

# Keeping You "In the Know..." 1/13/17

# What's Happening Around CSC?

- Nicole Kahn, Judy Post, Kanden Tolbert, Carlton Toppin, Alexis Vickers and Joel Zureick recently became Certified Employment Support Professionals by the Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE). These CSC staff members had to successfully complete an intensive online course through Virginia Commonwealth University. ACRE is a national membership organization for trainers and educators who work in the field of employment for people with disabilities. CSC and ACRE share a common mission of advocacy through education to improve the quality of employment services for people with disabilities.
- The Employment team is having a great start to fiscal year 2017. Employment Specialists Judy Post, Kanden Tolbert and Carlton Toppin helped 17 clients gain new jobs in the first quarter, which is almost double the number for the same time period in fiscal year 2016!
- Winner's Club started off the year right on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> by participating in an open dialogue with Michelle Wilcox, the Program Manager at the Diabetes Partnership of Cleveland. Michelle discussed common misconceptions about diabetes, tips for maintaining a healthy diet and how to practice moderation at meals. She also provided attendees with a low-carb/low-sodium recipe for hearty cabbage soup, which was given in both large print and braille formats. Feel like you missed out? Don't worry, Michelle will be back for Workout Wednesday on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. for a post-workout smoothie and recipe. Clients and employees are invited to attend. For more information and if you are planning to participate, contact Mollie Evans (216-791-8118) so enough smoothies can be prepared.

This week the Latin Dance class tripled in numbers! A group of 15 volunteers, employees and clients learned the basics of merengue and bachata under the instruction of the Viva Dance Studio. Want to join the group's growing numbers? Come by the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium next Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.! For more information, contact Mollie Evans (216-791-8118).



Participants practice their dance moves

 Students in Bright Futures Preschool had a fun week baking bread on Monday and celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The students learned that people are like eggs - different color on the outside but the same inside. The class also made a friendship craft to remind them that we all have dreams and we all are friends.



Friendship craft with handprints and a heart the yolks



A preschooler checks out the different egg shells and

 Out with the old and in with the new! Come to Job Club at Cleveland Sight Center on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. to ring in the new year! Play a little job search trivia and share your suggestions for future meetings. Join us to rejuvenate and jump back into your job search with gusto! Contact Nicole Kahn (216-791-8118) for more information.

## Winter Weekend at Highbrook Lodge:

Start spreading the word! Winter Weekend will take place at Highbrook Lodge the weekend of February 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. Campers will arrive to Highbrook Lodge at 6:00 p.m. Friday evening and depart at noon on Sunday. Cost of the weekend is \$60/camper. Transportation to/from CSC is provided for an additional \$15/camper. To register please call the Camp Department (216-791-8118). Payments can be made in the Eyedea Shop and the last date to register is February 15<sup>th</sup>. All new campers or campers with paperwork over one year old will be required to complete new paperwork.

# Engaging the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

 CSC participated in the quarterly co-agency meeting with the Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) on Tuesday at the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Lakewood office. The Employment and Rehabilitation teams, Debbie Ruffin and Sylvia Snyder attended on behalf of CSC. Authorization issues were addressed and CSC reported on outcomes and updates. BSVI discussed new staff changes including the upcoming retirement of Ledell McIntyre. Last Thursday, CSC celebrated Ledell's many years of service by presenting him with a plaque commemorating his partnership with CSC and his dedication to the agency's clients.



Ledell McIntyre reads the plaque presented by Larry Benders

# Eyedea Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

• The Eyedea Shop's new tap clock is here! So simple and easy...just tap the top and the time will be announced. Tap again and the date will be announced. Easy to set and the price is \$21.00.



Tap clock with blue button on silver base

 Can't make it to the Eyedea Shop at CSC? Then check out the product offerings online at <u>www.eyedeashop.com</u> and purchase items from the comfort of wherever you may be!

#### Items of Note:

- Cleveland Sight Center will be closed on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Save the Date....Delta Gamma Cleveland East's Night at the Races returns to CSC's Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds will benefit CSC and more information about tickets and sponsorships coming soon.
- The state of Washington swore in its first Lieutenant Governor who is blind earlier this week. <u>Click here</u> for the article which also notes some of the accessibility updates being made.

## Did You Know?

 10 Things You May Not Know About Martin Luther King Jr., courtesy history.com. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968) was a Baptist minister and social activist who played a key role in the American civil rights movement from the mid-1950s until his assassination in 1968. Explore 10 surprising facts about the civil rights leader and 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

#### • 1. King's birth name was Michael, not Martin.

The civil rights leader was born Michael King Jr. on January 15, 1929. In 1934, however, his father, a pastor at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church, traveled to Germany and became inspired by the Protestant Reformation leader Martin Luther. As a result, King Sr. changed his own name as well as that of his 5-year-old son.

#### • 2. King entered college at the age of 15. King was such a gifted student that he skipped grades nine and 12 before enrolling in 1944 at Morehouse College, the alma mater of his father and maternal grandfather. Although he was the son, grandson and great-grandson of Baptist ministers, King did not intend to follow the family vocation until Morehouse president Benjamin E. Mays, a

noted theologian, convinced him otherwise. King was ordained before graduating college with a degree in sociology.

- 3. King received his doctorate in systematic theology. After earning a divinity degree from Pennsylvania's Crozer Theological Seminary, King attended graduate school at Boston University, where he received his PhD degree in 1955. The title of his dissertation was "A Comparison of the Conceptions of God in the Thinking of Paul Tillich and Henry Nelson Wieman."
- 4. King's "I Have a Dream" speech was not his first at the Lincoln Memorial.

Six years before his iconic oration at the March on Washington, King was among the civil rights leaders who spoke in the shadow of the Great Emancipator during the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom on May 17, 1957. Before a crowd estimated at between 15,000 and 30,000, King delivered his first national address on the topic of voting rights. His speech, in which he urged America to "give us the ballot," drew strong reviews and positioned him at the forefront of the civil rights leadership.

# • 5. King was jailed 29 times.

According to the King Center, the civil rights leader went to jail nearly 30 times. He was arrested for acts of civil disobedience and on trumped-up charges, such as when he was jailed in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1956 for driving 30 miles per hour in a 25-mile-per-hour zone.

• 6. King narrowly escaped an assassination attempt a decade before his death.

On September 20, 1958, King was in Harlem signing copies of his new book, "Stride Toward Freedom," in Blumstein's department store when he was approached by Izola Ware Curry. The woman asked if he was Martin Luther King Jr. After he said yes, Curry said, "I've been looking for you for five years," and she plunged a seven-inch letter opener into his chest. The tip of the blade came to rest alongside his aorta, and King underwent hours of delicate emergency surgery. Surgeons later told King that just one sneeze could have punctured the aorta and killed him. From his hospital bed where he convalesced for weeks, King issued a statement affirming his nonviolent principles and saying he felt no ill will toward his mentally ill attacker.

# • 7. King's last public speech foretold his death.

King had come to Memphis in April 1968 to support the strike of the city's black garbage workers, and in a speech on the night before his assassination, he told an audience at Mason Temple Church: "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now ... I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land. And I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

• 8. Members of King's family did not believe James Earl Ray acted alone.

Ray, a career criminal, pled guilty to King's assassination but later recanted. King's son Dexter met publicly with Ray in 1997 and argued for the case to be reopened. King's widow, Coretta, believed the Mafia and local, state and federal government agencies were deeply involved in the murder. She praised the result of a 1999 civil trial in which a Memphis jury decided the assassination was the result of a conspiracy and that Ray was set up to take the blame. A U.S. Department of Justice investigation released in 2000 reported no evidence of a conspiracy.

## • 9. King's mother was also slain by a bullet.

On June 30, 1974, as 69-year-old Alberta Williams King played the organ at a Sunday service inside Ebenezer Baptist Church, Marcus Wayne Chenault Jr. rose from the front pew, drew two pistols and began to fire shots. One of the bullets struck and killed King, who died steps from where her son had preached nonviolence. The deranged gunman said that Christians were his enemy and that although he had received divine instructions to kill King's father, who was in the congregation, he killed King's mother instead because she was closer. The shooting also left a church deacon dead. Chenault received a death penalty sentence that was later changed to life imprisonment, in part due to the King family's opposition to capital punishment.

# 10. George Washington is the only other American to have had his birthday observed as a national holiday. In 1983 President Ronald Reagan signed a bill that created a federal holiday to honor King. The holiday, first commemorated in 1986, is

celebrated on the third Monday in January, close to the civil rights leader's January 15 birthday.