



Keeping You “In the Know...” 11/2/18

In Memoriam: Charles K. Koster, MD

- We are saddened to announce Charles K. Koster, MD (“Ken”) passed away September 19, 2018. Dr. Koster, a retired ophthalmologist who, for many years, made the trek from the far west side of Cleveland to attend CSC weekly staff meetings educating staff on the many eye conditions impacting clients’ daily functions and employment options.

As a dedicated volunteer medical liaison to CSC’s Employment team, Dr. Koster helped facilitate employment opportunities for people who are blind or with vision loss. Dr. Koster introduced key CSC staff to area doctors and facilitated conversations with new residents and other members in the medical arena.

Recently honored as a Trustee Emeritus, where he received a standing ovation, at CSC’s Annual Meeting held in May 2018, Dr. Koster was a true advocate for Cleveland Sight Center, staff and those who receive vision rehabilitation and employment services.

A church service will be held Saturday, November 3 at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 525 Dover Center Road in Bay Village at 9:30 a.m.

The wake for Dr. Koster will be held Friday, November 2 at McGorray-Hanna Funeral Home, 25620 Center Ridge Road in Westlake from 4:00-8:00 p.m.



Charles K. Koster, MD

Engaging and Educating the Community:

- Activities of Daily Living groups, funded through the Senior Independence Fund, have recently started their six-week program at the following locations: Brookdale Montrose Assisted Living Facility (two groups), Brookdale Westlake Village (one group) and the Akron Blind Center (one group). For more information on these programs, contact Susie Meles (216-791-8118).
- Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer attended Cleveland Clinic SouthPointe Hospital's Annual Diabetes Health Fair this week, providing information about CSC's programs and services. This weekend, CSC is represented at the National Federation of the Blind Ohio Chapter's 2018 Convention in Strongsville, where Alicia and Tom will give their "Tips Talk" presentation and staff an information table about CSC.
- CSC partners with the Cleveland Museum of Art, Community Center for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Northeast Ohio DeafBlind Association and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities for "A New Sensory Experience" tactile carnival being held at the Cleveland Museum of Art on Sunday, November 4th from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The event will celebrate members of the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, Blind & Low Vision Communities and will feature a variety of accessible carnival games that emphasize the use of touch and other sensory

skills to compete. These games provide a "hands on experience" for children and adults to do real life activities as experienced by those who have hearing or vision loss. Games will be accessible to all, including those who have vision or hearing loss. The event is free and open to all.

Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer will be providing sighted guide instruction to volunteers, helping with sighted guide throughout the event and staffing the CSC information table. Sherry Raymond will be helping with American Sign Language and sighted guide. Event volunteers will include CSC staff members Andrea Marley and Laurie Schlickman and a friend of CSC and volunteer Annie Hogsett.

Strengthening Partnerships:

- The CSC Visionaries volunteered at Highbrook Lodge on Saturday, October 27th. They deep-cleaned cabins to shut them down for winter and helped clean the grounds. If you know someone that is interested in getting involved or learning more about the Visionaries group please reach out to Jessica Polack (216-791-8118).



Group photo of the Visionaries in front of the fireplace at Highbrook Lodge

- Students in the Optical Technology program at Cuyahoga Community College visited CSC this week, spending time in braille class, computer training and cooking in the PREP area.
- CSC will host a large group of students from Cuyahoga Community College on Tuesday, November 6th for a “Day with CSC” to learn about the agency, programs and services. The students are currently in areas of study including Optical Technology and Early Childhood Education. For more information on this partnership and opportunity, contact Sylvia Snyder or Susie Meles (216-791-8118).

What's Happening at CSC:

- CSC recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Sam & Esther Friedman Foundation in support of Highbrook Lodge.
- The parking lot renovation project is nearing completion as recent work has included the installation of new lights and new cameras, installation of curb stops, landscape grading and planting of trees.

Thanks to Chris Gruber and the Facilities department for their work on this enhancement to CSC's main campus.

- A variety of programs and classes are available through CSC's Rehabilitation Services department including Beginning Braille, Intermediate Braille, Typing (keyboard orientation), Computer Training (for speech output and screen enlargement) and iPhone Trainings including Voiceover (current class is full with a wait list started) and Orientation to the Features of an iPhone. Stay tuned for more details on upcoming offerings including piano lessons! For more information including the schedule and rates for these programs, contact Bryan Manthey or Susie Meles (216-791-8118).
- Cleveland Sight Center welcomed three new volunteers in orientation sessions this week. Welcome to Shrijal Desai (Administrative Support and Survey Volunteer), Mary Kate Hageman (Audio Description) and Kapil Varma (Administrative Support)! In addition to these volunteers, Anisha Kili, former Latin Dance Volunteer and current Radio Reading Volunteer, has also begun to help with scanning and file management in the Social Work department. CSC is excited these new members have joined the CSC team!



Shrijal Desai smiling in CSC lobby



Kapil (pictured left) and Mary Kate (pictured right) pose for a photo on their first day at CSC



Anisha busy at work scanning Social Work documents

- Students in Bright Futures Preschool held their annual Halloween Parade through the halls of CSC on Wednesday, October 31st. The trick-or-treaters were excited to show off their costumes and walk the agency for goodies. A big THANK YOU from Bright Futures Preschool students and staff for your generosity and fun! The students also conducted a spider study this week, learning about 8-legged and 8-eyed spiders, making crafts and creating their own spider web.



Annette Jakse passes out candy to preschoolers



Student enjoys the tabletop singing panda bear



Student dressed as a french fry box and another riding a unicorn



Larry Benders passes out candy to a student dressed as Batman



Students under their large spider craft hanging in the classroom doorway

- “Active Learning” is being applied this year in Bright Futures Preschool – its goal is to promote active and independent engagement of each child at his or her own level. Some of the everyday items that can be used for this style of programming are listed below. If you have any of these items at your home and no longer use or need, please consider donating them to Bright Futures Preschool. All donations would be very much appreciated.

- Foot Spa / Massager
- Small CD players
- Battery operated vibrating massagers
- Metal whisks
- Old metal keys
- Key rings
- Rubber bracelets
- New combs or hair brushes
- Small brushes
- Fuzzy scarfs
- Fuzzy balls

- “UNO!!!” Join the Social Recreation group for Game Day at CSC on Tuesday, November 6th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Recreation Room. Barbara Piascik from CSC’s Eyedea Shop will be showcasing some new games including “Left – Right – Center” and “Shut the Box”. Come on in for some friendly competition, socialization and to try your hand at a game or two.
- The Book Discussion group will hold their November 13th meeting at the Cleveland Museum of Art. The group will enjoy lunch then participate in a touching art experience followed by book discussion and talk about the art experience. For additional information, contact Alicia Howerton (216-791-8118).
- Mark your Calendars for #GivingTuesday on November 27th! We have two days for getting deals – Black Friday and Cyber Monday. On #GivingTuesday, we have a day for giving back. #GivingTuesday is the opening day of the giving season: a reminder of the “reason for the season.” Be sure to follow CSC on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to stay up to date and remember to share our #GivingTuesday posts. Stay on the lookout for an email next week introducing the 2018 staff challenge and learn how you could win one of two \$50 Amazon gift cards!

#GIVINGTUESDAY™
 #GivingTuesday logo

- Save the Date: The annual Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) Cookies and Milk with Santa event for CSC's youngest clients and their families will be held at the agency on Saturday, December 8th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Raffle baskets will once again be offered at this fun event and the CYAS team is looking for donations of always-popular items including books, family games and lottery tickets. For more information on this invitation-only event, please contact Lorie Marsalis (216-791-8118).

Kudos from Callers:

- The following was received by the Office of Secretary of State Jon Husted, who forwarded to CSC regarding the caller's experience when calling into the Business Services division, which is operated by CSC's Call Center: "I had a question about incorporating a foreign business in Ohio. Before engaging an attorney, I thought I would give the Business Services line a call. I honestly thought I was wasting time and would get some inane generic answer, instead I found the exact opposite. I was connected with Mr. Stephen Miller and within 5 minutes he had answered all my questions. Mr. Miller was professional, knowledgeable and a fantastic ambassador for your office. This email is to say, Thank You for providing this service and Thank You for hiring Mr. Miller. He is a true asset and a fantastic 1st contact to any Ohio resident seeking business information." Great work, Steve!

Eyedeas Shop's Product of the Week:

- Baking season is upon us with all the baking and cooking for the holidays we love to do! The Eyedeas Shop has many helpful items to get the job done quickly and efficiently. Everything from cutting boards, measuring tools, chippers, oven mitts and so much more! Stop in and we will be happy to show you our goodies. So start planning your menus and bakery delights!

