

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Step up! 4th Annual Walk for the Homeless

Collectively we can all make differences one step at a time! On Saturday, May 8 join us at Lorain County Community College for the annual 1 Mile Walk/5K Run to benefit the Haven Center, Lorain County's only year-round emergency shelter that serves men, women and children. Registration and family fun activities begin at 7a.m.

Activities preceding and following the run and walk include face painting, the 2010 Lorain County Princesses, Southview ROTC, The Deputies Baton, Drum & Flag Corps, DJ Kenny G, Balloon Bender Dave and more. There will also be a non-perishable "Fill the Truck" food drive. New this year is a sidewalk chalk art contest.

"We are always grateful for the communities support and the walk is a very visual experience of Lorain County taking care of those in need." says Sandy Humphrey, Director of Homeless Services at Haven Center

Festivities kick off at 7:30am. Event parking is at LCCC North Campus Field House. Cost is \$30 for the 5K Run or 1 Mile Walk and \$10 for students ages 5-18 and seniors 60+. The Chalk Art contest registration fee is \$20. After May 1st there is an additional \$5 fee to all categories. For more info go to www.nhalorain.org or www.walk2010.com.



Reflections from the Haven Center

by Josh Mole



JOSH MOLE, LCCC MLK DAY OF SERVICE VOLUNTEER

For Lorain County Community College's Martin Luther King Day of Service, I volunteered to go to the Haven Center to do some painting. I felt that this would be one of the best volunteer activities I could do that day, because it would have the most visible and long lasting effect, or so I thought.

I am 25 years old and this was my first time stepping inside of a homeless shelter. Seeing it made me realize that if I did not have such a supportive family, I could be one of the people who temporarily call the shelter "home". Then I realized that even the word "home" does not characterize it correctly, because it is not a place you would want to stay very long. It's not that the living conditions are bad inside the shelter, it is just a place you want to get out of. That is the way it is designed to be: it's just a safe place that people go to in a time of need until they are strong enough to get back into the world again.

see **REFLECTIONS** page 4

Welcome Nicole Batchelor!



In March of 2010, Nicole joined the NHA family as the Development & Marketing Intern.

She is a June graduate from Ohio University with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. While attending school at OU she was involved in Alpha Phi Omega, a national community service fraternity in which she helped the local community, assisted in their annual 5K run as well as traveling to Florida and volunteering at Give Kids the World.

Her past internships include a marketing internship at the Children's Museum of Cleveland, an editorial internship at Charleston Magazine and a public relations/marketing internship at Obviouslee Marketing in Charleston, South Carolina.

Nicole is currently utilizing her experience in social media as a marketing platform, promoting the Walk for the Homeless. You can follow NHA on Twitter at www.twitter.com/NHALorain or become a fan of us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NHALorain.

Nicole Batchelor
nicoleb@nhalorain.org

Staff News

Congratulations to Michelle Taylor (Haven Center) and Tim Howard (LCCC) on their recent marriage! NHA wishes you well!

The New Hot Shot Delivers!

On March 2nd 2010 a new Hot Shot truck was added to the Senior Nutrition Department. In the past there have been three trucks and two drivers that used their own personal vehicles to deliver the meals. This made it extremely difficult to maintain the food at the correct temperature, and deliveries were rushed. Thankfully, having a new Hot Shot enables the deliveries to remain the right temperature, whether it be hot or cold. The convenience has also shortened the delivery routes from five to four!



Board Member Honored with State Award



Board Member Amy Deluca was honored with the Ohio State District 10 Bar Foundation Community Service Award for attorneys 40 and younger, which was presented to her on April 1 at the Galaxy Conference Center in Wadsworth. In addition to working with NHA, Amy has also volunteered at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, St. Teresa of Avila Church in Sheffield Village and is a board member at Leadership Lorain County. Congrats Amy!



Save the Date!

Zumba Fundraiser
Lorain County Community
College Field House
Monday, May 3, 2010
Call Lois: 440.233.8768

Going the Extra Mile



On February 26 there was a horrible snowstorm in Lorain County, causing businesses & schools to shut down and the National Weather Service to issue a winter storm warning. However, the Senior Nutrition team was in full swing to deliver meals. Although the weather was bad, Jose Claudio parked his vehicle and trekked through the snow to ensure all seniors got food for the day. Great Job!

REFLECTIONS continued from page 1

That is when I started to realize that painting the walls would not have the long term effect that I thought it would. The people in the Haven Center who saw us painting the walls would soon be on their way, leaving no one to remember our deed. While what we painted made the Haven Center a little brighter and nicer looking, it would not help people leave the shelter.

I realize now that I was putting too much emphasis on physical things. I now see how words can affect people more than physical surroundings. Perhaps if I had had a conversation with one of the Haven Center's residence about their future, it could have shifted their minds away from their troubled past and focused on how to escape.

Golf & Gourmet



Save the Date!

5th Annual
Golf & Gourmet
Sweetbriar Golf Course, Avon Lake
Friday, August 20, 2010

THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY IS ALWAYS A TREAT!

Each month a group of energized, interesting and fun-loving women gather for breakfast. What better way to spend an enjoyable morning than with friends and acquaintances from the Oberlin Senior Center.

This past month, a group of 32 ladies met at the Oberlin Inn for breakfast. It's great to see so many people in attendance enjoying themselves. Each month Center Director Marlene Telegdy & Administrative Assistant Meg Stevanus share new information and highlights of events offered at OSC, but the real highlights are the table discussions and one-on-one conversations that have the room buzzing.

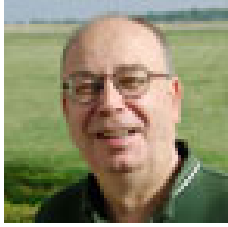
Smiles and laughter are abundant as the ladies welcome each other and share news of family, grandchildren, travels and individual interests. A variety of speakers are scheduled on a regular basis, which adds something special to the morning events.

Every other month the Ladies Breakfast is held at the Center. Meg, Marlene and a few volunteers prepare a delicious breakfast and serve everyone in the beautiful dining room. The alternate months include a visit to one of a few favorite restaurants in the area. No dishes to wash! Wherever the venue, it's a great time and one of the most popular programs offered.

The Ladies Breakfast is held the 4th Thursday of the month at 9 AM. Everyone is welcome to join in all the fun and great tasting food. Special notes on monthly programs are always published in the 'Chatterbox', the OSC newsletter. We hope the Ladies Breakfast is on your calendar every month!



A HEARTFELT SERVICE PROJECT



Don Denevic



Pastor Dan Samms

On February 13, 2010, the Haven Center opened its doors to a very enthusiastic volunteer group led by Don Denevic, Director of Global Missions and Dan Samms, Pastor of Group Life, Church of the Open Door.

Sandy Humphrey, Haven Center Director, met with Don & Pastor Dan months ago to discuss potential projects. They spoke of obvious needs of a homeless shelter: food drives, blankets, sheets, towels, bus passes...perfect service projects for groups. She also mentioned that funding was being sought for a major overhaul of the laundry room: the overwhelming daily use kept washers & dryers in constant state of repair, an overworked venting system was creating escalating utility bills.

Don and Pastor Dan returned to meet with Sandy several weeks later and gave her some wonderful news- the Church of the Open Door would take on the major project of the laundry room; new venting, three new commercial washers, three new commercial dryers, new overhead storage cabinets and a fresh coat of paint! The group went above and beyond, repainted the dorm hallway doorways & doors, deep cleaned the kitchen and children's play area. They also supplied all the necessary materials, even a pizza lunch & salad for the residents.

During lunch we had the opportunity to talk about the history of NHA and the other programs offered. Many volunteers had questions about homelessness and what we do to help those in need break out of the cycle of poverty. Several volunteers were interested in volunteering and

participating in the upcoming Walk for the Homeless.

When asked how Open Door decided on such an ambitious project, Pastor Dan Samms replied:

"Our mission at Open Door is leading people in the adventure of becoming like Christ, and Christ was known for serving people. Volunteer projects like this one give us the chance to have fun and fulfill our mission. When we heard about the need and understood the potential for the Haven Center laundry room. We got excited about the long-term effect we could have. We saw it as a chance to reflect God's love for our community and jumped to help an organization that does so much good in the community. Also, we like to use power tools!"



Three new washers in Haven Center

"Everyone at the Haven Center is grateful to be partnered with the Open Door Volunteers. They really went to work and accomplished so much in a small amount of time. The appliances came at the perfect time and all the volunteers were wonderful to work with. Thanks to everyone." said Sandy Humphrey, Director of Homeless Services.

Thank you, Church of the Open Door! You have truly made a difference at the Haven Center and help us continue our mission: ***to address a person's basic needs, enhance individual and family life and improve neighborhoods and communities.***



Mission Statement

NHA’s mission is to address a person’s basic needs, enhance individual and family life and improve neighborhoods and communities.

Vision Statement

NHA’s vision is to achieve genuine communities of inclusion and empowerment for all individuals.

Board of Directors

- Carolyn Falasco- Chair
- James Valderrama- Vice-Chair
- Vic Turk-Treasurer
- Sue Krueger-Secretary
- Michael Mayse, President / CEO
- Marc Blanden
- Jose Candelario
- Andrea Caris
- Nilda Colon
- James Cordes
- Charles Daniels
- Amy DeLuca
- Frank Filipovitz
- Keith Kapanke
- Michelle McGhee
- Patricia Miller-Saliba
- Bridget Moreno
- Nouie Nodal

Neighborhood News

Spring 2010

Editor: Lois Pozega
 Content & Design:
 Kathleen Murphy & Nicole
 Batchelor

(440) 233-8768 Main
 (440) 242-6906 Fax

www.nhalorain.org



Spring is in the Air

As the temperatures outside rise, we start to think about our annual spring cleaning ritual. We open the windows to air out the house, we go through our closets and sort out what is torn, doesn’t fit or what is last year’s style, and we make room for new items for the season.

We clean windows to wipe away the dreariness of winter for the anticipation of sun and flowers blooming. The neighbors we haven’t seen all winter start to come out of their homes for spring projects and, like lost friends, we renew friendships and catch up on what has passed.

Our whole mindset changes! We start to look forward to things, we plan trips, we have backyard events and we even get ready to garden. Our outlook on life improves. No more cold weather, except for that surprise April snow storm. Sun, glorious sun, revives us, brings us out doors and reignites friendships.

NHA loves spring, our 4th annual Walk for the Homeless, the opening of the Mildred Bond Meals on Wheels kitchen, the Oberlin Senior Center yard sale, our Annual Meeting in June and preparations for our Golf & Gourmet outing in August. With sun on our faces we can feel confident and proud of what we have accomplished as spring arrives.

In our pride and sense of recognition, it’s a great time to ask those neighbors coming out for spring if they need help with anything or would like to help us volunteer in one of our community projects. After all, we’ve had neighbors helping neighbors since 1927.

Michael Mayse, President / CEO