

Clelian Heights Newsletter

Sharvings

Fall 2013



Mission

The mission of Clelian Heights is to provide spiritual, educational, and vocational programs for children and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities that enhance their quality of life and maximize their potential for independent living.

Vision

The vision of Clelian Heights is an atmosphere of choice, mutual acceptance, respect, and love that will make a lasting difference in the lives of persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Non-Discrimination

Clelian Heights offers services to all without discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, religious creed, disability, sex, ancestry or national origin.

United Way

Clelian Heights can receive United Way Campaign donations. On the pledge form list, use United Way Designation #403. Write in our address:

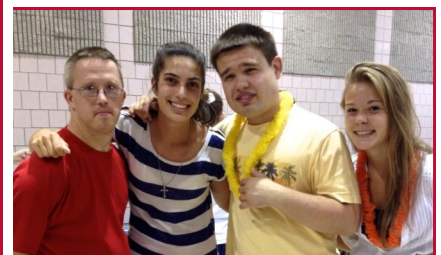
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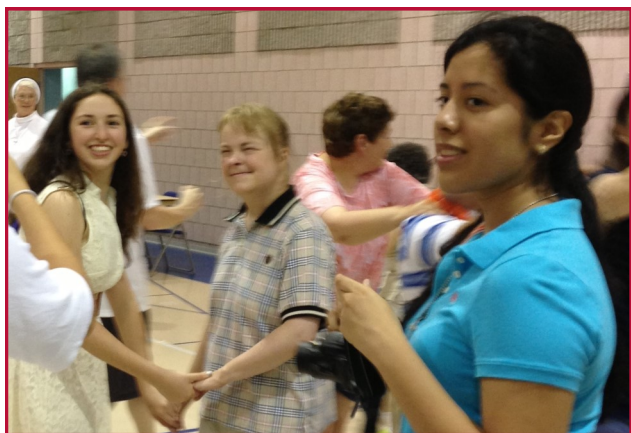
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www.clelianheights.org.



Sacred Heart Students Find Visit Life Changing



Sacred Heart Academy students mixing in and making a difference...



This summer, seven students from Sacred Heart Academy, Hamden, Connecticut, spent a week on a working mission retreat at Clelian Heights. Volunteering in both school classes and the Clelian Center workshop, the high school seniors actively participated in the ESY, (Extended School Year) program and the adult employment program.

“This is not a requirement for service hours,” explained chaperone Sister Lany Jo Smith, ASCJ, who has enjoyed her fifth visit with students from Sacred Heart. “None of our mission trips fulfill any requirement, but the week at Clelian Heights is our most popular mission trip. I had 35 students lined up down the hall and around the corner for the seven spaces. It’s a problem when you have to tell someone they cannot come, but yet it is something wonderful to see knowing how enthused they are about coming and how much they will get out of their week at Clelian Heights.”

According to Sister Lany Jo, most of the students who come for this particular mission have had some experience with developmentally disabled individuals either from community experience or within their own family. Some have heard of others’ experience at Clelian and so have wanted to have that too.

“Our girls get so much out of the week,” said Sister Lany Jo. “This is an opportunity for them to see the charisma of our order, the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, at work in a special way. It is a chance to make a connection in a totally different environment, a chance to see that what they have been taught is true everywhere. I personally love the time here and seeing the joy and change that the girls experience, is doubly rewarding as it overflows from them into me.”

“This is a week of personal enrichment for everyone,” continued Sister Lany Jo. “We work hard and feel the energy of Clelian Heights fully alive in the children, adults and faculty, and we go back home somehow changed. The Sacred Heart Academy girls’ parents say that they come back differently. It is a beautiful gift from God and an opportunity to learn so many virtues — patience, kindness, prayerfulness, and more. My students say they want to be prayerful like the students at Clelian Heights. That’s awesome!”

Three of the seven young women jumped at the opportunity to return for a second mission trip: Leslie Torres and Megan Dwyer of West Haven, CT and Maria Beecher of Milford, CT. “I couldn’t stop thinking about it, everyday remembering my visit made me so happy,” said Megan. “It taught me so much! I volunteered in the Center workshop last year and got to come back this year too. This environment is like no where else. It is such a bonding experience.”

In the evenings the Sacred Heart students would have supper with the women who live in the apartments on campus and they also spent time visiting with the guys at Chip’s House as well.

Leslie says the mission group grew closer as a community of Sacred Heart students. “We knew each others names, but didn’t ‘know’

Sacred Heart Students Find Visit Life Changing

each other as friends. Here we have learned more about each other, about ourselves, and about friendship from this experience at Clelian Heights. We've learned that it's the little things that sometimes matter the most. Here on campus you see it, you know it—it's an awareness that is so comfortable."

The students had the opportunity for group sharing each evening. Maria said, "I learned that we each might handle a situation differently but we all shared in the experience of realizing that although an individual may struggle with a task, they continue to stay positive and happy and continue to encourage one another. I returned because I love this atmosphere, I don't want to leave in a week. I want to stay for the whole summer! The students here love God and they keep trying to improve their skills. They are so thankful for each milestone."

Past participants in the Mission to Clelian Heights spread the news of how much they enjoyed their time. It was exciting for first-time volunteers Bryann Dellaripa of Wallingford, CT, Sydney Sullivan and Charlotte Filardi of Branford, CT, and Morgan Daley of Hamden, CT.

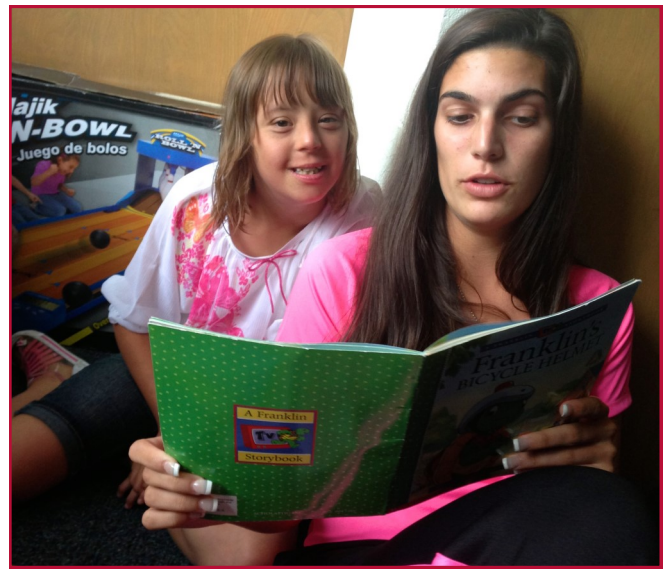
Charlotte recalled that she was the first in line at 6 AM on registration day because she didn't want to miss the opportunity. "And I am not a morning person," she added, "but I wanted this experience. I babysit a neighbor with Downs Syndrome and have had some of the most unbelievable experiences with him. I love it here and it has made me the happiest."

When the girls' were together in the evenings they also reflected on a Bible verse and discussed how it related to the day's activities "This experience changes your life," said Bryann. "We are supposed to be leaving and not one of us has our suitcases packed. I learned more from this mission from the Clelian students than anything else. They never get mad and sometimes apologize even if they didn't do anything. We have all agreed that when we get back to Sacred Heart, we are going to plan a dance with the special needs students in our area. And our friends will get to enjoy the socializing and fun as well."

Sydney said her time at Clelian has taught her to live in the moment. "Everyone here has such joy when they accomplish little things and they are so happy when a friend accomplishes things. I will take that away with me when I go. I plan to go into the medical field, possibly pediatrics, but I know I will definitely be volunteering in the future."

Morgan finds that the students in her classroom at Clelian, "are just as beautiful as any one could be," she said. "They are so cool, you can see the beauty in the kids here. I see their lives and can connect them with my own. It's been a really good experience."

To see many more photos of the 2013 ESY experience, visit our website at www.clelianheights.org. Click the top "News" tab, scroll and choose!



The Sacred Heart Academy young women were all about sharing talents, reaching out, building trust and making one-on-one friendships.

18 Days of ESY Countdown



The Extended School Year (ESY) program is held four weeks each summer for the school program. The Workshop operates on a 5-day week schedule for the same four weeks. Visit our website page for “Events Archive” to see more photographs via Flickr at www.ClelianHeights.org.

DAY ONE & TWO: is lots of fun! Seeing old friends and meeting new ones! Lots of laughter and lots of hugs.

DAY THREE: is busy, the work has begun. There is math and spelling but we also have fun. There is bike riding and swimming every day to enjoy.

DAY FOUR: it’s off to Idlewild for everyone! We ride the fast rides and have so much fun. We visit Storybook Forest and the Jumpin’ Jungle, too. It is such a good time!

DAY FIVE: we gather in prayer and our visitors from Sacred Heart lead us in song. Later, there is a puppet show for everyone to enjoy.

DAY SIX & SEVEN: we work on the computers inside our Mac Lab. There is so much to learn and more fun things to do. We play in the gym and visit the home-ec room.

DAY EIGHT: is a party for the Fourth of July! Everyone in the workshop heads outside for food, fun and dancing.

DAY NINE & TEN: after schoolwork we head to the gym for a DrumStix program that helps with movement, rhythm, and plus its great fun! In the evening, fun in our residences with the young ladies from Cor Jesu. We played pool and had fun together.

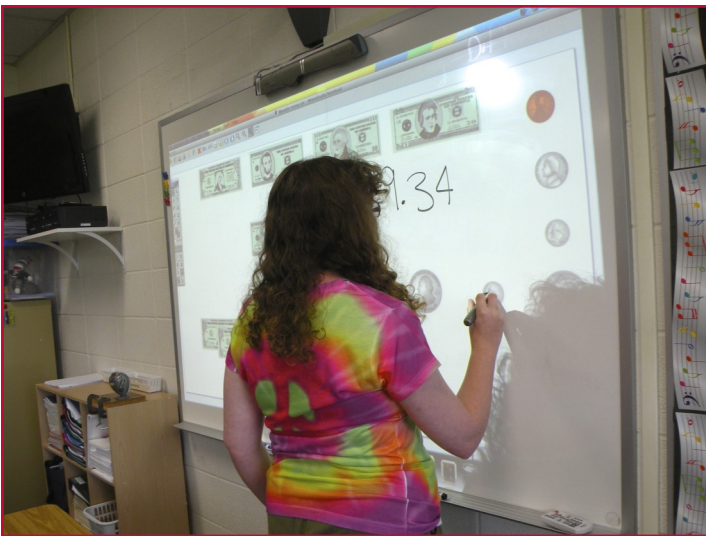
DAY ELEVEN: we learned about Joseph in his Robe of Many Colors. We acted and sang and learned a lot from this Bible story.

DAY TWELVE & THIRTEEN: included a trip to see a movie and then a visit to Hempfield Park. We had a picnic outside and enjoyed the great weather. The next day we celebrated Mass and enjoyed an afternoon puppet show.

DAY FOURTEEN & FIFTEEN: is all about resting, some school work, some playing, we try to take it easy because the next day is Kennywood! There are so many rides and fun things to do!

DAY SIXTEEN & SEVENTEEN: may include group therapy or speech for a few. We sing and we dance and make an art project or two. Some of us have work through the summer Transition to Work program and improve our job skills, too.

DAY EIGHTEEN: includes student teachers teaching us new things. New volunteers help us with our work. We have the closing Mass and a visit from the students of Stage Right perform their Books Alive! Program.



To see more photos of the 2013 ESY experience, visit our website at www.clelianheights.org. Click the top “News” tab, scroll and choose!

Student Teachers Learn From Clelian Staff and Students

Several Seton Hill University Master's in Special Education program students joined us for a week each to complete their student practicum assignments. Each student-teacher was assigned to Amanda Montell's classroom for one week of the ESY Program. During that time they had the opportunity to observe Miss Amanda and her students plus the Personal Care Assistants (PCA's) work together as they did school work and participated in various activities. Each week culminated with a lesson to be taught by the student-teacher on their own.

"I think every education major should have this experience," said Philip Beatty who is currently a 7th grade teacher of Industrial Tech education in the Plum Boro school district. "I owe it to myself and my students, I teach all 390 students throughout the year in nine-weeks increments. This experience will help me become a better teacher."

Philip had an opportunity to spend an evening with the adult residence as part of his classwork last year. But the week inside a classroom really impressed him.

"This place runs like a well-oiled machine!" said Philip. "Everything is so positive, I give a lot of praise to the teachers. The students are so respectful. It is so nice that there is a place like Clelian Heights in this world."

Danielle Dietz and Josh Testa are not only students at SHU, they are also employees. Danielle is a full-time admissions counselor and Josh is a wrestling coach.

Danielle who has some experience as a Learning Support teacher at the high school level found that the assignment she was to teach required her to make some modification on the spot.

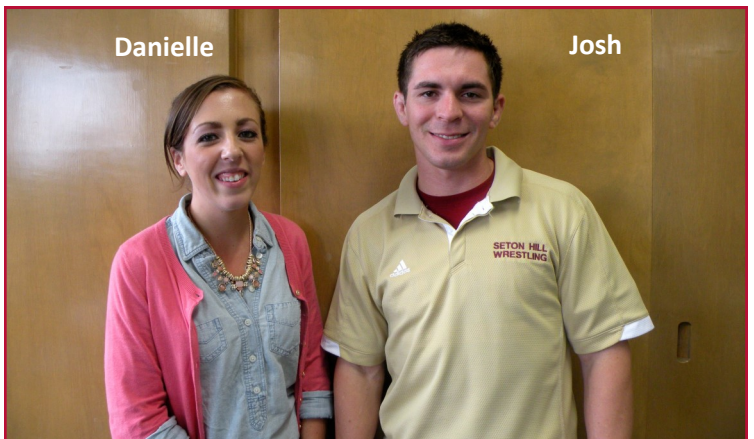
"I over planned a little and found I needed more time," said Danielle. "Overall, it went well."

Josh found Clelian Heights to so accommodating to everyone's needs. "Everyone is a little different, you can't just teach one way, you have to make it different for everyone."

Miss Amanda has always enjoyed having the practicum teachers in her room.

"My students love it! Especially the boys when a male student-teacher is present. For them it is something fun and different. They love the opportunity to meet new students." says Miss Amanda. "Someone had to do it for me, so I don't mind them learning in my classroom with my students."

During the summer ESY program, Room 106 hosted five graduate students doing practicum assignments.



Summer Volunteers Enjoy Gift of Time



Clelian Heights is lucky to have several summer volunteers for the ESY program. Most are students looking to fulfill some type of service requirement for school but others do it just for the experience.

Every year, Clelian hosts a student ambassador from Notre Dame University from the Summer Service Learning Program through the Greensburg Notre Dame Alumni Club. This program is an eight-week summer immersion that a student can complete anytime in their four years at Notre Dame.

This year, Ryan Grzyb, volunteered in Room 103 with teacher Anthony Townsend. Ryan said Clelian Heights is pretty close to his home in the Franklin Park area of Pittsburgh but since it was still an hour and a half drive, Ryan was hosted by a local Greensburg family during his stay.

“This program is about putting your faith into service, faith in action,” said Ryan. “It became more apparent and more clear to me what our Catholic faith is supposed to be.”

Currently, Ryan is an International Economics major but he may pursue education as a minor after his experiences here at Clelian Heights.

“I really enjoyed the small class size and getting to know the students and staff,” said Ryan. “The kids are so focused but they are so caring toward one another. Plus all the activities, the swimming, music, and field trips were fun for me too!”

August Pappas, a junior at Hempfield Area High School, and Bailey Geehring, a freshman at Southmoreland High School, both volunteered for the experience.

August likes to keep busy and enjoys the opportunity to expose himself to new things. He knows several staff members including teacher, Gwen Diddle. This was his first time at Clelian Heights and for him, the two weeks of volunteering were an eye-opener.

“I guess I thought it might be depressing, I had so many misconceptions that it would be gloomy, strict and regimented,” said August, “but the students are so uplifting. It is like a family atmosphere here. I would definitely come back and encourage others to come and try it.”

Bailey, is more familiar with Clelian since her brother attends Clelian Heights. “I didn’t really know what he did here, but now I will know what he is talking about,” said Bailey. “When he talks about swimming, now I can picture the pool. I knew what to expect as far as behavior from the students and the need to treat everyone individually. But it was amazing to see how the kids like it so much. They cooperate so well with their teachers and with each other.” Bailey was in Mr. Anthony’s room for one week of the ESY program. “It is a really good program,” said Bailey of her ESY experiences. “The staff are so helpful and good with the kids.”

(Continued on page 7)



Volunteers are an important part of the ESY program each summer. They help students achieve the best.

Summer Volunteers Enjoy Gift of Time



In total, the summer ESY program brought nine different student volunteers to our campus. Some for the entire program and others for a few days. According to Principal Sister Charlene Celli, ASCJ, the summer volunteers truly enhance the program.

“They encourage our students to complete their academic work, not as their teacher, but as a friend and most importantly, in many cases, as their peer. The effectiveness of these volunteers is phenomenal.”

To see many more photos of the 2013 ESY experience, visit our website at www.clelianheights.org. Click the top “News” tab, scroll, and choose!



Mary Beth Guidi



Nick Holtzer



Cor Jesu Academy Students Find Joy at Clelian Heights

Five students from Cor Jesu Academy, located in St. Louis, were able to stay and volunteer for one week of the ESY Program. This opportunity is presented to them as part of their school’s service-learning ministry called *The Lasting Project*. Each Cor Jesu student was assigned to a classroom. They came not knowing what to expect and left not only wanting to stay longer but with joy in their hearts.

Olivia Grondalski, Elizabeth “Libby” Digman, Anne Meyer, Sarah Noser and Anne Nikodem all agree that they felt welcomed as if everyone had known them as friends.

“Sometime its good to push out of your comfort zone,” said Olivia. “I loved sitting with a student and working on a math sheet or making a dinosaur out of Q-tips. Each child has their own way of learning and they let you know if they want you to help and give examples of what to do or if they want to show you how they can do it themselves.”

(Continued on page 8)



Cor Jesu Students Find Joy at Clelian Heights



"I didn't expect to form a relationship," continues Olivia. "I thought we would come in, do service, and go home. Now I am so sad thinking I may not see them again unless somehow I can get back here."

Elizabeth was impressed with the large campus and the number of programs going on and the number of volunteers who like to help.

"We have been busy during the day in the classrooms," said Elizabeth. "Then at night we had activities with the residents of Chip's House and spent time with the women in their apartments. It has been awesome!"

Anne Meyer could not believe the number of staff and how caring they all are. "Even little Sister Dolorita waits at the lunch doors and says hello to every person coming in the door. And they were so happy to see her. You could just feel the love everywhere. This place is so special"

Clelian Heights was an experiment in differences for Cor Jesu student Sarah Noser. "My school is all girls and we are all at about the same level in learning, but here you have so many different people of different ages," said Sarah. "There are so many different stories and learning styles but I am learning from the kids and hopefully, they are learning from me."

Anne Nikoden's older sister, Libby, visited Clelian Heights as part of her *Lasting Project* and had such a wonderful experience that Anne had to come and visit.

"It's great and I love it," said Anne. "I love all the people here. They are so friendly and accepting and I have been making new friendships that will have an impact on me the rest of my life."



Left: Sr. Colleen and Sr. Susan practice Joseph & the Coat of Many Col-

To see many more photos of the Cor Jesu Academy students during their 2013 ESY experience, visit our website at www.clelianheights.org. Click the top "News" tab, scroll and choose what you want to see.



College Day For Clelian Heights

“College Day” at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is a special annual event for Clelian Heights’ students. Clelian homerooms take turns going to UPG to experience ‘life on campus’ for a day. UPG’s Education students create interactive learning stations for our students to take part in class just like the college kids. All the stations focus on a common theme. This year the theme was “Around the World.” And this year classrooms 105 and 106 were chosen to participate.

The day began with the students making their own “passport” since they would be learning about traveling ‘around the world’. They learned about the flags of various countries and they made their own flag.

There was a station on languages and through YouTube the students learned “Hello” in different languages and enjoyed practicing their new knowledge. There was also a station on the climates of various locations and the hands-on activity was to “pack” suitable clothes for a trip to Brazil or to Greenland. Clelian teacher Catherine Petrosky said, “This is a great experience for my students and the students from UPG just fall in love with our students.” With a different group of college students preparing this event each year, there is always an interesting experience and eagerness to interact with everyone and to make learning fun.



UPG and Clelian Heights students at “College Day”.

Visit our website at www.clelianheights.org and click the top “News” tab to see photographs of the event!

Read All About It! Classroom Begins Newsletter



Amanda Montell, teacher in Classroom 106, was trying to find a better way to keep in contact with the parents of the students in her classroom. She decided to create a newsletter and include her students in the process. The students write all the articles and create the **106 Report Newsletter** themselves.

Miss Amanda first took her students on a fieldtrip to the *Tribune Review* newspaper where the students met reporters and toured the production area where they saw the newspaper being printed.

Back at school, they began planning together. They decided to divide their newsletter into sections choosing names for each section:

World News: for general Clelian Heights school information

Local: for classroom news and activities

Up Coming Events and Classified: for classroom and school calendar and classroom “needs” .

Entertainment: for student reviews of books, music, or movies.

Interviews: for student interviews of one another on various topics.

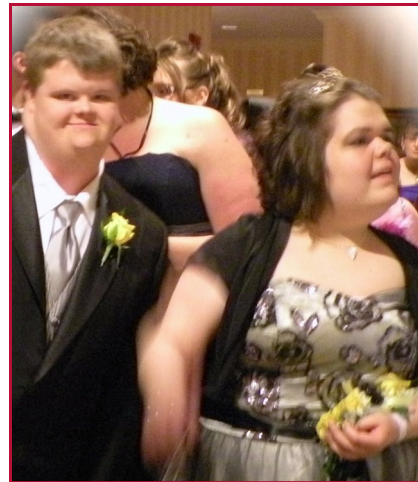
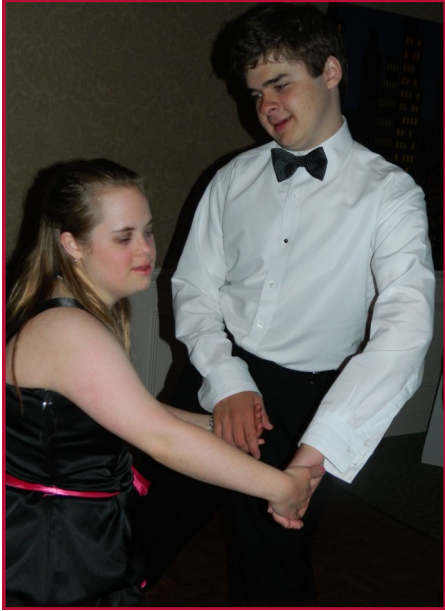
Letter from the Editor: for a brief note from Miss Amanda.

Comics, Crossword, and “Dear 106” Advice Column: for students to draw comics and questions for a crossword and for an advice column—typically a focus on current classroom lessons such as social skills, bullying or other topics.

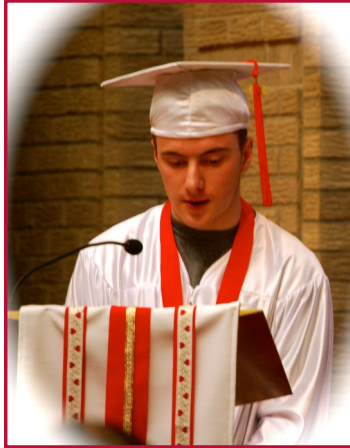
Sports: for news about Clelian games and athletics as well as Pittsburgh area teams.

“Each student rotates through a specific area or assignment for each newsletter,” said Miss Amanda. “Everyone has a specific deadline for each monthly publication. The students love the chance to be creative and their parents seem to enjoy the Newsletter as well.”

Prom



Graduation



Family Focus: Christopher Steffen



Christopher Steffen and his family are relatively new to the Clelian Center workshop. After the loss of his parents, Chris came to live with his sister, Sharon and her husband David Gawaluck in November 2010.

“We had just moved to Greensburg and one of David’s co-workers has a child at Clelian,” said Sharon. “She suggested we look into the adult program for Chris.”

Chris began attending the workshop in April of 2011.

“We were looking for a program where Chris could have structure, while learning, having fun, and being with peers,” said Sharon. “We also like the Catholic environment. Our parents had a strong faith. We felt it was important to continue this foundation that my parents had started.”

According to his sister, attending Clelian Center has made Chris become part of the Greensburg community. They have also become a part of the Clelian family and enjoy attending the annual Chicken Barbecue.

Chris loves the various activities offered during workshop. “The Clelian Center has provided a variety of opportunities for Chris,” says Sharon. “Even though he is quiet and a man of few words, Chris is social and likes being around people and being part of a group. Chris really enjoys his days at the workshop, despite being a night owl, he is up at 7:30 AM and anxious to get ready for his day at Clelian. He takes pride in displaying his work at home and in going to the bank to cash his paycheck.”

Sister Shawn, Director of the Clelian Center, says that one of Chris’s favorite job assignments is working in the industrial laundry located on campus.

Chris, now 38, is part of a large extended family with six brothers and sisters. He is an avid sports fan of all Pittsburgh teams and loves to show his black and gold pride by wearing an article of clothing, pin or other item showing support for the team playing that day. He is often asking his siblings to secure game tickets for him.

Chris has a number of favorite hobbies. Included among them are doing word-search puzzles, reading books about sports, American presidents—especially John F. Kennedy, and anything about Egyptian Pyramids. He enjoys listening to classic country music, is a fan of Elvis, and loves TV shows from the 1970’s and 80’s. Chris also likes studio wrestling.

“Chris has always been polite and respectful of others,” says his sister, Sharon. “This has been reinforced at Clelian.”



Chris Steffen happy at home, at work, and at play!

Family Focus: Alex Heiple

Don Heiple decided to send his son, Alex, to Clelian Heights after he felt his current school was not able to offer Alex opportunities that were benefitting him. "Alex was around six, at the time, and he was in a class of children twice his age," said his father, Don. "At Clelian Heights, he would be in a class of children closer to his own age and developmental level. He was not currently attending a school in his home districts anyway, so if he was going to be bused to another school, I wanted it to be one that he would benefit from, plus one that I felt more comfortable sending him to."

While at Clelian Heights School, Alex had the opportunity to become a basketball player for the Clelian Crusaders. He was Captain his senior year. Now, a few years later, Alex is working at the Clelian Center workshop and lives at Chip's House on campus during the week.

"By attending Clelian Heights, Alex has become very independent and confident when he is out in the public," says Don. "He pays his own bill at restaurants and while shopping. He is very friendly and will talk to anyone."

Alicia Harter, Residential Supervisor, agrees with Mr. Heiple. "Alex started taking the cab from Chip's House to home and he really like the independence of it and the idea of paying his own way."

Alex enjoy the various activities at Chip's House including swimming and dances. This year he also had the opportunity to participate in the Drumming classes held off campus.

Alicia says that Alex has become a good fit since entering Chip's House last year. "He likes to tease with the other guys and you can be sure if something is going on, Alex will be in the thick of it."

Recently, Alex had the opportunity to perform with the Bethany Players of the Bethany United Methodist Church of Latrobe in their summer production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

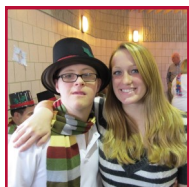
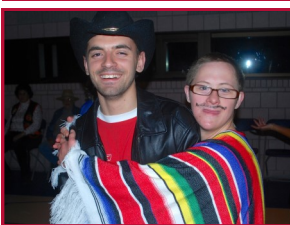
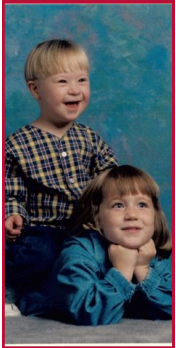
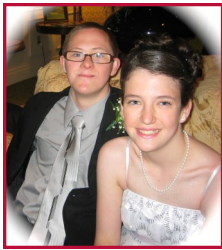
While in school and now as an adult in the workshop, Alex continues to participate in Special Olympics and has even attending the Pennsylvania State games at Penn State University. Alex's hobbies include bowling and he goes bowling with the other guys living in Chip's House.

"I think Alex is very happy at Clelian Heights, he is not only happy there, he is thriving," says his father. "I cannot even imagine what his life would have been like if we never found Clelian Heights. Clelian has fulfilled, actually, has far exceeded so many expectations I had for Alex."

The many happy faces of Alex Heiple at right.



Family Focus: Matthew Wilson



Sandy Wilson is about to celebrate the graduation of her son, Matthew, from Clelian Heights this year. It was only eight years ago that she originally enrolled Matt after searching for a place that would be “right” for him.

“Matt first attended a life skills class at our local elementary school where he did very well. During that time, he also attended portions of the kindergarten and first grade classes with the ‘regular’ students,” said Sandy. “I wanted Matt to have exposure to both types of class settings. By doing this, I discovered that Matt did much better in the life skills class. I believe in the regular classrooms it was hard for Matt to make friends and then see them move on to the next grade while he stayed behind, especially as he got older. Although this is what they call inclusion, the older Matt got, the less I felt like he was being included.”

She learned about Clelian Heights through her son’s case manager. She visited Clelian and “pretty much fell in love with it,” says Sandy. “The Sisters were very warm and caring. The campus was beautiful. The teachers and their aides were all very patient and understanding. I loved their programs and activities. I felt like Matt would best be included in this type of atmosphere.”

The one-on-one time with teachers and classroom aides has helped to improve his learning and homework abilities. He has also received speech therapy while at Clelian and this has improved his socialization and speaking skills in the community.

Matt is an active member of his church, Community United Methodist, where is a greeter and he loves to sing and dance during their “contemporary” style services. He participates in dance classes at Arthur Murray Dance Studio with other young adults with Down Syndrome. He plays baseball with the Miracle League and is currently learning to play tennis with the Buddy Up program. “Matt is a happy and confident young man,” says his mother. “I believe Matt is very happy at Clelian. He loves being on the basketball team, going to proms, and going on field trips, and I think he has made some really good friends there. He has been learning to join the work-force by stocking shelves at the Food Bank, working at the Humane Society with the animals and at a car wash where he learned to wash cars.”

Matt has a sister, Jamie, who is currently earning her Masters degree at West Virginia University. Matt is looking forward to being in her wedding next year. He has two dogs and two cats and helps with their care. Matt and his mom go canoeing with friends and to Raystown Lake with his aunt and cousins. He loves to spend time with his grandparents and he enjoys his extended family on his father’s side as well.

Clelian Center News

The adults in the Clelian Center Adult Training Program(ATF) have been very busy in the community this summer and fall. Together, they continue to work on their social and independence skills. Outings have included reinforcing skills for shopping, ordering food, handling money, and exercise. The adults have been to the Mt. Pleasant Glass Festival, Twin Lakes, Lynch Field, Dairy Queen, Sam’s Club, bowling at Main Bowl, and a Chinese buffet.

This year, the ATF has also benefitted from the twice weekly visits from Seton Hill University senior art therapy student Lauralee Markle of Latrobe who is completing her field work as an *Arts Facilitator*. Lauralee heard about Clelian Heights through her mother who is in the mental health field and her professor at Seton Hill, Dana Elmendorf, MA, ATR-PC, LPC.

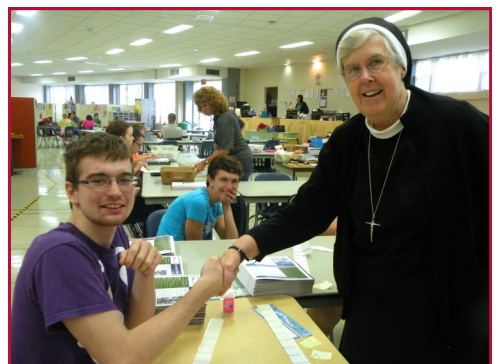
“I have done field work in other places but I like it here because it is a smaller group size, it’s cozier, and more structured,” said Lauralee. “I have gotten to know the Clelian Center ATF adults and they have got to know me.”

Lauralee acts as an “arts facilitator” every Tuesday and Thursday. “Since they are adults, I don’t like to use the word ‘rule’ but we work with ‘guidelines’ for behavior or to reinforce other ideas such as fire safety,” explains Lauralee.

“I try to reinforce guidelines such as sharing and communication with one another. Some individuals are non-verbal or have limited verbal skills, some have sensory issues and do not like the sensation of paint or glue or things on their fingers,” said Lauralee. “I try to encourage them to try things and to be creative. I might have to water down the glue but I keep using it and make them keep using it so they are not as sensitive to it. I give them instructions on our projects but it’s not about getting it right,” continues Lauralee. “It is about them creating something on their own and being creative. I look for them to express themselves and make it their own unique creation.”

The Photos show how pleased the adults are with their ‘creations’ and how successful Lauralee’s facilitation has become.

Down the hall at the Clelian Center workshop, work has been very steady with all of their existing contracts for laundry, mailings, and small parts assembly. This year, they welcomed three graduates from Clelian Heights School program into the workshop and two new young men who are also in residence at Chip’s House. They also have two new staff trainers, Holly Ann Shaffer and Douglas Trenk. Holly is pictured in the Dog Biscuit shop as she is taking a final order count.



Lauralee works in ATF top right and center. Everyone enjoys art therapy time. Sister Rita Mary meets a new friend in the Center.

International Visitors



Touring Clelian Heights and pictured with Room 106 Learning for Life class with Mrs. Martin are the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus International leaders.

From left to right, beginning with back row:

Sr. Mary Grace Giamo, General Councilor from the U.S. & Sr. Alice Reginato, General Councilor, from Brazil;

Middle row:

Sr. Maria Claudia Guarino, Provincial Superior of the Central-Southern Italian



Province; Sr. Maria de Lourde Castanha, Provincial Superior of the Parana Province; Sr. Lucia Giussani, Provincial Superior of the North Italian Province;

Front row :

Sr. Miriam Cunha Sobrinha, Provincial Superior of the Sao Paulo Province; Sr. Teresinha Teixeira da Silva, Vice Provincial Superior of the Central-North Brazil Province; Sr. Rosa Luisa Manfroji, Vice Provincial of the Vice Province of Cono Sur, Spanish speaking communities;

Missing:

Sr. Anne Walsh, Provincial Superior of the U.S Province and Mother Clare Millea, General Superior, from the U.S.

At Left: The group visits room 103 during math class.

Italian-American War Veterans Host Annual Event



Clelian Heights is one of the special groups hosted by the Italian-American War Veterans on the Gateway Clipper each fall. The organization treats students and adults from area special education programs to an outing on the river with sightseeing cruise, lunch, and dancing. Teacher Elizabeth McCormick says the student look forward to the event each year. "There is a lot of dancing and everyone loves to be on the top deck. They love seeing old friends again and sharing the day. It is truly heartwarming."

"As they cruise up and down the rivers the group enjoys going under the many bridges that lead in and out of Pittsburgh. Some point out Pittsburgh landmarks like PNC Park that they have visited before either on field trips or with their families," said Miss Betty.

Visit our website at www.clelianheights.org and click the top "News" tab to see nearly 100 photos of the event!

Social Media Through the Development Office

“Since social media has become part of the daily routine, it seems to be the most popular and convenient way to open the doors of Clelian Heights to our families and friends. So, we will share Clelian Heights’ story through social channels so that you can journey along with us and see the simple, but amazing real-time good that is daily happening at Clelian Heights,” says Sister Benjamin, Mission Advancement and Development Director. “And you can help us spread the word that happiness and friendship coupled with trust and love work wonders for everyone’s life, especially here at Clelian Heights.”

Last year an internet marketing project a group of St. Vincent College Marketing students assisted us in improving our use of social media. Particularly, the Clelian Heights Website as an informational tool. They made several good suggestions, particularly the addition of a Facebook Page linked to the website so that we could better help parents, relatives, and friends quickly and easily connect with us. We also hoped to link potential business partners with the Clelian Center for jobs and customers to the Clelian Center for its homemade products—dog biscuits, soaps, and confections.

During the second semester St. Vincent College marketing intern, Abbey Bryant, did a great job with Sister Benjamin planning and organizing this move. Abbey’s efforts brought about these changes:

- A sidebar **Goggle Calendar** on our website that opens to a full page and allows our families the convenience, if they use Google Calendar on their iPhones, to add our events to a personal Calendar.
- A top **PHOTO** tab on our website allowing you to be instantly connected to our photos on Flickr.
- A top **NEWS** tab of archived news articles.
- **Shavings Newsletters** archived under the **Resources** footer
- **Annual Giving Reports** archived under the **Support Us** footer.
- A **See Our Products** link on the **website Homepage sidebar** and top **PRODUCTS** tab so that all the Clelian Center products—*Captain and Sandy dog biscuits, Scentsations Soaps, and Clelian Confections*--can be individually viewed for purchase.
- The addition of a Clelian Heights **Facebook Page connection on the sidebar** for convenient access from our website to quickly view current news, events and albums.
- **Posts** on our **Facebook Page** that connect to our website or to other helpful information.
- **Google Analytics** to discover what our viewers find helpful or interesting so we can make well-informed changes and additions.

For us, photo albums tell a story very well and, analyzing our site, we saw that they were the most viewed and shared by our friends. Since the opening of our Facebook page we have posted 4-5 times each week making the majority of our posts albums that tell our story.

This fall, we are fortunate to have a student intern, Maria Graziano, a St. Vincent College junior marketing major from Latrobe, PA. Maria will be with us through the spring semester to help us continue to analyze and use our social media tools to best fit the personality of Clelian Heights and the desires of our followers, you.

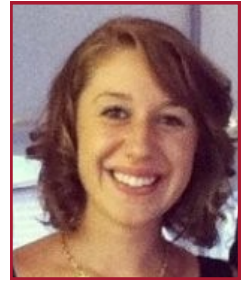
We are grateful to Dawn Edmiston, D.M., assistant Professor of Management and Marketing at St. Vincent College who has paired us with

Social Media

outstanding students. In this case, Maria became acquainted with Clelian Heights through our resident women who she met at the Latrobe Art Center where they attend art classes. Maria is the Marketing Assistant there. When Dr. Edmiston mentioned Clelian Heights as an internship possibility, Maria was thrilled to say that she already knew a number of Clelian Heights' residents. And the match was made!

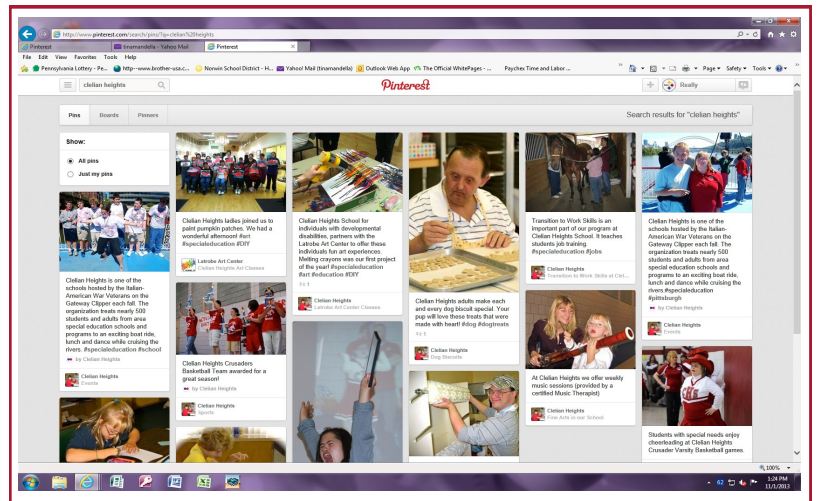
From the start, Maria has been a wonderful asset as we move forward. She has begun several new projects to broaden our social media outreach. They include:

- Expanding marketing of the Clelian Center's products through the development of a **Clelian Heights Pinterest page**.
- Increasing Clelian's presence and reach on Facebook with the **"All I Want for Christmas is... 500 Likes"** campaign.
- Replacing the website audio slideshows with online videos--one for the School this first semester and one for the Clelian Center the second semester. The first website video will appear before Thanksgiving



Maria Graziano

About **Pinterest**, Maria eagerly says, **"Pinterest** is a great marketing tool because it can drive traffic back to the Clelian website," said Maria. "I have created a page of 'boards' for the different Clelian Center product items—dog biscuits, soaps, confections. The 'pins' then directly link back to the specific information on the school website about those items. This way, individuals seeing the products can connect to our website to see and purchase the various items."



Pinterest allows users to create virtual "bulletin boards" designated by topic or interests. Users then virtually "pin" items of interests they might like. If a user pins a Clelian Heights product onto their board, everyone who follows them will also see the Clelian product pin.

Once the user is connected to the Clelian Heights website, they will see a new and improve format whereby a link can allow them to see each individual product and price. In addition, the individual will be provided information for ordering.

"By using **Pinterest** as social media in addition to its web-site and Facebook page, Clelian Heights benefits because it broadens its online presence," says Maria. "This expands our audience and lets Clelian Heights express itself in different ways."

Sister Shawn, Director of the Clelian Center, is hoping for good results from this new marketing opportunity. "Anything that can increase awareness of our products and bring increased sales will allow us to increase production and so increase workshop employment for our adults. The adults in the workshop like to be kept busy. And they like to be challenged. They feel a great sense of pride and satisfaction in their accomplishments. An increase of production will keep them working and challenged to do a good job. And there's so much satisfaction in that!"

In her efforts to garner more interest in Clelian Heights' Facebook page and to find more Clelian Heights "friends" Maria started a Facebook campaign called, "All I Want for Christmas." Flyers went home to families and staff to help secure 500 "Likes" by Christmas. Maria will continue to use different ideas throughout the year to appeal to a broader demographic in an attempt to get the good news about Clelian Heights out to everyone. "I have been able to see how Clelian Heights utilizes social media to attract and communicate with their present audience and I want to help expand that," said Maria.

All I Want for Christmas is....

500 Likes



Support Clelian Heights School!

Help us get to 500 Likes on Facebook by December 25!

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/ClelianHeights> and hit the Like button! Also, encourage your friends to like us by sharing Clelian Heights on your own page. We appreciate your support in helping us grow our followers.





Be sure to be a part of the 2013-2014 Annual Report by donating today!

Deadline for inclusion ends June 30. Gifts received after July 1, 2014 will be reported in the 2014-2015 Annual Report.

I am no longer able to help support Clelian Heights, please remove my address from the mailing list

Name(s): _____ Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

New Address or Phone Number Written Above

*This gift is to be recorded as an **Anonymous** donation*

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Check: *Payable to Clelian Heights* Check #: _____

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

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Expiration Date: _____

I am interested in leaving Clelian Heights in my will.

Thank You!

I am interested in making an IRA Direct Transfer of funds to Clelian Heights.



WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING AMERICAN EXPRESS FOR ALL DONATIONS!

In addition to Visa, MasterCard and Discover—We hope this makes giving to Clelian Heights a simple process for you. Thank You!

Wholey Old Fashioned Chicken Barbecue

The 16th Annual Wholey Old Fashioned Chicken Barbecue was another huge success! We served over 700 dinners, both eaten in and taken out, on Sunday, September 16, 2013. The event raised a record breaking \$35,691, over \$7,000 *more* than last years event! All proceeds will benefit our Project Fund.

Our annual BBQ would not be possible without **Sam Wholey and the entire Robert Wholey family** who have supported this event since its inception. Thank you, Sam and family! In addition, we were also very blessed to have an Underwriter sponsor Total Quality Management; a Benefactor sponsor: RDK Asphalt Seal Coating LLC; Friend sponsors: Joe's Yards-n-More, Kukurin Contracting, McGinley Maintenance Inc, and Ross Maintenance Products Co.; Partner sponsors: Constantine & Pletcher and Speer Street Grill; and Supporter sponsors: Berkepile Insurance Agency Inc and Gluten Free Zone.

We are very grateful to all of our sponsors, donors, and many volunteers especially Bev Kosor, her sister Joyce, and Anna



Here's Sam adding his special touch to the BBQ!

Marie Suman who work tirelessly all year in preparation for the day. And to Sam Wholey and all those who volunteered for set up and for working the day of the event! Without all of you, the BBQ would not have been so very successful! God bless your generosity!

Visit our website at www.clelianheights.org and Click the top "News" tab, scroll, and choose the BBQ event or any you'd like to see!



Clelian Heights



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