for.

-Tis the season to check in with volunteers!

Did you know that Cleveland Sight Center has four different categories of volunteers?! This is a fantastic thing, as it allows diverse and flexible ways for talented people to be involved and make an impact in our community. During this time of the year, it becomes particularly important to check in with our episodic volunteers, those volunteers who tend to support the agency during different seasons (often because they are students, or snowbirds who move to warmer climates during the cold months). Please take the time to watch this brief video explaining the importance of checking in with not just episodic volunteers, but with all volunteers at this time. The video here: <https://bit.ly/32I8SBE> also includes some language you can use to check in. Please keep in mind that checking in with volunteers makes all of us stronger as a CSC community!

-Cleveland Sight Center was featured in the Volgistics Volunteer Manager Blog in honor of National Volunteer Managers Day. A reflection from Manager of Volunteer Services Melissa Mauk, included below, was shared in the blog to celebrate the richness CSC volunteers bring to our organization. To read more, click here: <https://bit.ly/2K5jYKx>

"The 2020 pandemic has left many of our clients who are blind and low vision feeling lonely and isolated. Volunteers have helped significantly in connecting with our clients through remote programming and supporting behind the scenes efforts. Whether it is through virtual sing it out, yoga, dance, coffee chat, radio reading, or jeopardy, programs that have been led by our volunteers have held space for community and fun, allowing clients to forget for a short time the happenings of today's events. Volunteers have provided happiness and an opportunity to connect. They have also helped inform clients about our programs.

If not for the volunteers we would not be able to offer such rich virtual experiences. Through their presence, clients are gifted with new relationships and memories, but most of all, with the knowledge that there are people who care and want them to be as happy and supported as possible. That energy has an endless and rippling effect on our community."

-Students in Bright Futures Preschool just wrapped up their Tree Study unit. Last week the class investigated types of people who work with wood and what is made out of wood. They learned the song "Row Row Row Your Boat" because a boat can be made of wood. Students also experimented what can float and what sinks, counted wooden sticks and made shapes out of them. They made a turkey craft using wood chips and wood sticks and played wooden instruments.

However, their WOW event was Thursday as they invited Mr. Larry Benders to join their Morning Meeting and tell the class what he can make out of wood. They went on a virtual fieldtrip into his wood workshop, where he showed some things he has made, such as a fork, a bowl, a pen, and a salt shaker. He also showed the tool he uses there - the lathe - and how it works. At the end of the session, Mr. Larry led the class in our song of the week - "Row Row Row Your Boat" playing piano - an instrument made of wood.

It was very busy and productive week in preschool! Thank you, Mr. Larry!

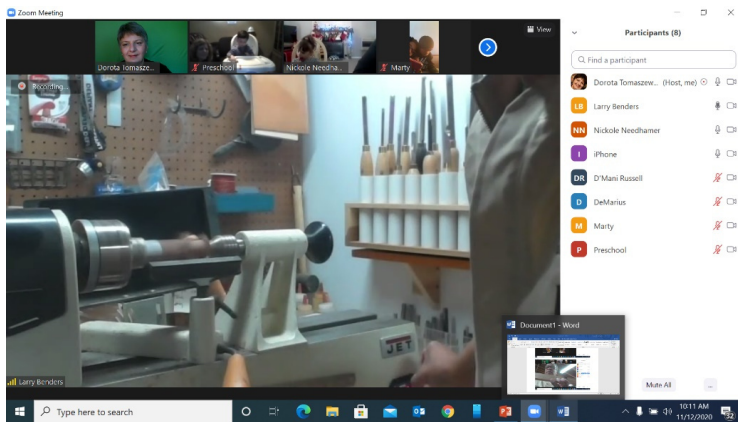


Image of the lathe in Larry's wood workshop

Image of the Zoom screen with students participating in Morning Meeting sing-a-long

A preschool student playing a tambourine

Items of Note

-Remember beginning today, the main building will not be open to staff, clients or walk-ins on Fridays through the end of January. The Eyedea Shop will be available through phone orders and online orders.

-Look around the pharmacy and what do you see? Small-print labels, identical pill bottles and inaccessible interfaces abound. And in the time of COVID, where drive-up testing and social distancing is the norm, people who are blind or low vision have found themselves struggling more than ever to feel healthy and informed. That's why, starting on November 9th, Be My Eyes welcomed their first partner pharmacy onto their app! Users in the United States will be able to ask their questions about medicine, drug interactions and starting in December, even order in-home COVID tests from trained professionals who know how to safely and effectively set up individuals who are blind for success. Be My Eyes is thrilled to welcome the newest Specialized Help partner, Accessible Pharmacy Services, to the Be My Eyes Community! Below you can find out more about how and why this partnership came together, and the story behind how Accessible Pharmacy was founded. To read more, click here:

<https://www.bemyeyes.com/blog/accessible-pharmacy-joins-be-my-eyes>

-A stand-up comic created an all-blind fantasy football league after losing his sight. To read the article, click here: <https://yhoo.it/32IX2HI>

Did you Know?

-Approximately 1.3 million Earths could fit inside the sun.