



## Keeping You “In the Know...” 2/3/17

### Educating and Engaging the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

- The Call Center began handling calls for the Ohio Department of Taxation on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Select taxpayers are asked to complete an identification quiz prior to receiving their tax return in the Department of Taxation’s efforts to fight identity theft and income tax fraud.
- Brenda Lammers presented to 35 preschool/daycare teachers in Summit County today, focusing the presentation on the anatomy of the eye, common visual diagnoses and strategies to use. The group used vision simulation goggles and participated in sighted guide and activities to help others understand what it might be like to have a visual impairment.
- The Therapeutic Recreation Department celebrated International “I Heart Camp” day on Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, a day intended to promote summer camp awareness across the globe. Camp staff and campers were encouraged to celebrate their love for camp and how it has positively affected their lives by posting photos to social media. Camp Manager Lindsay Lowe-Svarovsky and Therapeutic Recreation Specialist Mollie Evans spent the day spreading the love across the agency and through social media on the Highbrook Lodge Facebook page. Thanks to everyone who got in on the fun, including CSC President and Executive Director Larry Benders!



Mollie Evans, Larry Benders and Lindsay Lowe-Svarovsky hold an “I Heart Camp” sign

- Employment Services participated in the Employment Collaborative of Cuyahoga County (ECCC) hiring event hosted and sponsored by Hyland Software in Westlake on Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Close to 20 employers, including some companies CSC’s Employment Specialists brought to the event, interviewed with candidates from over a dozen nonprofit organizations. Carlton Toppin and Kanden Tolbert accompanied several of their job seekers to the event and sat in on numerous promising interviews. The next ECCC hiring event is scheduled to take place this spring in Cleveland’s Ohio City neighborhood.
- Lisa Cellura spoke to a group at the Lakewood Kiwanis Club on Tuesday and represented CSC with Meghan Hanrahan on Wednesday at the Cleveland International Film Festival’s Movie MatchUp. This year’s film festival will take place March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup>. Details on the CSC-sponsored film and other films in the festival will be available in the coming weeks.
- Scott Williams-Riseng presents “Orientation, Mobility, and You” at the Brooklyn Branch of the Cuyahoga Public Library on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. The program is from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and is part of the Foundation Fighting Blindness Cleveland Chapter Speaker

Series. Attendance is free but RSVPs are required. Contact John Naples (216-791-8118) for additional information.

### Renovations Continue at Highbrook Lodge:

- The renovation work of Sears Hall at Highbrook Lodge continues as the basement is converted into a multipurpose space which will include a craft area, laundry facility, ADA-compliant restroom and staff lounge.



The new laundry room is ready for wall paint and the machines



The new ADA-compliant bathroom is prepped for wall paint and bathroom fixtures



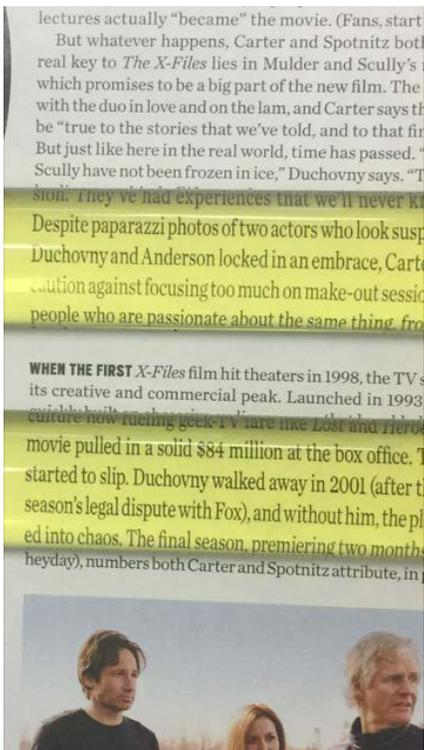
New glass block windows in the basement of Sears Hall

## Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

- This week's featured product: yellow bars. The Eyedeas Shop has always carried the 2x magnifying bars in two sizes, 6-inch and 9-inch, and clear in color. But now the store offers this item in solid yellow. The yellow bar, for some people with low vision, will enhance the print off the page for easier reading. The price for the 6-inch yellow bar is \$9.50 and the 9-inch yellow bar is \$13.50. Come check them out!



6-inch and 9-inch yellow bars on a magazine page



Close-up of yellow bars magnifying and highlighting printed text

- A reminder the Eyedea Shop also has handmade lanyards featuring several designs including Valentine's Day. Lanyards are \$2.00 each through February 14<sup>th</sup> and proceeds benefit the CYAS department.
- Can't make it to the Eyedea Shop at CSC? Then check out the product offerings online at [www.eyedeashop.com](http://www.eyedeashop.com) and purchase items from the comfort of wherever you may be!

### On Deck at CSC:

- Want to know about 2017 cost of living changes for your Social Security benefits? Still feel unsure about SSI, SSDI or how working may affect your benefits? Come to February's Job Club meeting when CSC welcomes Brandon Smith, Cleveland Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration. The group will meet on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in CSC's Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium. For more information, contact Nicole Kahn (216-791-8118).

- A reminder Winter Weekend will take place at Highbrook Lodge the weekend of February 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. 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).
- Save the Dates for these CYAS summer programs. Contact Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118) for additional information.
  - Bright Futures Preschool Day Camp for children with vision impairment/blindness entering or returning to preschool. Camp begins June 12<sup>th</sup> and ends July 14<sup>th</sup>; held at CSC Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
  - ABCs Day Camp for children ages 5-8 with vision impairment/blindness. Camp begins July 18<sup>th</sup> and ends August 5<sup>th</sup>; held at CSC Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Items of Note:

- From the National Eye Institute: February is low vision awareness month. Currently, 4.2 million Americans ages 40 and older are visually impaired. By 2030, when the last baby boomers turn 65, this number is projected to reach 7.2 million, with 5 million having low vision.

Low vision is a visual impairment that cannot be corrected by standard eyeglasses, contact lenses, medication or surgery. Having low vision can make activities like reading, shopping, cooking, writing and watching TV hard to do. In addition, the consequences of vision loss may leave people feeling anxious, helpless and depressed.

Vision rehabilitation can help people with vision loss to maximize their remaining vision and maintain their independence and quality of life by teaching them how to:

- Move safely around the home.
- Continue to read, cook, and do other activities.
- Find resources, adaptive devices, and support.

- With the way the weather has been lately, it's great to look forward to summer, including CSC's Summer Youth Work Experience (SYWE) program! The program will run from June 11<sup>th</sup> through July 13<sup>th</sup> and recruitment is underway for Job Coaches, Program Assistants, Activity Leaders and more. If you know someone who would be interested in one of these seasonal positions, please pass along this link to apply: <https://csc.trackingtalent.com/opportunities>
- W-2 Scam Alert: The IRS has issued an alert to warn of a new email phishing scheme involving W-2 information. The sender may pose as a leader in the CSC organization, such as our President, HR or Fiscal Departments, and may request that you update your W-2 information or send them your W-2(s). Please DO NOT respond or interact with any included links or attachments. Please report it to Mike McManamon via email. Here are some additional tips to help keep your information online secure:
  - Keep your username and password confidential
  - Use a different password for each system
  - Always confirm you have logged out after using a website
  - Be mindful on shared computers
  - Install anti-virus software and keep it updated
  - Be vigilant in regards to emails requesting sensitive information
  - Do not use your work email address for non-work purposes (i.e. shopping, internet music sites, etc.)
- 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.

## Did You Know?

- Groundhog Day is February 2<sup>nd</sup> of every year. The groundhog wakes up from hibernation on this date and if the groundhog sees its shadow when it emerges from its burrow, there will be six more weeks of

winter. If it does not see its shadow, spring will arrive soon. This tradition started in Europe as Candelmas Day. Germans who settled in Pennsylvania in the 1700s brought the custom to America. Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil is the most well-known, but more than a dozen states celebrate with their own groundhogs, such as Georgia's Gen. Beauregard Lee and Buckeye Chuck in Ohio. [Phil saw his shadow yesterday, predicting six more weeks of winter.](#)